Estero
COUNTRY CLUB

19501 Vintage Trace Circle
Estero, FL 33967

Temp Return Service Requested

PRSRT FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FT. MYERS, FL
PERMIT #962

ALL ABOARD FOR MEXICAN TRAIN!

$3.00 per person

New Players Welcome -
we will teach you how to play!

Make your own table of 6 or
sign-up as a single and be paired up.

THURSDAYS 2018 - 7:00PM-9:00PM
PRESIDENTS' ROOM

January 18
February 22
March 22
April 12

Please call Ann Jost with questions, 254-554-1351.

Sign-up in ForeTees Events.
Limited number of players.

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

Dinner Reservations 5:30, 6:00, 6:30 pm
Bingo 7:00 pm

Make your reservations in the Dining/Events tab on ForeTees

Chips with Salsa and Guacamole

Taco Salad Bar with Beef & Chicken

Refried Beans

Spanish Rice

Southwest Chicken Egg Rolls with Cilantro Sour Cream

Mexican Pizza

Churro Cream Pies

Life & Times

Estero Country Club at The Vines

January 2018

Mission

Estero Country Club provides a welcoming environment for its members, families and guests through exceptional golf, dining, tennis, fitness, lifestyle and social experiences.

January Events

1	*Bloody Mary Open, 10am Shotgun*
5	*Buddy/Buddy & Laverne/Shirley Start*
6	*Saturday Dinner Service Begins for the Season*
7	*Sunday Breakfast Buffet Begins for the Season, 10-2pm*
8	*Ladies Interclub, 8:30 Shotgun*
10	*New Member Orientation, 9am*
10	*Prime Rib Buffet, 5:30-8:30pm*
11	*Painted Beach Stools, 1-4pm*
11	*Gin Group-Cocktails 5:00, Dinner 6:15, Gin 7:00*
12	*NTRP Tennis Open Tournament, 11am*
13	*Free Fitness Orientation, 9am*
13-14	*Couples Club Championship, pm tee times*
13	*Karaoke Night in Mulligans 7-11pm*
15	*Reservations open Valentine's Day Dinner Dance, 9am*
15	*Prange Golf Clinic, Cliches/Pre-Swing, 9-10am*
16	*Book Club, 12:15pm*
17	*Turkey Buffet, 5:30-8:30pm*
17	*New Member Mixer, 6:30pm*
18	*Aim Point Green Reading Seminar, 8:45am*
18	*Cobra Demo Day, 10-2pm*
18	*Mexican Train, 7pm*
19	*Edel Golf Putter Fittings, by appointment*
20	*January Dinner Dance with Sounds of the Season Frankie Valli Tribute Band*
23	*BINGO, Buffet 5:30-6:30, BINGO 7pm*
24	*ENHLGA Member/Guest, 9am Shotgun*
24	*Tenderloin Buffet, 5:30-8:30pm*
25	*Pickleball Party, 1pm*
25	*Glassware Painting, 6:30pm*
25	*Gin Group-Cocktails 5:00, Dinner 6:15, Gin 7:00*
27-28	*Men's & Ladies Member/Member Golf Tournament, 8am & 1pm Shotguns*
29	*Prange Golf Clinic, Full Swing-Back Swing, 9-10am*
30	*ELGA Guest Day, 1pm Shotgun*
31	*Italian Buffet, 5:30-8:30pm*

Board of Governors

Tom Spaeth - President
Don DiBrita - Vice President
Barry Freedman - Secretary
Claire Comstock - Treasurer
Karen Adair
Greg Bonnell
Tom Hochworter
Mark Mitchell
Margo Newell

Committee Chairs

Finance - Claire Comstock
Golf - Mark Mitchell
Greens - Greg Bonnell
Grievance - Margo Newell
Heritage/Memorial - Margo Newell
House & Entertainment - Karen Adair
Legal & By-Laws - Tom Spaeth
Long Range Planning - Barry Freedman
Membership & Marketing - Don DiBrita
Personnel - Margo Newell
Property - Tom Hochworter
Tennis - Tom Hochworter

Happy Hour Thursdays 5-8pm
Stretch & Flex Tuesdays & Thursdays 7:30am
Yoga Mondays & Fridays 8:30am
Pickleball Practice - Thursdays 1pm & Sundays 10am

Golf Report

Ben Pittman, PGA
golfpro@esterocc.com

Well, now that we have the holiday season (and everything that comes with it) is behind us, let's focus our attention on golf. Due to the shortened season we have made some adjustments to the tournament calendar but have worked hard to keep certain events on their traditional dates. Qualifying for the Derby Race has already begun, and if you haven't gone out to play a qualifying round yet, please make sure to grab your Derby card from the Golf Shop or from the starter before you head out for your next round.

As usual, we will kick off 2018 with the Bloody Mary Open on New Year's Day. The Buddy/Buddy and Laverne & Shirley match play tournaments have been restructured to work within this year's altered timeline. This year's brackets will be released on January 5, and you will have until January 31 to play your first match. If you win your first match, you will have until February 14 to complete round 2. Round 3 must be completed by February 28. The finals for each bracket will be played on Saturday, March 17. The Couples Club Championship (formerly known as the Husband & Wife) will be conducted on Saturday and Sunday, January 13th & 14th. The Men's and Ladies' Member-Member are the first "majors" of the season, to be held on January 27th & 28th, and we hope to have enough participation this year to be able to utilize both shotguns.

Do you need some instruction before you're confident enough to play in competition? Bob Prange's free Monday clinics are going strong, and he has two-day golf schools scheduled for January 17 & 19 and January 31 & February 2. We will once again be holding an Aim Point Express green reading seminar on January 18, and we have back to back demo days – Cobra Golf will be here on Thursday, January 18 and Edel Golf will be conducting putter fittings on Friday the 19th.

Whether you are looking to get your competitive juices going or you're just looking for some help with your game and/or your equipment, we've got you covered! Please let us know what we can do to make every day at the Club an exceptional one.
Happy Golfing!

Hole in One

Congratulations!

John Side	#13	Nov. 18, 2017
Sharon Graham	#17	Dec. 6, 2017

FREE MONDAY GOLF CLINICS

Once again this year, Bob Prange - Director of Instruction, will be offering free Monday golf clinics from 9:00am-10:00am. There is no need to sign up, just check the schedule below to see the dates and topics of each clinic and show up ready to learn!

December 4	Q & A – Full Swing
December 18	Q & A – Short Game
January 15	Clichés / Pre-Swing
January 29	Full Swing - Backswing
February 12	Chipping and Pitching
February 26	Full Swing - Downswing
March 5	Putting
March 19	Bunker Play

General Manager's Report

Craig Rollinson, CCM, CCE
generalmanager@esterocc.com

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone found time to relax and enjoy the company of family and friends during the holidays.

Thanks to all members for being so patient during this post Irma time while we bring the clubhouse and golf course surroundings back to condition.

As previously announced, Justin Trent is our Food & Beverage Director and Brandon Wheelock is now our Executive Chef. These two individuals are very proactive, member centric individuals who want to deliver a superior food and beverage experience. If you have any constructive criticism or want to pass on accolades, please do so. Without feedback it is hard to achieve greatness. Chef Brandon's email is chef@esterocc.com and Justin Trent's is foodservice@esterocc.com. I know that they look forward to hearing from you.

Painting Classes by Jenny Licht

Thursday, January 11, 2018
1:00 - 4:00 $69
Beach Stool

Thursday, January 25, 2018
6:30 $30
Glassware

Thursday, February 8, 2018
1:00 - 4:00 $40
Alcohol Ink Coasters

Thursday, April 5, 2018
1:00 - 4:00 $45
Painted Trays

Superintendent's Report

T.J. Shine
supt@esterocc.com

With the largest golf course restoration in its history scheduled for 2018, it is destined to be a banner year at Estero Country Club and I am extremely excited to be a part of it. We are working diligently to put the final touches on all of the plans for this project including the golf course design, landscape plan for both the clubhouse and golf course and the driving range and practice area improvements.

Although we are anxiously awaiting the start of this project, we are still focused on providing world class playing conditions and providing our members with the best golfing experience in Southwest Florida. Our staff enjoys preparing the golf course on a daily basis and during large events just as much as you enjoy competing in them and they are eager to showcase what they have been working on all summer and fall.

We have many new faces on the Golf Course Maintenance team and I am happy to report that we are currently fully staffed in our department! With this being said, we are spending a considerable amount of time training the staff on all aspects of golf course maintenance such as proper safety procedures, daily course set up, golf course etiquette, bunker maintenance and mowing patterns just to name a few. It is important that we continuously train our team members, even those that have been here for a considerable amount of time to prevent bad habits from forming and to keep the proper procedures fresh in their mind. It is our goal to have all team members trained in each area of golf course maintenance making everyone interchangeable with each task. This is difficult to do and will take some time, but it ultimately creates a greater sense of ownership and pride in their work that will result in a superior end product.

Our cleanup efforts as a result of Hurricane Irma are ongoing throughout the Club. Removal of downed or dead trees, stumps and debris is an everyday activity for our team and will be for some time to come. Sod work continues on areas of turf that were damaged or where trees and stumps have been removed. Unfortunately, this too will continue throughout the season and into the restoration. We do appreciate your patience during this time as I know having workers present on the course at certain times is not ideal but we will do our best to interfere with your round of golf as little as possible.

As always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us in the Golf Course Maintenance Department.

President's Report

Tom Spaeth
spaethtom@yahoo.com

On behalf of your Board of Governors, I would like to wish each of you a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. While our summer golf course project will shorten the season a bit, we feel that members will be very pleased with the end result.

January will be a key month. The membership will be at full strength and the calendar of events will be extensive. The roof project, insulation and interior wall repairs should be complete. Window replacement, painting, card room carpeting and extensive chipping of felled trees will be ongoing during the month. Please bear with us during this process.

Our newly-appointed Nominating Committee (Greg Bonnell, Barry Freedman, Bob Curtis, Tony Williams and Diane Yurkewicz) will be interviewing potential candidates to replace Don DiBrita, Barry Freedman and yours truly, whose terms will expire on March 12, 2018. Members in good standing have until January 17th to complete the candidate application process and be considered for one of the three available Board positions. Interested individuals should contact Lisa Dillinger at the Club.

Grab a Partner (*yes, you must have a partner*)
and come join the Gin Group!
Have cocktails and dinner or just come for Gin.

Please call Sandy if you are coming to just play Gin, we need a count to set-up the tables.

Sign-up on ForeTees under Dining Events or call the Club.

Everyone Welcome to Join the Fun!

SCHEDULE:
THURSDAYS
January 11th & 25th
February 8th & 22nd
March 15th & 29th

5:00 Cocktails
6:15 Dinner
7:00 Gin

Contact Sandy Dalrymple with questions;
239-482-6050

Please welcome our newest Trial Members –

Allen & Barbara Ackerman
Lyle & Ruth Anderson
Ronald & Phyllis Cimaglio
James & Margaret Ford
Glenn Gerber & Linda Schurman
Mike & Gerry Gilligan
Kay Jenkins
Bob & Francine Kallman
Bob & Marilyn Mallet
David & Susan McLean
Jeff & Tina Montgomery
John Palmieri
Marilyn Rigby
Paul Sline
Gene & Fran Zegar

Tennis Report

Tom Funk, USTA
tennispro@@esterocc.com

Happy New Year,
I hope you all had a very happy holiday season. We are beginning our winter league season this month, so make sure to communicate with your Captains on schedules as we will be adding another match to some teams. Clinics are posted and will resume for teams on January 9th. We have all the clinics set up on ForeTees, please register so we can determine how many pros may be needed.

If you have not met our new Assistant Professional, Doug George, please stop by and say hello. Doug has a strong tennis background and is really a good fit for the needs of our Club. He will be running the night tennis beginning this month along with assisting the Fast Four play on Saturdays. Please email us if you have an interest in joining in on the night mixed play or Fast Four on Saturday's. You will enjoy both events. You may notice more juniors out in the evenings. Doug has a good group of dedicated kids showing up for our after-school program. Call us for information.

The Tennis Pro Shop has all the equipment you need for play; racquets, logo items, shoes, etc.. We also have demo racquets you can try out first before purchasing anything. Need your racquet restrung? Stop by and we can usually have it restrung the same day.

For all our Pickleball enthusiasts, we also have access to order a variety of paddles and balls. Look for our Pickleball Party this month (Thursday, January 25th at 1:00pm), we will be dedicating it to Mr. Kevin Daley. Kevin was an avid pickleball player here at the Club, as well as playing on several of the tennis teams. He is truly missed by all who knew him.

Be sure to check your calendars for all our Racquet Sport events. You can always look on ForeTees events to find details and register. Members that have questions or need assistance from the tennis staff should please call, stop by or email us. We are looking for a great start to the new year.

Membership Report

Colleen Sowerby, Membership Sales Director
memberships@esterocc.com

Happy New Year to all our members. We hope you have an exceptionally great year with family, friends and fellow members. Whether on the golf course, tennis courts or at one of our many events at the Club; come experience your Club and all it has to offer.

Since the All Member Meeting in November and as of typing this newsletter article on the first week of December I am happy to report, we have moved our Golf total from 274 to 282, nearing our stop sell of 295. We have reached our stop sell in Sport at 50!

Please welcome our newest members listed below - don't forget when you see the blue table cloths in the dining room it is the first time one of our newest members are with us…please stop by and welcome them to the family. We also have 15 family trial members with us this season and we hope they fall in love with us as you did and chose to become part of the family – please include them in your golf games, tennis matches and invite them out to one of our great events this season.

Thank you for your referrals this past year – it truly has made a difference in membership this new year!

Welcome New Members

Richard and Peggy Bloom
Golf – Genova
(soon to be residents)
Richard and Peggy are moving to the area from Minnetonka, Minnesota and are awaiting the build out of their new home at Genova.

Ronald and Marguerite Klimkowski
Golf – Pelican Landing
Ronald took a tour of the Club and Marguerite was on board after experiencing our great food and beverage service while looking out the windows onto the front nine! When not in SWFL they are in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin! They are now retired from their careers as a COO at a Chicago company and practicing law.

Dino Galanti & Paola Castellano
Social – Southwind
Not a short move for the Castellanos…all the way from Italy. Please welcome them to the Club as they move here full time.

John and Yvonne Kopton
Golf – Rookery
Both golfers who loved our golf course, and who played out of Whitehawk CC in Crown Point, IN before moving to SWFL. They have recently retired after selling their electrical contracting company in Griffith, IN and are looking forward to having more time to enjoy the area and play a lot of golf.

Howard and Doreen Tallman
Golf – Southwind
We thank David and Hallie Schneeweiss for referring their friends to the Club.
Howard and Doreen summer in CO and now that they are retired (Mr. from law, and Mrs. from HOA management), they are excited to be spending warm winters in SWFL.

Keith and Cindy Frankland
Golf – Belle Lago
After enjoying their time with us this summer we are very happy to say they have joined our family of membership. We have fellow resident members Jim and Sharon Lowry to thank for their referral. The Franklands summer in St. Charles, Illinois.

Richard Vigars Jr. and Susan Suhrada
Social – Vintage Trace
We are excited to welcome our newest social members moving across the street from Breckenridge. We have been calling them from across the street! When not at their new home in The Vines they are in Schenectady, New York.

Robert and Jean Kelley
Sport – Southwind
Robert & Jean have bought a beautiful unit and hope to travel back and forth from MA. Robert will be playing or practicing golf and Jean is happy there is great shopping nearby. They have been searching for quite some time and are happy to have found a home close to the airport and at a low-density golf property.

Todd Wilson
Golf – Lost Creek
Todd is relocating from Westerville Ohio and happy to be moving closer to his company's headquarters.
An avid golfer who cannot wait to hit the links and the practice area. He is so happy to be "out of the cold" and in sunny SWFL!

Please extend a warm greeting to the newest members of our ECC family.

Employee Scholarship Fundraiser

In February, 2017, the Estero Nine Hole Ladies Golf Association hosted a golf scramble as a fundraiser to support the Employee Scholarship Fund. We had corporate sponsors, Tyson Eye and Scanlon/Lexus Group, and over 80 individual members of Estero Country Club, as well as several golf groups, contributed to hole sponsorships or made generous donations. Due to the success of this event, we were able to award six scholarships to employees of the Club, totaling $9000. Our recipients worked across all functions at the Club, including Food & Beverage, Outside Services and the Pro Shop.

We are planning another Employee Scholarship Fundraiser Golf Scramble and BBQ on Saturday, February 3rd.
We are reaching out to all members of Estero Country Club, not just the golfers,
to contribute to the scholarship fund and join us for the BBQ, even if you don't golf with us.

To make it easy to contribute to the Scholarship Fund, we have created the form below for you to fill out and send back to the Club (mail or drop off at the office). Your account will be billed directly for your donation. You can sign-up on ForeTees under Golf Events for the Golf Scramble which includes the BBQ dinner, or just sign up for the dinner under Dining Events.

Saturday, February 3, 2018 - 1:00pm SHOTGUN

Proceeds will benefit our Employee Scholarship Fund

Member/Guest Event (Call for Event pricing)
BBQ BUFFET TO FOLLOW GOLF
NON-GOLFERS WELCOME
BIG PRIZES – BIG SURPRISES

One prize for women & one prize for men -
PUTTING
CHIPPING
DRIVING
CLOSEST TO THE PIN
50/50 Raffle

Sign-up on ForeTees or call the Club

Donations or Hole Sponsorships for Employee Scholarship Fundraiser on February 3, 2018.

Name_____ Member #_____

Hole Sponsorship ($150 per hole - can combine with friends) $ amount_____

Donation $ amount_____

By signing, you authorize ECC to bill your account for the amount listed above:

Signature_____

Mail or Drop off the Signed Form, attn: Employee Scholarship Fundraiser

January Party
with Sounds of the Season
(Frankie Valli Tribute Band)
Saturday, January 20th, 2018
5:00 Cocktails - 6:00 Dinner - 7:00 Performance

Lead singer, William Cintron, is truly a singer extraordinaire of any kind of genre. This band can play the classics from The Great American Songbook, DooWop, Oldies, Motown and Love Ballads, Smooth R&B and Classic Soul, Disco, Contemporary, Pop and Salsa. William is founder and lead singer of his Tribute Band called "Sounds of the Seasons" tribute to Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons.

Signature Wedge

Artisan Romaine, Sliced Egg, Danish Blue Cheese, Candied Bacon and Roma Tomato Wheels with Herb Vinaigrette

Entrée

Filet and Crab Cake

Veal Glace, Red Pepper Relish, Marbled Sweet Mashed Potatoes and Chinese Long Beans

Dessert

Mason Jar Mousse

White Chocolate Mascarpone Mousse, Hibiscus Gelee, Citrus Crumble, Almond Biscotti and Lavender Buds

Members Only, Tables of 8 (limited tables of 10)

Reservations Starting Thursday, December 21st at 9:00am

Casual Attire (No Blue Denim)

72 Hour Cancellation Policy Guests Welcome after the 72 Cancellation Policy if space is available

(Dietary restrictions required 72 hours in advance)

Valentine's Day Dinner Dance

with The Marlinaires

Music from 7:30 - 10:30

Wednesday, February 14

Salad Choices

Caesar - Fresh Crisp Romaine Tossed in a Zesty Caesar Dressing, Parmesan Cheese and House-made Croutons

or

Spinach Salad - Organic Baby Spinach, Crimini Mushrooms, Red Onion, Grape Tomatoes, Sliced Egg and Warm Guava-Bacon Dressing

Entrées Choices

Twin Lobster Tails – With Drawn Butter and Wild Rice Blend $52++

Pan Seared Halibut – Opal Basil Pesto, Scampi Butter and Wild Rice Blend $45

Filet Mignon – Center Cut Steak, Madeira Demi, Tarragon Compound Butter, Sour Cream and Chive Whipped Potato $42++

Surf and Turf – Center Cut Steak, Madeira Demi, Tarragon Compound Butter, Single Lobster Tail with Drawn Butter, Sour Cream and Chive Whipped Potato $58++

New Zealand Lamb – Full Rack, Dijon Crust, Minted Jelly, Sour Cream and Chive Whipped Potato $45++

Chicken Cordon Bleu – Ham, Swiss and Boursin Stuffed, served with Parmesan-Mustard Cream and Wild Rice Blend $31++

Above entrées served with Steamed Asparagus

Dessert

Strawberry Panna Cotta

Chocolate Ganache, Whipped Cream, Meringue Heart

Casual Elegant Attire

Jackets required for men.

72 hour cancellation policy applies

Guests Welcome

Reservations of 8 Recommended

Dietary Restrictions

required 72 hours in advance