



# CURRENTS

A Publication for Members & Friends of Cullasaja Club

JULIAN  
FALLS

# Welcome Home

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## GENERAL MANAGER UPDATE | by Chris Conner, CCM



Welcome back to Cullasaja Club and your beautiful home in the mountains! We have had a busy and exciting winter! As I write this article, the sounds of hammers, saws, and drills are very evident. The Clubhouse renovation has been going at a feverish pace 6-days a week for the past couple of months. The goal is to open the renovated Clubhouse on May 9th and then have a christening/ribbon cutting ceremony during the Welcome Home party on May 24th. We are eager to showcase the updated spaces and know that you will enjoy the 'new' Clubhouse when it opens. The finished design was two years in the making and was a direct result of your essential input in surveys, focus groups, committee meetings, and Board discussions.

Our F&B team has written two outstanding articles in this newsletter regarding the Clubhouse changes including updated names of rooms and some of the challenges ahead by occupying the space approximately 2 days before opening it. The House and Social Committee, along with Carly Moser, have worked diligently to develop a robust calendar of events for you to enjoy this season. We have three action-filled Summer Series events, replacing the former Cabaret nights, and many other events that will keep you entertained throughout the season. Please read through the newsletter carefully so that you do not miss out on an important detail or event.

We look forward to introducing you to Noelle Platt who recently joined our team as the new Wellness Director. She is charged with the overall fitness and wellness program at Cullasaja Club and has been busy developing exciting novel exercise classes and programs for the upcoming season. Please stop by the Wellness Center to say hello and make sure you review her bio later in this newsletter. As we welcome Noelle, I want to call attention to some of our longest tenured employees who are all returning again this season. Terry Fugate begins his 26th season, Chef Marie returns for her 22nd season, Tom Nelson and Meredith MacNevin return for their 20th season, Tim Lamphier is back for his 19th season, and Rocky begins her 17th season with us. We are so lucky to have a wonderful tenured staff that is committed to making your Club experience remarkable every time your visit. By math, there is over 120 years of Cullasaja experience between these 6 valuable team members. Truly phenomenal!

Once you return home in the mountains, please stop by the Clubhouse to see Zoe to pick up your 2019 Member Directory. Also, if you did not receive a 2019 Event Calendar in the mail, she will be happy to give you one as well. We have so many new and exciting things for you to enjoy this season, and I know I speak for the entire staff when I say we are so grateful for your return and look forward to creating amazing memories with you and your friends and family in 2019!

Thank you for your continued support of the Club and we wish you a safe trip back home to Cullasaja.

Chris Conner, CCM | General Manager / COO



The golf course maintenance staff has had their hands full again this winter in less than ideal weather. We have had a tremendous amount of rain this off-season and are looking forward to drier weather to complete some necessary improvements. Based on your valuable feedback and seasonal weather conditions, the Green Committee creates a list of off season projects to further enhance the golfing experience. Last year's all time record of over 130 inches of rainfall (42" more than average) exposed some of the less than ideal drainage areas on the course. This provided us with a blueprint for where we focused our attention, and we have spent the most time on heavily trafficked areas and fairways that have the most frequent cart path restrictions.

The picture above is an example of a relatively small drainage project on the 8th fairway. This was one of four areas on #8 where drainage has been improved. Several areas on the course received similar treatment, including: #1 left rough, #5 forward tee, #6 approach, and #18 forward tee. We hope to complete a few more drainage projects before focusing all of our attention to grooming the course for the 2019 season.

Another improvement we have made was the installation of Better Billy Bunkers around the 8th green. This system improves drainage, reduces daily maintenance and improves

playability. These bunkers are a pilot project that we have begun to establish what is the best method to employ when we renovate all of the bunkers on the course during the next round of golf course capital improvements. Please take note and give feedback on the condition of these bunkers.

The picture below is of a bunker that had sand installed in early November and has not been touched since. It is amazing how well the sand has stayed in place with zero maintenance.

As of this writing the golf course is just beginning to wake up from its winter hibernation. The playing surfaces are looking good and given decent weather we should be in great shape for our May opening. We look forward to seeing you enjoy our amazing course and thank you for your support of our efforts to make your golfing experience better each season.







### MEMBERSHIP

Our Members are amazing! A big “thank you” to everyone who referred a friend in 2018 for Membership in Cullasaja Club. It was another banner year for growing our Cullasaja family and we could not do it without you!

In 2019 our focus moves to off campus possibilities. As a community, Cullasaja is basically built out. There are a few remaining lots, but overall not much potential for new development. Our focus is shifting to finding those potential Members that

have a home in the area or are looking to purchase one and would like to enjoy all the advantages of belonging to a club. Think about friends and acquaintances you may know that have a home on the plateau, reach out to them and invite them to come see what we are all about and I will do the rest!

Take a brand new Clubhouse, add the best staff on the plateau and amazing and welcoming Members, and with your help we have the recipe for a very successful Membership year in 2019!

### PLEASE WELCOME OUR MEMBERS WHO JOINED IN 2018:

**Mr and Mrs. Lewis & Mary Alice Collins**  
**Mr and Mrs. Steve & Lori Earman**  
**Dr. and Mrs. Dennis & Terry Fisher**  
**Mr. and Mrs. David & Lisa Floyd**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Mike & Catherine Howard**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Steve & Teresa Hufstetler**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Edd & Jean Hyde**  
**Mrs. Deb Kabinoff**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Vernon & Marie Krause**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Denny & Joanne Landers**

**Mr. and Mrs. Phil & Linnea McManamy**  
**Ms. Ronnie Meuser & Mr. Alan Marek**  
**Dr. and Mrs. Earl & Brandly Monroe**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Bill & Jan Morrison**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Drew & Dorie Norwood**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Paul & Jan Pavlis**  
**Mr. Roger Vaughn & Ms. Pat Rutrough**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Randy & Maggie Sjaardema**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Greg & Peggy Wilkinson**





**WELCOME HOME~  
MEET OUR NEWEST TEAM MEMBER!**

Hi! I am Noelle Platt and am excited to be the new Wellness Director at Cullasaja Club! I have been leading fitness classes and offering personal training sessions for many years at several clubs here on the plateau. I look forward to meeting you and seeing if we can achieve your wellness goals.

A little more about me; I am a retired professional modern ballet and jazz dancer. I am a certified personal trainer and instructor teaching stretching, yoga, barre, Pilates remix, boot camp, spin, strength, circuit, and conditioning classes. I have 20+ years of experience and understand the body's physical limitations brought on by years of wear and tear. I am very enthusiastic about teaching you to move more freely, joyfully, and sustainably in your body, and can't wait to get started. Please stop by the Wellness Center so that I can meet you, and I hope you will be able to attend our Fitness Mixer on June 8th to meet our other fitness professionals. Together, we are working on bringing in additional instructors and trainers this season, as well as working on a robust fitness calendar.

**Noelle Platt**  
Wellness Director  
828-526-2939  
wellness@cullasaja-club.com

**TENTATIVE FITNESS  
CLASS SCHEDULE FOR 2019:**

**MONDAY**

7:00 a.m. Self-Guided Spin  
8:00 a.m. 20/20/20 with Noelle  
9:00 a.m. Strength & Movement  
with Crystal  
10:00 a.m. Water Aerobics  
(May 24th start)  
11:00 a.m. Pilates

**TUESDAY**

10:00 a.m. Spin and Stretch  
with Noelle  
11:00 a.m. Yoga with Manu  
2:00 p.m. Senior Fitness with Noelle

**WEDNESDAY**

7:00 a.m. Self-Guided Spin  
8:00 a.m. 20/20/20  
9:00 a.m. Strength & Movement  
with Crystal  
10:00 a.m. Water Aerobics  
(May 24th start)  
11:00 a.m. Pilates

**THURSDAY**

10:00 a.m. Spin and Stretch  
with Noelle  
11:00 a.m. Yoga with Manu  
2:00 p.m. Senior Fitness with Noelle

**FRIDAY**

7:00 a.m. Self-Guided Spin  
8:00 a.m. Gentle Yoga with Noelle  
9:00 a.m. Strength & Movement  
with Crystal  
10:00 a.m. Water Aerobics  
(May 24th Start)

**SATURDAY**

10:30 a.m. Pilates Remix with Noelle





### **“LET’S PLAY MORE GOLF”**

In 2018, we implemented a “Family Course” to help re-energize our member’s interest in playing the game of golf. The Family Course was designed to allow all our golfers the opportunity to make pars and birdies by playing from a yardage that enables them to reach each green in regulation.

Our goal is to encourage EVERYONE to play the tees that make them the most competitive. The Golf Committee and I have decided to encourage you and your guests to play from ANY set of tees you choose! We will no longer have mandatory sets of tees for our weekly games and tournaments. USGA Rule 3-5 allows players to compete from different sets of tees by adding or subtracting the difference in course ratings to course handicaps.

In previous seasons, the Tournament tee (Black) has consistently been the most played tee. Players that qualified for the Rule of 90 (age and handicap combined to equal 90 or higher) were allowed to move forward to the White tee and players wishing to play a more challenging course were allowed to move back to the Blue Tee. Handicaps were then reduced for moving forward and increased for moving back by the difference in course ratings. Beginning this season and going forward, ALL weekly games and Major Tournaments will encourage each player to decide which tee they are most competitive from. We will then calculate course handicaps off of the lowest rating and add additional strokes (the difference in course ratings) to the handicaps of players who choose to play tees from longer distances.

Travel has been a great way for Cullasaja Members to spend more time with each other away from the Club. Eight couples will accompany my wife Nikki and I to

Monterey, California on April 21st for our “Monterey Experience”. We will play four top 100 courses, Pebble Beach, Spyglass, Poppy Hills and Monterey Peninsula Club. Our travel opportunities are an amazing way for us to spend time with you away from the Club, and learn more about you on a more personal level.

Our trip to Ireland in September will be postponed until 2020. We were unable to register enough golfers (12) to secure our accommodations. Postponing our Ireland trip has created an opportunity for us to organize another trip. Join me during our scheduled aerification process, September 3rd – 7th at Bandon Dunes Resort. The Bandon Dunes Experience includes, private cottage lodging, breakfast each morning, closing night reception prepared at private cottage; and play on four championship golf courses, Bandon Dunes, Pacific Dunes, Old Macdonald and Bandon Trails. If you are interested in enjoying this trip, please look over the included flyers and contact the Golf Shop to reserve your spot. Thank you so much for supporting our travel programs!

Cullasaja Club recently competed in the 2019 Sea Island Invitational. This was the fourth time we participated in the event and we were fortunate enough to finish in 3rd place out of 31 teams. Thank you to the Martinos, Careys and Treadwells for spending time with us at the memorable Sea Island.

Our Invitational events continue to be the focal point of our 2019 tournament schedule. The Mixed Member Guest on June 20th – 21st will honor the 50 year anniversary of Woodstock with the theme of “Woodstock on the Rock”. This event is already SOLD OUT, however we are still accepting entry forms for the waiting list! The Men’s Invitational will be held July 25th – 27th. We had a full field of 42 teams in 2018

and already have many returning teams registered, so please submit your entry form quickly so you are not left out.

We will continue to offer the newest equipment from Callaway Golf; the NUMBER ONE Driver, Fairway wood, Hybrid, and Irons, as rated by consumers! Taylormade and Ping will also be available for you to demo and purchase this season. Please keep in mind that we are limited to what we can carry; however we can special order any equipment you would like at the Mill River pricing! We have a sign out log in the Golf Gazebo, if you wish to take a club away from the range area.

We will offer a variety of clinics for all ages and abilities! Junior Golf & Tennis Camp is scheduled for June 11th – 13th. Our Golf Professional Staff and Tennis Professional Terry Fugate are very excited to see new and familiar faces so please encourage your grandchildren to participate! Our professional staff is always available for private and group instruction. Stop by the Golf Shop or contact your Head Professional to get started.

2019 will be my last year serving on the Mountains Chapter PGA Board as President. Our involvement with the Mountains Chapter has helped us network and expose our wonderful Club to our surrounding PGA Professionals and their memberships. We will host this year's MCPGA Pro-Pro Championship October 21st & 22nd. I encourage you to come out and watch your local Golf Professionals compete.

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**MEMORIAL DAY  
STABLEFORD EVENT  
MONDAY, MAY 27TH – ALL DAY  
Cost is \$10**

A Point System will determine our winner! Sign up in the Golf Shop or online, and see if you have what it takes to be Memorial Day Champion!

1 Point for Bogey, 2 Points for Par, 3 Points for Birdie, and 4 Points for Eagle.



**MEN'S MEMBER-MEMBER CHAMPIONSHIP  
FRIDAY, MAY 31ST AND SATURDAY, JUNE 1ST  
Cost is \$150 per Player**

The Men's Member-Member Championship is one of the premier members' tournaments of the season. If you have not yet signed up, grab a friend and join us. Interested in playing and need a partner? Simply ask the Golf Shop for assistance in finding a teammate. The cost for this event includes tee gift, meals, and drinks daily.



**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**Friday, May 31st**

**Tee Times Beginning at 9:00 a.m.**

**Pinehurst (Modified Alternate Shot Holes 1-9)**

**Two-Person Scramble (Holes 10-18)**

**Stag Night Dinner at 6:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, June 1st**

**Breakfast at 7:30 a.m.**

**Shotgun Start at 9:00 a.m.**

**Better Ball of Partners with 90% Handicap  
Lunch & Awards following play**

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**GOLF DEMO DAY  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12TH  
12:00 NOON UNTIL 4:00 P.M.**

This is a great opportunity for you to try the latest equipment from all the top club manufacturers. Demo Day will create an opportunity to get fitted for new equipment, or allow you time to experiment with some new innovative technology. So far, Callaway, Ping, Taylormade, Titleist, Cleveland, Srixon, and Mizuno have all confirmed that they will attend.

Our Professional Staff will be available to fit you and assist you with any questions you may have about product. Make sure to mark your calendars so that you do not miss the chance to try all the new equipment. We will also have a PXG Demo Day on June 27th for all interested in getting fitted by PXG.





## **JUNIOR GOLF & TENNIS CAMP**

**JUNE 11TH – 13TH**

**\$200 per Participant / Prorated Rates Available for Partial Participation**

Registration for the annual Junior Golf and Tennis Camp is now open. Camp attendees receive up to 5 hours of group instruction each day covering both tennis and golf topics. The 3-day camp will review course etiquette, putting, chipping bunker play, tennis drills, footwork, match play and more. Games and prizes will be included. If you have a child or grandchild interested in participating in this very popular camp, please contact the front desk at 828-526-3531 or email [reception@cullasaja-club.com](mailto:reception@cullasaja-club.com).

### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**

#### **June 11th**

**9:00 a.m. (Registration)**

**10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – Golf Instruction  
(Lunch at the Clubhouse)**

**2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Tennis Instruction**

#### **June 12th**

**9:00 am to 12:00 pm - Golf  
(Lunch at the Clubhouse)**

**1:00 pm to 3:00 pm - Tennis**

#### **June 13th**

**9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. - Golf  
(Lunch at the Clubhouse)**

**1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Tennis  
5:00 p.m.—Play With the Pros!**



## **SATURDAY NIGHT SHOOTOUT SATURDAY, JUNE 22ND AT 4:00 P.M.**

**Cost is \$20 per Player – Top 3 Teams are awarded.**

This entertaining event occurs each month on various Saturday afternoons. Sign up as a two-person team and we will play an alternate shot format with elimination to crown a monthly winner. The lowest net team scores will advance to the next hole until only two teams remain going to the 9th and final hole. Teams can be two men, two women, or a mix.

Handicaps will be given at 50% of the team total off the low team in the Shoot-Out. Strokes

are given as they fall on the card and will be adjusted when the low team is eliminated. This event is always popular and there are a maximum number of teams permitted. So, please sign up well in advance to ensure your spot. Tentative 2019

Shoot-Out Dates are: June 22nd, July 13th, August 17th, and September 28th.



## **COUPLES' CUP**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 9TH AT 1:00 P.M. & 3:00 P.M.**

**Cost is \$95 per Couple Includes  
Dinner at the Completion of Play**

The annual Couples' Cup begins with a 1:00 p.m. shotgun for the 18-hole divisions, and 3:00 p.m. shotgun for the 9-hole division. The format is a modified net best ball of the foursome.

Men receive 80% of their handicap and Ladies receive 90% of their handicap. Golf, prizes, awards & live music are all part of this exceptional event.





## WEEKLY GAME SCHEDULE:

### MONDAY

9-Hole Men 1:00pm

### TUESDAY

WGA 18 Hole 8:30am  
WGA 9 Hole 10:30am  
Pearce Group 11:30am  
Stableford Game 1:00pm

### WEDNESDAY

Twilight 4:00pm

### THURSDAY

Warren's Warriors 9:00am  
9-Hole Men 10:30am  
Pearce Group 11:30am  
WGA Ladies' 11:30am

### FRIDAY

Quota Game 9:00am

### SATURDAY

Woltzen's Warriors 9:00am  
9-Hole Men 10:00am  
Captains & Dogs 10:30am  
WGA Ladies' 11:30am

## MAJOR EVENTS:

**MEN'S MEMBER-MEMBER**  
May 31 – June 1

**MIXED MEMBER-GUEST "WOODSTOCK"**  
June 20 – 21

**WGA MEMBER-MEMBER**  
July 30

**MEN'S INVITATIONAL**  
July 25 – 27

**CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP**  
August 9– 10

**WGA MEMBER-GUEST**  
August 22 – 23

**CULLASAJA CUP**  
September 27 – 28

**FALL MEMBER/GUEST**  
October 5



### **WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION (WGA)**

Our WGA has a very busy tournament schedule this Season. Please review the information below and get ready to have some FUN!

In addition to Tuesday play days, we can play together on Thursdays and Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. We are changing the awards format for the Ringers and Birdies in an effort to include winners at all handicap levels. Details will be forthcoming at the Opening Meeting.

### **OPENING DAY, MAY 28 AT 9:30 A.M.**

We will have a 9-hole scramble with teams of A/B/C/D players from both the 9 and 18-holers. Lunch and our opening WGA meeting with a special prize drawing will follow.

### **LAUREL CUP, JUNE 3 AND 4**

This popular ringer event includes competition for both 9 and 18-holers. We're looking forward to our highest ever participation!

### **WGA MEMBER/MEMBER, TUESDAY, JULY 30**

Since this event is always very popular, be thinking now about your teams, and sign up early!! It is a one-day event and is one of our Major Tournaments for both 9-holers and 18-holers. Note that 36 is the maximum handicap for 18-holers and 44 is the max for 9-holers. Partners may not have more than a 10 stroke handicap difference. If there is more than a 10 stroke difference, the partners must play to a spread of 10 strokes. Look for more information at the WGA Opening Day celebration on May 27th.

### **WGA MEMBER GUEST' AUGUST 22 AND 23**

Now is the time to start planning ahead for what is guaranteed to be a high energy and exciting tournament. Again, it will be a four-person team event, however, at this time each Member may only bring one guest in order for more Members and their guests to participate. The sign up date is earlier this year so we will have time to open up the opportunity to invite 3 guests if the tournament is not fully subscribed. The first opportunity to sign up either by email or phone will be 8:00 AM on Wednesday, June 19th.

### **OTHER 2019 WGA EVENTS**

**President's Cup - July 8-9**

**Patriot's Cup - September 17**

**Closing Day - September 24**





## CULLASAJA CLUB CROQUET

**WELCOME HOME:** We are eagerly awaiting the start of the 2019 croquet season and being able to use all 4 of our lawns so that we can double our capacity and accommodate 32 players at a time. This means players will spend more time on the court rather than having to sit out. I would expect to see our numbers increase from 4,300 hours played last season to well over 6,000 hours of play this year. Please travel safely back home and I look forward to seeing you in your all-whites!

**HAVE MALLETS WILL TRAVEL:** We had a wonderful warm-weather event for our croquet playing members over the off-season. In February, 26 of us embarked on a trip to the beautiful Gasparilla Inn in Boca Grande, Florida. While there, we enjoyed many hours of croquet as well as golf, shopping and fine dining. This was a great trip as you can see from the photos and there's no telling what fun and exciting places we may venture to this coming winter.

### **SAY HELLO TO OUR NEWEST CROQUET PLAYING MEMBERS:**

Please join me in welcoming the following new members into our croquet program. Anne & Mitty Schaeffer, Coleen Flinn, Lisbeth Wilson, Dan & Marty Boone, Joanne & Denny Landers, Beth Turek & Graham Phillips, Rachael & Dwight Bronnum, Laura & Bill Walker, John Darden, Ellen Cleveland, Jimmy Cleveland and Jim Tamplin.

### **2018 CROQUET COMMITTEE:**

I want to thank Lane Dawkins, who has been the Chairperson of the Croquet Committee for the past three seasons, for her remarkable work in leading the CCA and for helping create exciting new programs. Bravo Mrs. Dawkins for a job well done! I also want to thank Clint Dawkins who did a marvelous job as our Competition Chair last season. In addition, Clint is the Treasurer for the CCA. I want to also welcome our new Croquet Committee Chair, Geoff Parker. Geoff will be joined by Emily Adkins, Clint Dawkins, Tom



Guffey, Dennis Howard, Frank McComas, Kent Mergler, and Martha Reilly on the 2019 Croquet Committee. I can assure you that these folks are focused, dedicated and committed towards providing you with a croquet program that is second to none.

**CULLASAJA CROQUET ASSOCIATION:** I would like to take this opportunity to encourage anyone who is interested in playing croquet this summer to join the Cullasaja Croquet Association (CCA) Approximately 159 club members are part of the CCA, which permits you to play in any sanctioned CCA event including, rules seminars, world class instruction, inter-club matches and all of our weekly croquet events here at the club like Mallets and Martinis and Wednesday Wickets. There are also special perks for CCA members at the Mallets & Margaritas event as well as the Sadie Hawkins Day event. The CCA also pays for the World Class Instructional Series and the Rules Seminars each season. So, as you can see you get a lot for being a member of the CCA. Annual CCA dues are only \$100 per person or \$200 per couple. Please let me know if you want to be a part of this special Association that promotes an active croquet schedule with many memorable events each year. Note that you do not have to join the CCA to play on our beautiful croquet lawn, but you do have to be a member of the CCA to participate in all sanctioned CCA events.

**RULES & REGULATIONS FOR CROQUET:** The croquet rules & regulations are located in the back of your 2019 Member Directory for easy access. We appreciate your understanding of these rules and conforming to them whenever you play with your guests or your family members. All white attire is required for all sanctioned CCA events. During non-sanctioned events, please feel free to play with family or guests while wearing attire that is acceptable for golf or tennis here at the Club. All players must wear smooth soled shoes in an effort to protect and preserve the integrity of our lawns.





## WEEKLY CROQUET SCHEDULE FOR 2019

*Subject to change*

### **SUNDAY, SUNDAY ON THE LAWN, 4:00-6:00 PM**

**Open Play** all day until 4:00 p.m. when we have our CCA "Sunday on the Lawn" event until 6:00 p.m.

### **MONDAY, LADIES ON THE LAWN, 10:00 AM-NOON**

**Open Play** until 10:00 a.m. then the CCA "Ladies on the Lawn" has the lawn until noon

### **TUESDAY, MEN WITH MALLETS, 10:00 AM-NOON**

**Open Play** from noon until 3:00 p.m. Finally, Mallets & Martinis starts promptly at 3:00 p.m. followed by a second session beginning at 5:00 p.m. and concluding around 6:30 p.m. This weekly event is by far the most popular weekly event we have on our schedule. You must sign up ahead of time for the Mallets & Martinis event by emailing Terry Fugate at [tfugate@cullasaja-club.com](mailto:tfugate@cullasaja-club.com) or by calling 526-9185

### **WEDNESDAY, WEDNESDAY WICKETS, 4:15-6:15 PM**

**Open Play** until 4:00 p.m. At 4:15 p.m. we start our new "Wednesday Wickets" which will conclude promptly at 6:15 p.m. Immediately following croquet play, participants who make advanced dining reservations will go up to the Clubhouse for dinner as a group.

### **THURSDAY, MALLETS & MARTINIS, 3:00-6:30 PM**

**Open Play** for all of our Members until 3:00pm. Then, Mallets & Martinis starts promptly at 3:00 p.m. followed by a second session beginning at 5:00 p.m. and concluding at 6:30 p.m. This weekly event is by far the most popular weekly event we have on our schedule. You must sign up ahead of time for the Mallets & Martinis event by emailing Terry Fugate at [tfugate@cullasaja-club.com](mailto:tfugate@cullasaja-club.com) or by calling 526-9185. Note that the Clubhouse is closed for dinner on Thursday nights.

**FRIDAY, OPEN PLAY ALL DAY** for all of our great Cullasaja Members their family members and their guests.

**SATURDAY, OPEN PLAY ALL DAY** for all of our great Cullasaja Members their family members and their guests.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Now that we have additional lawns there may be times that at least one lawn is available all day long. Please call the Tennis Pro Shop to check for availability. Also, please be aware that the Croquet Committee voted to have the lower lawn set up as a full sized lawn from Friday through Tuesday morning each week. That means if you want to play on a smaller lawn, you would want to use one of the upper lawns for play. There is a mallet and ball storage box located at the upper lawns for your convenience. The storage box is located beside the paver walk-path that leads up to the upper courts that runs parallel to the tennis courts.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THESE IMPORTANT EVENT & TOURNAMENT DATES:

June 13

**Croquet Season Opener**

June 17

**Men's Singles Championship**

June 18

**Ladies Singles Championship**

July 15

**Men's Doubles Championship**

July 29

**Ladies Doubles Championship**

August 1

**2nd Croquet Cullasaja Cup**

August 12

**Mixed Doubles Championship**

September 12-13

**1st Annual Member/Guest Croquet  
Tournament**

September 24

**End of Season Croquet Banquet**

## 2019 INTER-CLUB CROQUET SCHEDULE

June 6

**Wildcat at Cullasaja**

June 27

**Cullasaja at Chattooga**

July 18

**Cullasaja at Highlands CC**

August 8

**Cullasaja at Highlands Falls CC**

August 15

**Cullasaja at Cedar Creek Club**

September 19

**Trillium at Cullasaja**





**COMING IN JUNE:  
RULES SEMINAR WITH JEFF SOO  
Tuesday, June 11  
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

There is no charge for this class it is just one of the free perks you get when you join the CCA. Please sign up for a 1.5 hour session and note classes end at 4:00 pm. Please try to attend this on-court Rules Seminar because there have been several changes to the rules over the past year.

**WELCOME HOME CROQUET MIXER  
Thursday, June 13**

This fun-filled event was one of the largest croquet events we had last season with 80+ participants showing up to celebrate the season. Last year's event featured Jimmy Buffet music, cheeseburgers and margaritas and lots of skills events. So make plans now to join us for this fun-filled event held on Thursday June 13th. Look in the June Newsletter for information on this season's Welcome Back Theme!

**SINGLES CROQUET  
CHAMPIONSHIP  
June 17 and 18**

**Men will play on  
Monday, June 17**

**Ladies will play on  
Tuesday, June 18**

**LOOK FOR MORE DETAILS  
IN THE JUNE NEWSLETTER.**







## WELCOME HOME!!!

**I look forward to seeing you back in Highlands and enjoying our tennis courts.** We had over 4,500 of hours played on the courts last season and I anticipate even more participation this season. In an effort to ensure that you have the best courts on which to play, we added 16 tons of topdressing this spring instead of the normal 8 tons. Thus, the tennis courts are in pristine shape and ready for lots of tennis action.

**WORLD CLASS TENNIS RETURNED TO THE MOUNTAINS:** This spring several of you attended the Fed Cup in Asheville, North Carolina. This was the second consecutive year that pitted teams from the USA vs. Australia. It was a great event and I enjoyed seeing so many familiar faces at the event.

**SHORT COURT TENNIS:** Many of you have explored Pickleball and some have requested we bring this sport to Cullasaja Club. While we explore the feasibility of this possibility, I want to introduce you to a game that is very similar called Short Court Tennis. Short Court Tennis is played on the same size court as Pickleball. However, unlike Pickleball, this racquet sport can be played on clay or har-tru courts. This is a version of Spec/Pop Tennis and both of these sports are doing very well nationwide. Short Court Tennis is much quieter than the 'pop, pop, pop' of Pickleball and is played using transition tennis balls and Platform tennis paddles. We have loaner paddles and balls at the Tennis Center, so come out and try this exciting new game here at the Club. I will dedicate one or two Saturday afternoons during the months of June, July and August to offer instruction and guided play for you and your guests.

## PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST TENNIS PLAYING MEMBERS:

We are very excited to welcome several new tennis playing members this year. Please join me in welcoming Jan Pavlis, Paul Pavlis, Joanne Landers, Mary Alice Collins and Raf Slim. Beyond our regular core group last year, we also saw the following members coming out on a regular basis Steve Earman, Ben Mangum, Michael Baragona, Scott Calahan and Christy Baldwin. This year we hope to see more of Hugh Woltzen, Jane Adams, Suzy Tamplin, Deb Hartman, Ansley Tolleson, John Marshall and Derwin & Marilyn Smith and Meredith Baragona.

**2019 TENNIS COMMITTEE:** I want to say a special thank-you to Tim Godwin for continuing to Chair the 2019 Tennis Committee. He has worked hard along with the other members of the Committee to ensure that we have one of the best tennis programs anywhere in the area. Thank you also to Candra Seley, David Rountree, Diana Sanderson, Ernie Wilding, Kay Johnson and Tom Cooper for their active participation on the Tennis Committee. It is because of their dedication, commitment and focus that we have become one of the premier tennis programs on the plateau.

**TENNIS AND CROQUET SHOP:** We have all of the basics covered here in the Wellness Center Pro Shop. We stock a complete line of fitness, tennis and croquet items from which to choose. Also, if we don't have something in stock, we will be more than happy to place a special order for you at no additional cost. Please remember that the Mill River Plan allows you to purchase items at a great discount in both the Wellness Center Tennis/Croquet Shop and the Golf Shop.

## **MODIFIED WEEKLY SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF MAY:**

As always, during the month of May we combine men & women for our weekly tennis mixers. This helps us to ensure we always have enough participation to get up a good game. Join us every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 10:00 a.m. to participate in this fun weekly mixer. We also have Open Play on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday each week during May. After Memorial Day Weekend, we will go back to our regular weekly schedule for men and women.

**INTER-CLUB MATCHES:** We are planning to offer more inter-club matches this season compared to the past few years. It's always fun to meet other tennis players in the area and also see other clubs. Be on the lookout for the interclub match schedule which will offer men and ladies the chance to play home and away.

**PROPER TENNIS ATTIRE REQUIRED:** Please see dress code in the back of the Member Directory for easy reference if you have a question about appropriate attire. One of the most important things for children and adults to remember is to please wear smooth soled tennis shoes while you are playing on the tennis courts. Running shoes should never be worn on the tennis courts due to the uneven rough surfaces on the soles of the shoes. Running shoes do not allow you to slide on the court and dig into the surface which damages the courts. In addition, you are more prone to slipping and injuring yourself if you do not wear an appropriate shoe for tennis.

## **MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND AT THE TENNIS CENTER**

**Saturday, May 25th at 10:00 a.m.**

Help us kick off the 2019 tennis season in style with our annual "Stars & Stripes Celebration" Tennis Mixer. Don't forget to wear some red, white or blue patriotic colors for this exciting round-robin mixer. We also have plenty of other opportunities to play tennis over the Holiday weekend. We will be hosting open play on Sunday and men's & ladies' doubles on Memorial Day Monday the 27th.

## **LADIES' DOUBLES INVITATIONAL**

**Friday, June 14th at 10:00 a.m.**

The Ladies' Doubles Invitational is one of our premier events of the season. Please feel free to invite a guest, a current member, or a family member to partner with you. If you need me to help you find a partner I will be happy to do so; just let me know when you sign up. The event starts at 10:00 a.m. and a special chef's menu will be presented as part of the awards luncheon after play.

## **WELCOME HOME TENNIS MIXER & LUNCHEON**

**Saturday, June 15th at 10:00 a.m.**

This event is perfect for members who have been playing during the winter and also for members who need to knock the rust off after a long hibernation. This fun round-robin format ensures that there is a lot of interaction with friends. The event starts at 10:00 a.m. and ends with a wonderful luncheon. Please note that non-playing spouses are encouraged to attend the luncheon. This is a very popular event that fills up when 16 players have RSVP'ed. Therefore, please contact me as soon as possible to ensure your spot.

## **MEN'S DOUBLES INVITATIONAL**

**Saturday, June 29th at 10:00 a.m.**

The Men's & Ladies' Doubles Invitational's may be played with a fellow member or a guest as your partner. A lot of members love this event because they like having the option of playing with a guest or a fellow member. You will need a partner for this event so please let me know ahead of time if you need for me to find someone for you. Please sign up ahead to ensure your spot because this is a Tournament.

## **3-DAY JUNIOR TENNIS & GOLF CAMP**

**June 11th, 12th, 13th**

This very popular camp will have its 6-year anniversary this year. The Cullasaja Club Junior Tennis & Golf Mini Camp will be held on Tuesday, June 11th; Wednesday, June 12th; and Thursday, June 13th. Camp participants can sign up for one, two or all three days but note that the camp does fill up fast. Last year, we had 10 participants and we think this year will be just as popular. The goal of the camp is to offer great hands-on instruction along with lots of fun-filled drills and games that are very popular with the kids. We also teach some of the etiquette involved with playing golf and tennis. Lunch is provided each day as part of the camp. Sign up today by calling either Charles in the Golf Shop, Zoe at the Receptionist Desk, or me in the Wellness Center.

## **STRAWBERRIES & CREAM TENNIS MIXER**

**Saturday, July 6th at 10:00 a.m.**

Please make plans now to join us for the annual "Strawberries & Cream" tennis mixer to be held on Saturday, July 6th at 10:00 a.m. All Cullasaja members, their families and guests are invited to join in the fun. In the Wimbledon tradition, join us for a courtside complimentary bowl of fresh strawberries & cream. You may sign up as a team, however no partner will be needed as I will be happy to pair you with someone at your playing level. Feel free to wear some red, white or blue in honor of the holidays.



**FOOD AND BEVERAGE OPERATIONAL UPDATE**

Robie Mendoza, Assistant F&B Manager

There has never been a more exciting time to be at Cullasaja Club. Fresh off of one of our best years to date in both Club and HOA, 2019 brings a lot of promise as well as a newly updated Clubhouse. With a space that will match the needs, desires and energy of the membership, the renovation promises to move the Club forward both operationally and aesthetically. The Cullasaja staff, much like you, is buzzing with the excitement and is truly excited for the opportunity to provide you with more memorable and remarkable moments that will be cherished. We cannot wait to see the possibilities and challenges that the renovated Clubhouse will offer; and as professionals, we look at each challenge as an opportunity to improve and to create something truly special.

In a project of this magnitude, often much changes beyond the physical appearance of the Clubhouse. When change occurs, there are always things that are known and unknown operationally. What we do know is the Food and Beverage staff will continue to provide memorable and remarkable service in a comfortable setting; and Chef Marie, Chef Tzu and their staff will continue to provide the new and familiar in a myriad of different settings and presentations. We also know that our F&B team will only be permitted to occupy the new space only a couple of days before we open for the season. Conversely, we don't know what we don't know. Until the space becomes tangible, there is much we don't know and we will quickly have to adapt to the new spaces and be flexible in trying things that will work, and possibly also fail. However, we will learn as we try and our promise is to use the newly designed areas to further our mission of providing you with remarkable moments.

Much of the groundwork that we lay in April and May sets the tone for the season. The staff uses the month of April to learn procedures, practice service

and gain competencies. Without a brick and mortar space to practice these scenarios, these processes and progress will inevitably be delayed. We have detailed procedures in place demonstrating how to open, close and operate depending on the type of service. These will all need to be rewritten as we gain a deeper knowledge of the space. In prior years, we had the luxury of knowing our space and its boundaries and limitations. We knew exactly how many each room could fit and to what extent. This gave us ideas for how to staff, plan events and run operations day to day. Until we put our new dining areas to use, we don't know their practical capacity. We can estimate, we can forecast, but until we see these rooms in action, we do not have that same certainty with which we used to operate. With new additions such as a new grab-n-go Market, there will undoubtedly be a learning period for the function of these areas. How do we staff this operation, what goods and services can we offer and what will be successful. How does this affect our lunch covers and day to day operation? All unknowns that, until members start utilizing these areas, we cannot answer for certain. There is a careful balance that must be observed with doing too much too soon and not utilizing these spaces to their fullest potential. There will be mistakes and consequentially there will be lessons learned on the right way to do things in our new space.

None of these challenges scare us at the Cullasaja Club; in fact they excite us. They provide us with an opportunity to build something from the ground up while celebrating the tradition that the Club has developed. This will not be any easy undertaking, but we don't want easy. We know that we will have some pitfalls and mistakes, but those will be in the name of progress as we build to something greater. We are excited to have this opportunity and understand the task that is at hand. 2019 is a year of promise, growth and change. We can't wait to get started!

**Welcome Home**









## 2019 SEASON OF WINE, FOOD AND FUN

Steve Sheridan, F&B Director

With the 2019 season right around the corner, Cullasaja Club has been a hub of activity as we prepare for another remarkable season with a newly designed Clubhouse, new seasonal staff, and a full event calendar to keep you entertained. We are coming off of a great year and have been working hard to build on this success.

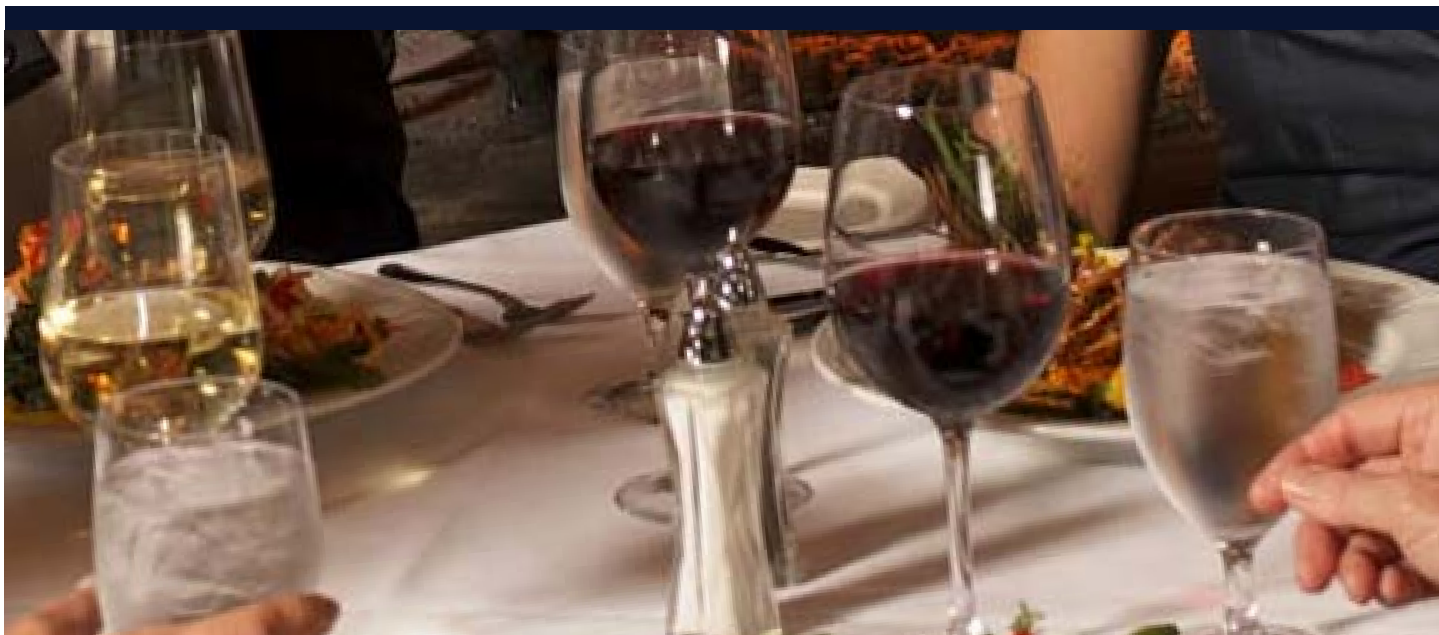
Some changes you will see on our calendar this season include the renaming of the Cabaret Nights to what we are now calling our Summer Series. This decision was spawned by Member feedback and discussed in the House & Social meetings last year. We feel that this new name better reflects what we are planning to offer at these events. Our three Summer Series events this year include a Blues, Brews & BBQ festival style event that will showcase southern BBQ, great local brews and a band that embodies Southern tradition. The 2nd Summer Series brings a Night in Vegas to Cullasaja Club. Come and enjoy a night of friendly fun while taking down the house. We end the Series with a Classic Rock band concert that will have everyone dancing and singing aloud. Signups for all three events have started and we hope you will be able to attend all three.

I would like to point out some of the key staff that we have returning this year. Those of you that enjoy the pool area throughout the summer will be delighted to know that Christine will be coming back to follow up on all the hard work she put in last year making that area the best it could be. Denise and her team will be returning to the Fairway Café. We saw a big upturn in lunch counts in this area due to the recent renovation and Denise is determined to make it even better this year with expanded menu items and the jovial attitude we have grown to expect. Be sure to stop by the Fairway Café even if you are not golfing. Robie Mendoza will be returning for his second season as Assistant F&B Manager and will be an integral part of our operation.

Of course everyone's beloved bartender, Rocky, is back and ecstatic about the new bar area. Our talented kitchen staff is back with Sous Chef, Tzu Thor, and Chef Marie as well as Daniel Levengood returning for his second season as our lead line cook. They are back on the plateau and thinking of ways to bring excitement and freshness to the menu.

The entire F&B team has been busy with recruitment this off season. Robie and I traveled abroad to recruit the top student applicants from many Swiss schools and feel that we have put together a staff that we are proud of and will carry the momentum we started in 2018. Chef Marie, Tzu and Rocky were in Florida recruiting from some of the top clubs in the South and have put together a strong culinary team that are eager to learn and ready to showcase their skills. All together, we have several different countries being represented this season including South Africa, Kazakhstan, China, Italy, India, Japan, and the Philippines. We welcome our students with open arms and cannot wait for them to arrive in April to begin training.

With all the talk about the renovation, I would like to update everyone on the progress and renaming of a few key areas. The old bar area, which has transitioned into a grab-and-go style market as well as a dinner hour pre function space, is now the 4032 Market (it's at an elevation of 4,032 above sea level). Last year's Main Dining Room is now the heart of the Club boasting a 360-degree bar with fantastic views and large TV's is now called Arnie's Bar. We have a wonderful extension with soft seating and small tables to drink and soak in the evening sun. The old pavilion is now the Main Dining Room and it has been named the Sweetwater Room with the brand-new extension being called the Sweetwater Terrace. Cullasaja is a Cherokee Indian word meaning "sweet water". There will be more details on the new areas of the Clubhouse and we will do our best in educating you on them as you make reservations.



Finally, I want to remind you about our popular Wine Club. This program was instituted to provide wines at great prices and housing or 'lockering' it for you at the Club. The basic setup is a one-time charge for the season for either a 6 or 12 bottle wine locker accompanied by a reduced corkage fee by participating in the program. We will order the wine of your choice, keep it here, and deliver to your table upon your request with no charges incurred. This is a great way to purchase wines at the Bulk Wine pricing level with a reduced corkage fee. Please feel free to contact me for more information on this popular program. Also, be on the look out for our annual Spring Wine Sale: "Paso Pizazz" where we will showcase some great wines from Paso Robles that are overdelivering and providing great value.

I look forward to seeing all of you this season and am dedicated to making your dining experiences here memorable and remarkable.

Cheers,

**Steve Sheridan** | F&B Director





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