# Captain's Log

# Updates from your Golf Committee

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# What a Summer!

Scott Mackenzie (Club Captain)



From one of the coolest, wettest springs in recent memory to a record-breaking summer—and now a return to seasonal sanity—it's been a weather rollercoaster at Cedar Brae. But through it all, one thing's stayed constant: great member engagement.

In this issue, we'll recap some of that engagement via recent **member survey results**, introduce a **hole-naming initiative**, roll out a new **Adopt-a-Hole** program, and preview a few upcoming events you won't want to miss.

As always, I welcome your suggestions, feedback, and ideas—especially the candid ones. Keep them coming. See the links at the end of this edition.

Onwards...

## Name That Hole!



Later this year, we'll be updating our **course ratings** and **hole handicap order**—a long-overdue process, given the many changes over the years (new tees, missing trees, realigned bunkers, etc.). With a new scorecard and website update already on deck, we thought: why not add a little personality while we're at it?

#### Let's Name Those Holes

Plenty of great clubs name their holes. Time we joined them. Picture this: instead of playing Hole 13, you're battling your way through the *No-Fly Zone*. OK, not a great example, but now you see why **we need your input** - to come up with some *good* names. Whether it's clever, classic, historic or deeply personal, we want to hear your ideas.

#### **How to Contribute**

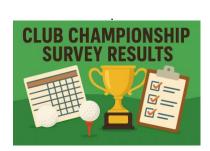
We're forming a **Hole Naming Committee** to sort through member submissions. To toss your ideas into the ring, just use the link below and indicate:

- Which hole(s) you're naming (all 18 are listed)
- A brief note on why you chose that name.

Submit your hole names by **clicking here.** Don't forget to drop your email on the survey—otherwise your brilliance might go uncredited. You'll also find the link on the Captain's Corner site: <a href="www.scmball.com">www.scmball.com</a>

We'll review submissions later in the season, and if your idea earns a spot, it might just end up printed on every scorecard. And possibly muttered under someone's breath during a double bogey.

# **Club Championship Survey Results**



Our Club Championship weekend is meant to be a highlight of the Cedar Brae season—a blend of serious competition, camaraderie, and a few good stories to exaggerate in the bistro afterward. This year's event was our biggest turnout yet with 150 participants! Congratulations to all our flight winners, and a special salute to our Men's Club Champion, **Ryan Tsang** and Ladies Club Champion, **Sydney Gibson!** Kudos as well to our Overall Handicap Club Champions — **Kelly Koselek, Zisis Siotas**, and **Malcolm Salter** — who shared the title in a three-way tie.

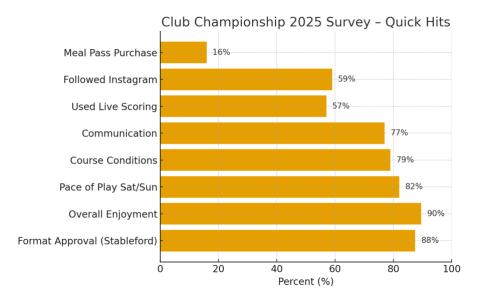
Following this year's event, we asked for your feedback, and I'm pleased to report that you didn't hold back. Here's what you told us:

#### The Format: A Hit

The introduction of Stableford scoring in the handicap flights was met with a solid thumbs-up. More than **87%** of respondents said they'd like to see the same format again next year.

#### Pace of Play: Not Bad, But Not Perfect

Feedback on pace of play was mostly positive, with Saturday and Sunday scoring particularly well. Friday lagged a bit, but still came in respectable.



#### **Course Conditions: A Divided Fairway**

Most players were satisfied with course conditions, but a noticeable minority expected firmer and faster greens for a championship event. Point taken—we'll keep pushing to make Championship weekend the peak of course conditioning.

#### **Communication & Media: Better, But Room to Grow**

Communication leading up to the event earned mixed reviews: some satisfied, some dissatisfied. On the flip side, our **live scoring**, **Instagram updates**, and **in-the-moment media** efforts ("<u>Range Rats Media!</u>") were widely enjoyed. Several members specifically praised the staff's energy and creativity online—proof that even in golf, a little social media goes a long way.

#### **Meal Pass: The Rough Patch**

Ah yes, the meal pass. While many who purchased it enjoyed the food, a clear majority felt it was too expensive, inflexible, or poorly timed with their tee slots. Comments ranged from "terrible value" to "why was the Bistro closed?" to "too much food for me." Lesson learned—the team will go back to the drawing board here, aiming for better pricing, more flexibility, and keeping the Bistro available.

#### **Overall: A Championship Worth Building On**

Despite the critiques, the overwhelming majority rated their overall enjoyment as satisfied or very satisfied. Many praised the organization, the staff's efforts, and the energy of the weekend. In short, the event is on the right track-but as in golf, there's always something to work on before the next round.

Thank you to everyone who shared your thoughts. Your input helps us make the Championship—and the club—better each year.

# **Learie Shield Survey Results**

Since we're talking feedback, I would also like to share with you the feedback on this year's Learie Shield event. Cedar Brae's longest running tournament has always been about fun, fellowship, and a little friendly competition. This year, we tried a few new things to breathe fresh life into the event, and the membership has spoken: it worked.

#### **The Big Picture**

Overall, the Shield earned an average rating of **4.2** out of **5**. Nearly every comment pointed to how the fun people had and how this year felt like a big step forward compared to recent editions. The only real lament? That even more couples weren't out there sharing the experience. Based on the feedback, we doubt that will be a problem next year.

#### What You Liked

- Format: The scramble format remains popular, scoring **3.7** out of **5**.
- **Food, Patio & Music**: The off-course experience was a highlight. Food and pricing both scored **4.0**, patio seating **3.9**, and live music nearly the same (**4.0**). Many noted how these elements created a real "event" feel.
- **Atmosphere**: Members commented on how much fun the day was. From good company to good tunes, it felt like a proper summer celebration.

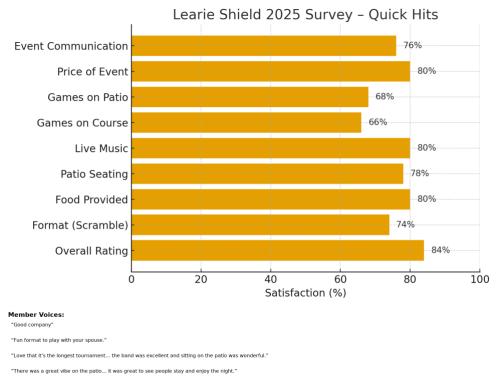
#### Where We Can Improve

- **Games**: On-course (**3.3**) and patio (**3.4**) games were the lowest-rated. Some found them fun, others felt they slowed play. We'll revisit how to keep them engaging without affecting pace.
- **Communication**: At **3.8**, communication did the job but could still be sharpened. Members want details earlier so they can plan—and rally more players.
- **Pace of Play**: A few flagged the scramble's natural tendency to stretch rounds. Something we'll monitor as participation grows.

#### **The Momentum Shift**

This year felt like a real step forward. The added touches—music, patio buzz, food setup—brought back the social spark that had been fading. Feedback shows we're building something members will circle on their calendars.

Thanks to everyone who played, cheered, or simply soaked in the patio vibe. This tradition is alive and growing.



# "Adopt a Hole"

## Another Way to Care for Our Course

We all know the basics: fix your own <u>ball marks</u>, replace your <u>divots</u>, and rake the <u>bunker</u> after you've played your shot. Yet despite our best efforts, some marks still get left behind. To tackle this, we're trying out a new initiative: **"Adopt a Hole."** 

Here's how it works: each group of members, organized by last name, is assigned a specific hole. While you should always repair your own marks, when you're on *your adopted hole*, you and your fellow surnames are asked to go the extra mile-repair an extra ball mark, replace an extra divot, and make the hole look better than you found it. Think of it as a small act of stewardship that adds up to a big improvement across the course.

Check your name against the list below to see which hole your group has "adopted." This list will also be displayed on the **big board** outside the Pro Shop and on the **Captain's Corner** website.

Surname Starts with	Hole #
Α	16
В	14
С	9
D	2 & 11
E or F	13
G	1
Н	3
I, O, U or Z	6
K	17
L	12
M	5
N or V	10
P	8
R	4
S	18
Т	7
W	15

It's a simple idea: if everyone contributes just a little more, the entire course benefits a lot.

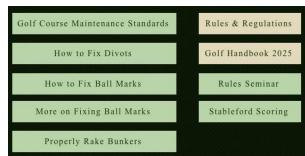
Need a quick refresher?

- **Replacing divots:** There's a right way—and our Superintendent, Darren Little, walks you through it in this short helpful video.
- **Repairing ball marks:** Darren's got you covered there, too, with a quick demo <u>here</u> and another one <u>here</u>.

These videos and other helpful resources are available in the <u>Resources</u> section of the Captain's Corner <u>website</u>.

Visit scmball.com.





## Calendar & Golf Handbook

As always, be sure to keep checking the updated <u>Calendar</u> and <u>Golf Handbook</u>. 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.

# **Upcoming Events**

Whether you're going to our online calendar or directly through the Pro Shop, I want to remind everyone of some of the upcoming golf events that you should consider joining. These include:

Event	Link	Date
Cedar Brae Pro Am	Info & Signup	Thu, Sep 4, 2025
Ladies Better Ball	Info & Signup	Tue, Sep 9, 2025
Mixed Ride & Dine	Info & Signup	Fri, Sep 12, 2025
Men's Beat The Pro Final	Info & Signup	Sat, Sep 13, 2025
Ladies' Closing Field Day	Info & Signup	Tue, Sep 16, 2025
Men's Closing Field Day	Info & Signup	Sat, Sep 20, 2025
Ball Buster	Info & Signup	Sat Oct 4, 2025
Men's Gross & Net Shootout	See Pro Shop	Sat Oct 11, 2025

## Men's Gross & Net Shootout - New Date!

This month, I want to spotlight an event that might be new to some: the Shootout. It's one of the season's most electric competitions – equal parts pressure and fun – and the perfect way to close out the fall calendar. The more who qualify, the bigger the prize pool and the louder

the buzz around the course.

The Men's Gross and Net Shootout has been rescheduled to Saturday, October 11th. The Gross division will tee off at 3:30pm, with the Net division following at 4:30pm.

### **Qualifying details:**

- Open now **\$10 per attempt**.
- Just let the Starter or Pro Shop staff (ahead of your round) that you are intending to qualify for the ShootOut
- Tees: White for Net, Blue for Gross.
- Turn your scorecard into the Pro Shop and let the staff or starter know you're qualifying.
- Every attempt adds to the prize pool the more, the better.

#### Who's in?

- **Net:** Top 9 qualifiers plus last year's champion, Kyle Singer, with an automatic bye.
- **Gross:** Top 10 qualifiers (this is the inaugural Gross Shootout).



If you've already submitted a score, it still counts – but you're welcome to try again.

This has always been one of the most enjoyable days of the year, and past participants will tell you it's not to be missed. Spread the word and get your qualifying rounds in.

## **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 <u>www.scmball.com</u> and click on "<u>feedback</u>" or email <u>scott@cedarbraegolf.com</u>, and we'll take it from there!

#### Have Feedback for the President?

Just a reminder-Club President Brad Elliott welcomes your feedback through his ongoing "Fireside Chat".

Got questions about the Club, committees, or ideas for the future? Brad's happy to chat. Email him at <a href="mailto:president@cedarbraegolf.com">president@cedarbraegolf.com</a> to set up a time for coffee and conversation!

Finally, don't forget to follow our Pro shop on Instagram: @cedarbraeproshop

