



SUNNYVALE MEN'S GOLF CLUB NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2010

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Although it is very early in the 2010 season, we want to let you know how the Player of the Year competition looks to date. For a detailed explanation of how Player of the Year points are calculated, refer to the web page www.smgc.us/docs/smgcpoints.pdf.

Player of the Year Standings as of January 10, 2010

1	Chuck Richmond	165
2	Dale Wilson	123
3	Jim Perko	120
4T	Jay Kearney	85
4T	Larry McGinty	85
6	John Szarka	82
7	Brian Silva	80
8	Bob Heihn	77
9	David Mak	75
10T	Barry Franklin	70
10T	Ray Wong	70

The player with the most Player of the Year points at the end of the club year, (after the Club Championship in September), will have his SMGC dues waived in 2011.

Our 2009 Player of the Year, **John Balsley**, was rated 8th at this time last year, so our 2010 winner may not be in the current top 5 or even the current top 10. Will it be you?

TOURNAMENT TALK

The following tournaments were announced in earlier newsletters. Please refer to them, or our website for more details.

Bob Heihn directs a club event at Salinas Fairways on January 23. This is a low net event at \$45 per person. Carts are not included, but the course is very walkable. We are past the cut-off date, but call Bob at 408-557-8653 to see if he can fit you in.

We return to Pacific Grove Golf Links on January 30. John Balsley directs this low net event that starts at 9:02 am. It's \$62 without cart. The cut-off date is January 20. Sign up online or call John at 650-678-2191 to play this wonderful course.

Our first NCGA qualifier of 2010, the NCGA 4-Ball Net Qualifier, will be held at Santa Clara Golf & Tennis Club on February 6. One two-man team will advance to the next stage of qualifying to be held April 1. The cost is \$160 per team with cart. Sign up by January 27 online or call John at 831-636-1408. If you don't have a partner, we'll gladly find one for you.

Paradise Valley in Fairfield is the location for our point par event on February 13. Jay Dameron hosts this tournament, and it will cost \$69 with cart. The cut-off date is January 29. Call Jay at 408-712-0227 to play, or you may sign up online.

Our Memorial Tournament at Sunnyvale is on February 20. This is a popular cha cha cha format where each four-man team plays each hole at either 1, 2, or 3 best balls net. Les Cheong directs this event. It's a mere \$52 per player, carts are not included. Sign up online, or call Les at 408-396-6902 by February 10.

FUTURE TOURNAMENTS

February 27, 2010 Lake Chabot

Cost: \$58 with cart
 Director: Bob Heihn
 Phone: (408) 557-8653
 Field Size: 28
 First Tee Time: 10:00 am
 Format: Point Par
 Tees: Blue
 Driving Range: Yes (irons only)
 Cut-off Date: February 17

If you have not played this course up in the Oakland Hills just past the Oakland Zoo, then you're in for a treat. The views are incredible, and the course will test your ability to play on sloping terrain. The short yardage makes the course playable for all players, but there are also some tricky holes.

The most memorable hole will be the **par 6** eighteenth. The hole plays 673 yards, but it is dramatically downhill. It's very possible to reach the green in three shots. Our multi-time club champion, Brad Nelson, shot a rare albatross on this hole by holding out his third shot for a three-under-par 3.

Blue tees: Rating: 68.9
 Slope: 119 Yards: 6,004

March 6, 2010 Napa Kennedy

Cost: \$64 with cart
 Director: Les Cheong
 Phone: (408) 396-6902
 Field Size: 28
 First Tee Time: 9:30 am
 Format: Point Par
 Tees: Blue
 Driving Range: Yes
 Cut-off Date: February 24

This is a great old classic golf course up in Napa Wine Country. This golf course is not as easy as it may look on the card. In fact, many of the pros used to play here before playing at Silverado as it was a tough warm up, making Silverado seem less challenging afterwards.

Don't be fooled by the short 2nd hole. It's only about 300 yards long, but there is water that is not visible from the tee. You will want to lay up well short of the water on this one.

The tenth hole has a tree right in the middle of the fairway, so hopefully you'll play your tee shot appropriately to avoid that tree.

Blue tees: Rating: 71.8
 Slope: 130 Yards: 6,478

March 13, 2010 Lone Tree

Cost: \$68 with cart
 Director: Jim Perko
 Phone: (408) 739-1159
 Field Size: 28
 First Tee Time: 8:07 am
 Format: Point Par
 Tees: Split
 Driving Range: Yes
 Cut-off Date: February 26

This course in Antioch is a jewel, and is one of the more widely-played golf courses in the Bay Area. It starts out with a roar, with a long, uphill, and very challenging par 4 with out-of-bounds to the right. The course gets a little easier after that, and becomes very enjoyable and quite 'scorable' in the middle of the front-nine. Try to take advantage of the back-to-back par 5 seventh and eighth holes and the short, but uphill par 4 ninth.

White tees: Rating: 69.5
 Slope: 121 Yards: 6,102

Blue tees: Rating: 71.1
 Slope: 124 Yards: 6,427

**FUTURE TOURNAMENTS,
CONTINUED**

**March 20, 2010
Sunnyvale
NCGA Zone Qualifier**

Cost: \$150/team, no cart
 Director: John Szarka
 Phone: (831) 636-1408
 Field Size: 64
 First Tee Time: 8:00 am
 Format: 2-man best ball
 Tees: Blue
 Cut-off Date: March 10

In addition to a regular club event, this will serve as the first qualifying event to determine the four players to represent the SMGC in the NCGA South Bay Zone Competition. The top ten two-man teams plus ties will advance to the second stage of the SMGC qualifier on a date TBD. The final two teams from that qualifier will make up the four-man Zone team.

The zone team will play at Poppy Hills and Quail Lodge at a date TBD, and if they do well, will play in the finals at Poppy Hills and Spyglass Hills on August 30 and 31.

Play will be at 90% of your course handicap. The maximum index allowed for the competition is 18.4. If your index is higher than 18.4, you will play at 18.4.

LOCAL RULES AT SUNNYVALE

The eighteenth hole is our Sunnyvale Municipal Golf Course spotlight this month.

There are two ponds on the hole, one on the extreme right side of the fairway, and the much bigger pond on the left side. The one to the left is much more often in play as it fronts the green. There is often confusion about if these water hazards are regular or lateral hazards.

The right pond is easy, that is a lateral water hazard. The left pond is a bit more complicated as some boundaries of the pond are regular hazards and other boundaries are treated as lateral. The easiest way to think about it is to picture the left pond as a giant rectangle (I know it isn't, but it makes the discussion a lot easier). With the rectangle in mind, the edges on the left side and right side are *lateral* water hazards. However, the edge that is closest to the tee box and the edge that is right in front of the green are *regular* water hazards.

This means that if you clear the pond on your second shot, but it rolls back into the pond, you cannot drop near the green. Rather, because it is a regular water hazard, you must drop all the way back behind the pond again, keeping the point where the ball last crossed the edge of the hazard between you and the hole.

VALENTINE'S DAY

Love is in the air! Valentine's Day is Sunday, February 14. If you plan to dine out, make your reservations NOW. A great source is OpenTable.com. It's free, and you earn dining points each time you dine out. Here are some dining tips in case you're new at this:



If you do not celebrate the occasion on 14th, do it earlier, not later. No lady wants to show up to work Monday and report that she did nothing (yet) for the occasion. Also, be aware that restaurants will not be serving their best food that weekend, but rather food that's filling and easy to make. Your meal will probably be fine, but it may not be representative of the restaurant's best offerings. The same goes for the service - it may be rushed or confused as this is one of the busiest times for a restaurant. Unless you're dining at 10 pm, you won't have a lot of time to linger as they may have later reservations for your table. Still, when you're in the company of your beautiful date, nothing will bother you! There is another option - cook something at home for your significant other. Schmaltz it up!

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Sunnyvale President's Cup December 19, 2009

Congratulations to **Dick Dalton** for winning the 2009 SMGC President's Cup!

Overall Low Net: Dick Dalton 64 net
Overall Low Gross: Arif Janjua 75 gross
President's Flight Winner: Jim Perko 69 net

First Flight

John Balsley	71* net
Brad Nelson	71
Dave Olivo	72

Second Flight

Walter Parubrub	71* net
Yongsheng Yang	71
Jim Rogers	73*

Third Flight

Don Anderson	71 net
Lee Cooper	72
Rob Hartman	74*

Fourth Flight

Dale Wilson	71 net
Rick Colen	73
George Cai	74*

* won by a match of cards

Palo Alto January 9, 2010

First Flight

68 net	Jim Perko	\$40
71	Dave Olivo	30
72	Robert Heihn	12
72	John Sasser	12
72	John Szarka	12

Second Flight

65 net	David Mak	\$40
68	Loren Dale Wilson	30
70	Frank Damiano	20
72	Davis Huynh	10

NEW MEMBERS

Please join us in welcoming two new members to the Sunnyvale Men's Golf Club.

Kim Post of San Jose

Don Meldrum of San Jose

Kim and Don, we are glad to have you onboard, and we are looking forward to seeing you on the golf course at one of the many tournaments we have for you in 2010.