



Volume XVI, Issue 5
September 2023

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear ECC Members,

It has been a very memorable summer at ECC! Our first year with the new grill room was a big success, with our restaurant sales significantly increasing. We have had so many very successful events and social gatherings, and we still have more including Irish Road Bowling on September 1, a Prime Rib Buffet on September 2 with music, the Denny Reagan Memorial Chili Cook-off on the 10th, the Closing Party on the 16th, and more.

Thank you to Bryan and his staff in the restaurant for the great food and service, to Jason and his staff for the uptick in clothing sales along with the golf lessons/club repair, and to Rachel and her staff for providing us with a beautiful golf course. Also, thank you to all the volunteers who have helped with events and workdays.

Hope to see you at the remaining events!

Best wishes,

Tim Virant
President
ECC Board of Directors

Eshquaguma Country Club



Eshquaguma Election Results

At the annual meeting on August 26, 2023, the ECC Nominating Committee of Kym Drain, Dwight Day and John Hovanec announced that the two incumbents – **Brian Maki** and **Terri Nelson** were re-elected and newly elected to the ECC Board is new board member **Shawn Youso**.

Brian Maki was appointed as Vice-President by the ECC Board replacing Scott Strudwick who previously held that position. The ECC Board appointed Nate Lehmann to replace Scott Strudwick who recently resigned from the ECC Board. Nate will complete the remainder of Scott's one year term, which will provide one additional year of continuity to the Fundraising Liaison role.

The ECC Board's next scheduled meeting is September 18, 2023 at 5:00pm in the ECC Clubhouse. The Election Buddy Voting System worked seamlessly to capture over 70% of the membership voting. Most members found this system easy to use and very convenient for those who were out of town or

unavailable to vote in person.

Special thanks to Dwight Day, Kym Drain and John Hovanec for all their involvement on the Nominating Committee.

Mike Kern, ECC Secretary

To: ECC Board of Directors
From: ECC Nominating Committee

RE: 2023 Election

Dear ECC Board,

A few thoughts/observations from the 2023 Election:

- To our knowledge, no issues of concern were raised around this year's election. General feedback for online voting was favorable.
- (113) of (159) eligible memberships voted in the Board Election: (95) voted via the online Election Buddy system and (18) ballots were distributed, and collected, at the meeting.
- In 2022, the first year of online voting, (49) memberships voted; (11) online and (38) at the meeting.
- In 2021, (63) memberships voted.
- Our committee thinks electronic, online voting and vote tallying is the way to go. Election Buddy provides voter anonymity, accuracy in tallying vote totals, and substantially reduces the time and effort it takes to arrive at the election results. We intend to continue to offer this to the membership going forward.

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee



Closing Party

Join your friends at ECC on Saturday, Sept. 16 . . . a dinner buffet and dessert – and don't forget a special after dinner drink. Have a wonderful time at ECC's final bash of the season!

Chef's Choice Dinner Buffet

- \$40.00 per person
- 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. - Specialty Cocktails
- 6 p.m. - Dinner
- 7:30-10:30 p.m. "Everybody's Uncle"

Reservations must be made by September 13, 2023 at restaurant@eshquaguma.com

ESHQUAGUMA COUNTRY CLUB

6469 White Pine Lane, Gilbert, MN 55741
Phone: 218-865-4263 · Pro Shop: 218-865-4706
Bookkeeper: 218-750-2033
www.eshquaguma.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 1** Irish Road Bowling & Lunch, 2 p.m.
- September 2** Prime Rib Buffet – with Kid's Selections - 5:00 p.m., 5:30 and 6:00 seatings
- September 6** Ladies' Golf in a.m. with Business Meeting at Noon.
- September 7** Bingo Night, 6 p.m.
- September 9** Dumpster Juice Golf Event & Lunch, 9:00 a.m. start
- September 12** Book Club Meeting, 6 p.m.
- September 16** Closing Party - 5 p.m. Social, 6 p.m. Dinner, 7:30 p.m. Band
- September 17** Kitchen Sale, 9 a.m. - Noon
- September 19** Bar open with limited food thru October 1
- October 1** Restaurant and Bar close for the season. Golf Course closing date is weather repondent
- December 7** ECC Christmas Party - Margie's Roosevelt Bar in Eveleth



From the ECC Restaurant

**Please call for reservations!
ECC Dining Room: call 218-865-4263, or email
restaurant@eshquaguma.com**

Thanks for making a reservation. This helps plan for food, staffing and to make sure you are greeted, seated and waited on appropriately.

RESTAURANT/BAR

Hard to believe another year at ECC is drawing to a close. We had an exceptional year with restaurant sales up more than 8% over last year. Thanks to all of our members and guests.

Next year as I continue as the Restaurant/Bar Liaison, we will be offering new options on the Lite Fare and Dinner Menus. Please send me any suggestions you

may have to terrinelson19@gmail.com. Our fabulous culinary staff will return in May 2024 for another exciting year. This year the bar at ECC will remain open until October 1st, please come and enjoy a drink as we wind down the season.

This year the California Culinary staff and our wait staff have provided exceptional meals and service. We are excited for their return in 2024!

I am very grateful for my time as a board member. This is an exciting time for ECC, and I thank you for your vote for another 3 year term. ECC is an exceptional place, and I am committed to maintaining its history.

*Terri Nelson
Restaurant Liaison*



Top 14 Golf Laws

- #1:** No matter how bad your last shot was, you should have Inner Peace knowing that a worse one will follow.
- #2:** Your best round of golf will be followed almost immediately by your worst round ever. The probability of the latter increases with the number of people you tell about the former.
- #3:** Nonchalant putts count the same as chalang putts.
- #4:** It's not a gimme if you're still 4 feet away.
- #5:** Golf balls never bounce off of trees back into play. If one does, the tree is breaking a law of the universe and should be cut down.
- #6:** The higher a golfer's handicap, the more qualified he deems himself as an instructor.
- #7:** Every time you make a birdie, you must subsequently make a double or triple bogey to restore the universe's fundamental equilibrium.
- #8:** All 3-woods are demon-possessed. Your Mother-in-Law doesn't even come close.
- #9:** Balls from the same "sleeve" tend to follow one another, particularly out of bounds or into the water.
- #10:** The last three holes of a round will automatically adjust your score to what it really should be.
- #11:** You can hit a 2-acre fairway 10% of the time, and a 2-inch branch 90% of the time.
- #12:** It's surprisingly easy to hole a 50-foot putt when you're lying 8.
- #13:** The shortest distance between any two points on a golf course is a straight line that passes through the center of a large tree.
- #14:** If you want to hit a 7-iron as far as Tiger Woods does, simply use it to try to lay up just short of a water hazard.

From the ProShop

The month of August at Eshquaguma means it's time for the 2023 Men's and Ladies Championship Tournaments. Thank you ECC Family, for another great year. So many highlights and good memories from this year I'm not quite sure where to begin.

At the beginning of the year seeing the clubhouse renovations come to life was nothing short of incredible. Well done, and a special thank you to all that made it possible.

There are truly not too many places you'd rather be hanging out at during the summertime than at Eshquaguma Country Club. Between the Golf, Lake activities, tennis/pickleball, food, drinks, events, scenery, and family environment.

There's something for everyone at ECC. The ECC Youth Golf Camp is always a big highlight. I had a real fun week with my golf group and look forward to defending the water balloon toss title next year! The 4th of July putting contest continues to be a big hit. Thank you to all that participate and help raise money for the club.

The Men's Club tournament had some great matches to watch again this year. Some fireworks in the finals for sure, wow! Also, seeing 95-year-old Mr. Ron Bonkosky continue to play in the Men's Club Tournament brings a big smile to my face. Way to go Ron Bon!

We hosted some new charity fundraisers this year with United Way and the North Lights Foundation, both of which look to help struggling youth in Northeastern Minnesota. Thank you to everyone who helped support these events.

There's still plenty of good weather ahead of us and fall is one of the most beautiful times of the year. I hope to see you all out here playing some golf!

Jason Teragawa, ECC Golf Pro

ERA League –
Sept. 5th, Sept.
8th, Sept. 12th, Sept.
15th

Tuesday Night Golf – Sept. 5th

Men's/Ladies League – Sept. 6th

J&E Dock Removal Service – Call or sign up in the ProShop to be put on a list for scheduling. \$150 per dock. September 22 and 23.

Don't miss the END of the Season BLOWOUT Sale in the ProShop
Stop and check out our season-ending sale. We will be running a green DOT sale with 50% off select items – and 30% off select regular apparel. Watch for further information.



Jason Teragawa

ECC Head Golf Pro

proshop@eshquaguma.com

218-865-4706

ECC ProShop Hours

Hours: May 8 - Sept. 17

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
and Friday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Wednesday 7:30-7:30

Saturday & Sunday 7:00-7:30

2023 ECC Men's Club

2023 ECC Men's Tournament Recap

This year's club championship featured a similar format as prior years and again provided the club with some great golf action. Contested over three days, from August 17-20, the tournament included

39 golfers in six different divisions – Championship, First Flight, White Pine, Cypress, Ponderosa and Senior.

Championship flight players were seeded

according to USGA/MGA handicaps. Defending champion Beau Mitchell did not play this year therefore all sixteen seeds were based on handicaps.

The other divisions were filled based on golfing ability and

personalities which provided a jovial round of golf and some close competition. The Men's tournament continues to be on the rise and we're looking to crack the 40 member mark in 2024! Thanks to all who helped grow this event!

Championship flight matches started Friday, August 18 and continued throughout the weekend

for first round matches has proven successful and is here to stay. Those succumbing to defeat in the first match of Championship flight formed First flight for a fresh start. The Ponderosa, Cypress and White Pine divisions had a mix between 18-hole match play and 9-hole round robin matches. The Senior division was settled in round robin

matches with a final 9-hole match.

The tournament weekend kicked off Thursday afternoon, August 17, with the men's shootout.

	Championship	1st Flight	White Pine	Ponderosa
First Place	Matt Uhan	Ian Carey	Dave Bozicevich	Erik Erie
Second Place	Tyler Harvey	Ken Olsen	Rob Anderson	Gary Drobnick
Third Place	Nick Devich	Brian Plesha	Perry Keskitalo	Tico Leoni
Consolation	Troy Hughes	Frank Cerar	Luke Soderling	Mike Baland
	Cypress	Senior Division		
First Place	Bruce Burgstahler	Mark "Sid" Karpen		
Second Place	Dave Jaros	Charles Flynn		
Third Place	Scott Strudwick	Mike Kern		

with the final pairing teeing off at 1pm Sunday. Friday's first round and quarterfinal matches proved quite competitive with some upsets and stellar golf. The featured match Friday afternoon saw Nick Devich defeat Tony Mosey in 16 holes. The Friday double header format

This year's shootout was a two-man alternate shot format and provided for some interesting strategy and teamwork. The record number eighteen two-person teams decided who was going to put the first shot into play and alternated shots accordingly until the final putt was holed out.

To start, the eighteen teams separated into two groups to play a one-hole play-in hole to get the group down to the final twelve teams. From there, the twelve teams started on hole #9 and eliminated teams on holes #9, #2, #12, #8 and #16 until the final two teams arrived on #18 vying for the cash title.

Back by popular demand was the progressive buyback allowing early losers to spend their way back into the competition. Growing the cash purse over \$750! The team of Rob Hill and Tyler Harvey defeated the upstart team of Bruce Burgstahler



Men's Shootout: Bruce Burgstahler & Matt Uhan - 2nd Place; and Rob Hill & Tyler Harvey - 1st Place



Tournament Champion – Matt Uhan with Runner-up Tyler Harvey. This was Matt's seventh championship.

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2023 ECC Ladies Tournament

The 2023 Ladies Tournament had 19 participants this year! That's three more than we have had in at least the past 7-8 years.

As always, golfers are placed in flights based on their handicaps, with the first-round winners staying in the upper bracket, and losers going to a lower flight. This enables our ladies to golf with others they may not usually play with, as well as ensuring the tournament players get to play at least three matches.

A gallery of more than 20 carts watched the final match between Maggie Hillmer and Trish Olsen, with Maggie winning the championship trophy this year.

The 1st Flight champion is Barb Hecomovich (who played for the first time in 10 years!); 2nd Flight champ is Jane Stunkard; 3rd Flight was won by Shelley Rask; and 4th Flight was taken by Terri Kern.

A special shout-out to that fourth flight which only had 3 players. They determined their own format in which to compete and also of note is that Terri is only in her second year of golfing. Way to go ladies and thanks for supporting our championship!

On Sunday afternoon, our Shootout Event had six teams. We played five holes on an alternate shot basis, with one team being eliminated on each hole culminating on hole #9. Sheri Harms and Shelley Rask edged out Andrea Polus and Terri Nelson due to Shelley's awesome sandtrap skills. Thankfully, they didn't have to play any extra holes this year!

As a reminder, you do NOT have to be a member of the Ladies League to participate in the tournament or shootout, but a USGA handicap is necessary. If you haven't



1st flight winner Barb Hecomovich and Championship flight winner Maggie Hillmer

signed up for one, talk to Jason in the ProShop on how to do so.

We would love to grow our tournament to include a wider array of golfers! If you have suggestions/recommendations, please contact Sheri Harms or Kris Coombe.



Maggie Hillmer



Trish Olsen

The Schwan's logo is displayed in red and white. Below it, the text "We're becoming Yelloh" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the word "YELLOH!" is written in a stylized, red, blocky font with a white outline.

Exceptionally delicious frozen favorites.
(Now available in the ECC ProShop!)



Irish Road Bowling Event Update

The 15th Annual Irish Road Bowling Event will be held on Friday, September 1st. Come on out and Cheer & Bid on your favorite Irish Road Bowler.

Charles Flynn will be Blessing the Balls at 2:30 p.m. Afterwards, enjoy a wonderful Irish Buffet, \$29 + (tax & tip). Please make reservations with Bryan Quintanar

at reservations@eshquaguma.com.

Part of the proceeds will help benefit the Northern Lights Music Festival. Spread the Word – Bring your Friends!!

Sign up for the One Club Event after the Buffet - \$10.



LUMBERJACK DAY



Much like the Spring Spruce-Up, Lumberjack Day is just one day in the fall when members pitch in to clean up the club grounds in preparation for winter. There are always trees to be cut and brush to be trimmed and hauled away.

Members and friends of all ages come out for a fun afternoon. Many hands make light work, as they say! The day will wrap up with a cold beer or soft drink and a big bonfire at the burn pile. The Lakeland Fire Department is on site to keep an eye on things. Mark your calendar for **October 7th** and join us!



Left: Irish Road Bowling 2022 Champions Lindsay Carey (Ladies) & Ian Carey (Men's). Above: Charlie Flynn – Irish Road Bowling "Best Ball Catcher".

Plesha sets ERA record low

Brian Plesha recently set a new ERA course record with a score of 28! That round included three pars, four birdies and two eagles! Congratulations to Brian!



Handicap	9	15	5	1	7	3	11	13	17	
Blue Par	4	4	4	5	3	4	5	4	3	36
White Yardage	388	288	320	390	220	341	448	349	277	2831
Handicap	5	11	13	7	15	3	9	1	17	
White Par	4	4	4	5	4	4	5	4	3	37

Initials	10	12	14	2	4	16	6	8	18	
19	4	4	4	2	3	4	4	3	33	
21	4	4	6	4	3	4	5	5	33	
24	3	2	3	4	3	3	4	4	28	
25	5	4	4	6	3	5	5	4	40	
26	5	4	5	4	3	5	5	5	40	
27	4	6	4	4	3	5	5	4	33	
28	4	4	5	4	3	4	5	4	36	72

What a day!

The ECC annual **Ladies Invitational Tournament** was held Thursday, August 24th with 62 golfers (44 from outside our gates) excitedly enjoying an 18 hole scramble on our beautifully maintained course, breakfast goodies, sandwiches at 'the turn' and a gourmet buffet lunch afterwards in our magnificent new Grill Room.

The Committee of Becky Reagan, Pat Tamminen, Terri Nelson and Joanna Johnson, together with the team of our Club Pro Jason Teragawa and eight volunteers, worked tirelessly to ensure another enormously successful event. We commend Bryan and his restaurant staff for their superb decorating and service.

Most importantly, we extend a big Thank you to our many generous sponsors and those who donated homebaked cakes and muffins, use of their carts and amazingly, our nearly 50 raffle prizes.

Winners among ECC members:

Blue Flight 1st place: Trish Olsen/
Krystal Lawson; 2nd place: Maggie



Hillmer/Mel Moe; 3rd Place: Sheri Harms/Kris Coombe

Red Flight 2nd place: Jane Stunkard/Karen Anderson

Green Flight 3rd place: Teresa

Lehtinen/Barb Hecomovich

Yellow Flight 3rd place: Terri Nelson/Terri Kern

Pink Flight 3rd place: Pat Tamminen/Cherly Marmetto



UWNEMN Golf Ball Drop

The \$10,000 Golf Ball Drop was held on August 3rd at ECC. Our \$2,500 Grand Prize winner was an ECC member, who graciously returned the winnings back to the Buddy Backpack Program. It was an exciting and fun event!



of Northeastern Minnesota



\$10,000 GOLF BALL DROP

CONGRATULATIONS!

DROP #1	\$2,500 — Steve Ellett (#257)
	\$1,000 — Sue Moody (#333)
	\$750 — Mike Bakk (#398)
	\$500 — Mat Roderick (#430)
	\$250 — Julie Johnson (#449)
DROP #2	\$2,500 — Mary Troutwine (#699)
	\$1,000 — Ben Masucci (#602)
	\$750 — Tony, Ben, Tom, & Andrew (#959)
	\$500 — Sheri & Mike Mulvahill (#744)
	\$250 — Mick Giblin (#870)

Thank you to everyone who purchased a raffle ticket & sponsored this event. All proceeds benefit Buddy Backpacks!

Every morning, the grounds crew shows up between 5:30-6 a.m. like clockwork! Despite a record year of drought conditions the course looks great! We're fortunate to have such a dedicated workforce! Clockwise from right: **Rick** cutting the green on #5, **Carston** trimming sprinkler heads on #2, **Rachael** fertilizing the green on #9, and **Dalton** cutting the fairway on #3. Great job!



A SUMMER TO REMEMBER AT ECC '23



2023 Eshquaguma Ladies Shootout



Terri Nelson & Andrea Polus 2nd Place; Sheri Harms & Shelley Rask 1st Place



Men's Tourney

(Continued from page 4)

and Matt Uhan on the first playoff hole #9. Congratulations to all!

After the shootout, the annual Past Champions' Reception was held at 6 p.m. in the Grill Room. This event, sponsored by various past men's and women's tournament champions, invites all members and their guests to come out for an evening of socializing and an opportunity to bet on tournament favorites and dark horses. Thank you past champs for your gracious donations.

Congratulations to all winners and thank you to everyone for playing and making this another fantastic rendition of "Glory's Last Shot".

Congratulations and THANK YOU to all golfers and participants that helped make the last month a huge golfing success. Enjoy the rest of the 2023 golf season - remember next season starts today!

3RD ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

IN MEMORY OF DENNY REAGAN

Sunday, Sept. 10th

5 p.m. ECC Grill Room

Each chef provides one pot of chili
Entry fee is \$10 (cash only)

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE KITCHEN STAFF

ALL TASTERS WELCOME!!!

RESERVATIONS ARE MANDATORY FOR
EVERYONE TASTING THE CHILI.

PLEASE CALL THE CLUB AT 218-865-4263

**FIRST 8 "CHILI COOKS" TO CONTACT JEAN ENLOE BY
PHONE OR TEXT WILL BE ALLOWED TO COMPETE.**

\$15 PER TASTER

**IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND BUT WOULD
LIKE TO DONATE PLEASE GET YOUR
CASH DONATION TO JEAN.**

CHEFS
CONTACT JEAN
ENLOE
DIRECTLY AT
651-308-8635



“Solo Trio” to perform at ECC

Eshquaguma's own Kyle Strohmaier and Kari Strohmaier, along with bandmate Taylor Johnson, perform regularly in the Twin Cities. They will be playing at ECC on **Saturday, September 2** from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. during and after the Prime Rib Buffet (children's selections will also be included).

Come and enjoy their blend of pop, rock and a little country as they cover favorites from Crosby Stills Nash & Young, Tom Petty, the Beatles and more. Call or email for reservations prior to August 30th at restaurant@eshquaguma.com



Book Club Meeting

The September book selection is "The Night Watchman", based on the extraordinary life of award-winning author Louise Erdrich's grandfather. Erdrich's novel details the fight against Native dispossession from rural North Dakota all the way to Washington DC. This book won the 2021 Pulitzer Prize for fiction. We will meet at ECC on September 12th at 6 p.m..

Looking ahead to October, we will be reading "The Noticer" by Andy Andrews. We will meet at the home of Gerry Carey at 5:30 p.m. - more info to follow!

Please text Cathy Hiti at 218-780-1385 to RSVP. Thank you!!



At Sunday Brunch on August 6th, Shannon Gunderson played our beautiful grand piano in the Fireside Room. Everyone enjoyed listening to this wonderful musician. Thanks to everyone who was instrumental in planning the live music

events this year. We have two more dances schedule in the Fireside Room on Saturday, September 2nd with "Solo Trio" and Saturday, September 16th with "Everybody's Uncle". We plan on providing more live music in our Grill Room in 2024.

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					ERA - a.m. 1 Irish Road Bowling & Lunch - 2 p.m. Happy Hour 4-6 p.m.	Prime Rib Buffet with Kids Selections 5 p.m., 5:30 & 6:00 Seatings 2
Breakfast 3 9 a.m. - Noon Lunch Noon-4 p.m. Annual Meeting 1 p.m.	LABOR DAY 4 Restaurant/Bar Open	Tuesday Night Golf 5 5:30 p.m.	Ladies' Golf a.m. Business Meeting at Noon Men's Golf 1:15 p.m. 6	Happy Hour 4-6 p.m. Bingo Night 6:00 p.m. 7	ERA - a.m. 8	DJ Golf Event & Lunch 9:00 a.m. Start 9
Breakfast 10 9 a.m. - Noon Lunch Noon-4 p.m.	Restaurant/Bar Closed 11	Book Club Meeting 6:00 p.m. 12	13	Happy Hour 4-6 p.m. 14	ERA - a.m. 15 Happy Hour 4-6 p.m.	Closing Party 5 p.m. Social 6 p.m. Dinner 7:30 p.m. Band 16
Kitchen Sale 9 a.m. - Noon 17	Restaurant/Bar Closed 18	Bar Open with limited food thru October 1 19	20	21	22	23
24	15	26	27	28	29	30
October 1st - Restaurant and Bar Closed for the Season Golf Course Closing date is weather dependent						