



**THE SEPULVEDA
EAGLE**
Sepulveda Men's Golf Club
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Editor: E.J. Beren (818) 438-0395
ejberen@me.com

Printer: Richie Nance (818) 422-3748
richie.nance15@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Evan Beren

Once again the Sepulveda Golf Complex hosted the City of Los Angeles Junior Championships, Flights A, B and C. Bobby Cavanaugh hosted the event, working from sunup until sundown both Saturday the 24th and Sunday the 25th. The City of Los Angeles Golf Division and the SMGC are fortunate to have Bobby in our ranks. His trademark enthusiasm and can do spirit powered through every challenge for a very successful tournament.

The Club provided the bulk of the staffing for the tournament at Sepulveda. On hand volunteering their time were David Horwitch, Tommy Eunice, Everardo Gomez, Virgil Budhu, Larry Scott, and Bruce Fortune. Richie Nance went above and beyond the call of duty with the amount of time he spent at the course over the weekend. I helped out Bobby a little bit as well. Craig Kessler was a volunteer at Roosevelt, Wilson and Harding Golf Courses as well.

We are getting close to Major Championship season. Remember you must qualify to compete. As David posts the tournaments, he will also post the requirements. Only qualified players will be able to compete for these, our major championships.

As we move into the warmer months a few items to remember:

Use Sun Screen.

Hydrate-golf courses can become a lot warmer than players expect, so whether you are walking or riding be prepared with water or a sports drink, sorry, beer does not qualify as water, not even lite beer.

Use Sun Screen.

With the warmer weather, bees come out, so if you have a bee allergy, come prepared with the necessary anti-toxin, and check that it is still current.

Did I mention Sun Screen?

If you have questions, comments or would like to volunteer to help, please contact me at 818-438-0395 or ejberen@me.com.

THE NEXT TEE

By David Horwitch, Tournament Director

The Encino rainout on the 22nd has left me in the in full blown tournament withdrawal, leaving me counting the days until the Cavanaugh Classic at Hansen Dam. Don't forget the Cavanaugh Classic has been moved to the 15th of April. We are looking at a full 100 player field, it's amazing to see the great turn out for this tournament.

The month ends with the Senior Championship as well as the Shamble. Head over to the front page for information on both of those tournaments.

Tournament questions and comments may be directed to dhorwitch@gmail.com

CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

Privatization – that’s what you call the outsourcing of public services to the private sector when you’re opposed to it. Contracting out – that’s what you call the outsourcing of public services to the private sector when you’re in favor of it. No matter what you call it, they’re the same thing. Whether the outsourcing mechanism is a lease or a management contract, they’re the same thing. Whether the agreements are short-term or long-term, they’re the same thing.

They’re all mechanisms for substituting private sector labor/legacy costs and private sector purchasing protocols for public sector labor/legacy costs and public sector purchasing protocols. Yes, there are elements of efficiency and incentive built into the private schemes, but those elements pale in comparison to the central organizing principle of the enterprise: The savings a government can realize from the simple act of delivering public services through private sector contractors that are then not bound by collective bargaining agreements, civil service protections, defined benefit pensions, and traditional public sector insurance packages.

It’s the reason that the County of Los Angeles nets \$12 million from its community golf program while the City of Los Angeles is lucky to net \$1 million, despite a greens fee schedule that is higher across the board, particularly for senior citizens. It’s the reason that the issue rears its head whenever fiscal pressures cause the Mayor and CAO to take a hard look at cost cutting measures. And it’s why the issue is guaranteed to come up again and again for as long as we have recessions, budget shortfalls, pension imbalances, and various and sundry other things that seem to bedevil governments on a routine basis.

And it’s why it behooves Golf Division employees in particular to pay close heed to the history of the myriad occasions in the last 25 years in which one Mayor or another has tried to privatize, or if you prefer contract out, the Los Angeles Community Golf Program. In each instance the difference maker wasn’t the city’s unions. Yes, Los Angeles is a union town. But so are Oakland, San Francisco, Sacramento, Long Beach, Berkeley, Los Angeles County and a whole host of other California cities and counties that have privatized all or part of their community golf programs.

In each case the difference maker was the golfers themselves, not golfers as deracinated individuals storming city hall to support continued public delivery of public golf in Los Angeles, but rather golfers organized into golf clubs on the course level and the Municipal Golf Association (MGA) and Golf Advisory Committee (GAC) on the citywide level.

It was the combination of organized labor and organized golf that turned back Mayor Riordan’s strong push to privatize the system in the 1990’s. Dick Riordan may have been “tough enough to turn LA around,” but he wasn’t tough enough to defeat an alliance of labor and golf. Mayor Villaraigosa may have been set to contract out Rancho Park Golf Course a few years later, but the memory of that 1990’s alliance dissuaded him. During the recent period of the GBAS and the Strategic Plan, the privatization temptation was very much in the air, but the Golf Advisory Committee’s strong support for reforming the extant public system prevailed over those who pressed for going the way of virtually every other community golf program in the region.

This is why I find the current anti-club animus demonstrated by some Golf Division employees perplexing – some, certainly not all, perhaps not even a majority, but enough that things have become tense at some of the city’s courses. Crapping on friends is not the wisest of courses, and those who counsel it are not the wisest of persons.

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Tournament Player of the Year Trophy in Memory of Ed Cohn “On the Other Hand”

Not much change at the top but certainly possibilities for many players to make a move. Still plenty of golf left for any of the top 10 to win.

Player	Winnings	Rank
Dustin Watanabe	460	1
Justin Lestrage	395	2
Ben Raposas	385	3
David Watanabe	350	4
Brian Nugent	305	5
Michael Melamed	300	6
Gerard Sanders	245	7
Alfredo Picolomini	245	7
David Horwitch	235	9
Craig Cacek	235	9
Branden Augustus	220	11
Robert Cavanaugh	210	12
Steve Hansen	200	13
Johnathan Fernandez	200	13
Virgil Budhu	195	15
Juan Lopez F	195	15
Leonid Levin	190	17
Bob McKibben	190	17
Darrell Kato	175	19
Bill Keanu	175	19
Lupe Escobedo	170	21
Josh Eveland	170	21
Brandon Wahl	170	21
Todd Mander	160	24
Patrick Warren	155	25
Louie Rivera	155	25
Michael Radtke	140	27
Marc Carter	140	27
Douglas Rockford	140	27
Larry Staggs	135	30
Eric Ramirez	135	30
Sean Cavanaugh	130	32
Matt Soule	130	32
Mark Vaughan	130	32
David Gilbreath	130	32
Michael Saghian	125	36
Jeff Prey	125	36
Richie Nance	120	38
Behrouz Shafie	120	38

The complete standings can be found at WWW.SMG.C.ORG

Sunday @ Tierra Rejada

March 11, 2018

Format – Low Gross / Low Net**“A” Flight Low Gross**

Score	Player	Prize
75	Eric Ramirez	\$95
77	David Gilbreath	\$50
77	John Philipson	\$50
77	Robert Barroa	\$50

“A” Flight Low Net

68	David Horwitch	\$95
70	Craig Cacek	\$65
71	John Blake	\$45
72	Brandon Wahl	\$30

“B” Flight Low Gross

78	Louie Rivera	\$95
84	Darrell Kato	\$65
87	Pablo Rojas	\$35
87	Juan Lopez	\$35

“B” Flight Low Net

70	Chris Jaskiewicz	\$95
71	Christopher Ames	\$65
72	Rhoneil Santo Tomas	\$35
72	Lupe Escobedo	\$35

Gross Skins \$160 each

3	Chris Jaskiewicz
10	Ray Hassanlou
15	Robert Barroa

Net Skins \$80 each

Hole	Player
1	John Blake
2	Edward Licht
3	Chris Jaskiewicz
4	David Horwitch
5	Ray Hassanlou
10	Ray Hassanlou

Closest to the Pin \$40 each

2	Robert Barroa	2' 1"
7	Lupe Escobedo	2' 4"
11	Bob McKibben	9' 9"
14	Eric Ramirez	3' 6"
17	Hector Moreno	1' 7"

The Honey Pot was \$290

won by the teams of
Ames/Blake, Ramirez/Rivera
and Cavanaugh Jaskiewicz.

Thursday @ Encino

March 22, 2018

Format – Low Gross / Low Net***Rained out!*****BACKSPIN SHOTS***by The Gapwedge*

Anybody who has ever lived can verify that unexpected stuff happens and must be dealt with. It's just a part of life, and beside, this unexpected stuff is rarely a matter of life or death, so dealing with it should not be a major source of stress, but sometimes, for some folks, it is.

So it can be with the great game of golf. Solid shots struck down the middle can end up in deep divots, and the difference between a fortuitous kick back into the fairway and a dastardly carom out of bounds can literally be a fraction of an inch.

Could those bored Scottish shepherds have purposely designed a game that is such a microcosm of real life when first they swung staff at turd? Probably not, but that seems the way it came out anyway.

Those who do well in life because they keep setbacks in proportion and address them appropriately, probably do well on the course when the unexpected and unfortunate happens. They do the best they can, taking their medicine if necessary, and move on. They don't wallow in self-pity or let the incident affect the rest of their round or pollute the rounds of their playing companions.

Nobody is lucky or unlucky all the time, but some folks don't account for the good luck even as they keep meticulous tabs on the bad. We all know the golfer who, to hear him tell it, has never had a good break on the course in his life. Play a round with this fellow, and you will see that, in reality, he is subject to one of the most fundamental laws of golf and nature—the breaks even out.

Prize Money
All tournament place winnings
are paid in gift certificates.

HANDICAP CHATTER

by Tommaso Trinchieri, Handicap Chairman

World Handicap System!

A new handicap system is here, or rather, it will be once the USGA and R&A begin to fully implement the World Handicap System (“WHS”) in 2020.

Currently there are six handicapping systems worldwide, owing to the existence of six handicapping authorities: Golf Australia, the Council of National Golf Unions (CONGU) in Great Britain and Ireland, the European Golf Association (EGA), the South African Golf Association (SAGA), the Argentine Golf Association (AAG) and the USGA.

The tenets of the new system focus on three main objectives: to encourage as many golfers as possible to obtain and maintain a handicap; to enable golfers of differing abilities, genders and nationalities to transport their handicap to any course globally and compete on a fair basis; and to indicate with sufficient accuracy the score a golfer is reasonably capable of achieving on any course around the world, playing under normal conditions.

Key features of the WHS include:

- Flexibility in formats of play, allowing both competitive and recreational rounds to count for handicap purposes and ensuring that a golfer’s handicap is more reflective of potential ability. (Similar to the current USGA system)
- A minimal number of scores needed to obtain a new handicap; a recommendation that the number of scores needed to obtain a new handicap be 54 holes from any combination of 18-hole and 9-hole rounds, but with “some discretion available for handicapping authorities or national associations to set a different minimum within their own jurisdiction.”
- A consistent handicap that “is portable” from course to course and country to country through worldwide use of the USGA course and slope rating system, already used in more than 80 countries.
- An average-based calculation of a handicap, taken from the best eight out of the last 20 scores and “factoring in memory of previous demonstrated ability for better responsiveness and control.”
- A calculation that considers the impact that abnormal course and weather conditions might have on a player’s performance each day.
- Daily handicap revisions, taking account of the course and weather conditions calculation.
- A limit of net double bogey on the maximum hole score (for handicapping purposes only).
- A maximum handicap limit of 54.0, regardless of gender, to encourage more golfers to measure and track their performance to increase their enjoyment of the game.

Given worldwide alignment towards a single system, all parties will now embark on a two-year transition period targeting implementation in 2020. When adopted, the WHS will be governed by the USGA and The R&A and administered by national and regional associations around the world.

For additional information on the WHS, please visit www.usga.org/whs.