



THE SEPULVEDA EAGLE

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

October 2015

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 Bruce Fortune

October – Fall has officially arrived. Summer heat continued throughout September along with an amazing Lunar Eclipse / Blood Red Harvest Moon and the day where sunlight and darkness share the stage in equal amounts, the autumnal equinox. Great golf continues to be available, although now it's a little less daylight each day. Of course, now that our courses are in some of the best shape in years, it is time to punch the greens! Has to be done, needs to be done, but we hate the loss of the lovely, well tended surfaces – even for just the 2-3 weeks to get them back. Encino was punched two weeks ago, needs another week or 10 days to fully return, and Balboa was done early this week – you know the drill.

We played our 60th Anniversary Classic, on Balboa Sunday 9/12, with 93 players attending. Enough players for 3 flights in prizes! Thank you to Evan Beren, Dan Melillo, David Horwitch, Dan Crawford, Tommaso Trinchieri, and everyone who helped out. You guys did a really fine job. Since lunch was included we'd also like to thank the folks at Monterey Concessions, especially our servers, Stephanie and Victor, for the great service, food and beverages. Our Thursday event, September 24, was played at the venerable Harding Golf Course. The course was in great shape. Thanks to Dan Crawford, Tommaso Trinchieri, Evan Beren and Tommy Eunice for helping put the tournament on. In case you hadn't noticed, Dan Crawford has become our 'de facto' tournament guy for the Thursday events. This is still an all volunteer club and it's important that we remember to thank the folks who are putting in their valuable time to make it possible for all of us to play in these tournaments. We very much, appreciate your efforts.

This last Sunday, SMGC sent 6 teams out to play in the LA County Sunday Team Play. Unfortunately only the C Team will continue on in the single-elimination format. Thank you to the Captains – Bobby Cavanaugh – Championship Flight, Mark Michelini – A Flight, Everardo Gomez – B Flight, Dan Crawford – C Flight, Virgil Budhu – D Flight, and Gene Vano – E Flight, for the hard work organizing and leading our teams. Thank you also to all of the team players. We wish our C Flight team the best of luck this coming Sunday, 10/4.

THE NEXT TEE

Upcoming Tournament Notes from Evan Beren, Tournament Director

October offers us two great tournaments!

The Dick Goeckner Classic, named after a former head professional at The Sepulveda Golf Complex and a man who had an important role in shaping golf in Southern California. The tournament is Sunday, October 18th; first tee is 8:00 am. We are playing the Encino Golf Course. This event is Team Better Ball. Sign up with a partner or we can pair you up. Cost is \$55 per player; carts and range balls are extra. This tournament is a major, so you must qualify to win. Check the website for exact details.

The Election Day Tournament is on October 22nd. An 8:00 am shotgun start on the Balboa Golf Course. \$55 includes cart and lunch. After lunch we will hold elections for the board of directors.

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

CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

*Just when you thought things had stabilized,
the city's golf program is facing another obstacle.*

The City Attorney has taken a long look at recent court decisions, taken an even longer look at the specifics of Proposition 218 and determined that Los Angeles Water & Power can no longer give substantial discounts to parks, schools and other publicly owned green spaces. It's called Schedule F – the fee structure that provides for the city's parks, schools and municipal golf courses (they're parks) to receive water at a rate ¼ the rate charged commercial customers. And because a discount charged one class of customer requires other classes to pay rates in excess of any reasonable cost recovery basis, the portion exceeding cost recovery becomes a tax that must be approved by a 2/3 vote of the people. The subsidy is verboten absent that vote.

Thus, Schedule F will become history upon adoption of LADWP's new 5-year rate structure, which is likely to happen around April 1 of next year. The good news is that the increase will be phased in over 5 years. The better news is that golf courses and parks using recycled water are not affected. The best news is that the city has had the prescience to get all but three of its golf courses (Rancho, Penmar and Harbor Park) on recycled water – a full 76% of the system.

Harbor Park should soon be on recycled supply as well, leaving only Rancho and Penmar subject to a fourfold increase in water rates. Because the golf program is an enterprise fund, all of that burden will have to be absorbed by the system. Unlike it can do with the city's parks, the City Council won't be able to make accommodation for the increase through the budget process – not so much an "increase" as a transfer of funds from one city department (Recreation & Parks) to another city department (Water & Power). Of course, Mayor and Council could eliminate the current \$1 million transfer from the Golf Enterprise Fund to the Department's General Fund; that would supply the liquidity necessary to handle the fourfold water rate increase at Rancho, Penmar and Harbor Park. But that would take an educational cum lobbying campaign of considerable scope and focus.

I'm sure I'm not the only to recognize the slippery slope here. The argument used to nullify the park subsidy applies as well to subsidies given lifeline customers and senior citizens, unless somehow those preferences have been construed as fulfilling a compelling public interest that trumps the clear language of Proposition 218. But that's another subject for another day. Suffice it to say for now that the golf enterprise fund may well have to adjust its projections to accommodate yet another hit.

Election Time Is Here

Elections for our Board of Directors will be held on October 22nd, following lunch after the Election Day Tournament. The location is the Monterey Inn at the Sepulveda Golf Complex. Contact Tommy Eunice for more information, teunice@yahoo.com or 626-278-0372.

2015 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

Directors

Evan Beren, Tournament Director.....(818) 438-0395
Everardo Gomez.....(818) 429-4664
Craig Kessler, SGCA Dir. - Gov't Affairs.....(310) 941-4803
Mike Levy, Trophies.....(818) 761-7650
Mark Michelini, President's Cup/Goeckner.....(818) 355-6492
Rich Nance, Eagle Publisher.....(818) 422-3748
Gary Patterson, Entertainment Director.....(310) 980-4427
Alan Stewart, Membership.....(818) 633-3105
Tommaso Trinchieri, Handicap.....(949) 231-0097

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

Results as of 30 September, 2015

All change at the top with the Presidents Cup winners overwhelming spots one through four. Well done guys. Lots of golf left for others to catch Hadi.

Player	Points
Hadi Morshed	445
Steven Fox	325
Armen Mesropian	315
Sean Cavanaugh	295
Josh Eveland	270
Ben Raposas	170
Justin Butler	165
Brian Czerniak	155
Dan Crawford	155
Gary Patterson	130
Dustin Watanabe	125
Bob McKibben	105
Bruce Fortune	100
David Horwitch	95
Bob Surbeck	90
David Longmire	90
Ryan Tumulad	90
Thomas Brandt	90
Erik Rogers	80
John Blake	80
Matt Soule	80
Gordon Seaberg	75
Louie Rivera	75
Marc Carter	75
Michael Radtke	75
Brandon Wahl	70
Daniel Melillo	70
Lupe Escobedo	65
Michael Saghian	65
Bill Brandel	60
Daniel Longmire	60
Leo Levin	60
Liam Cavanaugh	55

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

Thursday @ Wilson

August 27, 2015

Format – Low Gross / Low Net**“A” Flight Low Gross**

Score	Player	Prize
72	Dustin Watanabe	\$60
75	Aaron Lee	\$40
76	Ben Raposas	\$25
76	Thomas Ortiz, Jr.	\$25

“A” Flight Low Net

68	Roger Ikeda	\$45
68	Bob McKibben	\$45
68	Bobby Cavanaugh	\$45
71	John Blake	\$15
71	Branden Augustus	\$15

“B Flight” Low Gross

80	Brian Czerniak	\$60
89	Kevin Carmony	\$35
89	Farhad Keliddari	\$35
91	Matt Soule	\$20

“B Flight” Low Net

72	Joseph Rodriguez	\$50
72	Sepehr Raafat	\$50
73	David Watanabe	\$25
75	Erik Rogers	\$15
75	Michael Teague	\$15

Gross Skins \$133 each

Hole	Player
5	Mark Michelini
8	Thomas Ortiz, Jr.
18	Bobby Cavanaugh

Net Skins \$130 each

Hole	Player
8	Thomas Ortiz, Jr.
11	Erik Rogers
14	Steve Hansen
18	Mark Galper

Closest to the Pin \$80 each

3	Mike Nichol	2' 0"
11	Erik Rogers	7' 2"
15	Mike Nichol	10' 11"

The Honey pot was \$160

won by the team of
Raposas-Rodriquez with 63.



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.

Saturday @ Balboa

September 12, 2015

Format – Low Gross / Low Net**“A” Flight Low Gross**

Score	Player	Prize
69	Josh Eveland	\$65
69	Michael Saghian	\$65
71	Dustin Watanabe	\$35
73	Jason Petterson	\$15
73	Liam Cavanaugh	\$15
73	David Gilbreath	\$15

“A” Flight Low Net

65	Marc Carter	\$75
66	Ryan Tumulad	\$50
67	Bob McKibben	\$30
67	Phil Kapsimallis	\$30

“B Flight” Low Gross

76	Justin Butler	\$75
81	Hadi Morshed	\$45
81	Ray Hassanlou	\$45
82	Ezra Gabay	\$15
82	Mark Vaughan	\$15
82	Brent Harvey	\$15

“B Flight” Low Net

68	Brian Czerniak	\$65
68	Armen Mesropian	\$65
69	Farhad Keliddari	\$30
69	Ted Johnson	\$30

“C Flight” Low Gross

82	Lupe Escobedo	\$75
84	Erik Rogers	\$50
85	Matt Soule	\$35
86	Robert Glaessner	\$25

“C Flight” Low Net

64	Alan Stewart	\$75
68	Michael Teague	\$50
69	Daniel Sniegowski	\$35
70	Virgil Budhu	\$25

Gross Skins \$223 each

Hole	Player
2	Brent Harvey
3	Dustin Watanabe
5	David Gilbreath

Net Skins \$175 each

Hole	Player
8	Phil Kapsimallis
13	Alan Stewart
14	Marc Carter
15	Matt Soule

Closest to the Pin \$120 each

4	Juan Lopez	17' 0"
13	George Beams	2' 4"
17	Rich Nance	9' 0"

The Honey pot was \$600

won by the teams of
Harvey & Levy - 58
and Gabay & Brandel - 59

Thursday @ Harding

September 24, 2015

Format – Low Gross / Low Net**“A” Flight Low Gross**

Score	Player	Prize
73	Chris Halfon	\$45
74	Chuck Ruiz	\$30
77	Ryan Tumulad	\$20
78	Bobby Cavanaugh	\$15

“A” Flight Low Net

69	Eric Smutko	\$45
71	Bob McKibben	\$25
71	Andy Levine	\$25
71	John Blake	\$25
71	Steven Fox	\$25

“B Flight” Low Gross

80	Brian Nugent	\$45
83	Patrick Warren	\$30
86	Tommaso Trinchieri	\$20
90	Steve Hansen	\$15
90	Ted Johnson	\$15

“B Flight” Low Net

67	Matt Soule	\$45
70	Bruce Fortune	\$30
74	Mark Galper	\$20
74	David Watanabe	\$20

Gross Skins \$165 each

Hole	Player
6	Thomas Ortiz, Jr.
7	Eric Smutko

Net Skins \$90 each

Hole	Player
2	Daniel Sniegowski
4	Brian Nugent
13	Farhad Keliddari
16	Romel Yordi
18	Bruce Fortune

Closest to the Pin \$60 each

5	Dan Crawford	8' 10"
13	Patrick Warren	18' 2"
15	Chuck Ruiz	5' 3"

The Honey pot was \$180,

won by the teams of
Fortune/Nugent &
Nugent/Crawford with 63.

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

HANDICAP CHATTER

by Tommaso Trinchieri, Handicap Chairman

HANDICAPPING “DID YOU KNOW?”

This “Did You Know?” focuses on some definitions. We hear and read about a number of terms that apply to golf handicapping in general, but more importantly – to your handicap. With the help of the USGA, here are some definitions that apply:

What is a USGA Course Rating?

A Course Rating is a measure of a course’s difficulty level for a scratch golfer under normal course and weather conditions. (A scratch golfer is someone who can play to a Course Handicap of zero on any and all golf courses.) A par 72 course that has a course rating of 75.5 is considered difficult because a scratch golfer would be expected to shoot 3.5 strokes over par. A par 72 course with a course rating of 68.5 indicates that a scratch golfer would be expected to shoot 3.5 strokes under par. The Course Rating is expressed as strokes taken to one decimal place, then determined by raters who base their evaluation on yardage, green contours and the nature of the hazards, such as water, sand and other obstacles.

What is a Slope Rating?

A Slope Rating is a bit more difficult to understand than Course Rating because it isn’t measured in strokes. Slope Rating is a ratio that represents how difficult a course will play for golfers of varying abilities in relation to a scratch golfer. Slope Rating takes into account certain aspects of a course’s layout that will affect a high handicapper’s score more than that of a low handicapper. The USGA has determined that the standard Slope Rating of an 18-hole course is 113, with 55 being the lowest and 155 being the highest.

What is a Course Handicap?

A Course Handicap indicates the number of handicap strokes a player receives from a specific set of tees at the course being played to adjust the player’s scoring ability to the level of scratch or zero handicap golf. For a player with a plus Course Handicap, it is the number of handicap strokes a player gives to adjust the player’s scoring ability to the level of scratch or zero-handicap golf. A Course Handicap is determined by applying the player’s Handicap Index to a Course Handicap Table or Course Handicap Formula. A player’s Course Handicap is expressed as a whole number.

What is a Differential?

A Handicap Differential is the difference between a player’s adjusted gross score and the Course Rating of the course on which the score was made, multiplied by 113, then divided by the Slope Rating from the tees played and rounded to the nearest tenth, e.g., 12.8.

What is Most Likely Score?

A “most likely score” is the score a player must post for handicap purposes if a hole is started but not completed or if the player is conceded a stroke. The most likely score consists of the number of strokes already taken plus, in the player’s best judgment, the number of strokes the player would take to complete the hole from that position more than half the time. This number may not exceed the player’s Equitable Stroke Control (ESC) limit.

So there you have it – a set of definitions that may answer questions about how your Handicap Index. Hit ‘em straight!

BACKSPIN SHOTS

by The Gapwedge

Anybody who’s played a fair amount of golf has encountered the character who hits his ball into the rough and complains about a bad lie. Gapwedge usually just points to the fairway where there can usually be found a few acres of good lies.

Then there’s luck. Nobody has good or bad luck all the time, yet some privileged characters yowl at the bad and accept the good with a strong sense of entitlement. A tree has two sides and nobody hits the in-bounds side every time.

Sometimes these characteristics coexist within the same individual and that can get old fast. If, in addition to these habits, the player needs anger management training to quit throwing clubs or otherwise taking his frustration out on the course or his mates, you have a trifecta that is bound to ruin your day on the course.

We don’t need Newtonian physics to know that somebody will continue to behave in the same way until acted upon by some outside agency. In this case, that agency will be the miscreant’s regular playing companions. If they don’t act to stem that behavior, it will continue and impose itself on the rest of us, and who wants that?