



June 2013

THE SEPULVEDA EAGLE

Sepulveda Men's Golf Club
Visit our website: www.smgc.org
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bruce Fortune

May continued our theme of Major Tournaments, with the 18th Annual John C Palumbo Memorial, played at Robinson Ranch on the Mountain Course. Josh Eveland was the winner of the A Flight Gross, with Hadi Morshed and Mark Michelini tying for the A Flight Net. Randy Hammock was the B flight Gross winner, with Christopher Ames winning the B Flight Net. Congratulations to all who participated this year, it was a very good turnout. This was our first year with the Palumbo out at Robinson Ranch and we'd like to thank all the folks out there who provided a very well run event – Head Professional Larry Atlas and GM Rick Smith and the fine support staff. We love the way the event was handled.

Apparently the never-ending supply of great weather has continued to provide plenty of opportunities for club members to hone their games. I mention this because Thursday's event at Encino had some very nice scoring! While there wasn't a way to compensate Dan Longmire for the accomplishment, he tied both A Flight Low Gross AND Low Net with a Gross 73, net 67. Congratulations Dan! Dan tied Brian Krause for Low Gross and Jason Petterson for Low Net. Thanks also go out to Dave Slavick and his maintenance crew for getting the course(s) in great shape.

As we approach our third and fourth Majors of the year, the President's Cup and the Club Championship, please be aware that we will be using the club guidelines for entry qualification in each of these events. Please familiarize yourselves with the criteria for participants.

Another area of interest is Etiquette. We are a group of people joined together with the shared interest of golf. The camaraderie, the competition, the great outdoors - all the components of a shared round of golf are why we exist. Recently VP / Tournament Director, Evan Beren and I had to convene the Tournament Committee and deal with some behavior issues that occurred during a couple of our recent events. The issues were severe enough for the Committee to issue a suspension. This is a "Gentlemen's Game." We are bound by the rules of golf (and common courtesy) to behave in a reasonable manner. SMGC will no longer tolerate displays of emotion contrary to those rules. We've also issued a couple of friendly warnings. Please remember we all want to play with folks who are like-minded and courteous.

USGA Rules and Decisions, Sect. 1 says "All players should conduct themselves in a disciplined manner, demonstrating courtesy and sportsmanship at all times, irrespective of how competitive they may be". ... and ... "If a player consistently disregards these guidelines during a round or over a period of time to the detriment of others, it is recommended that the Committee considers taking appropriate disciplinary action against the offending player. Such action may, for example, include prohibiting play for a limited time on the course or in a certain number of competitions. This is considered to be justifiable in terms of protecting the interests of the majority of golfers who wish to play in accordance with these guidelines."

THE NEXT TEE

Upcoming Tournament Notes from Evan Beren, Tournament Director

It's June and our major season is now in full swing. The President's Cup is getting set to start up, this is our match play championship, a 64 player field will vie for a trophy and a large first place prize. The cost is \$20 for the tournament; players pay for their own green fees and schedule their matches. Sign up on line or contact Mark Michelini for more information, 818-355-6492. Players must qualify to play in this event, check our web site for more information on qualifications.

The Sepulveda Men's Golf Clubs 58th Club Championship is our other event this month. Round 1 is June 22nd, 8:00AM, Balboa Golf Course. Round 2 is June 23rd, 8:00 AM, Encino Golf Course. After the cut, the top 50 percent and ties in each flight will play Round 3 on June 29th, 8:00 AM, Encino Golf Course.

The Club Championship has the Championship Flight that will play in a gross stroke play competition only, and two handicap flights, the A and B handicap flights play net stroke play only.

As with all of our Major tournaments you must qualify to play in the Club Championship. Sign up on line or contact Evan Beren for more information, ejberen@me.com, 818-438-0395.

For more information on these or any of our tournaments contact Evan Beren, 818-438-0395 or ejberen@me.com

CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

As we gear up to see what the search for a “Golf Business Analysis Section” yields, let’s not forget that as much as we are convinced that our city golf program needs a healthy injection of business acumen to meet the hyped up challenges of modern municipal golf, our city golf program is in the final analysis NOT a pure business, but rather a hybrid; it is part business and part parkland amenity. In our zeal to incorporate modern business practices and get beyond some of the tired practices of the past, let’s not forget the substantial contributions of that “past” to our current pleasures – e.g., affordable accessibility, commitment to juniors, acknowledgment of the contributions of seniors, and recognition of the game’s club structure.

It’s all about balance. Yes, many of us have hammered away at the need to set up the program as an enterprise fund and to begin operating it along more businesslike principles; it usually takes “hammering” to make a case for change. But that doesn’t mean that we “hammerers” don’t appreciate the principles, values and traditions upon which the city’s great municipal program has been built and sustained since the days of Griffith J Griffith and Lucky Baldwin. Indeed, we ought to be careful not to “hammer” too hard lest we lose all connection with those values, principles and traditions. Their loss would be tragic, much too high a price to pay for a sustainability capable of little else than turning our public golf courses into playgrounds for the privileged and enclaves for the elite.

The last few years have not been easy; change never is. We have often talked past each other, not to each other. We have often misunderstood differences of opinion as differences in principle. We have often jumped to conclusions of impure motive than to take the time to understand others’ viewpoints. And we have far too often preferred to forgo real communication in favor of posturing.

It is but the dawn of “change.” Being human, we’ll no doubt continue to engage in some of these less than desirable practices as we grapple with the consequences of a radically different municipal golf universe. But here’s hoping that as we do, we remember another great “human” characteristic – seeing oneself in the other. If we do that we’ll make it intact and together – and we’ll do so without forgetting those things that made the Los Angeles Municipal Golf Program the great parkland golf system that it is today.

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

Standings as of April 28, 2013
Contest runs through June 2013

Still close at the top! Bob McKibben and Gordon Seaberg, with wins at the Seniors, climb to the top of the leaderboard. Both Bob and Gordon have 2 wins this season as well as top 3 finishes. Still plenty of points left for any of the top 7 to win the trophy.

Player	Points	Ranking
Gordon Seaberg	970	1
Bob McKibben	910	2
Mark Michelini	865	3
Gene Vano	865	3
Ray Hassanlou	845	5
Sean MacDonald	845	5
Vinod Chhabra	815	7
Hadi Morshed	730	8
Brian Nugent	705	9
James Jordan Jr.	640	10
Michael Levy	625	11
Mark O’Keefe	615	12
Alfredo Picolomini	585	13
Leonard Zambito	580	14
Alan Stewart	535	15
Marc Carter	520	16
John Overmyer	505	17
Jason Petterson	505	17
Gary Patterson	500	19
Bobby Cavanaugh	485	20
Perry Melillo	485	20
Jeff Sable	485	20
Armen Mesropian	475	23
Roy Bernhardt	470	24
George Bryson	450	25
James Hahn	440	26
Allen Freiman	425	27
Erik Rogers	425	27
Sean Cavanaugh	420	29
Julio Cano	410	30
Anthony Zaccaro	405	31
Larry Scott	395	32

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

**18th Annual
John C. Palumbo**

Memorial Tournament May 5, 2013

"A" Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
73	Josh Eveland	\$150
76	Marc Green	\$100
77	David Gilbreath	\$75
78	Sean Cavanaugh	\$40

"A" Flight Low Net

Score	Player	Prize
72	Hadi Morshed	\$125
72	Mark Michelini	\$125
73	Marc Carter	\$65
73	Paul Andrews	\$65
75	Scott Feldman	\$25

"B" Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
86	Randy Hammock	\$150
89	Victor Moreno	\$100
90	Bill Keanu	\$75
93	Ray Hassanlou	\$40
93	Liam Cavanaugh	\$40

"B" Flight Low Net

Score	Player	Prize
72	Christopher Ames	\$150
74	Leonid Levin	\$100
76	Jack Barton	\$75
77	Gordon Seaberg	\$30
77	Wayne Curtis	\$30
77	Lupe Escobedo	\$30

Gross Skins \$128 each

Hole	Player
2	Gene Vano
3	Rich Nance
9	Josh Eveland
11	Marc Green
13	Michael Saghian

Net Skins \$112 each

Hole	Player
2	Gene Vano
3	Rich Nance
5	John Blake
6	Bill Anapolsky
8	Ezra Gabay
16	Edward Licht
17	Phillip Sky

MGA Highlights
By Pete Heller

**SEPULVEDA MEETS MATCH AT
RANCHO PARK - FALL FOUR
POINTS, SENIORS WIN ONE, TIE
ONE AGAINST HANSEN DAM FOR
SOLID THIRD PLACE**

Len Zambito's Sepulveda squad had a chance to tie or move ahead of league leading Rancho Park, but instead lost twice to fall 5 points off the lead. It is now and always has been almost impossible to beat Rancho Park at home. A Rancho Park "10" handicap is not the same as an Encino "10". You be the judge of which direction it is of f. Anyway our guys were clobbered 56-16 in the individuals. Bruce Fortune supplied 5 of those points - the other 11 - one point each. They fared better in the two man losing 16-14, but I'm missing a score so it might have been worse.

Captain John Lanza led his Senior Team to a close win in the individuals (40-32) and a tie in the two man (18-18) leaving Hansen Dam winless in the season so far. The Sepulveda Seniors steady play all year has made it extremely challenging for all opponents. In the final pairing Grif fith Park split with Woodley Lakes at home (41-31) and (11-21) and trail the Sepulveda Seniors by three points at the halfway mark of the 2013 season.

League Commissioner Ray Stuckert is to be commended for his smooth scheduling transition which has made life easier for the captains, players and most of all, the course managers.

Sepulveda Men's Match Winners

Individual:

Bruce Fortune

Two Man:

Fox/Picolomini, Fortune/Ikeda

Sepulveda Senior's Match Winners

Individual:

Ray Stuckert, John Lanza, Steve Skinner, Dean Abston and Marv Brown

Two Man:

Cornner/Stuckert, Abston/Cervantes and Krojansky/Lanza

Standings	W	L	T	Points
Rancho Park	9	0	1	19
Sepulveda Mens	7	3	0	14
Sepulveda Srs	5	4	1	11
Griffith Park	4	6	0	8
Woodley Lakes	3	7	0	6
Hansen Dam	0	8	2	2

Next Matches - June 20, 2013

Hansen Dam vs Sepulveda Mens
Griffith Park vs Sepulveda Seniors
Rancho Park vs Woodley Lakes

Thursday @ Encino

Palumbo Practice Tournament
May 23, 2013

"A" Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
73	Brian Krause	\$55
73	Daniel Longmire	\$55
74	Marc Green	\$30
74	Chris Halfon	\$25

"A" Flight Low Net

Score	Player	Prize
67	Jason Petterson	\$60
68	Tony Curran	\$40
70	Leonard Zambito	\$30
73	Vinod Chhabra	\$25

"B" Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
76	Perry Melillo	\$60
79	Jim Thompson	\$40
80	Tommaso Trinchieri	\$25
80	Ray Hassanlou	\$25

"B" Flight Low Net

Score	Player	Prize
66	Michael Teague	\$55
66	Leonid Levin	\$55
68	Victor Cervantes	\$30
70	Alfredo Picolomini	\$25

Gross Skins \$86 each

Hole	Player
4	Jim Thompson
6	Evan Beren
7	Steven Fox
9	Brian Krause
17	Michael Radtke

Net Skins \$86

1	Johnathan Fernandez
6	Evan Beren
7	Steven Fox
9	Brian Krause
10	Leonid Levin
12	Cary Schorr

Closest-to-the-Pin \$55 each

Hole	Player	Distance
3	Don Atkinson	2'8"
6	Michael Levy	21'8"
15	Brian Nugent	7'9"
17	Michael Radtke	4'6"

The Honey Pot was \$180, shared by the teams of Radkte/Melillo, Teague/Levin, Trinchieri/Beren, Crawford/Melillo, Thompson/Nugent and Thompson/McKibben.

HANDICAP CHATTER

STU OLSTER, Handicap Chairman

What is the fairest way to handicap a match play round? In our match play events, the lowest handicap player of the foursome, playing to a zero handicap, must give the opponent with higher handicaps the full differential between their handicaps.

I have always questioned whether a full hundred percent of the difference between the lowest handicap and the higher ones is warranted or whether some form of adjustment is in order to “re-level” the playing field.

Is it better to give than receive, as the saying goes? Many of those who have the dubious pleasure of giving strokes more often than receiving them believe that handicaps, established as a function of stroke play, favor the higher handicap player when imported into a match play format, and that in a team match, that advantage is even greater.

Those receiving strokes often disagree because—well, they like getting lots of strokes. But consider the consequences of a single disastrous hole. In match play, the competitor loses only that one hole while in stroke play that one blown hole could take him completely out of contention.

All of us who have played a fair amount of golf have played with golfers who hit the ball much better than their handicaps might suggest. These are skilled players who have one or two lapses during a round that inflate their scores. If you have a chance to grab one of them as a match play partner, do it quick!

One possible solution is to allow the higher handicap player a smaller percentage of the difference in the high and low handicaps, say seventy-five percent. Another possibility is to allow half strokes on some of the stroke holes. There could be a dozen variations on either of those themes but some adjustment, in my opinion, should be made.

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

BOARD TO CRACK DOWN ON DISRUPTIVE GOLFERS

by

STU OLSTER, Member of the Board

Section 1 of the Rules of Golf prescribes a code of conduct for on-course behavior. It seeks to assure that no golfer will disrupt another player by making unnecessary noise or exhibiting poor sportsmanship. Happily, most of our members treat their fellow golfers with courtesy and consideration. There are a few exceptions and therein lies the problem.

Over the years, the SMGC Board has overlooked violations of Section 1, some serious, but that is changing. We will no longer tolerate annoying or disruptive behavior. Too many of our members refuse to play with other members because of how they conduct themselves on the course. Not only is that unpleasant, but it makes the Tournament Committee's job considerably more difficult.

Be forewarned! Members who routinely violate the Section are going to be disciplined by suspension from playing in Club events for a period of time and, in the case of serious or repeated violations, expulsion from the Club.

Golf, by its nature, is a sometimes frustrating sport, but we all need to bear in mind that we're not playing in a vacuum. We all have bad days, but the Rules require that we suffer in silence and avoid disrupting the other players in the group.