

Moka Blog

NEWSLETTER



Happy Golfing!

The Club had to temporarily close its doors on Saturday 21st March 2020 when the Government announced closure of “Clubs” and all recreational activities, along with food and beverage dining. This brought all operations at the Club to a halt but the Government encouraged all companies to maintain salaries to employees to help ensure job security. Our management immediately adhered to all of the recommendations and assisted all employees and caddies to the best of the Club’s ability.

The safety and well-being of the SAGC Family remains our priority amidst this COVID 19 pandemic. Management continues to implement necessary changes to ensure the livelihood of our employees and members who play an integral part in the Club’s upkeep and reputation.

HOW WE STOOD STRONG & UNITED DURING THIS COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The following protocols were in place during the unexpected harsh economic times from March 22nd into June 2020:

- 1. March 22nd to March 31st** - all employees were paid in full. They had to complete duties such as storing equipment/furniture, cleaning, taking inventory of items that would expire, filing and deep cleaning/painting. Everyone had a task and completed them. All contracts for the period January to March ended and will be reviewed at a later date.
- 2. April 1st to April 15th** - employees were paid in full and received pay weekly. The daily-paid workers which include Greens workmen, continued at full pay and were work-scheduled. All staff were rostered staggered hours to ensure small groups, during this 15-day period, Office Staff worked from home, Restaurant and Bar Staff did training on line, the Caddy Master and Starters worked to clear up their area and the Pro Shop Staff assisted with the re-design and the layout of merchandise.
- 3. April 16th to June 14th** - all employees who requested vacation were granted approval so as to lessen any human resource headache later in the year. Greens workmen were rostered staggered hours and the rest of the staff went on rotation, receiving 50% pay at month's end. This was to ensure the course and clubhouse were maintained during closure. Had it stayed closed, restoring over-grown greens, sanitation for infestation of rodents and increased security to restrain burglary, the cost to the Club would have been tremendous.
- 4. June 15th to re-opening June 22nd** - With an anticipated "soft" opening on the 23rd June, employees prepared to open all operations of the Club. This included full opening hours along with the restaurant and bar. All contract workers will not be rostered until we resume some sort of normalcy.

At present, as we enter the rainy season, the course workers, with the exception of contract workers, are on full pay to maintain the course. This ensures daily upkeep of the course and maintenance of equipment. The employees in the clubhouse are slowly regaining their full hours dependent on members' support at the pro shop, restaurant and bar. Managerial staff are all back out to work with a 20% wage cut until the Club is in the clear.





FRONT OFFICE

BAG STORAGE AREA



FRONT OFFICE

NEW FILTERED WATER DISPENSER



NEW BAR UPGRADE

WHAT WE'VE DONE IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS

Employees were given hampers from the SAGC kitchen as well as advanced weekly pay to help ensure their livelihood. Caddies were not forgotten and on two separate occasions, approximately 60 of them along with starters received hampers and cash. Mrs. Angela Hodgkinson and Mr. Gerard Ayin made appeals to the membership for financial and inventory assistance for the caddy hampers. The “call” was quickly answered by all members, especially the golfing groups. Special thanks must be made of Mr. Newman George, Mr. John Henry and Mr. Gerard Ayin’s extended family for their support in many aspects of these giveaways. Our dedicated employees provided much assistance with packaging the goods and distributing these hampers. Thanks to everyone for showing such gratitude and thoughtfulness during these times.

Management used this opportunity to thoroughly clean up the Mini Mart offered to the caddies. The room was sanitized, refurbished and outfitted with proper functioning equipment. The menu offered will be extended to all caddies, employees and members. Our very own Miguel will be given the opportunity to ensure standards are maintained.

As we go forward, the Board and Management have been in many discussions regarding the “new normal”. This includes wearing of masks, limited groups and frequency of sanitizing. We are proposing the following:

- Washing of hands must be maintained and the sinks will remain in position.
- Wearing of masks when in the Club house.
- A double filtration system has been installed in the cafe and soon in the half houses on the course.
- Tournament results will be announced via email with no prize giving ceremony.
- Caddies will continue to work with only single bags.
- Members must walk with their own towel/s.
- Full Playing Members can invite a guest to play only 2 rounds of golf until year’s end, at a special rate.

There are still many areas to renovate: the pool, the poolside seating/gazebo, the entrance by the golf cart wash bay alongside the clubhouse and the main kitchen to facilitate a hood system and hot station with convection oven. We believe hosting tournaments specifically for such renovations would be most viable. Management is considering costing tournaments at a smaller entrance fee per team.

Several other means of generating income include the re-introduction of the carnival fete, a cooler party held mid-year, marketing of in-house dinners/ brunch and also rentals for events/weddings and special occasions. The conference room is another possibility for corporate meetings, inclusive of media, internet and complimentary coffee/ tea.

Our next AGM is tentatively set for Monday 17th August 2020. We look forward to presenting you with a complete package of the Club’s finances and strategic plan.

See you soon, happy golfing.

Golf strong, go long!

Please ask your friendly bartender or server about our daily drink specials

