



## Spring Hello & Update from AVCC

Hello to all members of the Aroostook Valley Country Club - past, present and future. We are all anxiously awaiting warmer and drier weather to help us get started on our 2024 golf season. Though winter was very mild with little snow on the ground, winter has not loosened its grip on us just yet! We have been working hard to prepare for the 2024 season and I, like all of you, thought it would be an early start. In fact, a month ago we were out and removed all of the covers and straw from our putting surfaces. This was a huge undertaking and necessary given the fact that there were such mild temperatures and hot sun shining down on the exposed winter covers. This was great to get these covers off and it puts us ahead of the game when we can finally get out there on a regular basis. Course access across the field road is an issue along with the wet, cold conditions and potentially more snow over the next few days makes planning and early work very difficult. Please do not attempt to drive to the course for any reason until an announcement is posted on our site that it is ok to do so. You will get stuck trying to cross that road. Our intent is to get out there as a grounds crew and begin course preparation and further maintenance beginning Monday April 15. There is much to do, straw needs to be picked up and hauled away, and there are many trees down that need to be removed from fairways and green complexes before play can begin. We will plan a couple of clean up days once we can safely get to the course and volunteers will be needed. We will open the course when it is fit for play and access can be made safely to the course. Undoubtedly some courses will open before Aroostook Valley Country Club this Spring, but I am hoping none will open in any better condition! Early indications are that the greens look good. I expect this to be the case at all the courses this year given the mild winter. I am hoping that the fact that we have still have our germination tarps on the greens will safe guard us against all of this freezing and thawing at this late stage. I am optimistic!

Our AVCC Lotto/Raffle is now in full swing with \$6000.00 dollars in cash prizes available to be won. Tickets can be purchased in person at the club or by emailing/e-transferring myself at [aroostookpro@gmail.com](mailto:aroostookpro@gmail.com). Info is posted on our web site as well as a current list of tickets purchased and available numbers.

We have people assigned with blocks of tickets they are responsible for selling but I will do my best to get ticket numbers you may request.

Tournaments will play a huge role for our club again this year with two new and exciting events added to the schedule this year. We will host The newly formed “Helen Dixon 4 Person Scramble” on June 29<sup>th</sup> and the “Valcon Rock ‘n Roll Charity Scramble” on Sept 6<sup>th</sup>. This will be an exciting event like no other, featuring live music, craft breweries and lots of fun and surprises. More Info will be available on both these exciting events soon!

The Junior golf program will return to AVCC this year after several years of inactivity due to our difficult situation at the club. Info will be made on how this will look as the season progresses. We are committed to getting our youth out to the golf course this season and providing them with some instruction and guidance on how to become our golfers of the future!

In short it is time to get going and we are very excited to ramp up and enjoy our wonderful facility. It is time to move forward and think/plan with a positive attitude and hope for the future. The staff and Board Directors of Aroostook Valley will work hard to provide the best possible service and make sound business decisions ensuring the continued support of Our club!

Sincerely,



Stephen Leitch

AVCC Professional/GM