

PQB GOLF

Golfing in Paradise by Bill Flower



Bill is a true lover of the game of golf and owner of *Oceanside Golf Services* in Parkville.
He also is a professional golf course reviewer for www.canadiangolfer.com
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Morningstar revival continues

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Morningstar Golf Club
Throughout this golfing season I've attempted to bring you accurate and positive descriptions of each of the four local golf courses I cover in the *PQB News*.

With Morningstar Golf Club it may seem that it's a repetitive commentary of this is getting better, that's been fixed and so on.

I can't be any more succinct and more timely in my assessment of the course at this time of year than in this writeup.

I've literally just finished putting out on the 18th hole on this beautiful Friday afternoon an hour ago.

What was not long ago a very dry, dehydrated course is now the opposite.

The recent successful reintroduction of the treated effluent water to the irrigation program at Morningstar has the grass jumping out of the ground. At times, perhaps due to the course being run on a very tight budget and staffing stretched to the max to keep everything cut, there are areas that are actually too thick and lush.

This actually is a good problem to have. It's no secret that the course is for sale while currently being very successfully managed by the Vancouver based receiver G-Force.

It's more likely that an interested buyer will commit to taking over this former top-100 course in Canada when it is busting at the seams with green grass than when it was so dry the friction off your club could have ignited the fairways.

The golf course patrons, those dedicated members, frequent green



A view across the practice green to the second hole at Morningstar Golf Club. (Bill Flower photo)

fee players from near and afar, as well tourists from around the world deserve to see "The Star" revitalized.

That will only happen with a new buyer coming in and injecting the much-needed capital into the entire operation.

This time of year is my favourite to play. With the new "late summer" green fee rates in place the course will continue to be very busy as it was today — wall-to-wall foursomes. From opening to noon it's now \$54 for 18 holes and after that it's \$45 to play.

You can expect delicious greens, those overgrown fescue-covered mounds cut down to a very playable height and many fairway areas looking like the last 100 yards of

the 18th fairway, in a word — immaculate.

More than one golfer I know, including myself, has stated that if they won the Lotto Max or 6/49 main prize buying Morningstar would be the fulfillment of a dream.

My wife, Myra, lovingly reminded me I retired so I didn't have to work 60 hours a week.

The improvements and changes to the course also include the introduction of a new chef in the kitchen. GM Randy LaRoche informs me that Chef Gord, no, not the same Gord in the gumboots who keeps the course in tip-top shape, is well-positioned to get The Grill on the Green back to running seven days a week.

Stay tuned for the announcement of when Monday and Tuesday are again in the rotation.

So, if your brother in The Caymans, a rich old aunt or your uber-successful retired neighbor wants to exercise their philanthropic juices and enhance, not resurrect, an island jewel that needs a little extra polishing - Morningstar is awaiting your call.

From the Fairway

Tuesday, Sept. 17 is my annual night of co-sponsoring Men's Night at Arrowsmith along with the *PQB News*.

Come on out, the prize table will be bursting!

*As always good golfing,
Sincerely Bill*

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