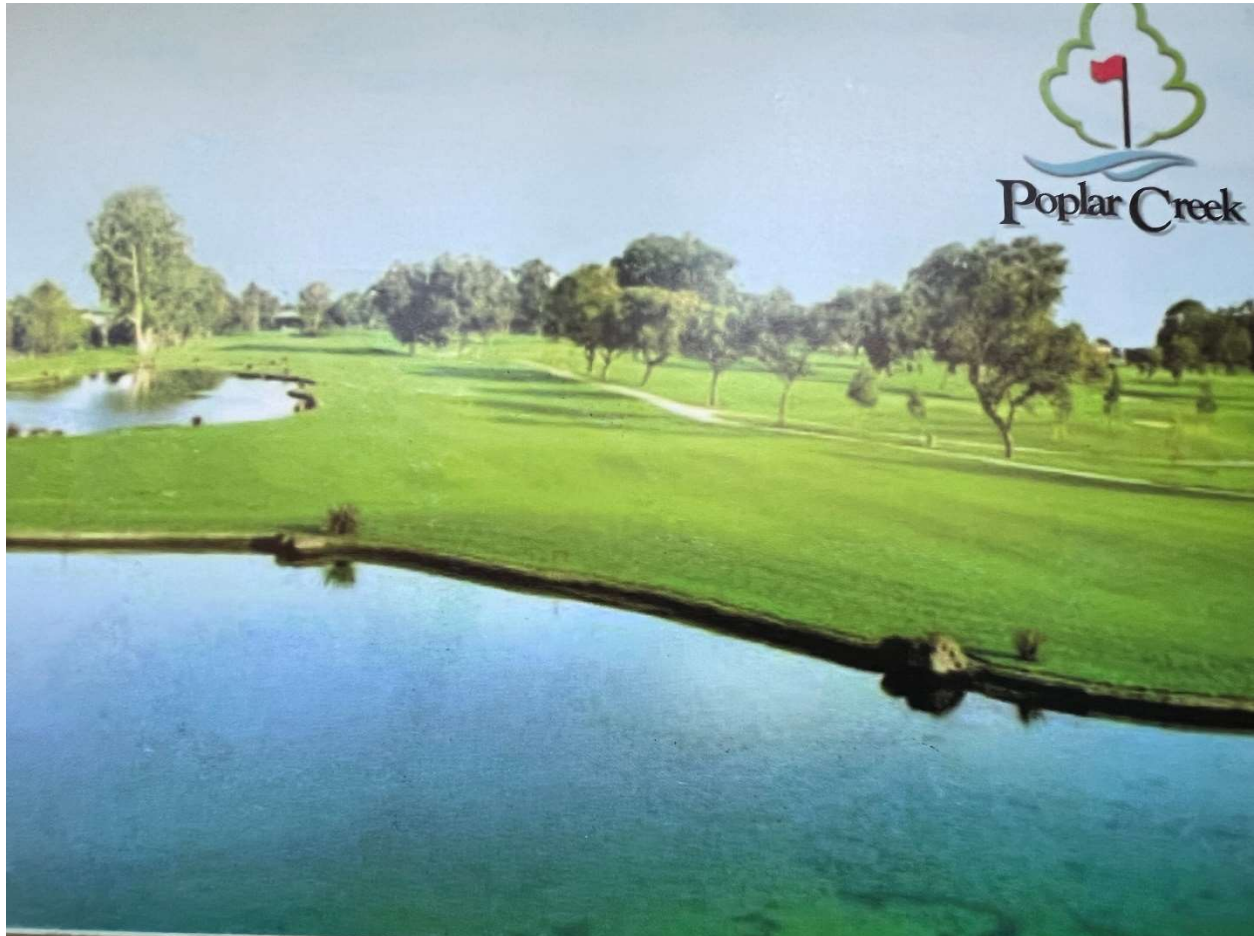


The Poplar Post



The Poplar Creek Men's Golf Club Newsletter
October 2024

From the Editor

The 2023-24 season has come to a close and the new season starts in a couple of weeks with the Senior Championship on October 24. The past year was marked by poor course conditions caused by lack of water, which problem has apparently been rectified (See the message from the General Manager below). With the new season and improved conditions, I hope we can get away from lift, clean and place for both tournaments and skin games on Thursdays. I am tired watching players hit ugly shots behind trees, then taking a club length relief to extricate themselves without any penalty. Or players whose ball lies in grass in the fairway but just not the way they like it so the ball is teed up a little better. Or rolling the ball over in the bunker because the player doesn't like the lie. True, we have a public links course and a percentage of the general public doesn't know how or doesn't give a damn about properly caring for the course. We are not California Club or the Olympic Club. Course conditions are not going to be perfect. Remember – Champions Adjust!!!

Because of lift, clean and place, I would opine that, in general, handicaps are probably 1 to 2 index points lower than they should be which puts the player at a disadvantage when he plays in NCGA events or in tournaments at other courses. The other side of the coin is those players who do not enter low scores who are commonly called bags of a loose granular material that results from the disintegration of rocks, consisting of particles smaller than gravel but coarser than silt, and is used in mortar, glass, abrasives, and foundry molds. But handicaps will be the subject of a later diatribe.

So if the water situation is under control and the course is getting back into good shape, let us remember to keep it that way by replacing divots, raking bunkers, fixing ball marks on the green and doing whatever else is necessary to take care of the course. Maybe it is time for the course to start putting soil bottles on carts.

President's Message

Hope everyone had a good end of Summer! We held our Tournament of Champions (TOC) on September 28th and Andy Kishore took home the title this year. Congratulations Andy! On October 3rd, we had our Annual Meeting, and it went off smoothly. At the meeting, we announced the 2024-2025 Tournament Schedule. You will find it in this newsletter as well. Our next tournament will be the Senior Club Championship, with three flights based on age. It will take place on Thursday, October 24th with a start time of 10:00 AM. Registration is open on Golf Genius (accessible through PCGC.net). This issue has an update from the GM, Kevin Kobayashi, which goes into course conditions and water status. If you have played the course recently, you will see that the grass is really coming back, and the course is playing better. Can't wait for our next full tournament out there (NCGA 4-Man Qualifier) where we will hopefully be able to play the ball down! As always, the entire board of directors, along with the other officers and myself, are always here to listen to any suggestions you might have to improve the club and tournament experience. Please do not ever hesitate to reach out to any of us. Looking forward to seeing all of you at the next tournament!

Jason Pollard

News from the General Manager

Hello Club Members,

Hopefully, your summer is going well, and your golf games are better than the course conditions! All kidding aside, I hope you've had a chance to play the course this past month and have seen first-hand the incredible work Tim Powers and our maintenance team have done to get the course back to ideal playing conditions. I know how tough our current irrigation well situation has been on course conditions. In a nutshell, our irrigation well located on hole 2 is 25 years old and no longer pulling enough water out of the ground to keep up with our operational needs.

A huge team effort between the City of San Mateo, City of Burlingame, and San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department allowed the golf course staff to get some much-needed water from an onsite fire hydrant to supplement our well water. The fire department was gracious enough to lend us 1,700 feet of 5-inch diameter fire hose. We hooked up the fire hose and turned on the water on September 6. In just under a month, we've pulled over 5.3 million gallons of water from that fire hydrant and put it into the retention ponds on hole 2! Our irrigation system then pumps water from those two ponds out onto the course. The effort and cost to get this water is extremely high, but I hope you all would agree, it was desperately needed to get our playing conditions back to where they needed to be.

The City's next objective to resolve this issue is to present a capital improvement project to drill a second irrigation well to city council for their approval this fall. If everything goes as planned, we anticipate breaking ground on this project in the spring of 2025. We should have enough water after completion of this project to avoid the same turf issues we experienced this past summer for years to come. If you see any of our maintenance crew members at the course the next time you are at Poplar, please thank them for the incredible work they do every day!

Tournament Results

Tournament of Champions

To round out the season, the Tournament of Champions was held on September 28 at the very difficult Coyote Creek Tournament Course. Some players found the course less difficult than finding the correct golf cart and which tees to play. In any case, Andy Kishore prevailed as the champion of the tournament. Finishing second was PCGC Club Champion Paul Karson.

Flight winners

Flight 1	Flight 2	Flight 3	Flight 4
1..Paul Karson	Andy Kishore	Frank Parcell	Joe Fernando
2. Art White	Alex Alvarez	Dave Delbon	Joel Spielman
3. Art Klein	Joe Cioni	Walter Koning	Steve Rueda

Two Man Scramble Tournament September 2

The penultimate tournament of the season in which two players did not show, leaving their partners to play alone with no chance of placing. Completely unacceptable behavior, notwithstanding empty apologies. An interesting format in which, on each nine holes, each partner's drive and second shot must be used at least four times which places a high level of importance on tactics. (As an aside, query, if a team makes two holes in one in the same nine, it is impossible for each player to hit four second shots on that nine. Are they DQ'ed?)

Flight 1 Winners

1. Al Bogenhuber-James Abayon
2. Paul and Thomas Montserrat
3. Art White-Dave Butzman

Flight 2 Winners

1. Tim Cole-Steve Rueda
2. Felila Esikia-Rob Carballar
3. Manny Casillas-Joe Fernando

Annual Meeting



The annual meeting of the membership was held on October 3. The following were elected as officers and directors for the coming year.

President – Jason Pollard

Vice President – Joe Cioni

Secretary – Larry Shaw

Sargeant-at-Arms – Kevin O'Malley

Directors –

Jim Lambrechts

Marty Lambrechts

Tim Anderson

Manny Casillas

Greg Cary

Andy Kishore

Randy Gubert

Scott Rehn

Walter Koning

President Jason Pollard addresses the membership at the Annual Meeting

2024-2025 Schedule

2024

Thursday October 24 – Senior Championship

Saturday November 2 – NCGA Four-Man Team Qualifying Round to represent Poplar Creek

Saturday November 16 – Turkey Shoot

Saturday December 7 – ABCD Santa Ball

Friday Dember 13 – Holiday Party

2025

Saturday January 11 – 2 Man Razzle Dazzle

Saturday January 25 – 4-Man Scramble

Saturday February 8 – NCGA Four-Ball Qualifying Round (Two-man team event)

Saturday February 22 – Beat the Pro, Prez and General Manager

Saturday March 15 – Qualifying Round for Match Play Tournament

Sunday March 16 – Match Play Tournament Round of 32

Saturday March 22 – Match Play Tournament Rounds of 16 and 8

Sunday March 23 – Match Play Tournament – Semi-Finals and Finals

Tuesday April 1 – Greens aeration

Saturday April 5 – Away tournament #1, course TBD

Saturday April 19 – NCGA Individual Net Tournament Qualifying Round

Saturday May 3 – NCGA Senior Four-Ball Net Qualifying Round

Saturday May 17 – 5 Club Tournament

Saturday May 31 – 1,2,3 Best Ball Tournament

Saturday June 14 – Away Tournament #2, course TBD

Saturday June 28 – Foursome Tournament (2 man alternate shot – Chapman format)

Saturday July 12 – 4 man ABCD Scramble

Saturday July 26 – Away Tournament #3, course TBD

Saturday, Sunday August 16, 17 – Club Championship

Monday August 18 – Greens aeration

Saturday September 6 – 2 man scramble

Saturday September 27 – Tournament of Champions, Course TBD

12-Man Team

The Cinderella run of the 12-man team came to an end as our warriors were eliminated by Silver Creek Country Club 21-15 on September 5. But it was good season for the group, making it into the elimination round for the first time in a few years and reaching the second round after a win over Spring Hills in August. Something to build on for future years.

Poplar Cup

Final Standings for 2024 Season

1. Art White 1,220 points
2. Bret Evans 935 points
3. Joshua Baltor 930 points

Rules Corner

Answer to last month's question. His score on the hole is 9. Drive into penalty area (1). Hitting a wrong ball (2 stroke penalty). Hitting out of the penalty area (4). Picking up ball without marking it (1 stroke penalty). Hitting it from wrong place (2 stroke penalty) – However, Exception to Rule 1.3c(4) – If a player is required to replace a moved ball under Rule 9.4 but fails to do so and plays from a wrong place, they get only the General Penalty under Rule 14.7a (Golf math $1+2=2$). Hitting onto green and 2 putts 7, 8 and 9.

In match play, there are either one-stroke penalties or loss of hole penalties. The only two-stroke penalty in match play is if a player is in a bunker, decides to take unplayable lie relief (either laterally or back of the line) for a one stroke penalty, then decides to play from out of the bunker for another stroke penalty.

This month's question-which appeared in a Southern California Golf Association Rules Exam several years ago:

Scott hits his tee shot from the teeing area of a par-3 hole and the ball comes to rest in a playable position within a yellow penalty area. Scott plays his original ball further into the penalty area where it can't be retrieved. He then drops a ball under stroke-and-distance relief, which rolls into deep water within the relief area. Scott abandons that ball and plays another ball from the teeing area, which comes to rest on the putting green. He takes two putts to hole out and tees off on the next hole. What is Scott's score for the hole?

A. 6 B. 7 C. 8 D. 9

Point to Ponder

Idolizing a politician is like believing the stripper really likes you.