



THE SEPULVEDA EAGLE

SEPULVEDA MEN'S GOLF CLUB

June 2009

**Official publication
of the
Sepulveda Men's Golf Club**

**Visit our website
at
www.smgc.org**

Ahmad Keliddari Wins 2008 President's Cup

Congratulations to Ahmad Keliddari on winning the 2008 President's Cup. He defeated Dave Wild 1 up. The top four spots will be paid. Thanks to all who participated in this year's tournament and hope to see you in the upcoming 2009 matches. This year's format will schedule matches on certain days. Look for more information in the coming Eagle.

THURSDAY TOURNAMENT

Next month's Thursday tournament will be at Rancho Park on July 23. Check the website to sign up and pay by credit card at smgc.org, or use the coupon on page 8 and mail a check to our PO box. The fee is \$35. Call **Gene Vano** if you want to play at **(818) 703-0749**.

Have Your Say and Win Some Golf Balls!

Got a gripe? A question? A comment about the game or the Club? The Players Forum on the SMGC website offers members the opportunity to get it out in the open for all to read and comment on. Only one problem: we haven't been using it to its full potential.

So, The Board has opted to resort to bribery in order to beef up usage of this valuable communications tool.

Every quarter, the writer of the Forum "message of the month" will win two sleeves of ProV1s! Members of the Board of Directors will judge each month's entries, and present the winners with their Titleist prizes.

Can't think of a topic? How about rules, etiquette, pace of play, golf carts, course conditions... you get the idea. Just about everything and anything (within reason) that has to do with the game we all love. Click on the Forum page and put in your two cents worth!

Dated material -- Periodical

2009 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Our annual Club Championship is one of the premier public golf championships in the San Fernando Valley. This year's opening round will be on Balboa on Saturday, June 20. The second round will be played on Encino, Sunday, June 21. Golfers who make the cut (low 50%) will enter the third phase on June 29 at Encino.

The tournament features four flights: Championship (Gross), A, B and C (Net). As always, we will use a 12-month Low Index for handicapping. Blue tees are for 18 and under handicappers; the Whites are for 19 and above players. Pairings for the first 36 holes by 12-month Low Index. Players who play early the first day, will tee off later on the second. Pairings for the final round will be by order of position with flights. Any ties will be resolved by sudden death playoffs.

To enter, you must have been an SMGC member for at least 4 months, posted 8 scores in the previous 6 months, and participated in 4 or more Club competitions during the previous 12 months (not including the 2008 Championship).

The lowest Gross Score in the Championship flight will be SMGC's Club Champion, and will receive a trophy. Lowest net score overall among the three other flights will be SMGC's Net Champion and will also receive a trophy. Lowest net score among two remaining Net flights will be SMGC's Division Champions, and will also receive trophies. All winners will be eligible to compete in PLGA's Tournament of Champions.

Merchandise Certificates will be awarded to top finishes in all flights.

Sign up online and pay by credit card at smgc.org, use the coupon on page 8 or call **Gene Vano** at **(818) 703-0749**.

HANDICAP CHATTER

By *STU OLSTER, Handicap Chairman*

Several years ago, the USGA decided to permit "occasional" score posting on the Internet, provided the golf association supervising the particular golf club so elected. Both of our major Southern California golf associations so elected, and the clubs of those associations embraced the idea. The question remained about the meaning of "occasional," everything being relative.

The question was made moot by the removal of the term "occasional." It is now permissible to record as many of your scores, up to and including all of them, on the Internet. The list of scores posted by Internet is available and visible to anyone who is interested enough to check it out. This availability helps to satisfy the requirement of "peer review," the ability of each club member to keep tabs on the performance of every other member.

There are still a number of members, whose ranks are dwindling, who don't own a computer or are intimidated by them. These people are not able to avail themselves of the convenience of Internet posting. If, for any reason, they can't post at the course of play right after the round, they must return to the scene of the crime another time to post.

For the rest of us, posting on the Internet is a huge convenience, and, under the current system, gets the scores into our records faster than other posting methods.

It behooves those with computers to learn how to Internet post. There are links on our Club's website (www.smgc.org) or the Public Links website (www.PLGA.org) to the posting pages. You will note that you are required to select and insert a password the first time only. After that, your member number alone will allow you to post. You may need to spend a bit of time to master the process, but once you do it's easy.

The handicap rules require that scores be returned (posted) within a reasonable period of time after the round. The ability of Internet posting allows us to comply with that rule irrespective of the availability or condition of the posting computer where you played.

Questions or comments may be addressed to the author at slolster@yahoo.com

USGA Rule of the Day

Q: A player dropped a towel on the ground. The wind blew the towel onto the player's ball and moved it. What is the ruling?

A: As the player's equipment caused the ball to move, the player incurred a penalty stroke and must replace the ball.

2008-2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS	PHONE
Rich Nance, President	818-422-3748
Gene Vano, Vice President	818-703-0749
Craig Kessler, Secretary	310-941-4803
Dan Crawford, Treasurer	818-497-6617

DIRECTORS

Dean Abston	818-439-4490
Marty Barkan	310-487-6565
Virgil Budhu	818-737-1919
Dave Carlson	818-996-1837
Irv Chern	818-348-7626
Ed Cohn	818-363-8028
Tom Knickerbocker	818-752-7877
Dan Mellilo	917-363-9070
Mark Michelini	818-470-0196
Hadi Morshed	310-322-4400
Ken Oberg	818-763-3226
Stu Olster	818-222-2516
Allen Weiss	818-360-8448
Sandy Margolis, Ex officio	818-995-1172

The Board meets at 6:30pm on the first Thursday of each month.

The Sepulveda Eagle (USPS 13-769) is the official publication of the Sepulveda Men's Golf Club and is published monthly.

Deadline for copy is the 3rd Friday of each month.

Irv Chern, Editor (818) 348-7626 • e-mail: IrvChern@aol.com

Rich Nance, Publisher (818) 422-3748 • e-mail: rich@laproforms.com

Annual subscription is \$3.00.

The Club's office is located at

16821 Burbank Blvd, Encino CA 91436.

This June 2009 issue is Vol. 52, No. 6

Postmaster: Send address changes to:

Sepulveda Men's Golf Club

P.O. Box 57373, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413-2373

Periodicals rate postage paid at Van Nuys, CA

Internet site: www.smgc.org

SUNDAY TOURNAMENT

Check the website for the upcoming Sunday tournament coming in July. You can sign up and pay by credit card at smgc.org or use the coupon on page 8 and mail a check to our PO box. Call **Gene Vano** if you want to play at **(818) 703-0749**.

MAY SCORE BOARD

SUNDAY TOURNAMENT
THE PALUMBO MAY 3rd

Individual - Gross and Net

"A" Flight Low Gross

Score	Winner	Prize
80	Bill Brandel	\$75
80	Rich Nance	\$75
81	Tyson Petrovich	\$40
82	Beeri Meza	\$30
83	Asher Kamiel	\$20

Low Net

74	Randy Hammock	\$100
75	Bill Keanu	\$50
76	Steve Goldstein	\$35
76	Bruce Fortune	\$35
77	Greg Petrovich	\$20

Gross Skins \$46 each

Hole Winner

1	Paul Nance
7	Bruce Fortune
10	David Carlson
14	Greg Petrovich
16	Roy Hay

Net Skins \$80 each

1	Paul Nance
7	Bruce Fortune
10	David Carlson
14	Greg Petrovich
16	Roy Hay

Closest to the Pin \$60 each

Hole	Winner	Distance
5	Bruce Fortune	21'1"
7	Bruce Fortune	2'6"
11	Michael Teague	8'4"
15	Bill Keanu	2'0"
17	Rich Nance	5'10"

Any Way You Slice It

On the front nine, a golfer hit numerous fat shots, chopping huge divots out of the course with nearly every swing. Before trudging onto the back nine, the golfer said, "I'd move heaven and earth to break 100 today."

"Better try moving heaven," his caddie replied. "You've already moved most of the earth."

Prize Money

All tournament place winnings are paid in gift certificates redeemable in the Encino/Balboa Pro Shop.

THURSDAY TOURNAMENT
ROBINSON RANCH APRIL 23rd

2 Man Teams - Better Ball

One team won the Honey Pot at 61 \$280 for the team. Wayne Johnston and Bruce Fortune.

"A" Flight

66 \$45 each

Taira Kato	Ted Johnson
Mark O'Keefe	Mark Michelini
George Bryson	John Platt

67 \$10 each

Neil Zaniboni	Paul Nance
---------------	------------

"B" Flight

61 \$70 each

Bruce Fortune	Wayne Johnston
---------------	----------------

63 \$40 each

Gary Patterson	George Svos
----------------	-------------

66 \$15 each

Dean Abston	Richard Greene
David Jochen	George Correa

"A" Flight

Gross Skins \$58 each

Hole Winner

5	Mark Michelini
7	Wayne Johnston
11	Dean Abston
12	Paul Nance
13	Neil Zaniboni

Net Skins \$46 each

4	John Platt
5	Mark Michelini
6	Perry Melillo
11	Dean Abston
13	Neil Zaniboni

"B" Flight

Net Skins \$16 each

Hole Winner

1	Allen Weiss
4	Mike Teague
5	Jeff Sable
11	Rosalio Medina
15	Allen Weiss
17	Gary Patterson

Low Net

Score	Winner	Prize
69	Dean Abston	\$75
71	Paul Nance	\$30
71	Wayne Johnston	\$30
71	George Bryson	\$30
72	Ted Johnson	\$20
72	David Carlson	\$20
72	Mark O'Keefe	\$20
72	Gary Patterson	\$20

Closest to the Pin \$78 each

Hole	Winner	Distance
3	David Carlson	8'6"
7	Randy Hammock	7'3"
11	Eric Fromer	9'9"
14	Mike Teague	5'4"

MGA 2009

By Pete Heller

**SEPULVEDA WHIPS RANCHO
TWICE - EXTENDS LEAD
SENIORS SPLIT WITH
HANSEN DAM**

Encino - May 21, 2009

The defending MGA Champion Sepulveda Men's Team outplayed Rancho Park 44-31 and 22-14 in a match that featured many outstanding battles. In the match of the day, which included Sepulveda's Tom Knickerbocker and George Bryson, the four net scores tallied were 67, 69, 65 and 69. Rancho edged Sepulveda here, but the Champions prevailed after all was said and done.

The Sepulveda Senior Team was led by John Lanza who posted a gross 76, the best round of his life. Although the Seniors did not win the individual matches (31-41), every fibre of John's effort was needed for Sepulveda to eke out the doubles victory by a score of 19-17.

In the final match, a battle to avoid the cellar, Gordy Brown's Woodley Lakes finally got into the winning column as they split with Griffith Park 21-15 and 34-38.

Sepulveda Match Winners

Individual

Len Zambito, Frank Kornblatt,
Gene Vano, Hadi Morshed,
Tom Knickerbocker, Taira Kato

Two Man

Zambito/Kornblatt, Vano/Morshed,
Schell/Malmsten, Sable/Kato

Sepulveda Senior Match Winners

Individual

Ray Stuckert, Deron Jones,
Lars Ferling, John Lanza, Pete Prieto

Two Man

Stuckert/Pearson, Jones/Ferling,
Lanza/Abramson,

Standings	W	L	T	Points
Sepulveda	8	1	1	8 1/2
Hansen Dam	6	4	0	6
Rancho Park	6	4	0	6
Sepulveda Srs.	3	5	2	4
Griffith Park	4	6	0	4
Woodley Lakes	1	8	1	1 1/2

Next: Harding June 18

8:00 Hansen Dam vs **Sepulveda**
8:45 Griffith Park vs **Sepulveda Srs.**
9:35 Rancho Park vs Woodley Lakes

Senior Club Championship Final Results

Low Gross Champion
149 Mike Schell \$150*

Low Net Champion
137 Robert Paciorek \$150*

**"A" Flight Low Gross
Score Winner Prize**

150 Asher Kamiel \$90
150 Daniel Longmire \$90
151 Neil Zaniboni \$50

Low Net
138 Alfredo Picolomini \$90
138 Donald Pistotnik \$90
140 Hadi Morshed \$35
140 Dennis Smith \$35

"B" Flight Low Gross
166 David Jochen \$150
170 Peter Ruiz \$100
174 Gene Vano \$75
176 Walter Williams \$50

Low Net
138 Leonid Levin \$150
142 David Joslyn \$100
145 Fred Crippen \$65
145 John Harbaugh \$65

* Trophy

Balboa - Saturday May 16

Gross Skins \$56 each

Hole Winner

2 Robert Paciorek
5 George Beams
6 Donald Pistotnik
8 David Joslyn
10 Asher Kamiel
16 Arde Nozari

Net Skins \$55 each

3 Gene Vano
5 George Beams
6 Donald Pistotnik
8 David Joslyn
11 Rand Jackson
12 Alan Stewart
15 Gordon Seaberg
16 Arde Nozari

Closest to the Pin \$130 each

Score Winner Distance
4 Neil Zaniboni 11' 7"
13 David Jochen 13' 4"
17 Greg Petrovich 16' 2"

Encino - Sunday May 17

Gross Skins \$58 each

1 Arde Nozari
8 Ted Johnson
9 George Bryson
14 Jeffrey Field
17 Steve Goldstein
12 John Harbaugh

Net Skins \$55 each

2 Alfredo Picolomini
3 Dennis Smith
5 John Platt
9 George Bryson
10 George Olteanu
12 John Harbaugh
13 Jeffrey Field
17 Virgil Budhu

Closest to the Pin \$100 each

3 Bill Brandel 9'7"
6 Arde Nozari 8'10"
15 Robert Paciorek 9'10"
17 Steve Goldstein 13'6"

POST AT THE RANGE

There's a new posting computer at the Driving Range shop! It's convenient following a round at the Encino or Balboa...and it's available until closing time at 10 pm!

Sepulveda Phone Numbers

Many players program the starter's window and cart shack numbers into their cell phones to cover possible emergencies. Here are the Encino/Balboa numbers:

Starter's window (818) 995-1170

Cart shed (818) 788-9793

Coffee Shop/Bar (818) 789-1919

Remember to keep them silent during your round!!

The Saturday Game

If you looking for a Saturday afternoon gross score game with guaranteed tee times at Encino or Balboa call Rich Nance at (818) 422-3748 for more info.

THURSDAY **TOURNAMENT**
MEMBER-GUEST **MAY 29th**

2 Man Teams - Better Ball

"A" Flight

62 \$60 each

Gene Vano Richard Corson

64 \$35 each

Mike Schell Leonard Zambito

Charles MacDonald Blind Draw

Jeff Sable Michael Levy

65 \$15 each

Jeff Prey Marc Covert

Dan Crawford Michael Radtke

"B" Flight

57 \$60 each

Bob Charles Pete Chud

59 \$45 each

George Olteanu William House

61 \$30 each

Edward Licht Marc Cohen

64 \$20 each

Geoff Vanderstock George Bryson

Bruce Lang Stevan Saylor

John Byrne Kerry Fitzgerald

Gross Skins \$60 each

Hole Winner

1 Tom Knickerbocker

2 Michael Levy

6 Dean Abston

12 Stacey Shinnick

17 Gene Vano

18 Chris Tosches

Net Skin \$280

4 Ben Budhu

Low Net

Score Winner

62 Pete Chud \$80

65 Bob Charles \$65

67 Charles MacDonald \$55

68 Jeff Sable \$25

68 Edward Licht \$25

68 Leonard Zambito \$25

Closest to the Pin \$65 each

Hole Winner

3 Jeff Sable 12'5"

6 Dean Abston 4'11"

15 Jeff Sable 32'6"

17 Gene Vano 7'2"

HOLES- IN-ONE

If you have knowledge of a hole-in-one by a member of the SMGC please contact **Leonard Zambito** by email at leonardzambito@hotmail.com or by phone at (818) 761-3846.

CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

It's practically impossible for me to be a pessimist at this moment less due to my nature than my experience.

I have been immersed in the public policy arena for a long time. That immersion has been far broader than the City of Los Angeles. As large as Los Angeles is, it is dwarfed by the rest of the local municipal golf world in the aggregate, and it is by no means the largest of the local municipal golf systems. That title goes to the County of Los Angeles, which with 13 regulation 18-hole courses, 3 regulation 9-hole courses, 1 executive course, and myriad "lesser" facilities, is roughly twice the size of the City system.

At this most difficult moment, with the State systemically insolvent and most city/county governments in fiscal free fall, the news for municipal golf should be all bad. But the opposite is the case – more so in the rest of the systems than the City of Los Angeles, but "opposite" nonetheless even here in our fair city.

Faced with a fiscal implosion exacerbated by over-reliance upon a port whose business has collapsed along with the world economy, the City of Long Beach has managed to apply a creative, painless, focused, publicly popular, temporary, and most importantly, miniscule surcharge mechanism to its golf program in an effort to generate the revenues necessary to keep its Department of Parks, Recreation & Marine afloat. The "mechanism" wasn't particularly "popular" with the

American Golf Corporation, but the fact that Long Beach managed to secure that company's acquiescence speaks volumes about its commitment to avoiding what the Public Links Golf Association terms the temptation to always take the easy route and seek the same old tired permanent solutions to temporary problems.

Faced with a management contract that runs out June 30 at the very height of the steepest recession since the 1930's, the City of Ventura managed to develop an RFP document for its Olivas Links and Buenaventura golf courses that elicited proposals from nine (9) companies, including a number of heavyweights in the golf management industry. Not content to rest on that laurel, the City of Ventura convened a public meeting among the nine suitors in which all nine subjected themselves to unrehearsed questioning--a most bold and I might add successful experiment in open public processes, and one that sent a clear message to the private sector that the City of Ventura considers its golfing public both the focus and the beneficiary of its contracting processes.

As for that great behemoth, the County of Los Angeles, most of you likely know that on January 1 that system increased by a factor of 50% the amount of greens fee dollars its sets aside in its Capital Improvement Trust Funds, funds that run with the individual courses where they are raised and are literal trust funds that cannot be diverted to other purposes. Many of you may be aware that the County routinely uses State Bond Money and various Parks Propositions for its golf properties; over \$4 million in such bonded projects were completed just last year. Few of you are aware, because it is not yet publicly known, that the County is working on a veritable "paradigm shift" in the way in which plans for and funds the massive

infrastructure improvements that are the lifeblood of its and ALL golf facilities. A mere 50% accretion in capital fund set-asides isn't enough! The County will soon be adding new PUBLIC sources of sustainable infrastructure funding and recalibrating its fee setting process to remove it from the political process and thereby insulate it from the predations of its own Parks & Recreation Department's need for revenue – all while base-lining the new system to the retention of a fee structure that never exceeds 90% of the local municipal average.

I wish I could write about our fair City with as much enthusiasm, admiration and genuine appreciation as I write about Long Beach, Ventura and Los Angeles County. But while I cannot quite do that, I can still write in a positive vein.

Go to www.lacity.org and read the Mayor's 2009-2010 proposed city budget. It is a horror story of curtailed services, layoffs, furloughs, and increased fees – and that's if the unions agree to the Mayor's call for salary freezes, early retirements, and renegotiated agreements. Things get a whole lot worse absent labor's buy-in.

But if you look at the golf program, you'll notice a little belt tightening, but you won't see any layoffs or budget cuts. The Department of Recreation & Parks stands to lose as many as 130 permanent positions, but none of those are in the Golf Division. The Department stands to close some facilities and severely cut back services at others; however, golf does not participate in that orgy of decline. Nor does the budget call for increased revenues from golf. Indeed, it calls for \$0.5 million less than called for in the current fiscal year. That means no fee increases! Indeed, the process of "adjustment" that began just last month with the removal of non-resident fees at certain facilities can now continue in the realm of other fees that are not exactly proving their worth in the marketplace.

While none of the above presages the creativity and commitment exemplified by Long Beach, Ventura or Los Angeles County, it does mean that the Mayor's Office and the Department of Recreation & Parks are beginning to manage our venerable golf system with an eye toward something more than the next fiscal year's bottom line; they're beginning to acquire a glimpse of the understanding so well known to their municipal brethren that absent a firm commitment to the long run, the short run could be very short indeed!

None of this obviates the need to immediately begin the process of exploring serious structural reform, the need to immediately move toward the creation of a definable, transparent capital improvement trust fund akin to the inviolate mechanism employed by LA County, or the need to immediately begin reinvesting greens fee dollars into infrastructure before it literally begins to crumble around our feet.

The City golf program still faces a long and very much uphill journey. But I think it just took its first step.

We can choose a facile pessimism that focuses on an invidious comparison between the systems that have taken so many steps and our own system that has taken but one. Or we can choose a much tougher optimism that helps our city take its next steps. I have been choosing that much harder optimism for many years now. I hope you'll join me.

PUBLIC LINKS GOLF ASSOCIATION (PLGA)

GHIN IS COMING

Southern California's golf associations are in the process of supplying GHIN/USGA with all the technical information necessary to begin installing the region's golf courses with the new handicap software – a process that should be completed by mid month.

The switchover won't actually occur until January 1, 2010; however all of the elements of the new integrated system will be in place in the background ready to go well before that date.

This will give the associations and their member clubs ample opportunity to test things out in that "background" and perform the training necessary to enable the club to hit the ground running next New Year's Day.

PLGA will soon be notifying its clubs of these training/testing protocols.

The changeover will represent the biggest handicap service upgrade in recent memory – even bigger than the original move to on-course computerized posting in 1991 or its touch screen upgrade in 2001.

Its benefits will include but not be limited to the following:

- The extension of the revision period to the last day of each revision period, i.e., scores posted the last day of a month become part of the next day's handicap revision calculation;
- The capacity to revise Handicap Indexes twice per month on the 1st and the 15th at no added cost to the clubs;
- The capacity to add a member or perform any other membership maintenance function and see such additions or changes reflected the next day throughout the electronic system, i.e., join today and post tomorrow – **NO MORE WAITING FOR THE NEXT REVISION**;
- The full integration of the various posting and maintenance portals, i.e., on-course computers, online posting, home computers, etc.;
- The capacity to access TPP, the USGA's proprietary tournament program, designed by the conductors of the world's greatest championships to uniquely suit the needs of tournament chairs and be fully compatible with the GHIN national membership database;
- One size fits all services and platforms are identical for all GHIN associations, making seamless national access, connection and integration readily available to PLGA and its member clubs; and
- All of the above (and more) at lower costs than the current system.

Ninety-eight percent (98%) of us will be able to keep our current six-digit membership numbers and translate them into the GHIN seven-digit system by simply adding the number 9 in front thereof, the same opening integer used by the members of the Northern California Golf Association (NCGA). After years of separation, the Northern and Southern parts of the state will be reunited.

All SMGC members who have current GHIN numbers, whether in Northern California or somewhere else in the nation, need to notify the club so that the club can notify PLGA. They will be able to keep those numbers come January 1, 2009

CENTRAL COAST OPEN

36-hole Individual Stroke Play (96 players)

Saturday, July 25 @ Marshallia Ranch
(Vandenberg AFB) 12:30 p.m. Shotgun

Sunday, July 25 @ La Purisima (Lompoc)

7:30 a.m. Straight Start Entry Fee: \$160

(includes green fees, carts, range balls & prizefund)

Applications are available at www.plga.org or by phoning the PLGA office at (800) 272-7542 or (714) 994-4747. Application period closes Friday, July 3.

FROM THE READY GOLF SHOP

(Country Club Service-Warehouse Prices)

By Mark Karge-Head Golf Professional

Lowest Prices ALWAYS!

Now that you have had a chance to play a few times this year, you probably noticed that your clubs might be outdated. Don't fret; we currently have in stock the new drivers from TaylorMade, Cobra, Cleveland and Callaway. Come in and see the latest game improvement drivers. And, if it is irons you want, we can guarantee to custom order any set of irons, have them in three days, and save you between \$50 and \$150 from other retailers. And no one beats our price on push carts. Remember we always have the lowest price. ALWAYS!

Clubs are not the only products we carry. With summer almost here it's a good thing we carry a huge selection of hats to shade you from the sun. Along with hats, we carry an array of moisture-wicking shirts to keep the sweat away from your body.

Getting back to the good weather and playing more often, you have more than likely developed some nasty swing habits. This is the time to get yourself a few lessons from the Ready Golf Professionals.

Speaking of professionals, this is a great time to introduce to you the latest addition to the Ready Golf family. Gary Sheppard is our newest teaching PGA professional and comes to us from Valencia Country Club. Gary is available for lessons, so give him a ring at the range and see what he can do for your game.

Also, while in the shop...we have four different types of cigars stored in our humidor for your golf experience and pleasure. *Thank you for your patronage!*

BACKSPIN SHOTS

by The Gapwedge

When the amazing Tiger Woods won last year's US Open at Torrey Pines, a close friend circulated an email with some observations about the significance of Tiger's incredible victory.

Events such as that one can inspire mortals like us to overcome obstacles, not only on the golf course, but everywhere. The Gapwedge would like to share that message with you.

A Golf Lesson from Mr. Eldrick Woods

Dear Esteemed Golf Buddies:

I hope you were able to catch enough of the Open to get the flavor. Apparently a wounded tiger is as dangerous as a healthy one.

This was such an exciting event that even non-golfers got sucked in and were glued to the proceedings. My brother-in-law, a non-golfer and dedicated auto racing fan, was so thrilled that he may start watching golf instead of NASCAR!

I recall when Tiger won his first Masters. That victory had an immediate and palpable effect on the popularity of the game. Within a day or two, the range at Woodley was 3 deep with oldsters, youngsters, veteran golfers and some who just thought they would give it a try. In other words, it gave the game a huge shot of adrenaline.

Those of us who volunteer on golf boards and committees are painfully aware that club membership and course playership are down. With a recession looming and gas prices through the roof, one might expect this negative and undesirable trend to continue. Wouldn't this be a good time for another adrenaline cocktail courtesy of Tiger? Maybe he gave it to us over the past 3 days.

Tiger gave me a private lesson in courage and perseverance. He played through his pain and didn't quit or use it as an excuse. I, on the other hand, have used my physical problems to excuse the mediocre and inconsistent golf I've played lately. I need to stop my whining and complaining and tee it up and play. As usual in golf, the chips will fall where they may and maybe a few putts too!

BOOK A TEE TIME

If you have a Los Angeles city reservation card you can now book a tee time online 24/7 for any of the 13 City of Los Angeles courses. Go to www.golf.lacity.org and try it out. Remember, you must have a golf reservation card to use this service.

READY GOLF TIP

"SIMPLIFY"

By Jeff Prey

The set-up or address position is one of the key fundamentals to any athletic golf swing. Golf professionals and most strong players have a consistent pre-shot routine. I use the following three simple keys to consistency to reinforce a solid set-up:

1. **Grip:** Hands are molded lightly to the club and the grip pressure is constant.

2. **Posture:** The knees are flexed slightly and the rear end is pushed out creating a flat back. Chin is up and arms are hanging.

3. **Stance:** Feet are shoulder-width apart and the ball is positioned correctly for the club in hand.

By establishing a simple pre-shot routine such as G.P.S., fundamentals have been checked before The DYNAMIC GOLF SWING.



Jeff Prey is a Teaching Professional at Ready Golf's Sepulveda Driving Range. You can also find Jeff in the shop several days a week. Jeff offers lessons with the A-Star digital swing analyzer upon request. His rate of instruction is \$35 per half hour private lesson.

SMGC GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

The SMGC Board of Directors established a standing "Grievance Committee" which will investigate and recommend resolutions of disputes arising within the Club.

The Grievance Committee will operate under procedures that assure the opportunity for a full hearing to any member bringing, or responding to, a grievance before it. When the Committee formulates its recommendations, and presents them to the Board, the Board will issue a decision in the matter, and that decision will be final.

We don't have many disputes in our Club that require the services of the Committee. But, having such a committee in place and ready to go will help assure that any disputes that do arise will be taken up and decided promptly and fairly.

TEE/CUP Chips

By Irv Chernov
Eagle-Eyed Editor

Big Changes Are Coming!

Two of our annual events, The Goeckner Classic and The President's Cup—are in for some improvements!

Namely, shorter completion times! In past years, these tournaments have taken 6, 8 10 months even a year to complete! That is just plain unsatisfactory.

They dragged on because the teams/players involved were responsible for setting up their own tee times, courses, etc. A broken leg here, an out-of-town business deal there, or any one of a hundred different reasons or excuses, caused delays that extended match dates to the extent that other players waiting to move up in their divisions lost interest in the whole kit-and-kaboodle!

We won't go into improvement details yet, but suffice to say there will be stiff penalties including disqualification for undue delays. There will also be some set dates for tee times. Watch the Eagle and the SMGC website for complete information in the coming weeks.

These two tournaments are loaded with tradition, along with our Member/Guest and Pro/Member, and your Board of Directors want to ensure that they stay among the top events of our golfing year. We've heard from more than a few members that they no longer want to put up with the delays in playing their matches, and how it takes the fun out of competing.

You talk, we listen, stay tuned!

Tournament Sign-Up Coupon

To sign up and pay for a future tournament, check the appropriate boxes and mail with a separate check (payable to the SMGC only) for each event to:

SMGC
P.O. Box 57373
Sherman Oaks, CA 91413

- June 20, 21** Club Championship - Encino, Balboa, Encino \$115
June 28 For players who make the cut

- July 23** Thursday Tournament - Rancho Park \$35

Tournament chairman is Gene Vano (818) 703-0749

COMING EVENTS

June 18	MGA Team Play - Harding	
June 20-21	PLGA "George Collup" Coronado Classic Coronado G.C.	
June 20	Saturday - Club Championship - Balboa	\$115
June 21	Sunday - Club Championship - Encino	
June 27	Saturday - Finals 50% Plus ties - Encino	
June 27-28	PLGA "JC Cunningham" Senior Championship Buena Ventura & Olivas Links GC	
July 2	Board Meeting	
July 12	Sunday Tournament	TBA
Jul 16	MGA Team Play - Wilson	
July 23	Thursday Tournament - Rancho Park	\$35
July 25-26	PLGA "Central Coast Open" Marshallia Ranch La Purisima	
Aug. 6	Board Meeting	
Aug.	Sunday Tournament	TBA
Aug 15-16	LA/PLGA "Match Play Qualifying" Encino/Harding/Wilson	
Aug. 17	PLGA "Pro-President" Los Serranos (North) CC	
Aug. 20	MGA Team Play - Hansen Dam	
Aug. 23-24	LA/PLGA "Match Play Finals" Rancho Park	
Aug. 27	Thursday Tournament - Harding	\$35
Sept. 3	Board Meeting	
Sept.	Saturday Tournament	TBA
Sept. 13,20,27	PLGA "Team Play"	
Sept. 17	MGA Team Play - Encino	
Sept. 24	Thursday Tournament - Pro/Member Shotgun - Encino	
Oct. 3	Saturday Tournament - Goeckner Qualifier	TBA
Oct. 4	PLGA "Team Play" Semi-Finals	
Oct. 1	Board Meeting	
Oct. 11	PLGA "Team Play" Finals	
Oct. 15	MGA Team Play - Woodley Lakes	
Oct. 15-16	LA City Senior Men's Golf Championship	
Oct. 22	Thursday Tournament - Wilson Elections and Dinner at home	
Nov. 5	Board Meeting	
Nov.	Sunday Tournament	TBA
Nov. 7-8	PLGA "Partner's Better Ball" The Links at Summerly	
Nov. 19	MGA Team Play - Harding	
Nov. 27	Friday Tournament - Day after Thanksgiving - Balboa	

Even Dogs Do IT...

