



# The Grove

## February 2025

*The Official Newsletter of the  
Buffalo Golf Club*

Kevin Starr, Editor

Organized in 1912 110+ years and counting  
[www.bgcgolfclub.com](http://www.bgcgolfclub.com)

President: **Nicholas Lowery** Vice-President: **Matt Mariconda** Treasurer: **Joseph Attea** Secretary: **Kevin Starr**

Board Members: **Frank Altieri, John Barrett, Mike Bass, Joe Coyne, Tom Czerniejewski, Ken Hupkowicz, Greg Kaszubski, Chuck Sentman**

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**Winter Stag** – Sunday, March 9, 1-4 PM at  
**Mooney's (1531 Military Road in Kenmore).**  
**We hope to see you there!**

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### **2025 BGC Membership Dues** -

There will be no increase in BGC dues for the 2025 season. The Board feels that the membership dues are an excellent deal considering the number of tournaments and parties that are held throughout the season.

Here are the 2025 dues:

**Regular membership** - \$120. The hole-in-one jackpot fund is an additional \$5. **Therefore – members who pay regular dues and participate in the hole-in-one jackpot will owe \$125.** New member initiation fee will remain at \$25. Members who were granted a leave of absence for last year and who did not pay dues for the 2024 season will not have to pay the additional \$25 initiation fee if they are reactivating their membership for the coming season

**Life Members** - \$65. Dues for life members were increased in 2024 to offset the increased cost of stags and GHIN fees. **Life members who participate in the hole in one jackpot will have a total payment of \$70 due.** After accounting for the \$30 GHIN fee, life members are only paying an additional \$35 for the club's parties and tournaments.

**Social membership** - \$60

**Many BGC members choose to pay their dues at our Winter Stag. This is an option again this year. Members may also mail their dues checks to BGC Treasurer Joe Attea, 284 Blackstone**

**Boulevard, Tonawanda, NY 14150. Checks should be made out to The Buffalo Golf Club. Joe will also accept payments via Venmo - @Joseph-Attea. (Make sure to use this exact Venmo address. There is another Joe Attea on Venmo that has inadvertently received some members' dues payments due to typing errors). Please consider paying your dues before the season starts. This will help streamline our membership process.**

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**Erie County Season Passes** – from the Erie County Parks Department website:

*Announcement for 2025: Erie County Parks is transitioning to a new tee time reservation and golf pass account management software. Golf passes will not be sold or renewed until the new system is ready. We will announce on our website and on social media when we are ready to sell and renew passes for 2025. We appreciate your patience!*

**Be sure to check the website regularly for updates regarding the timeline for purchasing golf passes for the coming season: <https://www3.erie.gov/parks/golf>**

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### **Tee-Time Reservation System**

Erie County has transitioned to the Chronogolf tee time booking and account management software. Even though the tee time system is not active yet, you can set up your Chronogolf account by clicking on the link on the Erie County Parks Department website. There is also a Chronogolf app that is available.

Check the Erie County Parks Department website frequently for updates:

<https://www3.erie.gov/parks/golf>

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### **Important clarification regarding match play tournaments (repeated from 2024):**

We have had numerous members who have inquired about playing weekly tournaments at the same time that they are playing a match play round (President's Cup, Harvest Cup, or Match Play Championship). Keep in mind that this is not permitted due to conflicting playing rules for the two types of tournaments.

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**Sponsors!!!** -We are always looking for new businesses/organizations/individuals to support the BGC by sponsoring our weekly tournaments or providing door prizes for our stags. \$150 buys a full-page ad in our program book and provides funding for prizes for one tournament. Please contact a Board member if you have any connections with or ideas for potential new sponsors. Remember to support our sponsors and let them know that we appreciate their support. Stay tuned for further information regarding new sponsorship opportunities.

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**2025 Program Book** – The book will be digital only again this year; we plan to upload it to the BGC website in late April.

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**Posting winter golf scores** – Please remember to post your scores to GHIN for rounds played in southern states (and southern countries) during the winter. Rounds played in New York State don't qualify until April 15. Also – if you had any aces over the winter, let us know so that we can post the good news on the BGC website.

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**Recognition for members who have “shot their age”** - We have a page on the BGC website recognizing members who have “shot their age.” Fran Barone, Cleo King, and Denis Lichtenberger are the first members of this very exclusive club. Please keep us informed about any additional members who accomplish this great feat.

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### **The Final Word:**

A young man with a few hours to spare one afternoon figures that if he hurries and plays very fast, he can get in nine holes before he has to head home. As he is about to tee off, an old gentleman shuffles onto the tee and asks if he can join him. Although worried this will slow him up, the younger man says, “Of course.” To his surprise, the old man plays quickly. He doesn’t hit the ball very far, but it goes straight. Furthermore, the old man moves along without wasting any time and quickly wins 8 holes in a row, much to the upset of the young buck who has all the latest equipment and is convinced he is the next Tiger.

When they reach the 9th fairway, the young man is facing a tough shot. A large pine tree sits in front of his ball, directly between it and the green. After several minutes of pondering how to hit the shot, the old man says, “You know, when I was your age, I’d hit the ball right over that tree.”

Not wanting to be outdone, the young man swings hard, hits the ball, watches it fly into the branches, rattle around, and land with a thud a foot from where it had started.

“Of course,” says the old man, “when I was your age, that tree was only three feet tall.”