

## President Obama golfs, greets spectators and yells to a polar bear



Between holes the President greeted some residents of the Blue Stone gated community who were clamoring for his attention. Residents and tourists were excited to see him.

"I cried really hard because I was so excited. I've never seen anyone famous before," said Maya Smith, who is visiting from Washington.

"Someone said Obama was on the golf course so we yelled hi," said Taylor Takeda, from Mililani.

"Man that is so cool, I seized the opportunity to take as many pictures as I could including some selfies," said Reed Smith, visiting from Washington.

"We're probably never going to get that close to him again," said Alex Schneider, visiting from Washington.



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**KAILUA, OAHU (HawaiiNewsNow) -**

**The Presidential vacation continues in full swing. Day three of the first family's vacation and the President took on his second round of golf. Word spread fast in Lanikai and before you know it a gallery appeared.**

"Merry Christmas guys," said President Barack Obama, to residents after the 17th hole at Mid Pacific Country Club in Lanikai.

Those that were out on the course at the same time say the Secret Service with metal detectors checked them at least four times throughout the round. But other than that, it was no big deal.

"Pretty normal day. I always golf with the President. I'm just kidding it was really cool," said Larson Leu, golfer.

Then there was a polar bear which made a special trip. Not just to putt around but to make a statement.

"We are here to remind the President that he has to say no to the Keystone pipeline. The Keystone pipeline would carry amazingly dirty oil that would make climate change worse, melt the arctic and drive me the polar bear to extinction," said Bill Snape, Center for Biological Diversity, who was dressed on a polar bear costume.

After the round the President did notice the demonstrating bear and shouted, "hey polar bear."

The President has golfed at MidPac several times in the past. He's also hiked the nearby Lanikai Pillbox trail two years ago which residents say popularized the place and brought crowds of people day and night.

"We say welcome to Hawaii, We are glad he enjoys this beautiful island and we're glad to have him but it does create a little bit of a nightmare for some of us here year round and have to deal with what happens after he leaves," said Lauri O'Connor, Lanikai Resident.

The President did not go for a hike today. After the round he shook hands and counted his strokes before hitting the beach with family.

We saw the President play the 9th hole. He had a great drive, then pulled his second shot into the bunker and three putted. He may be the most powerful man in the world but he golf's like the rest of us.