

# The Willow Park

## MEN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER

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

Issue: April 2008

### **Next Club Meeting:**

April 24, 2008  
6:30pm, WP Bar Annex

### **Tournament Deadlines:**

Wednesday, April 9

### **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**

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,  
Golf officially came back to Willow Park!!!  
The weather finally fell to our favor and we got in our FIRST Golf Tournament for 2008. It was the first round of our NCGA 2-Man Best Ball Qualifier.

The mood and body language of the 60 plus players who participated was obvious..... It was good to be playing and hanging out with fellow members in a scheduled venue again.

As a crowning exclamation point to our day, the Golf Gods blessed Craig Pitts with a Hole-in-One on the 13th Hole!!! Naw, I think he did it ALL on his own! Upon his arrival to the 19th hole, all in attendance were rewarded with the traditional toast to him....over and over and over again! Craig's Hole-in-One was the first by a member in a tournament in some three years!!! An obvious thirst had built up over that period. CONGRATULATIONS, Craig!!!....And thank you!

The course itself is showing great improvement, thanks to the increased attention and talents of the new Superintendent. Have you noticed the obvious as well as the subtle improvements? Based on my own observations, plus those that I've heard, the course and the coming months will be filled with exciting, challenging, and rewarding golf at Willow Park. How much better can that be?!?!?!?

I commend the Management and Staff of Willow Park for their dedication and pursuit in making this the "Jewel of the East bay". Good Golfing to all.

**George Vance, President**

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

Well I finally picked a weekend with weather we can play in. Thank you all for your dedication and patience.

The first round of the two man is completed.. The team of Larry Becker and Tom Holmstrom hold a one stroke lead over the team of George Vance and Jim Derdevanis and the team of George Pekkari and Mike DeSanto. There are 4 more teams within 4 shots of the leaders. This one appears to still be wide open. Don't forget to sign up for the April tournament. Keep in mind that both players must play the second round. It is a combined two round total. Good luck to all.

Please keep in mind that the teams qualifying must have played from the Blue NCGA markers. If you or your partner did not you are no longer in the running to qualify.

Speaking of tee box, it appears that the tee box assignments worked well. There were still a couple of groups that got behind but all in all I think it went well. It looks like I may have gotten the cut off right and although you may not have play well it appeared more folks enjoyed it a little more.

Speaking of slow play I know this was a qualifier but please keep in mind that you still must keep up with the group in front of you. I understand if you are a foursome following a threesome but I still expect you to try and close the gap. If you are a foursome following a foursome you have no reason not to eventually catch up. Please consider this your official warning. If you continue to fall behind and do not

catch up you will be accessed a two stroke penalty. I would hate to see someone drop from the leader board or not qualify because of this so please keep up or catch up.

Now for the topic of pin placements. I loved the pin placements for our tournament. I thought many were in locations that we have not seen before and made you think a little before hitting your approach shots. Yes a couple were in tricky spots but you have to admit they were not boring. I commend the course superintendent for giving us some terrific tournament pin placements and hope he will continue to give us a mixture of interesting pin placements for the remainder of the tournament year. While I would love to take credit for suggesting some of them, contrary to what some folks may think I had nothing to do with nor do I know where they will be.

Well that about covers it for now.

#### Upcoming Tournaments

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

**Deadline:** Wednesday April 9

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

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

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

**Date:** Sunday May 18, 2008.

**Deadline:** Wednesday May 7.

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

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

**Special Event:** Group Colored Ball (Details will be provide at the April Tournament)

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

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### **“At Large” Columnist**

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

Greetings, All

Tom Joseph, one of your Club Directors here.

The weather is getting nicer, the course is getting greener, and the course is the best it's been in years! Naturally a golfer's mind turns to (what else?) **NEW CLUBS**.

If you don't mind a suggestion, forget it. The money you'll spend on a new driver could instead buy you a new game! How you ask? Take that money and put it into lessons (maybe a lot of lessons, have you seen the price of new clubs lately?) You'd be

surprise what a difference six hours of instruction can do to lower a hackers scores. Now wouldn't that be fun, and fun is what this game is all about. Now that the weather is great, the course is getting great wouldn't it be great to have a game to go along with it!

So get out there and enjoy!

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### **NCGA Member Outings**

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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.

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### **Great Golf To Be Seen!**

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The next few years the Northern California is in for some great Professional golf. Not including the Nationwide or Champion Tours (which are a lot of fun if you haven't been to one), look what we have coming!

2008 – LPGA Samsung World Championship (Half Moon Bay)

2008 – LPGA Longs Drugs Challenge (Blackhawk CC)

2009 – President's Cub (Harding Park)

2008 – LPGA Longs Drugs Challenge (Blackhawk CC)

2010 – US Open (Pebble Beach)

2012 – US Open (Olympic Club)

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Tom Joseph, Member WPMC