



MPMGA Newsletter

DECEMBER 2023

VOLUME 17, NUMBER 12

MPMGA Officers and Board

Dick Helms, President

Gary Barnard, Vice President

Jim Grosjean, Secretary

Fred Kjar, Treasurer

Committee Chairmen

Tony Van Natter, Tournament

Tim Ward, Handicap

Phil Gray, Rules

Pete Lima, Special Events

Dave Quesnell, Membership

Jim Grosjean, Publicity

Larry McNamee, Sponsorship

Web Address

mountainviewmensgolf.org/home/

Web Master

Bill Webster

mpmga@mountainviewmensgolf.org

Monthly Newsletter

Editor:

Rick Savoie

rjsavoie@msn.com

President's Message

Well, guys, I hope you were at the Winter Bash. I think we had the best attendance that we've had in many years. It was a fun event, pace of play was fantastic (under 4 hours for my group, in a field with 107 golfers), lunch was a very tasty meatloaf, and there was free beer. What's not to love! In addition, those present approved a change to the By-Laws, the 2024 budget, and the slate of new board members (more on that later). Partly because my foursome was very fun, and we won, it was the best Bash I've attended in years.

By the time you read this, the new By-Laws and approved 2024 budget will be on the website in their final form. The new board make-up will be posted by year-end. All of them can be found under the Organization tab.

Next up is the twice re-scheduled Club Championship. We'll be playing The Preserve twice, since MountainView isn't fully open yet. I hope you're giving it a try. You don't have to be a contender for the Club Champion to have fun within your flight of this tournament. And after the Club Championship, there are two events left this year. That's all the time you have left to qualify for the Tournament of Champions on January 11. You can go to the website under Events, Year to Date Winnings, and look at your points. It takes four points to qualify. To learn more about this, look at the Tournament of Champions description under Events, Tournament Descriptions.

Let me take this opportunity to thank the board members who have made my job very easy. Fred Kjar, Tim Ward, Phil Gray, Larry McNamee, and Pete Lima are all outgoing board members. The continuing board members are Gary Barnard, Jim Grosjean, Dave Quesnell, and Tony Van Natter. They have all been great board members who subscribe to my belief that the purpose of the board is to serve the membership. I assure you they have had your best interests at heart. They have been a pleasure to serve with.

2024 MPMGA Dues

Full Member: \$100 after 1/1/2024
\$65 after 7/1/2024

Handicap Only: \$50 after 1/1/2024
\$30 after 7/1/2024

Application forms and online join/renew instructions are on the website

Note: Online join/renew fees discounted \$5

Correct Method of Ball Mark Repair

RIGHT

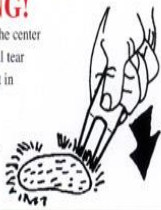
- 1) Insert tool on the high side behind the ballmark.
- 2) Push the back of the ball mark toward the center.
- 3) Do not lift or twist with the tool.
- 4) Close the hole by pushing both sides of the mark into the center.
- 5) Gently tap the surface down with your putter.
- 6) Never use a piece of loosened turf for repair.



Only YOU can prevent ball mark damage!
Remember:

WRONG!

Pulling up on the center or the sides will tear roots and result in brown spots, taking weeks for the surface to heal.



WRONG!

Do not pull up with green repair tool. This will only bring sand to the surface and tear the root system.



RIGHT!

Insert tool and push back and sides forward to center -no damage to root system. Healing starts immediately.



2023 ACES

Don Plapinger, MV #17
Ron Victor, MV #17
Alan Doan, TP #6
John Wrbanek, TP #6
Dennis Marchand, TP #14

2022 ACES

Dennis Marchand, TP #14
Kelly Paxton, TP #14
Dave Hill, TP #6
Doug Anderson, TP #4
Scott Newberry, MV #13

11 Member Aces reported in 2013
17 Member Aces reported in 2014
6 Member Aces reported in 2015
20 Member Aces reported in 2016
8 Member Aces reported in 2017
17 Member Aces reported in 2018
5 Member Aces reported in 2019
3 Member Aces reported in 2020
7 Member Aces reported in 2021
5 Member Aces reported in 2022

I also want to thank the Recruiting Committee of Joe Oczak, Dennis Marchand, and Harry Clausen for finding and recruiting all the current AND all the incoming new board members. They've been doing this job for several years now, and they're great at it. If they ever come knocking on your door to ask if you'll do something for the club, please be open to the possibility. It takes many people to run this organization. We need new faces all the time.

The new incoming board members are Al Bolty, President; Jim Creel, Treasurer; Dave Hill, Handicaps; Pete Gregor, Rules; Dave Field, Sponsorship; and Doug Zink, Special Events. Thanks to all of them for willingness to take on their respective tasks. If you see them, or other board members around, be sure to thank them for their service.

This is my last newsletter article. I am concluding my 11th and final year of serving on the board, which I believe is the record. I was treasurer for three years, then two 3-year stints as Tournament Director, then this two year term as President, each of those various jobs with one year off between them. Why so much? Because it has been fun! It has been my absolute pleasure to serve you in this way. The people I've worked with have been top notch and have made the jobs more enjoyable. The club membership has also been top notch. The vast majority of you are great people to work for. I will continue to serve as one of the guys in the rotation for running weekly events, and I'll certainly be playing in lots of them alongside you. I look forward to seeing you on the course.

Remember, hit 'em long and hit 'em straight. If you can't do both, hit 'em straight.

Dick Helms
MPMGA President (for a couple more weeks)

Membership

As of 12/2, 210 full and handicap only members have renewed.

If you haven't renewed yet, please do so at your earliest convenience. Online signup is at AZGOLF.ORG, enter "mountainview".

Paper signup forms can be found on the MPMGA site by clicking on "Join or Renew" at the bottom right of the main page.

Drop them off at the MountainView proshop. The drop box is to the right once you enter the building's front main doors.

Dave Quesnell
Membership Chairman

**PGA/USGA
Avg. Drive**

300 yards
275 yards
250 yards
225 yards
200 yards
175 yards
150 yards
125 yards
100 yards

**Recommends
Recommended Tees**

7,150-7,400 yards
6,700-6,900 yards
6,200-6,400 yards
5,800-6,000 yards
5,200-5,400 yards
4,400-4,600 yards
3,500-3,700 yards
2,800-3,000 yards
2,100-2,300 yards

Committee Business

Special Events

The Club Championship dates are now scheduled for December 11th and 14th at The Preserve. Lunch to follow on the 14th. If you have not signed up, now is the time to do so. If you would like to come for lunch only you must sign up on ForeTees for that as well. Thanks

Pete Lima
Special Events Chairman

Weekly Tournament Events

The 2024 Men's events schedule is on the website.

Tony Van Natter
Weekly Tournament Chairman

Rules

Benefits of Knowing the Rules

I wrote this article 4 years ago. Since this is my last newsletter, I thought it would be a good idea to come full circle and review why playing by the rules is the only way to play the game.

In the beginnings of the game, each club had different rules as to how the game was to be played. In 1744, the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers came up with a set of rules that all clubs could use in competitions between clubs. This ensured that everyone was playing the same game. Since that time the rules have become as much a part of the game as driving and putting. Incidentally, they had 13 rules. How things have changed!

The Rules of Golf, by necessity, are complicated. Other sports have a standard playing field. All football fields are 100 yards long (120 including end zone) and 53 ½ yards wide. Bases are 90 feet apart on all MLB baseball fields. There are no two golf courses that are alike. No other sport has a goal so small in relation to the size of the playing field. This means the rules have to be comprehensive enough to handle all the variables that can arise.

Our members all have different backgrounds. Some have played a lot of competitive golf and are very knowledgeable of the rules. We also have members who may be new to the game or may have played strictly on a recreational level and their first taste of competitive golf is with our association events.

So, what are the benefits of everyone learning more about the rules? I do not believe that anyone intentionally violates the rules. They are violated because of ignorance of the rules, carelessness, or just going “braindead” for a moment in the heat of competition.

Regardless of your level of rules expertise, we can always rely on the two basic principles of Golf Rules:

- Play the ball as it lies
- Play the course as you find it

These two principles will usually keep you out of trouble.

For you golfers with limited knowledge of the rules, you are not alone. Never hesitate to play in Association events because you feel you are lacking in this area. There is usually someone in the group to help with rules situations. And what if you do break a rule? Welcome to the club. The greatest players in the world all have had rules violations. Do not be upset at the player who points out your violation. I assure you no one wants to be known as a “rules cop” or a “nitpicker.” We play every week with our friends and neighbors. They usually feel awkward calling a penalty and don’t want to win on a technicality. Use this instance as a learning opportunity. You probably won’t make that mistake again. In stroke play, a player is obligated to protect the field. In match play, a player can ignore a violation or exercise his right to call a penalty. A good way to avoid these situations is to prevent them before they happen. Increase your knowledge of the rules and you increase your likelihood of avoiding penalties. And remember, knowledge of the rules can often help you. Sometimes the rules can work in your favor.

For you golfers with a good grasp of the rules, here is your chance to be a mentor. While there is no obligation to help an opponent or fellow competitor with rules situations, there is no prohibition in the rules in doing so. Sometimes, depending on the nature of the violation, prevention is unavoidable. If, however, you see someone about to commit a violation (i.e. dropping in a wrong place), you could just let him do that and call a penalty – that is your right. It’s just as easy, however, to be a “mensch.” You can point out the error and help him correct it before he incurs the penalty. This attitude is certainly more in line with our MPMGA Constitution Article II which states we want to promote “good fellowship.”

So how do you learn more about the rules? A good place to start is your Players Edition of the Rulebook, especially definitions (**now called the free rules of golf mobile app**). The USGA website has numerous videos and articles which illustrate common rules situations. The Association also conducts rules clinics with AGA experts as well as local board members. These clinics are free and are available to everyone. I encourage everyone to contact me if you have rules questions.

Phil Gray
Rules Chairman

Vice President

Guys,

By the time you read this article we will be getting a lively charge out of the Club Championship event and final Luncheon of the year.

We hope you have enjoyed the “ Brotherhood” of golf in ‘23 and will continue to enjoy this great game in ‘24!

As always, be on the lookout for any unusual activity or golfing prowess, from our members that could qualify for the coveted McDivot Award. We never want him to go homeless! I’m always waiting for a good story!

Enjoy the Holidays and have a Healthy and Happy New Year!

Gary Barnard
Vice President

Publicity

Send along all information regarding special accomplishments either at our home courses or away. We will follow up and prepare an article for local publications.

Jim Grosjean
Publicity Chairman

Sponsorship

Our committee has had a good year in which we achieved \$22,600.00 in sponsor revenue. The forecast was \$20,500.00 and we also met all our contractual obligations to the sponsors.

Please see the half page list of our sponsors in the December issue of the SaddleBrooke progress newspaper. Remember these sponsors want to do some business with YOU. Please give them an opportunity to compete for your business when the situation arises. See you on the course.

Larry McNamee
Sponsorship Committee Chairman

Handicap

Gentlemen, there are some changes coming in 2024 in the WHS (World Handicap System). There are three main changes to be aware of.

Below is a quick summary of those changes from the USGA. Number two and three are the ones that will impact our indexes. If you have questions, let us know.

Introduced in January 2020, the World Handicap System was based upon three key principles: Be inclusive, provide a consistent measure of ability, and remain modern. Four years later, with the first revision to the WHS set for this January, those same principles apply to the main changes going into effect, namely:

1) A lower minimum length for a golf course to obtain a Course Rating™ and Slope Rating™

Under the current system, an 18-hole course must be at least 3,000 yards to receive a Course Rating and Slope Rating (or 1,500 yards for 9 holes). Starting in 2024, the yardage requirements will be cut in half, to 1,500 and 750 yards, respectively. This is good news for golfers who regularly play par-3 and shorter-length courses and have wanted those scores to count toward their Handicap Index®.

2) A new treatment of 9-hole scores

Today, 9-hole scores are combined in the order posted to create an 18-hole Score Differential™. This means that a 9-hole score shot today could be combined with a 9-hole score from days, weeks, or even months before – which can lead to volatile results. Beginning in 2024, when a player posts a 9-hole score, it will be combined with their expected Score Differential over 9 holes to create an 18-hole Score Differential for immediate use – with expected score based on the player's Handicap Index at the time the round is played as well as a course of standard difficulty.

3) An updated approach for holes not played

At present when a hole isn't played (due to darkness, for example), the score recorded is a net par. When the 2024 revision goes into effect, when 10-17 holes are played, an 18-hole Score Differential will be determined by adding the player's Score Differential from the holes played to an expected Score Differential for the number of holes not played. Since a player's expected score is not specific to a course or reliant upon the course's stroke index allocation (as net par is today), this will lead to more consistency.

We will be sending out more information regarding #3 posting requirements.

Tim Ward
Handicap Committee Chairman

Treasury

No news this month.

Fred Kjar
Treasurer

Member's Corner

We welcome constructive suggestions or comments. The editor reserves the right to edit or condense for space purposes.

Helpful Information on our Web Site

Visit our Web Site at <http://www.mountainviewmensgolf.org> for the most updated information on M-PMGA business. You will find a wealth of information at your fingertips.

Contact Information for Questions/Comments

For questions, comments, and suggestions you want directed to:

President: Dick Helms
520-825-0205

Vice President: Gary Barnard
810-730-3540

Treasurer: Fred Kjar
520-825-1726

Secretary / Publicity: Jim Grosjean
615-870-4336

Sponsorship Chair: Larry McNamee
262-251-2156

Tournament Director: Tony VanNatter
520-333-4245

Special Events Director: Pete Lima
616-366-2904

Membership Chair: Dave Quesnell
949-280-3946

Handicap Chair: Tim Ward
520-825-2823

Rules Chair: Phil Gray
520-406-1487

