



Santa Teresa Men's Golf Club

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Edited by: Gib Gibson & Stan Yamada

President's Perspective

HOLIDAY GREETINGS TO ALL!!!!

All good things must pass. As my second term finally comes to an end, I want wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy a New Year.

Additionally, thank you all for allowing me to serve our club. A special THANKS to the board for their support and time. Their combined energies and imaginations have facilitated many club improvements and new competitions during a very challenging period of time. Based on our recent elections I am confident the direction of the STMGC will continue in a positive and competitive direction.

The board is always open to your ideas and suggestions. If you have any comments or questions please seek a board member and the topic will be address at the next meeting. Along those lines maybe you should consider volunteering your time to serve on the board. It is an excellent way to give back to the game of golf, form lasting friendships and serve your fellow members.

I will leave you with one thought for the New Year.....*Keep pace with the group in front of you!*

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Membership Renewal

If you have not yet sent in your renewal, you need to get it in before year-end to maintain your NGCA membership avoid reinstatement costs. We will be updating our membership records with NCGA as early as December 27th.

Pace of Play Reminder

In keeping with our efforts to improve our tournament pace of play and enhance the enjoyment of all, the club has put in place a Pace of Play Policy. The purpose of this policy is to identify and penalize chronic slow players, and reduce their impact on the field's pace of play. A copy of the policy has been included on page 4. Please read it and help us achieve our goal.

Top Twenty Money Winners

1	Sam Yamada	\$542
2	David Mignano	\$526
3	Tim Pasek	\$510
4	Don Erba	\$462
5	Sterling Matsui	\$438
6	George Fowler	\$407
7	Stefan Peck	\$399
8	John Roberts	\$389
9	Nelson McBride	\$372
9	Ariel Corpus	\$318
10	Alan Hargreaves	\$308
11	Steve Darrow	\$304
12	Stan Yamada	\$300
13	Percy Serrano	\$288
14	Jeff Cole	\$284
15	Lavelle Gibson	\$280
16	David Fitzgerald	\$273
17	Alex Glebov	\$271
18	Steve Kister	\$268
19	Bob Collins	\$255
19	Brian Malekzadeh	\$246
20	Steve Lapointe	\$236

2009 STMGC Officers and Directors



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Tournament of Champions

Tournament of Champions (TOC) - All members are awarded points based on their performance in each of the club's tournaments throughout the year. The top 20 players will compete in the Tournament of Champions which will be played at Poppy Hills on April 27, 2009. For details on points allocation, tournament date, etc. go to <http://stmgc.com/TOC-info.htm>.

TOC Standings

The final results have been compiled and the top 22 players are shown below. Jon Kies and John Roberts missed the top 20 by a single point, but will be given the opportunity to compete as alternates if qualifiers are unable to play.

		Points	Events	P/E
1	Sam Yamada	115	13	8.8
2	Don Erba	112	13	8.6
3	David Mignano	107	12	8.9
4	Sterling Matsui	103	11	9.4
5	Tim Pasek	98	10	9.8
6	George Fowler	94	9	10.4
7	Stefan Peck	93	13	7.2
8	Stan Yamada	92	14	6.6
9	Steve Kister	90	12	7.5
10	Lavelle Gibson	89	14	6.4
11	Alan Hargreaves	85	12	7.1
12	Percy Serrano	84	11	7.6
T13	Ariel Corpus	83	11	7.5
T13	Nelson McBride	83	11	7.5
15	Steve Darrow	81	10	8.1
T16	Alex Glebov	78	10	7.8
T16	Philip Lee	78	14	5.6
18	Marcus Rodriguez	77	13	5.9
19	David Fitzgerald	75	7	10.7
20	Stefan Winer	73	14	5.2
T21	Jon Kies	72	13	5.5
T21	John Roberts	72	11	6.5

Full results are posted on the web at:
<http://www.stmgc.com/TOC/2008/results.htm>.

2009 Tournament Schedule

Date	Time	Entry Deadline	Format
Jan 24	11 am	Jan 17	Modified Stableford (Individual)
Feb 21	11 am	Feb 14	Individual Low Net
Mar 21	11 am	Mar 14	Qualifier for NCGA 4-Ball (2-man Better Ball)
Mar 22	11 am		One-third of Saturday's field (maximum 10 teams)
Apr 25	11 am	Apr 18	2-man BB & Qualifier for NCGA Senior 4-Ball
May 16	11 am	May 09	Art Carr Championship (Individual)
May 17	11 am		One-third of Saturday's field
May 28	10 am	Apr 22	Poppy Hills (Thursday) Individual Low Net
Jun 13	8 am	Jun 06	Qualifier for NCGA Net Amateur (Individual)
Jul 18	8 am	Jul 11	4-man Yellow Ball
Aug 15	8 am	Aug 08	Individual Low Net
Sep 12	11 am	Sep 05	Club Championship ‡
Sep 13	11 am		Quarter-Finals
Sep 19	8 am		Semi-Finals
Sep 20	8 am		Finals
Sep 28	TBD	Aug 20	Eagle Ridge (Monday) Individual Low Net
Oct 10	11 am	Oct 03	2010 NCGA Zone Qualifier (2-man BB)
Oct 11	11 am		One-third of Saturday's field (maximum 10 teams)
Nov 14	8 am	Nov 07	Member/Guest (2-man Better Ball)
Dec 12	11 am	Dec 05	Individual Low Net

TOURNAMENT SUMMARIES

OCTOBER – 2009 NCGA Zone Qual (4-Ball)

Eric Simonsen, Sean Simonsen, Percy Serrano, and Robert White earned their spots on the team that will represent the STMGC at the 2009 Zone Championship by winning their respective flights. Eric and Sean ran away with the First Flight, while Percy and Robert fought off a charge by Alan Hargreaves and Ariel Corpus to win the Second Flight. Both days were contested with strong winds that made scoring very difficult. Good luck to the winners as they represent our club next year.

Manny Minhoto collected two skins for his team and John Roberts holed out his second shot on Hole 15 for a net Double Eagle to claim a skin on the hole. Steve Darrow shot a gross 75 in the first round and Eric Simonsen shot a 76 in the second round, excellent scores in the tough, windy conditions.

October Tournament Issues

Steve Ochoa marshaled our field after completing his round. From the Timing Report, there were no large gaps in the field.

After being declared the winner, Robert White indicated that he would not be able to compete in the Zone Championship because of travel plans. His partner, Percy Serrano, selected Alan Hargreaves from the runner-up team to take Robert's place. Alan and Robert agreed to swap their prizes.

NOVEMBER – Member/Guest (4-Ball)

The teams of Stan Yamada / Scott Alltop and Steve Lapointe / Tim Ryan won their respective flights in the Member-Guest tournament. Both teams won scorecard tie-breakers to claim their victory. Steve Darrow and Brian Clark tied Stan and Scott with a net best-ball score of 64. Steve and Tim were tied by two teams - Alan Hargreaves / Stefan Peck and Jon Kies / Kelly Sims also shot 59 in a tough flight. There were 26 guests participating in this year's competition.

The Net Skins optional contest had only one winner - Mark Klemczak's net eagle on the sixth hole claimed the entire prize pool of \$320 for his team!

NEW!! - Starting with next year's Member-Guest tournament, the Board has voted to allow juniors to participate. It will be up to the member to determine if the junior is ready to play in this tournament without impacting the enjoyment of others and to maintain the pace of play. The juniors will play from the member tees (White Tees for girls).

DECEMBER – Individual Net

Tim Pasek, Robert Peabody, and Tim Ryan overcame difficult conditions to win their flights in the December tournament. Tim shot a gross 71 with five birdies to take the First Flight and Low Gross honors. Robert edged Brian Malekzadeh by a shot with a net 69 to win the Second Flight. Tim Ryan won the tiebreaker over Gary Kawaoka to win the Third Flight with a 69.

The Holiday Thumpers captained by Don Erba won the Team Competition. The Thumpers were led by George Fowler, Robert Peabody, and Gary Kawaoka who all shot 69's.

December Tournament Issues

Billy Charlton missed his tee time and was DQ'd. John King contacted the Tournament Committee after he determined that he had signed for a lower score than he shot on Hole 16 and DQ'd himself.

POP Committee Chairman Steve Ochoa marshaled the field after his round and found all groups in position so no POP penalty points were assigned.

Rulings

Here are some actual situations from our tournaments and the resulting rulings. These may be educational and a little entertaining.

SITUATION 1:

A player hit into a lateral water hazard. He wasn't sure where to drop the ball because there was an area within the hazard that was dry. He announced his intention to play two balls under Rule 3-3, one dropped in the hazard and the other dropped outside the hazard (both fulfilling the requirements to be within 2 club lengths and not closer to the hole). Rule 26-1c, says the player taking relief from a lateral water hazard must drop outside the hazard. Since the first ball was dropped in the margin of the hazard, this was not in accordance to the rule and is an invalid drop. He must count the score with the ball dropped outside the hazard.

SITUATION 2:

A player is searching for his ball in the rough. During the search he inadvertently ran over his ball with his cart. He asked for a ruling. It was ruled that he had no protection under Rule 12, Searching for and Identifying Ball. It was ruled that the player was in violation of Rule 18-2a(ii) and incurred a one stroke penalty.

SITUATION 3:

A player hit a shot that accidentally strikes his partner's bag. What is the penalty? Rule 19-2b states that the player that hits the shot incurs a penalty of ONE stroke and plays the ball as it lies. This penalty was changed this year from TWO strokes. It is also important to remember that this was accidental. If done purposely (e.g., if the partner purposely places the bag in a position to stop an errant shot or tosses the bag to stop the ball from rolling further), the penalty is TWO strokes and in severe instances, the Committee may impose a penalty of disqualification.

SITUATION 4:

A tee shot is hit into a hazard. A golfer (not in our tournament) picked up the ball. He was asked to replace the ball, but he just tosses it back into the hazard and says, "it was about there." A second ball was played under Rule 3-3 in case it was ruled that the ball had to be dropped in the hazard because the original ball had not been placed by the person (outside agency in this situation).

This is covered in Rules 18-1 and 20-3.

Rule 18-1 states,

If a ball at rest is moved by an outside agency there is no penalty and the ball must be replaced.

The ROG defines "replaced" as the following:

If a ball is to be replaced, the player, his partner or the person who lifted or moved it must place it on the spot from which it was lifted or moved. If the ball is placed or replaced by any other person and the error is not corrected as provided in Rule 20-6, the player incurs a penalty of one stroke. In any such case, the player is responsible for any other breach of the Rules that occurs as a result of the placing or replacing of the ball.

Rule 20-3c states,

If it is impossible to determine the spot where the ball is to be placed or replaced:

- (I) through the green, the ball must be dropped as near as possible to the place where it lay but not in a hazard or on a putting green;*
- (ii) in a hazard, the ball must be dropped in the hazard as near as possible to the place where it lay;*
- (iii) on the putting green, the ball must be placed as near as possible to the place where it lay but not in a hazard.*

So the dropped ball counted in this instance.

STMGC PACE OF PLAY POLICY

PURPOSE: The golf course management has had discussions with the Club Officers regarding tournament pace of play issues. While the Board feels that our pace of play is no different than other tournament play at Santa Teresa GC, we do acknowledge that we receive benefits that outside groups do not get, such as being able to walk the course and having tournaments start before 11 AM. Based on the Timing Data collected over the last several years, it is seen that a minority of the field can cause the entire tournament to look bad in terms of pace of play. Attempts to educate the membership to maintain their pace of play has not had the desired impact. Therefore, the Board is enacting a policy with penalties for those that cannot maintain the required pace of play. It is hoped that this will modify the behavior of those few members for the benefit of the tournament field.

METHOD: Base the policy on the NCGA's successful method. **If a group finishes more than 12 minutes behind the preceding group, the whole group will be marked as slow players and will receive POP penalty points.** No POP penalty points will be assessed if the group completes their round in 4:30 or less.

In general, if a group is teeing off on the 18th hole and the group ahead of them is putting or has left the green, they are in danger of exceeding the 13-minute limit.

If the group finishes 13 to 16 minutes behind the group in front of them, each member will be assigned 1 Pace of Play (POP) point.

If the group finishes 17 to 20 minutes behind the group in front of them, each member will be assigned 2 POP points.

If the group finishes more than 21 minutes behind, each member will be assigned 3 POP points. See chart below for summary.

If a group fails to record their Start and/or End Time, each member of the group will receive 1 POP point.

Your Start Time is when the first tee-shot is hit on #1; your End Time is when the flagstick is put in the hole on #18. The Official Clock shall be used to determine both times.

If a group is moved to a forward tee by the STGC marshal for violating the STGC pace of play policy, that group will be penalized 2 POP points.

APPEAL: Individual members of the group can appeal to the POP Committee upon finishing their rounds. Appeals can be based on special circumstances, or specific individuals can be identified as the cause of slow play.

Final appeals can be made to the entire Board of Directors.

PENALTY: If a member accrues 2 or more POP points, he will be required to take a cart in subsequent tournaments and will be given a tee time near the end of the field. This penalty will continue until the member's POP point total falls below 2 points. Continued POP point accrual may be cause for further disciplinary action, including expulsion from the club.

POP POINT DEDUCTION: If the player finishes his round within 10 minutes of the previous group, 1 POP point will be deducted from his total. Points will continue to be deducted until the player gets to 0 POP points.

POP Penalty Points Assignment Chart		
Minutes behind	POP penalty	POP reduction
10 or less	0	1
11	0	0
12	0	0
13 to 16	1	0
17 to 20	2	0
21 plus	3	0

January 2009 Modified Stableford Tournament

Saturday January 24th. Starting time: 11 AM. Maximum 32 players. Entry Deadline: 1/17/2009 Entry fee is \$71 per player.

FORMAT: Flighted, Individual Modified Stableford.

Please indicate which **optional** contests you'd like to enter, and adjust your entry fee accordingly:

***** If you do not pay for the optional contests at the same time you send in your entry form there is will be a \$2 surcharge added per contest entered the day of the tournament; the \$2 charge is not included in the prize fund.**

Name _____

Gross Skins	\$5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Net Skins	\$5	<input type="checkbox"/>
High Gross Pts	\$5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Long Drive	\$5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Team Competition	\$5	<input type="checkbox"/>			

If you'd like to be grouped with specific players, please list their names below (but only after verifying that they intend to be grouped with you):

Send with check to: Santa Teresa Men's Golf Club, P. O. Box 64415, Sunnyvale 94088-4415

February 2009 ILN Tournament

Saturday February 21st. Starting time: 11 AM. Maximum 40 players. Entry Deadline: 2/14/2009. Entry fee is \$71 per player.

FORMAT: Individual Low Net.

Please indicate which **optional** contests you'd like to enter, and adjust your entry fee accordingly:

***** If you do not pay for the optional contests at the same time you send in your entry form there is will be a \$2.00 surcharge added per contest entered the day of the tournament, the \$2 charge is not included in the prize fund.**

Name _____

Gross Skins	\$5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Net Skins	\$5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Low Gross	\$5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Long Drive	\$5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Team Competition	\$5	<input type="checkbox"/>			

If you'd like to be grouped with players from another team, please list their names below (but only after verifying that they intend to be grouped with you):

Send with checks to: Santa Teresa Men's Golf Club, P. O. Box 64415, Sunnyvale 94088-4415

Tournament Start Time Changes in 2009

The Board of Directors has changed the start time for many tournaments in 2009. The club has four 8 AM tournament start times per year. In the past these early starts were allocated for the winter months to allow a full field to participate. The Board has changed this policy for 2009 and will use the early start times in the summer when participation is greater.

The 11 AM start times for the winter months limits the size of the field because of the shorter days. The Board will attempt to procure additional tee times through the public call-in process to expand the number of golfers that can be accommodated. It is recommended that members get their entry forms in early to increase their chances of getting into the tournaments.

March 2009 2-man BB NCGA Qualifying Tournament

Saturday March 21st; starting time 11 AM. Maximum 60 players. **Entry Deadline: 3/14/2009.** **Entry fee is \$152 per team.**

FORMAT: Non-flighted, 2-man Better Ball Qualifier for the NCGA Four-Ball Net Championship. The lowest one-third of the field (to a maximum of 10 teams) from Saturday advance to 2nd day play on Sunday March 22nd at 11 am; payout will be based on cumulative 2-day team score. Players making the cut will be responsible for paying their greens fees directly to the ProShop on Sunday morning. Teams will compete under the following conditions (see the [NCGA Blue Book](#) for more information).

- Play will be at 90% of course handicap, using a maximum index of 18.4; players with indexes exceeding 18.4 may still play, but they will use an index of 18.4.
- If partner's course handicaps differ by more than 8 strokes, an additional 10% reduction will be applied to their course handicaps.
- In lieu of certificates, the qualifying team will have their entry fee paid to the Sectional Qualifying, to be held on 5/21 at a site TBD.

Please indicate which **optional** contests you'd like to enter, and adjust your entry fee accordingly:

***** If you do not pay for the optional contests at the same time you send in your entry form there is will be a \$2 surcharge added per contest entered the day of the tournament; the \$2 charge is not included in the prize fund.**

Name _____ Long Drive \$5

Name _____ Long Drive \$5

Net Team Skins \$10

If you'd like to be grouped with players from another team, please list their names below (but only after verifying that they intend to be grouped with you):

Send with checks to: Santa Teresa Men's Golf Club, P. O. Box 64415, Sunnyvale 94088-4415