

Chip Shots

January 2007

President's Message

Gregor Markel

The 2007 golf season is upon us already, and so much is happening around the clubhouse.

Jeff DeBenedetti, our head golf pro, is organizing another 64-man single elimination match play tournament for our club members. The tournament is about to begin, and should be lots of fun. He has also set up a few Home and Home matches against Franklin Canyon and San Jose Muni. If you want to be a part of these events that the pro shop runs for the benefit of our club and its members, information and sign-ups are provided at the monthly membership meetings. Attend those and you will be "in the know". Jeff will also be providing information later on for the Eclectic and Twilight league as those events are running for 2007.

With the new year, comes some of the same reminders. Chief among them is pace of play for our men's club tournaments. We have done o.k. in the past, but can do better. Please remember, if you wish to sign up for an early tee time, the first hour of times are provided to players that can finish their front 9 in 2 hours or less. If you can't do it, you will be assigned a later time (yes, it is that simple). It is essential to get our early starters around the bend quickly as possible, because this impacts play for the remainder of our tournament players that follow. If we don't get the front of the pack moving, no one else will ever be able to finish in 4 to 4 1/2 hours we have come to expect and enjoy in our tournaments. Please keep this in mind when you sign up for a tournament for the upcoming months, and "keep up the pace" as you play. Monitor the players in your own group, and play ready golf while you are on the course. Everyone will benefit from our continued efforts with this issue.

Finally, remember, this is your golf club, and the board wants to hear from our membership. We can only do so much to push the club forward, and need your help to keep our club interesting and fun for the membership. If you have suggestions for tournament formats, ideas on possible topics for the general membership meetings, any comments or concerns related to the men's club, we want to hear from you. With your input, we can make Las Positas the number one men's golf club in the area.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the membership meetings and out on the course!!!❖

Special Events!!

Tom Geary and Mike Rimington

The December General Membership meeting was held on December 6th at Beeb's Sports Bar and Grill. There were 23 members present. Thank you to Beeb's for the great appetizers. We welcomed Andy Nisbet the new Director of Instruction at Las Positas golf course. Thanks to Jeff and Andy for the free 15 minute video lesson that was offered to our members. See what you miss by not coming to our meetings!! The Eclectic will be starting again January 1st. Be sure to put your extra dollar in per round to go towards qualifying for the horserace to be held at a later date yet to be determined. If you don't know what the Eclectic is ask the pro shop for details. A free round of golf was raffled off at the meeting and the lucky winner was Paul Disbrow. A special thank you goes to Jeff Shafer for all the rounds donated during the year.

December General Meeting Raffle Winners:

Paul Senft	\$35.00
Dick Braden	\$30.00
Derek Allman	\$25.00
Gregor Markel	\$15.00

Sleeve of balls:

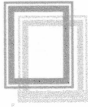
Alan Casamajor	1 sleeve
Gregor 'PaPa' Markel	2 sleeves
Derek Allman	1 sleeve

Our Thank You for coming winner for the December meeting:

Jim Palmer who won a Dozen Titleist Nxt golf balls.

The next General Meeting will be held Wednesday, January 3rd 7:00 p.m. at Beeb's.

Hope to see you there!



Joe Benko
Benko Insurance Agency
 serving the Livermore Valley

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Leo Hoffman

(925) 443-1994

Email: leo@fslc.com

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Communications Notes

Todd Reddick

Just a quick reminder to old and new members alike. In January, everyone receives a copy of the Chip Shots via the mail.

Additionally, Chip Shots can be found every month from our club website at www.laspositasgolf.com.

LPMGC Tournament Refund Policy

If you notify the Golf Shop within 48 hours prior to the Tournament that you have to withdraw, you will receive a full refund of your entry fee.

If you notify the Golf Shop less than 48 hours prior to the tournament date, but no later than the close of business the day before the tournament that you have to withdraw, only the Green Fee portion of the entry fee will be refunded.

NO SHOWS will receive NO REFUND and the money will go to the Men's Club Funds.

Players who do not show for the second day of a two day tournament will be treated as a NO SHOW. Cancellations the day of the tournament will be considered for a refund of Green Fee only, IF the Golf Shop can find a replacement player.

In case of an emergency on the day of the tournament, the player should notify the Golf Shop and may petition the Board, in writing, to request a refund of Green Fee Only.

Coach's Corner

Jeff DeBenedetti

HYBRIDS, LEARN TO LOVE THEM

Hybrids are described as being somewhere between a fairway wood and an iron, but for the purpose of swinging these clubs correctly, swing them as long irons.

Play the ball in the middle of your stance and pinch it off the turf at impact. Don't stand up and try to lift the ball in the air like many amateurs try to do. Try to keep your spine angle centered, and try to drive down through the ball. The hybrid wide sole will even allow you to hit a little behind the ball and still produce an acceptable shot.

Hybrids are here to stay and if you haven't tried one yet you are behind the game. Players tend to hit the ball higher, longer, and softer than their long irons. Who doesn't want to be able to do that?

**LAS POSITAS MEN'S CLUB
TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE 2007**

2007 Schedule

JANUARY	SAT. 20	Individual Medal
	SAT. 27	3-Hole Skins
FEBRUARY	SAT. 10 & SUN. 11	NCGA East Bay Zone Qualifier – 2 Man Best Ball **
MARCH	SAT. 10	Individual Medal
	SAT. 17	Cha-Cha-Cha
APRIL	SAT. 21 & SUN. 22	NCGA Four-Ball Net Qualifier **
MAY	SAT. 12	4 Man – 2 Best Ball
	SAT. 19	NCGA Senior 4-Ball Qualifier
JUNE	SAT. 9 & SUN. 10	NCGA Net Am. Qualifier
	SAT. 30	Individual Skins
JULY	SAT. 14 & SUN. 15	President's Cup **
AUGUST	SAT. 4	Member-Guest
	SUN. 12	Point Par - Stableford
SEPTEMBER	SAT. 8 & SUN. 9	Club Championship **
OCTOBER	SAT. 13	4 Ball Match Play
	SAT. 20	4 Man – Gross / Net
NOVEMBER	SAT. 3	Beat the Pro
	SUN. 4	2 Man Razzle Dazzle
DECEMBER	SAT. 1	2-Man Best-Ball (Annual Charity Event)
	SAT. 8	2-Man Best-Ball Total

**Indicates Major Tournament

**LAS POSITAS MEN'S CLUB
TWILIGHT LEAGUE SCHEDULE 2007**

(Schedule coming soon)

MEN'S CLUB OUTSIDE TOURNAMENTS

(Schedule coming soon)

2006 CITY OF LIVERMORE TOURNAMENTS

(Schedule coming soon)

LPMGC Slow Play Policy

The Las Positas Men's Club expects all groups in its tournaments to keep up with the group in front of it. If your group falls more than 1 hole behind the group in front of you, you will be considered a "slow" group, and subject to the policy as noted below.

POLICY: Members identified as slow-playing will be put on a list. This list will be published on the Men's Club bulletin board, in the Chip Shots and on the Club website. Members on the list will be given tee times at the end of any tournaments they participate in. To be removed from the list, you must not be warned for slow play in your next 2 tournaments.

You will be added to the list when you are warned for slow play by a member of the tournament committee (typically Jeff DeBenedetti and one or more of the golf shop professionals). You may also receive a "heads-up" about slow play from one of the golf course marshals first. This will not get you on the list, but should be taken as notice that you are in danger of receiving a warning from the committee if you do not catch up.

Current Members on Slow Play List

None at this time.

LPMGC – Tournament Rules

The following is the current Tournament Rules for Tournaments held by the Las Positas Men's Club.

1. A member must have at least twenty (20) posted rounds to be able to participate in the following tournaments:
 - a. NCGA Net Qualifying
 - b. Presidents Cup
 - c. Spyglass Qualifying
 - d. Senior Championship
 - e. Spyglass Two Man Best Ball
 - f. Club Championship
2. A member must have at least five (5) posted rounds to play in any of the other club tournaments.
3. All tournament entries must be accompanied by a check. All entries are due in the Pro Shop on Thursday, 5:00 PM, the week prior to the tournament. Entries are to be dropped into the club's box.
4. Indicate on your entry resident or non-resident. Entries for non-computer paired tournaments must include all names in your group and checks for your group.
5. Withdrawals must be made at least 48 hours in advance. The prize fund fee will not be refunded after 48 hours.
6. Withdrawals on the day of the tournament, the entrant will forfeit all fees unless there are extenuating circumstances. The tournament committee will make the final decision on refunds. Members should refer to the Refund Policy.
7. After the tournament pairings have been given to the Pro Shop, all further transactions (inclusions and exclusions) will be handled by the Pro Shop.
8. Each entrant is responsible for his "tee time", turning in a completed, signed scorecard and posting his adjusted score in the computer.
9. All rules decisions will be handled by the rules committee which consist of either Dan Lippstreu, or Jeff DeBenedetti and a tournament chairman.
10. All tournaments are in accordance with the USGA rules and guidelines. This includes equipment, balls, etc. Should a member use an item that does not conform to the USGA rules, that player will be disqualified.

ECLECTIC STARTS JANUARY 1st

The 2007 Eclectic will start on January 1st. When you pay for a round of golf in the Pro Shop, indicate that you want to play in the Eclectic and pay \$1.00 extra. At the end of the round, you **MUST** turn in a separate scorecard, signed and attested, to the Pro Shop. (Not in the tournament box) All eclectic rounds **MUST** be played with and signed by a Men's Club or Senior Men's Club Member. Eclectic play is the same as LPMGC tournaments....play the ball down, unless "Winter Rules" are declared by the Pro Shop. There are no "GIMMIES."

A BASIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE ECLECTIC

You will have three consecutive rounds of golf to score the lowest NET Score (using your handicap) on each hole. The lowest NET score on each hole out of the three rounds will be your score for 18 holes. Remember, 3 consecutive rounds. You can try as often as you like. If you have a bad round, you may restart your three rounds at any time. Just tell the Pro Shop you are starting a new round. Tell them before you tee off, not after the round. The lowest 20 scores and all ties will be in a horse race on a date

Handicap Update

Pat Moore and Mel Casali, Co-Chairmen

Recently, there have been articles (NCGA Bluebook) and e-mails (from the USGA to it's members) regarding the possibilities of shooting your handicap. Per both of these folks, a handicap should reflect your **lowest potential scoring ability**, not what you usually shoot on average, and therefore shooting your handicap shouldn't be a common occurrence. The USGA has developed a table showing the odds of various handicap ranges shooting various amounts under their handicap, and that table can be found on their website.

The NCGA and USGA have encouraged local clubs to use this information and table in monitoring and reviewing member handicaps. The NCGA uses the USGA Handicap Manual Section "10-3" rule, where they do a computer calculation comparing exceptional tournament scores to your monthly index, and where there is a significant gap, indexes are reduced "to better reflect your lowest potential scoring ability". However, per the NCGA, local clubs are free to develop their own methodologies using this information, and if applied consistently, adjust members' handicaps to a local index for use only in the club's tournaments or events, or to make modifications to NCGA indexes where warranted.

We've recently begun to do this at Las Positas. We've reviewed the tournaments starting with October, and noted exceptional tournament scores. An exceptional tournament score is one where a player's gross score less their course handicap is less than the rating from the tees played. Notice that the calculation ignores whatever handicap was used for the tournament (since many tournaments are played at 80% or 90%), and also ignores par, since indexes are based on course ratings, not par. For example, a score of 70 from the white tees at Las Positas, while 2 strokes under par, would not be an exceptional tournament score, since the course rating from the white tees is 70.2.

Our method will be to maintain a list of players with exceptional tournament scores. The scores will remain on the list for 6 months. Players who record 2 exceptional tournament scores will be assigned a local index for use in Las Positas tournaments rather than their NCGA index. Players who record 3 exceptional tournament scores will have their NCGA index modified based on the 3 scores. These local indexes or modified indexes will be in effect for 4 months, and will be reviewed monthly. The lower of the local/modified index or the NCGA index will be used during this period.

Note that we use tournament scores, because the NCGA/USGA feel these are the best representation of potential scoring ability, due to greater peer review, greater adherence to the rules of golf (vs. some of the goofy stuff we do in our regular games with our buddies), etc. The "10-3" calculation used by the NCGA compares tournament scores to your index, which is made up of both tournament and regular rounds.

Finally, be aware that there is no judgment or stigma associated with having a modified index based on this method – IT'S JUST MATH. This is not some magic formula designed to catch "sandbaggers". It is simply meant to be a more real-time recognition of members' potential scoring ability. Based on experience gathered while using this method at another club in the area, 10 members had modified indexes, and all 10 had NCGA indexes equal to or lower than the modified index within 3 or 4 months. This method just recognizes the potential sooner rather than later.

LPMGC TOURNAMENT RESULTS

2-Man Total - Results

December 16, 2006

138	Steve Brockelsby Bob Gould	\$95 each
140	Dan Deangelus Aaron Lee	\$75 each
	Jack O'Connor Mike Toothman	
142	Larry Coppa Steve Pribble	\$60 each
144	Steve Englebretson Pete Walling	\$48 each
	Eddie Herbert Tom Byrom	
146	Mark Musso Tony Paniagua	\$40 each
147	Monte Beers Mel Casali	\$35 each
	George Tardiff John Olenchak	
148	Joe Cantu Wayne Young	\$30 each
149	Bob Fulton Fred Fulton	\$30 each

The results for all 2006 tournaments can be found at: <http://www.laspositasgolf.com/pdf/2006TourneyResults.pdf>

LPMGC TOURNAMENT RESULTS

2-Man Best Ball - Results

December 2, 2006

58	Steve Englebretson Pete Walling	\$75 each
63	Steve McConnell Tony Paniagua Monte Beers Mel Casali	\$53 each
64	Eddie Herbert Dick Braden	\$35 each

The results for all 2006 tournaments can be found at: <http://www.laspositasgolf.com/pdf/2006TourneyResults.pdf>

Las Positas Men's Golf Club

LPMGC - INDIVIDUAL MEDAL PLAY

Saturday, January 20, 2007

The Individual Medal Play tournament gives you the opportunity to play in a flighted individual tournament against the field. This Tournament requires that you have at least five (5) posted rounds to compete.

- Play will be at 100% of January handicap.
- Sign up as a group or an individual and we will pair you.
- There will be a prize fund for each flight based on number of entries for the tournament.

Entry Deadline:

Thursday, January 11th at 5 P.M.
In the Las Positas Golf Course Pro Shop

Entry Fee: \$41 Per Player

LPMGC - INDIVIDUAL MEDAL PLAY ENTRY

Saturday, January 20, 2007

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

*Please Print Your Name Clearly
Provide all \$\$\$ for Group Entries
Checks Only Please!!!
Make Checks Payable to 'LPMGC*

PLAY TO WIN!!!

Enter this LPMGC tournament and you have an opportunity to win a free round of golf at the Las Positas Golf Course. This and other prizes are given away at every LPMGC tournament.

Las Positas Men's Golf Club

LPMGC - INDIVIDUAL SKINS

Saturday, January 27th, 2007

The Individual Skins tournament gives you the opportunity to compete individually against the field in three-hole skins competition. You need a minimum of five (5) posted rounds and/or an NCGA index to play for the money in this tournament. You can sign up as a group or a single and we will pair you with other players.

- Play will be at 100% of January handicap.
- A skin will be the lowest net score for three consecutive holes.
- There are six (6) skins to win for each flight. Ties split skins.
- Number of flights and prize fund determined by number of players entering tournament.

Entry Deadline:

Thursday, January 18th, at 5 P.M.
In the Las Positas Golf Course Pro Shop

Entry Fee: \$41 Per Player

LPMGC - INDIVIDUAL SKINS
Saturday, January 27th, 2007

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

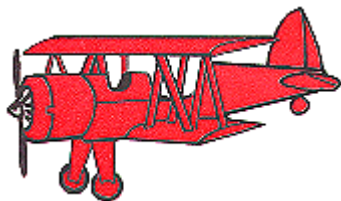
Please Print Your Name Clearly
Provide all \$\$\$ for Group Entries
Checks Only Please !!!
Make Checks payable to 'LPMGC'

PLAY TO WIN!!!

***Enter this LPMGC tournament and you have an opportunity
to win a free round of golf at the Las Positas Golf Course.
This and other prizes are given away at every LPMGC tournament.***

Las Positas Men's Golf Club

2007 Membership Form



- Complete all areas of the form below
- Attach a check payable to the Las Positas Men's Golf Club.
- Please print clearly.

Name

Home Address

City, State, Zip

Home Phone

Work Phone

Email (if available)

GHIN #

Membership Fees 2007:

(Please Indicate One)

\$75.00

Membership Renewal Fee

If you have not played in at least ONE LPMGC regular tournament between December 1, 2005 and November 30, 2006, you are required to renew your membership as a new member:

\$100.00

New Membership Fee

Please attach a check and drop the check and completed form in the Men's Club box (tournament side) at the pro shop, or mail to:

Las Positas Golf Course
917 Clubhouse Drive
Livermore, CA 94550
Attention: Men's Club Membership Renewal

Membership Renewal Deadline is December 15, 2006

Please contact Dick Braden at (925) 455-8633 for more information or questions.

VOLUNTEER



OPPORTUNITIES



LIVERMORE VALLEY
WINE COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP
AT WENTE VINEYARDS
MARCH 25-APRIL 1, 2007

MARSHAL (Wednesday thru Sunday) - Captain: Don Scellato

PROVIDE CONTROL OVER THE GALLERY AT TEES, GREENS AND FAIRWAYS. RESPONSIBLE FOR BALL SPOTTING, ROPE AND GATE MAINTENANCE. THIS IS A STANDING AND/OR SITTING POSITION (BRING YOUR OWN SMALL CHAIR/SEAT IF YOU WOULD LIKE). MARSHALS WORK WEDNESDAY THRU SUNDAY ONLY. IF POSSIBLE, WE ASK YOU TO WORK ALL DAY.

WALKING SCORER (Wednesday thru Sunday) - Captain: Steve Shultis

MUST HAVE AN EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF GOLF AND BE ABLE TO WALK 18 HOLES. RECORD THE SCORE AND STATISTICS FOR EACH PLAYER IN YOUR GROUP FOR EACH HOLE OF THE TOURNAMENT USING SHOTLINK (PALM PILOT). THERE WILL BE **REQUIRED** TRAINING SESSIONS FOR THIS POSITION. YOU MUST BE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE.

STANDARD BEARER (Wednesday thru Sunday) - Captain: Steve Shultis

YOU ARE WALKING 18 HOLES WITH AN ASSIGNED GROUP OF PLAYERS. STANDARDS ARE CARRIED BY THE VOLUNTEER DISPLAYING THE NAMES OF THE PLAYERS IN EACH GROUP ALONG WITH SCORE TOTALS. (JUNIORS RECOMMENDED).

SCORING CENTRAL (Wednesday thru Sunday) - Captain: Steve Shultis

MUST HAVE EXTENSIVE GOLF KNOWLEDGE. MUST BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OF AGE. WILL ASSIST IN SCORING CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS WITH TOURNAMENT SCORING AND STATISTICS. WILL ALSO COPY & RUN SCORECARDS

VOLUNTEER SERVICES (Monday thru Sunday) - Captain: Gwen Yadon

RESPONSIBLE FOR SEVERAL VOLUNTEER RELATED ACTIVITIES INCLUDING VOLUNTEER SERVICES TENT, TRANSPORTATION TO/ FROM VOLUNTEER PARKING TO COURSE, VOLUNTEER F&B AND SUPERVISION/COORDINATION OF CART TRANSPORT VEHICLES USED FOR ALL TOURNAMENT ACTIVITIES.

PLAYER SERVICES (Monday thru Sunday) - Captains: Chris "Legs" LeGuluche/Jill Baer

RESPONSIBLE FOR SEVERAL PLAYER RELATED ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING TRANSPORTING PLAYERS THROUGHOUT THE PROPERTY, DRIVING RANGE AND PLAYER REGISTRATION. MUST BE AT LEAST 16 YEARS OF AGE WITH A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE. IN CASE OF AN EVACUATION YOU MUST BE COMFORTABLE DRIVING A VAN OR LARGER VEHICLE (SUV) THROUGHOUT THE COURSE.

TOURNAMENT SERVICES (Week prior thru Tournament Week & After) - Captains: Lorelei Fernandes/Frank Cambra

ASSIST THE TOURNAMENT STAFF WITH SUPPORT PRIOR TO AND DURING THE EVENT. OFFER VENDOR SUPPORT WITH SETUP, MAINTENANCE AND TEAR DOWN OF VARIOUS STRUCTURES. ASSIST WITH ANY FOOD AND BEVERAGE NEEDS. PROVIDE ECOLOGY SUPPORT THROUGHOUT TOURNAMENT WEEK. MUST BE ABLE TO LIFT HEAVY OBJECTS. FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES ARE APPRECIATED.

FINANCE/ADMISSIONS/WILL-CALL (Monday thru Sunday) - Captain: Tom Rose

STAFF ADMISSION GATES, WILL-CALL, AND PROVIDE FINANCIAL SERVICES TO TOURNAMENT OPERATIONS. MUST BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OF AGE.

SECURITY (Sunday thru Sunday) - Captains: Jerry Weakland/Ralph Sanzeri

PROVIDE SECURITY IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS INCLUDING; GATES FOR PARKING, ADMISSIONS, SKYBOXES, HOSPITALITY, PLAYER DINING, MEDIA CENTER, SPECIAL EVENTS, PRACTICE LOCATIONS AND OTHER NECESSARY LOCATIONS AS DIRECTED. MUST BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OF AGE.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT MONICA SMITH AT 925.447.2200