

The Crystal Bawl



6650 Golf Course Drive, Burlingame, California 94010

May 1, 2017

From the Editor:

Another season is upon us. After a horrendous winter of record rainfall, the course is finally starting to dry out. Kudos to Darin and his green's crew for maintaining the course in the best possible shape despite the conditions. Hopefully you will find those balls you lost in the middle of the 4th or 16th fairways that appeared to be perfect drives. Now maybe the crew can cut the fairways a couple of thousandths of an inch lower to give us old, short hitters a little more run on our shots.

Now that the course is accepting carts and 'cart path only' hopefully is gone for another year, members are reminded to be conscious of pace of play. Keep up with the group in front of you.

Crystal Springs has been designated by the NCGA as a qualifying venue for several of its tournaments this year, including the Associate Club 4-Man Team qualifying round on July 27, the Senior Four-Ball Net Championship on qualifying on August 2, the Associate Club Net Amateur Championship qualifying on August 31 and the Net Amateur Championship qualifying on September 14. Since our Senior Net Four-Ball and Net Amateur qualifiers would presumably have a home course advantage, Crystal Springs could be well represented at the Championship venues at Poppy Hills and Poppy Ridge.

You will notice in each of the last two issues, we have had one new member and 7 losses. This is an alarming trend and if it continues, will not portend well for the financial health of the course or the Men's Club. Members might consider reaching out to golfing friends to consider membership. Also, if you find yourself paired with a non-member, you might consider talking up the club. I could write a two or three page essay on this matter but the members don't want to read it and the Board will censure me. Harrumph!!!!

President's Message:

Congratulations to Rodney Rosland, our 2017 Directors' Cup Winner. Rodney and the other flight winners from the Directors' Cup qualify to play in the Tournament of Champions on Sunday July 16, at Half Moon Bay. Everyone who has won in any of our tournaments since the last Tournament of Champions qualifies to participate. Later in this newsletter you will see a list of all who have qualified.

We have held two of our three NCGA Qualifiers and are sending teams to the Zone Championship, Four-Ball Net and Senior Four-Ball Net Championships. Congratulations to all who qualified and thank you to all who participated. Our last NCGA Qualifier of this year will be held on May 18, the Net Amateur. Top four players qualify. Signups are open now.

The wet winter and spring have made course conditions difficult. That was the longest stretch of cart path only conditions since I joined the club 10 years ago. Some of our members who have been here the longest have said this is the wettest year they remember. Since October almost 60 inches of rain has fallen at Crystal Springs Golf Club. This should make for great conditions the rest of the year. I hope to see you at one of our events!

Rodney Rosland Wins First Major of the Year – Victorious in Directors’ Cup Final



The four flight winners and finalists in this year’s Directors’ Cup Competition (left to right):

Paul Wyrsh
 Tim Higgins
 George Ambrosio
 Rodney Rosland

Rodney Rosland was the winner of the finals, edging the guy with the beard by one stroke and Messrs. Higgins and Wyrsh by two strokes on a waterlogged course. It is no wonder he won – his look is more determined than the other three contestants.

Results of the various brackets are below.

Photo by Rik Roberts

Weather, course conditions, conflicts with play dates and who knows what else contributed to a less-than-normal field for the Director’s Cup competition this year. As a result, there were only four brackets, not all of which were full. Following is the results of the three days of match play leading up to the four finalists, pictured above.

1st Bracket

Robertson bye
 Gallardo def Roberts 5-4
 Higgins def Cesarz 1 up
 Lorack def McNutt default

2nd Bracket

O’Connor bye
 Wyrsh def Brown 6-5
 Tracy def Amper 4-3
 Akkaya def Garcia 1 up

3rd Bracket

Voreyer bye
 Rosland def Fong 2 up
 Tordsen def Keuftjian 8-7
 Thomas def Ugur 6-5

4th Bracket

O’Balle bye
 Frisbie def Steenvorde 3-1
 Theisen def Connolly 5-4
 Ambrosio def Harrell 3-1

Round 1

Robertson def Gallardo 2-1
 Higgins def Lorack default

Wyrsh def O’Connor 1 up
 Tracy def Akkaya 1 up

Rosland def Voreyer 2 up
 Tordsen def Thomas 3-2

O’Balle def Frisbie 2 up
 Ambrosio def Thiesen 3-1

Round 3

Higgins def Robertson 3-2

Wyrsh def Tracy 2-1

Rosland def Tordsen 1 up

Ambrosio def O’Balle 3-1

Championship Stroke Play Net Scores

Rosland 77

Ambrosio 78

Higgins 79

Wyrsh 79

Golfer of the Year

Tim Higgins is the early leader in the Golfer of the Year race, accumulating 360 points thus far. Rodney Rosland’s victory in the Director’s Cup vaulted him into second place with 280 points. George Ambrosio is third with 260, Ernie Tordsen and Paul Wyrsh are tied for fourth with 240 points. Rounding out the top ten are Scott Robertson (230), John Akkaya (190), Ron Gallardo (170), Tom O’Connor (160) and Mike Tracy (155).

Akkaya-Ugur Team Score Low Net 61 in O'Leary Tournament; Higgins-Roberts Win Cork Flight

John Akkaya and Bruno Ugur once again paired up and fired a hard-to-believe net 61 to win the Dublin Flight of the annual Pat O'Leary Tournament on March 18. They bested the two second place finishing teams of Dave Fong and Richard Wolf (who won the card-off for second) and George Musante and Larry Raffo by (gulp) 7 shots.

In the Cork Flight, where scores were more believable, Tim Higgins and Rik Roberts combined to shoot a net 65 to best the FC boys (Frank Cesarz and Fred Chiappe) by 2 shots. Ron Clark and Ron Gallardo also shot net 67 to finish third in the tie-breaker.

CTP winners were George Musante on Hole # 3 (12' 2 ½"); Ed Garcia on Hole # 8 (15' 4"); Bob O'Balle on Hole #11 (4' 10 ½"); and Ron Gallardo on Hole # 13 (5' 3").

Spring Classic Results

The first of our three Classic Tournaments was held on April 22 as the course showed signs of recovering from its winter soaking. With the appearance of decent weather, 29 golfers came out of hibernation to participate in this event scored on the Stableford system (1 point for a net bogey, 2 points for a net par, 3 points for a net birdie, 4 points for a net eagle). Winners and runners-up in each of the four flights:

Nicklaus Flight – Tom O'Connor 35 points (wins tiebreaker), Joe Cioni 35 points

Palmer Flight – Scott Robertson 40 points, Bret Barton 37 points

Snead Flight – Ernie Tordsen 38 points, Ping Hsu 32 points

Hogan Flight – Ed Garcia 37 points, George Ambrosio 33 points.

CTP stars: Hole # 3, Ed Garcia (5' 1"); Hole # 8, Tom O'Connor (18' 0"); Hole # 11, Don Hopkins (2' 7"); Hole # 13, Bret Barton (3' 7").

Upcoming Events

May 13 – Spring Meeting - \$45 –Four Man Scramble, teams to be determined by the computer.

May 18 – Qualifying Round for NCGA Individual Net Tournament. –No Fee event. Top four finishers will represent Crystal Springs in the NCGA annual Individual Net Tournament. Qualifying round is September 14, with Crystal Springs being one of the qualifying venues (Monarch Bay is the next nearest venue). Qualifiers will move on to the finals to be held at Poppy Ridge on October 16-17.

June 10 – Summer Classic. Second of three Classic tournaments. Stableford scoring. No fee event.

June 24 – Invitational (more traditionally called a Member-Guest) Tournament. Fee TBD. 2 man better ball event (also called a four ball event). Details to follow.

July 8 – President's Cup. Fee \$45. 2 man shamble

July 16 – Tournament of Champions. Fee and details to be announced at a later date. See below for qualifiers to date.

NCGA Team Match Play, Thursday Competition – 2017

Crystal Springs Men's Club (CSMC) participates in the NCGA Team Match Play Thursday Competition. This form of match play is the highest level of team golf played regularly by the Club. We participate in a local league playing on Thursdays against other local teams, home and away, in June, July and August. The League champion then moves on to compete with 29 other League winners in a single-elimination play-off competition culminating in the finals held at Poppy Hills in September.

CSMC fields a 12-man team in which each player participates in an individual match, at full handicaps (see below for limits), and a 2-man team match, against the opposition pair. All members of CSMC, 21 and over, in good standing with the Club on June 1, 2017, are eligible to participate in this exciting competition. Handicaps are limited to a maximum index of 18.4 and play is from the White Tees. The Team Captain makes every effort to field the best team available and selection is based on a love of match play, previous match play performance in team and CSMC events, consistency of scoring from Blue/White Tees and course knowledge and prowess at Palo Alto Muni and Poplar Creek.

In 2016, the Crystal Springs Team had an exciting, enjoyable and successful season winning the local League (5 wins and 1 loss) against Palo Alto, Poplar Creek and Harding Park. We then advanced to the play-offs where we beat Green Hills Golf and Country Club, and The Olympic Club, before disappointingly losing to Sequoyah Country Club in the Quarter-Finals. In 2017, our local league will consist of three teams. CSMC will therefore be playing Palo Alto and Poplar Creek, starting on Thursday, June 8 vs. Palo Alto, at Crystal Springs Golf Course. The team's goal is to return to the playoffs and continue to surprise the Country Club set on our march to a Championship. Winning all four league matches is a must! If any golf is interested in joining the team, please contact the CSMC Team Captain, Mike Tracy (Michael.tracy2952@gmail.com) or at 650-391-7335.

Crystal Springs Team Finishes Second in San Francisco Bay Zone Championship



The Crystal Springs team acquitted themselves superbly in the San Francisco Bay Zone Championships at Quail Lodge and Poppy Hills by shooting 23-under par in the two-day, best two-balls of four competition. This gained them a tie for second place, and then they won a sudden-death playoff against the Gleneagles Golf Club. The team finished 6 strokes behind the winners, Lincoln Park Golf Club. The team advances to the Zone Championship on August 28-29 at Spyglass Hill and Poppy Hills.

The team members, in the photo at left, are (L to R), Tom O'Connor (whose medal somehow got misplaced), Scott Robertson, Tim Higgins and Rik Roberts.

Tournament of Champions – Qualifiers to Date

The following is a list of those members who have qualified for the Club's Annual Tournament of Champions through the date of this publication. Number in parentheses indicates the number of times that person has qualified. Since all but two tournaments are Net Tournaments, it is easy to determine who the big sand-baggers in this Club are.

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| John Akkaya (2) | Joe Cioni | Norm Land | Santhosh Soudimini |
| George Ambrosio | Dan Dadoun | Ren Marquette | Albie Steenvoorde |
| Nicanor Amper | Matt Frisbie | George Musante (2) | Jerry Tench (2) |
| Chuck Baird | Bert Galang | Tom O'Connor (2) | Ernie Tordsen (2) |
| Bret Barton (4) | Ed Garcia (2) | Rik Roberts (2) | Dan Voreyer |
| Nelson Beato | Jim Grandcolas | Scott Robertson | Steve Wolles |
| Frank Brown (4) | Tim Higgins (2) | Rodney Rosland (2) | Paul Wyrsh (2) |
| Fred Chiappe | Don Hopkins | Tony Sciandri | Hamadi Ugur |
| David Choi | Dave Jackson | Andy Soss | |

Hole In One

Don Hopkins scored his second lifetime hole-in-one on March 26 with a 5 iron on Hole Number 8. Congratulations!

Belated announcement. Sidney Malkoo aced the 13th hole on November 2 last year with a 4 rescue – his second ace on this hole. Congrats to Sidney.

Crystal Springs Junior Golf Tournament scheduled for June 22.

The 18th annual Crystal Springs Junior Golf Tournament will be played on Thursday, June 22nd, featuring 125 of Northern California finest junior golfers.

Former champions of this event include Maverick McNeily and Isaac Salinda, the top two players on nationally ranked Stanford University's golf team. Other former participants include Hannah O'Sullivan, the only amateur to win a Symetra women's pro tournament, and Lucy Li who at age 11 was the youngest girl to qualify and play in the Women's U.S. Open.

This event will be played at Crystal Springs and is sponsored by The Crystal Springs Men's Club. The tournament, to be successful, always needs volunteers for scorekeeping and marshaling duties. If interested in watching great junior golfers in action and help to make this event a success, please contact Tournament Director, George Ambrosio at (650) 588-2911 for an assignment.

Lunch is included for all volunteers.

Membership

New member – John M. Tragoutsis, San Mateo, CA

Say adios – Clint Dickson, Tom Foley, Ron Ho, Gerald Montoya, Philip Rosenberg, Tomas Yap and Ryan DeSanto

Jim “Pappy” Weston Scholarship for High School Seniors – Applications now being accepted

The Crystal Springs Men’s Golf Club is accepting applications for a \$1,000 scholarship from eligible male and female high school seniors in San Francisco and San Mateo Counties who meet the following criteria:

- High school graduating senior
- Member of the school’s golf team
- Have a minimum 3.00 cumulative GPA
- Pursuing a post-secondary education

Qualified students must submit a completed application package by Friday, June 2, 2017.

Applications are available on-line at www.playcrystalsprings.com and at the Crystal Springs Golf Course Pro Shop.

Jim “Pappy” Weston (1911-1999) was a long time member of the Crystal Springs Men’s Golf Club and also served on the Men’s Club Board of Directors. He started playing at Crystal Springs in 1952, was a strong 8 handicap and a gentleman. He was instrumental in starting this scholarship program for young student athletes and the program is now named in his honor.

Further information is available by contacting the Scholarship Fund Chairman, Dan Voreyer at (650) 455-1118.

Rules Corner

Answers to last issues match play questions:

First. Yes. An agreement to halve a hole being played is permissible under the Rules. However, if the players agree to consider a hole halved without either player making a stroke, they should be disqualified under Rule 1-3 for agreeing to exclude the operation of Rule 2-1 by failing to play the stipulated round, provided the players knew that this was a breach of the rules.

Second. No. In equity, George should be penalized one stroke (Rule 1-4). Therefore, under the second paragraph of Rule 2-2, the hole is automatically halved.

Third. Reynolds wins the hole. When Ralph played his second stroke with the wrong ball, he automatically loses the hole. (Remember, there are no two-stroke penalties in Match Play).

This month’s question:

Rik’s ball from his tee shot lies within a water hazard in a difficult lie. Rik decides to play from within the water hazard and his shot heads toward the OB. Rik then announces his intent to play a provisional ball which, when dropped, rolls into an unplayable location (no re-drop required). Rik lifts the ball and drops it outside the water hazard, proceeding under Rule 26-1b. Rik’s next stroke after the drop lands short of the putting green.

- a. Rik’s original ball is found on the course. Rik picks up the provisional ball and completes the hole with the original ball in three additional strokes.
- b. Rik finds his original ball out of bounds. Rik completes the hole with the provisional ball in three additional strokes.

In each incident above, what was Rik’s score for the hole?

How to think like an accountant

A priest, a doctor and an accountant were waiting one morning for a particularly slow group of golfers. The accountant fumed; "What's with those guys? We have been waiting for 15 minutes for them to clear the green."

The doctor chimed in, "I don't know, but I've never seen such inept golf!"

The priest said, "Here comes the green's keeper. Let's have a word with him." He said, "Hello George, what's wrong with that group ahead of us? They are painfully slow."

The green's keeper replied, "Oh, yes. That's a group of blind firemen. They lost their sight saving our clubhouse from a fire last year, so we always let them play for free anytime."

The group fell silent for a moment. The priest said, "That's so sad. I will say a special prayer for them tonight."

The doctor said, "Good idea. I am going to contact my ophthalmologist colleague and see if there is anything she can do for them."

The accountant said, "Why can't they play at night?"