

# The Willow Park

## MEN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER

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

Issue: March 2008

### **Next Club Meeting:**

March 27, 2008  
6:30pm, WP Bar Annex

### **Tournament Deadlines:**

Wednesday, March 5

### **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

### **2008 Tournament Schedule**

Mar 16	+ 1 <sup>st</sup> round Two Man Norcal Qualifier
Apr 20	+ 2 <sup>nd</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> round 2009 Norcal Qualifier

+ = Regular tournament PLUS special event

### **Presidential Focus**

Fellow Members,  
It's seems to have been soooo long since we've played any competitive golf, I've forgotten what side of the ball to play from!!!!!!!!!! I swear, we haven't played since way back in 2007!!!!!!!!!!!! Then to add frustration to insult, we have a stretch of the sweetest weather this side of a tropical paradise the DAY AFTER a deluge wiped out not just our February 24th Tournament, but completed a shutout of the entire month!!! What did we do to deserve this!?!?!?!? I'm having golf withdrawals! I've begun to recite GOLF CHANNEL....RE-RUNS!!!!!!!!!!!!....OK, I'm better now.

Leap day has expired, and March is here. Spring will officially be upon us within a couple of weeks. Easter will even get an early appearance this year, March 23. Our next Club Tournament is March 16th. Uh-Oh, I'm feelings those anxieties again. Should direction signs be posted from Green to Tee? Do we need to distribute Name Tags?? Am I giving the impression that I'm anxious to play some golf??? I can't be the "Lone Ranger", here. So, let's play some golf!!!

Keep informed through our constantly upgraded Website, there's always something new and informative for your interest and viewing pleasure. The NCGA Website has been offering many Golf Specials for NCGA Members lately.

Continue to let us know your thoughts and views for the betterment of the Club, and don't forget to turn your clocks forward this March 9th, Daylight Savings Time starts!!!

Lastly, Congratulations to the ultimate winners for the NCGA Qualifier Tournament. As already broadcast and posted on the Website, we will be proudly represented by Low Gross Winners, Mark Hemenez and Rick Bierman, along with Low Net Winners, Joe Johnson and Craig Pitts. Good luck, and serve us proud, men! Good Golfing, or any type of golfing, to All!

**George Vance, President**

### **"In remembrance"**

Sadly, we must relay to you that one of our Club's Charter members recently passed away back in Georgia. His name, and most of you know it well, was Ed Voorhees. Pete Krass who has been in touch with Ed and his family these last few years, says that pneumonia was the cause. In Ed's years in the club, he held just about every office of importance. His last was secretary. He was so well liked and several cuts above a great guy, that the officers voted him an honorary life membership. We even planted a tree on the first tee for him, but that too passed away.

### **"At Large" Columnist**

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

Hi Larry Cobleigh, your Membership Chairperson here again.

"If you'll remember, I had a letter in the February Newsletter asking if anyone had ideas on why we are losing so many members. As of this writing we are down 24. I had only two replies from the entire membership.

Unfortunately we would need a lot of money to implement most of the good

suggestions except for the one about charging members without computers an extra \$10 for postage to get the news out to them. Sorry Bob, I ran this by the board late last year, and they weren't interested.

I still think it's a good idea because most of our problems are communications. Last year we had 24 members who did not have computers and some of them were officers. I try to send out a "Welcome Letter" to all new members within a month of their joining our club. Some require stamps, but don't worry fellow officers; I'll take care of that. That's one of privileges of being an officer. Oh well, we'll muddle through!

Then there are those with computers who can't be bothered reading their mail! Well surprisingly, I don't blame you. I get 60 to 80 missives a day and about 90% of it is just plain spam. That's stuff that's left after it has gone through my spam filter. The other 10% is stuff I could be interested in such as jokes, letters, and club news. I'm always interested in jokes. I shouldn't have to, but I even check out the addresses in the spam file. The other day I had one that was sent by a member with a business type address. He wanted to sign up for the March tournament and he ended up in my spam file. What's it all mean? We'll just have to muddle through and see!"

### **Tales from the "Deep" Rough**

Well I'm 2 for 2 so far this year. I've scheduled 2 tournaments and cancelled 2 tournaments. It seems strange that the weekend before the tournament and the weekend after the tournament have great weather. Oh well I will try it again with our March tournament. For those still unsure the tournament date, see below. Let hope the weather will cooperate and allow us to start our 2008 season.

I don't know about you but I like what I'm seeing on the course these days. I would like to extend my compliments to the course and especially the new maintenance manager. I like the definite distinction between fairway and rough, I like that the speed of the green which appear to be much

quicker and I especially like the variety of the pin placements. I only hope you give us some of those new pin placements for our tournaments as well. Keep up the great work.

As you know I have mentioned that I have been looking for a way to let more folks playing the white NCGA marker during our tournaments and keep the play as fair as possible for everyone. My thought has been to try and provide a better more enjoyable round for all while continuing to provide an advantage (though slight) based upon skill levels as well as age. I was also looking for ways to keep the pace of play moving in a positive direction.

Well I think I figure out how to do it. I have come up with 4 tee locations. For each tournament I will be classifying each player into one of the 4 groups' base upon certain criteria I have come up with. It may require some small tweaking but it should be minimal. Handicaps are involved and as you know they can change month to month so those on the edge of a group could move between tee boxes tournament to tournament. You can find more details out in the back pages of this newsletter so please review it and ask any questions or get clarification should you need it. This procedure will start with our upcoming March tournament. I will also continue to provide documentation on the day of the tournament as well as post a copy in the spike room and on the web site.

I have also changed the procedure for determining who will be participating in the October Net and Gross skins competition. I am going to make it a qualifying process with certain criteria having to be met between January and September to certify a spot in the foursomes. You will qualify for a spot then also have to meet the additional criteria to maintain that spot. As a heads up one of the criteria will be a requirement to have played in a minimum number of tournaments between January and September. More details can be found on the back pages of this newsletter and I will of course provide documentation during the next several tournaments as well

as post a copy in the spike room and on the web site.

Well that about covers it for now.

#### **Upcoming Tournaments**

**Date:** Sunday March 16, 2008.

**Deadline:** Wednesday March 5.

**Club Tournament Entry Fee: \$50**

**Format:** Individual Stroke Play with flights.

**Special Event:** First round of the Two Man Qualifier

**Date:** Sunday April 20, 2008.

**Deadline:** Wednesday April 9, 2008.

**Club Tournament Entry Fee: \$50**

**Format:** Individual Stroke Play with flights.

**Special Event:** Second round of Two Man Qualifier

#### ***Tony Paniagua – Tournament Chair***

### **NCGA Member Outings**

Registration for the NCGA 2008 Members-Only Outing is now available for many of the courses. More information can be found from the link on our website.

### **"Lighter Side of Golf"**

- Golf can best be defined as an endless series of tragedies obscured by the occasional miracle, followed by a good bottle of beer.
- Golf! You hit down to make the ball go up. You swing left and the ball goes right. The lowest score wins. And on top of that, the winner buys the drinks.
- Golf is harder than baseball. In golf, you have to play your foul balls.
- If you find you do not mind playing golf in the rain, the snow, even during a hurricane, here's a valuable tip: your life is in trouble.
- Golfers who try to make everything perfect before taking the shot rarely make a perfect shot.
- The term "mulligan" is really a contraction of the phrase "maul it again."
- An interesting thing about golf is that no matter how badly you play; it is always possible to get worse.
- Golf is the only sport where the most feared opponent is you.



# Willow Park Men's Club

PO Box 2600 • Castro Valley, CA • 94546 • willowparkmensclub.com



## 2008 WPMC Tournament Tee Box Assignments

I have modified the criteria for determining the tee box a player will be assigned for tournament play. Players will be assigned a teeing area for each tournament based upon certain criteria which I will explain in a moment. As Handicap is one of the criteria used in some but not all categories a player who is on the edge of a group may change month to month depending on their play. From now on the teeing group assignment will be "A", "B", "C" or "D".

1. Every player will continue to be allowed to decline the closer tee assignment but they are only allowed to move back a tee area not forward.
2. Should a player wish to move back they must
  - 2.1 Declare their intent to their foursome prior to teeing off the first hole.
  - 2.2 They must also make an effort to notify the TC prior starting their round. If that is not possible they must notify the TC immediately upon completion of their round.
  - 2.3 **Failure to notify the TC either prior to or immediately following their round could result in their disqualification.**
3. The Group designation will be indicated on the starting time sheet available on the web site 3-4 days prior to the tournament. The A, B, C or D will replace the current B, W and R designations.

### Group Definitions and Criteria for Play

#### Group "A"

This group will play from the Blue NCGA Disks except on number 9 where they will play from the Blue Ball. The players will consist of those who are not eligible to be classified in groups B, C or D.

#### Group "B"

This group will play from the White NCGA disks. There are two way for a player to be eligible for this classification.

1. Your age and your handicap from the blue NCGA markers totals between 80-89
2. Your handicap from the Blue NCGA markers is 19 or above

**Please note that while your handicap calculated from the Blue NCGA Marker got you enough shots to qualified for this teeing area, should you choose to play from the White NCGA markers as allowed to for this group, your handicap will be recomputed from the White. This may result in you getting fewer shots. You will still be able to play this tee area but will have to play with the number of strokes recalculated from the white marker not the number of shots calculated from the Blue marker that got you here.**

#### Group "C"

This group will play from the White Balls. They will be located 3-5 yards behind the Forward (Red) NCGA Disk. There is only one way for a player to be eligible for this classification

1. Your age and handicap from the Blue NCGA Markers totals 90 or more

#### Group "D"

This group will play from the Red NCGA Markers. There is only one way to be eligible for this classification.

1. Ladies only.



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## 2008 October Skins Game Competition

For 2008 the procedure for determining the Low Net and Low Gross skin's foursomes will be a multi step process. There will be a pre qualify for one of the 8 spots then a validation step consisting of having played the required minimum number of tournaments during the designated time period.

The designated period of time to meet the minimum number of tournaments to validate and secure your spot will be January through and including September. This allows anywhere from 8-10 tournaments depending on weather and course conditions.

### **Step 1 : Pre Qualify**

1.1 The preliminary qualifiers will be determined by combining scores over two designated tournaments.

1.1.1 The first round will be the Presidents tournament on July 20, 2008.

1.1.2 The second round will be the Directors tournament on August 17, 2008.

1.2 The 4 low Gross and 4 low Net combine scores earn a preliminary spot in the October competition.

1.3 You must play in both the Presidents and Directors tournament for your score to be counted in the Pre Qualifying competition.

1.4 Failure to play in both tournaments will eliminate your chance to Pre Qualify a spot

### **Step 2 : Playing criteria to secure the spot**

2.1 To secure a permanent spot in the respective foursome, each player must have played in at least 50% of the available sanctioned WPMC tournaments that are held between January and September.

2.2 As the away tournament is a sanctioned WPMC tournament it will count toward the total number of available tournaments.

2.3 If any player does not play in at least 50% of the tournaments between the designated months they lose their spot and it will go to the first alternate.

### **Step 3 : Exceptions**

3.1 A tournament must be played to count in the minimum. Tournaments that are cancelled for any reason will not be counted in the overall total number of eligible tournaments available.

3.2 The minimum may be modified should weather , a tournament but no carts allowed, course conditions or any number of other extenuating circumstance that may come up to alter a reasonable expectation of play.

3.3 **Aerated greens will not be an exception to the play rule.**