



November 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

Happy Halloween, my favorite group of ghosts and goblins. Hoping you had a safe and sane time with your kids, grandkids and those who celebrate just because! We had a fantastic October with weather to be remembered! Clear skies and warm days have made for some fantastic golfing conditions. The turnout for the Goeckner and the Election / Membership tournaments are a clear indication of favorable conditions indeed.

The President's Cup competition has reached the Semi-Finals. Best of luck to Dan Crawford vs Ryan Tumulad and Tommaso Trinchieri vs Roy Bernhardt. We should have a Champion by December! Please remember that this is a competition that has a monthly deadline. You must play your match with the month or forfeit unless you can show cause. Mark Michelini is keeping us on track with updates. Please keep him apprised of match results. Remember to post these matches - in fact, remember to post ALL of your rounds, practice, skins games, whatever.

The Dick Goeckner Classic was a well attended, one-day competition this year. Congratulations to the winning team of Virgil Budhu and David Joslyn, whose names will be added to the perennial trophy. This Major was played in a new format as declining signups over the past couple of years indicated a change was required. Once the change was announced our numbers increased greatly and a spirited competition was held.

The Election / Membership Meeting Tournament was held on the third Thursday of October and we fielded 58 players. This was a very good turnout for midweek and our thanks to all of you who were able to attend a very important lunch, and the meeting / election that followed. Re-elected to the board were Dan Crawford, myself (Bruce Fortune), Craig Kessler, Gary Patterson, and Alan Stewart. Newly elected to the board are Tommaso Trinchieri (recently appointed to a vacated position and serving the past two months) and Everardo Gomez. We'd like to welcome Tommaso and Everardo and look forward to their help with running the club this coming year. Thank you to Dan Crawford, Evan Beren (shows up to handle the check-in and then has to rush off to work!), Tommy Eunice (Election Chair) and everyone who helped out. We'd also like to thank Mike, Charity, Janet and Victor at Monterey Concessions for allowing us use of the bar and seeing to our culinary and beverage needs.

As we approach Thanksgiving we'd like to thank the folks who work all year round to provide us with golf courses, carts and practice areas prepped and ready 365 days a year. This list includes - Daniel Ward (Senior Maintenance Supervisor), Penny Siebrandt (Starter Supervisor II), Uriel Matus (Course Supervisor), all the starters, golf cart barn folk, and the maintenance staff, headed by David Slavik (Encino), and Marina Gutierrez (Balboa). We would also like to again thank Mike and Charity and all the folks who work at the Monterey Concessions (restaurant, bar, and beverage carts) for their efforts in making food and drink available on and off the course. Happy Thanksgiving!

THE NEXT TEE

Upcoming Tournament Notes from Evan Beren, Tournament Director

In November we head north for our Sunday tournament, to Olivas Links, on the 10th. First tee time is 9:00 AM. \$70.00 gets you into the tournament, a cart and range balls. We have space for 60 players so sign up today!

Friday, November 29th, we hold our Annual Fantastic Five Club Tournament. That's right! 5 clubs and only 5 clubs in your bag, crazy, I know! Better than shopping though, right? First tee time is 7:30 AM. \$55.00 includes your lunch, carts and range balls are extra.

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

CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

Last month I challenged the Recreation and Park Department and its Golf Division to exercise the leadership that is going to be required to sustain the city golf system over the long run – not the short run of meeting payroll and expenses, but the much harder work of generating the millions in capital improvement dollars necessary to build and maintain a physical infrastructure capable of attracting fee-paying customers.

I closed that “challenge” with a promise to challenge the city’s clubs this month to engage in our version of thinking, engaging, and acting with the long-run in mind.

A good start would be to recognize that both “challenges” are different sides of the same coin, a commonality that demands that we stop acting separately and begin acting together. Clubs, Staff, labor, indeed all stakeholders in the system, must recognize that we can no longer afford the Balkanization and separation that prosperity made possible. Scarcity is the order of this era, and scarcity demands the opposite ethic.

When that long-awaited consultant comes on board (the CAO is performing its final contract review as of this writing), we need to recognize that he is no savior, but only someone with a little more knowledge who we need to engage in a collaborative process that is the opposite of the sterile compartmentalization that is favored by Staff and indulged all too often by us. It’s not his job to “save” us; it’s our job to “save” ourselves. Forget formality; let’s roll up our sleeves and work in real unison, unconcerned by title, passionate only about result.

A better start would be to get off our backsides and rejuvenate the moribund Los Angeles Municipal Golf Association (MGA), an institution that for years congealed the city’s golf clubs into a coalition capable of running the city’s championships and raising substantial dollars for the city’s junior golf efforts/programs. Just as prosperity created the conditions that allowed for an ethic of separation to proliferate, it led to the decay of this once great institution – more than mere decay really, a collapse. Waiting for additional Staff and resources to be put back in place to support the city’s championships or provide for all junior golf needs is waiting for something that just isn’t going to happen. Either the clubs step back up to this plate, or we lose some things that have been central to the success of the Los Angeles Municipal Golf Program and to our own satisfactions.

Are both sides of the coin up to the challenge? My answer is an unequivocal yes. I’m banking that there are enough persons on Staff and in the clubs with the wisdom to recognize the problem, the intelligence to tackle it, the work ethic to tackle it effectively, and the dedication to see things through to the end.

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

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Craig Kessler	SGCA Dir - Gov’t Affairs.....	(310) 941-4803
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Jeff Sable	Mr. Golfsmith.....	(818) 548-7234
Gary Patterson	Entertainment Director.....	(310) 980-4427
Tommaso Trinchieri	(949) 231-0097

“On the Other Hand”

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

Standings as of October 27, 2013

Runs through June 2014

Back and forth in the top spot. Plenty of room for anyone to move up with a win...

Player	Points	Ranking
Johnathan Fernandez	410	1
Dustin Watanabe	400	2
Andy Levine	380	3
Armen Mesropian	365	4
Randy Hammock	360	5
Anthony Bermel	335	6
Brian Nelson	335	6
Michael Melamed	315	8
Marc Cohen	310	9
Brian Czerniak	310	9
Victor Cervantes	305	11
Dennis Harmon	305	11
Tranquilino Bangis	295	13
Ryan Tumulad	285	14
Dan Crawford	280	15
Virgil Budhu	265	16
Alan Stewart	230	17
Gene Vano	230	17
Brad Marks	225	19
Jeff Sable	220	20
Roger Ikeda	215	21
Sean Cavanaugh	210	22
Everardo Gomez	205	23
Allan Lipsky	205	23
Mark O’Keefe	205	23
Jeff Murphy	195	26
Gary Patterson	195	26
Ben Raposas	195	26
Bill Anapolsky	185	29
Liam Cavanaugh	185	29
Mark Galper	185	29
Jason Petterson	185	29
Chuck Ruiz	185	29
Tal Almquist	180	34
Julio Cano	180	34
Bruce Fortune	180	34

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

Goeckner Classic - Encino
Sunday, October 13, 2013
Format – Team Better Ball

MGA Highlights
By Pete Heller

Election Day Tournament
Thursday, October 24, 2013
Format – LowGross / LowNet

RANCHO PARK - CHAMPS AGAIN
SEPULVEDA WINS TWO, BUT
SENIORS CAN'T HELP.
NICE SEASON, BUT NO CIGAR.

In the most hotly contested season ever, Len Zambito's Sepulveda Men's Club squad finished nicely by winning two matches from Woodley Lakes, 42-30 and 23-13, finishing one game back of this year's Champion Rancho Park. If they could have only beaten John Lanza's Senior Club who succumbed easily to Rancho Park, 56-16 and 29-7, they themselves would have claimed the MGA trophy for 2013.

Rancho Park seems to be able to turn it on whenever they want which is unfair in a handicap set up that is supposed to even things up. They have sent forward some really fine golfers and good sports but the margin of victory and the net scores that were produced taints the handicap system presently in use.

In the final match, Griffith Park, also in the hunt on the final day, split with 2012 Champion Hansen Dam 46-26 and 14-22, good for third place, only two games back.

Sepulveda Men's Match Winners

Individual:

Armen Mesropian, Pete Ruiz,
 George Bryson, Len Zambito,
 Andy Levine, Alfred Picolomini
 and Gene Vano.

Two Man:

Mesropian/Barerre,
 Vano/Bryson and Zambito/Levine

Standings	W	L	T	Points
Rancho Park	13	6	1	27
Sepulveda Mens	12	7	1	25
Griffith Park	11	8	1	23
Sepulveda Seniors	9	10	1	19
Hansen Dam	7	1	12	16
Woodley Lakes	5	15	0	10

Next: November 21, 2013

Marty Tregnan Scramble and Awards
 Banquet at Woodley Lakes.

Team Low Gross

59	\$155 each
David Joslyn	Virgil Budhu
63	\$50 each
Jack Barton	Randy Hammock
63	\$50 each
Eric Smutko	Mike Nichol
63	\$50 each
Bruce Davies	Tal Almquist
63	\$50 each
Evan Beren	Gary Patterson
63	\$50 each
Andy Levine	Marc Cohen
63	\$50 each
Farhad Keliddari	Khody Azari
64	\$20 each
Armen Mesropian	Mark Michelini
64	\$20 each
Chris Halfon	Michael Melamed
65	\$15 each
Brian Nelson	Mike Murphy
65	\$15 each
Ben Navarrete	Ray Hassanlou

Gross Skins \$108 each

Hole Player

3	Bob McKibben
4	Liam Cavanaugh
7	Tommaso Trinchieri
12	Mark Michelini
16	Brad Marks

Net Skins \$97 each

Hole Player

4	Liam Cavanaugh
5	Brian Nelson
6	James Hahn
7	Tommaso Trinchieri
12	Mark Michelini
16	Brad Marks
17	Farhad Keliddari

Closest to the Pin \$80 each

Hole Player

3	Bob McKibben	0' 8"
6	Everardo Gomez	17' 3"
15	Brian Nelson	7' 2"
17	Brian Nelson	4' 1"

"A" Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
73	George Villarreal	\$80
74	Tranquilino Bangis	\$50
75	Ryan Tumulad	\$25
75	Chuck Ruiz	\$25
75	Branden Augustus	\$25

"A" Flight Low Net

68	Jeff Murphy	\$80
69	Brad Marks	\$40
69	Everardo Gomez	\$40
69	Leonard Zambito	\$40

"B Flight" Low Gross

81	Hamir Khaira	\$70
81	Victor Cervantes	\$70
83	Brian Nugent	\$35
84	Erik Nordquist	\$25

"B Flight" Low Net

68	Armen Mesropian	\$80
69	Brian Czerniak	\$40
69	Ted Johnson	\$40
69	Michael Melamed	\$40

Gross Skins \$120 each

Hole Player

11	Branden Augustus
12	Branden Augustus
17	Wayne Lura

Net Skins \$150 each

Hole Player

3	Perry Melillo
11	Branden Augustus
12	Branden Augustus

Closest to the Pin \$70 each

3	Alan Stewart	9' 3"
6	Brian Nelson	9' 8"
15	Ben Raposas	14' 2"

Notes: We had no closest to the pin winner on #17.

The Honey Pot was \$280,

won by the teams of
 Mesropian/Stewart,
 Mesropian/Fortune,
 Mesropian/Melillo &
 Melamed/Licht.

HANDICAP CHATTER

by Stu Olster, Handicap Chairman

It hasn't happened for awhile as far as I know, but in the past some joker or jokers were entering very low scores for some of our members which drastically affected their handicap indexes. If you can think of anything more damaging to the handicap system than that, please educate me.

Many of those victims apparently didn't look over their entered scores at each update to make sure they are accurate, and so went weeks or months with an inaccurate handicap index before noticing the discrepancy.

The lesson is simple: review your last 20 scores at each update and make sure all entries are accurate. If you notice anything amiss or that you don't understand, feel free to contact me. The sooner the Handicap Committee knows about problems the sooner they can be addressed and an accurate handicap index restored.

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

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!

BACKSPIN SHOTS

by The Gapwedge

There are only 34 official Rules of Golf. That's not a whole lot of rules to govern our deceptively complex game, but they do cover most situations that could arise in a round of golf. But what happens if something occurs that is not covered by the Rules? Rule 1-4 says:

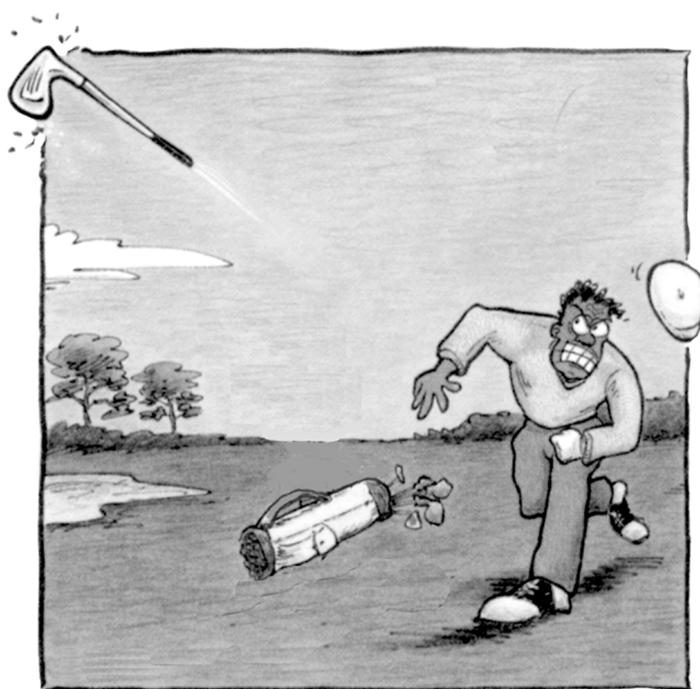
If any point in dispute is not covered by the Rules, the decision should be made in accordance with equity.

In other words, do what's fair in the circumstances.

Like laws passed by our crackerjack legislators, rules enacted by the USGA and Royal and Ancient...often need interpretation and the governing golf authorities do that by the publication of Decisions that interpret the Rules.

If the curious go to <http://www.usga.org/Rule-Books/Rules-of-Golf> they will see a few decisions printed next to each rule. But those listed decisions are the proverbial tip of the iceberg. There are large volumes of golf rule decisions which help define the meaning of the Rules of Golf.

It's smart to carry the Rules of golf in your golf bag, but unless you have a burro, it wouldn't be practical to lug around the Decisions. Nevertheless, they are a good research tool that could come in handy---next time, perhaps.



Not a smart thing to do in the upcoming SMGC annual 5-club tournament!!