

A Manifesto

Saxony Saturdays

We are a Saturday club. If you can't make it out that day, we understand, but the weeklies will favor Saturday play. If you play on Saturday – that's the round that counts for the weekly. If there is no, or limited, Saturday play, then there is no weekly. Specifically, The Weekly is "ON" if 20 cards are received.

Where possible I think the Weekly winner should get his reward soon after shooting that great round. So contests will end when the last golfer comes in on Saturday. Play after that will count towards the following Saturday's event. Winners (if they don't already have their money) will be announced on Website, hopefully the Sunday following their round.

Everyone should know what the game is on the first tee. We're going to work with Mike to get a scorecard box or information sheet by the starter's shack or even on the 1st tee. Then to make it easier to turn in cards we'll see where we can put a collection box - maybe Charlie will give us some space beside the posting computer.

The Weeklies are meant to ADD TO THE FUN

They are not always a test of skill, but should reward good golf; from individual shots to complete rounds – including flukes, lucky breaks and putts over 6 feet (which I consider pure luck if they go in).

They should not – get in the way of playing a postable round of golf

- require an MBA to compute
- nor be a total surprise to the winner

It's nice if

- they help you see the game in a slightly different way
- play just a little bit better
- laugh just a little bit harder

So to those ends I'm looking for games that:

- Allow each player to play his own ball, keep his own score
- Can be "tracked" ON the course, so you have an idea of where you stand or whether the shot/hole counts
- Easy to understand
- Make the GROUP more fun
- Get you to think about the game of golf, but not on EVERY shot
- Have an equal chance for all players – maybe even favor the lousy golfer (who could use a little pick me up every now and then).

So far I don't have 30 games that fit the criteria. So I'll start by proposing some weeklies for the first part of the season. What do you think? The second half will be up to you: send me your favorite games, ideas for ones we haven't played before, even lobby to have the one you won repeated. Based on people's ideas and responses from the first few weeks, I'll set the weeklies for the second half.

And finally, in the spirit of this manifesto I'd like to make a fun-oriented change to the tees. Not all of us hit it 200 yds - with any club. Not all of us can reach 17 in two (on a good day). And those of us who have struggled with/against the game for too many years deserve a break: So if you're 65 or over - move up a set of tees; play from the whites. 70 - Congratulations; play from the reds. Of course it's up to you, but if you do play from a forward tee, just note it on the card with the appropriate handicap and turn in the score. It will count for the weekly. Tournaments are another matter and will be up to the individual running that event - but for weekly play. Play It Forward - You've Earned It.

Here is a tentative proposal for the first 13 weeks of EZ reserve:

First EZ RESERVE (no weekly)	March 31
Welcome Back Birdies (pool split for 5 or more net birdies)	April 7
Tax Weekend Deduction (throw out your worst hole)	April 14
<i>Opening Day Scramble Event</i>	April 21
Two Man Best Ball (sync with PBB, or pick a partner on 1st tee)	April 28
Only count best 6 holes per nine	May 5
Susan G. Kohmen "Pink Tees" (fundraiser Cancer Awareness/Mothers Day)	May 12
Best Front Nine (net)	May 19
Best Back Nine (net)	May 26
Stableford Scoring (a la Memorial)	June 2
Four Man Best Ball	June 9
Father's Day Skins (fundraiser for Prostate Cancer Research)	June 16
<i>no weekly for first round of President's Cup</i>	June 23

I'm counting on you and the guys you play with to come up with other ideas or chip in with opinions on the ones we've got. If things don't need changing - let me know. If you have thoughts about other ways to improve or add to the Weeklies - let me know. It's going to be a Summer Saturday before you know it...

