



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*

Sepulveda's juniors have done it again – beaten out the city's other golf facilities to be the best yet again in 2012. We're proud of the kids, proud of their leaders (Marty Rudolph and Gary Rand), and proud of the substantial financial support our Club is able to devote to the program. But we'd be just as proud of all of them if they had let one of the other city courses beat them out for "best in the city." They play the game the way it is supposed to be played – with proper etiquette, respect for fellow competitors, respect for the golf course, and above all else with the firm understanding that golf is perhaps the last of American sports in which it is indeed less important whether you win or lose, but how you play the game. If Marty's and Gary's "kids" represent the future of golf, let me just say I'm optimistic about that future.

Maybe we should ask Marty, Gary and some of the "kids" to educate some of the grizzled veterans of our own club – other clubs in the city too. Golf is a gentlemen's game (gentle ladies too) where anything less than utmost respect for fellow competitors, golf course staff, and golf course properties is out of bounds. There is no place in it for foul language, intimidation, gamesmanship, and failure to leave the course better than one found it (divots, ball marks, etc.). Above else, please remember that when a dispute arises during competition, Rule 3-3 (Doubt as to Procedure) is the proper course – not an argument that disrupts play. In Stroke Play, simply play a second ball and report both scores to the Tournament Committee upon completion of play and permit the Committee to resolve the dispute per the Rules and Decisions of Golf. In Match Play, make a timely Claim and permit the Tournament Committee to make the same final judgment.

If you read this column you know that I never miss an opportunity to remind the membership of the role our volunteer Board of Directors plays in making SMGC an active, competitive and fun golf club. I also never miss an opportunity to praise their efforts on our behalf. I've enjoyed my two-year term, but it is nearly over and half the board's seats are either up for re-election or placement of new board members. It's time to start thinking about becoming a member of the board, particularly if you've been an active member of the club for a while. Elections will be held at the membership meeting immediately after our Thursday Tournament at Woodley Lakes, October 25th, 2012. SMGC club Secretary Tom Eunice is heading the 2013 Nominating Committee. If he doesn't call you, you call (or E-mail) him. He can be reached at (626) 278-0372 or tommyeunice@hotmail.com.

Next month's sermon: SLOW PLAY! That 5 hour round at the easier of River Ridge's two courses (Vineyard) was simply unacceptable. We can do better than that; indeed, if we expect to continue enjoying such fine out-of-town courses, we'll have to do better than that.

## THE NEXT TEE

*Upcoming Tournament Notes from Evan Beren, Tournament Director*

In September we are going to mix it up a bit as our weekend tournament will be on Saturday, the 22nd at Camarillo Springs, a course that we have not played as a club in recent memory. Players have been giving this course excellent reviews. The cost is \$80.00 per player, includes carts and range balls. First tee is at 8:58 AM, we have booked 60 players. The format will be Low Gross and Low Net, with side games of Skins, gross and net, Closest to the Pin and the Honey Pot.

Our Thursday tournament will be at Balboa Golf Course on September 27 7:00 AM first tee. Format: Low Gross and Low Net, cost is \$45.00. We will have all of the standard Side Games. Seniors pay on the day of the tournament with your senior card and save. Carts and range balls are extra.

Remember you can now pay online for all you tournaments at no extra charge. If you have any questions contact Evan Beren, 818-438-0395 or ejberen@me.com

## BACKSPIN SHOTS

by The Gapwedge

Ever been to the State of Utah? A couple of summers ago, Gapwedge and Mrs. Gapwedge attended a wedding in Salt Lake City and took a week afterward to tour a few of the National parks and other parts of that picturesque State.

The thing they noticed most about Utah is that no trash can be seen anywhere on the streets of the cities or in the countryside---not even a gum wrapper, much less an empty beer can or cigarette package. It may be the cleanest, most unspoiled 84,900 square miles on earth.

The spooky cleanliness of the place got Gapwedge thinking about the state of public trash here in LA, and in particular garbage left on the golf courses. Seriously, one can see as much trash on the ground during a round of golf here than can be seen in a week of touring around the pristine state of Utah.

We are not really pigs except by comparison to the tidy Utahns, but there is no reason why the natural beauty of a golf course should ever be interrupted by trash. After all, there are receptacles on every tee and elsewhere on the courses, so why are empty Gatorade bottles, candy bar wrappers and plastic cups strewn around the place? Gapwedge thinks it's for the same reason we have deep, unranked footprints in our bunkers and unrepaired ball divots on the greens.

### 2012 Fall Golf Course Aeration Schedule

#### Golf Course

<b>Encino</b>	September 17 - September 19
<b>Balboa</b>	October 1 - October 3
<b>Woodley Lakes</b>	September 24 - September 26
<b>Hansen Dam</b>	October 15 - October 17
<b>Roosevelt</b>	October 1 - October 3
<b>Los Feliz</b>	October 1 - October 3
<b>Wilson</b>	October 22 - October 24
<b>Harding</b>	October 9 - October 11
<b>Rancho Park</b>	September 17 - September 19
<b>Harbor Park</b>	October 1 - October 3
<b>Penmar</b>	September 24 - September 28

## 2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Officers

Bruce Fortune	President.....	(818) 535-4900
Gene Vano	Vice-President.....	(818) 703-0749
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Evan Beren	Tournament Director.....	(818) 438-0395
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Gary Patterson	Entertainment Director.....	(310) 980-4427

### "On the Other Hand" Trophy in Memory of Ed Cohn

A new cycle has started for the year long competition. The challenge is to be the member who brings their best game to our tournaments. The "On the Other Hand" competition is 12 months starting July and ending with the Club Championship. Only net scores are used and only stroke play tournaments are tallied. Below are the current standings, showing SMGC stalwart, Gene Vano leading easily.

As of May 31, 2012

Player	Points	Ranking
Gene Vano	325	
Mark Michelini	235	
Erik Rogers	235	
Marc Cohen	215	
Robert Paciorek	205	
Perry Melillo	205	
Bob Cavanaugh	185	
James Hahn	185	
Mark Davidson	175	
Farhad Keliddari	175	
Jason Petterson	175	
Donald Pistotnik	175	
Jeff Sable	155	
Phil Kapsimallis	135	
Paul Nance	135	
Vinod Chhabra	125	
Bob McKibben	120	
Len Zambito	120	
James Jordan Jr	110	
Gary Patterson	110	
Bryan Palbaum	100	
Greg Petrovich	100	
John Blake	100	
Robert Glaessner	100	

The complete standings can be found at [WWW.SMGC.ORG](http://WWW.SMGC.ORG)

**Sunday @ River Ridge**  
**"The Vineyard"**  
**August 12, 2012**

**"A" Flight Low Gross**

Score	Player	Prize
75	Daniel Melillo	\$65
78	Phil Kapsimallis	\$40
80	Asher Kamiel	\$20
81	Tyson Petrovich	\$15
81	Sean Cavanaugh	\$15

**"A" Flight Low Net**

Score	Player	Prize
70	Bobby Cavanaugh	\$65
72	Vinod Chhabra	\$25
72	Marc Cohen	\$25
72	Mark Michelini	\$25

**"B" Flight Low Gross**

Score	Player	Prize
88	John Blake	\$65
89	Erik Rogers	\$40
90	Robert Glaessner	\$20
91	Brent Harvey	\$15

**"B" Flight Low Net**

Score	Player	Prize
72	Gene Vano	\$65
75	Greg Petrovich	\$40
76	Wayne Johnston	\$20
77	Ray Hassanlou	\$15

**Gross Skins \$68 each**

Hole	Player
1	Brent Harvey
2	Marc Carter
7	Jeff Sable
8	Mark Michelini
9	Asher Kamiel
12	Richard Whorton
18	Gary Patterson

**Net Skins \$81 each**

Hole	Player
1	Brent Harvey
3	Robert Glaessner
4	Anthony Zaccaro
8	Mark Michelini
9	Asher Kamiel
17	Virgil Budhu
18	Gary Patterson

**Closest-to-the-Pin \$56 each**

Hole	Player	Distance
3	Mark Spicer	4' 11"
7	Armen Mesropian	4' 7"
9	Tommaso Trinchieri	13' 11"
12	John Overmyer	2' 8"
18	Gary Patterson	4' 0"

he team of Vano and Michelini won the Honey Pot with a score of 60, the team splits \$340.

**MGA Highlights**

*By Pete Heller*

**Harding - August 16, 2012**

**RANCHO PARK ROCKS SEPULVEDA'S  
MGA HOPES, SENIOR TEAM DEALS  
HANSEN DAM A TOUGH SPLIT**

Sepulveda looking to capture a share of first place, was instead routed by Rancho Park43-29 and 26-10. Only an astronomical mathematical chance remains for the boys from Encino.

Meanwhile, the Sepulveda Seniors, dealt a critical blow to championship hopeful Hansen Dam. The Dam won the individual matches easily 46-26, but somehow lost the two man team competition to a battling Seniors squad 19-17. A loss that could cost them everything.

Defending Champion Griffith Park took care of business as the saying goes these days and smashed Woodley Lakes twice 43-29 and 26-10.

**Sepulveda Mens Match Winners**

**Individual:**

Bruce Fortune, Alan Stewart, Armen Mesropian, Steve Fox and

**Two Man:**

Fox/Longmire

**Sepulveda Seniors Match Winners**

**Individual:**

Dean Abston, Allen Lipsky, Jan Bernard and George Bryson

**Two Man:**

Skinner/Bernard, Abston/McDonald, Cornner/Lanza, and Lipsky/Bryson

Standings	W	L	T	Points
Griffith Park	11	5	0	22
Rancho Park	10	6	0	20
Hansen Dam	9	5	2	20
Sepulveda Men's	8	7	1	17
Woodley Lakes	4	11	1	9
Sepulveda Seniors	3	11	2	8

**Next Matches - Sept. 20, 2012**

**Hansen Dam Golf Course**

Sepulveda Men's vs Hansen Dam  
Griffith Park vs Rancho Park  
Sepulveda Seniors vs Woodley Lakes

**Thursday @ Rancho Park**  
**August 30, 2012**

**2 Man Teams Better Ball**

**"A" Flight Team Low Gross**

72	\$40 each
Mike Nichol	Bobby Cavanaugh
73	\$25 each
Mark O'Keefe	Michael Levy
75	\$15 each
Evan Heaps	James Heaps

**"A" Flight Low Net**

64	\$40 each
Daniel Longmire	Gene Vano
66	\$25 each
Eric Smutko	Samuel Perez
67	\$15 each
Marc Green	Victor Cervantes

**"B" Flight Low Gross**

75	\$40 each
Brian Nugent	Gary Patterson
79	\$25 each
Bruce Fortune	Hadi Morshed
80	\$15 each
Jeff Sable	Perry Melillo

Donald Pistotnik Greg Ableser

**"B" Flight Low Net**

61	\$40 each
Dennis Smith	Erik Rogers
64	\$25 each
Ahmad Keliddari	Farhad Keliddari
66	\$15 each
Khody Azari	Sepheer Raafat

**Gross Skins \$165 each**

**Hole Player**

1	Marc Green
3	Brian Nugent

**Net Skins \$55 each**

**Hole Player**

2	Dennis Smith
3	Farhad Keliddari
4	Michael Teague
6	Erik Nordquist
7	Erik Rogers
9	Eric Smutko
17	Erik Rogers
18	Erik Rogers

**Closest-to-the-Pin \$65 each**

Hole	Player	Distance
3	David Carlson	4' 1"
8	Mike Nichol	1' 6"
12	Mark Michelini	23" 3"

## **HANDICAP CHATTER**

*STU OLSTER, Handicap Chairman*

Just before the installation of black tees on our courses, a rating committee from SCGA re-rated our courses from all of the new tee placements. The outcome of the committee's work was a substantial increase in the slope of both courses and more modest increases in their course ratings.

Those who play the black tees will tell you they aren't more than a few yards longer than the old blue tees and that those few extra yards have a minimal effect on how the courses play for them with the possible exception of hole #2 where the longer tees are now located in the chute.

Do increases in course rating and slope affect your handicap? And how! Slope determines how many strokes the stronger golfer must give the weaker, and both slope and course rating are the determinants of the differential, the number that goes into your scoring record for handicap purposes.

As an example, if a 10 handicapper shoots an adjusted gross score of 83 on Encino from the old blue tees (not the current ones), under the old course rating and slope (70.9/114) his differential would be 12.0. From the black tees under the current rating and slope (72.5/121), his 83 translates to a differential of 9.8, a difference that will have a profound effect on his handicap especially if he plays most of his rounds at our courses.

I am not qualified to criticize the work of the rating committee, and I don't. But I can certainly understand how some might balk at the new numbers which they think places them at a disadvantage when competing against players from other clubs with the same nominal indexes.

Comments or questions may be addressed to the author at [slolster@yahoo.com](mailto:slolster@yahoo.com)

## **CITY CORNER**

*By Craig Kessler*

The "Golf Business Analysis Section" (GBAS) is not yet up and running. The gears grind slowly in the City of Los Angeles, but I do expect to hear something definitive very soon.

It is increasingly clear that Los Angeles is hardly the only Southern California municipal golf program looking to inject a strong dose of business and marketing expertise into its public operation. The cities of San Diego and Santa Barbara, both of which operate similarly to Los Angeles, are currently hiring employees with marketing experience and seeking consulting entities with marketing and strategic planning expertise. To the extent that public agencies choose to go against the grain and maintain full public operation of their golf programs they absolutely need to find mechanisms to incorporate the business/marketing acumen increasingly central to continued success in today's tough golf market.

But as my friends in SEIU might remind me – despite the need to incorporate business principles in current operations, we should never forget that public parkland golf courses are not just businesses; they are publicly held assets that operate by certain public values, among them affordability, public service, universal access and the right of employees to collectively bargain for fair wages, benefits and working conditions.

As the city moves to take back driving ranges from the private operators who have run them and improved them for generations, I hope that SEIU, Recreation & Parks Staff and the golfers remember those values – all of them, particularly those related to the way the city treats its employees, not just those directly employed but those who are indirectly employed by the city's concessionaires. They are as deserving of fair treatment as the represented workers directly employed and should not be overreached just because circumstances beyond their capacity to control have rendered them unrepresented when the terms and conditions of their continued city service transfer from private hands to public hands in an effort to wring more revenue from city-owned assets (driving ranges).

"Wring" revenue, yes; "grind" defenseless golf professionals caught in circumstances not of their own making, no. That would be particularly unbecoming of a Department that has fought mightily to maintain the dignity of its own golf workforce.