



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@me.com

Printer: Rich Nance (818) 422-3748
richlaproforms@sbcglobal.net

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bruce Fortune

Happy New Year!! January 2014 begins with weather that continues to delight! Even though it will occasionally make playing a bit more difficult, it would be good if all of you would do a little rain dance for the coming year. Too dry for too long isn't good for the game. But I digress – Welcome! to all of our new and renewing members. Sepulveda Men's Golf Club is set for a fabulous year with lots of great golf planned. Check out our 2014 Tournament Calendar and mark those dates!!

Looking back on the year – let's take a moment to recap all of the SMGC Major winners. Starting with the Senior Championship in April - A Flt Gross, Gerard Sanders; A Flt Net, Marc Carter; B Flt Gross Bill Keanu; and B Flt Net, Gordon Seaberg. In May the John C Palumbo - A Flt Gross, Josh Eveland; A Flt Net (Tie) Hadi Morshed and Mark Michelini; B Flt Gross, Randy Hammock and B Flt Net Christopher Ames. Followed in June with the Club Championship - Championship Flt Dustin Watanabe, Net Champion, Gordon Seaberg. The final Major of the year was our team play Dick Goeckner Classic - won by the Team of David Joslyn and Virgil Budhu. Congratulations to all who played for the trophies and those of you who emerged triumphant in 2013!

We would like to thank Leonard Zambito for organizing and coordinating the 2013 MGA Team Play for SMGC. This year Sepulveda placed 2nd overall and will begin again the hunt for the Trophy this January 16th. It's a great 12-man team competition among the six LA City courses and it takes a lot of work by the captain to field a competitive team each month. Leonard has captained the team for many years and we very much appreciate his efforts.

Our first tournament of the year is this coming Sunday, January 5th. It's going to be at Harding Golf Course in Griffith Park, followed by our Thursday Tournament at Encino, January 23rd. Start the New Year right, sign up and join us for some great rounds at a couple of our favorite courses!

We look forward to another great year of golf and hope that you are satisfied by the efforts of our Board, who continue to provide the best environment possible for tournament play.

THE NEXT TEE

Upcoming Tournament Notes from Evan Beren, Tournament Director

A new year is here, and we are starting it at nearby Griffith Park. We will play The Harding Golf Course on Sunday, January 5th. First tee time is 8:00 am. Cost is \$55.00, carts and range balls are extra. This is a great, classic golf course. Don't miss this event!

Our Thursday tournament in January is on the 23rd. The Encino Golf Course, 8:00 AM first tee. Cost is \$40.00; seniors pay the day of the event and save. Carts and range balls are extra.

You can now view the entire years schedule, on the Home page of our website, SMGC.ORG, just click on the link in the left hand column titled 2014 Tournament Schedule, get the year at a glance.

For information about the above tournaments, or any of our tournaments, contact Evan Beren at ejberen@me.com or call 818-438-0395.

CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

Recreation & Parks General Manager Jon Kirk Mukri is gone. He is now serving as Interim Director of the City's Transportation Department pending an international search for a permanent General Manager. It strains credulity, not to mention simple common sense, to think that he'll ever be returning. Rumor has it that Executive Officer Regina Adams is also moving on.

Assistant General Manager Michael Shull, the most junior member of the Department's upper management team, has been named Acting General Manager, presaging large changes to come. Given that the Mayor's Office has yet to even announce the formation of the search apparatus necessary for choosing new leadership, the Department could be rudderless for some time to come.

Does this mean that at just the moment when we expect Global Golf Advisors to come aboard and begin recommending wholesale structural and/or systemic changes to our golf program we are again dead in the water? Absolutely not! Assistant General Manager Kevin Regan and Golf Manager James Ward are still firmly ensconced in their sinecures; the Parks Commission remains under the leadership of President Barry Sanders and Vice-President Jerome Stanley, both of whom are firmly committed to seeing through to the end the structural reforms their Commission's actions have begged.

Given that continuity, so long as the Golf Advisory Committee remains focused and the public continues to demand change, "changes" there will indeed be.

My fondest hope for the New Year: That we approach those "changes" with the attitude suffusing Einstein's great dictum about the inability to solve problems using the same old thinking that caused them in the first place— that we, and by "we" I mean Regan, Ward, Sanders, Stanley, GAC, clubs and public, not shrink from bold experimentation nor fall back upon comfortable bromides of a dead past, but rather exercise our creative imaginations to their fullest.

Are we up to the task? My answer: We better be! The status quo can get us through the next few years, but it will not get us to where we need to be immediately thereafter, certainly not if we expect to continue with a fully public operation replete with public employees delivering it. Anyone who believes otherwise just doesn't understand how to read a balance sheet, nor does he/she understand the depth of the current system's unmet capital needs.

Since it's a New Year, and I would appear to be in a feisty mood, let me also add that those unprepared to take the necessary long look at where things stand and where they need to get to within a prescribed time, just might want to exit the stage and let younger folks take its center – if not "younger" in age, certainly "younger" in heart, spirit and commitment to the future.

2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

Bruce Fortune	President.....	(818) 535-4900
Evan Beren	Vice-President.....	(818) 438-0395
Tommy Eunice	Secretary.....	(626) 278-0372
Dan Crawford	Treasurer.....	(818) 497-6617

Directors

Evan Beren	Tournament Director.....	(818) 438-0395
Everardo Gomez	(818) 429-4664
Craig Kessler	SGCA Dir - Gov't Affairs.....	(310) 941-4803
Mike Levy	Trophies.....	(818) 761-7650
Mark Michelini	President's Cup/Goeckner....	(818) 355-6492
Rich Nance	Eagle Publisher.....	(818) 422-3748
Stu Olster	Handicap.....	(818) 222-2516
Gary Patterson	Entertainment Director.....	(310) 980-4427
Alan Stewart	Membership.....	(818) 633-3105
Tommaso Trinchieri	(949) 231-0097

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

Standings as of December 27, 2013

Runs through June 2014

We'll be changing the OOH starting July 2014. The new name will be "Ed Cohn Trophy" and the ranking will be based on a calculation similar to a Quarterback rating in the NFL.

This will allow players in as few as 5 tournaments to be competitive all year.

Player	Points	Ranking
Ben Raposas	545	1
Brian Nelson	510	2
Johnathan Fernandez	480	3
Andy Levine	480	3
Tranquillino Bangis	445	5
Michael Melamed	440	6
Armen Mesropian	435	7
Gene Vano	425	8
Dustin Watanabe	410	9
Brad Marks	400	10
Anthony Bermel	385	11
Randy Hammock	380	12
Dennis Harmon	355	13
Bob McKibben	350	14
Alan Stewart	340	15
Dan Crawford	330	16
Vinay Chhabra	325	17
Ryan Tumulad	315	18
Marc Carter	310	19
Marc Cohen	310	19
Brian Czerniak	310	19
Victor Cervantes	305	22
Jeff Sable	300	23
Bill Anapolsky	285	24
Roger Ikeda	285	24
Jason Petterson	285	24
Virgil Budhu	275	27
Laurence Silva	265	28
Butch Chase	235	29
Sean MacDonald	220	30

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

Industry Hills - The Ike
 Sunday, December 8, 2013
Format – Low Gross / Low Net

**The results for the President's
 Cup are now official!**

Holiday Tournament-Encino
 Thursday, December 19, 2013
Format – Low Gross / Low Net

“A” Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
79	Daniel Melillo	\$80
80	James Bartlett	\$55
83	Phil Kapsimallis	\$35
85	Gerard Sanders	\$25

“A” Flight Low Net

Score	Player	Prize
75	Brian Nelson	\$80
77	Marc Carter	\$55
79	Hector Moreno	\$30
79	Andy Levine	\$30
79	Martin Zaleya	\$30

“B Flight” Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
86	Bob Surbeck	\$80
91	Sean MacDonald	\$55
95	Mark Vaughan	\$35
96	Gary Patterson	\$20
96	Lupe Escobedo	\$20

“B Flight” Low Net

Score	Player	Prize
77	Victor Moreno	\$70
77	Butch Chase	\$70
79	Robert Glaessner	\$35
79	Mike Murphy	\$35

Gross Skins \$78 each

Hole Player

1	Brian Nugent
6	Sam Schatz
9	Vinay Chhabra
10	Bill Brandel
13	Phil Kapsimallis

Net Skins \$80 each

Hole	Player
1	Brian Nugent
6	Sam Schatz
13	Phil Kapsimallis
14	Christopher Ames
15	Gene Vano
17	Mike Murphy

Closest to the Pin \$55 each

5	Sean MacDonald	12' 10"
9	Bob Surbeck	6' 9"
13	Alan Stewart	10' 1"
15	John Folsom	12' 4"

The Honey Pot was \$410,
 won by the team of
 Surbeck/Carter
 with a score of 65.

**Congratulations to
 Roy Bernhardt,
 our 2013 Champion!**

1st Place	Roy Bernhardt	\$325
2nd Place	Ryan Tumulad	\$250
3rd Place	Dan Crawford	\$125
3rd Place	Tommaso Trinchieri	\$125

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!

“A” Flight Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
72	David Gilbreath	\$60
74	Dustin Watanabe	\$40
76	Jason Petterson	\$25
76	George Villarreal	\$25

“A” Flight Low Net

Score	Player	Prize
68	Ben Raposas	\$50
68	Brad Marks	\$50
70	Bob McKibben	\$25
70	Jay Baca	\$25

“B Flight” Low Gross

Score	Player	Prize
78	Laurence Silva	\$60
82	Tommaso Trinchieri	\$30
82	Jeff Sable	\$30
86	Bobby Washington	\$15
86	Sean MacDonald	\$15

“B Flight” Low Net

Score	Player	Prize
70	Michael Melamed	\$50
70	Gurpreet Toor	\$50
71	Farhad Keliddari	\$25
72	Michael Teague	\$20

Gross Skins \$52 each

Hole Player

1	Tranquilino Bangis
5	Johnathan Fernandez
6	Michael Radtke
7	David Gilbreath
9	Brad Marks
12	Tommaso Trinchieri
16	Brad Marks

Net Skins \$80 each

Hole	Player
5	Johnathan Fernandez
6	Michael Radtke
9	Brad Marks
12	Tommaso Trinchieri
16	Brad Marks

Closest to the Pin \$50 each

3	Ben Raposas	6' 0"
6	Tranquilino Bangis	6' 0"
15	Michael Melamed	5' 11"
17	Ben Raposas	15' 6"

The Honey Pot was \$270,
 won by the team of
 Teague/Radford
 with a score of 61.

HANDICAP CHATTER

by Stu Olster, Handicap Chairman

Imagine a foursome is playing a “skins” game on Encino. A, the lowest handicap in the group, plays at scratch and each of the other three gets the difference between his handicap and A's. B gets 2 shots, C gets 4 and D gets 7. Simple, right? Not so fast.

The players reach hole #7, a very long par 4 and the number one handicap hole on the course. Naturally, A plays the hole at scratch but each of the others gets a stroke. The effect is that D must play B and C even although they have significantly lower handicaps. This is not such good news if you're D.

I've said it enough times in the past so I won't repeat that the best golf is a four ball match between golfers of nearly equal ability where no handicap strokes are given or taken. Adding “strokes” distorts the game to one degree or another. Example: in the Goeckner Classic back in the 90's, my partner and I, then both single digit handicappers, had to give more than 18 shots to each player on the other team. It was a lot like golf, but it wasn't really golf.

I believe it's time for our Club to take a look at using less than the full differential between golfers playing in a match play format. And so should the USGA who recommends using 100% of the differential. Despite that recommendation, there are a number of clubs here and overseas that take a percentage of the differential in match play in order to better level the playing field.

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

BACKSPIN SHOTS

by The Gapwedge

Back in the day, Gapwedge used to haunt the Studio City Golf driving range in the early morning hours before work. He got to know some of the “regulars” and they were quite a cast of characters. It's been decades since, but two patrons in particular remain in Gapwedge's memory.

Michael was an entertainer who was there every time. Everybody knew and liked him and guys would come to his stall and make gratuitous suggestions. No swing suggestion was ever made, within Gapwedge's earshot at least, that Michael didn't accept and try to integrate into his swing. As one might expect, no progress was ever made and Michael completed his practice sessions in a state of complete confusion.

Then there was Ken who was a CPA, who, like Gapwedge, came to the range before going to work. Ken was an equipment hound who showed up with a new set of premium clubs virtually every month. Since he never gave himself a chance to get accustomed to the new set, he, like Michael, was shooting at a moving target, a condition in which ball striking improvement is unlikely.

In golf, the patient have an advantage over the impatient. Learning the game with all of its nuances and subtleties can be a lifetime endeavor. Those seeking instant gratification should look elsewhere.