

The Willow Park

MEN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER

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

Issue: Jan. 2008

Next Club Meeting:

January 31, 2008
6:30pm, WP Bar Annex

Tournament Deadlines:

Wednesday, Jan. 23

Club Officers:

George Vance

President
925-847-2921

Mike Jones

Vice President
925-837-2151

Huge Williams

Secretary
510-537-6844

Robin Paniagua

Treasurer
510-785-5866

Directors:

Dave Albiar
Steve Davis
Daniel Gil
Al Hamilton
Joe Johnson
Tom Joseph

Committees:

Tournament Chairman
Tony Paniagua
Handicap Chairman
Mark Hemenez
Membership
Larry Cobleigh
Sergeant at Arms
Ken Cadinha
Morale Officer
Herm Kerber
Webmaster
Daniel Turner
Newsletter Editor
Steve Falzone
Postal Coordinator
Peter Krass

2007 Tournament Schedule

Feb 3	+ 2 nd round 2008 Norcal Qualifier
Feb 24	Regular
Mar 16	+ 1 st round Two Man Norcal Qualifier
Apr 20	+ 2 nd round Two Man Norcal Qualifier
May 18	+ Colored Ball Team Competition
June 22	TC Surprise (4 Club)
July 20	Major - Presidents
July 27	Away tournament
Aug 17	Major - Directors
Sept 13/14	Major - Club Championship
Oct 19	+ Willow Cup Skins Competition
Nov 16	TC Surprise (RWB) + Turkey Shoot
Dec 14	+ 1 st round 2009 Norcal Qualifier

+ = Regular tournament PLUS special event

Presidential Focus

Fellow Members,
2007 has come to a close. As I look back, this year, like many others, has had its thrilling moments.....and not-so thrilling ones. There have been experiences to cherish, moments to laugh and enjoy, and yet times that went, "ouch!". Still, as I reflect specifically on our club, I savor the thought that we have a good core of people, not just fellow golfers.

I am proud to represent you as President, but more importantly to not just call many of you fellow members, but **friends**. To those of you who I really know, to those who I think I know, and to those who I don't know well enough, I wish a very happy, memorable, and prosperous New Year! That's all for now.

George Vance, President

Happy New Year!

Just to make sure we didn't leave out your favorite December greetings: Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanuakkah, Happy Kwanzaa, Enjoy Winter Solstice, Happy Handwashing Awareness Month, Happy Hi Neighbor Month, Merry National Stress Free Family Holiday Month, Enjoy Read A New Book Month, Have a Safe Toy and Gift Month, Merry Universal Human Rights Month, Happy Write to a Friend Month, oh...and Happy New Year's!

2008/09 Board

President: George Vance

Vice President: Mike Jones

Secretary: Huge Williams

Treasurer: Robin Paniagua

Directors:

Dave Albiar • Steve Davis • Daniel Gil
Al Hamilton • Joe Johnson • Tom Joseph

Chairpersons:

- Tournament: Tony Paniagua
- Handicap: Mark Hemenez
- Membership: Larry Cobleigh
- Webmaster: Daniel Turner
- Newsletter Editor: Steve Falzone
- Postal Coordinator: Peter Krass
- Sergeant at Arms: Ken Cadinha
- Morale Officer: Herm Kerber

Newsletter Change

With this edition the WPMC Newsletter will be delivered exclusively by electronic format. We will continue to post a copy of the current Newsletter in WP's spike room.

Here is a list of 2007 members without an email address.

Dave Albiar, William Alverson, Richard Bierman, Stan Brolin, Ken Cadinha, Mike Catrina, Mike Desanto, Hank DeWaal, Mark Englert, Jacinto Garcia, Paul Garland, Charles Hanson, Pat Jennings, Tom Joseph, Herm Kerber, Sam Kim, Tom McKerr, Steve Meyer, Paul Milichichi, Keith Portue, Ed Rose, Jack Russell, Don Sawyer, Al Soarer, Mike Wilson.

If your name is above, please let our Membership Chairperson know if you have an updated email address. This will insure that you are notified of important information about the club.

Mark your calendar!

With hopes of avoiding cancelling a tournament because of the weather, we have 2 tournaments schedule for February. (3rd and 24th). February 3 will also be the kick-off tournament for the 2008 Willow Cup.

Tales from the "Deep" Rough

Well another year is gone. Hope your Holidays were great.

We concluded 2007 with our December tournament. The turnout was big as we had 60 golfers. We had a few extra dollars available so I paid 8 spots in 4 flights so more than half the field had a chance to win something. Complete details are available in the web site as well as posted on the board in the spike room

As you know because of the unpredictability of the weather and the course condition we have to start our NCGA qualifiers as early as possible. Once again we used our December 2007 as our first round. 23 players signed up to try and win a spot. Scoring details are available on the web site as well as on the board in the spike room.

It looks like we will be using lift, clean and place for the next several months. I know many of you hate when this happens but given the current conditions and the future outlook I have no choice. The greens are making a comeback but there are a couple that are not back yet with one in particular needing extra help. I want to say thanks to the maintenance staff as they are trying to get there arms around the problem and appear to be making progress.

For those reading this who have not signed up for 2008 please keep in mind that you cannot play in a tournament unless you are a member. It's now going to cost you \$99 to join.

I have changed the report I have been generating showing which holes are the hardest and which are the easiest. I have broken it down by handicap rather than flight. This gives a truer picture of the difficulty based on ability not just where the flight cut off was at the time. Take a look at it if you get a chance, I think you'll find it interesting. I will continue to do the same for 2008.

And finally, I don't know for sure but suspect that some of you are wondering why we all must play from the Blue. I am not opposed to players playing tournaments from the white just don't know how to go about identifying who the appropriate players are beyond our rule of 85'ers.

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My problem has always been where to draw the line and continue to keep the competition fair for all. In a perfect world the tee box would be designated by handicap but with only two to choose from there's not many options open. Oh well just wanted to let you know I have been thinking about it and if I ever do figure it out I will implemented it right away.

Upcoming Tournaments

Date: Sunday February 3, 2008. Super Bowl

Deadline: Wednesday January 23, 2008.

Club Tournament Entry Fee : \$50

Format Individual Stroke Play with flights.

Special Optional Event: 2nd round of the 2008 NCGA qualifier. You must be a 2008 member, officially entered before starting the first round and completed the first round.

2nd February Tournaments

Date: Sunday February 24, 2008.

Deadline: Wednesday February 13, 2008.

Club Tournament Entry Fee : \$50

Format : Individual Stroke Play with flights.

Special Event: None

Tony Paniagua – Tournament Chair

"At Large" Columnist

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

Hello Members! Steve Falzone here.

I have been a member of the club for four years now, and your Newsletter Editor going on three. I took up golf only five years ago but like many, have become completely obsessed in that short time. I would like to thank the many members who have helped with my education and enjoyment of the game - and their patience with the things I then had to "un-learn", like when I found out it really wasn't a WPMC "local rule" to move the ball to a better lie before hitting it. You did know that wasn't a local rule...right?

I believe our members are a "great bunch" even though our numbers may likely drop again this year (which appears to be an industry trend). Please try to promote the club whenever possible, maybe with your help we can get our numbers back up.

In case you haven't been to the course lately. Brand new Blue ball markers are now on the tee boxes. Thanks!

My job as newsletter editor is mainly to assemble the articles and work with the layout. By the way, anyone can write

an article for the newsletter. You just have to get it to me about a week before the end of the month (via email is best). The article should be about golf and positive in nature.

Starting this month a Members' "Sound Off" Section has been added to the newsletter. Each month members can respond to a question posed.

Finally, I invite you to attend at least one club meeting this year. Ok, they may not be as exciting as a birdie on 18, but they don't last more than an hour or so and are close to the bar. Meetings are generally held the last Thursday of the month at 6:30pm. You can find out what is going on in the club, make suggestions to the board, harass George, voice comments and complaints. Plus you really shouldn't miss hearing our VP's monthly report!

In closing - thanks to the board, directors, and chairpersons, you guys do a great job! Looking forward to seeing everybody on the links!

"Sound Off"

Each month this column will pose a question and give the answers to previous questions. Email responses to: stevefalzone@hotmail.com, please put WPMC in the subject line.

This months question is inspired by that rural mantra Jeff Foxworthy made famous.

You might be a Sandbagger if...

Examples:

- You might be a sandbagger if on the first tee you say "I'm not much of a golfer. I just play a couple of times a year." then shot below 80.
- You might be a sandbagger if you need three score cards to keep up with all the side bets in a round.

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