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TP NEWSLETTER

Torrey Pines Municipal Golf Club
America's Finest Municipal Golf Club

June 2009

Editor: Matt Lees (619) 200-5050

ANOTHER TSUNAMI COULD BE HEADING OUR WAY

IS A MOVE AFOOT TO DO AWAY WITH SENIOR DISCOUNTED RATES ?

Just when I thought I could begin this Newsletter writing about 'May flowers – that bloom in the spring ...' and the brilliant colors that 'spring' about the North and South Courses, I learned at our recent Board meeting, the other day, that senior discounted rates at the City courses are being considered for, in the vernacular of that native country just to our South, "NO MAS". You read it right, the City, in its infinite wisdom and compassion for its elderly honored senior citizens, is considering doing away with senior rates at its municipal courses (Balboa, Mission Bay and Torrey) and substituting a low-income senior fee for those in dire financial need. Remember, there are no senior rates for weekend play at Torrey which means that the only break the seniors do receive in our Thursday events would fade away as would (probably) half of the play the City now receives from the senior contingent throughout the City. In the initial phase of the 5 Year Plan the City took away Friday as a week day and turned Friday into a weekend day which took away Friday's senior discount rate. Fortunately, Jon Maddern did recommend that the senior rate remain and the Parks and Recreation Board did recommend that senior rates be continued but, and here's the "rub of the green", the meeting was continued to July 16, 2008, at 2:00 pm in the "committee" room on the 12th floor at City Hall. All members should attend this meeting and offer to speak showing support for keeping senior fees in place. As a matter of fact, grab your spouse and have them speak as to why you should get out of the house – at least on Thursdays. How this even comes about in the first place amazes me. For one, play at Torrey is down. Secondly, come July 1st. the new rate increases will be in place and while the senior rate increase is only a couple of

dollars on the North course, to do away with the senior rates entirely could only cause more seniors to stay away and play would further decrease. Without senior rates, senior play on the South would be disastrous. Come July 1st. on the South course, the regular (non-senior discount) Thursday fee would be \$58.00. As it is, the senior rate, come July 1st. on the South course will increase from \$28.00 to \$41.00. So, attend the meeting on July 16th – stand and be counted. No doubt that the drop in rounds at Torrey led to Thursday's group six round increase for the remainder of the year. Our Municipal Golf Club responded with an immediate show of support and the added events are filling up generating more revenue for the City. Economic times are really tough and more so for the senior golfer. If the City Counsel voted to drop senior rates the loss of revenue to the City would be triple the amount of money lost through senior discounts. Why? Because the average senior cannot afford to fork out a regular rate – even on the North course – not in these times! I believe Jon Maddern and Parks and Recreation recognize this salient point. And my last word on the subject is this: It shouldn't always be about the 'almighty dollar' – what ever happened to the City considering the well-being , the health and enjoyment of its seniors who play this "challenging" game because they love it so. And in their later and twilight years, after a lifetime of dedicated work, whether in public or private service, would you feel good about yourself pricing their golf out of existence. It would be mean-spirited and unconscionable to ever do away with senior benefits. Enough said. Thank you, Jon Maddern and Parks and Recreation, for holding the line on behalf of all seniors. You have our respect and deepest gratitude. All seniors, throughout the City, respect and appreciate your support.

RON BRUCK STEPS DOWN AFTER 45 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE T/P BOARD

After a round of golf when you venture into the pro shop to record your score on the computer, have you ever thought just how it got there and why posting is so simple? 1,055 members send in their renewal membership ... ever wonder who compiles the names, addresses and all those tid-bits of facts? You got this Newsletter because one guy in particular keeps the current address lists by zip codes and coordinates every edition with mailing lists. And, this isn't the half if it. **Ron Bruck**, who also served as Club President in 1968-69, has decided to step down from the Board, after 45 years of dedicated service. Just last week he was observed standing by the computer working out glitches in the system, revamping programs, being certain that the 'system' is operating to peak performance. Remember those plaques in the Lounge listing the winners of the Club Championships and the President's Cup? Yep, Ron built them and kept them up through the years. He's been that kind of guy whose selfless service can never be fully appreciated until he's gone. Ron Bruck, you have been stellar throughout the years guiding the Board through times of great strife and joy. We will surely miss your insight, humor and plain old common sense!

MICHAEL COONEY PLAYS HIS WAY INTO PRESIDENT CUP'S OVERALL CHAMPION

Clutch play makes for dramatic golf and great champions and no one did it better than **Michael Cooney** winning the President's Cup this past April with a net score of 144. **Ross Edwards** took low gross winner at 149. 1st Flt: **Michael Cooney-144, Caleb Furgatch-147, Shane Gonzalez-147**; 2nd Flt: **Arno Tuulik-141, Jim Bennet-145, Chris McCann-145**; 3rd Flt: **Michael Galloway-146, Bill Morris-148, Rob Evans-148**; 4th Flt: **Carl Hempel-136, Stryder Thompkins-136, William LaFond-138**.

BRIAN CINCOTTA and **CALEB FURGATCH** **CAPTURE THURSDAY'S SCGA BETTER BALL CHAMPIONSHIP** played over the North Course on May 7. They will tee it up against the Better Ball winners from the Sunday Group (scheduled for June 20-21) to determine which team will represent Torrey Pines in the SCGA Better Ball Championships played later this summer. Brian and Caleb with a net score of 60, won over two close rival scores of 61, put up by the teams of P. Bannock and J. Jacobson and C. Murray and S. Koudelka, who both shot a net 61. Playing in great weather I guess you could have called that the, 'Duel in the Sun.' Congrats to tournament co-chairs of **Claude Gigoux** and **Jim Kerr** for a finely run

tournament. **John Hoffman** and **Dale Peterson** will co-chair the Sunday Better Ball tournament. So grab your partner and 'dozy-doe' because Peterson and Hoffman do know how to throw a "swing'n game" (now there's some awful puns).

Other high scorers in the Thursday Better Ball tourney were: 1st Flt: **B. Dresser & J. Amberg** (62), F. Odom & J. Ventimiglia (62). 2nd Flt: **D. Studer & P. Dinell** (58), **T. Shaffrank & P. Cleary** (59), **R. Burr and K. Kerr** (62). All scores can be found on our website. Open the site, on the far right of the page click on "Go" under Schedule and Results, scroll down to the tournament results you are looking for and click open the blue dated listing and "presto" the scores appear. Welcome to the 21st Century.

CONGRATS MEMBERS FOR FASTER PLAY IN OUR LAST SEVERAL TOURNAMENTS.

Be mindful, we were in a bit of trouble for slow play but both Thursday and Sunday chairmen reported that the speed of play has picked up in pace. It is suggested though, that faster play can be assisted by "ready play" through the fairways and continuous putting on the greens (if it is feasible). If you are on one side of the fairway and ready to hit but you see a player on the opposite side of the fairway and he's not quite ready to hit, call out and say, "I'll hit, I'm ready" and go ahead and hit. Over 18 holes, it speeds up play, saving these 30 seconds of time waiting for a fellow player to decide what he wants to do, when all the time you are ready to hit. Work it out as best you decide and you can save 20 minutes to a half hour of play in a round.

TWO APPLICATIONS ARE INSIDE: MEMBER/GUEST SET FOR JULY 26 AND THE SENIORS CHAMPIONSHIP SET FOR AUGUST 6 & 20.

Remember, with the LPGA event heading our way in September, Jon Maddern and the entire supporting ground crews will be all over the course making sure that Torrey is a standout. So, I imagine the North and South will be manicured and pristine throughout the summer getting ready for the best of top echelon female golfers. The Senior's Tournament and the Member/Guest should find the courses in awesome shape. These events will fill quickly and probably be with waiting lists. John Hoffman mentioned for the member/guest it will help if your guest also has a City resident I.D. card. Doesn't have to but it would help if he did. The member/guest fee is \$125 per player (\$250 per team) which includes golf and a great luncheon following at Flemings with awards and prizes.

SENIORS CHAMPIONSHIP 2009 ENTRY

The **SENIORS CHAMPIONSHIP** will be played on **AUGUST 6 & 20** and is open to all TPMGC members **50 years** and older. Non-senior players may signup but cannot compete and will be used only if the field is not filled by seniors. The entry fee for non-seniors will be waived. **The entry fee is \$20.00 per player.** Signup can be as an individual or as a group but no more than 4 players per entry. If you can't play both days please don't signup. The normal player selection process will be used. **Entries must be received no later than JULY 23.** Please complete the information below.

Name:_____ Phone:_____ SCGA Number:_____ Age:_____

Name:_____ Phone:_____ SCGA Number:_____ Age:_____

Name:_____ Phone:_____ SCGA Number:_____ Age:_____

Name:_____ Phone:_____ SCGA Number:_____ Age:_____

The check(s) covering the fee for each player listed on the entry form is to be made **payable to the TPMGC.** The check(s) and entries are to be mailed to: Jim Kerr • 3065 Driscoll Drive • San Diego, CA 92117
If you have any questions please call Claude Gigoux at 619-223-3673.

ENTRY FORM

MEMBER – GUEST SUNDAY, JULY 26TH.

Time flies because here we are with the 2009 Member/Guest Tournament. This year the Member Guest will be played over the **South Course** were several tee and pin placements will duplicate the exact conditions played at the US Open. **7:AM SHOTGUN START.** Format will be **Better Ball of Partners.** A great luncheon will follow at the Fleming's Prime Steakhouse with prizes and award ceremony. There will be on-course contests, closest to pins on par 3's, long drives and whatever else chairman John Hoffman thinks up. It'll be memorable. Costs are \$125.00 per player (\$250 per team) which includes golf, luncheon and prizes. Carts are additional.

MEMBER_____ **SCGA#**_____

MEMBER'S City I.D. # _____ **Phone (or e-mail)**_____

GUEST(MEMBER)_____ **SCGA#**_____

Guest's or Member' City I.D. # _____ **Phone (or e-mail)**_____

MEMBER/MEMBER APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED BUT MEMBER-GUEST TEAMS WILL HAVE PRIORITY. If you are **ENTERING** with another club member, just circle the word **"Member"** and cross out the word **'GUEST'**. If the tournament fills with Member-Guest teams, the Member-Member team checks will be destroyed. Any questions, please contact John Hoffman by e-mail at: jhoffma2@san.rr.com

Make check for \$250.00 payable to "TPMGC" and mail to: John Hoffman

ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 17

4005 San Ardo Cove
San Diego, CA 92130

Amateur to Amateur: *“Take an extra club”* swing the same and watch your smile stretch your cheeks from ear to ear! Imagine you’re on No 2 North and either on your second (or third) shot you’re still (oops) 115 to 130 yards from the green. Swinging an 8,9 or P/W you came up short; either just on the front apron or just on the low side of the green and still have a 40 foot up hill putt to the pin. Why so short? You ask, “I hit it good”. Which you probably did but not just enough club. Next time, try taking an extra club. If you feel it’s an 8 iron, take a 7 iron and swing the same without ‘backing off’ your normal swing. Same for a 9 iron (take the 8 and swing away) and you’ll be damn surprised at the outcome. Don’t let “macho golf” get in your way. You’re a 12 plus handicapper so treat yourself to a surprise with the results from an extra club selection. Try it out for the entire 18 holes – take the “one extra club” selection for your round. It’s a bit scary to do because it insults your “machoistic” instincts that you can reach “it” with a ‘whatever’ club’ you usually use. Stuff the ego in your bag and just try the ‘one extra club’ rule. Guarantee you’ll save yourself two to three strokes. If you do shoot two to three strokes better the beer’s on me. I salute your gamesmanship for the effort. Good luck. Pars and birdies.

Next issue let’s discuss the simplest way imaginable to get and keep your hips square at address with the right shoulder kept back (where it should be) so you can properly use all the “space” on your side of the ball-target- line to get rid of that amateur tendency to slice. Amateur to Amateur knows what the natural tendencies are that create a myriad of slice faults, what it takes to appreciate and understand them and how to get rid of them. First though, let’s get the hips square at address!

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