



December 2013

THE SEPULVEDA EAGLE

Sepulveda Men's Golf Club
Visit our website: www.smgc.org
Encino / Balboa Starter's window
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bruce Fortune

December 2013. Cooler weather (think downright cold in the mornings), occasional rain, with less and less daylight – offset by continuing great conditions all over the southland! Winter has officially arrived and we just keep playing golf. How much fun is that!?

What a great year this has been. I hope you've all enjoyed being a part of the best club in the world - best tournaments, killer conditions (360 days out of the year) and the best members you can find to tee it up with. Remember to thank the guys on the Board of Directors when you see them, for keeping it all running smoothly. Lots and lots of their time is invested in putting out a four page newsletter every month, along with 25 official tournaments a year, MGA team play, as well as Summer and Winter SCGA team play.

Congratulations to Roy Bernhardt – winner of the 2013 The President's Cup competition. Roy battled through 6 rounds to earn a spot on our perennial trophy. Condolences to Ryan Tumulad, our runner up. We would like to thank Mark Michelini for all of his efforts running the event and hope to see all of you back next year. Stay tuned for announcements about some interesting changes to next year's event.

The final two tournaments of the year are just ahead. Sunday, December 8th we tee it up at one of the finer courses in the greater Los Angeles area – The Ike at Industry Hills. This is a challenging course and well worth the price. Then we turn our attentions to the final event of the year – December 19th and The Holiday Tournament, at home. The greens on Encino are getting better and better, and it promises to be a great time.

Thanks for letting me be of service and I look forward to a wonderful 2014.

Happy Holidays

THE NEXT TEE

Upcoming Tournament Notes from Evan Beren, Tournament Director

We finish 2013 with a trip back to Industry Hills, to play the Ike. Sunday Dec 8th, 8:00 AM - \$115. By the time you read this, sign-ups for this tournament will be closed. Some courses require that we pay for our players up front. We will have a waiting list in case of withdrawals or if we can grab an extra time or two.

The last event of 2013 will be the Holiday Tournament, on Encino. Thursday, December 19th, first tee time will be 8:00. Carts and range balls are extra. Seniors can pay the day of the event and save.

For Tournament information, contact Evan Beren, ejberen@me.com or 818-438-0395

CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

Mayor Garcetti is a firm believer in performance based metrics. As such, he has asked many city departments, including the Recreation & Parks Department, to conduct meetings/hearings in all 15 Council Districts and a citywide survey of constituent priorities.

The survey is where this particular rubber is going to meet the road. Golf may be an off budget enterprise fund and thus not seemingly affected by spending priorities of other Park Department functions. But "seeming" is not always reality. To the extent that devotees of the Department's other recreational services respond to the survey and golfers do not, you better believe that the Golf Division will be affected, and we won't much care for the "effect."

Do yourself and your fellow golfers a favor; go to www.laparks.org and click on the survey that pops up right in the middle of your screen or go straight to the following link:

<http://m.laparks.org/survey/#survey>

Fill it out. Make sure that when the Mayor collates the priorities of the voters who put him into office earlier this year he knows that many of them care about this city's great municipal golf system. Don't leave the playing field entirely to other recreational enthusiasts. You have a chance to do something; do it!

* * * * *

The Parks Department is undergoing changes. Long-time General Manager Jon Kirk Mukri has been transferred to the Transportation Department in the role of "Interim General Manager," and Parks Assistant General Manager (Planning & Construction) Michael Shull has been named "Acting General Manager." The Mayor's Office has announced that it intends to conduct a comprehensive search for a permanent Transportation General Manager. The Mayor has made no further announcements regarding long-term leadership of the Recreation and Parks Department. The sooner he does, the better for the Department and its Golf Division.

It would appear that the long wait for golf consulting assistance is close to over. The aforementioned Michael Shull and Golf Manager James Ward are working hard on it. Truth be known I've pressed the Mayor's Office to light a fire under the CAO as well. They didn't "press" back; I take that as a good sign. For what it's worth, when I served on the Griffith Park Master Plan Working Group, I had occasion to work with Michael Shull. I liked what I saw. He is an earnest straight shooter, hard worker, and all around good guy.

2013 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

Directors

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Craig Kessler	SGCA Dir - Gov't Affairs.....	(310) 941-4803
Mark Michelini	Pres. Cup / Goeckner.....	(818) 355-6492
Rich Nance	Eagle Publisher.....	(818) 422-3748
Stu Olster	Handicap.....	(818) 222-2516
Alan Stewart	Membership.....	(818) 633-3105
Mike Levy	Trophies.....	(818) 761-7650
Gary Patterson	Entertainment Director.....	(310) 980-4427
Tommaso Trinchieri	(949) 231-0097
Everardo Gomez	(818) 429-4664

"On the Other Hand"

Trophy in Memory of Ed Cohn For the Best Tournament Player of the Year

Standings as of November 27, 2013

Runs through June 2014

We'll be changing the OOH starting July 2014. The new name will be "Ed Cohn Trophy" and the ranking will be based on a calculation similar to a Quarterback rating in the NFL.

This will allow players in as few as 5 tournaments to be competitive all year.

Player	Points	Ranking
Armen Mesropian	425	1
Johnathan Fernandez	410	2
Gene Vano	405	3
Dustin Watanabe	400	4
Tranquilino Bangis	395	5
Andy Levine	380	6
Randy Hammock	370	7
Ben Raposas	370	7
Dennis Harmon	355	9
Anthony Berme	1335	10
Brian Nelson	335	10
Alan Stewar	330	12
Michael Melamed	315	13
Marc Cohen	310	14
Brian Czerniak	310	14
Victor Cervantes	305	16
Vinay Chhabra	305	16
Ryan Tumalad	305	16
Dan Crawford	280	19
Bill Anapolsky	275	20
Virgil Budhu	275	20
Bob McKibben	240	22
Brad Marks	225	23
Jeff Sable	220	24
Roger Ikeda	215	25
Sean Cavanaugh	210	26
Everardo Gomez	205	27
Allan Lipsky	205	27
Mark O'Keefe	205	27
Gary Patterson	205	27
Bruce Fortune	200	31
Liam Cavanaugh	195	32

The complete standings can be found at WWW.SMGC.ORG

Olivas Links

Sunday, November 10, 2013

Format – Low Gross / Low Net

“A” Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
73	Josh Eveland	\$80
74	Clint Bridge	\$45
74	Tranquilino Bangis	\$45
75	Daniel Melillo	\$20
75	Marc Green	\$20

“A” Flight Low Net

69	Vinay Chhabra	\$70
69	Ben Raposas	\$70
70	Alan Stewart	\$35
71	Bob McKibben	\$25

“B Flight” Low Gross

79	Behrouz Shafie	\$80
82	Sean MacDonald	\$55
84	Anthony Zaccaro	\$35
85	Bruce Fortune	\$15
85	John Blake	\$15
85	Richard Whorton	\$15

“B Flight” Low Net

65	Gene Vano	\$80
69	Butch Chase	\$55
70	Buzz Osborne	\$30
70	Bill Anapolsky	\$30
71	Armen Mesropian	\$15

Gross Skins \$280 each

Hole Player

9	Mark Michelini
13	Sam Schatz

Net Skins \$315 each

Hole Player

7	Wayne Curtis
8	Brian Nugent

Closest to the Pin \$80 each

5	Sean MacDonald	1' 8"
8	Tranquilino Bangis	5' 5"
13	Armen Mesropian	9' 8"
17	John Folsom	10' 3"

The Honey Pot was \$490,
7 teams had 60 or less,
Fortune/Nugent,
Anapolsky/Vano, Vano/Chase,
Bangis/Vano, Stewart/Vano,
Mesropian/Bangis &
Mesropian/Stewart.

Did you know....

Balboa opened October 12, 1954 as the Sepulveda Dam North Course. It was called Balboa by 1959.

The back-nine of Encino opened January 11, 1957 as the Encino Municipal Golf Course - the Front-nine opened in autumn 1957.

Originally Balboa was supposed to be the longer of the two courses, but Billy Jr. and Billy Johnson altered Billy Bell's original plans, and lengthened Encino, to make it a "championship" course.

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, 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!

Fabulous Five Club

Friday, November 29, 2013

Format – Low Gross / Low Net

Results coming soon!

HANDICAP CHATTER

by Stu Olster, Handicap Chairman

In a 2004 Handicap Chatter column, I mentioned that each club member has the responsibility of monitoring his own handicap, and promptly calling any irregularity to the attention of the Handicap Committee.

Just prior to the publication of that column, an incident happened in the LA City Men's Championship that caused a competitor considerable angst at a time he least needed it—just before the tournament started. It also caused an imposition on the Tournament Committee who had its hands full, as you might imagine. Here's what happened:

In October of 2003, the gentleman had an exceptional tournament round at his club. For some reason, his score was posted twice, and this affected his index substantially. He properly called the problem to the attention of his club's Handicap Chairman, who caused the duplicate score to be removed, but this left the player's 12 month low index (LI) untouched.

The individual involved was livid when he saw the handicap on his tournament scorecard, and immediately began to complain to anybody and everybody who couldn't run away fast enough. When I first encountered him, he was on the phone complaining to a tournament official who graciously adjusted his index upward for the tournament. The player was lucky I wasn't available to make the call as MGA President, because I would have declined to give him that relief.

Those who know me well know I am far from hard-hearted or unsympathetic, but the gentlemen had the better part of seven months to address the LI that appeared each and every month on his handicap record. Having failed to do so, I would have deemed his appeal untimely and declined to make any accommodation.

Don't get surprised by what you should have known all along. Your index, both current and low, is your responsibility. Don't expect any last minute adjustments when you have failed to meet it.

Comments or questions may be addressed to the author at solster@yahoo.com

BACKSPIN SHOTS

by The Gapwedge

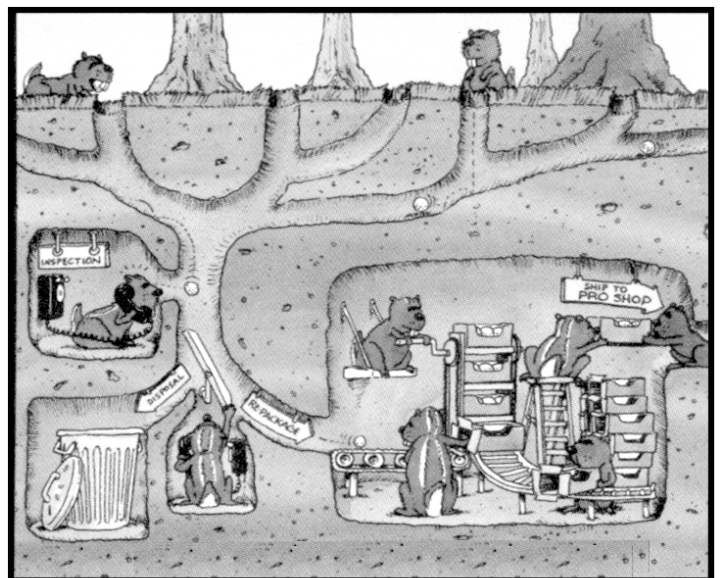
"I don't ever want to play with that (expletive deleted) ever again," has been uttered too often in our Club these days. If only one complaint is made about a member's conduct, maybe the complainant is overly sensitive. But if the complaint comes from a number of sources over a period of time, chances are we have a problem.

Our Board has served warning that disruptive antics will not be tolerated in our events. After all, golf is difficult enough without some (another expletive deleted) acting out as if he were a spoiled infant.

In service of that policy, the Board recently suspended one of our members for eight weeks during which he was not permitted to play in Club events. At the same time a couple of other members were warned after multiple complaints were made about their behavior on the course.

Section 1 of the Rules of Golf should be required reading for all golfers. It provides a recipe for how the game should be played—with courtesy, consideration, respect for the game and fellow competitors, and good sportsmanship.

In that section, golf's governing bodies clearly distinguish golf behavior from behavior in sports that are aggressive by nature. Those sports don't usually concern themselves with matters of etiquette the way golf does. Gapwedge believes behavior that one expects to see in the hockey rink or on the gridiron is misplaced in our gentlemanly game.



Ah...that's where my ball went!