



March
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

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 tips. Black Tees. Range Balls and Carts included
Deadline: March 10, Maximum Number of Players: 60, \$60.00

March 22 (Thu) 7:30 AM Shotgun Start St. Patrick's Day, Format: Low Gross/Low Net at Encino (Sepulveda)
Lunch will be held in the coffee shop immediately after the tournament
Deadline: March 21, Maximum Number of Players: 68, \$60.00. Carts & lunch included

April 26 (Thu) 10:00 AM- Thursday at Simi Hills, Format: Team Better Ball at Simi Hills. CARTS are included
Deadline: April 25, Maximum Number of Players: 60, \$55.00
For information about any of our tournaments contact: Gene Vano

Editorial

IT'S DECISION TIME FOR THE CITY GOLF SYSTEM

The golf consulting reports are in – both of them, one dealing with the July 2010 greens fee schedule and a second much more substantive one dealing with the structure of the system itself.

Detailed written comments regarding both have been submitted by the city's Golf Advisory Committee (GAC), Local 721 of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), and the Southern California Golf Association (SCGA).

While they differ in some of their particulars, they all agree with the overriding conclusion submitted by SEIU: "The status quo is no longer sustainable."

More specifically, they agree on the need to strengthen stakeholder input, implement administrative efficiencies, establish a more credible "city overhead" allocation formula, implement a modern point-of-sale system, devise modern marketing and affinity programs, and create a management structure with the expertise necessary to meet the golf program's central challenge: A system capable of full sustainability as defined not just by a revenue stream sufficient to meet all current expenses and obligations, but one sufficient to set aside a minimum of 10% of gross revenues in a trust fund for the financing of the capital improvements indispensable to ongoing viability.

According to the consultants, the city golf program is capable of meeting this "central challenge," but only if Recreation and Parks officials are willing to entertain something other than business as usual. While there are versions of "something other" that involve various degrees of outsourcing, there are also versions that involve nothing more than implementing a set of internal changes in conjunction with incorporating the professional and management expertise identified by the consultants as so sorely lacking in the current program.

Very encouraging is the following: That if one overlays the comments and prescriptions of the Golf Advisory Committee, SEIU and SCGA, one discovers a great deal of common ground, more than enough to provide a viable road map toward full sustainability as defined by the consultants – a common ground capable of implementation without the political firestorms that might result from some of the more radical solutions the consultants offered.

Even more encouraging is Recreation and Park Executive Officer Regina Adams' following quote in the February 23 edition of the Daily News: "We are taking a holistic look at our entire golf operation in order to determine what is best for the golfing public." Following the "road map" provided by the "common ground" represented by GAC, SEIU and SCGA would allow the city to move quickly and seamlessly. In addition, and no doubt most importantly from the perspective of the city's workforce, it would obviate the need for the more radical changes that would be inevitable at some future point were the city to forgo the opportunity created by this consensus and stick with a failed status quo.

Should the Department and Parks Commission determine that the "holistic look" requires more public input than it has already received, i.e., input beyond the extensive written comments submitted by GAC, SEIU, and SCGA, we would only say: No problem. The more voices, the more viewpoints in the debate, the better!

That is what is at stake in coming weeks. The outcome will largely turn on whether the city can find within itself the smallest measure of regenerative thinking needed to accept change.

SCGA Saturday Team Play Report (AKA Wait until Next Year!!) E.J. Beren, Eagle Editor

We'll be back! It would seem that after getting off to a 2-1 start in our first season of SCGA team play, the SMGC team ran out of steam and had a bit of a rocky finish.

Round 4 found our team at El Dorado Park Golf Course, a match we lost 27-21.

Team winners: Scott/Okeefe, Radke/Morshed and Budhu/Beren. Individual winners: Okeefe, Bryson, Radke, Morshed and Budhu.

Round 5 saw us still on the road, this time at the Lakewood Golf Club, where we lost another close match, 28-20.

Team winners: Levy/Okeefe, Stewart/Crawford and Sable/Fortune. Individual winners: Levy, Zambito, Stewart, Crawford, Sable, Fortune and Budhu.

Round 6 we hosted the Division winners, Lakewood at our Encino Course and found ourselves on the losing end of a 33-15 score.

Team winners: Morshed/Fortune and Patterson/Mesropian. Individual winners: Levy, Fortune, Vano, Mesropian and Budhu. Our top players were Bruce Fortune, 8-2-0 overall with 16 points, Michael Levy, 6-2-2 overall with 14 points and Hadi Morshed, 7-5-0 overall with 14 points.

Team Captain Gene Vano and Co-Captain Evan Beren wish to thank Junior Assistant Captain Gary Patterson, Alan Stewart, Dan Crawford, Rich Nance, Dan Melillo and Bruce Fortune for their help with this endeavor.

SMGC would like to thank the entire group of guys who gave of their time and efforts to make this, our first year in SCGA Team Play, a fun time. While not victorious we gained valuable experience and hope that all of you (and more!) will join us again in 2013. Please remember that you must be an ACTIVE member of SMGC on Dec 31st, 2012 to qualify.

Comments or questions may be directed to the author at ejberen@me.com

HANDICAP CHATTER By Stu Olster, Handicap Chairman

With the impending installation of black tees on our courses, new scorecards will be printed that contain yardages, course rating and slope for each course from all tees for both genders.

In addition to rating our courses for black tees, the rating team rated all other tees because their yardages were changed to make room for the new tees. For instance, Encino from the blue tees presently has a course rating and slope of 70.9 and 114, respectively. When the black tees are installed, the course rating and slope for the blue tees will be 70.6 and 116. The yardages from the blue tees will be reduced from 6,789 to 6,564 and the length for the white tees will shrink from 6,451 to 6,208.

These changes will affect handicap strokes so it would be wise to check the course conversion table to determine course handicaps from your tees. At the same time, our Handicap Committee changed the handicap numbers on several holes on both courses which is another reason to be careful until all the new numbers become second nature.

The new cards make no reference to red tees. The former red tees will be yellow. It is hoped that the yellow tees will be more attractive to older male golfers to whom "red tees" carry an unmanly connotation. Time will tell if the ploy works. Meantime, the course from the yellow tees will play to 5,642 yards, compared with 6,193 for the present red tees.

The trend in golf is to provide multiple tees so that golfers of all ages and abilities can find a tee that makes the round enjoyable for them. Whether golfers will choose to play the tees that are best for them is a question for another time.

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

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OOH Standings as of February 27 2012

Trophy in Memory of Ed Cohn

**Bruce Fortune and Alan Stewart have
switched place and Bruce now leads.**

Player	Points	Rank
Fortune, Bruce	1140	1
Stewart, Alan	1065	2
McKibben, Bob	1050	3
Jordan Jr, James	1010	4
Levin, Leonid	910	5
Zambito, Leonard J.	830	6
Pistotnik, Donald J.	820	7
Vano, Gene	745	8
Mac Donald, Sean	670	9
Galletti, Richard	640	10
Licht, Edward	640	10
Michelini, Mark I.	635	12
Galper, Mark	625	13
Crawford, Dan T	615	14
Raafat, Sepehr	595	15
Nozari, Ardeshir	590	16
Bridge, Clint	565	17
Nugent, Brian	555	18
Longmire, Daniel H.	505	19
Rogers, Erik	505	19
Bernhardt, Roy R	495	21
Thompson, Jim	495	21
Harvey, Brent	485	23
Chhabra, Vinod	475	24
Paciorek, Robert S.	475	24

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

Sunday at Wilson February 12, 2012

Flight A Low Gross		
Place Winner	Score	Prize
1 Gerard Sanders	76	55.00
2 Evan Heaps	80	35.00
3 Mark Spicer	81	20.00
3 Steven Fox	81	20.00
5 Tyson Petrovich	82	10.00

Flight A Low Net		
Place Winner	Score	Prize
1 Thomas Ortiz	72	45.00
1 Leonard Zambito	72	45.00
3 Bob McKibben	73	25.00
4 Mark I. Michelini	75	15.00
5 Craig C. Kessler	76	10.00

Flight B Low Gross		
Place Winner	Score	Prize
1 Bruce Fortune	87	55.00
2 Jack F. Barton	91	35.00
3 Sean MacDonald	92	25.00
4 Jim Thompson	93	15.00
5 Brian Nugent	94	10.00

Flight B Low Net		
Place Winner	Score	Prize
1 Greg Petrovich	71	55.00
2 David Joslyn	73	35.00
3 Wayne Curtis	74	25.00
4 James Hahn	75	15.00
5 Roy R Bernhardt	77	10.00

Gross Skins (Across- A B)		
# Of Skins (Holes)	\$ Per Skin	\$Total
1(14) Jay Baca	100.00	100.00
1(3) Ian Brumbaugh	100.00	100.00
1(16) Marc W Carter	100.00	100.00
1(5) Evan Heaps	100.00	100.00
1(6) Asher Kamiel	100.00	100.00
1(12) Gerard Sanders	100.00	100.00

Net Skins (Across- A B, HCPs capped at 18)		
# Of Skins (Holes)	\$ Per Skin	\$Total
1(3) Roy R Bernhardt	236.00	236.00
1(9) Wayne Curtis	236.00	236.00
1(16) Marc W Carter	236.00	236.00

Flight - Closest-to-the-Pin (Across- A B)		
Hole Winner	Notes	Prize
3 James Jordan Jr	12'10"	115.00
11 Leonard Zambito	63'	115.00
15 Bill Brandel	6' 8"	115.00

Notes: One team won the Honey Pot. The Petrovich family Father and Son 510.00 to the team

Thursday at Hansen Dam, February 23, 2012

Flight A Low Gross		
Place Winner	Score	Prize
1 Chuck Ruiz*	74	70.00
2 Marc Green	75	50.00
3 Jeff Murphy	81	30.00
3 Robert S. Paciorek	81	30.00

Flight A Low Net		
Place Winner	Score	Prize
1 Daniel H. Longmire	70	50.00
1 Michael Levy	70	50.00
1 Bill Fair	70	50.00
4 Michael R Bassin	73	25.00

Flight B Low Gross		
Place Winner	Score	Prize
1 Brian Nugent	85	70.00
2 Andy Levine	86	40.00
2 Jim Thompson	86	40.00
4 Gene Vano	89	20.00
4 Chris Stronberg	89	20.00

Flight B Low Net		
Place Winner	Score	Prize
1 Bruce N Lang	70	70.00
2 Thomas Holt	72	50.00
3 Erik Rogers	74	20.00
3 Tommaso Trinchieri	74	20.00
3 Tommy Eunice	74	20.00

Gross Skins (Across- A B)		
# Of Skins (Holes)	\$ Per Skin	\$Total
1(16) Daniel H. Longmire	100.00	100.00
1(17) Robert S. Paciorek	100.00	100.00
1(11) Adrian Pereyra	100.00	100.00
1(7) Chris Stronberg	100.00	100.00

Net Skins (Across- A B, HCPs capped at 18)		
# Of Skins (Holes)	\$ Per Skin	\$Total
1(1) David A. Carlson	65.00	65.00
1(2) Tommaso Trinchieri	65.00	65.00
1(4) Allan Lipsky	65.00	65.00
1(7) Chris Stronberg	65.00	65.00
1(8) Edward Licht	65.00	65.00
1(10) Marc Covert	65.00	65.00
1(11) Adrian Pereyra	65.00	65.00
1(15) Bruce N Lang	65.00	65.00

Flight - Closest-to-the-Pin (Across- A B)		
Hole Winner	Notes	Prize
7 Brian Nugent	5'6"	65.00
9 Leonard J. Zambito	3'10"	65.00
13 Michael Levy	14'1"	65.00
16 Jim Thompson	14'4"	65.00

Notes: One team won the Honey Pot with a 62 Nugent/Stronberg 400.00 to the team

MGA TEAM PLAY REPORT SENIORS WIN ONE, TIE ONE AGAINST MENS' CLUB

Encino Golf Course - February 16, 2012

Both Sepulveda MGA Teams battled down to the wire with some excellent performances on both sides. In the end, the Seniors had the better of it edging the Men's Club in the individuals and tying them in the two man competition. Possibly though, the difference was that bane of all Captains, Tournament Directors and fellow players, the **NO-SHOW**.

The three point difference in the individuals (36-33) came as a result of a Mens' Club forfeit. Needless to say the 18-18 tie might, almost certainly, have been averted had the team been playing with 12 men instead of 11. The fact is that there is **NO EXCUSE** for not showing once you have agreed to play. I hope **EVERYONE** gets this message.

In other action - two big surprises. Hansen Dam whipped defending champion Griffith Park twice 44-28 and 22-14. And earlier, from out of nowhere, Woodley Lakes shocked Rancho Park with twin wins 41-31 and 24-12.

Sepulveda Match Winners

Sepulveda Mens

Individual: Jeff Sable, Pete Ruiz, Gene Vano and Len Zambito

Two Man: Sable/Longmire, Beams/Ruiz and Vano/Zambito

Sepulveda Seniors

Individual: Ray Stuckert, George Bryson, Steve Skinner, Dale Gant and Lars Ferling

Two Man: Stuckert/Bryson, Cornner/Lipsky and Ferling/Skinner

Standings	W	L	T	Points
Hansen Dam	3	0	1	7
Woodley Lakes	2	1	1	5
Griffith Park	2	2	0	4
Rancho Park	2	2	0	4
Sepulveda Seniors	1	2	1	3
Sepulveda Mens	0	3	1	1

Next: Woodley Lakes Golf Course - Mar 15, 2012

7:00 Sepulveda Seniors vs Griffith Park
8:00 Sepulveda Mens vs Woodley Lakes
9:00 Hansen Dam vs Rancho Park

The Geockner Report

Congratulations to the team of James Jordan Jr. and Michael Levy, SMGC 2011 Winners of the Geockner Classic. Their names are being engraved on the perpetual Geockner Trophy after defeating the team of Brian Nugent and Alan Stewart 5 & 4 in the final match of our annual team match play tournament.

The SMGC wishes to thank Mark Michelini who managed to herd the pairs of golfers toward its final conclusion, and Gene Vano who helped coordinate the qualifier. The Geockner would not be the Geockner were there not delays (sometimes painful, lengthy, delays for the likes of surgeries, births of children and grand children, even the dread family vacations had to be factored in).

Through it all Trail Boss Mark stayed the course and we now look forward to President's Cup Competition starting again May 1, 2012.

BACKSPIN SHOTS by The Gapwedge

In case you haven't heard, the range and pro shop operator at Woodley abandoned ship in midstream a few months ago leaving behind an empty pro shop and our fair City scrambling to figure out how to run a driving range.

Gapwedge owns three Woodley range tokens which cost \$8. While sitting in his golf bag, they literally became worthless overnight. Now \$8 isn't that much, but there's a principle lurking here.

Gapwedge wanted to buy a token's worth to warm up for his round. Not to be. The new ball machines can't tell the old tokens from shrapnel. "That's OK," thought Gapwedge. "I'll simply exchange the token for the legal tender *du jour*." What a delusion!

A young range attendant politely informed Gapwedge that there would be no exchange; that it was the concessionaire who got the money and the City was not going to make good on the tokens. Goodwill, it would seem, is a concept with which the LA golf operation is not familiar.

For Gapwedge's money, the City is morally obligated to make good on the tokens because it was the City who painstakingly picked the operator in an arduous and mysterious process known as an RFP. We golfers play no real part in the selection process and have no way to protect ourselves against a flaky concessionaire.

Leaving aside morality, honoring the few outstanding tokens doesn't involve any refunds of money and would cost no more than the imperceptible wear and tear on 30 balls. Gapwedge is out \$8 and the City saved itself pennies. Sadly, somebody actually gets paid to make these kinds of decisions.

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