



# Chip Shots

January 2009

## President's Message

*Gregor Markel*

Merry, Happy New Holiday Year thing! I hope everyone has been enjoying their holidays and are ready for the start of a new golf season in 2009. The LPMGC is ready to get started with a bang. The eclectic is underway, so remember to add your eclectic dollars when you are playing rounds at the course. The rules for the eclectic are posted in this edition of the Chip Shots. Also, our individual match play championship is starting. If you entered the brackets, your matches are ready to roll. Check the website and contact the pro shop to verify your opponent.

So what is the LPMGC doing? First, I wanted to say **THANK YOU** to everyone who participated in the December charity tournament, and everyone who made an additional donation to support Hope Hospice. The members of the LPMGC were able to send a check for \$680 to this very worthy cause. Also, you may have noted the new flagsticks on the course with the built-in prisms for those of you with laser range finders. The LPMGC donated the funds to the course to purchase the new sticks. We anticipate this improvement will benefit all golfers and have a positive impact on the pace of play on the course.

As a reminder, please review the meeting schedule for 2009, we will be meeting on select months again this year, including January, so please get out to the meeting. We will be voting on our annual budget for 2009, and we would like your input. As always, if you have any comments, suggestions or complaints, you can email me at [pres@laspositasgolf.com](mailto:pres@laspositasgolf.com) and I will respond to your comments.

Good Golfing for 2009! ❖

## Special Events!!

*Tom Geary and Mike Rimington*

There was no meeting for the month of December. The next General membership meeting will be held on Wednesday January 7th 7:00p.m. at Beeb's. This year's charity event had 42 players and fair weather to play in. The men's club raised \$680.00 to be donated to Hope Hospice. Thanks to all that participated and those who were not able to but still gave a donation. Our 2008 leading money winner was Ed Mero who edged out Joe Cantu by One dollar. 126 of our members cashed in the years tournaments. With our 2009 season beginning we have match play and of course the eclectic beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> of the New Year. Remember to put your extra \$1 in per round to Qualify for the Eclectic Horserace finals, which will be played at a date TBD later. Tournament dates as well as other information can be found on the men's club bulletin board outside of Beeb's and on the web site.

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## 2009 Meeting Schedule

*Gregor Markel*

For 2009, the LPMGC will be running the general membership meetings on the following dates

January 7<sup>th</sup>  
March 4<sup>th</sup>  
May 6<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Putting Contest)  
June 3<sup>rd</sup>  
July 1<sup>st</sup>  
August 5<sup>th</sup>  
September 2<sup>nd</sup> (Final Putting Contest)  
November 4<sup>th</sup> (Annual Budget and Board Elections for 2010).

All of the meetings will be held at 7:00 pm at Beeb's Bar and Grill at the Las Positas Golf Course.

## 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.

For more information go to our website at [www.laspositasgolf.com](http://www.laspositasgolf.com)

## Pro Shop Notes

*Jeff DeBenedetti*

### WHAT IS THE RIGHT BALL FOR ME?

I am asked this question frequently and my answer is different every time.

The way the golf ball companies are these days, they lead you to believe their ball is the best ball on the market. Every golfer is different. Every golfer has different swing, spin rate, and different feel around the greens.

The best way to answer this question is to find the ball that allows the most amount of distance, with the most amount of feel to suit your game. If your handicap is above an 18, there is no reason to be paying \$50 for a dozen golf balls. The Titleist Dt series is a great ball for 80% of the players out there.

Whatever ball you choose, be consistent. How can you expect to be consistent if the ball you hit isn't?

**LAS POSITAS MEN'S CLUB  
TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE 2009**

JANUARY	SAT. 17	Individual Medal #
	SAT. 24	Individual Skins
FEBRUARY	SAT. 7 & SUN. 8	NCGA Four-Ball Net Qualifier ** #
MARCH	SAT. 14	2 MBB Skins
	SUN. 22	Individual Medal #
April	18-19 Sat- Sun	East Bay Zone Qualifier #
May	16 (Sat)	4-Man 2-Best Ball #
	30 (Sat)	Senior Championship/NCGA Senior 4-Ball Qualifier/Regular Men's Club Tournament #
June	27-28 Sat-Sun	NCGA Net Amateur Qualifier #
July	11-12 Sat-Sun	President's Cup (Club Net Championship) ** #
August	8 (Sat)	Member-Guest
	16 (Sun)	Point Par - Stableford #
September	12-13 Sat-Sun	Club Championship * #
October	10 (Sat)	TBD #
	17 (Sat)	TBD #
November	7 (Sat)	2-Man Razzle Dazzle #
	15 (Sun)	Beat the Pro
DECEMBER	SUN. 6	TBD #
	SAT. 12	TBD Annual Charity Event #

**\*\* Indicates Major Tournament**

**# Indicates Members Cup event (15 tournaments)**

All money won in tournaments are held "on the books" at the Las Positas Golf Course Pro Shop. All prize money won must be spent by end of October 2008. No Exceptions Granted.

**LPMGC Twilight League**

Tournaments will begin on Thursday evenings in May. Keep Posted for dates and formats of tournaments.

**LPMGC Home-and-Home Events**

Home-and-Home tournaments will be announced at the General Membership meetings and sign-ups will open at that time on a first come-first serve basis.

**LAS POSITAS GOLF COURSE TOURNAMENTS**

**2009 LASPO Tournament Schedule**

LasPo Skins Game	March 8, 2009
DEMO DAY	April 4, 2009
Junior Benefit	May 9, 2009
LasPo 2 Man Better Ball	June 6 & 7, 2009
LasPo Open Championship	September 26 & 27, 2009

**Operations Notes**

On behalf of the City Of Livermore, thank you for once again choosing Las Positas Golf Course as your destination for golfing enjoyment in 2008.

Over the many years, the Men's Club has not only played well over 75,000 rounds at Las Positas, but has also contributed to improving the facility by purchasing items such as signs, yardage markers and recently the new flag poles. Your commitment to ongoing improvement and supporting "your course" is a major factor in offering the prime tee times of Saturday and Sunday mornings to such a dedicated group.

As we look forward to 2009, we are excited about all that is happening at the course. Each of the three (3) contractors (DeBenedetti Golf Shop, Beeb's, and CourseCo) is committed to offering you the best service, products and conditions possible. As we all are aware, the market conditions for golf courses is very challenging and each of us continues to meet and develop new strategies to provide the same level of service at an affordable price.

I hope that many of you have had the chance to meet the new Director of Agronomy for Course Co at Las Positas, Moody Ayeb. Since November 2008 when Moody arrived, from Del Paso Country Club, his impact of bringing attention to "Country Club" details has already shown up on the course. With a full year of experience under CourseCo's belt, a trained crew, the addition of Moody, and of course the hard work that Superintendent Ryan Hess continues to deliver, we are all expecting the course conditions to continue to improve and meet your expectations.

Thanks again for supporting the course, and on behalf of CourseCo, providing an excellent Christmas "thank you breakfast" for the golf maintenance staff. I look forward to seeing everyone on the course in 2009!

Jeff Shafer  
Golf Course General Manager  
City Of Livermore

## **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 (let's keep it this way!!)*

## **2009 LPMGC MEMBERS CUP RACE**

When you have a great golf club, you might think it can't get any better, but it has. Starting with tournaments in 2009, a new points race to crown an individual champion will be held for the Las Positas Men's Golf Club Members. We will be holding our own version of the FedEx Cup called the LPMGC Members Cup.

We will be adding money to a special prize fund from every listed Members Cup tournament and each member participating will receive points towards the finals. Winners will receive additional points, and at the end of the year the running tally will provide us with a top flight of point earners who will duke it out in a round of golf to crown the members cup champion.

More details and official rules and details on how points will be awarded will be posted on the tournament box, men's club board and printed in the January 2009 edition of the Chip Shots. Two things you need to do to get on this bandwagon:

1. You need to renew your membership for 2009!
2. You need to participate in the golf tournaments that will earn you members cup points. Just look for the "**MEMBERS CUP EVENT**" on the entry forms and sign up for the event! Remember, just showing up gets you a few points. ☺

We look forward to seeing everyone on the course in 2009 for a lot of fun and challenges on the course. Start practicing now for the season long race to crown a champion!!!

## LPMGC - Tournament Rules

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

1. A member must have at least twenty (20) posted rounds to be able to **Qualify** in the following tournaments:
  - a. NCGA Qualifying Events (4)
  - b. Presidents Cup
  - c. Senior Championship
  - d. Club Championship.

There are specific requirements for each tournament, these are published on the tournament entry form. ALL members are eligible to participate in every Men's Club Tournament.

2. 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.
3. Entries for non-computer paired tournaments must include all names in your group and checks for your group.
4. Withdrawals must be made at least 48 hours in advance. The prize fund fee will not be refunded after 48 hours.
5. 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.
6. After the tournament pairings have been given to the Pro Shop, all further transactions (inclusions and exclusions) will be handled by the Pro Shop.
7. Each entrant is responsible for his "tee time", turning in a completed, signed scorecard and posting his adjusted score in the computer.
8. All rules decisions will be handled by the rules committee which consists of either Jeff DeBenedetti, or his designee.
9. 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.

**LPMGC - INDIVIDUAL MEDAL PLAY**

Saturday January 17, 2009

**MEMBERS CUP EVENT**

The Individual Medal Play tournament gives you the opportunity to play in a flighted individual tournament against the field. Participants must have (5) posted rounds or a handicap established by our handicap chairman to compete for the prize fund.

- Play will be at 100% of January's 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 8, at 5:00 P.M.  
In the Las Positas Men's Club box at  
917 Clubhouse Dr.  
Livermore, CA. 94551

**Attention: LPMGC**

Tournament entry fee: **\$47**

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**LPMGC - INDIVIDUAL MEDAL PLAY ENTRY**

Saturday January 17, 2009

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Request not required

🍏 Early requires Front 9 completion in 2 hours or less

🍏 Late

**All Prize Money must be spent by end of OCT. 2009**

Please Print Your Name

Provide all \$\$\$ for Group Entries

CHECKS Only Please!!! Payable to 'LPMGC'

**LPMGC - INDIVIDUAL SKINS**

Saturday January 24, 2009

The Individual Skins tournament gives you the opportunity to compete individually against the field in three-hole skins competition. Participants must have (5) posted rounds or a handicap established by our handicap chairman to compete for the prize fund. Sign up as a group or an individual and we will pair you.

- Play will be at 100% of January's handicap.
- 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 15, 2009, at 5 P.M.  
In the Las Positas Men's Golf Club box at  
917 Clubhouse Dr.  
Livermore, CA 94551  
Attention: LPMGC  
Tournament entry fee: \$45

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**LPMGC - INDIVIDUAL SKINS**

Saturday January 24, 2009

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Request , not required

- Early, Requires front 9 completion in 2 hours or less
- Late

**All Prize Money must be spent by end of OCT. 2009**

*Please Print Your Name Clearly Provide all \$\$\$ for Group Entries*

**Checks Only Please!!!**

*Make Checks payable to 'LPMGC'*

**LPMGC - NCGA FOUR-BALL NET QUALIFIER**

Sat. and Sun. February 7-8, 2009  
**MEMBERS CUP EVENT (Sat. only)**

This two-man better ball tournament is two tournaments in one. You can compete in Saturday's Men's Club event only or both days if you wish to qualify for the NCGA Four-Ball. Qualifiers will advance to the NCGA Qualifier (site to be determined) on May 21. The championship will be played on June 29-30 at Spyglass and Poppy Hills Golf Course.

Men's Club Format: Each partner's course handicap can't differ by more than 8 strokes. You must have at least 5 posted rounds or a handicap established by our Handicap Chairmen to compete for the prize fund. Number of flights determined by number of entries.

NCGA Qualifying Format: All players must be 18 yrs. or older to qualify. You must have at least 20 posted rounds. Play will be to a maximum index of 18.4. Players with 18.5 and higher must play to an 18.4 index. Course handicaps for each team member cannot differ by more than 8 strokes, and both players must be able to play on the qualifier and championship dates. The low net 2 teams will advance to the sectionals. Prize fund on Sunday will go to the qualifying teams!

**Entry Deadline:**

Thursday, January 29 at 5:00 P.M.  
In the Las Positas Men's Golf Club box at  
917 Clubhouse Dr.  
Livermore, CA. 94551  
Attention: TOURNAMENTS

Entry Fees: \$47 Sat. only/\$92 Sat.& Sun.

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**LPMGC - NCGA FOUR-BALL NET QUALIFIER**

Sat. and Sun., February 7-8, 2009

	QUALIFYING	
	yes	no
Team 1 Name _____		
Team 1 Name _____		
Team 2 Name _____		
Team 2 Name _____		

Request , not required

- Early, Requires front 9 completion in 2 hours or less
- Late

All prize money must be spent by the end of OCT. 2009  
*Please Print Your Name*  
*Checks Only Please !!!*  
*Make Checks Payable to 'LPMGC'*