



February
2012

THE SEPULVEDA EAGLE

Sepulveda Men's Golf Club
Starter's Phone: (818) 995-1172
Visit our website at
www.smgc.org

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THE NEXT TEE

Sunday at Wilson February 12 (Sun) 9:00 AM- Format: Low-Gross, Low-Net at Wilson (Griffith Park). Here's a rare opportunity to play Wilson in a Sunday Tournament. This will go fast. only 60 spots. Deadline: January 11, Maximum Number of Players: 60, \$55.00 Contact: Gene Vano

February 23 (Thu) 9:00 AM- Thursday at Hansen Dam- Format: Low-Gross, Low-Net at Hansen Dam Golf Course is in nice shape Deadline: February 22, Maximum Number of Players: 60, \$45.00, Contact: Gene Vano

March 11 (Sun) 9:00 AM- Sunday at Los Robles- Format: Low-Gross, Low-Net at Los Robles Greens Golf Course Nice course. Very short. That's why we play from the black tees. Range Balls and Carts included Deadline: March 10, Maximum Number of Players: 60, \$60.00, Contact: Gene Vano

March 22 (Thu) 8:00 AM- St. Patrick's Day- Format: Low-Gross, Low-Net at Encino (Sepulveda) We will be doing Corned Beef and Cabbage that night at the Encino Glen. We will have entertainment. Deadline: March 21, Maximum Number of Players: 68, \$55.00, Contact: Gene Vano

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bruce Fortune

The finest greens in Southern California – that's what the SCGA Course Rating Team said when they recently re-rated our two golf courses. A little bit of exaggeration? Perhaps, but this compliment coming from a crew that rates the finest private clubs and resorts on a year-round basis is the highest of high praise. We have shared that "high praise" in writing with the Parks Commission, so that the powers that be will also know what an excellent job our Maintenance and Operations teams here at Sepulveda have been doing.

No wonder our membership numbers are up here at SMGC! Our participation rates as well. We had to cap our January tournament at Woodley Lakes at 80 players in order to get the last group finished before dark. We made it – in large part due to the cooperation of Woodley Staff and our own Tournament Committee's marshaling efforts. A tip of the hat to Gene Vano and Mark Michelini on that one, along with a thank you to Rich Nance for volunteering / Marshaling. This is something we're going to do more of as the year unfolds.

Our Club's first foray into SCGA Saturday Team Play began at Brookside January 15 – a respectable 31-17 loss to a veteran team that has had great success in this competition over the years. We'll try to even the score when Brookside travels to the hallowed fairways of Encino. The Brookside Gold Team was a pleasure to joust with – perfect gentlemen on the course.

To our new members, of which there are many, I say welcome to SMGC. To our renewing members I say welcome back. This is a vibrant club with an active Board of Directors working to make your membership the best golf value in town. Come join us on Sunday, February 12 at Wilson, Thursday, February 23 at Hansen Dam, and March 23 for the Annual St. Patrick's Day Tournament and Dinner at Encino Glen. You can go to the club's web site – www.smgc.org – to sign up. It's as easy as that.

See you on the fairways.

CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

While we wait to see how the various consulting reports and comments thereon shake out, I thought I'd share with you the following comments from the National Golf Foundation's (NGF) "Financial and Operational Analysis of the DeBell Golf Course" (Burbank). Los Angeles is by no means the only local municipal golf program undergoing a financial and operational review cum overhaul at the moment.

"Golf clubs represent a large part of business for the DeBell GC and are a great source of income for any public golf course. Clubs can be a great source of play for facilities like this as they represent a strong and loyal core of customers, willing to support operations even when other sources are reduced (poor weather, bad economy, changes in operation, etc.). These clubs also produce a large share of the pro shop revenue, through direct purchases and using gift certificates in the pro shop as prizes, and the clubs are well organized and coordinated with the pro shop."

The NGF then lists the active clubs at DeBell (total of 4) and then closes the section with the following final comment:

"Overall, the club and league program at DeBell GC is healthy for the system and should be continued and better promoted to grow the existing clubs, as well as develop new clubs and leagues."

Such has been the accepted wisdom in the golf industry for many years now. It is numbingly routine, so much so that my eyes glaze over each and every time I read it in some report or other – and I read a lot of these kinds of reports.

Of course, what is so "numbingly routine" and such "accepted wisdom" elsewhere isn't necessarily gospel here in Los Angeles. It is gospel here at Sepulveda, where our Course Manager and Superintendents couldn't possibly be more accommodating, but it is not gospel at all our brother city courses – and it is certainly not gospel among all who labor over at the Golf Division, particularly those who have yet to figure out that it's no longer 1988.

2011 President's Cup Winners

1st NEIL ZANIBONI -- \$250

2nd TED JOHNSON -- \$150

Tied 3rd MIKE EAGUE & STEVEN DEM -- \$75 each

It is our newest event The "On The Other Hand" Trophy It will be awarded once a year in July We have some thirty tournaments a year and by accruing points in each you could very well win this trophy!

Ed Cohn wrote a column for the Eagle for many years It was called " ON THE OTHER HAND". He will be gone two years this month.

SEPULVEDA MEN'S GOLF CLUB February / March 2010

Ed Cohn is gone. He fought like the giant he was. He had most of the afflictions that we hear about every day. He had been fighting for years with never a "why me". He had lung cancer, he had angioplasty for blockages in his legs, he had a tumor on the top of his head. His kidneys were failing so he had dialysis 3 days a week for 3 hours at a time. Still he fought all that stuff to a standstill. After dialysis at four in the morning he would come straight to the golf course and help with the tournaments and I mean really help. Last April he came every day for the three day Junior Championships and stayed from 7am til 5pm. He was an iron man. He brought his camera and took pictures of the kids and then in all our Sepulveda Championships he captured the winners photos. He carried a baggie with a million pills and it looked like a bag of M&Ms. Every color every size.

Chugged em down and said "my wife makes me take em." Ed was a proud member of the Marine Corps. He served on every committee in our club. He represented us at the Golf Advisory Committee. He was a past president of the Municipal Golf Association. He was our rep to the PLGA for many years. You name it he did it. In real life he was the executive director of the Southern California Tar (tire) Dealers Association. He was on a plane or in his car to Sacramento all the time fighting for his dealers on a moments notice. The guy never slept. Pneumonia finally got him last week but he battled right to the end.

Edwin J. Cohn was a truly marvelous human being. He was our Club President in 94-95 and if we didn't have term limits he would still be President. He brightened every room he ever walked into. I was privileged to have been in his foursome every Sunday for some 20 odd years. We all have great golf memories. Eddie Cohn is in most of mine.

He was the funniest guy, he was a true friend, and he made all our lives a lot better. He was "Cohn Khan the Magnificent" to me and I will never forget him. If I ever get to where he is I hope he will have me in his foursome.

HANDICAP CHATTER

By Stu Olster, Handicap Chairman

Our Club's golf association, SCGA, like other USGA-sanctioned associations, is charged with the responsibility of periodically "rating" courses to establish their *slopes* and *course ratings*, essential elements of the handicap system.

In December, the SCGA rating team visited our facility and carefully analyzed our courses for the purpose of establishing *slope* and *course rating* for new black tees to soon be installed on both courses.

Rating a course takes into account a large number of factors including length, prevailing wind conditions, number and placement of hazards, difficulty of greens, etc. Results of the rating team's analyses are expected soon. Shortly thereafter new scorecards will be printed which will include *slope*, *rating* and yardages for the new back tees.

While *slopes* and *course ratings* are the province of our association's rating team, it's the club(s) attached to the course that rank the holes for handicap purposes. In the December 2011 column I commented on the new hole ratings that took effect on December 1. When new scorecards are printed, we'll have the opportunity to take another look at the hole ratings and tweak them as necessary. Already there have been comments and suggestions for changes, which will certainly be considered by the Handicap Committee and full Board during this process.

I again want to invite the membership to comment on the present hole ratings and make suggestions for changes. While a longer trial period with the present rankings would have been desirable, it's not in the cards (no pun intended). We'll simply have to do the best we can.

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

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OOH Standings as of 12/19/11

Trophy in Memory of Ed Cohn

Alan Stewart has taken over the lead and Bruce Fortune has moved into second place.

Standings as of January 27, 2012

Player	Points	Rank
Stewart, Alan	1055	1
Fortune, Bruce	1030	2
Jordan Jr, James	1000	3
McKibben, Bob	950	4
Levin, Leonid	870	5
Pistotnik, Donald	800	6
Mac Donald, Sean	670	7
Vano, Gene	655	8
Zambito, Leonard	645	9
Galletti, Richard	640	10
Galper, Mark	615	11
Licht, Edward	610	12
Crawford, Dan T	605	13
Nozari, Ardeshir	590	14
Bridge, Clint	565	15
Michelini, Mark I.	535	16
Harvey, Brent	475	17
Chhabra, Vinod	465	18
Budhu, Virgil	460	19
Meza, Beerl	460	19
Bernhardt, Roy R	435	21
Rogers, Erik	435	21
Johnson, Ted	430	23
Nordquist, Erik	430	23
Vaughan, Mark	425	

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

Holiday Tournament w Guests

Thursday at Woodley Lakes,
January 26, 2012

Flight - A

Player Low Gross

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Chuck Ruiz*	77	50.00
2	Dan T Crawford	81	40.00
3	Mark O'Keefe	83	15.00
3	Alan Stewart	83	15.00

Player Low Net

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Mark I. Michelini	68	50.00
2	Bob McKibben	70	40.00
3	Jeff Murphy	73	30.00

Flight - B

Player Low Gross

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Bruce Fortune	84	50.00
2	Brent Harvey	87	40.00
3	Jim Thompson	88	30.00

Player Low Net

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Gene Vano	73	45.00
1	Marc Covert	73	45.00
3	John Gilbert	75	10.00
3	Erik Rogers	75	10.00
3	Edward Licht	75	10.00
3	Bruce N Lang	75	10.00

Closest-to-the-Pin (Across- A B)

Hole	Winner	Notes	Prize
3	Erik Rogers	10'1"	55.00
7	Alan Stewart	12'4"	55.00
12	Donald J. Pistotnik	23'1"	55.00
15	Frank Thomas	17"	55.00

Gross Skins (Across- A B)

# Of Skins (Holes)	Winner	\$ Per Skin	\$ Skin Total
1 (2)	George L Beams	48.00	48.00
1 (8)	Bruce N Lang	48.00	48.00
1 (6)	Wayne Lura	48.00	48.00
1 (14)	Sean MacDonald	48.00	48.00
1 (5)	Mark I. Michelini	48.00	48.00
1 (3)	John S. Platt	48.00	48.00
1 (15)	Frank Thomas	48.00	48.00

Flight - Net Skins (- A B, capped at 18)

# Of Skins (Holes)	Winner	\$ Per Skin	\$ Skin Total
1 (5)	Mark I. Michelini	92.00	92.00
1 (7)	Marc Covert	92.00	92.00
1 (8)	Bruce N Lang	92.00	92.00
1 (10)	Dan T Crawford	92.00	92.00
1 (14)	Sean MacDonald	92.00	92.00

Notes:

One Team won the Honey Pot with a 62 Michelini/Vano 270.00 to the team

Sunday at Woodley Lakes,

January 8, 2012

Flight - A

Player Low Gross

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Roy Randolph	72	60.00
2	Evan Heaps	76	50.00
3	Daniel Melillo	78	40.00
4	Paul Nance	79	15.00
4	Daniel H. Longmire	79	15.00
4	Gerard Sanders	79	15.00

Player Low Net

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Bryan Palbaum	67	60.00
2	Leonard Zambito	69	50.00
3	Alan Stewart	71	35.00
3	George L Beams	71	35.00
4	Alfredo O. Picolomini	72	10.00
4	Vinod Chhabra	72	10.00

Flight - B

Player Low Gross

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Bruce Fortune	85	60.00
2	Gary Patterson	86	30.00
2	Brent Harvey	86	30.00
2	Randolph M Hammock	86	30.00
2	Anthony Zaccaro	86	30.00

Player Low Net

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Roy R Bernhardt	65	60.00
2	Edward Licht	69	40.00
2	Michael Teague	69	40.00
2	Mark Galper	69	40.00
5	James Hahn	71	20.00

Flight - Gross Skins (Across- A B)

Player Gross Skins

# Of Skins (Holes)	Winner	\$ Per Skin	\$ Skin Total
1 (17)	Evan Heaps	295.00	295.00
1 (7)	Gary Patterson	295.00	295.00

Flight - Net Skins (Across- A B)

# Of Skins	Winner	\$ Per Skin	\$ Skin Total
1 (14)	Leonard J. Zambito	365.00	365.00
1 (6)	George L Beams	365.00	365.00

Flight - Closest-to-the-Pin (A B)

Player Closest-to-the-Pin

Hole	Winner	Notes	Prize
3	Alan Miller	14'6"	90.00
7	Richard Whorton	3'2"	90.00
12	Phil J Kapsimalis	15'9"	45.00
	Dan Lonmire		
15	Edward Licht	9'9"	90.00

Notes: For the second tournament in a row we have a tie on one of the holes.

Been doing SMGC tournaments for 20 some odd years and it never happened before and now it's twice.

One team won the Honey Pot:: Levin/Teague with a 61...510.00 to the team.

MGA Report

By: Pete Heller

SEPULVEDA WHIPPED BY GRIFFITH PARK
SENIORS LOSE TO RANCHO TWICE

Harding Golf Course - January 19, 2012

Commissioner Ray Stuckert gave us a lovely day for a round of golf in beautiful Griffith Park, but nothing else.

Len Zambito's Sepulveda squad was crushed by defending Champion Griffith Park 51-21 and 28-8.

Griffith Park is looking for a third straight Championship, a feat previously only pulled off by Rancho Park who had been used to just showing up to win.

And speaking of Rancho Park they ripped John Lanza's senior team twice 43-29 and 19-17 to give everyone notice that they want their trophy back.

The good news is that next month Sepulveda Mens play Sepulveda Seniors and someone will have to win.

In the final match Hansen Dam squeaked by Woodley Lakes 30-27 in the individuals but Woodley battled to a 15-15 tie in the two man matches.

Sepulveda Match Winners

Sepulveda Mens

Individual: Gene Vano, Steven Fox
Two Man: Fortune/Fox

Sepulveda Seniors

Individual: Bill House, Allen Lipsky, Dean Abston, Pete Prieto
Two Man: House/Stuckert, Prieto/Ferling

Standings	W	L	T	Points
Griffith Park	2	0	0	4
Rancho Park	2	0	0	4
Hansen Dam	1	0	1	3
Woodley Lakes	0	1	1	1
Sepulveda	0	2	0	0
Sepulveda Seniors	0	2	0	0

Next: Encino Golf Course - February 15, 2012

7:00 - Sepulveda Seniors vs Sepulveda Mens

Next - Rancho Park vs Woodley Lakes
Next - Griffith Park vs Hansen Dam

SCGA Saturday Team Play Report

Round 1 saw the SMGC team with a close lose to the Brookside Gold team, 31-17 on the Brookside #1 course. Team winners: Meza/Longmire and Fox/Levy. Individual winners: Daniel Longmire, Leonard Zambito, Hadi Morshed and Bruce Fortune.

Round 2 had the SMGC team with a convincing victory over the Brookside Gold team at our home course of Encino, 31-17.

Team winners: Melillo/Bridge, Fox/Zaniboni, McKibben/Radtke and Fortune/Vano. Individual winners: Dan Melillo, Clint Bridge, Steven Fox, Neil Zaniboni, Michael Levy, Leonard Zambito, Bob McKibben, Hadi Morshed and Gene Vano.

Round 3 and the SMGC team won again, this time beating the team from El Dorado Park, 28-20. Team winners: Zaniboni/Scott, Beams/Morshed and Fortune/Sable. Individual winners: Paul Nance, Neil Zaniboni, Alan Stewart, George Beams, Bruce Fortune, Jeff Sable and Gene Vano.

BACKSPIN SHOTS

By The Gapwedge

A golfer with respect for the game and an ounce of common courtesy wouldn't leave a bunker without raking it. There are footprints all over every bunker Gapwedge has seen lately so it follows that there might be a shortage of those qualities.

In any case it was one such footprint that captured Gapwedge's ball recently and changed the next shot from "highly unlikely" to "never in three lifetimes!"

Here are a few other tips you might want to take:

Take your practice swings without taking divots. If what goes around comes around, and they say it does, a violator is destined someday to find his ball enveloped in a deep divot at a critical time.

Hold your tongue when somebody is preparing to make a shot. Whatever you have to say can wait a few seconds unless somebody's hair is on fire. Stand still when the person making a shot might be able to see movement in his peripheral vision. Err on the side of courtesy.

On the practice putting green: please don't stand on the hole. Golf holes and their immediate surrounding area are sacred grounds and must not be damaged in any way. After completing a hole, move aside far enough that another person can use that hole. If you must kibitz on the green, do so quietly, please.

Don't put clubs into or take clubs out of your bag while someone is getting ready to hit a shot.

Don't walk or move your cart when a nearby player is making a shot.

Don't offer unsolicited swing advice anywhere but especially during a round.

The gentleman who left the footprint that swallowed Gapwedge's ball didn't intend to cause a problem for another player; he simply didn't care enough about the course and the game to take a few seconds to do what he knew he should do.

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