



THE SEPULVEDA EAGLE

Sepulveda Men's Golf Club
Visit our website: www.smgc.org
Encino / Balboa Starter's window
(818) 995-1170

May 2017

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.

Editor: E.J. Beren (818) 438-0395
ejberen@me.com

Printer: Rich Nance (818) 422-3748
richie.nance15@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Evan Beren

April was a very busy month for the Sepulveda Men's Golf Club. The first weekend of the month we played our Senior's Championship, played over two days on Balboa and Encino Golf Courses. The winners are David Gilbreath, who is also our Club Champion, in A Flight Gross. Andy Levine, A Flight Net. Hadi Morshed, B Flight Gross and Steve Hansen, B Flight Net. Thanks to all the members who helped out with this tournament, Dan Crawford, Mark Vaughan, Virgil Budhu, Armen Mesropian and George Olteanu.

The following weekend the Sepulveda Golf Complex held the City of Los Angeles Junior Championships. 200 juniors played 3 rounds of golf at our courses. Bobby Cavanaugh was the chairman for this event and he ran a great show. I am proud to tell you that Bobby had a lot of help from the SMGC who volunteered. Those who helped out were Rich Nance, Gary Patterson, Larry Scott, Michael Levy, Virgil Budhu, Dan Crawford, Craig Kessler, Jeff Sable and David Horwitch. A special thanks to Gary who brought his sound equipment so that we would be able to announce the players names each day before they teed off.

Work has begun on the practice area at the complex. The practice bunker improvement work is underway. The chipping area has been in use for many months now and if you have not already done so, check it out the next time you play at Encino or Balboa.

A couple of tournament notes. When you sign up for a tournament, the club commits to your playing that day. Not showing on the tournament day or dropping out the day before can cost the club money; we may have to pay for your tee time. So if you sign up and for whatever reason you can't play, please let us know with a much warning as you can. Also, we are being called on to be very careful with the amount of times we reserve, we may not be able to accommodate last minute entries.

THE NEXT TEE

David Horwitch, Tournament Director

This year we return to the Victoria Lakes course at River Ridge for the Palumbo. Our away major often proves to be our most difficult tournament. While the city courses often yield scores in the net 60's, last year a net par was the best we could manage at River Ridge. Given the wind we have seen this week, who knows what the scores will be on May 7th. On Thursday the 25th we play Wilson, always a favorite.

Be sure to sign up early for upcoming tournaments. Harding recently sold out, leaving some members on the sideline.

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

CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

The policies that govern tournament, group, club, league, school, and all group play were last given comprehensive consideration in the late 1990's. At that time Golf Advisory Committee and Golf Division Staff spent nearly one year consolidating existing policies from the then three (3) separate regions of the Department (pre-Golf Division era) into one coherent document and then considering which of them merited continuation, which merited amendment, and which merited complete substitution. That effort represents the document that exists today.

That late 1990's effort, having been drafted when the golf market was literally at its peak, met the needs and circumstances of that day, the most significant of which was demand management. Today's circumstances cry out for demand stimulation; indeed, demand stimulation and its concomitant, revenue generation, represent the central organizing principles of the GBAS Strategic Plan that GAC and Golf Division are obligated to effectuate. That is why in so many instances today's policies are honored more in the breach than in their execution. That's a good thing; the Division needs the money.

But what's not such a good thing is honoring policies so much in the breach. The exception that proves the rule is okay, but when exception becomes the rule, it's time to initiate a review. And that's precisely what the Golf Advisory Committee did at its April meeting. More specifically, it created a Special Committee to work with Golf Operations Staff to conduct the same kind of comprehensive review that a previous GAC did more than 20 years ago. The Committee will be populated on May 15 and thereafter get down to working with Staff to write a policy for today's golf market, one that is radically different than the one that confronted GAC and Staff a generation ago.

I approach the process with some knowledge of what has been working well in other systems, all of which were like the city not that many years ago in that they too were overly bureaucratized constructs meant to manage excess demand. That's a polite way of saying that they were designed to herd stubborn cats.

And what works best near as I can tell involves the jettisoning of all forms of command and control, the preferred mode of the bureaucratic mind, in favor of maximal flexibility – just doing what works as it were with “doing what works” amounting to doing what it takes to fill tee sheets, keep regular customers happy, accommodate tournament groups, make the home golf clubs feel like the facility is indeed their home, and to make the municipal experience akin to what golfers experience at daily fee and resort courses. In other words, do things that service businesses do so well and governments tend to do badly – successful service business that is.

And make no mistake about it; if the city's golf enterprise fund hopes to prosper it is going to have to resemble more a successful service business than a typical government operation. If the golf system's employees hope to continue staving off what EVERY mayor I know of ALWAYS contemplates – the privatization of the system – they are going to have to hew to the service business model. And for that to happen those in possession of the necessary ethic are going to have to rise to the top of the system.

2016-2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

Evan Beren, President	(818) 438-0395
Tommaso Trinchieri, Vice-President	(949) 231-0097
Tommy Eunice, Secretary	(626) 278-0372
Dan Melillo, Treasurer	(917) 363-9070

Directors

Evan Beren, Tournament Chairman	(818) 438-0395
Virgil Budhu, Membership	(310) 776-0156
Bobby Cavanaugh.....	(818) 606-5556
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”

Armen surges ahead after a second place at the Seniors. David Gilbreath moves to third with a win at the Seniors. Matt Soule stays close with a win in the Shamble. Still plenty of time for an overall win for those in the top 8.

Player	Winnings	Rank
Armen Mesropian	625	1
Ben Raposas	490	2
David Gilbreath	430	3
Matt Soule	430	3
Danny Longmire Jr.	380	5
George Olteanu	375	6
Virgil Budhu	375	6
Steve Hansen	365	8
David Longmire	345	9
Erik Rogers	320	10
Dustin Watanabe	300	11
David Horwith	295	12
Craig Cacek	265	13
Mark Vaughan	255	14
Tommaso Trinchieri	255	14
Andy Levine	250	16
Todd Mander	245	17
David Watanabe	235	18
Hadi Morshed	230	19
Gordon Seaberg	215	20
Johnathan Fernandez	210	21
Gerard Sanders	205	22
Mark Kessler	205	22
Larry Scott	200	24
Daniel Sniegowski	195	25
Patrick Warren	195	25
Everardo Gomez	185	27
Rich Nance	185	27
Anthony Zaccaro	175	29
Bob McKibben	175	29
Dan Crawford	175	29
Bobby Cavanaugh	175	29
Ryan Tumulad	175	29

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

Senior Club Championship

April 1-2, 2017

Format – Low Gross / Low Net

“A” Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
144	David Gilbreath	\$175
146	Jeff Prey	\$120
148	Steve Weible	\$80
151	Bill Brandel	\$55

“A” Flight Low Net

136	Andy Levine	\$175
143	Rich Nance	\$120
144	Behrouz Shafie	\$80
146	Gerard Sanders	\$55

“B Flight” Low Gross

163	Hadi Morshed	\$175
166	Bill Keanu	\$120
168	Darrell Kato	\$80
169	Mark Vaughan	\$55

“B Flight” Low Net

142	Steve Hansen	\$175
143	Armen Mesropian	\$100
143	Gordon Seaberg	\$100
145	George Olteanu	\$55

Saturday Balboa

Gross Skins \$102 each

Hole Player

3	Gerard Sanders
6	Daniel Longmire
7	Bill Keanu
13	David Baram

Balboa Net Skins \$58 each

Hole Player

1	Virgil Budhu
3	Gerard Sanders
6	Daniel Longmire
7	Chang Kim
8	Armen Mesropian
13	David Baram
15	Gordon Seaberg
16	Steve Hansen

Closest to the Pin \$70 each

4	Gerard Sanders	4' 6"
13	David Baram	2' 4"
17	Steve Weible	3' 6"

Senior Club Championship

Encino Sunday

Gross Skins \$105 each

Hole Player

1	Kevin West
13	Bob McKibben
15	Rich Nance
17	Sam Schatz

Encino Net Skins \$92 each

Hole Player

5	Edward Licht
7	Roy Bernhardt
11	Mark Michelin
12	Mark Vaughan
13	Bob McKibben

Closest to the Pin \$55 each

3	Steve Weible	19' 11"
6	David Baram	7' 2"
15	Rich Nance	5' 9"
17	Sam Schatz	11" 0"

Not a Senior Shamble Classic

April 2, 2016

Team Better Ball

60 \$110 each

E. Gomez T. Trinchieri

63 \$50 each

Anthony Zaccaro Larry Scott

63 \$50 each

Andrew Howard Matt Soule

Closest to the Pin \$25 each

3	Sean Young	8' 8"
6	Branden Augustus	13' 7"
15	Everardo Gomez	14' 8"
17	Jay Baca	18' 8"

BACKSPIN SHOTS

by The Gapwedge

After numerous tournament victories, a 37 year-old Spanish golf pro named Sergio Garcia finally stepped into the winner's circle in a Major tournament, The 2017 Masters. The gentleman looks good in green.

It's long been said that the Masters begins Sunday on the back nine, and this year that adage played out once more. Once into that back nine, it became a two-man contest between Garcia and Englishman, Justin Rose (Gapwedge's pick to win after round 3), as Jordan Spieth and Rickie Fowler dropped out of contention.

Garcia has always been considered an excellent ball striker, driving it 304 yards and boasting GIR of 73%, sixth best on the PGA Tour. He's also got 18 years of tour golf experience behind him and had won 27 worldwide tournaments, but never a Major. But in this particular Major not only did his shot making come through, his short game was up to the challenge and as good as Sergio's best.

Trailing Rose by a single shot on the 15th tee, Sergio striped his drive 330 yards into perfect position, followed that with a perfectly played 7-iron shot to within 15 feet and nailed the putt for eagle to put him ahead by one shot. But Rose wasn't dead yet. He made an excellent birdie on the par three 16th to tie Sergio, and the two remained tied at -9 through regulation play. Garcia closed the deal by making birdie on the first playoff hole after watching Rose narrowly miss his par putt.

Kudos to Garcia for his good play in winning the Masters and also for displaying the fortitude and character to come back after holding, then losing, the lead. In case you missed it, find it somewhere on the Web, get some nachos...

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

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

HANDICAP CHATTER

by Tommaso Trinchieri, Handicap Chairman

Rules of Golf Myths

In golf, we all know we govern ourselves. But what happens when no one in your group knows what to do in a sticky situation? Here are the rules that trip up golfers the most, and how they really should be used.

MYTH: A golfer who is off the green must play a shot before a golfer who is on the green.

FACT: The player farthest from the hole, regardless of position, is always entitled to play first. So if a golfer has 50-foot putt while another golfer is facing a 5-yard chip, the golfer on the green is entitled to play first. Note, there is no penalty for playing out of order. However, in match play, you can be made to replay your shot by your opponent if you don't wait your turn.

MYTH: A ball that is touched and falls off the tee after it has been addressed counts as a stroke.

FACT: In most cases, it doesn't count as a stroke and the ball should be re-teed without penalty. It counts as a stroke if the ball already was in play (if you whiffed on your first attempt, for example), or if you were making a stroke at the time the ball fell off the tee.

MYTH: In a scramble or other team format, you can stand on or close to an extension of your partner's line of putt while he makes a stroke.

FACT: No one on your side, including caddies, can intentionally stand on or close to an extension of the line of putt during a stroke. Intentionally is the key word. If someone on your side was standing there inadvertently, there would be no penalty.

MYTH: If you hit a ball into a water hazard, you can hit a provisional ball before going to search for the original.

FACT: If you're virtually certain your ball is in a water hazard, you can't hit a provisional. The next shot you hit is considered a ball in play (plus add a penalty stroke). If you hit a ball in a hazard, proceed under options for Rule 26. If you think your ball could possibly be outside the hazard, then you can hit the provisional. But if it turns out that your ball is in the hazard, you must abandon the provisional.

MYTH: If your ball is unplayable, you're entitled to a drop in a spot that gives you a "playable" lie.

FACT: You have three options (under penalty of one stroke) if you declare a ball unplayable:

1. Replay the previous shot.
2. Drop a ball behind the point where the ball lay, keeping that point directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit how far behind that point the ball may be dropped.
3. Drop within two club-lengths of the spot where the ball lay, no closer to the hole. Keep in mind that none of these options guarantee that you'll be able to play from an unfettered position.

MYTH: You can either remove an out-of-bounds stake, or take relief from it or any fence/wall marking the course's boundary.

FACT: You do not get relief from anything marking the course's boundary. Play the ball as it lies or take an unplayable lie and proceed under those options (see previous myth/fact).

MYTH: You can't have a ball marked off the green unless it interferes with your ball, stance or swing.

FACT: If you think another ball might interfere with your play of a hole, you can request it be marked and lifted. Note: A ball marked in this instance CAN'T be cleaned unless it's on the putting green.

MYTH: If you can't find your ball, you can go back to the tee and play a provisional ball.

FACT: A provisional must be played before you go up to look for your ball. If you go back and play another ball, your original is lost.

MYTH: When your ball, stance or swing is interfered with by a cart path (immovable obstruction), you always take relief on the side farthest away from the hole.

FACT: You have to locate the nearest spot off the cart path that allows you to stand and swing without interference and is not nearer the hole than the ball's location. That spot could be on either side of the cart path depending on your ball's position and the stroke you intend to make for your next shot. Once you determine where that spot is, you're allowed to drop within one club-length of that spot, no closer to the hole.

Other tidbits:

- Practice swings are NOT strokes, if you accidentally hit your ball, you put it back (with a one stroke penalty).
- You CAN practice putting on the green you've just finished. (Stroke or Match Play)
- If you authorize someone else to mark your ball on the green, they aren't the only one that have to replace it, you CAN also.
- You do NOT get line of play, sometimes called line of sight, relief from an obstruction, unless it's on the putting green. (Ball behind a tree for example).
- You CAN move Red and Yellow hazard stakes.