



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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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bruce Fortune

Welcome to summer at Sepulveda. A combination of agronomic excellence and benign weather has yielded the best course conditions we've seen here in the Basin for a long time; no, make that the best conditions ever seen here in the Basin.

Dan Ward, Sergio Mijares, and Dave Slavik – we salute you. Great job gentlemen! Of course, you couldn't have done it without your staffs; salute them on our behalf. In fact, memo to SMGC members: When you see maintenance staff on our two courses make sure you take a moment to thank them.

I hope everyone took advantage of the city's July 15 – August 1 golf cart discount program. The city "thanked" everyone for their patience during the 6-month "cart holiday" by giving \$5 per rider discounts to all comers. If you missed that one, the city is still offering generous midday discounts after 11:00 AM. Take advantage.

The "MRP" meeting has returned. No one knows what "MRP" stands for, and there's no money in the accounts anymore, but Golf Operations has reinstated quarterly meetings at Sepulveda to take input from the clubs regarding those issues and projects that are unique to Encino and Balboa. The Golf Advisory Committee remains the forum for major policy discussions and large capital projects.

The first of the new MRP meetings was held July 19. Gene Vano, Craig Kessler and I were joined by parallel teams of representatives from the Sepulveda Senior and Woman's clubs. Department Operations and Maintenance Staff almost outnumbered us. The aforementioned Ward, Mijares and Slavik were joined by Operations Supervisor Penny Seibrandt and citywide Maintenance overseer Bob Davis; Sepulveda Course Manager Bobby Cavanaugh chaired the meeting – and quite ably I might add.

City Staff shared with us the following scheduled projects: 1) A tee leveling program; 2) a minor bunker renovation program; 3) the extension of the 4-tee program to Encino and Balboa, i.e., black, blue, white and yellow tees in ascending order from back to front Rated for both men and women; and 4) the repair of various drinking fountains. The clubs shared the following major concern: That the current procedure for renting the carts is customer unfriendly, a situation that can be rectified now that the city has new carts and control thereof. Staff agreed and pledged to shift and shuffle staffing and procedures to allow for two (2) things: 1) The capacity to pick up one's cart near the starter's window, and 2) the capacity to fill out simplified paperwork at that same starter's window. Staff also agreed that greater attention needed to be paid to keeping these new carts clean and well maintained.

We discussed other matters, most notably the size of the Sepulveda junior golf program and the clubs' support therefor. The spirit of the meeting was cooperative and collaborative – a genuine sense of teamwork, not the "them versus us" mentality that sometimes dominates at the Golf Advisory Committee. We meet again in October. Drop me an E-mail if you have some ideas to bring forward.

Now, back to good summer golfing in the Sepulveda Basin.

THE NEXT TEE

River Ridge The Vineyard Course
Sunday August 14, 9:06 AM

LowGross/LowNet
Deadline: August 13,
Maximum Number of Players: 48
\$80.00 includes cart
range balls extra

Harding Golf Course
Thursday August 25, 7:00 AM

Two man partners better ball
Deadline: August 24, Maximum
Number of Players: 60
\$40.00, cart and range balls extra

SMGC Membership to Vote
on Revised Constitution
and By-laws

Thursday, August 4 at 6:45 PM

Your Board of Directors has approved proposed revisions to the Club's Constitution and By-laws. The revised documents are to be submitted to the general membership for approval before they become effective. The revised documents may be seen on our Club website at www.smgc.org.

A special membership meeting has been called for Thursday, August 4 at 6:45 PM in the patio area adjacent to the coffee shop at the course.

Approval of these revised documents will be the only item of business, so it will be a short meeting. Your participation will be appreciated.

Bee Smart Out There

By E.J. Beren, Editor

Bee stings are a common nuisance on golf courses. According to the maintenance staff here at Sepulveda, the Encino and Balboa Golf Courses are home to a resident bee population.

Most bee stings are minor nuisances – a slight burning sensation accompanied by mild swelling.

About 10 percent of bee stings lead to a stronger reaction – extreme redness and swelling that gradually enlarges in the following hours before clearing up 5-10 days later.

About 3 percent of people who are stung by a bee quickly develop potentially life-threatening anaphylaxis. Signs of anaphylaxis are difficulty in breathing, swelling of the throat and tongue, weak and rapid pulse, dizziness, and fainting.

People who are allergic to bee stings should carry a bee sting/snakebite kit. They are readily available at your local drug store and online. Be sure to let your playing partners know of your sensitivity so that they will be able to help you if you are stung during play.

If you have the bad luck to disrupt a hive or swarm of bees and get stung multiple times, the accumulation of venom can induce a toxic reaction that should be met with an immediate call to 911. Err on the side of caution.

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

HANDICAP CHATTER

By Stu Olster, Handicap Chairman

There are lots of ways to game the handicap system, such as by selective posting, fictitious posting, failure to post and intentionally wasting shots. The discharge of the player's handicap responsibilities, like adherence to the Rules of Golf, is on the honor system.

Violations of the rules of play or the handicap rules can be difficult to detect because so many opportunities exist to commit them surreptitiously. Now and then, a golfer is observed cheating on the course or selectively posting his scores, but most of the time, he's the only witness to the transgression—and he's not testifying.

When handicap manipulations are uncovered by a club's handicap committee, it has authority to, and should, impose a penalty against the player. The committee has wide discretion over the details of the penalty.

Exceptional Tournament Scores (discussed in detail in prior columns) can cause a reduction based on superior performance in important events. When the reduction for *ETS* occurs, a letter "R" accompanies the player's index number. But that "R" is not a scarlet letter in the sense that the reduction is not a penalty, although to the player involved it might feel like one. Instead, the reduction is made to maintain that theoretical level playing field in which every player has an equal chance of winning.

Handicap committees are not involved in the *ETS* reduction; it is made automatically in the computer calculation. But handicap and tournament committees have great latitude in assigning handicaps for competitions that differ from the players' official indexes. That discretion should only be exercised when necessary to protect the field. Such an index reduction, like a reduction for *ETS*, is not a penalty for some intentional violation. It should be used when a player wins to a mathematically unlikely extent based on his calculated index but under circumstances that would not trigger an *ETS* reduction.

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

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CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

At the July 12 meeting of the Park Commission's Concessions Task Force RAP Executive Officer Regina Adams announced that the Department had received the Frost/Krekorian golf analysis. She went on to explain that Staff would be vetting the report with the intention of docketing it on the August 10 agenda of this Task Force for the purpose of receiving direction from the Concessions group as to how the two Commissioners comprising the Concessions Task Force might recommend moving forward with the substance of the report when it goes to the full Commission on September 7.

If I had to venture a guess I would say that some kind of short-term task force would be in order. This analysis promises to be thick, complicated and pregnant with possibilities – the kind of subject matter more amenable to a focused approach than a generalized one.

The August 10 meeting is scheduled for a North Hollywood recreation center; the September 7 meeting is scheduled for the Swim Stadium building in the Exposition Park/ LA Coliseum complex near USC. The club will put out the details of both meetings in E-mail blasts to the membership. Watch for them.

Heal the Bay produces annual report cards for the beaches and harbors of LA County. The Sierra Club has just begun a report card for the cities and water districts of Southern California with respect to their water conservation efforts. Lo and behold, our own City of Los Angeles finished first in the Sierra Club's analysis of 122 cities in Los Angeles and Orange Counties.

Los Angeles is not only tops in California, but also leads the nation's largest cities in water conservation. Since June 2009, when mandatory water conservation measures took effect, Angelenos have saved more than 75 billion gallons – more than 1/3 of what Los Angeles uses in one year. Water use in Los Angeles has fallen to 1970's levels, despite a population increase of more than 1 million. In fiscal year 2010-2011 LADWP customers used an average of 117 gallons of water per person per day – the lowest among the 9 American cities with populations of 1 million persons or more.

The Recreation and Parks Department is LADWP's largest customer, and the golf courses are among the largest water users within the Parks Department. Kudos to the Department; kudos to the Golf Division, which is an active and regular participant in the LADWP Golf Industry Water Conservation Task Force, an institution that I put together in 2009 in the wake of the adoption of the Emergency Water Conservation Ordinance.

The same government that performed so magnificently in responding to the perpetual water shortage is capable of responding proactively, energetically and creatively to the Frost/Krekorian golf analysis.

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

Sunday With Santa

July 10, 2011

Flight – A

Player Low Gross

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Gerard Sanders	70	60.00
2	Beeri Meza	71	40.00
3	Ian Brumbaugh	76	20.00
3	Mark I Michelini	76	20.00

Player Low Net

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Phil J Kapsimallis	67	60.00
2	Steven Fox	69	25.00
2	Brent Harvey	69	25.00
2	Michael W. Radtke	69	25.00

Flight – B

Player Low Gross

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Sean Mac Donald	81	60.00
2	John H Blake	85	40.00
3	Phillip Sky	85	30.00
4	Larry E. Wilson	86	10.00
4	Russell Schatz	86	10.00

Player Low Net

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Virgil Budhu	67	60.00
2	Tommy Eunice	69	40.00
3	Roy R Bernhardt	70	20.00
3	Richard Galletti	70	20.00

Side Game- Skin Results

Flight - Gross Skins (Across- A B)

Player Gross Skins

# Of (Holes)	Winner	\$ Skin Total
2 (2,16)	Steven Fox	136.00
1 (11)	James Jordan Jr	68.00
1 (6)	Michael Levy	68.00
1 (8)	Brian Nugent	68.00
1 (5)	Michael W. Radtke	68.00
1 (7)	Gerard Sanders	68.00

Flight - Net Skins (Across- A B)

Player Net Skins (Handicaps capped at 18)

# Of (Holes)	Winner	\$ Skin Total
1 (5)	Michael W. Radtke	84.00
1 (6)	Michael Levy	84.00
1 (7)	Erik Rogers	84.00
1 (8)	Brian Nugent	84.00
1 (9)	Virgil Budhu	84.00
1 (12)	Richard Galletti	84.00
1 (16)	Steven Fox	84.00

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

Player Closest-to-the-Pin

Hole	Winner	Notes	Prize
4	Thomas Ortiz	1'8"	70.00
8	Mark I. Michelini	12'4"	70.00
12	Gerard Sanders	6'3"	70.00
15	Ray Bishop	26'8"	70.00

Honey Pot Notes: One team won the Honey Pot with a 59.. Eunice/Budhu 380.00 to the team

MGA Highlights

By Pete Heller

SEPULVEDA STRONG IN SWEEP OF WOODLEY SENIORS LOSE TWO TO CHALLENGING RANCHO

Wilson Golf Course - July 21, 2011

Len Zambito's Sepulveda Team drove neighbor Woodley Lakes deeper into the league cellar by routing them twice 50-22 and 28-8. It is now only a battle for 2nd place as League Leader Rancho Park plods on.

The Rancho juggernaut stunned the improving Sepulveda Seniors with twin wins 48-24 and 28-14. The Seniors can now only play for pride and try to catch the Sepulveda Mens Club who lead them by three slim points.

Defending Champion Griffith Park gained no ground on first place Rancho despite trouncing Hansen Dam 41-31 and 27-9.

Sepulveda Match Winners

Sepulveda Mens

Individual: Dan Crawford, Mike Radtke, George Beams, George Bryson, Hadi Morshed, Gene Vano, Clint Bridge, Bruce Fortune and Alfred Picolomini

Two Man: Crawford/Radtke, Morshed/Vano, Bridge/Fortune, Beams/Picolomini and Green/Bryson

Sepulveda Seniors

Individual: Jan Bernard, Alan Lipsky, Bill House and John Lanza

Two Man: Bernard/Lanza and Lipsky/House

Standings	W	L	T	Points
Rancho	12	2	0	24
Griffith Park	9	5	0	18
Sepulveda	7	7	0	14
Hansen	6	8	0	12
Sepulveda Senior's	5	8	1	10
Woodley Lakes	2	11	1	5

Next: Hansen Dam Golf Course - August 18, 2011

Hansen Dam vs Sepulveda Seniors
Woodley Lakes vs Griffith Park

Rancho Park vs Sepulveda

President's Cup Report

The Sweet 16 Matches are under way, three matches have been completed, George Bryson defeated Randolph Hammock 3 and 2. Ted Johnson defeated Jeff Sable 2 and 1. Michael Teague over Gary Patterson 2 and 1. Gene Vano Everardo Gomez 4-3.

Matches that have yet to be played are James Jordan Jr. vs. Dan Longmire, Neil Zaniboni vs. Phil Kapsimallis, Clint Bridge vs. Bob Mckibben, and Dan Crawford vs. Stephen Dem.

You can reach Mark at 818-355-6492

On the Other Hand Trophy Standings

As of July 25, 2011

Player Overall Points

This Month's standings for the "On the Other Hand" Trophy is still heavily influenced by the outcome of the Club Championship.

Player Name	Points	Rank
RankPistotnik, Donald J.	475	1
McKibben, Bob	400	2
Galletti, Richard	390	3
Jordan Jr, James	385	4
Levin, Leonid	370	5
Nance, Rich (Pp)	360	6
Levine, Andy	335	7
Stewart, Alan	325	8
Meza, Beeri	320	9
Nugent, Brian	320	9
Wilson, Larry E.	315	11
Brumbaugh, Ian	315	11
Zaniboni, Neil W.	310	13
Bridge, Clint	305	14
Zuckerman, Larry	275	15
Bishop, Ray	275	15
Keliddari, Ahmad	255	17
Fortune, Bruce	245	18
Nozari, Ardeshir	235	19
Budhu, Virgil	205	20
Michelini, Mark I.	200	21
Mac Donald, Sean	185	22
Hammock, Randolph M	180	23
Sanders, Gerard	175	24
Zambito, Leonard J.	175	24

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

One of the burning issues in the great game of golf is where to place bunker rakes—inside or outside the bunker. There is no rule of golf that deals specifically with this and although the USGA suggests they should be left outside, the ultimate decision belongs to the “committee,” meaning the authority within the golf club that makes the local rules.

Those favoring leaving rakes inside cite the possibility of a ball being deflected into the bunker if left outside. This has happened to The Gapwedge several times and he was not especially pleased. As a result he favors leaving rakes inside the bunker. Our club rules agree. Rule 9 says, “Bunker rakes are to be placed inside bunkers in a way that will not divert a ball into or away from the bunker.”

The argument for leaving rakes outside is that the ball can come to rest against a rake left on a slope in the bunker creating difficulties when moving the *movable obstruction* and trying to replace the ball where it was. Adherents believe bunkers are designed so the ball rolls down the slopes into a flatter part of the bunker, and that problems with replacing the ball after moving the rake is more significant than the possibility that the rake can divert a ball into the bunker.

Like many other things in life and golf, you pays your money and takes your choice and our Club has chosen inside. The Gapwedge believes that the Rules of Golf should allow a ball that rolls down a slope when placed after the rake is removed to be played where it ends up rather than being pressed into the sand to keep it from rolling, but it may be a long time before the USGA takes advice from The Gapwedge.

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