



THE SEPULVEDA  
**EAGLE**

*Sepulveda Men's Golf Club  
Starter's Phone: (818) 995-1172  
Visit our website at  
[www.smgc.org](http://www.smgc.org)*

JULY 2011

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.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bruce Fortune

It was great seeing so many of you at the Club Championship. It would be "greater" to see more of you in 2012. It would be "greatest" to have enough game to compete for the crown, but it's for folks like me (and I suspect most of you) that our Club runs this exciting tournament in Flighted Divisions with Low Gross Championship, A and B Flight Low Net honors and prizes.

Its worth noting a bit of the history behind the Club Championship. The Championship was originally open to all who were willing to play as a scratch golfer. It started back in 1955 and has given us many notable pros, and a few who've gone on to the PGA Tour, as in Duffy Waldorf, Corey Pavin and Bob Burns.

In 1983 the club determined that a Handicap Champion would be crowned as well. So, along with the Club Champion (Low Gross), we'll also have a Handicap Champion (Low Net of both A and B flight), and winners of each flight. Great fun, and everyone who made the final cut will be rewarded.

We had a very nice turnout for the qualifying rounds, on the 18th and 19th. The first day at Balboa saw many competitors fall into the common trap of underestimating it's 'simple' layout. The Championship flight may have suffered the most. Some surprisingly low scores were recorded in the B Flights. We're watching you!! Sunday and Encino allowed many of us to play our way into the Final round. Saturday, the 25th, and the Final Round came very early for many of us. Tee Times were 45 minutes after sun-up, starting at 6:30 am. The day resulted in some hotly contested matches.

Congratulations to our 2011 Club Champion, Clint Bridge. This is Clint's first year in the tournament. Our Club Handicap Champion is Don Pistotnik of the A-Flight, not Don's first such title I might add. Congratulations Don, on winning the overall Handicap in a sudden death play-off with Andy Levine, the B-Flight Club Handicap Champion. Andy had the longest day of all, having first to play Brian Nugent in a sudden death playoff for the B-Flight title, then Don for a chance at the overall. Well done Andy, Don, Clint and Brian! Evan Beren oversaw the sudden death playoffs. Our thanks to Gene Vano (Tournament Director), Mark Michelini, Evan Beren, and the members who helped put on the event. Thanks to Bob Cavanaugh, Sergio Mijares, Dave Slavik and their crews for the great playing conditions on both courses. Also, a special thanks to Rich Nance for going out every day and marking the bad areas.

It's not too early to start thinking about service on the 2012 SMGC Board of Directors either. We need new, young blood! Give me or another Board Member a call to discuss what the service entails if you're interested. We need some leadership from the guys in their 20's, 30's and 40's if we're going to stay on the cutting edge of what appeals not just to the grizzled veterans who have been around forever, but to the new generations of golfers who are the future of the Sepulveda Men's Golf Club.

## We Want You To Join Our Club!

Open to Men, Women and Juniors. Just \$50.00 for the rest of Calendar 2011. For Membership Information See our website at [WWW.SMGC.ORG](http://WWW.SMGC.ORG) or contact our membership chairman:

Alan Stewart (cell) 818-633-3105

[golf@zerocut.com](mailto:golf@zerocut.com)

## THE NEXT TEE

Sunday July 10

Santa Anita Golf Course

\$60.00

with range balls, carts will be extra

Thursday July 28

Rancho Park Golf Course

6:30 AM

\$40.00 carts and range balls extra

Sunday August 14

Riveridge Golf Course

(Vineyard)

Details to be announced

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## 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](http://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.

# PACE OF PLAY

By E.J. Beren, Editor

Slow play is the scourge of all rounds of golf, especially tournament golf. As such, the Board of SMGC has charged Tommy Eunice with developing a plan to help us all pick up the pace. Below are some of his ideas. A complete guide will be available at the upcoming tournaments.

If there is a chance a ball could be lost or out of bounds. Hit a provisional.

Help each other out. Watch where your playing partners shots land.

When using a cart, drop off one player at his ball and the other player should drive to his ball and get ready to play his shot.

When searching for a ball, the search party should only be 3 players. One by one the other players should be heading to their own ball and hitting their approach shots, then rejoining the search party and rotating with another player. After the 3 players have hit, this should be approximately 5 minutes, which is the maximum allowed time under the USGA rules. At that point the ball should be deemed lost and the player should go hit his provisional. If you follow this method it should self-time the 5 minutes and your group will not lose much ground on the group in front of you. Never join a search party if you don't know where your own ball is.

Players riding in carts along with walking players can drive ahead and locate balls for everyone in the group.

Conversations should be on the move and second in importance to playing the round. It is not impolite to put a conversation on hold and go to your ball and hit a shot.

When you are behind, proceed to the next tee and tee off while the other members in your group finish out.

Remember, golf should be fun; however, waiting on every shot during 6 hour rounds can really test that.

*Comments or questions may be addressed to the author at [ejberen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ejberen@sbcglobal.net)*

## HANDICAP CHATTER

By Stu Olster, Handicap Chairman

Back problems have hampered your ancient handicap chair's golf swing ever since early in the 90s, but with perseverance and pain tolerance I've been able to maintain my handicap within a reasonable range over the years. But last August I suffered a herniated disk which pinched and damaged a sciatic nerve root. Ouch! I had surgery last October followed by a lengthy course of physical therapy.

It was almost 8 months before I began playing again—if it could be called “playing.” If my handicap were to be calculated only on the basis of the ten or so rounds I played through June 1, my handicap index would literally be ten strokes higher than it was on that date. To my surprise, my official calculated index through the June 1 update had inched up only **3/10** of a stroke! Why?

Our handicap indexes are calculated using the ten best of our last twenty rounds. Each time we post a score, the oldest of our last twenty scores drops out of the calculation. If score twenty, the oldest score, was exceptionally low, the index would probably rise, all other things being equal. But if score twenty was not in the top ten, the effect of the next posting could be as little as nil.

In checking my most recent twenty scores, it appears that a number of decent rounds will soon fall out of the calculation and my handicap index, like water, will begin to seek its own level.

The handicap index usually lags behind the recently-posted scores. These days the delay is shorter because we have semi-monthly updates and posted scores are instantaneously entered into the calculation under the GHIN system, but it's still there. How much the index trails the posted scores will be influenced by the frequency at which the player posts scores among other things.

*Comments or questions may be addressed to the author at [stolster@yahoo.com](mailto:stolster@yahoo.com)*

## 2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## CITY CORNER

By Craig Kessler

If you grew up in Los Angeles in the 1960's, you surely remember the countless summer and early fall days when the smog was so bad you couldn't take a deep breath without experiencing sharp chest pains.

The population has doubled since then. There are more automobiles and trucks on the road than ever, yet those chest numbing, eye tearing days of yore no longer exist.

The same holds for water consumption. Angelenos use slightly less water today than they did 40 years ago, despite the fact that there are 1 ½ million more of us. Automobile safety is another positive story – so many fewer deaths and serious injuries with so many more cars on the road.

Of course, the pattern doesn't hold for everything. The traffic couldn't be worse. The school system has deteriorated. The libraries and parks aren't what they used to be. It takes forever to secure the simplest of public permits.

But take a closer look; you'll see that there indeed is a pattern as to why some things have improved and some things have deteriorated. It's where we choose to spend our tax dollars. We've invested billions in clean air, water conservation and automobile safety, while we've starved the public purse of dollars for roads, bridges, parks and libraries.

It's not that government is incapable of performing in the public interest; it's proven quite capable in those areas that the citizenry has assigned priority. It just cannot perform when provided with insufficient support.

We blur this distinction at the risk of promoting a culture of cynicism and resignation, a risk too many seem to take great delight in taking. It validates their apathy and elevates their lack of civic engagement.

Why the homiletics this month? With the imminent release of the consulting report regarding alternate ways to manage the city's golf system, we will have the briefest of opportunities to effect real change in our dysfunctional golf program. While the report promises to be a compelling call for radical change, such “change” never happens by itself. It always takes an engaged citizenry. Persons who are cynical, dispirited and pessimistic about government's capacity to effectuate progress are not capable of playing the role.

Play the role. You're about to take center stage.

*Comments or questions may be addressed to the author at [craigkessler@aol.com](mailto:craigkessler@aol.com)*

# Club Championship June 18, 19, 25

## Championship Flight

1	<a href="#">Bridge, Clint</a>	72	76	71	219	\$150
2	<a href="#">Jordan Jr. James</a>	71	76	78	225	90
3	<a href="#">Meza, Beeri</a>	75	72	78	225	90
4	<a href="#">Nance, Rich (pp)</a>	79	75	72	226	50
5	<a href="#">Brumbaugh, Ian</a>	73	80	79	232	25
6	<a href="#">Green, Marc</a>	80	77	76	233	15
7	<a href="#">Zaniboni, Neil W.</a>	76	79	79	234	15
8	<a href="#">Nozari, Ardeshir</a>	82	71	82	235	15

Clint Bridge ran away and hid for the Club Championship. It was his first time in our Championship. Welcome and nice job Clint.

## A Flight

1	<a href="#">Pistotnik, Donald J.</a>	71	68	68	207	\$150
2	<a href="#">McKibben, Bob</a>	72	68	72	212	100
3	<a href="#">Stewart, Alan</a>	71	71	73	215	75
4	<a href="#">Wilson, Larry E.</a>	70	76	73	219	50
5	<a href="#">Hammock, Randolph</a>	73	74	73	220	25
6	<a href="#">Fortune, Bruce</a>	71	72	78	221	15
7	<a href="#">Morshed, Hadi</a>	74	73	74	221	15
8	<a href="#">Zambito, Leonard J.</a>	71	74	78	223	15
9	<a href="#">Thomas, Frank</a>	78	69	77	224	15
10	<a href="#">Rockford, Douglas</a>	76	73	77	226	15
11	<a href="#">Piccolomini, Alfredo</a>	75	72	80	227	15
12	<a href="#">Beams, George L.</a>	76	74	81	231	15

Donald Pistotnik Repeats as Club Handicap Champion in a Sudden Victory playoff against Andy Levine.

## B Flight

1	<a href="#">Levine, Andy</a>	64	72	71	207	\$150
2	<a href="#">Nugent, Brian</a>	68	70	69	207	100
3	<a href="#">Levin, Leonid</a>	67	68	73	208	75
4	<a href="#">Galletti, Richard</a>	72	69	68	209	50
5	<a href="#">Zuckerman, Larry</a>	67	73	70	210	25
6	<a href="#">Keliddari, Ahmad</a>	73	73	67	213	15
7	<a href="#">Bishop, Ray</a>	74	69	73	216	15
8	<a href="#">Licht, Edward</a>	68	73	78	219	15
9	<a href="#">Raafat, Sepehr</a>	73	72	74	219	15
10	<a href="#">Melamed, Michael</a>	72	75	75	222	15
11	<a href="#">Vano, Gene</a>	75	74	74	223	15
12	<a href="#">Seaberg, Gordon</a>	75	72	76	223	15
13	<a href="#">Teague, Michael L.</a>	70	77	79	226	15
14	<a href="#">Budhu, Virgil</a>	77	75	80	232	15

Andy Levine wins B flight and was just nipped in a playoff for Club Handicap Champion

## President's Cup Report

### More first round winners:

Daniel Melillo, Neil Zaniboni, Phil Kapsimallis, Clint Bridge, Leonard Zambito, Bob McKibben, Stephen Dem, Erik Norquist, Randolph Hammock, Ahmad Keliddari.

### More second round winners:

James Jordan Jr., Daniel Longmire, Clint Bridge, Dan Crawford, Stephen Dem, Ted Johnson, Jeff Sable, Gene Vano, Everado Gomez, Michael Teague.

Our first third round winner is Michael Teague.

Our President's Cup Chairman Mark Michelini ask the remaining players to schedule and play your matches as soon as you are able to connect with your opponents.

You can reach Mark at 818-355-6492

## Side Game- Skin Results

Round 1- Gross (\$260 each)			Hole #	Score
Larry Zuckerman			3	Eagle
Paul Nance			12	Eagle
Round 1- Net (\$126 each)			Hole #	Score
Larry Zuckerman			3	Albatross
Bruce Fortune			4	Eagle
Michael Teague			5	Eagle
Richard Galletti			9	Eagle

Round 2- Gross (\$86 each)			Hole #	Score
Gene Vano			3	Birdie
Don Pistotnik			4	Eagle
Gordon Seaberg			5	Birdie
Marc Cater			9	Birdie
Bob McKibben			10	Eagle
Mataka Sichilima			17	Birdie

Round 2- Net (\$157 each)			Hole #	Score
Richard Galletti			1	Eagle
Don Pistotnik			4	Eagle
Erik Rogers			8	Eagle
Marc Carter			9	Eagle

Round 3- Gross (\$56 each)			Hole #	Score
Don Pistotnik			1	Birdie
James Jordan			2	Birdie
Clint Bridge			11	Birdie
Don Pistotnik			16	Birdie
Rich Nance			17	Birdie

Round 3- Net (\$165 each)			Hole #	Score
Clint Bridge			11	Eagle
Don Pistotnik			16	Eagle

## "On the Other Hand"

### Trophy in Memory of Ed Cohn Policy

The On the Other Hand Trophy (OOH Trophy) is intended to add an incentive for club members to play in more tournaments and add a challenging competition spanning the year. The trophy honors former Club President Ed Cohn who delighted us for years with his commentary in the Eagle, subtle wit on the golf course, and classy demeanor.

The ranking period will begin with the first stroke play tournament in June and continue for a full year.

Points are awarded based on individual low net scores within flights at club tournaments.

The points are as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Place 175 Points, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 125 Points, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place 100 Points, 4<sup>th</sup> Place 90 Points, 5<sup>th</sup> Place 80 Points... and so forth in 10 point increments. All players posting a valid score receive a minimum of 10 points.

Team game winners, Gross scores, skins winners, and closest to the pin winners do not receive points. (We may review this policy). Ties are counted as normal, not split.

Questions? Contact Tommy Eunice at [tommyeunice@hotmail.com](mailto:tommyeunice@hotmail.com)

## MGA Highlights

By Pete Heller

### SEPULVEDA SPLITS WITH HANSEN DAM

Encino Golf Course - June 16, 2011

Sepulveda Mens was set back by Hansen Dam in the individuals 44-28, but notched a narrow victory in the two man 19-17. The Mens Club have now been mathematically eliminated from all hopes of an MGA Championship for 2011, by a determined Rancho Park Team who is still smarting over a tie-breaker loss in last years race.

### Sepulveda Match Winners

### Sepulveda Mens

Individual: Alan Miller, Dan Crawford, Al Picolomini, Roy Hay, Pete Ruiz

Two Man: Hay/Miller, Crawford/Sable, Picolomini/Raafat, Zambito/Ruiz

Standings	W	L	T	Point
Rancho Park	10	2	0	20
Griffith Park	7	5	0	14
Hansen Dam	6	6	0	12
Sepulveda Srs.	5	6	1	11
Sepulveda Mens	5	7	0	10
Woodley Lakes	2	9	1	5

Next: Wilson Golf Course - July 21, 2011

Woodley Lakes vs Sepulveda Mens  
Rancho Park vs Sepulveda Seniors  
Hansen Dam vs Griffith Park

## On the Other Hand Trophy Standings

As of June 27, 2011

### Player Overall Points

Pistotnik, Donald J.	475
Jordan Jr, James	375
McKibben, Bob	370
Levin, Leonid	360
Nance, Rich (Pp)	360
Levine, Andy	335
Stewart, Alan	315
Bridge, Clint	305
Galletti, Richard	300
Wilson, Larry E.	285
Nugent, Brian	270
Brumbaugh, Ian	265
Zuckerman, Larry	265
Zaniboni, Neil W.	260
Keliddari, Ahmad	255
Fortune, Bruce	235
Nozari, Ardeshir	235
Meza, Beeri	220
Bishop, Ray	205
Zambito, Leonard J.	175
Hammock, Randolph M	170
Thomas, Frank	170
Raafat, Sepehr	160
Morshed, Hadi	150

# BACKSPIN SHOTS

By The Gapwedge

Ever notice how dusty our Sepulveda range gets when the wind blows? A long time ago, a guy explained to The Gapwedge that it's because the range surface is dirt. Golly, who knew!?

But that naturally begs the question, "Why?"

The *why* is because it's bloody expensive to lay down synthetic turf or plant and maintain grass and the City has not offered anybody an incentive to do the job. Until it gets done, we'll continue to hit aerodynamically unsound balls and use our handkerchiefs to keep the dust out of our lungs.

Several companies have offered to do large-scale range renovations in return for a long-term pro shop/driving range concession contract, but because of individual pique, cronyism or general ineptitude (or a combination of the above), the City has not been willing to conclude a contract so the necessary work can be done.

In case you think the recession has something to do with this, guess again. This farce has been going on for a decade!

Ready Golf has been on a month-to-month arrangement to run the shop and range forever it seems. Had a permanent contract been awarded in the normal course of things, whether to Ready or some other concern, we'd have been using attractive practice facilities and hitting balls with actual dimples for the better part of ten years.

But don't think our courses have been singled out for special mistreatment. The City spreads the pain around on an equal opportunity basis. Even Rancho with its influential Club membership and lauded golf course also features a range so ugly that the City should blush.

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