

The Willow Park

MEN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 2600, CASTRO VALLEY, CA. 94546

Issue: June 2006

Next Club Meeting:

June 22, 2006
6:30pm, WP Ballroom

Tournament Deadlines:

Wednesday, June 14

Club Officers:

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Steve Davis
Joe Johnson
Tom Joseph
Bob Riblett
Allen Hamilton

Committeemen:

Tournament Chairman
Tony Paniagua
510-785-5866
Handicap Chairman
Mark Hemenez
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Membership
Larry Cobleigh
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Ken Cadinha
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Herm Kerber
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Daniel Turner
510-744-5866
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Steve Falzone
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2006 Tournament Schedule

Jun. 25 - TC Choice - 5 Club
Jul. 9 - Away Tournament - Metropolitan
Jul. 23 - Directors - Major
Aug. 20 - Member / Guest
Sep. 16 - Club Championship - 2 Days
Oct. 22 - TOC - Skins Game
Nov. 12 - Turkey Shoot
Dec. 10 - Turkey Shoot

NOTE: Green Fee Increase:
Tournament Green fees are \$47.00
to be paid 10 days in advance

Presidential Focus

An unfamiliar, yet welcoming warmth came over me this last couple of weeks, and, no it wasn't hot flashes!!!! A strange looking orb shone it's warming rays upon me. It was a revelation!!!!...It was a sign!!!!. Oh, it was the SUN!!!! I was possessed to grab my clubs and search out green fairways!!!! Hallelujah!!!! May the Golf Gods shine their blessing on us for the rest of the year.

I'm too giddy to resort to much more rambling within this venue. So I just want to reach out to all members to return to Willow Park and the Paradiso Restaurant with enthusiasm and re-ignite the camaraderie and friendships that we've unfortunately been missing. I can't wait to make up for all the frustrations and withdrawals that I've been having, and wish for all members as well for plentiful golfing under ideal conditions. We've ALL earned it!

May 21 was the President's Tournament, a Major tournament, a Skins Qualifier. It also was the qualifying tournament for the 2-Man Best Ball.

Become close and friendly with your new and improved Website. There's more there than can be thought or even imagined. Knock yourselves out!

After our June 25 Tournament, TC's Surprise, will be our annual "Away" Tournament, scheduled for July 9, details are on the Web.

Before you know it, we will be having our Annual Invitational as well. Start thinking about that one. It's the ONLY Tournament that we open up for guests to play and experience what we provide for all us members. So, target the date, and start thinking of who you want to invite to share your experience. The format and venue will be the same as the past couple of years, a great BBQ Steak Dinner after a wonderful round of golf. Great raffle prizes, and the usual surprises.

School's out, or about to be, so be on the lookout for all the "young studs" who will now invade the areas's golf courses. This should be our Prime Time.

Here's to Hitting'em straight, long, and hopefully not too often. Good Golfing, somewhere, to ALL.

George Vance, President

Tales from the Rough

What's with the weather. Someone in the club has really angered the golf gods. Whoever it is would you please apologize? The weather was going along pretty well then the weekend tournament date arrived and the rain came back. I used all my powers to hold the rain off as long as I could but the evil force became too great for even my powers to prevent the rains.

Hopefully those still on the course did not get two wet. I will work on strengthening my powers but I can only do so much.

Great turn out for this one. We had 67 players. Hopefully the big turnouts will continue

The course is slowly getting back in shape. The greens are coming back faster than in the past. Thanks to the course for using new technology to get the greens to recover quicker.

How about that rough? Did the USGA set up the rough? You'd think this was a major. Wait it was a major. I say we blame it on the club President. It was his tournament.

Congratulations to Dave Freias and Gary Hendrickson for the fine "59" sending them off to the NCGA qualifier. I hope you have another 59 in you, you're going to need it.

The Low Gross Skins qualifiers were Nate Weidner(67) and Dave Freias(75)

The Low Net Skins qualifiers were Ed Rose(61) and Gary Fisher(64)

The complete results are posted on the "Wall of Information" in the Spike room.

Pace of play is continuing to be pretty good but I think we can do better. Our goal is 4 ½ hours. There are still a couple of groups that once they get behind they continue to stay behind. I'll grant you that the course conditions play a part in the delay but I would appreciate it if when you get behind you make a concerted effort to catch up.

Starting with the next tournament you will play the ball as it lies. You will not be allowed to touch the ball unless allowed so by one of the "Official Rules of Golf".

Next Tournament format...

June 25 w/deadline of June 14.

This will be our 5 club tournament.

When you arrive at the first tee you should have no more than 5 clubs in your bag.

Which 5 of the 14 is entirely up to you. If you play or even carry more than 5 clubs you will be disqualified.

Upcoming Tournaments...

July 9 w/deadline of June 9. This is the away tournament.

July 23 w/deadline of July 12. This is the second major (Directors)

Willow Park Green Fee Increase

Starting on June 1, Willow Park has raised the green fee \$2.00. As this notification was late getting to the club the increase for the Club Tournaments will not be starting until July 1.

"At Large" Columnist

Each month this column is from a different Officer, Director or Chairman.

Just to get acquainted with some of you members, and maybe some old ones as well... this will be very short. I was born and raised in the Gold-Mining town of Sonora, CA. I'm sure most of you know where that is located. Anyway, I've been married for 42 years to my wife, Connie. We have lived in Castro Valley for the past 39 years. We have two children, Adam and Leah. Between the two, we have five Grandsons between the ages of 18 months and 21 years old.

I have had about five good jobs in my life. The last job as a Driver/Salesman for Pepsi Co. Bottling which lasted for 35 years. I've been retired since 2001. I almost forgot, I am 63 years old (young).

Anyway, enough of that... I've been a member of the Willow Park Men's Club since 1995 and a Director for the past five years. I just want to say it's been interesting and a lot of fun, going to the Club Meetings and Functions, being around and getting to know the older members and Officer's of the Club.

So, in closing this brief, I would like to invite as many new members, as old, to at least one of our monthly meetings - 3rd Thursday of each month, to see how your Club really works. I would personally like to meet you there.

Well, that's all I have to say now... Oh, one last thing - I still would like to be Club Champ! Ha!

See you around,
Al Hamilton- Director

Commentary from TC

The "Rule" may not necessarily be what you think....

I try to look at the conditions of the course and make modifications accordingly. It appears that some of you continue to not read the rules or apply them incorrectly. I will not point fingers at anyone this time. If you do not understand something please ask. If you cannot locate me go to any officer or director of the club. I have asked them to monitor play. All of you have a responsibility

to be aware of the basic rules and not allow something that does not comply with them.

I shouldn't have to remind those of you playing the white tees that the correct location is and always has been the "NCGA Disks" not the white ball markers. Teeing up from the wrong markers is a rules violation. A 2 stroke penalty should be assessed and a re-tee from the correct location. If you do not do this before teeing off on the next hole you will be disqualified.

When the rules on lift, clean and place and/or a lost ball are modified they will be minor changes and done so to even out the playing field. The change is always based upon what I perceive the course conditions to be that day. Ignoring or expanding on the modified rule provides an unfair advantage. Doing so is not fair to the rest of the players and is a violation resulting in penalty or disqualification.

If you are not sure what the correct ruling should be you are allowed to finish the hole playing two balls. Play one from the actual location as it lies and the other from the location under the ruling you think should be given. Alternating between the two until the hole is completed. You must do this at the exact moment of the situation. You are not allowed to return later or after finishing the hole to play the second ball. There is no penalty or breach of rules for doing this as long as you declare your intentions before continuing to play out the hole and do not cause undue delay to the groups behind you. Record both scores for the hole. When you turn in your card let me or another officer know of the incident. The rules committee will review the situation (going out to the actual location if necessary) and rule on which ball was played correctly with that score counting.

Rules are a part of the game. Sometimes they are your friend and provide a favorable solution to the dilemma you put yourself in. Unfortunately they also can be penalizing for what may seem an unfair situations. By everyone playing by the same rules and correct interpretation of these rules we all start and finish on equal ground. I want these tournaments to be a competition but also be enjoyable regardless of how well you play or the conditions of the course. I will continue to put my trust in all of you to abide by the rules.

See ya all on the course...

Tony Paniague, Tournament Chairman