



THE SEPULVEDA
EAGLE

Sepulveda Men's Golf Club
Starter's Phone: (818) 995-1172
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Winter bursts in on first day of Spring!

Sepulveda's two jewels—Encino and Balboa—were ravaged by heavy flooding on a day that usually ushers in our nicest weather of the year!

More rain hit later in the same week, and undid some of the clean-up that had already begun.

"Encino got the worst of it," Golf Division Principal Superintendent Bob Davis pointed out, "and it'll be a few weeks before it will be playable. We're opening 9 holes—for walking." He added that Balboa is already up and running...all 18 holes, with carts.

"Encino sustained extensive mud, silt and debris damage throughout the course," Davis added, "especially to holes 5, 6 and 15. The clean-up and repairs of these three will take approximately two to three months.

"The 9-hole layout plays to a par 38, and consists of three 5 pars, five 4s and a 3 par." Golfers can play the 9-holer for the resident 9-hole rate, along with a replay rate at the super-twilight fee. Playing Encino 9 twice plays to a par 76 and spans over 7200 yards.

A big tip of our men's club golf cap to Senior Golf Superintendent Daniel Ward, Encino Super David Slavik and Balboa Super Sergio Mijares for their rapid work to get our courses back in shape!

The Next Tee

Sunday, April 3

Industry Hills/The Babe Course
10:20 am start
\$95 includes cart, range balls
LPGA played here a week before us!

Thursday, April 28

Simi Hills
11:00 am start
\$50 includes cart
Format: TBA

Saturday, May 7

The Palumbo
Simi Hills
8:04 am start
\$75 includes cart

Important Future Event

Senior Championship
Saturday, May 14 - Balboa
Sunday, May 15 - Encino
7:00 am start
\$100 includes prizes

Before.....



.....After



TEE/CUP Chips

By Irv Chernov, Eagle-Eyed Editor

Lather Up!

Every once in a while, at the first tee, you see a golfer spreading on sun-screen.

Every once in a while is not nearly enough! There are plenty of us—in all three Sepulveda complex golf clubs—who have been diagnosed with one form of melanoma or another. Melanomas are killer cancers...and sun-screens can help your skin stay safe. Or, at least, safer!

You may have heard that the surgery itself goes easier than other forms of cancer operations. That may or may not be true. It's the radiation and/or chemotherapy, however, that knocks you for a loop and has you regretting that you didn't take the time to take better care of your skin.

Most dermatologists tell us that SPF 15 is the minimum we should be using. Some brands go up to SPF 70. Whichever you prefer, spread it on before every round. Yes, even in Winter.

We wear less clothing in the Summer, though, so be sure to cover your legs, arms, face, neck and ears. Even with sunglasses and golf hats, your face is a prime target for this vicious skin cancer. Here in the Valley, the Summer sun can be extremely harsh, so you should spread it on even thicker. Keep at least one container in your golf bag and another in your glove compartment (for those days at the beach and other outdoor events).

One more thing: offer to let the other golfers in your foursome use your sun-screen. They may turn you down, but if enough of us keep our skin safer, the more golf we'll be playing in the future!

HANDICAP CHATTER

By Stu Olster, Handicap Chairman

Why is a round of golf 18 holes? Legend has it that there are 18 shots in a bottle of whisky so if the golfer drank a shot each hole, the round of golf was over when he had emptied the bottle.

A cute story but not remotely true. A bottle of whisky contains closer to 25 shots but aside from that, the 18-hole standard has nothing to do with booze. Eighteen holes is an arbitrary number adopted by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews at the turn of the 20th century. Before that, golf courses had a widely varying number of holes. The Old Course, for example, consisted of 22 holes and some courses had as few as five.

The USGA understands that a "round of golf" is 18 holes, yet it requires that we post

9-hole scores. Each pair of 9-hole scores is combined in the handicap calculation to approximate one complete round. Does this make sense? I don't think so.

Every one of us has had rounds in which there is a large variance between our scores on the two nines. In fact it happens often enough that one can conclude that playing a full round is of a different character than playing two half rounds. And since virtually all golf competitions consist of 18 holes or a multiple thereof, it seems logical to base handicaps only on full rounds.

It's my opinion that 9-hole scores should be ignored unless the golfer in question routinely plays only 9 holes at a time. The computer system that calculates our handicap indexes can easily be programmed to compare the ratio between half and full rounds and only use the 9-hole scores if the ratio exceeds a certain threshold.

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

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CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

I'm penning this column on the 77th day of limited golf cart availability, and I sincerely hope that by the time you read this, golf carts are again universally available on city courses.

The revenue lost these 77 plus days is irretrievable – not just the cart rental revenues but all those greens fees and concession fees lost as a direct result. How many persons cancelled tee times upon learning that carts weren't available with their 9:00 AM reservation? How much walk-up business simply walked away? How many buckets of range balls didn't get sold? How much food and beverage didn't get consumed?

But that's the small part of the loss. Revenue can have bad stretches for all sorts of reasons. Rain, cold and flooding of the Basin come immediately to mind at this time of year. Bad luck comes and goes. There are no long term consequences to it, and there's always the corresponding good luck when yesterday's losses can be recouped by today's unmerited good fortune.

The real loss is of the good will that is the cornerstone of all solid business enterprises. No matter what the reason for this 77 plus day interruption in cart service, and I do think that there have been reasons beyond the city's ability to control, the golfers have already drawn certain conclusions about this dismal episode. Those conclusions are not flattering to the city.

It is going to take a long time for the stench to clear and the customers to return. Given the stakes here, the city may as well have taken out a full page spread in the LA Times announcing that when the time came to step up to the plate and deliver the cart service in house, it wasn't up to the job.

Is that fair? No, but as in life so in business. Failure rains down on the industrious and the non-industrious alike – a lesson businessmen know all too well and our Parks Department management might want to learn before it's too late.

Sunday Tournament

Los Robles/March 13

A Flight Gross

1—74 Len Zambito	\$60
2—75 Mataka Sichilima	40
3—76 Beeri Meza	25
4—79 Marc Green	15

A Flight Net

1—67 Clint Bridge	\$60
2—71 Neil Zaniboni	40
3—73 Tom Ortiz	25
4—74 Mike Levy, Mark Brown, Dan Crawford, Mark Michellini, Ian Brumbaught	10 each

B Flight Gross

1—80 Alan Stewart	\$60
2—87 Ted Johnson	40
3—90 Perry Melillo	25
4—90 Mani Morshed	15

B Flight Net

1—67 Larry Zuckerman	\$60
2—71 Everado Gomez	40
3—72 Leonid Levin	25
4—74 Don Atkinson, Tommy Eunice, Ed Licht	10 each

Gross Skins--\$112 each

- #3 Len Zambito
- #6 Ashier Kamiel
- #11 Bill Keanu
- #13 Beeri Meza

Net Skins --\$152 each

- #3 Len Zambito
- #9 Gordon Seaberg
- #13 Beeri Meza
- #14 Mike Radtke

Closest to Pin--\$55 each

- #2 Randy Hammock
- #6 Everado Gomez
- #8 Alan Stewart
- #11 Marc Green
- #16 Asher Kamiel

Honey Pot: The team of Stewart/Zuckerman won \$220 with a 61

The Saint Patrick's Thursday tournament was cancelled due to rain, flood and mud.

MGA Highlights

By Pete Heller

**SEPULVEDA EDGED BY GRIFFITH PARK TWICE
SENIORS WIN ONE - TIE ONE AGAINST WOODLEY**

Harding Golf Course - March 17, 2011

Defending Champion Griffith Park eager to repeat as MGA winners narrowly defeated Len Zambito's Sepulveda Squad 40-32 and 19-17. Up next will be the Sepulveda Seniors who gave the younger team all they could handle in 2010.

Meanwhile the Seniors handily whipped Woodley Lakes in the Individual Matches but could only manage a tie in the two man competition 42-30 and 18-18.

In other action Rancho Park knocked Paul Andrews Hansen Dam team out of the rare (first place) and into the commonplace with twin shellackings 52-17 and 25-11.

Sepulveda Match Winners

Sepulveda Men's

Individual: Gene Vano, Dan Crawford, Jeff Sable, Pete Ruiz, Alfredo Piccolomini

Two Man: Crawford/Sable, Beams/Ruiz, Teague Piccolomini

Sepulveda Seniors

Individual: Tom Knickerbocker, Ron Abramson, Alan Lipsky, George Meinke
Cindi Rohn, Lars Ferling and Daen Abston

Two Man: Rohn/Ferling, House/Stuckert, Abramson/Meinke

Standings	W	L	T	Points
Rancho Park	5	1	0	10
Griffith Park	4	2	0	8
Hansen Dam	4	2	0	8
Sepulveda Seniors	2	3	1	5
Sepulveda Men's	2	4	0	4
Woodley Lakes	0	5	1	1

Next:

Encino Golf Course - April 21, 2011

7:00 Rancho Park vs Griffith Park

8:00 Woodley Lakes vs Hansen Dam

9:00 Sepulveda Srs. vs Sepulveda Mens

**Now you can use SMGC tourney scrip at
Roger Dunn OR Golfsmith**

When you win prize "money" in Club tournaments, it is paid in scrip. This scrip is now accepted at Golfsmith retail locations, as well as Roger Dunn stores.

Visit either, mix and match, whatever. Your winnings are now good as gold for whatever you want to buy...equipment, clothing, footwear, hats, gloves, balls, etc.

Just another great perk when you belong to the greatest men's golf club in town!

HEY, ACE!

If you make a hole-in-one in a club tournament, please contact Leonard Zambito at

(818) 761-3846

or email the details of date, course, hole #, distance, club used, etc. to:

leonardzambito@hotmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bruce Fortune

In last month's Eagle I shared with you the value of keeping your membership in the Sepulveda Men's Golf Club – the many services, perks and playing opportunities.

This month I'd like to remind you that these services are not provided by a paid staff here at Sepulveda or any other municipal golf club. We are entirely dependent upon volunteers for that.

I'd be remiss if I didn't take a moment to point out to you who they are and thank them profusely for their service. Indeed, when you're at an event and see a couple of guys behind the check-in desk take a moment to thank them yourself. Your personal thanks and keeping a great tradition alive are the only satisfactions these gentlemen receive.

No one does more for SMGC than Tournament Chairman and Past President Gene Vano. Gene not only oversees the club's tournament program and runs many of the tournaments himself, he represents the Club on the Golf Advisory Committee, where he is current Chair, serves as President of the MGA, coordinates the city's annual junior tournament at Sepulveda, and recruits more new members into our club than any other single person.

Yet Gene is hardly alone in serving you. Mark Michelini runs the club's non-block tournaments and assists Gene at the Sunday tournaments. Dan Crawford not only serves as the club treasurer; he assists Gene and Mark at many a tournament. New Board Member Evan Beren has assumed responsibility for handling some of the new countywide events Sepulveda will be participating in later this year. Hadi Morshed has spearheaded our efforts to improve parking lot security and coordinated the Club's very successful Team Play campaign this past 2010. Oh, and he publishes The Eagle too. Past President Irv Chernov serves as editor of The Eagle. Another Past President and former publisher of the Eagle for many years, is Rich Nance – currently tasked with assembling our annual Roster. Stu Olster is among the most knowledgeable Handicap Chairs in Southern California and is a regular contributor to The Eagle. Virgil Budhu built our web archive and maintains our web presence. Alan Stewart took over a confused database and put it in order when he assumed the ongoing duties of Membership Chair. Ted Johnson, past SCGA representative and current Trophy Chair. Tommy Eunice, our Secretary who produces accurate minutes of our proceedings in a timely manner every month without fail. Another Past President, Allen Weiss, is our Entertainment Chair. Ezra Gabay, member-at-large. And let me not forget Craig Kessler, possibly the most influential man in Southern California public golf. He works tirelessly through the SCGA, serving us in so many ways, most of which the members will really never know. In closing, I might add that I also serve as Secretary of the MGA, our club's SCGA representative and Board Member of the Golf Advisory Committee.

Gentlemen – I thank you. And whether they express it or not, I know that the members of the Club thank you too.

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