



SUNNYVALE MEN'S GOLF CLUB NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2009

THE ZONE QUALIFIER

This year the NCGA Zone Qualifier will be held March 21 at Sunnyvale. The top ten two-man teams advance to the second stage to be held at a future date. From there, the top two teams will make up the four-man Zone team to represent the SMGC at the NCGA Sectional Qualifier at Bayonet and Poppy Hills on May 26 and 27. If they do well, they may advance to the NCGA Finals held at Spyglass and Poppy Hills on August 31 and September 1.

Sign up now for the March 21 qualifying tournament. Find a partner and play in this popular event. If you don't have a partner, we will try to find one for you.

NEW MEMBER

We are happy to welcome to our newest member, **Jason Knapp** of San Francisco! Jason, we look forward to meeting you on the course.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

What? Already? Yup, we've already started to track the Player of the Year standings for the 2008 - 2009 SMGC membership year. The top 50 are on your SMGC website (www.smgc.us/poty.htm), but we'll spill the beans here on the current top ten:

1	Jay Kearney
2 (tie)	Brani Buric
2 (tie)	Dale Wilson
4	Phil Smithson
5	John Szarka
6	Tom Boydston
7	Larry Lopez
8	John Balsley
9 (tie)	Mel Cottle
9 (tie)	Jay Dameron

THE USE OF GRIPPING AIDS

On a windy, rainy day last winter, Player A had to wrap a handkerchief around his grips to hold onto his club. Is this legal?

Rule 14-3. Artificial Devices and Unusual Equipment and Unusual use of Equipment

Except as provided in the Rules of Golf, during a stipulated round the player must not use any artificial device or unusual equipment that, a) might assist him making a stroke or in his play, or b) for the purpose of gauging or measuring distance or conditions that might affect his play (except where allowed by local rule), or c) that might assist him in gripping the club, *except that* (i) plain gloves may be worn, (ii) resin, powder and drying or moisturizing agents may be used, and (iii) a towel or handkerchief may be wrapped around the grip. Penalty for Breach of Rule 14-3: Disqualification. So, it is legal to use a handkerchief.

Taken from the USGA website's Golf Rules: <http://www.usga.org/playing/rules/books/rules/rule14.html>

FUTURE TOURNAMENTS

February 28, 2009 Santa Clara

Cost: \$73 with cart
 Director: John Szarka
 Phone: 831-636-1408
 Field Size: 28
 First Tee Time: 9:30 am
 Format: Low Net
 Tees: Split
 Driving Range: Yes
 Cutoff Date: Feb. 18

Designed in 1987 by Robert Muir Graves, you'll admire the subtle elevation changes that make this flat course just a little hilly. There are some tricky holes, but also some where you can score well. Two of the par 5s are reachable in two, and there are a number of short par 4s you can really take advantage of.

Gold tees: Rating: 70.5
Slope: 116 Yards: 6,329

Black tees: Rating: 68.5
Slope: 111 Yards: 6,026

March 7, 2009 Skywest

Cost: \$62 with cart
 Director: John Balsley
 Phone: 650-678-2191
 Field Size: 28
 First Tee Time: 9:00 am
 Format: Point Par
 Tees: Split
 Driving Range: Yes
 Cutoff Date: Feb. 21

This course in Hayward is not as easy as you would expect a muni to be. Most of the fairways are tree lined and will put a premium on your driving. There are some lengthy par 4s that will make you hope the wind has taken a day off.

From the tips, holes 4, 5, 6 are a 543 yard par 5, 220 yard par 3, and a 441 yard par 4. Be sure to loosen up on the driving range.

Blue tees: Rating: 72.9
Slope: 123 Yards: 6,789

White tees: Rating: 71.6
Slope: 121 Yards: 6,513

March 14, 2009 Lone Tree

Cost: \$60 with cart
 Director: Bob Heihn
 Phone: 408-557-8653
 Field Size: 28
 First Tee Time: 10:37 am
 Format: Point Par
 Tees: Split
 Driving Range: Yes
 Cutoff Date: Feb. 24

Designed in 1934 by Bob Baldock and redesigned later by noted John Harbottle, this course is a favorite of the SMGC. It has a wide variety of holes.

Both nines start out with long par 4's followed by medium length par 3's. Hole 12 is a reachable par 4 but has the smallest green on the course.

The newly renovated clubhouse serves breakfast and lunch so you can plan your day.

Blue tees: Rating: 71.1
Slope: 124 Yards: 6,446

White tees: Rating: 69.5
Slope: 121 Yards: 6,098

Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself. Do not lose courage in considering your own imperfections but instantly set about remedying them - every day begin the task anew.

-Saint Francis de Sales, French saint & bishop of Geneva (1567 - 1622)

FUTURE TOURNAMENTS

March 21, 2009 Sunnyvale Zone Qualifier

Cost: \$145 per team, no cart

Director: John Szarka

Phone: (831) 636-1408

Field Size: 64

First Tee Time: 8 am

Format: 2-Man Best Ball

Tees: Black

Driving Range: No

Cutoff Date: March 14

A “first” for SMGC, the first Zone Qualifier in March. This event will be played at 90% of each player’s GHIN. Players over 18.4 will play at 18.4. The top 10 teams and ties will advance to the second round venue, probably Laguna Seca. Take a run at this event to advance and play with the best players of other NCGA clubs at Poppy and Spyglass in September.

Black tees: Rating: 70. 2
Slope: 118 Yards: 6,200



EVEN MORE GOLF

Do you have Sundays or Mondays free for golf? Yes? Then check out these NCGA course availabilities to fill up your golf schedule.

The NCGA has expanded their members-only schedule to offer more events at more facilities. All current Sunnyvale Men’s Golf Club members are NCGA members.

Date	Course	Fees	Includes
Monday Feb. 9	Brookside Country Club Stockton	\$85 pp.	green fees, cart, range balls, box lunch, tee prize, prize fund contribution
Sunday Feb. 15	Poppy Hills Pebble Beach	\$150 pp.	green fees, cart, range balls, AT&T/Poppy Hills logo hat and t-shirt, hors d’oeuvres, drink ticket post play
Monday Feb. 16	CordeValle Golf Club San Martin	\$285 pp.	green fees, cart, group forecaddy, range balls, tee prize, prize fund contribution, box lunch
Sunday Feb. 22	StoneTree Golf Club Novato	\$115 pp.	green fees, cart, range balls, prize fund contribution, tee prize, a BBQ lunch

For more registration details, deadlines and other upcoming events, visit the Members-Only Outing webpage: www.ncga.org/about-ncga/member_outings.

Gentleman, Valentine’s Day is upon us soon! Saturday, February 14 is the day to celebrate love and romance. As the wife of a man who requires Valentine’s Day reminders, it is probably safe to assume there are a few others of you like him who need to be reminded to buy a Valentine’s Day card. If you give a gift, it needn’t be fancy for most of us. We don’t expect the moon – no diamond tiara, no three-week vacation in Italy (this year...), but we do appreciate a gesture that tells us how much we mean to you. (No vacuum cleaners!)

For those SMGC cuties who don’t have a main squeeze, sure, golf may be your true love, but perhaps there’s room for another. This is a great time to check out eHarmony or other online dating services. There are no limits on love!
- Lauren Cheong

VALENTINE’S DAY IS SOON!

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Deer Ridge December 13, 2008

First Flight

31 pts.	Larry Lopez	\$35
31	Matt Wassmer	35
29	Brad Nelson	15
29	Aurelio Periquet	15

Second Flight

41 pts.	Mel Cottle	\$40
39	Justin Periquet	30
34	Dan Chase	20
32	Brani Buric	5
32	Phil Smithson	5

Sunnyvale - President's Cup December 20, 2008

Congratulations **Jay Kearney**, the President's Cup winner!

Overall Low Net	Jay Keary	68
Overall Low Gross	Jim Perko	77
President's Flight	John Szarka	72

First Flight - Low Net

Vince Delfino	70*
Matt Wassmer	70
Larry Lopez	74*

Second Flight - Low Net

Yongsheng Yang	71
Larry McGinty	72
Aurelio Periquet	73

Third Flight - Low Net

Brani Buric	70
Rob Hartmann	71*
Alan Depew	71

Fourth Flight - Low Net

Steve Marble	72
Jack Guzman	75
David Mak	77

*won via match of cards

Sunol Palm January 10, 2009

First Flight

36 pts.	Jay Kearney	\$35
36	John Balsley	35
32	Bob Joseph	20

Second Flight

33 pts.	Phil Smithson	\$40
26	Barry Franklin	30
24	Walk Keown	20

Poplar Creek January 17, 2009

Two-man, Better Ball Format

62 net	B. Buric/J. Kearney	\$35 ea.
62	D. Nixon/S. Reynolds	35 ea.
64	M. Cottle/G. Ponzini	20 ea.
66	J. Balsley/T. Boydston	5 ea.
66	L. Cheong/L. Lopez	5 ea.
66	A. Janjua/N. Rahman	5 ea.
66	B. Nelson/J. Perko	5 ea.