



Catta Talk

CATTA VERDERA COUNTRY CLUB

JANUARY 2022



Kevin Earl
General Manager

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Greetings Catta Members,

Happy New Year, albeit a little tardy this month. We delayed the news article a little this month...mostly because of the State of the Club article and we had some editorial challenges... so here we go!

Management just met as a group with the new Advisory Board for the first time. The committee will be chaired this year by Beth Hoblit. This group of volunteers is again...a very talented set of folks with varied backgrounds that will help guide Catta Verdera going forward. A loud thank you to all past members! (a reprint is due them) and your new advisory members for their time and energy going forward!

As we move forward, one goal will be to identify where we can increase member services, along with the fun factor, towards the goal of increasing member happiness. This will be a common theme this year because the world has been so darn complicated lately. The club should be your getaway as much as possible and not be a mirror for all the bad news out there. We hope to talk mainly about the club, or club-related stuff, each month and leave the non-golf topics to the newspapers and TV stations. I may be a little naive but...I'm sure going to try?

Course update: On the horizon are several projects that are tentatively scheduled for 2022. We delayed most of the labor-intensive projects the last two years because of the amount of play and the downtime needed to fix many of the items on the list. Last two years we allocated most of our labor and energy towards keeping the course in tournament conditions...and not large projects.

A snapshot of projects for 2020 in no certain order: finishing the bunker project entailing both

the fairways' bunkers and #17 green. We hope to do this and disrupt play as little as possible. The scope of work on #17 expanded a little to extend the rock face... and rework the bunkers to more of their original look. You will shortly see some rocks being piled on the right side of #17 as part of the construction process.

Another project is the trimming or possible removal of some trees that overhang the bunkers on #11 at the 2nd bend/corner. These trees overhanging play as a double penalty. Another change to make that hole play more like was designed. This is a common occurrence over time as trees grow larger and affect the hole differently over time. The last count on our wish list for this year has eight fairly substantial projects needed to improve the playability of the course. Stay tuned!

Food & Beverage Update: We very soon will have fine dining available in Madelena's. Our first foray into this arena will be from 5:00-8:00 pm on Thursday, January 27, 2022. Reservations are required... At the time of this writing, we have a few slots already taken so please contact us ASAP if you are interested. These can only be made by emailing jbraden@cattaverdera.com. The menu will be Prime Rib, Chicken Cordon Bleu, and Potato Encrusted Halibut in addition to the special's menu. Our hope is this can be a regular thing down the road if the demand warrants it.

Down the road, in February, look for our Valentine's Day menu and schedule. The tricky part this year is Valentine is on the Monday following Super Bowl Sunday! Life can be tricky sometimes.

Lastly, Chef Marco has started the deep dive, and a re-fresh look, at the menu in Quixotes. One significant change will be the addition of a Gluten-Free option(s). Not sure what they are yet, but it is a Gluten-Free option that has become more expected/ accepted in the restaurant world.

That's all for now... see you in the fairway....





Paul Shorts
Head Golf Professional

Looking forward to 2022!

We have an extremely high percentage of members who love playing in tournaments and we just finished one of the all-time great/full tournament seasons for any private club ever! As we move into 2022 we

will be positioning some of these tournament events away from the weekend days and into mid-week spots. We understand that many members are only able to play on weekends, and we want to appropriately balance the intense desire for organized, competitive golf, with the desire to just go out and have fun with friends or family, golf.

Service levels – Most of our current golf staff were hired during the overly cautious ‘don’t touch stuff’ era of Covid mitigation. This unfortunately created a very passive or even ‘anti-service’ feel in the operation. I’m in the final stages of bringing on a second assistant professional, a position needed considering the volume and scope of our current operation. He will serve as our Outside Service Supervisor and be my protégé in tournament operations. Tournaments here including set up, physical prep and day of operations are an entirely separate full-time job here. Having this second assistant will also allow me to pass off more tournament operations to him and be able to spend more time outside with staff as well as members.

Golf Course – the log tee markers are going away! I’m currently getting quotes for the new set of tee markers we will be rolling out this spring.

Driving Range – New club cleaners. Trash cans. New flags for target poles on the range. More defined landing areas around the targets. Range balls. As of the last week of December, we secured range balls for 2022. There is a global Surlyn shortage going on and every golf ball (even the Urethane covered balls like Pro v1) use Surlyn. Because the manufacturers make more money on retail balls than range balls, most resources were shifted to that production side and range balls have been a challenge. For those that care, we will have Bridgestone range balls arriving in several shipments next year. The first batch is scheduled to arrive in April.

Golf Equipment – Every year all the club companies come out with something newer and later and greater. If you went back to the early 2000’s and added together all the promised distance claims, without getting too specific, it’s safe to say that each of those years the new club has promised at least a 5-yard gain in distance. That means that could carry the ball 250 yards in the year 2000 should now be carrying it 355 yards without swinging any harder. While we know that’s not remotely possible, most of us have gained a distance advantage thanks to newer equipment. My swing speed is significantly less than it was in 2000. Do I hit it shorter? Yes. Do I hit it as short as I would with my driver from 2000? No.

I say all this to let you know that there will be a bunch of new equipment coming out in 2022. Some of it will offer no improvement over the 2021 models. Some of it will come with unrealistic claims of distance gains. But some of it will make golf more enjoyable for you, and that’s what this is all about! Be sure to talk with one of our golf professionals and let us help you sort out the empty hype from the actual benefits when it comes to new equipment. I’m a certified Ping and Mizuno iron fitter, and Sean is as good as anyone out there fitting irons and woods using Trackman technology. Hitting into a net when you are getting fit for clubs sort of works, sometimes. If like most of us you plan on golfing without a net right in front of the tee box, I highly recommend getting fit somewhere that you can see the ball flying. Somewhere like the Catta Verdera Driving Range.

Winter Golf – It looks like we’re having an actual winter this year. Real winter means great skiing, and no talk of drought for at least the next 12 months or so. Real winter also comes with some golf challenges. Cart paths only. It slows down play and it wears you out, but one of the biggest damages to our playing field is golf cars. When the turf is wet golf car tracks can upset the soil and even damage the crown of the plant. When it’s cold, the plant won’t grow back until it warms up. Jogi is doing a great job with the golf course, so please make sure you don’t hamper his efforts now, or long term by driving where you shouldn’t and messing up the turf for months to come.

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FROM THE HEAD GOLF PROFESSIONAL - CONTINUED

Another thing to remember is when it's paths only, be sure to take multiple clubs out to your golf ball with you and take the sand canister from your cart out with you as well. You'll be able to fill your divot, and as a bonus you can prop up the extra clubs you took out with you on the canister, so the grips don't get wet. The last winter advice is to keep your core warm and hit at least 1 extra club on each shot. Those cold air molecules are huddling closer together which means your ball is flying through much thicker air. Keep going with an extra club until you fly it over a green. Once that happens you can start adjusting back to 'normal' yardages.

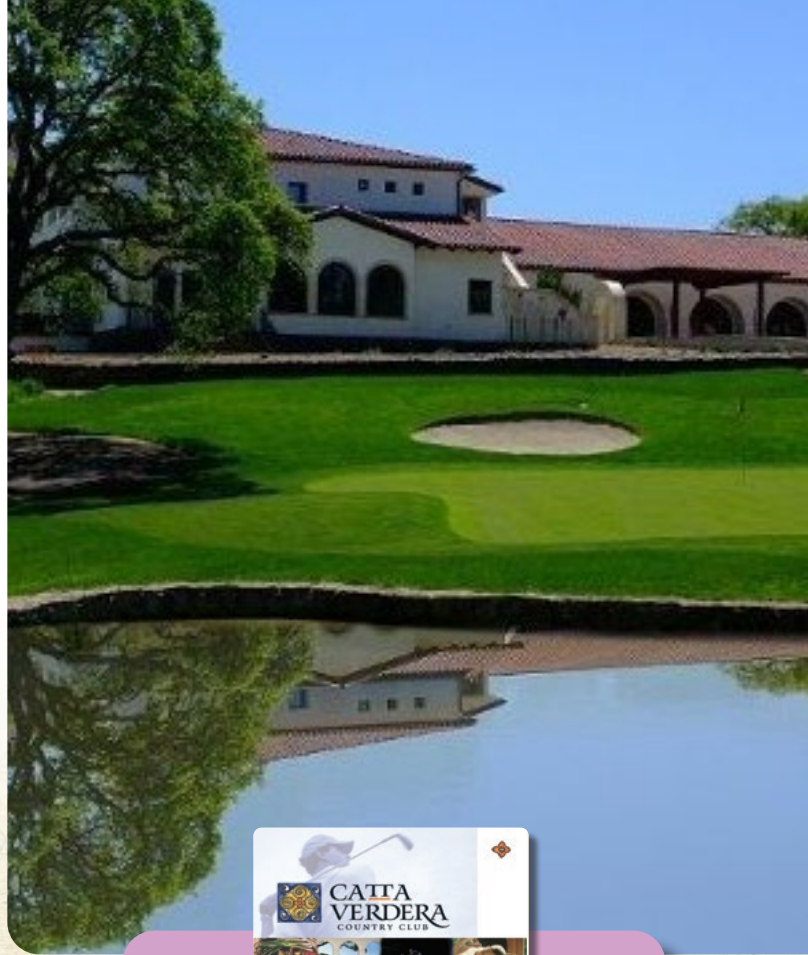
Final thoughts – Tiger Woods was almost killed in a car accident last February. Then for months after, it was questionable if he would keep his right leg. In December he played with his son Charlie in the PNC challenge and set the golf world talking. While the new, young players are out there setting the world on fire with low scores and booming drives, there is still nobody who moves the interest needle and creates excitement like Tiger Woods. What will Tiger's 2022 look like? Nobody knows yet. It might be a couple majors and a handful of select other events, or it might mean he plays more golf with his friends and son and doesn't compete at all. Whatever he does, he creates excitement! I hope all of you are able to tap into the excitement of golf in 2022 and make it your best golfing year ever!



Hole-In-One Insurance

Everyone who plays golf should be signed up for this wonderful benefit. There is no cost to sign up...but great rewards.

Please contact the Golf Shop for details.



Get your Valentine the gift of Golf. Pick up a gift card for the Golf Shop so your sweetheart can buy to their hearts content!

Save the Date...

Valentines Dinner Saturday, February 12th



Celebrate your sweetheart this Valentine's Day at the club. This will be a 5-course dinner with selections for three of the courses. Reservations are required. Keep an eye out for more details on the dinner and to make reservations.

Madelena's Fine Dining Returns Thursday, January 27th

We are bringing back FINE DINING to the club. We will have fine dining available in Madelena's from 5:00-8:00pm on Thursday, January 27, 2022. Reservations are required and can only be made at jbraden@cattaverdera.com. We will have Prime Rib, Chicken Cordon Bleu and Potato Encrusted Halibut in addition to the specials menu.





Catta Chatter



CVCC 10th Annual Crab Feed

Friday, February 25th

We invite you to join us for the 10th annual Catta Verdera Crab Feed. Enjoy all the crab you can eat plus all the good stuff that goes along with it! The dinner is from 7:00pm to 9:30pm, and reservations are required. The cost is \$50 per adult ~ reservations can be made at jbraden@cattaverdera.com.



Valentine's Couples Event Saturday, February 12th

Time: 9:00AM Shotgun

Prizes: NET winners will be awarded
+ 1st place Gross

Format: Couples Shamble (two players)

Flights: Flights will be determined by the number of teams. Flights based on teams combined team handicap. (ex. If 40 teams sign up there would be 4 flights of 10 teams)

Cost: \$40/person

Includes prize fund
and food after the round

Tees: Men – Purple, Ladies - Yellow

Sign-up On line by
clicking **HERE!**

Entries open January 11th and close February 5th or
the first 100 people





Catta Verdera Women Golfers

Message from Tina Paschke, Captain

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Captain in 2022! My goal is to continue enhancing our members' experience and ensure inclusion and fun for all. I am looking forward to all of the amazing events we have planned for 2022. It takes a village to ensure that our events are successful; and, this would not be possible without all of the ladies that have graciously volunteered to serve on the Executive Board and Committees this year.

Executive Board

Tina Paschke, Captain
Stephanie McCarthy, Co-Captain
Julie Domenick, Secretary
Shannon Zajec, Treasurer
Paula McNally, Thursday Play Day
Lauren Kogel / Kimber Tzikas, Saturday Play Day
Dana White, Membership
Jan Wlssenback, Handicap
Diana Nyman, Social / Charity
Michelle Helzer, Advisor

Committee Chairpersons

Andrea Berry, Eclectic Tournament
Eddy Nanchy, Verdera Cup
Ev Owsley, Birdies, Chip-Ins, Eagles
Liz Barnard / Tiffany Blaylock, Solheim Cup
Stacey Wiegandt, Team Match Play
Michelle Helzer / Megan Cohill, Mini Invitational
Stephanie McCarthy, Catta Bella Invitational
Linda Bunker, Guest Days
Lory Vasko, Boo Shoot
Dana Mata / Beth Hoblit, Tee It Up Tuesday
Tina Paschke, Newsletter
Susan Bishop, Website

2021 Achievements

The Catta Verdera Women Golfers holiday party was held in December to celebrate another year of golf and recognize all of the accomplishments achieved throughout the year.

The top awards were presented to:

Linda Bunker - Verdera Cup Winner
Dana White - Overall Most Improved Golfer

There were many ladies recognized for their achievements during the Partner and Individual Eclectic Tournaments, Putts, Medallions, Birdies, Chip-In's, Eagles, and Break Pins. A complete listing of all the winners will be noted in the CVWG Newsletter. Congratulations to all!!

Catta Verdera Women Golfers Newsletter

(click to open)



CATTA VERDERA COUPLES LEAGUE!

CVCC announces the new Catta Verdera Couples League! This idea grew from the popularity of our Tee It Up Wednesday “Couples Edition” Socials, where we learned many couples love playing together and with other couples! Our goal is to encourage fellowship and love of golf for ALL Catta Verdera members.

The League will meet the 2nd Sunday each month (in the afternoon) for 9 holes of golf, with food and drinks at Q’s afterward. Dates that conflict with club tournaments will be changed to another Sunday. Social and golf members are all invited to join, and couples can be any male or female combination: a spouse, significant other, or golf buddy. Every month you’ll play with a different couple and the formats will be designed for all abilities to enjoy. If you love playing golf, having fun, and meeting new people, then you need to join us.

Our first event is the Shamrock Shenanigans on March 13th. Details and signup information will be announced shortly. Please reach out to the Committee Members for questions, comments, and suggestions to make this league fun!



Committee Members;

Beth and Dave Hoblit
Ann Harvie and Mark Wallace

Holly and Sean Harrigan
Christi and Chris Gohl

“The difference in golf and government is that in golf you can’t improve your lie.” ~ George Deukmejian

January 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2	3	4	5	6 Ladies Day	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Ladies Day	14	15
16	17 Martin Luther King Jr Day Club Open	18 Club Closed	19	20 Ladies Day	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Madefena's Fine Dining Ladies Day	28	29
30	31					

Coming in February...

- Thursday, February 3rd
Ladies Day
- Friday, February 4th
Frank Family Wine Dinner
- Thursday, February 10th
Ladies Day
- Saturday, February 12th
Couples Valentine’s Day Tournament
- Saturday, February 12th
Valentine’s Day Dinner
- Thursday, February 17th
Ladies Day
- Thursday, February 24th
Ladies Day
- Friday, February 25th
10th Annual Crab Feed