

NEWSLETTER FOR MARCH 2019

- Nine new members join NTSGA this month. See their introductions in this newsletter.
- Start times begin at **8:00** starting with the Tangleridge tournament on **March 13th**.
- Former Chester Ditto Golf Course in Arlington has recently re-opened after a 2 year complete renovation. It is now called Texas Rangers Golf Club.
- Tournament Chairman **Rod Wells** has added 2 additional courses to our March schedule.
- Southern Oaks Golf Club (Burleson) has re-opened after being closed since Nov. 2018.
- The former Twin Wells Golf Course (Irving) will re-open after being closed for 2 years. It will now be called the Irving Golf Club and plans are to re-open in April.
- Remember....the Check-In table closes ½ hour before our tournament start times.

BIRTHDAYS FOR MARCH

Greg Bronson 21st
Mike Hatfield 4th
Ralph Smith 27th

Bob Duty 1st
Thunder Miller 7th
Jake Truitt 12th

Dick Hall 10th
Michael Peralta 16th

Harlin Hamilton 3rd
Frank Smith 18th

FEBRUARY TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION

	Players	Percentage of full field	Low Gross	Low Net
Feb. 6 WestRidge	127	99%	Mike Jones 68	Jim Rowley 58
Feb. 13 Ridgeview Ranch	116	90%	Andrew Braun 72	Gerald Gotcher 60 Jack Martin 60
Feb. 20 Pecan Hollow	76	59%	Rob Ruth 72	Ron Goethals 66
Feb. 27 Bridlewood	127	99%	Andrew Braun 68	Joe Shelton 60

PUN INTENDED...

Hold the door open for a clown...it's a nice jester!

PREVENTING SLOW PLAY-

.....Randy Skinner

Plan your shot before you get to your ball. Once you are off the tee, think ahead. Determine your yardage and make your club selection before it is your turn to play. Very often, you can do this while others are playing, without disruption. If you take your glove off between shots, have it back on before it is your turn to play. Even a small step like this saves time.

NEXT 6 TOURNAMENTS...

Mar. 6 Mesquite	8:30
Mar. 13 Tangleridge	8:00
Mar. 18 Las Colinas C.C.	8:00
Mar. 20 Lantana	8:00
Mar. 25 Gleneagles C.C. (Kings Course)	8:00
Mar. 27 Texas Star	8:00

DIRECTIONS TO GOLF COURSES:

Mar. 6 Mesquite (Mesquite) 972-270-7457; 827 North Hwy 67. Drive the George Bush Turnpike east/south. It ends at I-30. Exit right (West) towards Dallas. Drive 2 miles, exit at Belt Line Rd and stay on the service road. Continue on service road, .9 miles past the traffic light. Course entrance on right.

Mar. 13 Tangleridge (Grand Prairie) 972-299-6837; 818 Tangle Ridge Dr. Take I-35E south thru downtown Dallas. Bear right at the Hwy 67 split, towards Cleburne. After passing under I-20, drive 8.7 miles, exit at Lake Ridge Pkwy., right turn, drive 2 miles. Turn left at Park Ridge Dr., follow signs through residential area for approx. 1.2 miles to golf course entrance. Or, drive south on the George Bush Turnpike through Arlington towards I-20. Exit at Lake Ridge Parkway (the exit before I-20) and continue south for approx 8.5 miles. After exiting 2nd bridge, drive .8 mile turning right at the traffic light to enter the Tangleridge housing area. Drive approx. 1.2 miles (go past elementary school). Turn right at Park Ridge Ct. (Leads to golf course).

Mar. 18 Las Colinas C.C. (Irving) 972-717-0086; 4400 N. O'Connor Rd. Drive the George Bush Turnpike southbound. Exit at Hwy 114 and drive eastbound for approx. 3 miles to O'Conner Blvd. Turn right and drive approx ¾ miles. Turn left at Las Colinas Country Club Drive. Leads to clubhouse.

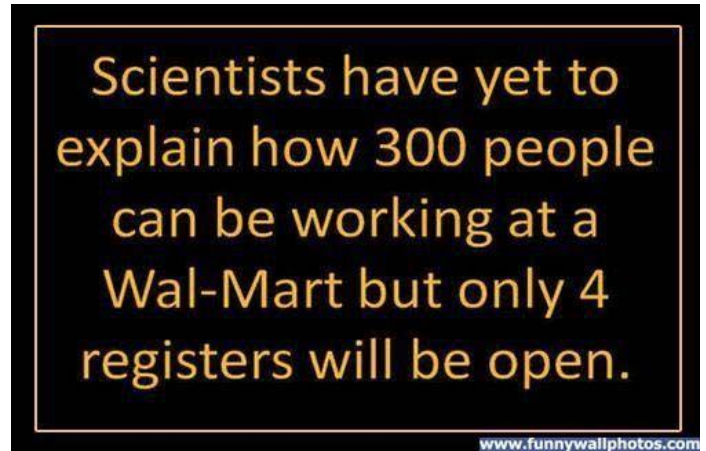
Mar. 20 Lantana (Lantana) 940-728-4653; 800 Golf Club Dr. Drive north on I-35E (Stemmons Frwy) past Lewisville. Exit at FM407 (Justin Road) Exit #454A. At the traffic light, turn left and continue west for 6 miles. Turn right at Lantana Trail (water tower and traffic light); drive 1.2 miles (divided road), turn right at Golf Club Dr., leads to clubhouse.

Mar. 25 Gleneagles C.C. (Plano) 972-867-8888; 5401 W. Park Blvd. Drive north on the Dallas North Tollway. Exit at W. Park Blvd. (FM 544). Turn right for 1.2 miles, course entrance on left.

Mar. 27 Texas Star (Euless) 817-685-7888; 1400 Texas Star Pkwy. Take Hwy 183 (Airport Frwy) west, past the south entrance to DFW Airport. Exit at Hwy 10 West (it becomes Euless Blvd.) Continue on Hwy 10, passing Hwy 157 (Industrial Blvd.) for 1 more mile. Course entrance on left.

NEW MEMBERS: MARCH

Luis Alvarez – Lewisville
John Anderson – Lewisville
Juan Bergara – Grand Prairie
Bob Duty – Dallas
David Kemp – Howe
Randy Nicholson – Plano
Dan Pecenka – McKinney
Ron Potts – Plano
Randy Skinner – Frisco



SKINS PAYOUTS....

Skins winners will receive their payouts at the next tournament site by the Skins Coordinators. If a winner does not participate in a tournament for a month (vacation, sickness, doctors appt., cancel, etc.), his skins money will be forwarded to **Treasurer Pete Schoemann** and added to the player's NTSGA Bank. Bank totals can be viewed on the Check-In table at every tournament site. Bank money can be used for entry fee for that event, providing a minimum balance of \$50.00 exists.

LARRY MILTON'S GOLF TIPS FOR STRUGGLING SENIOR GOLFERS:

Chapter 7: How to rationalize a 6 hour round.

RAINY WEATHER:

Rain over the entire United States during 2018 forced cancellation of golf rounds at many courses throughout the country. Texas was no exception as evident by the cancellation of 7 of the NTSGA tournaments due to rainy conditions. 2018 had 55 more rain days than the previous year impacting golf courses around the country, resulting in lost revenue in green fees and food services. The only bright spot for the golf courses were the reduction in water usage resulting in lower water bills. This lower water usage, however, did not offset the loss of green fee revenue necessary to keep golf courses operating in the black. Even in the typical arid conditions of Arizona, golf rounds were way down impacted by wet weather forcing cancellation of many normal rounds during 2018. NTSGA had to cancel our round at Hurricane Creek C.C. (Jan. 23) due to rainy conditions, but here's hoping that will be the only tournament we lose due to rainy conditions in 2019.

The Sheriff pulled up next to a guy unloading garbage out of his pick-up into the ditch. The Sheriff asked, "Why are you dumping garbage in the ditch? Don't you see that sign right over your head."
"Yep," he replied. "That's why I'm dumping' it here, 'cause the sign reads: 'Fine for Dumping Garbage.'"

AGE SHOOTERS – FEBRUARY

Tom McMahan 2/6 WestRidge 74
Jim Rowley 2/6 WestRidge 69
Billy King 2/13 Ridgeview Ranch 86
Butch Vaut 2/27 Bridlewood 72

Bob Murphy 2/6 WestRidge 91
Jeff Aston 2/13 Ridgeview Ranch 82
Bill Roll 2/13 Ridgeview Ranch 82

CHARITY GOLF.....

NTSGA Director **Greg Windsor** is involved with the Defenders of Freedom golf event benefitting wounded/injured veterans, first responders and their families. The event will be held



at The Tribute and Old American golf courses on Monday, May 20. Cost is \$200.00 per player or \$600.00 for a 3 man team which includes the assignment of a wounded veteran to make the fourth player. Your foursome may choose to play either course. The charitable contribution to play in this event includes golf, lunch, dinner, a golf package, the vet's flight in, hotel for two nights and their transportation. For additional information contact **Greg** at 972-365-6261 or ngwindsor@verizon.net

RULES???

.....Director Tom McMahan

2019 marked the beginning of 20 new rules implemented by USGA and the R & A to speed up the game and not make the game so hard and confusing, just because of some hard to understand rules. Here are some new rules for senior golfers. **These rules are to be taken with a humorous intention and do not constitute a rules change implemented by NTSGA:**

Rule 9.k.34 (a): If a tree is between the ball and the hole, and the tree is deemed to be younger than the player, then the ball can be moved without penalty....this is so, because this is simply a question of timing. When the player was younger, the tree was not there so the player is being penalized because of his age.

WAITING LIST GOLFERS...

Gentlemen on the NTSGA Waiting List are being invited to play in our events, whenever open slots exist for our tournaments. If you are paired with any of these gentlemen, please welcome them as future members. Deadline for member sign-ups for tournaments is still 12:00 noon, 2 days before an event. After that deadline, **Tournament Chairman Rod Wells** may add Waiting List Golfers as needed, to bring the field to 128 players and then prepare the pairing sheet. Late member sign-ups (after 12:00, 2 days prior) a member may or may not have a spot to play in that tournament.

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF LITTLE CHILDREN:

You can't teach an old dog new.....math!

MORE NTSGA, THE EARLY YEARS:

Early records from 1963 are sketchy but in 1990, **Bill Shaw** became the Tournament Chairman. He kept that position until 1993 when the Tournament Chairman became **Curtis Thompson**. During those years, NTSGA played the five Dallas City Courses: Stevens Park, L.B. Houston (now Luna Vista), Cedar Crest, Tenison and Keeton. During the 90's, the Association played 27 tournaments a year. **Pat Tritch** became the Tournament Chairman in 2002 and expanded the golf course schedule to play many more nice courses around the DFW area, scheduling upwards of 50 events for the year. **Rod Wells**, our current Tournament Chairman assumed that position in 2010 and still schedules 47-50 tournaments for us to play during the year, including some Country Clubs. These Tournament Chairmen have had the arduous task every year of contacting the courses, arranging the NTSGA annual schedule, making the weekly pairing sheets after the close of tournament sign-up, conduct early morning check-in for the events, announcing the starting holes to each player, making last minute changes to the pairings due to cancelations, inserting players into the schedule when applicable, making necessary announcements to the field before play begins and then making preparations for next week's tournament. Please be considerate to **Rod** during check-in, as you can see he has a lot on his plate.

PUTTING OUT...

Some members think it is ridiculous that we have to putt 3", 6", 10", etc. putts and they are not considered "gimme putts". A few years ago 18" putts were considered "gimme putts". All members had their putter marked with tape at 18". Laying the putter on the ground measuring the length of the putt, any ball touching the tape was considered a gimme. Then it got out of hand! Soon there were 20", 24", and 36" putts being given by gratuitous partners. For the most part, the organization adheres to USGA standards with the exception of a few rules that have been adopted by NTSGA contributing to the social, friendly atmosphere at our tournaments.

Remember, there is money awarded for skins, closest to the pin, two man team competition and flight payouts. Many times, 1 single stroke is the difference of winning money and not winning money. The Board of Directors has decided it necessary to continue abiding by the USGA rule of holing all putts.

EXCESSIVE TOURNAMENT SIGN-UPS:

128 players constitute a full field of golfers for an NTSGA tournament. When more than 128 golfers sign-up for an event, all players will be screened against a computer randomized selection process designed to eliminate the number of golfers necessary to reach a total of 128 players. This happened recently at Bridlewood when 141 players signed up. Those players eliminated from play for that event will be notified by email or phone call in the evening, 2 days prior to an event. The Tournament Chairman will maintain records of computer random selected members told they cannot play and those members will not be selected again until all other members have been selected, approximately 10 weeks, or longer. The computer is completely unbiased to membership tenure, activity and age. Members who are turned away and want to take a chance that a no-show will occur, may come to the course with the understanding that there must be less than 128 playing, to be awarded a spot to play. Priority for these alternate players will remain the same as the computer determined list of random selections. These hopeful players must be at the sign-in table 30 minutes prior to tee time.

