



THE SEPULVEDA EAGLE

Sepulveda Men's Golf Club
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December 2014

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bruce Fortune

December – Continued cooler weather, (if you can exclude the heat and the Santa Ana Winds), shorter days and the Holidays! We have much to be grateful for as this year draws to a close. First and foremost there are your Board members, VP and Tournament Chair – Evan Beren, Membership Chair – Alan Stewart, Treasurer – Dan Crawford, Secretary (and World Traveler!!) – Tommy Eunice, Handicap Chair(s) – Stu Olster and Tommaso Trinchieri, SCGA Team Play – Gary Patterson, Goeckner and Club Championship – Mark Michelini and Everardo Gomez, Eagle Publishing – Rich Nance, Trophy Chair – Mike Levy, SCGA Rep – Craig Kessler, and President – Bruce Fortune. We don't exist without the tireless efforts of these guys. Make sure you thank them when you see them. Your club's events, payouts, planning, and continued success depends on these 12 individuals' ongoing commitment to great golf in the Sepulveda Basin.

I would be remiss if we didn't thank the folks whose job it is to provide the best golf available in the City's Golf Courses – Starting with the management at Sepulveda – Bobby Cavanaugh and his team of starters, cart barn attendants, and clean up crews, along the course maintenance crews, headed up by Marina Gutierrez and Dave Slavik. Together they have managed to keep our golf courses, not only in great shape, but with greens that rival the private sector!! (Especially Balboa, Marina!) These are two great tracks in the Los Angeles Muni system and I encourage you to bring your family and friends out to play. By the way, this is all being done despite the water rationing and cutbacks from the City. We thank you and salute you all!

We have two tournaments left in the year. December 7th, our away event is at Elkins Ranch. It's a 7:30 Shotgun with BBQ lunch, Carts, and Range Balls – all included. There is a 72 player maximum, so don't wait to sign up. The Thursday tournament will be held at Wilson, December 18th. Join us for the final event of 2014.

Renew your membership or Sign up for 2015! There is now less than a month to take advantage of this great rate! For those renewing or joining now, they will receive up to 13 months at the reduced rate of \$100.00 – don't wait, make use of this great offer. After Dec 31st, it's gone and the rate goes up to \$120.

The elections were delayed until this month's meeting which will take place Dec. 4th, after the Eagle goes to press. We'll update the Eagle as soon as the results are known, delaying mailing as well.

THE NEXT TEE

Upcoming Tournament Notes from Evan Beren, Tournament Director

We close out 2014 with two December tournaments. First up is Elkins Ranch Holiday Classic, on Sunday, December 7th. A 7:30-shotgun start. Carts and BBQ lunch are included. Deadline: November 30, Maximum Number of Players: 72, \$85.00.

Holiday Tournament at Wilson on Thursday, December 18, 8:00 AM, 72 players. \$45 to play, \$35 if you are a senior with a senior card. Carts and range balls are extra.

We have a lot of great tournaments planned for 2015. A sneak peek:

A return to Hansen Dam, it's in great shape; Rio Hondo, a highly respected course in Downey; and a 2-day tournament at RiverRidge in the summer. Plus we will be returning to some of our favorite courses.

If you have questions about any of our tournaments contact Evan Beren, ejberen@me.com or 818-438-0395.

CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

If you've experienced some slower than usual rounds or some behind time starts in recent weeks, you're not imagining things. What you've been experiencing is the workings of a pilot program involving the nation's largest 3rd party tee time vendor, Golf Now.

As the city works with the new GBAS consultants on myriad matters, including the development of an RFP (request for proposals) for a 21st Century reservation system cum functional marketing platform, the city has determined to test the efficacy of a 3rd party vendor component by allowing Golf Now to broker extant "dead times" in exchange for the exclusive use and revenue from one 12:24 PM tee time each day on each of the city's golf courses – the standard Golf Now barter model: They fill tee times and in return get the revenue from ones they get in exchange therefore from the city.

The rub, and the slow play complaint, is that because the city's current reservation system and Golf Now don't have software capable of "speaking" to each other, the city can only give Golf Now "dead times" to fill in exchange for the bartered free time each day. For those of you unfamiliar with the reservation ways of the city, which is I suspect most of you, instead of using a 7 ½ minute tee interval, the city schedules tee times at 6-minute intervals with two (2) unfilled or "dead times" at :24 and :54 of each hour. Do the math, and as long as the "dead times" remain unfilled ("dead") everyone tees off roughly every 7 ½ minutes – a tight but somewhat doable interval scheme. However, when those "dead times" come alive with foursomes, the tee falls behind in fairly short order, even under the best of circumstances, and the course backs up, causing extremely long and unpleasant rounds.

Some of this has been mitigated by disallowing the use of dead times prior to 10:00 AM on weekends at Rancho, Wilson and Harding, and the use of both dead times prior to 10:00 AM has been somewhat curtailed at Encino and Balboa; however, weekdays and after 10:00 AM are still affected across the board.

As you might have guessed, this has been the subject of much squawking at the last two Golf Advisory Committee meetings, and it has been the subject of considerable internal debate. Indeed, I was quoted in the Daily News as calling the pilot program a "misstep in the right direction." The "right direction," because there is no dissent when it comes to the value of a modern reservation system capable of providing not just immediate ease of system-wide access, but also the marketing the city golf program needs to remain competitive with its municipal and daily fee counterparts. A "misstep," because this pilot program is badly conceived; it has slowed play and caused considerable consumer dissatisfaction as a result, and it doesn't really prove anything anyway. The city does not need an outside vendor to sell these dead times. Staff could have done that had policy not specifically prohibited them from doing so. In addition, does the city really need help to sell those tee times already in high demand? Okay, that's a rhetorical question. We very much do need help to sell tee times that currently go unsold and/or unused, and paying for that help, whether through a barter program or a fee-based program, is very much in order. I trust the GBAS will keep that in mind as it makes its recommendations.

Lest you get miffed at Golf Operations for "mis-stepping," please be aware that rumor has it that this pilot came not from them, but from on high – really high. Exactly how high I don't care to share. It's only a "rumor" after all.

2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Bruce Fortune, President.....(818) 535-4900
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Tommy Eunice, Secretary.....(626) 278-0372
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Alan Stewart, Membership.....(818) 633-3105
Tommaso Trinchieri, Handicap.....(949) 231-0097

Tournament Player of the Year Trophy in Memory of Ed Cohn "On the Other Hand"

Standings as of 31 October 2014

We will be using using "Official Winnings" known as scrip dollars in gross and net tournaments as the "Points" for Player of the Year. So it's money won in touneys. Because our "Majors" payout more than other tournaments, winners of those tournaments will be more likely to lead Player of the Year. Also there will be no points for just showing up as was the case with the previous system. And no points for skins, closest to the pin, or honey pot.

Player	Payout
Kyle Bermel	245
Dustin Watanabe	235
Jason Petterson	235
Nick Hernandez	230
Robert Bryan	230
Josh Eveland	220
Sean MacDonald	220
Dan Crawford	195
Stacey Shinnick	190
Branden Augustus	185
David Hutchison	160
Farhad Keliddari	160
Mark Michelini	160
Anthony Bermel	150
Bob McKibben	150
Erik Rogers	150
Gary Patterson	135
Armen Mesropian	130
David Watanabe	130
Brian Nugent	125
David Gilbreath	125
George Olteanu	125
Bruce Fortune	120
James Rodriguez	120
David Horwitch	115
Sean Cavanaugh	115
Chris Stronberg	110
Darrell Kato	110
Chuck Ruiz	105
Chris Halfon	100
Khody Azari	100

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

Sunday @ Olivas Links

November 9, 2014

Format – Low Gross / Low Net

“A” Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
65	Josh Eveland	\$100
67	David Gilbreath	\$70
71	Brandon Quezada	\$40
75	Gerard Sanders	\$15
75	Beer Meza	\$15

“A” Flight Low Net

65	Chris Halfon	\$85
65	Scott Feldman	\$85
67	Asher Kamiel	\$35
67	Ben Raposas	\$35

“B Flight” Low Gross

76	John Overmyer	\$100
80	Everardo Gomez	\$55
80	Chris Stronberg	\$55
82	Kyle Bermel	\$15
82	Brent Harvey	\$15

“B Flight” Low Net

66	Alfredo Picolomini	\$100
68	Bruce Davies	\$35
68	Michael Melamed	\$35
68	Joseph Rodriguez	\$35
68	Brian Czerniak	\$35

Gross Skins \$0 each

Hole Player

We had no Gross Skins winners. Gross Skins players will have the \$10 entry fee returned to them at the next tournament.

Net Skins \$180 each

Hole Player

3	Bruce Davies
8	John Overmyer
16	Mark Michelini
18	Anthony Bermel

Closest to the Pin \$85 each

5	Daniel Sniegowski	7' 0"
8	Gerard Sanders	3' 5"
13	Ben Raposas	3' 5"
17	Asher Kamiel	2' 1"

“The Honey Pot was \$320, won by the teams of Overmyer/Toor & Beren/Gomez with scores of 61.

Prize Money
All tournament place winnings are paid in gift certificates.

HANDICAP CHATTER

by Tommaso Trinchieri, Handicap Chairman

What Do I Post for Handicap Purposes?

During a round of golf a member may run into a situation where picking up and not finishing a hole makes sense for a multitude of reasons (partner has already won the hole, conceded a putt, etc.) Do you know how to correctly record those scores for handicap purposes?

Unfinished Holes or Conceded Strokes

A player who starts but does not complete a hole or is conceded a stroke must record for handicap purposes the most likely score. The most likely score consists of the number of strokes already taken plus, in the player's best judgment, the number of strokes needed to complete the hole from that position more than half the time. The most likely score is not to exceed the player's maximum allowable under Equitable Stroke Control.

Example: A player lies 3, 12 feet from the hole and is conceded the putt. For posting purposes, the player will record x5 because 5 is the player's most likely score, based on the player's best judgment that two putts would have been required to complete the hole.

Holes Not Played or Not Played under the Rules of Golf

If a player does not play a hole or plays it other than under the principles of the Rules of Golf, the score recorded for that hole for handicap purposes must be par plus any handicap strokes the player is entitled to receive on the hole. If 13 or more holes are played, the player must post an 18-hole score, scoring the remaining holes as net par. If 7 to 12 holes are played, the player would post a nine-hole score.

Example: A player with a Course Handicap of 10 does not play the 18th hole on the course because of darkness. The 18th hole is a par 4 and is the number 8 handicap-stroke hole on the scorecard. For handicap purposes, the player will post a score of 5 (par = 4 plus 1 stroke based on the Course Handicap of 10).

5 Club Classic @ Balboa

November 28, 2014

Format – Low Gross / Low Net

“A” Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
74	Daniel Melillo	\$60
74	Sean Cavanaugh	\$60
75	Chris Halfon	\$30
76	Brandon Quezada	\$20
76	Dustin Watanabe	\$20

“A” Flight Low Net

70	Chris Stronberg	\$50
70	Ben Raposas	\$50
70	Leonard Zambito	\$50
73	Bob McKibben	\$15
73	Mark O'Keefe	\$15
73	Mark Spicer	\$15
73	Marc Cohen	\$15
73	Sean MacDonald	\$15

“B Flight” Low Gross

81	Steve Hansen	\$70
83	Gary Patterson	\$40
83	Brent Harvey	\$40
84	Richard Whorton	\$20
84	Stacey Shinnick	\$20

“B Flight” Low Net

69	Buzz Osborne	\$60
69	Tal Almquist	\$60
70	John Landry	\$30
72	Anthony Bermel	\$20
72	David Watanabe	\$20

Gross Skins \$540 each

Hole Player

1	Dustin Watanabe
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Net Skins \$145 each

Hole Player

4	Frank Costello III
5	Steve Hansen
12	Tommaso Trinchieri
14	Chris Stronberg

Closest to the Pin \$80 each

4	Brent Harvey	35' 2"
13	Dustin Watanabe	4' 3"
17	Jay Baca	8' 8"

“The Honey Pot was \$360, won by the team of Mander/Horwitch with a score of 62.

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.

BACKSPIN SHOTS

by *The Gapwedge*

Patience is more than just a virtue. It's an essential if one is to play decent golf and hope to get better.

It's a lack of patience that blunts improvement for lots of golfers. It's been written that a change in one of the basic golf fundamentals such as grip, ball placement, etc. requires at least three weeks of daily range practice to feel comfortable and routine. Hitting the course before the change is fully integrated can lead to disaster, as even a small amount of normal stress on the course can cause confusion between the old and new.

Suppose you lose the first two holes of a match. How you approach the third and subsequent holes can spell the difference between winning and losing the match. The patient golfer understands that the match is 18 holes and that he can stick to his normal game. The impatient one begins to panic and press. Before you know it, he is 4 holes down and well on his way to losing the match.

Can one be impatient on the freeway but patient on the course? Only our Club president, as far as Gapwedge knows.

SMGC IS ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER

We've gone social. The club's Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/SMGC1955> and our twitter handle is @SMGC1955. We've also set up a group on Facebook to share tee-times. If you've got a tee time to fill or looking for a time, join the group and share. The Facebook group is SMGC Golf Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SMGC.golf.group/> so join up and play more golf. We'll be posting pictures, events, and news items on the Facebook page and twitter.

But the club's current web page, www.smgc.org, will still be your main internet source for tournament signups and tee times, news, managing your player profile, etc. The SMGC Golf Group is a way for club members to fill out tee times, possibly for President's Cup and Goeckner Classic matches, or just to play with guys you know. Please keep all the comments and messages directly related to the Club. It's all about playing golf and having fun!



SEPUVEDA MEN'S GOLF CLUB
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