

SNOQUALMIE FALLS LADIES GOLF CLUB

(edited March 2013)

Snoqualmie Falls Golf Course opened in the early 1960s. Although the exact date that the Ladies Club began is uncertain, some sources believe it was around 1965. The previous course owners were Walter and Margaret Nelson. In 1973, John and Liz Groshell became the new owners. At that time the ladies club consisted of only 12 members and remained the same through 1978.

In 1979 the Redmond Golf Course closed in order for Redmond Town Center to be built and forty of their members joined SFLGC. At that time there were very few golf courses in the area and Snoqualmie Falls Ladies Club flourished to the point where they had to limit their membership to 90 members. The club had a waiting list and one had to play at least 8 times during the season or they would be dropped to an associate level. They would then have to re-qualify to play on a regular basis. Membership was pretty consistent through the 80s and 90s. Since year 2000 membership has dropped because of many new courses opening in the Seattle area. Our membership had fallen below fifty but is now slowly increasing. Many of our members are working or have young families limiting their chances of playing during the week and some join only to establish a handicap. The club allows this due to the lower membership.

In the spring of 2012 the ladies club made some changes to accommodate the addition of a 9-hole group. Tall Chief Golf Course closed and Carnation Golf Course was being sold. Twenty members transferred their membership to SFLGC. A few joined the 18 hole group but the majority only wished to play 9 holes, thus a 9 hole group was formed.

We also had members who could not play on Tuesdays and wanted to be part of the club competitions. The club voted to allow these ladies to play on the week-end preceding the Tuesday of regular play. They must play with another member(s) and their score cards are tallied by the Tuesday score keepers. These new changes are falling into place quite nicely and this year we plan to integrate the two groups for a round of golf at least one Tuesday per month, mainly to get to know one another. We also have found that by having the 9 hole group, members can transfer up or down as lifestyles change. We encourage our new players to be more pro-active—by serving on the various committees etc-- we have many experienced members who have held all positions and are always willing to assist. The pro-shop and groundskeepers are great too, very helpful and accommodating to the ladies club.

MLP