

# *The Crystal Bawl*



**6650 Golf Course Drive, Burlingame, California 94010**

**March 1, 2017**

## **From the Editor**



Golf was not meant to be played on a surface that Mother Nature has foisted on us this winter.

The number of rounds played thus far in 2017 compared to the same period a year ago is revealing. January 2017 with 15.5 inches of rain saw 2,150 rounds played compared to 2,750 rounds in the previous January – a decrease of 22%.

For February, management is forecasting approximately 2,000 rounds, compared to 4,850 last February, a 59% decrease (we've had 11.5 inches of rain this February).

The annual Molanari Tournament had to be cancelled because of incessant rain and resultant muddy conditions. The four-man team qualifier was pushed back from February 27 to March 6.

In addition to the economic shortfall suffered by the course, there has been considerable physical damage – see picture at left – caused by those playing including the unforgivable driving of carts off cart paths onto fairways creating deep muddy tire tracks. One would have to be considered medically brain dead to drive a motorized golf cart onto a muddy surface such as we see at left. But the people who play golf never cease to amaze me with their utter lack of common sense.

## President's Message

The 2017 golf season is off to a wet start. Our first event of the year, the "Andy Molinari" Old Reliable Scramble was postponed and then cancelled due to rain and very wet conditions. Since this is one of our members' favorite formats, we will be playing a scramble with computer generated teams at our Spring Meeting Tournament.

Your Board of Directors is working on several initiatives this year. These include addressing slow play in tournaments, reviewing and rewriting our local rules, evaluating our tournament formats and other options such as adding some weekday afternoon/evening events. We are working closely with Crystal Springs Golf Club Management to grow our membership and improve member benefits.

Your Board of Directors needs your help in running our golf club. Please contact me or any Board member to share your ideas on how we can improve Crystal Springs Men's Golf Club.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at Crystal Springs this year.

## Board of Directors Committee Assignments for 2017

Committee assignments for 2017 as determined at the January Board meeting, are as follows:

- *Tournaments* – Jack Connolly and Bret Barton
- *Handicaps and Scholarship* – Dan Voreyer
- *Membership* – Tom O'Connor
- *Away Events* – Tim Higgins
- *Rules/Greens* – Bob Simi
- *Special Projects* – Albie Steenvorde
- *Thursday Twelve-Man Team Match Play* – Mike Tracy

## Tournament Update

### Coming up

**March 18** – Pat O'Leary, 2 Man Best Ball Tournament – 8:00 AM Shotgun

**April 1,2,8,9** – Director's Cup Match Play – 7:30 First Tee Time

**April 22** – Spring Classic, Stableford – 7:30 Tee Times Assigned

**May 13** – Spring Meeting, 4 Man Scramble – 7:30 AM Shotgun

## NCGA Qualifiers

**Monday March 6** – Four man team qualifier –

Crystal Springs will send one four-man team to the San Francisco Bay Zone Championship on April 17-18 at Poppy Hills and Quail Lodge. This format provides the team be separated into two two-man teams with the best two balls of four counting. Interesting format since each pair usually has no idea how their teammates are doing.

**Thursday April 6** – 4-Ball and Senior 4-Ball Qualifying Round. No-fee, assigned tee time event.

Top two Four-Ball qualifiers will go to the NCGA Four Ball Net Championship Qualifying Round on May 25 (Among the qualifying venues are Coyote Creek, Metropolitan and Poppy Ridge). Qualifiers will advance to the finals on June 19-20 at Quail Lodge and Poppy Hills, respectively.

The top two Senior Four-Ball qualifiers will advance to the NCGA Senior Four-Ball Net Championship Qualifying round on August 2 – Crystal Springs being one of the qualifying venues. The Senior Four-Ball Championship will be held at Poppy Hills on September 7-8.

**Thursday May 18** – Net Amateur Championship Qualifying Round. No-fee, assigned tee time event.

Top three qualifiers will advance to the NCGA Net Amateur Championship Qualifying Round on September 14 – again, one of the qualifying venues is Crystal Springs. Qualifiers will then advance to the Championship rounds on October 16-17 at Poppy Ridge.

## **Crystal Springs Invades Silverado**

On February 23 a packed bus of players departed Crystal Springs and headed North on a two-hour journey for Silverado CC to play our first away tournament of the year. Once at Silverado we were greeted by the best weather Northern California had seen in a month. Recent rain storms had drenched the state causing dangerously full reservoirs and flooded communities. Weeks before the tournament weather reports looked grim. One week out from the event, the rain tapered off in the Napa area and conditions improved.

Thirty-three players teed it up on the North course where we were pleasantly surprised to find the fairways and greens were in very good shape. Those players visiting the rough found the conditions not so friendly. Balls reaching the rough sunk to the bottom of the grass, not only making the ball hard to find, but also difficult to play. In the interest of a better pace of play Stableford scoring was the choice of the day. Our group was divided into three flights and from each flight there were three winners

Besides the opportunity to play a PGA Tournament course, many of the players had the pleasure of renewing an old friendship with Rob Wells, former member and Past President of the Crystal Springs Men's Club. Rob, who moved from San Mateo County to Silverado over a year ago, made a guest appearance and spent the day circulating from group to group offering moral support and tips on how to play some holes. Rob now enjoys a slower paced lifestyle.

The bus ride back was complete with an iced cooler of beer with NO bottle opener. Fortunately one of our non-member guests, a former boy scout who knows to be prepared for those things, saved the day and was fortunately sitting next to the cooler.

Judging by players remarks, the proverbial good time was had by all.

And, by the way, we did recognize excellence on the course:

<b>Flight</b>	<b>Oroville</b>	<b>Anderson</b>	<b>Shasta</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Dan Dadoun	Jerry Tench	Norm Land
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Nick Amper	Setrak Soghomonian	David McNinch
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jason Pollard	Ren Marquette	Santhosh Soudamini

**CTP Winners** – Rik Roberts, Frank Brown, John Akkaya, Bret Barton

## **Tournament Fees**

Tournament fees for 2017 have been increased to \$45 per event – which includes carts, lunch and prizes. The \$5 increase over prior years covers the \$1 increase in cart fees for 2017 and to expand the already large inflated prize pools.

## **Membership**

New member – Charles Jamieson, Daly City

Say adios to – Ron Gonzales, Henry Ho, Peter Hsu, Richard Kim, Peter Mueller, Steven Slonecker and Jian Wei Zhang

## Greens Aeration and Sand and Seed Day

The Spring greens aeration has been scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, March 27 and 28. The course will close at 1 PM on Monday when the front nine will be aerated. The back nine is scheduled for aeration on Tuesday morning.

The Men's Club is scheduling a **Sand and Seed Day** for Monday afternoon March 27. While details haven't been firmed up, generally members of the Men's Club volunteer to go onto the course with cans of sand and seed and fill in divots and other irregularities – usually in groups of four or five, with each group covering a pre-determined number of holes- three or four usually. Afterwards the volunteers have historically been feted to a dinner in the dining room.

Stay tuned for details. Update at 11.

## Amanoel Bedjan named Food and Beverage Manager

Fairview Events has named Amanoel Bedjan as its Food and Beverage Manager, and has designated Crystal Springs as his home office. Amo (ah-MO), as he is known around the clubhouse, is a graduate of Chico State and has managed food and beverage operations at multiple golf courses in the Carmel and Napa areas. One of his significant experiences was coordinating a 1,000 person plated dinner for the Archbishop of the Church of the East. He lives in Oakland with his cattle dog Broonie, whom Amanoel rescued on the Metropolitan Golf Course.

He claims to be excited to be here and has promised to improve the food quality and offerings in the months to come. Amo would like members to come by and say hello and he welcomes ideas and comments about the operations.

## Darin Pakkala Honored

Michael Sharp, President & Chief Operating Officer of CourseCo is proud to announce that Darin Pakkala, Crystal Springs' golf course superintendent, was honored on February 7 at the Annual Golf Industry Show in Orlando, FL as a 2016 Environmental Leader in Golf (ELGA)– an award presented annually by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) and Golf Digest. Mr. Sharp cited Darin as a long-tenured CourseCo superintendent, a previous ELGA Award Winner and a wonderful example of CourseCo's values and commitment to agronomic excellence.

## Rules Corner

Answers to the January 1 edition teasers:

First: Bruno is disqualified unless he corrects his error for a serious breach for playing from a wrong place. Rule 28(c) is not applicable for a water hazard. The only appropriate rule was Rule 26-1. He may correct his error by proceeding correctly under one of the options of Rule 26-1 and adding a two-stroke penalty for playing from a wrong place. The stroke taken within the hazard and subsequent strokes with that ball do not count in Bruno's score for the hole. Of course, this must be corrected before Bruno teed off on the next hole.

Second: Ernie's score for the hole was 9. The provisional ball became a wrong ball when Ernie found his original ball within the 5-minute search time. Ernie incurred a penalty of two strokes for play of a wrong ball (Rule 15-3) and was required to correct the error by continuing the hole with the original ball.

When Ernie picked up his original ball from the bush, Ernie incurred a penalty of one stroke under Rule 18-2 and was required to replace the ball or proceed under an applicable Rules. Ernie incurred a penalty of one stroke under Rule 28 c and played three additional strokes to complete the hole.

5 talent strokes plus 4 penalty strokes for a score of 9.

**This month's teasers.** Since the Director's Cup is coming up in early April, we thought we would pose a couple of match play rules questions.

First: In a match, a player and his opponent play their second shots on a par 5 hole. Unexpectedly, neither ball can be found. Rather than proceeding under Rule 27-1 (stroke and distance), both players agree to a half. Is this permitted?

Second: In a match, George believing he has won a hole picks up the coin marking the position of his opponent Andy's ball. In fact Andy had a putt to halve the hole. Should the picking up of Andy's ball-marker be considered a concession of Andy's next stroke?

Third: In a match between Ralph and Reynolds, Ralph has made two strokes and the ball with which he make his second stroke out of the rough is on the green. Reynolds, having played five, concedes the hole to Ralph. Ralph then discovers that he has played a wrong ball to the green. What is the ruling?

### Quips of Wisdom!

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit.

Wisdom is not using it in a fruit salad.

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I had a rose named after me and I was very flattered. But I was not pleased to read the description in the catalogue: 'No good in a bed, but fine against a wall.' - Eleanor Roosevelt

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Last week, I stated this woman was the ugliest woman I had ever seen.

I have since been visited by her sister, and now wish to withdraw that statement. - Mark Twain

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The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible. - George Burns

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Santa Claus has the right idea. Visit people only once a year. - Victor Borge

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Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint. - Mark Twain

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By all means, marry. If you get a good wife, you'll become happy; if you get a bad one, you'll become a philosopher. - Socrates

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My wife has a slight impediment in her speech. Every now and then she stops to breathe. - Jimmy Durante

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I have never hated a man enough to give his diamonds back. - Zsa Zsa Gabor

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Only Irish coffee provides in a single glass all four essential food groups: alcohol, caffeine, sugar and fat.

- Alex Levine

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My luck is so bad that if I bought a cemetery, people would stop dying. - Rodney Dangerfield

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Money can't buy you happiness ....But it does bring you a more pleasant form of misery. - Spike Milligan

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Until I was thirteen, I thought my name was SHUT UP. - Joe Namath

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I don't feel old. I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap. - Bob Hope

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I never drink water because of the disgusting things that fish do in it. - W. C. Fields

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We could certainly slow the aging process down if it had to work its way through Congress. - Will Rogers

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Don't worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older, it will avoid you. - Winston Churchill

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Maybe it's true that life begins at fifty, but everything else starts to wear out, fall out, or spread out.

- Phyllis Diller

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By the time a man is wise enough to watch his step, he's too old to go anywhere. - Billy Crystal

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And the cardiologist's diet: if it tastes good spit it out.

Yesterday I was at Costco, buying a large bag of Purina dog chow for my loyal pet, Mocha, the Wonder Dog, and was in the check-out line when a woman behind me asked if I had a dog. What did she think I had, an elephant?

So because I'm retired and have little to do, on impulse, I told her that no, I didn't have a dog, I was starting the Purina Diet again. I added that I probably shouldn't, because I ended up in the hospital last time, but that I'd lost 50 pounds before I awakened in an intensive care ward with tubes coming out of most of my orifices and IV's in both arms.

I told her that it was essentially a Perfect Diet and that the way that it works is to load your pants pockets with Purina Nuggets and simply eat one or two every time you feel hungry.

The food is nutritionally complete, (certified), so it works well and I was going to try it again. (I have to mention here that practically everyone in line was now enthralled with my story.)

Horrified, she asked if I ended up in intensive care, because the dog food poisoned me. I told her no, I had stopped to pee on a fire hydrant and a car hit me.

Well, I thought the guy behind her was going to have a heart attack he was laughing so hard.

Costco won't let me shop there anymore. Better watch what you ask retired people. They have all the time in the world to think of crazy things to say.