

Captain's Log

Apr 2026
Issue No 5

Updates from your Golf Committee

INSIDE

New Scorecard

Updated Tees and New Hole Names!

Handicaps Changing

This year's handicap events have a new cap...

Event Participation Initiatives

Halving the price of key events and introducing participation point to gain priority in others

Access to the Tee

Improving pace of play and tee access on those busy days!

Guest & Cart Fee Packs

New treatment of Guest & Cart fee packages discussed

Around The Club

Simulator Improvements

17th Tee Deck extension

Promises Kept: Cart storage & Shop Pricing

Call for Feedback



Our busiest simulator season ever – Saturday Night League in full swing.

Pace of Play Violation: Mother Nature

Scott Mackenzie (Club Captain)



One of our longtime members – and a former Club Captain – stopped me in the Bistro the other day and said, "Scott, in all the decades I have been here, *never* have I not been able to play in April." ***Sigh***

It has been a long winter, and Mother Nature has done her level best to ensure a later start than usual. But we will be out there soon enough, and all this painful waiting will finally come to an end.

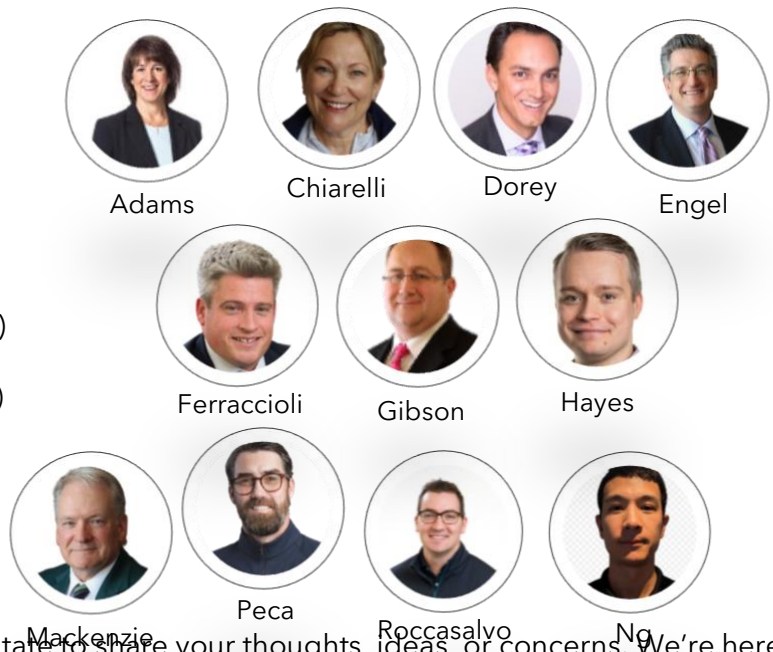
With the 2026 golf season now getting underway, I thought it would be useful to begin the year with an update on what your Golf Committee has been working on and what members can expect to see in the weeks ahead.

Some of these changes are highly visible, such as a new scorecard and hole names. Others are more administrative, such as handicap policy, event pricing, and qualification rules. But they are all aimed at the same thing: improving the member experience, making competition fairer, and encouraging stronger participation across the golf program.

Meet Your 2026 Golf Committee

The Captain's Committee is focused on enhancing club events, improving communication, and ensuring an enjoyable season for all members.

- ✓ **Wendy Adams**
- ✓ **Trina Chiarelli** (Ladies' Captain)
- ✓ **David Dorey**
- ✓ **Eric Engel**
- ✓ **Richard Ferraccioli** (Head Professional)
- ✓ **Neil Gibson** (Men's Captain)
- ✓ **John Hayes**
- ✓ **Scott Mackenzie** (Club Captain, Board VP)
- ✓ **David Peca**
- ✓ **Daniel Roccasalvo** (Ass. Golf Professional)
- ✓ **Timothy Ng**



If you see any of us around the club, don't hesitate to share your thoughts, ideas, or concerns. We're here to make this season the best it can be.

A sincere thank you to all of them for giving their time and energy to help shape the golf experience at Cedar Brae this season.

And a special shoutout as well to our Men's Captain, **Neil Gibson**, and our Ladies' Captain, **Trina Chiarelli**. Both work hard to keep our golf activities engaging and to make sure there is real energy behind the program throughout the season.

New Scorecard, Course Ratings, and Hole Names

One of the most visible changes this season will be the new scorecard. It will reflect updated course ratings and slope information, a revised **Stroke Index** (handicap hole order), and a cleaner overall presentation.

The course was re-rated last fall, and, working with **Golf Ontario**, the **Handicap Committee** also reviewed the Stroke Index to bring it up to date based on the rounds actually played here last season. It had been some time since the course was last re-rated, and a number of changes had made that review necessary. We will aim to do this more regularly going forward.

We are also simplifying the tee naming. The **Gold** tees will become **Orange**, since they combine red and yellow tee box positions. The **Blue/Silver** combination tees will become **Slate** for the same reason. The idea is straightforward: each tee position should have a single-colour name, and the scorecard should be easier to read.

The same information will flow through to Golf Canada and our website as well, so members should see more consistency wherever they look.

I have also asked the Handicap Committee to be especially vigilant this year, and I am pleased to report that **Florin Ursu** has agreed to lead it. That will help continue our data-based approach to fairness in competition.

Furthermore, members will also be expected to post at least **85% of their eligible scores** in order to maintain a handicap. Otherwise, a handicap may be assigned for club “net” events. That may sound a bit stern, but handicap integrity only works if members actually use the system properly. If scores are posted selectively, the whole thing starts to lose its meaning.

To make this easier to follow, handicap charts will be put back on the website and made available in our new starter hut. For those who want the full detail, the [Golf Handbook](#) remains the best source for the complete rules and supporting information. Copies are available in the Pro Shop and in the Members’ section of the Cedar Brae website under [Golf](#).

Event Pricing, Participation, and Ball Buster Qualification

Another major theme this year is participation.

As part of the club’s broader effort to improve the member experience, it was decided that the club as a whole should help subsidize some of our larger member events in the interest of community, accessibility, and stronger participation. That is the thinking behind the approved \$49 fee, rather than the more typical \$95, for selected marquee events. If we want strong participation, the price point should help, not hurt.

The **Ladies’ Opening, Men’s Opening, and Men’s Closing** all reflect the same basic idea: strong events at a more accessible **\$49** price point. The Men’s Opening moves to a scramble format that should make it easier for more members to take part. The Men’s Closing is also being reworked, with our Men’s Captain, Neil Gibson, leading the push on the format changes. The goal is something more team-based, more engaging, and a strong way to close out the season. More details will follow as we get closer.

The Ball Buster also falls into this same participation theme. It has become one of the club’s most popular events, which is good right up until everyone wants in at once. To manage that fairly, members will need **20 participation points** to qualify. In most cases, those points are earned at **5 points per qualifying event**. The qualifying events are:

- Men’s Opening and Closing Field Day
- Men’s Day
- Ladies’ Opening, Mid, and Closing Field Day
- Ladies’ Member/Guest
- Learie Shield Open
- Member/Member
- Club Championship

Put simply: if you support club events throughout the season, you should get first dibs when one of the club’s busiest events comes around.

Improving Access to Peak Tee Times

In an effort to improve both pace of play and access to tee times during our most coveted periods, weekend morning tee times will move to **9-minute intervals**.

There will also be a **250-point lottery penalty** for no-call/no-shows during peak lottery times. In practical terms, that means members who fail to show up without notice will materially hurt their position in future lotteries for those high-demand times. This is not aimed at members who miss a time for some reasonable

or unavoidable cause. It is aimed at casual no-shows that waste one of the club's most sought-after tee times.

Both changes are intended to make better use of our busiest tee times and improve fairness of access for members.

Guest & Cart Fee Packages

Members should also note that guest fee packages are **available only until May 31**. Cart fee packages, by contrast, may be purchased throughout the season.

That said, both now work the same way in one important respect: guest fees and cart fees purchased going forward **must be used in the season in which they are purchased**. If they are not used that season, they will expire unused.

This change does **not** apply retroactively. If you already have **guest fee passes** in your account – whether purchased previously or received through the quick payment plan associated with the irrigation assessment – those **do not expire**.

Let's Go Ladies!

By Trina Chiarelli (Ladies' Captain)



Get ready to tee off the 2026 golf season in style! Join in the fun at Ladies Opening Field Day Tuesday May 5. The flyer with all the exciting details is on the Cedar Brae website and on the app. All of the amazing food, golf and fun is yours for just \$49 this year – what an incredible value!

But wait there's more – this event also helps you earn qualifying points for the Ball Buster tournament in October, so it's the perfect way to get your game on track for the season ahead. It should be a great start to the season!!

Ladies' Opening Field Day will be a 4-person scramble, with a \$49 plus tax fee that includes meals and prizing.

Around the Club

Simulator Improvements

The simulator space has improved significantly. The room itself looks better, feels better, and, just as importantly, is being well used. This past season was by far the busiest simulator season we have had, which is one of the reasons we introduced a lottery for bookings.

It has also been great to see Neil Gibson's **Saturday Night league** continue to grow year over year, while the women's weekly **Iron Maidens** event has become another strong and regular use of the room. We are also in the process of replacing the screens and projectors to further improve the experience.

17th White Tee Deck Extension

The 17th white tee deck is also being extended. As members will recall, the White tees were moved last year [for practical reasons](#) and to create a fairer setup for the typical White-tee player. With the carry to the end of the fairway before the river now about 260 yards, this extension should allow for better tee-marker placement and reduce the need to move the markers too far forward because of wear at the back of the deck.

Promises Kept

The **Pro Shop** will match **Golf Town** prices! That should make the decision fairly easy. We are all, collectively, owners of the shop. When we buy there, we are buying from ourselves. If the price is competitive, it is hard to come up with a good reason to go elsewhere.

Also, members that are on the electric golf caddy Wait List should also know that **everyone on the list will be looked after** by Opening Day. That is something we said we would address at the AGM, and I am pleased to say we are delivering on it.

Qualifiers and Competitive Opportunities

Details on qualifying opportunities for events such as the Scarborough Cup and the Gross and Net Shootouts will also be shared as the season progresses. These qualifying opportunities will be available through the year, with dates and formats to be communicated soon. As always, check the [Golf Handbook](#) or inquire at the Pro Shop for more information.

Calendar & Golf Handbook

As always, be sure to keep checking the updated [Calendar](#) and [Golf Handbook](#). These links will remain in each edition of the Captain's Log—and they're always accessible on the Cedar Brae website.

Sign up for more events by – [clicking here](#) or contacting the Pro Shop.

More To Do....

There is still more work underway, but the direction is clear enough: improve fairness, improve participation, and make the golf experience at Cedar Brae better for members across the board.

Feedback!



Have Feedback for the Golf Committee?

We welcome all constructive feedback and are committed to addressing your concerns and suggestions in our upcoming committee meetings. If you have ideas on how we can improve the club experience, please let us know. Go to www.scmball.com and click on "feedback" or email scott@cedarbraegolf.com, and we'll take it from there!

Have Feedback for the President?

Got questions about the Club, committees, or ideas for the future? Brett is more than happy to chat. Email him at president@cedarbraegolf.com to set up a time for coffee and conversation!



Finally, don't forget to follow us on Instagram: [@cedarbraegolf](https://www.instagram.com/cedarbraegolf)