



January 2017

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 Evan Beren

Members, Welcome to 2017, a new year and always a chance to have a new beginning.

We begin with some unfortunate news, our Course Operations Manger, Bobby Cavanaugh has been transferred to Hansen Dam. Bobby has been the driving force behind many of the improvements you have seen at the Sepulveda Golf Complex. The new practice area, That was Bobby's doing, many of the changes to the course over the last few years, that was Bobby's doing. In addition to his duties with the city, Bobby and his sons, Sean and Liam, have been fixtures at our tournaments, I am glad to say that involvement will continue. Our loss is Hansen Dam's gain, we wish Bobby good luck in his new assignment.

Taking over for Bobby will be Lance Tamanaha. Lance has been at Ranch Park Golf Course. I have had a chance to meet with Lance and look forward to working with him.

Encino Golf Course is undergoing so exciting changes. The tees are being realigned. On most tee boxes the teeing areas will be better defined. The yardages are being adjusted. Encino will be over 7000 yards from the black tees. The blue tees will be 6574. White tees 6139. New scorecards are coming and there will be some slight adjustments to the Slope and course ratings.

Laura Bauernfeind has been appointed as Golf Manger for the City of Los Angeles. Laura has been in the Golf Division as Director of Maintenance. The clubs at Sepulveda worked with Laura and Bobby on the new practice areas, so we know she can get things done. We wish her good luck.

I look forward to seeing each and everyone of you at a tournament in 2017. We have an exciting year of tournament golf planned.

THE NEXT TEE

David Horwitch, Tournament Director

Last January we brought almost a hundred players to Griffith Park. Let's do it agian on Sunday the 8th.

Our opening Thursday tournament will be at Rancho Park on the 26th.

The 2017 tournament scedule is coming together and will be posted soon. Looking forward to having a great year.

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

CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

I have two pieces of news to share with you this month, one a piece of news we have been anxiously awaiting for some time and the other a piece of news we were hoping to never hear.

First, the long awaited news. Laura Bauernfeind, familiar to those who have been involved in the city program for the last year as the Director of Maintenance and then as Interim Golf Manager, is the city's new Golf Manager. An arborist by education and initial profession, she has been with the Department for a number of years, many of them directly in golf. She beat out a talented field of candidates from across the nation to secure the appointment, an appointment with one central organizing principle at its core: To drive implementation of the large and ambitious Strategic Plan the city secured for the "Golf Business Analysis Section (GBAS)" from Global Golf Advisors.

All hands will need to be on deck to accomplish that "Plan," and Laura will need help from ALL of us in order to be successful. To those who were involved in all of the consulting reports, the strategic plan derived therefrom, and the long slog to name James Ward's successor, it seems like we should be coming to the end of something. But nothing could be further from the truth; it is NOW that the real work of transforming the Los Angeles municipal golf system into an enterprise fund activity capable of fully paying for its operational AND capital improvement needs begins.

Laura's year as Maintenance overseer and then Interim Golf Manager earned her the credibility and good will she'll need to start that work, and I for one can't wait to get started with her.

Now for the news we had hoped to never hear. Sepulveda Golf Manager Bobby Cavanaugh has been transferred to Hansen Dam. All good things must come to an end I suppose, and certainly Sepulveda's loss will be Hansen Dam's gain. But we'll miss his leadership, knack for customer service, and the familial warmth with which he exercised both. Much of what that GBAS Strategic Plan calls for in terms of customer service and community outreach is already in practice at Sepulveda because Bobby put it there. The obvious cultural shift mandated by the GBAS Plan is all but complete at Sepulveda as a result. And that is an accomplishment that ought not be overlooked nor carelessly undone by Bobby's successor. Nothing is harder in the affairs of any organization, let alone a governmental organization, than effectuating cultural change. And there is nothing easier to squander if management is not vigilant in protecting it, particularly when, as in this instance, it is in its infancy.

A New Year and new start for the Golf Division under the helm of a new leader. And a New Year but a continuation of what was already on track at Sepulveda under the helm of a new manager, one who has big shoes to fill and heightened expectations to meet.

Ready, set, go – all hands now on deck on both counts

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

Ben Raposas maintains the lead at the top of the leader board. Armen moves a few places up to second. Enjoy the the end of the year celebrations and make a resolution to practice more if you want to move up the board.

Player	Winnings	Rank
Ben Raposas	445	1
Armen Mesropian	400	2
Matt Soule	355	3
Virgil Budhu	325	4
Erik Rogers	320	5
David Gilbreath	255	6
George Olteanu	245	7
Todd Mander	225	8
Craig Cacek	215	9
Danny Longmire Jr.	190	10
David Horwitch	175	11
Dustin Watanabe	175	11
David Longmire	170	13
Mark Vaughan	170	13
Bruce Davies	165	15
Michael Levy	160	16
David Watanabe	150	17
Johnathan Fernandez	140	18
Justin Butler	140	18
Jason Petterson	135	20
Mark Reed	135	20
Patrick Warren	135	20
Mark Kessler	130	23
Sean Cavanaugh	125	24
Alan Miller	115	25
Ryan Tumulad	115	25
Bill Brandel	105	27
Gary Patterson	105	27
Jim Robison	105	27
Beeri Meza	100	30
Dan Crawford	100	30

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

Sunday @ Buenaventura

December 4, 2016

Format – Low Gross / Low Net

“A” Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
65	Danny Longmire Jr.	\$80
67	Mark Kessler	\$50
69	David Longmire	\$30
73	Josh Eveland	\$20

“A” Flight Low Net

64	Vinod Chhabra	\$80
68	David Gilbreath	\$40
68	Justin Butler	\$40
70	Brandon Wahl	\$20

“B Flight” Low Gross

78	Lupe Escobedo	\$80
81	Juan Lopez	\$50
87	David Joslyn	\$25
87	Straun Joseph	\$25
87	Anthony Zaccaro	\$25

“B Flight” Low Net

65	Jim Robison	\$80
70	Todd Mander	\$50
72	Gary Patterson	\$25
72	David Watanabe	\$25

Gross Skins \$150 each

Hole	Player
6	Dan Melillo
13	Ray Hassanlou
14	Danny Longmire Jr.

Net Skins \$55 each

Hole	Player
2	Patrick Warren
3	Bob McKibben
4	David Joslyn
5	David Joslyn
9	Straun Joseph
11	Jim Robison
12	Juan Lopez
13	Ray Hassanlou
15	Justin Butler

Closest to the Pin \$50 each

5	Justin Butler	2' 11"
7	Bryan Nichols	9' 6"
11	Vinod Chhabra	3' 5"
14	Danny Longmire Jr.	3' 9"
17	Mark Kessler	3' 1"

The Honey pot was \$270

won by the team of
Escobedo & Lopez
with a score of 57.

If you have knowledge of a hole-in-one by a member of the SMGC please contact Mike Levy by email at mikelevy69@gmail.com or by phone at (818) 427-1925

Holiday Tournament - Encino

December 22, 2016

Format – Low Gross / Low Net

“A” Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
72	Bobby Cavanaugh	\$50
73	Mark Kessler	\$35
3	Danny Longmire Jr.	\$20
4	David Gilbreath	\$20

“A” Flight Low Net

66	Dan Crawford	\$50
69	Andres Talero	\$35
71	Everardo Gomez	\$20
71	Mike Nichol	\$20

“B Flight” Low Gross

77	Johnathan Fernandez	\$50
87	Mark Vaughan	\$35
90	Jeff Sable	\$25
91	Patrick Warren	\$15
91	Steve Hansen	\$15

“B Flight” Low Net

70	David Watanabe	\$50
73	Ray Hassanlou	\$35
75	Armen Mesropian	\$25
76	Butch Chase	\$15

Gross Skins \$35 each

Hole	Player
3	Mark Kessler
4	Mark Kessler
5	Romel Yordi
9	Brandon Wahl
11	Dustin Watanabe
12	Straun Joseph
13	Ray Hassanlou
14	Dan Crawford
18	Danny Longmire Jr.

Net Skins \$63 each

Hole	Player
2	Johnathan Fernandez
5	Romel Yordi
9	Brandon Wahl
12	Straun Joseph
13	Joe Radford
17	Mark Vaughank

Closest to the Pin \$40 each

3	Brent Harvey	17' 0"
6	Vinod Chhabra	10' 4"
15	Dan Crawford	18' 6"
17	Sam Schatz	3' 6"

The Honey pot was \$110

won by the teams of
Sable/Crawford &
Crawford/Vauaghan with 64.

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

HANDICAP CHATTER

by Tommaso Trinchieri, Handicap Chairman

Shooting your Handicap

I often hear fellow golfers discuss shooting their handicap, but do they accurately calculate shooting their handicap? The USGA system is built around the concept of Course Rating, which impacts us all even though its definition ties to a “scratch” golfer. When you are given handicap strokes, you receive the number of strokes necessary to play to the level of a scratch golfer. If the scratch golfer is supposed to shoot the Course Rating, then those handicap strokes relate to the Course rating as well.

So, shooting your handicap is not how your net score relates to par but how it relates to the course rating. Some courses have a rating very close to par (Wilson Blue Tees or Hansen Dam Black Tees), however, most courses, the ratings do not match par. Shooting net par at Balboa would still be shooting higher than your handicap, however, ironically, shooting net par at Encino Black Tees would actually be better than net Par.

How often should a player shoot his handicap? Recognize that your worst scores are not truly utilized in the calculation of a Handicap Index; only the best 10 scores are utilized and the worst 10 are disregarded, then the best 10 are averaged (and reduced to 96%). This ratio tells us playing to a handicap happens less than half of the time. Including all of the handicap formula, the resulting probability is that playing to your handicap happens only once out of four to five rounds.

BACKSPIN SHOTS

by The Gapwedge

Like some of you, Gapwedge has demons that afflict his putting. He always tries to exorcise them by practicing his putting at every opportunity, so you might spot him on the practice green banging his head against an invisible brick wall.

Gapwedge likes to observe his surroundings, a practice that provides an inexhaustible supply of material for this column. The putting green is a great place to “people watch,” and over the years, he has done much more than his fair share of that.

A busy day on the green invariably finds one in the company of several distinctive types, each of whom is disruptive in his own unique way, to-wit:

The “transcontinental”: This gentleman likes putting the long ones. In the process, he putts across the lines, and sometimes right through the legs, of other golfers. He seems oblivious to the presence of others and no doubt he is.

The “hole hog”: No matter how many golfers are on the green or how few holes there are, this fellow stakes out a hole as his very own, removes the flag and repeatedly putts his six or eight balls, leaving others to cool their heels waiting to putt.

The “multiple”: This guy stands right next to a hole while putting to the next one. Sometimes, he stands right on top of the hole, damaging it. In the process he occupies two holes at once, preventing others from using either. Is something stopping him from moving a few feet away from the hole, or would that be just too considerate?

The “conversationalists”: These are the talkative ones, and their conversations embrace every subject known to man, except golf. They can be overheard by all because they talk so damned loud. What’s left to talk about at the 19th hole?

The “competitors”: We all like a little competition on the practice green. It provides a healthy dose of stress and keeps us focused. But these guys act as if they’re on the final holes of the U.S. Open, and they react at full volume to every holed or missed putt. Would it cost them money to tone it down?

Courtesy is contagious but it’s sometimes hard to catch any on the practice green.