



THE SEPULVEDA EAGLE

Sepulveda Men's Golf Club
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September 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bruce Fortune

As I write this column, the long-anticipated golf consultant study has yet to be made public, but that didn't stop the Daily News from printing its basic findings on the front page of its August 12 edition.

According to the newspaper, "interviews with city managers, workers and the golf community found universal dislike for the current system." Golfers believe "the current operating system is inefficient and ineffective, operating in a time warp compared to contemporary practices and standards within the golf industry." "Representatives of SEIU are not fully confident that the current golf management structure provides a sufficient platform for the implementing the kind of changes needed; they indicate they would have no problem working for a manager from the private sector."

Then the consultant's conclusion as excerpted in the newspaper: "This model is extremely inefficient and cumbersome, which produces a less than desirable experience for the golfers and less revenue than achievable under alternative structures."

Ouch! Inefficient, ineffective, time warp, cumbersome – so much so that a labor union is prepared to work for private sector managers rather than continue with the traditional Civil Service arrangement?

Color me not surprised. Color me vindicated as a member of the Golf Advisory Committee, a Body that has been desperately trying to inject the smallest measures of creativity, modernity and entrepreneurial thinking into the ossified Parks Bureaucracy for a long time, but to no avail. Most of all, color me relieved that at long last there would appear to be an overwhelming public mandate for change.

And by "change" I mean systemic and management change, not necessarily massive personnel change. The system has fallen short, and those who managed it, or more accurately mismanaged it, have fallen short. But so many in the field and on the courses have not failed. Indeed, they've managed to keep the system somewhat functional while so much around them has been in a state of free fall. They should not be punished; they should be rewarded by being allowed to continue their good work under a system and set of managers worthy of them.

Speaking of one such "worthy" Golf Division employee, congratulations to Chuck Ruiz on his recent promotion to Hansen Dam Golf Course Manager. The MGA's loss is Hansen Dam's gain.

I hope to see many of you, the concerned, involved golfing public at the upcoming Rec and Park Commission meetings September 7th and 21st. Our presence is needed; our mission is clear.

Tournament Notes

Because of the SCGA Sunday Team Match Play Tournament we will not have a Sunday Tournament this month. Stay tuned to the web site for more details in an upcoming announcement.

Results for the Thursday at Harding Tournament will be printed in the October Eagle and Can Be found on line at WWW.SMGC.ORG

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THE NEXT TEE

Encino Golf Course

Thursday September 22 7:00 AM

The Geockner Memorial Two Man Best Ball Match Play Championship. The qualifying round if needed will be played Saturday October 8th.

Qualifying round is based on more than 32 teams signing up. First round to be completed by Sunday, October 16th.

Second round to be completed by Sunday, October 23rd, and Third round to be completed by Sunday, October 30th. Semifinals to be played Saturday, November 5th; Finals to be played Sunday, November 6th.

Cost \$20.00 per player, plus green fees for each round.

If you need a partner Mark will set you up. 8 Handicap differential between partners. The highest handicap will play down if necessary.

Contact Mark Michelini at (818) 355-6492 for more information.

CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

Courtesy of the Daily News, we all received an advance taste of the big golf consulting report before it was released publicly – a "taste" only. I'm looking forward to parsing every word of it when it comes before the Parks Commission, which should occur either September 7 or September 21. Mark those dates down on your calendar. This one's important. How the Parks Board handles what we now know is a highly critical and complicated report will determine the fate of our sputtering golf system.

Here's hoping that when the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners formally takes it up, it will do so in the open minded spirit of Commission President Sanders' comments in the Daily News about the value his Commission places upon the city's golf patrons, as well as the open minded spirit of organized labor's expressed willingness to entertain different ways of managing the current system.

Here's also hoping that the Parks Commission will entertain the appointment of a task force of key system stakeholders for the purpose of translating this open mindedness into a set of practical, politically doable recommendations capable of quick implementation.

It would appear that the overseers of the system, the workers of the system, and the users of the system have coalesced around the need for change and are prepared to work together to bring it about – a rare confluence of interest too precious to waste.

Comments or questions may be addressed to the author at craigkessler@aol.com

Post Time

By E.J. Beren, Editor

Some golfers seem to be uncertain about what rounds to post. The answer is simple; you should post every time you play – at least every time you play at least 7 holes of a designated 9-hole course separately and specifically rated by a USGA licensed golf association. The procedures are quite specific. Section 5-2 b. of the USGA Handicap System tells you how:

If 13 or more holes are played, the player must post an 18-hole score. If 7 to 12 holes are played, the player must post a nine-hole score. In either case, scores for unplayed holes must be recorded as par plus any handicap strokes that the player is entitled to receive on unplayed holes.

What that means is that you record a par for any unplayed hole on which your Handicap does not give you a stroke, a bogey on any hole that you receive one Handicap stroke, and a double bogey on any hole that you receive two Handicap strokes.

And of course, whenever you pick up on any hole you post the score that the Equitable Stroke Control (ESC) protocol allots your particular Handicap range – a double bogey for 9 and below Handicappers, a 7 for 10-19 Handicappers, an 8 for 20-29 Handicappers, and a 9 for 30 and above Handicappers.

Always remember that these rules do not apply to your Handicap Index; they apply to the Course Handicap that your Index gives you from the specific set of tees you're playing.

Posting isn't rocket science. But it is a requirement of the USGA Handicap System that the Sepulveda Golf Club rigidly enforces. Sepulveda's posting computer is in the coffee shop. It can be accessed through the bar after the coffee shop closes. It is the preferred mode of posting; however, you can also post on the SCGA web site at www.scga.org, and you can even download an application from the SCGA that allows you to post on your Smartphone.

Comments or questions may be addressed to the author at ejberen@sbcglobal.net

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President's Cup Report

As the championship grinds toward its finish we can report that James Jordan Jr. defeated Dan Longmire 3 and 2, Neil Zaniboni defeats Phil Kapsimallis 3 and 2, Stephen Dem defeats Dan Crawford 3 and 1.

In quarter final action Ted Johnson defeats George Bryson 5 and 4, Michael Teague defeated Gene Vano 3 and 2.

You can reach Mark at 818-355-6492.

HANDICAP CHATTER

By Stu Olster, Handicap Chairman

There is something about a numerical representation of a series of events that bespeaks truth and certitude, especially if we see it on a computer screen or a printout. Take a golfer's handicap index for example--- please! Each month, a computer reduces our efforts on the course to a number that is supposed to describe our competence as golfers and give us the means of competing with one another on a more-or-less equal basis. Over the long haul, the system is remarkably accurate, but how well does the handicap system actually predict how the golfer will perform on a given day?

Steve and Larry both have indexes of 10.0, but Steve plays a steady and conservative game, with lots of pars and very few double bogeys. His scores vary within a relatively narrow range and his differentials (generally the spread between his adjusted score and the course rating) usually stay within a range of 8 to 12. Steve may never shoot a par round, but he will rarely shoot in the high 80s or above either. Steve's index is a reasonably good predictor of how he will perform each time he tees it up.

Larry plays a different kind of game. He's a long hitter and an aggressive player who is capable of shooting well below his handicap, but inconsistency causes his scores vary widely. Larry has a few par rounds to his credit (shot when the stars aligned just so), but he also shoots scores in the nineties, well above what one might expect from a player with his handicap index. Larry's index would be much lower if he had Steve's consistency and could eliminate the errors on the 3 or 4 holes that cause his scores to balloon.

In my opinion, Larry or somebody like him will often win a one-round event, simply because they have the ability to shoot scores way below their handicaps. The larger the field, the greater the possibility that one of those players will shoot a net score of 65 or better, something Steve or players like him aren't likely to do. Of course in multi-round tournaments, the steadier player is likely to do better.

Will Steve do better than Larry in a match play competition? Maybe. Suppose Steve plays to his handicap by shooting 81 with 9 pars and 9 bogeys. It is entirely possible that Larry can win decisively, even while shooting a higher score, by carding 7 pars and 3 birdies, even if he also shoots 3 or 4 "dreaded others."

But there is no assurance that these different players with identical handicap indexes will compete closely with one another regardless of the format of the competition.

Consider also the margin for error enjoyed by the 20 handicapper that allows him to occasionally shoot a score 5 or 6 shots below his handicap (with nary a raised eyebrow but quite a few 'attaboys'). For a 3-handicapper to do that would require a lifetime best round. The better you are, the harder it is to play below your handicap, except on a percentage basis. Percentages are great tools for the economists, but in golf it's the strokes that matter.

The Handicap System, the backbone of amateur golf and the primary reason why golf clubs like ours exist, needs to be kept in perspective. It is an imperfect tool to perform its stated function, yet it's far better than nothing. Anybody who has competed seriously at golf knows that the best golf competition occurs between closely matched opponents playing "straight up."

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

Thursday at Rancho

July 28, 2011

LowGross/LowNet

Flight - A

Player	Low Gross	Place/Winner	Score	Prize
1 Clint Bridge	73		73	50.00
2 Beeri Meza	75		75	35.00
3 Paul Nance	78		78	25.00
4 Ian Brumbaugh	80		80	15.00

Player	Low Net	Place/Winner	Score	Prize
1 James Jordan Jr	68		68	50.00
2 Eric Smutko	69		69	35.00
3 Robert Paciorek	70		70	25.00
4 Ted Johnson	73		73	15.00

Flight - B

Player	Low Gross	Place/Winner	Score	Prize
1 Richard Galletti	83		83	50.00
2 Bruce Fortune	87		87	35.00
3 Greg R. Ableser	89		89	25.00
4 Armen Mesropian	91		91	15.00

Player	Low Net	Place/Winner	Score	Prize
1 Mark J. Galper	62		62	50.00
2 Erik Rogers	70		70	35.00
3 Irving Reitzenstein	71		71	25.00
4 Edward Licht	75		75	15.00

Flight - Gross Skins (Across- A B)

Player Gross Skins (A-B)

# Of Skins (Holes)	Winner	\$ Skin Total
1 (10)	Clint Bridge	62.00
1 (6)	James Jordan Jr	62.00
1 (7)	Mike McWilliams	62.00
1 (9)	Beeri Meza	62.00
1 (12)	Paul Nance	62.00

Player Net Skins (capped at 18)

# Of Skins (Holes)	Winner	\$ Skin Total
1 (7)	Mike McWilliams	140.00
1 (16)	Irving Reitzenstein	140.00
1 (18)	Erik Rogers	140.00

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

Hole	Winner	Notes	Prize
3	Dennis Smith	7'7"	45.00
8	Michael Levy	40'4"	45.00
12	Paul Nance	Hole in One	45.00
16	Eric Smutko	13'3"	45.00

Notes:

Paul Nance Aces 12 and gets the newly added bonus from the club...\$ 150.00
It was his fifth lifetime...Congrats Paul.
Two teams share the Honey Pot with 65s Galetti/Fortune & Galetti/Vano 100.00 each team

Sunday at the Vineyard

River Ridge, August 14, 2011

LowGross/LowNet

Flight - A

Player	Low Gross	Place/Winner	Score	Prize
1 James Jordan Jr	74		74	80.00
2 Clint Bridge	78		78	50.00
3 Beeri Meza	79		79	30.00
4 Bill Sherwood	80		80	20.00

Player	Low Net	Place/Winner	Score	Prize
1 Dan T Crawford	71		71	80.00
2 Phil J Kapsimallis	73		73	50.00
3 Mark Davidson	74		74	25.00
3 George Bryson	74		74	25.00

Flight - B

Player	Low Gross	Place/Winner	Score	Prize
1 Sean Mac Donald	78		78	80.00
2 Bruce Fortune	89		89	40.00
2 Mark Vaughan	89		89	40.00
4 Mike McWilliams	91		91	10.00
4 Stacey Shinnick	91		91	10.00

Player	Low Net	Place/Winner	Score	Prize
1 Erik Rogers	70		70	65.00
1 Richard Galletti	70		70	65.00
3 Roy R Bernhardt	75		75	30.00
4 Wayne Curtis	76		76	20.00

Flight - Gross Skins (Across- A B)

Player Gross Skins (A-B)

# Of Skins (Holes)	Winner	\$ Skin Total
1 (9)	Robert Cavanaugh	100.00
1 (5)	James Jordan Jr	100.00
1 (4)	Asher Kamiel	100.00
2 (10,14)	Robert S. Paciorek	200.00

Player Net Skins (capped at 18)

# Of Skins (Holes)	Winner	\$ Skin Total
1 (3)	Erik Rogers	140.00
1 (9)	Robert Cavanaugh	140.00
2 (10,14)	Robert S. Paciorek	280.00

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

Hole	Winner	Notes	Prize
3	Clint Bridge	5'5"	55.00
7	Tommy Eunice	12'2"	55.00
9	James Jordan Jr	11'1"	55.00
12	Evan Beren	3'6"	55.00
18	Roy R Bernhardt	9'6"	55.00

MGA Highlights

By Pete Heller

SEPULVEDA SURPRISES RANCHO AND THEN SOME!

SENIORS LOSE TWO TO HANSEN DAM

Hansen Dam Golf Course - August 18, 2011

The Sepulveda MGA Team smashed and I mean smashed league leading Rancho Park, 52-20 and 31-5. At this point in the season there is little Sepulveda can do, but act as spoilers. Looking at the standings it might appear that they have a chance and in fact they could catch Rancho if Rancho lost the remainder of their matches. But then Griffith Park would have to lose 3 and that couldn't happen since 2 of the remaining 4 contests are head to head with Rancho. Clear? Clear as mud, I know but take my word for it. The Sepulveda Senior team hoping to gain some ground and respectability instead lost two close matches to Hansen Dam 40-32 and 22-14 and fell back. It's all for fun now for Captain John Lanza and his over the hill gang. Griffith Park stayed right on Rancho's heels by defeating hapless Woodley 45-27 and 20-16.

Sepulveda Match Winners

Sepulveda Mens

Individual: Jeff Sable, Armen Mesropian, George Bryson, Robert Paciorek, Bruce Fortune, Clint Bridge, Robert Galletti and Alfred Picolomini
Two Man: Sable/Mesropian, Bryson/Paciorek, Vano/Fortune, Bridge/Galletti and Teague/Carlson

Sepulveda Seniors

Individual: Jan Bernard, Steve Skinner, Al Fay, Ray Stuckert, George Meinke
Two Man: Bernard/Skinner, Meinke/Krojansky

Standings	W	L	T	Points
Rancho Park	12	4	0	24
Griffith Park	11	5	0	22
Sepulveda Men's	9	7	0	18
Hansen Dam	8	8	0	16
Sepulveda Seniors	5	10	1	11
Woodley Lakes	2	13	1	5

Next: Harding Golf Course - September 15, 2011
Hansen Dam vs Woodley Lakes Sepulveda Men's vs Sepulveda Seniors Griffith Park vs Rancho Park

On The Other Hand Trophy Standings

As of July 25, 2011

James Jordan, Jr. jumps into the lead with wins at River Ridge and Rancho Park
Richard Galletti is right behind with a win at Rancho and a second place finish at River Ridge:

(1) Jordan Jr, James 735	(2) Galletti, Richard 640	(3) Pistotnik, Donald J. 475	(4) McKibben, Bob 450
(5) Bridge, Clint 445	(6) Meza, Beeri 420	(7) Fortune, Bruce 415	(8) Levin, Leonid 370
(9) Nance, Rich (Pp) 360	(10) Mac Donald, Sean 360	(11) Brumbaugh, Ian 345	(12) Stewart, Alan 335
(13) Levine, Andy 335	(14) Nugent, Brian 330	(15) Wilson, Larry E. 315	(16) Zaniboni, Neil 310
(17) Zuckerman, Larry 275	(18) Bishop, Ray 275	(19) Keliddari, Ahmad 255	(20) Rogers, Erik 255
(21) Michelini, Mark I. 250	(22) Zambito, Leonard J. 235	(23) Nozari, Ardeshir 235	(24) Kapsimallis, Phil 225

The full list can be found in the News section of the Sepulveda Mens Golf Club web site. Questions? Contact Tommy Eunice at tommyeunice@hotmail.com

BACKSPIN SHOTS

By The Gapwedge

Gapwedge was driving on the freeway when a late model V-8 pickup flew past emitting the exactly the same masculine exhaust note as a 1950 flathead Ford with ten-inch glasspacks. There are a lot of those trucks on the road, so it's pretty sure we won't run short of noise too soon.

Then there's the guy in the restaurant taking one cellphone call after another and talking way too loud while Gapwedge and Ms. Gapwedge were trying to eat and chat in the next booth.

These unwelcome noises reminded Gapwedge of the extraneous noise too often heard on the golf course. Off the course, excess noise is but a minor annoyance; on the course it can spell the difference between a perfect shot and one not especially perfect. If timed right, the noise can make a player putt a three-footer nine feet.

The observant will have noticed that on the LA courses, and many others hereabouts, the tees are located close to greens, creating a risk of spoiling a guy's birdie putt by too much exuberance over a nice tee shot. And war whoops from the putting green have ruined many a tee shot.

The pros play a quiet game and take maximum pains to not interfere with another player's shots. Marshals politely ask the gallery to be quiet during a shot, and they oblige. So if the PGA tour was the model for on-course behavior there would hardly be any excess noise. Unfortunately it appears that some of today's players have adopted a competitive style patterned after NFL and NBA players. Those great athletes play an entirely different game. Nothing should be "in your face" in golf. The damned game is hard enough!

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