

## Beauty Bay Golf Course Senior Men's League, May 26, 2026

by Bruce Braun

*"It's not hard to keep your ball in the fairway, so long as you're not picky about which fairway."* – Unknown

What a day! After a two-week delay to finally launch our season, we went from snowflakes to sunscreen weather in the blink of an eye. One week we were wondering if we should bring mittens, and the next week the bugs had already begun organizing air traffic control over the fairways.

It was terrific seeing so many familiar smiling faces back at Beauty Bay, along with several new additions to the league. Welcome, gentlemen! We're happy to have you join us — and rest assured, after a few rounds you'll fit right in by complaining equally about your bum knee, slow greens (the international excuse for a short putt), and putts that "broke at the very last second" (another one-liner cementing a poor read!)

League president Randy Smith (with his patented outdoor voice) kicked things off by introducing this year's Beauty Bay Senior Men's League executive committee. A special

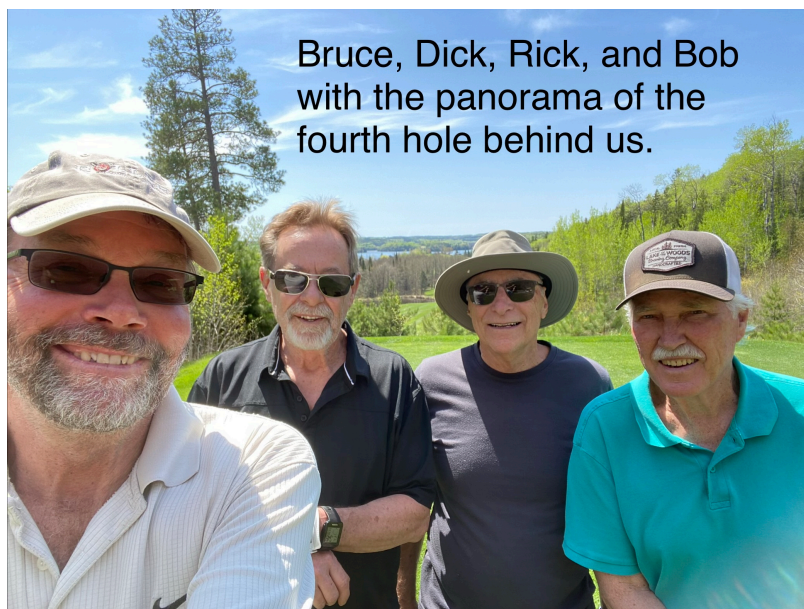
thank you goes out to new committee member Lorne McCool, who has bravely accepted the

highly prestigious and financially complex position of Keeper of the Looney Pot. Each Tuesday morning, if you'd like to participate in the weekly prizes, simply stop by Lorne's table and surrender your loon dollar with dignity.

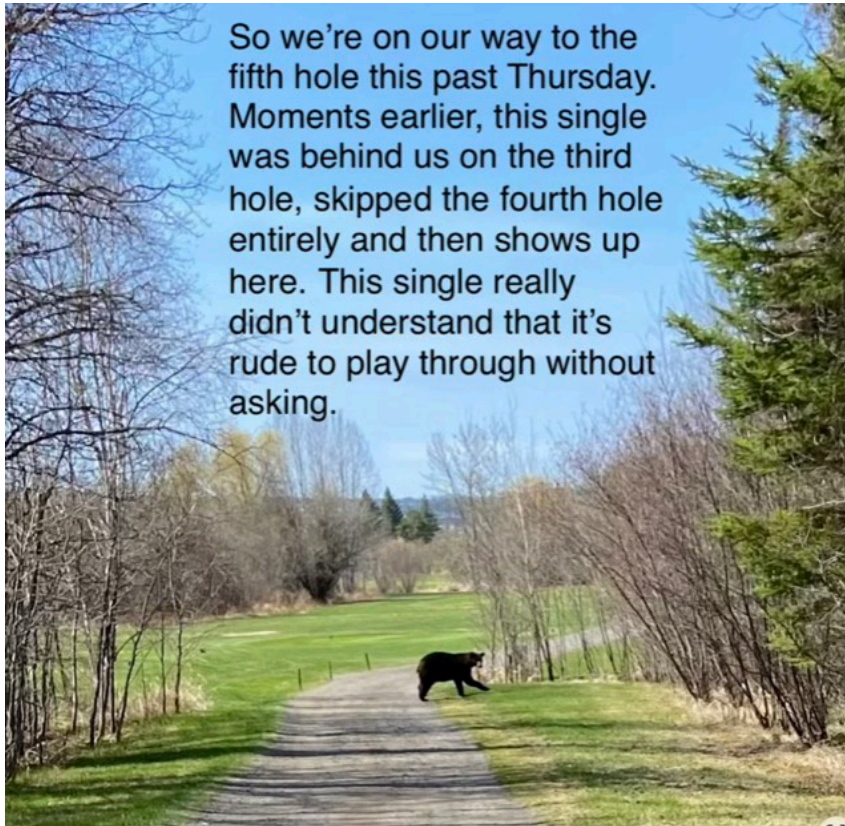
Keith Lake has returned to once again coordinate riding cart distribution, a responsibility requiring patience, organization, diplomacy, and



Bob Calder preparing to release his golf ball from its temporary pedestal.



Bruce, Dick, Rick, and Bob with the panorama of the fourth hole behind us.



So we're on our way to the fifth hole this past Thursday. Moments earlier, this single was behind us on the third hole, skipped the fourth hole entirely and then shows up here. This single really didn't understand that it's rude to play through without asking.

occasionally the conflict-resolution skills. Thanks again, Keith.

Dan Anderson also announced this year's Match Play participants. The season-long competition can officially begin immediately. Friendships may remain intact... though history suggests otherwise by about mid-July.

Randy also reminded everyone that the league is still looking for a vice-president. The role mainly involves helping Randy with league duties and filling in on Tuesdays when he can't attend. It's an excellent

opportunity for anyone seeking fame, prestige, and absolutely no compensation whatsoever.

There was also an important schedule change announced. The league will *not* meet on Tuesday, June 30. Instead, we'll gather on Monday, June 29, allowing the course to host a charity tournament on our usual day.

Other upcoming events include:

- Our Falcon Lake golf trip on Wednesday, June 24 at 9:00 a.m. (Age 55+ only). Sign-up sheets are posted in the clubhouse. You may register individually or as a group.
- Our league barbecue on July 14 following the round. Guests are welcome for an additional \$5 per plate — which remains one of the better food deals in northwestern Ontario.

A few rules also need clarification...

First, the maximum score on any hole is officially capped at 9. This rule exists partly to keep play moving and partly to protect scorecards from emotional damage.

Second, because holes #3 and #7 feature forced water carries, players are limited to a maximum of *two* golf balls sacrificed to the lake before moving to the other side and taking a drop. At some

point it stops being golf and starts becoming fish food distribution. A reminder as well that our league uses a maximum of one penalty stroke.

Third, holes #3, #8, #15, and #18 will once again have *all* players teeing off from the red tees during scramble play. This has been in place for at least the past couple of seasons and helps level the playing field. A.J. Girardin explains the reasoning behind this a little further below.

There was also some discussion regarding players aged 75+ and those with handicaps of 30 or greater, both of whom are permitted to tee off from the red tees.

Naturally, someone asked:  
“But what if you qualify for *both*?”

After careful consideration, a resounding NO echoed down the fairways:  
NO additional privileges. The reasoning is simple. Such players would immediately become highly sought-after scramble teammates, leading to potential legal complications involving bribery, extortion, tampering, and possibly kidnapping.

Quite frankly, the executive committee is not staffed heavily enough to deal with that sort of thing.

As you know, A.J. Girardin does our weekly groupings. He is the mastermind behind this complex algorithm. I asked him to provide a synopsis of his procedure for weekly team construction. Thanks for doing this A.J.

*“I have written a program using Microsoft Excel that randomly generates the foursomes each week. It basically works like this:*

- 1. I check off the members that have signed up for that week.*
- 2. I run the program and foursomes are randomly generated with each foursome having a mix of players from flights 1 thru 5. Because we have a very uneven amount of players in each flight, it makes things a bit tricky, but in general there will not be more than 1 player from flight 1 or flight 5 on a team.*
- 3. I then manually fine-tune things (ie: move players around) to make sure that:*
  - 1. Guests play with their sponsoring member.*
  - 2. The total handicap for each foursome is within 10 of the average foursome total.*
- 3. There is a maximum of 2 forward tee players in a foursome. I try very hard to limit each foursome to only 1 forward tee player, but over the past 2 years, it has become more difficult because every*



This single was abiding by the cartpath only rule.

year, we have more members older than 74 years of age. This became an issue a few seasons back when it was determined that having 2 forward tee players in a foursome was a distinct advantage on the scramble portion of the round. Therefore, a decision was made in the 2024 season (I think) to have all members of a foursome tee off from the forward tees on the longer holes (3, 8, 15, 18) for the scramble portion of the round.

4. I do my best to minimize duplication of players in foursomes from week to week. That is, if you played with someone this week, you will not play with them again for at least 4 weeks. This is relatively easy to accomplish in the first third or half of the golfing season. However, in the later stages of the season, it becomes increasingly difficult. Also, please keep in mind that almost every week I have to make last minute changes to the teams that I have put together, because of no shows or walk ups. When this happens, it's virtually impossible for me to take into account who played with who over the past few weeks."



Finally, I missed getting any of your input for this newsletter. Here's what I want... This newsletter is always more entertaining when it includes stories, photos, and the occasional tale of unbelievable golfing heroics.

Many of you carry your phones during your rounds anyway—and as long as they're on silent and not being used to contact the PGA Tour for emergency swing advice, I'd love to receive:

- Photos from your group
- Funny stories
- Strange bounces
- Miracle putts
- Legendary excuses

Your contributions help capture the camaraderie, humour, and unforgettable moments that make this league such a pleasure to be part of.

This week's winners:

May 26 2025			
Scramble Winners	Score	Back Nine	
Dan Anderson	31	( -4 )	Won on a count back
Grant Lawrence			
Greg Agnew			
John Palichuk			
Flight Winners	Flight	Score	
Keith Lake	1	34	
John Zilinsky	2	39	
Bob Clemmens	3	44	
Roger Dimit	4	45	
Lorne Nault	5	49	Won on a count back against 2 others
Closest to Cup 1st shot	# 2	Dennis O'Sullivan	
Closest to the cup 2nd shot	# 4	Keith Lake	
Longest Putt	#6	Husky Robinson	
Longest Putt	# 8	Duncan Calder	
Closest to Cup 1st shot	# 9	Jasen Toth	
Who showed up to golf			
Members	69		
Guests	6		

Already looking forward to next week! Bring a friend.