

March 31, 2019

Good Day Ladies,

Golf Canada has a new CEO, Laurence Applebaum, his profile is on the website, britishcolumbiagolf.org.

This is breaking news The new president of British Columbia Golf Association is Michelle Collens. British Columbia Golf is the only Golf association in the world that has a woman president and British Columbia Golf also has a majority of women on the Board.

The British Columbia Golf AGM was held march 30th and have live streamed three presentations from three high profile, intelligent and engaging presenters that are very important in the growth of the game of golf in today's world.

Mr Doug Hastie has been appointed as Senior Manager Field Operations (Rules & Competition) effective March 2019. He will take the reins from Susan White. They will jointly meet with host clubs to setup 2019 tournaments.

The Championship Fixture list is posted for 2019 and can be found on the website under championships. Mark these on your calendars.... The Astor Cup (Formerly Commonwealth Team Matches) will be held at Royal Colwood Victoria. This is a 4 person team competition which is held every 4th 4yr. there are teams from Canada, Great Britain,/Ireland, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand.

@ Future Links events will be held in BC, Spring event at Pitt Meadows and Fall event will be hosted at Crown Isle. The Canadian Senior Women Championship will be held in Osoyoos.

Patrick Kelly Past President of British Columbia Golf, has facilitated an introduction to Haida artist, Ron Russ, who has created a unique made in BC medal for presentation at our championships. I have a paper sample of the medal.

International Women's Golf Day is June 4th. Suggestions to celebrate the day by having a golf event, such as Invite her. Ask a friend to come to your course, just to see the layout, or putt, or come to a pitch and putt clinic which includes a beverage and social time. Lots of times women are intimidated and shy about asking questions about golf and by coming to your course you can show them it is not that daunting.

2019 will be a year of changes, New Rules have been introduced this year, Morningstar and Glacier Greens offered sessions already, which were very well attended.

The official of the World Handicap system will launch in the year 2020. Education material will be available later this summer. British Columbia Golf will not offer handicap education sessions under the current code, but will start offering the World Handicap education this fall. There have been several requests for the new seminar sessions.

I am now the Chair of the Recognition committee and am pleased to announce that Lynn Benedictson and Keith Larson are the Recipients the 2020 Distinguished Service Award. Keith was presented with his Award at the AGM and Lynn will be presented her Award in the summer. The Distinguished Service Award is a very prestigious award which honour those who have contributed to golf at the zone, club level and the provincial level. You can nominate a candidate filling out the nomination form you can find on the website.

Well, I wish you a wonderful, birdie filled season

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila van Gisbergen
Zone 6 Council Rep

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