



THE SEPULVEDA EAGLE

Sepulveda Men's Golf Club
Starter's Phone: (818) 995-1172
Visit our website at
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January 2012

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.

Editor: E.J. Beren (818) 438-0395

ejberen@sbcglobal.net

Publisher: Hadi Morshed (310) 487-2280
hadi.morshed@snakclub.com

The Eagle is going green!

This will be the last copy of the Eagle printed and mailed to the membership. Future issues will be sent to you via email.

If you cannot receive the Eagle by email, please contact me, Evan Beren 818-438-0395 or ejberen@sbcglobal.net and we will make other arrangements for you.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bruce Fortune

SMGC's Board of Directors has voted to make this the last hard copy of The Eagle. We can no longer afford the cost of mailing to all SMGC members.

The Club will continue to mail copies to the dwindling number of its members who do not use computers and/or the Internet. In addition, the Club will continue to print some hard copies for distribution at Encino-Balboa.

I am pleased to announce that SMGC finished 2011 with nearly 20% more members than it finished with in 2010 – the first time that has happened in a number of years. Why? I would like to think it has to do with four factors: 1) The Club is putting on the kinds of tournaments and activities that are attractive to the local golf community; 2) Encino and Balboa's maintenance staffs have the two courses in the best condition they have ever been in; 3) the Operations team has made customer service/convenience their highest priority; and 4) maybe, just maybe, the economy is beginning to tick a little upward.

I can't speak for the general economy, but I can guarantee you that the SMGC Board will continue to try to exceed its members' service expectations and that the Encino and Balboa maintenance staffs are going to continue making their best efforts to deliver a quality golf product – as are Golf Course Manager Bob Cavanaugh and his excellent operations staff.

Speaking of club events/activities/tournaments, congratulations again to the Sepulveda "D" Flight Team that captured the inaugural Los Angeles County/SCGA Sunday Team Play title – the successor to the old PLGA Team Play competition that Sepulveda participated so regularly in. Best of luck to Gene Vano, Evan Beren and their crew when they participate in SCGA Saturday Team Play for the first time in our Club's history.

In January the Club will distribute a wallet sized card that provides the complete 2012 SMGC weekday/weekend tournament schedule. In addition, all members who renewed as of January 1 will receive from the SCGA a 2012 membership card, a \$15 Roger Dunn gift card, and the 2012 Directory of Southern California Golf.

In February we'll all get a look at whether our Parks Department and Commission possess the wisdom to make the few changes necessary to provide the management support our course employees so desperately need and deserve.

In March we'll thaw out and play better golf. "Play better golf" – now, there's a good New Year's resolution we can all get behind.

THE NEXT TEE

January 8 (Sun) 9:00 AM

Sunday at Woodley Lakes
Format: Low/Gross, Low/Net at Woodley Lakes
Deadline: January 7, Maximum Number of
Players: 60, \$50.00

January 26 (Thu) 9:00 AM

Thursday at Woodley Lakes
Format: Low/Gross, Low/Net at Woodley Lakes
Here's another shot at Woodley in the same month for the Thursday Golfers. Winter weather has us stay close to home.
Deadline: January 25, Maximum Number of
Players: 60, \$40.00

February 12 (Sun) 9:00 AM

Sunday at Wilson
Format: Low/Gross, Low/Net at Wilson (Griffith Park). Here's a rare opportunity to play Wilson in a Sunday Tournament.
This will go fast. only 60 spots.
Deadline: January 11, Maximum Number of
Players: 60, \$55.00

CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

The comments period for the golf consulting report closed December 13. The Parks Department plans to combine them with its own analyses of the report and present a set of recommendations based thereon sometime in February – tempered of course by the expected "comments" of the Mayor's Office and interested Council Offices.

If one were to overlay the comments submitted by the Golf Advisory Committee (GAC), the Southern California Golf Association (SCGA), and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), one would find common ground – the reforms necessary to bring aboard the management and marketing expertise required to generate the capital improvement dollars central to achieving real long-term sustainability.

If the city pursues that "common ground" it can invest the public and the other key stakeholders in the success of the program it has promulgated. If the city takes the other route – sometimes known as "circling the wagons" – it can only cause the public and other key stakeholders to begin looking at more radical solutions to accomplishing the long-term sustainability deemed so important by that consulting report.

Right now, mostly because of the performance of the Department workers on and at the golf courses, the public is supporting the reforms it deems necessary for the preservation of the current publicly operated system. Adopt those "reforms," and the public will work mightily to make their own prescriptions work. Deny them in an orgy of stubbornness, and, well, who knows? But if history and basic human nature are one's guides, if I were a city worker, I would be rooting hard for reforming the current system. If I were the Billy Casper Company, the American Golf Corporation, the Kemper Sports Management Company, Courseco, Touchstone or one of the other municipal golf management firms, I would be rooting hard for "circling the wagons."

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

Where are you going to play?

E.J. Beren, Editor

Winter Rules or brrrr it's cold, how do they do this in Michigan?

By the time you read this we will be in the grip of another frigid Southern California winter. I will acknowledge that our winters are not as harsh as they might be. If you are an early morning golfer the weather can be rather cold when you first tee off. And so some tips; Layers, people, layers. Rain pants can keep your lower half warm, even when it is not raining and can be easily removed when the weather starts to warm up. Likewise a lighter pullover under a heavier pullover offers the chance to shed some clothes without a lengthy stoppage in your play.

My hands get very cold, so I keep a pair of large gloves in my bag. Easy to put on and take off when it's my turn to hit my next high, arching shot next to the cup.

Lastly, don't forget to wear a warm hat to keep your head and ears warm, some people feel that the head is the key to staying comfortable.

Don't be afraid to golf in the cold weather, just be prepared.

Comments or questions maybe directed to the author at ejberen@sbcglobal.net.

HANDICAP CHATTER

By Stu Olster, Handicap Chairman

It's a mistake to label a player a "sandbagger" based on his performance in a competition. All of us have those rare days when we exceed ourselves and shoot scores considerably below what our handicap indexes say we "should" shoot. Each of us is entitled to a moment in the sun without having his golf bag searched for *silicon dioxide*.

In the eleven years I've written this column, I've rarely mentioned the epithet, "sandbagger." That's not to say sandbagging doesn't exist, but there are reasons other than cheating why a golfer might better his handicap on a given day. Some players simply focus better in competitive play than in casual play.

A player might do better on our relatively tame home courses than his index might suggest when a high percentage of his rounds are played on difficult courses. And remember that, although the index is basically an average of the best ten of your last twenty rounds, it's still an average. Sometimes one does better and one does worse, which is why Garrison Keillor's reference to all children in Lake Wobegon being "above average" is so hilarious.

Encourage the reader to give his fellow competitors the benefit of the doubt when assessing their performance by reference to their indexes. There may be, and usually is, an innocent explanation for their success in a given round or event.

Handicap cheating exists, but the "S" word should be reserved for culprits who are caught red-handed or whose performance over time is otherwise statistically impossible.

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

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It's Time to Renew!

Renew Now! Don't Wait! Save \$10! Keep GHIN/SCGA number active. Uninterrupted ability to post scores. Uninterrupted valid handicap index. Uninterrupted ability to register for club events. Deadline to Renew is Noon On December 31st. Renew on Line. If you have a question or problem contact Membership Chairman Alan Stewart <mailto:SMGC@zerocut.com>

OOH Standings as of 12-19

Trophy in Memory of Ed Cohn

Standings of December 19, 2011

<u>Player</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Jordan Jr, James	990	1
Stewart, Alan	885	2
McKibben, Bob	815	3
Levin, Leonid	800	4
Fortune, Bruce	785	5
Pistotnik, Donald	770	6
Mac Donald, Sean	670	7
Galletti, Richard	640	8
Nozari, Ardeshir	580	9
Bridge, Clint	565	10
Zambito, Leonard	535	11
Vano, Gene	520	12
Crawford, Dan T	495	13
Galper, Mark J.	470	14
Meza, Beeri	460	15
Budhu, Virgil	450	16
Johnson, Ted	430	17
Licht, Edward	415	18
Nordquist, Erik	410	19
Wilson, Larry E.	405	20
Raafat, Sepehr	400	21
Chhabra, Vinod	395	22
Paciorek, Robert	385	23
Bryson, George	385	23
Brandel, Bill	380	25

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

Holiday Tournament w Guests

December 15, 2011 - LowGross/LowNet

Flight - A

Player Low Gross

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Daniel H. Longmire	77	45.00
1	Clint Bridge	77	45.00
3	Donald J. Pistotnik	80	25.00
3	Paul Nance	80	25.00

Player Low Net

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Bob McKibben	71	40.00
1	Sharon Park	71	40.00
1	Vinod Chhabra	71	40.00
4	Jeff Murphy	74	10.00
4	Leonard J. Zambito	74	10.00

Flight - B

Player Low Gross

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Alan Miller	83	50.00
2	Bruce Fortune	87	40.00
3	Ray M. Hassanlou	89	25.00
3	Rick Reinschmidt	89	25.00

Player Low Net

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Edward Licht	70	50.00
2	Sepehr Raafat	74	40.00
3	Greg R. Ableser	75	30.00
4	Perry Melillo	76	20.00

Flight - Gross Skins (Across- A B)

Player Gross Skins

# Of Skins (Holes)	Winner	\$ Per Skin	\$ Skin
Total			
2 (13,14)	Clint Bridge	72.00	144.00
1 (7)	James Jordan Jr	72.00	72.00
1 (11)	Daniel H. Longmire	72.00	72.00
1 (9)	Paul Nance	72.00	72.00

Flight - Net Skins (Across- A B)

Player Net Skins (Handicaps capped at 18)

# Of Skins (Holes)	Winner	\$ Per Skin	\$ Skin
Total			
1 (7)	James Jordan Jr	105.00	105.00
1 (8)	John Gilbert	105.00	105.00
1 (11)	Daniel H. Longmire	105.00	105.00
1 (17)	Mike McWilliams	105.00	105.00

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

Player Closest-to-the-Pin

Hole	Winner	Notes	Prize
3	Marc Green & Eric Nordquist	tied 8'9" each	25.00
6	Michael Levy	9'9"	50.00
15	Sepehr Raafat	9'3"	50.00
17	Mike McWilliams	7'7"	50.00

Notes: One team won the Honey Pot with a 63 Miller/Nance \$280.00

Did You Know?

In match play, once a putt is conceded it is considered "holed" and is counted as holed in the match. If after your putt has been conceded you putt anyway and miss, you must count the missed putt in your total score when you post after the round.

Sunday at Olivas

December 11, 2011 - LowGross/LowNet

Flight - A

Player Low Gross

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Tyson Petrovich	74	100.00
2	Clint Bridge	75	80.00
3	James Jordan Jr	75	60.00
4	Mark A. Brown	78	40.00
5	David Gilbreath	79	20.00

Player Low Net

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Bill Keanu	71	100.00
2	Vinod Chhabra	71	80.00
3	George L Beams	72	60.00
4	Hadi Morshed	72	40.00
5	Bob McKibben	74	10.00
5	Eric Smutko	74	10.00
5	Michael Radtke	74	10.00

Flight - B

Player Low Gross

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Bryan Palbaum	82	100.00
2	Bruce Fortune	84	70.00
3	Larry E. Wilson	84	70.00
4	Brent Harvey	85	30.00
4	Leonard Zambito	85	30.00

Player Low Net

Place	Winner	Score	Prize
1	Greg Petrovich	66	100.00
2	Gene Vano	67	80.00
3	Perry Melillo	68	60.00
4	Leonid Levin	70	20.00
4	Bill Anapolsky	70	20.00
4	Larry Zuckerman	70	20.00

Flight - Gross Skins (Across- A B)

Player Gross Skins

# Of Skins (Holes)	Winner	\$ Per Skin	\$ Skin Total
1 (4)	George L Beams	98.00	98.00
1 (18)	Sean Cavanaugh	98.00	98.00
1 (8)	Vinod Chhabra	98.00	98.00
1 (6)	David Gilbreath	98.00	98.00
1 (1)	Asher Kamiel	98.00	98.00

Flight - Net Skins (Across- A B)

Player Net Skins (Handicaps capped at 18)

# Of Skins (Holes)	Winner	\$ Per Skin	\$ Skin Total
1 (4)	George L Beams	157.00	157.00
1 (7)	Russell Schatz	157.00	157.00
1 (8)	Vinod Chhabra	157.00	157.00
1 (12)	Greg Petrovich	157.00	157.00

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

Player Closest-to-the-Pin

Hole	Winner	Notes	Prize
5	Brian Nugent	14'3"	75.00
8	Clint Bridge	15'9"	75.00
13	Bob Surbeck	9'	75.00
17	Wayne Curtis	8'9"	75.00

Notes:

7 teams shared the HONEY POT \$66.00 each team Vano/Fortune 57, Petrovich/Petrovich 58, Anapolsky/Chhabra 58 Anapolsky/Vano 58, Anapolsky/Fortune 59, P Melillo/Radtke 59, Zambito/Vano 60.....*** Any team that shot 60 or better shared the HONEY POT The Pot was 460.00

BACKSPIN SHOTS

By The Gapwedge

One could easily write Tiger off as a force on the PGA tour based on his dismal performance since he resumed playing tournaments. To do that, one needs to ignore Tiger's physical gifts, work ethic and determination. Will Tiger be back? The Gapwedge says, "yes."

We all know it's hard to play good golf when the mind is cluttered. As if being divorced by the most photogenic woman in history wasn't enough to blow Tiger's focus, there was that tawdry feud with his longtime caddy, Stevie Williams, which ended a player-caddie relationship that seemed like a match made in golf heaven. In effect Woods incurred the trauma of two divorces in rapid succession. Oh, and he had a few physical problems too.

With his physical and emotional problems behind him, it won't take long for Tiger to again become one of golf's elite practitioners. If The Gapwedge was a betting man, and Vegas were to give reasonable odds, he would bet that Tiger will resume and succeed in his quest to eclipse Jack Nicklaus' major tournament victories record.

No doubt there are some great young golfers competing on the Tour. Somebody, be sure to let The Gapwedge know when one of them wins his tenth major.

Sherman Oaks, CA 91413

P.O. Box 57373

Phone: (818) 995-1172
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