



# THE SEPULVEDA EAGLE

Sepulveda Men's Golf Club  
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*By Bruce Fortune*

July has come and gone and we're still experiencing great conditions in spite of the (now) regular thermometer readings in the low 100's. Golf in the SFV continues to be a pleasure early and late. The city has moved Twilight Rates up to 12 PM during the week, so get out there and PLAY!

The 2014 President's cup continues on schedule, where we're into the 3rd round (Quarter Finals), with 4 matches winnowing down to the Semi-Finals. Thanks to the Tournament Directors, Mark Michelini and Everardo Gomez (and all of you who have played in the time allotted), we're likely to conclude this year's matches before September 1st! Something of a club record, to the best of my knowledge. Remember – it is your responsibility to post the scores from your matches. Please help each other get this done.

Tournament Director, Evan Beren continues to present great courses, and great events for SMGC. This month we're headed down to an old favorite, Los Verdes Golf Course, on Sunday, August 10th. Hope you were one of the early sign-ups as this event sold out well before the sign-up deadline. Also in August is the return to LA's most famous municipal golf course, Rancho Park. We're there on August 28th (7:00 AM START!), for our Thursday event. Hope to see you out there.

The 93rd Annual Los Angeles City Women's Golf Championship was held July 12th & 13th. The event was won by one of LA's own, a participant of the Junior Golf Summer Programs, Lydia Choi. Lydia is a 17-year-old, high school senior who shot a final round 68 at Rancho, beating all comers. The Net Flight Senior Champion is Gail Kramer, and the Net Flight Champion is Coy Hoang. Congratulations and thanks to Brandon Augustus, Bobby Cavanaugh, the folks who maintain and run Rancho and all the volunteers who helped out with this venerable event. I'd like to add a personal note of congratulations to a fellow GAC board member, Leanne Carpenter, who placed third in the Seniors Net.

This past June 30th I was elected the Chair of the Golf Advisory Committee. Along with Steven Yablock, new Vice Chair, I will be heading up the meetings that receive information and offer guidance on the planning and implementation of the Golf Divisions projects and on-going maintenance and operation of our city's 13 golf courses. This includes interacting with the newly formed Golf Business Analysis Section. I will endeavour to fulfil the mandates of the office to the best of my abilities.

## THE NEXT TEE

*Upcoming Tournament Notes from Evan Beren, Tournament Director*

Our Sunday August 10th tournament, The Ocean View Classic, is already sold out. We will be playing the Los Verdes Golf and Country Club. First tee time is 10:00 AM. Cost is \$75 in advance, \$80 on the day of the event at the course. Carts are included. Contact Evan to be added to the wait list.

The Thursday tournament is on August 28, 7:00 AM first tee time, at the famous Rancho Park Golf Course. \$45, carts and range balls are extra. Seniors with a senior card pay day of the event and save!

Looking ahead to September we have The Ocean Breeze Classic, at The Buenaventura Golf Course. This weekend tournament will be held on Saturday, September 13th, 8:00 AM first tee time. Tournament fee includes carts. Just 60 players, sign up now. \$80 in advance online, \$85 at the course day off the event.

For more information about these or any of our tournaments, contact Evan Beren at [ejberen@me.com](mailto:ejberen@me.com) or 818-438-0395

## CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

My job with the SCGA gives me a perspective that few others possess. I deal regularly with municipal golf programs from San Diego to San Luis Obispo – large systems, small systems, urban, suburban, rural, rich, poor, politically supported, politically orphaned and all points in between. I am able to put our own Los Angeles Municipal System into context with the rest of them – the common ground shared by all of them as well as those things that are unique about the Los Angeles City program.

The common ground encompasses much, and I have addressed some of it in previous columns. To cover it all would require at least 3 years of columns and likely bore you to tears, unless you're fascinated by the vagaries of long-term asset management.

The unique aspects of Los Angeles are more interesting. Allow me to share two unique aspects that likely interest you as a club member.

First, with so much riding on the beginning of the GBAS (Golf Business Analysis Section) era there is one aspect of our system that presages success. Bluntly put, there is no municipal golf system in Southern California that is better positioned geographically. The supply to demand ratio is the best re "demand" everywhere in California with the possible exception of San Francisco; Long Beach may be a competitor in that regard as well. And the City's "supply" includes courses that range from great (Rancho and Wilson) to good (Harding, Encino, Balboa, and Hansen Dam). Woodley Lakes needs a little work (not a lot) to make the "good" grade; don't tell our friends from Woodley I said that. The city's three 9-hole courses are among the best, most aesthetic, most diverse and most interesting among Southern California's limited stock of 9-hole tracks.

Second, with respect to the role and value of golf clubs, some of the folks in the Golf Division are stuck in a long bygone era – the days when all they had to do was open the gates and the golfers flooded starter windows. Those days died long ago, which is why those who manage similarly situated nearby municipal courses like Knollwood, DeBell and particularly Brookside treat their clubs very differently from the way some treat them in the city. Those three sites, two of which are as busy as city courses, cater to men and senior golf clubs. And they don't do that because the clubs are any nicer, more organized, or faster playing than our clubs in the city; they do it because it makes eminent bottom line sense as a business proposition.

If the city's clubs can up their game a bit and replace some of the whining with solid documentation of their business/community utility, I think that they can persuade the GBAS of the wisdom of loosening some of the reins, and I think that even some of the "old guard" can be similarly persuaded. They're not motivated by animus or hostility; they're just a little stuck in the past on the subject. Let's educate them.

## 2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Officers

Bruce Fortune, President.....(818) 535-4900  
Evan Beren, Vice-President.....(818) 438-0395  
Tommy Eunice, Secretary.....(626) 278-0372  
Dan Crawford, Treasurer.....(818) 497-6617

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Tommaso Trinchieri, Handicap.....(949) 231-0097

## Tournament Player of the Year Trophy in Memory of Ed Cohn "On the Other Hand"

### Reboot for Player of the Year Scoring

Congratulations to Ben Reposas for easily winning player of the year 2013-2014. Ben won consistently even as his handicap dropped and was adjusted downwards for tournaments. The full results will be available on the website and published later in August.

Scoring for Player of the Year is changing. We will be using using "Official Winnings" known as scrip dollars in gross and net tournaments as the "Points" for Player of the Year. The original intention behind the competition was to increase overall interest and tournament participation for higher handicaps. That notion has evolved to a broader concept around exceptional tournament play. Because our "Majors" payout more than other tournaments, winners of those tournaments will be more likely to lead Player of the Year. Also there will be no points for just showing up as was the case with the previous system.

The trophy will continue to be named the On the Other Hand trophy dedicated to former club president Ed Cohn. Ed wrote a memorable, witty, sardonic column titled "On the Other Hand" for the Eagle for many years discussing LA city golf.

Regards,

Tommy Eunice

**Sunday @ River Ridge**

July 13, 2014

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

Score	Player	Prize
69	Dustin Watanabe	\$80
70	Sean Cavanaugh	\$55
73	David Gilbreath	\$35
81	Brandon Quezada	\$25

**“A” Flight Low Net**

69	Darrell Kato	\$80
71	Marc Carter	\$55
73	Bob McKibben	\$30
73	Sean MacDonald	\$30

**“B Flight” Low Gross**

79	James Rodriguez	\$80
84	Brian Nugent	\$55
85	Bruce Fortune	\$30
85	Bryan Nichols	\$30

**“B Flight” Low Net**

69	Michael Melamed	\$80
70	Wayne Curtis	\$55
72	Timoteo Trafficante	\$35
73	Lupe Escobedo	\$15
73	Christopher Ames	\$15

**Gross Skins \$132 each**

Hole	Player
10	Bob McKibben
13	Dustin Watanabe
14	James Rodriguez
18	Bob Surbeck

**Net Skins \$152 each**

Hole	Player
2	Daniel Sniegowski
10	Bob McKibben
13	Armen Mesropian
14	James Rodriguez

**Closest to the Pin \$60 each**

3	Dustin Watanabe	8' 3"
7	Sean Cavanaugh	8' 10"
9	Alan Stewart	12' 7"
12	Timoteo Trafficante	4' 3"
18	Michael Melamed	13' 10"

**The Honey Pot was \$270,**  
won by the team of  
Nugent and Stewart  
with a score of 63.

**MGA Highlights**

By Pete Heller

**MENS' CLUB WHIPS HANSEN DAM TWICE  
SENIORS NARROWLY SPLIT WITH WOODLEY**

The Sepulveda Mens' Club, moving up in the standings took the measure of reeling Hansen Dam by defeating them twice, 42-24 and 24-12. This put them into a tie with the Seniors' Club leaving 3 more matches to battle it out for bragging rights for the season.

John Lanza's Seniors split a tough match with improving Woodley Lakes winning the Individuals 38-34, but dropping the better ball competition 21-15. Both clubs have two more matches before they meet again in the final contest of the year.

Rancho Park, demonstrating their talent, defeated and tied league leaders Griffith Park, 38-34 and 18-18. But Rancho started too late this year and the tie mathematically eliminated them from all hopes of the MGA League title for 2014.

**Sepulveda Men's Match Winners  
Individual:**

Armen Mesropian, Roger Ikeda,  
George Beams, Alfredo Picolomini,  
Behrouz Shafie, Pete Ruiz  
and Len Zambito

**Two Man:**

Nichol/Sable, Zambito/Ikeda,  
Shafie/Bryson, Mesropian/Vano

**Sepulveda Senior's Match Winners  
Individual:**

Taira Kato, Andy Levine, Mike Epstein,  
Jan Bernard, Tom Munn,  
Mo Hurley and Ron Abramson

**Two Man:**

Epstein/Kato

Standings	W	L	T	Points
Griffith Park	11	2	1	23
Woodley Lakes	7	6	1	15
Sepulveda Men's	7	7	0	14
Sepulveda Seniors	7	7	0	14
Rancho Park	4	8	2	10
Hansen Dam	4	10	0	8

**Next Matches: August 21, 2014**

Sepulveda Seniors vs Hansen Dam  
Griffith Park vs Woodley Lakes  
Sepulveda Men's vs Rancho Park

**Thursday @ Wilson**

July 24, 2014

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

Score	Player	Prize
65	Chuck Ruiz	\$75
75	Scott Feldman	\$45
75	Jason Petterson	\$45
76	George Villarreal	\$25

**“A” Flight Low Net**

68	David Horwitch	\$75
70	Larry Scott	\$45
70	Branden Augustus	\$45
72	Laurence Silva	\$25

**“B Flight” Low Gross**

83	Frank Costello III	\$75
84	Dan Crawford	\$50
86	Kyle Bermel	\$35
87	Ted Johnson	\$15
87	Tommaso Trinchieri	\$15
87	Joseph Tourouk	\$15

**“B Flight” Low Net**

69	Farhad Keliddari	\$75
71	Steven Clayton	\$50
72	Said Jabbari	\$35
73	Patrick Warren	\$25

**Gross Skins \$65 each**

Hole	Player
7	Dan Crawford
8	Ryan Tumulad
9	Brian Krause
10	Jason Petterson
16	Chuck Ruiz
17	Chuck Ruiz
18	Eric Smutko

**Net Skins \$90 each**

Hole	Player
3	Jim Thompson
5	Patrick Warren
6	Dan Crawford
8	Ryan Tumulad
10	Jason Petterson
18	Eric Smutko

**Closest to the Pin \$70 each**

3	Brian Krause	8' 5"
11	Roger Ikeda	4' 0"
15	Chuck Ruiz	5' 6"

**The Honey Pot was \$210,**  
won by the team of  
Cohen & Marks  
with a score of 60.

Prize Money All tournament place winnings are paid in gift certificates.
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## **BACKSPIN SHOTS**

*by The Gapwedge*

In years past, when Gapwedge often went out as a single, he frequently was made to play with the rude, the uncouth, the loud and boisterous and every other obnoxious type on the planet, many of whose physical skills perfectly matched their complete lack of golf etiquette. Having one or two of these clowns in the foursome seriously diminishes the golf experience. Having three (the Trifecta!) can completely ruin your day!

Maybe you've noticed that golf is plenty hard, and the closer you try to shoot to par the harder it is. Playing good golf takes concentration and focus, and having the distraction of a couple of motormouths in the foursome makes it damned near impossible. Not that these folks are bad guys. They just seem to have a little trouble differentiating golf from, say, soccer, hockey or American football.

The courteous and etiquette-conscious far outnumber the buffoons, but there're enough of the latter to occasionally spoil a guy's round, and it's a real shame if the round happens to be part of golf tournament or, worse, a birthday celebration.

There's a moral to this story. All of The Gapwedge's stories have morals. Pick your playing partners carefully when you have that luxury. When you don't and need to take pot luck, keep your fingers crossed, at least until it's your turn to hit.

## **SMGC IS ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER**

We've gone social. The club's Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/SMGC1955> and our twitter handle is @SMGC1955. We've also set up a group on Facebook to share tee-times. If you've got a tee time to fill or looking for a time, join the group and share. The Facebook group is SMGC Golf Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SMGC.golf.group/> so join up and play more golf. We'll be posting pictures, events, and news items on the Facebook page and twitter.

But the club's current web page, [www.smgc.org](http://www.smgc.org), will still be your main internet source for tournament signups and tee times, news, managing your player profile, etc. The SMGC Golf Group is a way for club members to fill out tee times, possibly for President's Cup and Goeckner Classic matches, or just to play with guys you know. Please keep all the comments and messages directly related to the Club. It's all about playing golf and having fun!

## **HANDICAP CHATTER**

*by Tommaso Trinchieri, Handicap Chairman*

As many of you are aware by now, Stu Olster recently stepped down as SMGC's Handicap Chair after over a dozen years of service in the position. Stu always did an exemplary job in his role and maintaining the integrity of the club. I have very large shoes to fill in the role of Handicap Chair and even harder, writing the Handicap Chatter. Stu had a knack at writing this column. Every month his column would include interesting information on the USGA and the handicap system.

I moved to California in the fall of 1999. When I decided I wanted to move from New York in search of the perfect weather, I decided it was also the perfect opportunity to start playing golf. I went to the one golf shop in New York and bought a used 6 iron and headed over to Chelsea Piers to take lessons. It was a cold winter but the stalls were heated and I knew it would luckily be my last cold winter. I slowly learned to make contact with the ball and was hooked from there.

A few years ago, I wanted to start playing more and joined SMGC at the end of 2011. My first tournament was in January 2012 at Woodley Lakes and proceeded to hit my very first shot at an SMGC tournament 25 yards directly into the lake. I joined the board last year and moved in to the Handicap Chair position on June 1.

Starting next month I will do my best to continue the tradition Stu started with Handicap Chatter. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any issues with your handicap or would like to discuss. I am looking forward to being your new Handicap Chairman.



If you have knowledge of a hole-in-one by a member of the SMGC please contact Leonard Zambito by email at [leonardzambito@hotmail.com](mailto:leonardzambito@hotmail.com) or by phone at (818) 761-3846