



# THE SEPULVEDA EAGLE

*Sepulveda Men's Golf Club*  
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**January 2016**

Sepulveda Eagle is the official publication of Sepulveda Men's Golf Club and is published monthly. Copy deadline is the third Friday of each month. Send articles, comments, etc. to Editor Sepulveda Men's Golf Club, PO Box 57373, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413.

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*By Evan Beren*

A new year has dawned, 2016. A new year is always a good time to access the past and see what you might like to change in the future. For me 2015 was a very busy year, it had some highlights and it had some low lights. I am looking for to a great year in 2016.

With El Nino coming the tournament committee has booked our Weekend tournaments in January, February and March at venues that are both nearby and will work with us in the event of a rainy day.

In January we are playing Harding Golf Course, February Wilson Golf Course and in March we play Hansen Dam. Last year we had 100 players turn out for Hansen Dam on a rainy day.

Thank you to our tournament committee, David Horwitch, who handles much of the tournament administration. Tommaso Trinchieri, who prints our score cards. Roger Ikeda and Dan Melillo who work on the day of the tournament to enter scores. And of course Dan Crawford who handles the check in at most Thursday events.

Be sure to read Craig Kessler's City Corner, big changes are coming to our courses and Craig has all the inside information.

A happy and healthy New Year to all of you.

## **THE NEXT TEE**

*David Horwitch, Tournament Director*

A New Year, and a new schedule of Tournaments. We keep it close to home by kicking off the year Sunday the 10th at Harding. We are already filling up, so renew those memberships and sign up before we run out of space.

Our Thursday tournament this month takes us to Hansen Dam on the 28th. Looking forward to seeing some low scores there.

Let's keep those fingers crossed that El Nino gives us the water we need, and also allows us to enjoy our playing days. We had record turnout in 2015, time to do it again in 2016.

***Tournament questions and comments may be directed to [dhorwitch@gmail.com](mailto:dhorwitch@gmail.com)***

## CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

The summary I wrote last month about the city's new "GOLF STRATEGIC PLAN" bears repeating:

Phase I of the "Plan" will involve those things amenable to quick accomplishment – matters such as simplification of the greens fee structure, commencement of an affiliate program, restoration of marshaling programs, adoption of policies conducive of a more robust tournament/special event program, establishment of a basic capital projects funding structure, reestablishment of food/beverage and golf shop functionality at those courses that have lost them, development of bid documents for the procurement of a reservation platform capable of providing the modern technological platform necessary to give the city marketing resonance, and introduction of a rudimentary flexible or dynamic pricing protocol.

Phase II will involve those matters that because of the city's procurement processes require 9-15 months to accomplish – things such as a fully functional affinity program, a comprehensive marketing program, and high priority capital projects.

Phase III will involve the stuff of long-term planning – things such as master plans for the individual courses, a strategic plan to subordinate those individual plans to an overarching vision, and a program to congeal the products and projects of the three Phases into a Los Angeles City golf brand capable of making the system the centerpiece of municipal golf in the region and an object of national honor.

Interestingly, what won't be "involved" are any changes to the Golf Advisory Committee (GAC). Excerpted verbatim from the "Plan:"

Maintain Current Golf Advisory Committee Structure – The City of Los Angeles Golf Advisory Committee (GAC) should remain and continue to operate and act in an advisory capacity to the Department of Recreation and Parks General Manager and the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners regarding the operation and maintenance of the golf facilities.

The significance of this: Not so much the continuation of the institution that pushed so hard to adopt and then implement a "Golf Strategic Plan" devised by outside consultants – no one has ever suggested otherwise – but rather the continuation of a direct reporting portal to the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners, which oversees the Department of Recreation and Parks and is part of the city's executive branch of government (Mayor's Office). It is this feature which has and will apparently continue to distinguish the golf advisory function from the various park advisory boards that support most of the city's other parks, including Griffith and Elysian Parks – a distinction appropriate to the need to operate the city's municipal golf program as a business enterprise capable of drawing customers from a regional and demographic swath sufficiently broad to ensure long-term sustainability without public subsidy or support.

Expect to see a flurry of Board actions in early 2016 to enable much of Phase I's aspirations. I'll continue to use this column to keep you fully apprised, but I also plan to use this column to begin informing you of something I consider equally exciting that is on tap for 2016: The resurrection and revitalization of the "Los Angeles Municipal Golf Association" (MGA), an institution that was created years ago to run the city's championships, raise monies for the city's junior golf programs, support clubs and club activities, and promote the programs of the city's Golf Division. This once dynamic support organization is going to need to become dynamic again in order for all of the pieces and all of the "Phases" of the new Golf Strategic Plan to come to full fruition. Details next month.

## 2015-2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Officers

Evan Beren, President .....	(818) 438-0395
Tommaso Trinchieri, Vice-President .....	(949) 231-0097
Tommy Eunice, Secretary .....	(626) 278-0372
Dan Crawford, Treasurer .....	(818) 497-6617

### Directors

Evan Beren, Tournament Chairman .....	(818) 438-0395
Virgil Budhu, Membership .....	(310) 776-0156
Bruce Fortune, Past President .....	(818) 535-4900
Everardo Gomez, Recording Secretary.....	(818) 429-4664
David Horwith, Tournament Director.....	(818) 486-2598
Craig Kessler, SGCA Dir. - Gov't Affairs .....	(310) 941-4803
Mike Levy, Trophies .....	(818) 761-7650
Dan Melillo, Asst. Tournament Director.....	(917) 363-9070
Mark Michelini, President's Cup/Goeckner ....	(818) 355-6492
Rich Nance, Eagle Publisher .....	(818) 422-3748
Gary Patterson, Entertainment Director .....	(310) 980-4427
Tommaso Trinchieri, Handicap .....	(949) 231-0097

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

Results as of 24 December, 2015

Josh zooms ahead to take the lead. Hadi remains second with the Presidents Cup win. However the winners of the Dick Geockner Classic and Holiday tournaments are moving into the top spots.

Player	Points
Josh Eveland	505
Hadi Morshed	480
Brian Czerniak	455
Armen Mesropian	340
Steven Fox	325
Bruce Davies	300
Robert Glaessner	300
Sean Cavanaugh	295
Ted Johnson	290
Michael Melamed	215
Ben Raposas	190
Gary Patterson	185
Roger Ikeda	185
Sean MacDonald	185
Dan Crawford	175
Dustin Watanabe	175
Michael Saghian	175
Brandon Wahl	170
Justin Butler	165
Bob McKibben	160
Mark Galper	160
George Olteanu	140
Matt Soule	140
Bruce Fortune	135
David Horwitch	130
Chris Halfon	125
David Gilbreath	125
Farhad Keliddari	125
Brian Nugent	115
Darrell Kato	110
David Longmire	110
Eric Smutko	105
Gordon Seaberg	105
Ryan Tumalad	105
Sepehr Raafat	100

The complete standings can be found at [WWW.SMGC.ORG](http://WWW.SMGC.ORG)

### Five Club Classic

Friday - November 27, 2015

Format – Low Gross / Low Net

#### “A” Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
68	Josh Eveland	\$80
73	David Gilbreath	\$55
75	Dustin Watanabe	\$30
75	Dan Melillo	\$30

#### “A” Flight Low Net

Score	Player	Prize
69	Roger Ikeda	\$80
70	Brian Czerniak	\$45
70	Ardeshir Nozari	\$45
72	Leonard Zambito	\$25

#### “B Flight” Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
81	Sean MacDonald	\$80
83	Gary Patterson	\$55
85	Hadi Morshed	\$35
87	Bryan Nichols	\$25

#### “B Flight” Low Net

Score	Player	Prize
69	Farhad Keliddari	\$80
72	Khody Azari	\$55
74	Darrell Kato	\$25
74	Armen Mesropian	\$25
74	Patrick Warren	\$25

#### Gross Skins \$136 each

Hole	Player
3	David Gilbreath
4	Josh Eveland
6	Tim Davison
7	Mike Nichol
10	Josh Eveland

#### Net Skins \$150 each

Hole	Player
1	David Horwitch
3	Armen Mesropian
6	Tim Davison
17	Michael Lindberg

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

4	Josh Eveland	9' 9"
13	Gary Patterson	1' 7"
17	Michael Lindberg	3' 4"

#### The Honey pot was \$270

winners Melamed/Kheliddai & Nozari/Morshed tied at 64.

### Elkins Ranch Holiday Classic

Sunday - December 6, 2015

Format – Low Gross / Low Net

#### “A” Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
70	Josh Eveland	\$80
76	David Gilbreath	\$55
78	Ben “Dog” Navarrete	\$35
82	Dan Melillo	\$20
82	David Longmire	\$20

#### “A” Flight Low Net

Score	Player	Prize
70	Vinod Chhabra	\$80
71	Mark Michelini	\$55
73	Bob McKibben	\$35
74	Brandon Wahl	\$25

#### “B Flight” Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
82	Roger Ikeda	\$80
85	Brian Czerniak	\$55
89	Sean MacDonald	\$35
90	Brent Harvey	\$25

#### “B Flight” Low Net

Score	Player	Prize
72	Kevin Landry	\$80
75	Craig Cacek	\$55
76	Ray Hassanlou	\$30
76	Christopher Brandes	\$30

#### Gross Skins \$92 each

Hole	Player
8	Ben “Dog” Navarrete
10	David Longmire
11	Gerard Sanders

#### Net Skins \$135 each

Hole	Player
7	Tommaso Trinchieri
17	Vinod Chhabra
18	Brandon Wahl

#### Closest to the Pin \$85 each

4	Eric Craig	8' 5"
7	Brian Czerniak	8' 3"
11	Gerard Sanders	11' 9"
16	Brandon Wahl	2' 7"

#### The Honey pot was \$300

won by Sniegowski/Michelini & Navarrete/Whal with 62.



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 or by phone at (818) 761-3846.

### Thursday Holiday Classic

Thursday - December 17, 2015

Format – Low Gross / Low Net

#### “A” Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
71	Russel Kotzen	\$45
73	Chris Halfon	\$30
74	Dustin Watanabe	\$20
75	Ryan Tumalad	\$15

#### “A” Flight Low Net

Score	Player	Prize
67	Ardeshir Nozari	\$45
70	Dan Crawford	\$20
70	Leonard Zambito	\$20
70	Bob McKibben	\$20
70	Mike Nichol	\$20
70	Ben Raposas	\$20
70	George Bryson	\$20

#### “B Flight” Low Gross

82	Ted Johnson	\$45
86	Brian Nugent	\$30
88	Jeff Sable	\$15
88	Mark Vaughan	\$15
88	Farhad Keliddari	\$15

#### “B Flight” Low Net

70	Michael Melamed	\$45
72	Gordon Seaberg	\$30
73	Bruce Fortune	\$15
73	Michael Teague	\$15

#### Gross Skins \$44 each

Hole	Player
1	Michael Lindberg
6	Phil Kapsimallis
9	Dustin Watanabe
10	Jason Petterson
16	Mark Reed
14	Eric Smutko
18	Eric Smutko

#### Net Skins \$102 each

Hole	Player
1	Joseph Rodriguez
4	Gordon Seaberg
5	David Horwitch
13	Daniel Sniegowski

#### Closest to the Pin \$47 each

3	Dan Crawford	3' 11"
6	Romel Yordi	19' 0"
15	Dan Crawford	20' 3"
17	Chris Halfon	5' 0"

#### The Honey pot was \$240

won by the by the teams of Melamed/Keliddari and Nugent/Melamed with scores of 60.

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

## **HANDICAP CHATTER**

*by Stu Olster, former Handicap Chairman*

The USGA has provided further guidance on what kinds of events require Tournament Score posting, and made it abundantly clear that it's only the most important, traditional and significant events in the particular club's schedule that should require T-score posting.

Why is the distinction between regular and T-score posting an important one in handicap administration? Because some folks fare far better in important tournaments and T-score posting can reveal that and cause adjustments to be made to those players' indexes. There are also sandbaggers who will be snagged when they shoot lights out relative to their handicaps in important club events. How does the T-score system do that?

Ordinarily, your index is calculated on the basis of your last 20 scores. When one betters his handicap by 3 or more strokes in an event that is T-scored, he has shot an "exceptional tournament score." Two or more "exceptional T-scores" within the previous 12 months and the system may make an automatic adjustment to that player's index.

How much is the adjustment? That depends on how many T-scores are in the player's record and how "exceptional" the scores are. If, for instance, there are a large number of T-scores in a player's record, the impact on his index of just a few exceptional scores won't move his index down very much. However, with just a few T-scores, the adjustment for the two or more exceptional scores could be substantial. As you might expect, the lower the T-scores are relative to the player's handicap, the greater will be the adjustment all else being equal.

Clubs that require T-score posting for every event frustrate the purpose of the exceptional tournament score adjustment, mandated by Section 10-3 of the USGA Handicap Manual, by diluting its effect. SMGC has always followed the USGA's intent by designating only our most important events for T-score posting.

## **BACKSPIN SHOTS**

*by The Gapwedge*

Ever play with a golfer who accepts his good luck as though he was entitled, but curses and dwells on his bad luck? Believe it or not, there are such people.

Luck is certainly a factor in golf, just like it is in other sectors of our lives. It's that random element that places a 290 yard drive into a deep divot in the heart of the fairway, or causes a slight mishit to carom wildly off a thin tree and go out of bounds.

The Gapwedge has played an awful lot of golf during the last half century, and it's clear to him that the good and bad breaks even themselves out over time. When the good luck and bad luck cancel one another out, we are left with the skill of the player to define his game.

But luck in golf, especially the bad kind, serves a purpose that gives the game an additional dimension; it makes it a lot like real life. It tests the player by creating a hurdle he must overcome or a bad break from which he needs to rebound in order to salvage the round and prevail. A golfer who gets overcome by a bad break and can't regain his balance is destined to lose.

Good luck happens in golf, even when the Met Life blimp isn't hovering over the course. The vast majority of holes-in-one fall into that welcome category. A little serendipity in golf or in life is a bonus we all relish and enjoy. It can spur us on to do great things and occasionally shoot great rounds.