

## **We're Back!**

Your newsletter staff apologizes for the lack of communication in recent weeks. A combination of work and family issues has conspired to keep us silent. Consider this one a news magazine, as we have a lot of things to cover.

## **Tournament Highlights—San Marcos, Legend at Arrowhead and Corte Bella**

We continue to have a West Valley-dominated schedule early in 2020, with our last two events well beyond the 101. All the important stats are in the table below. Here are a few highlights:

- Dave Dean's win at San Marcos was his 3<sup>rd</sup> straight, making him the second player to pull off three in a row in the current SGL season. It was also his 4<sup>th</sup> in 5 weeks.
- Legend at Arrowhead continues to be tough on our field. The average gross of 97.2 was second only to Troon North in terms of difficulty in the '19-'20 season.
- None of the last three courses has surrendered a sub-80 round.
- The variable nature of our new Skins format was on display at Corte Bella. On the Gross side, only three were earned at \$25 apiece. In Net, ten were handed out at just \$7 each.
- Birdies have been difficult to come by, but Deuces have been darned near extinct. Only one 2 has been paid out over the last three weeks.

## **Next Up—Palm Valley (North/South)**

We're out west yet again this week, at Wigwam's neighbor, Palm Valley, on their North and South nines. We visited this track on this same weekend one year ago on its South and West nines. We shot a collective 93.5, so this should provide a solid test of golf.

This one is a 7:30 start, with tee times. Check the Facebook page later this week for Saturday's tee assignments and pairings.



*You may want to stay to the right on the par-5 9<sup>th</sup> hole of Palm Valley's North nine.*

## **Olympian!**

For the second year in a row, SGL veteran Jim Bieleniewicz qualified for the Senior Olympics, which will take place in Ft. Lauderdale in 2021. Jim shot a 75 at Palmbrook Golf Club in Sun City to make it in his age group.

## **An Ace for Charity**

After our San Marcos event on February 15, Dave Dean stuck around and took a shot at their Chandler Rotary Club Charity Hole-in-One event. With the hole set at 100 yards, Dave dropped one right in. No report on what the prize was for the day.

**February 15, 2020  
Daily Prize Winners**

1 — Martin Finnegan, Mesa	hole-in-one
2 — Dave Dean, Fountain Hills	hole-in-one
3 — Cecil Gregory, Glendale	1"
4 — Ryan Nevitt, Gilbert	12 1/2 "
5 — Cynthia Cannaert, Chandler	12 3/4 "
6 — Bill Weis, Chandler	13 "

**Orange Tree Make-Up Date**

As you know by now, we experienced a rare rainout at Orange Tree on February 21. Course Coordinator June Vutrano has secured a make-up date. We will play the course on Sunday, March 29 at 7:15 AM. You may sign up at the web site.

**Match Play**

SGL's 2020 Individual Match Play Championship is down to its final round. The round-robin bracket setup produced four clear finalists, with Jeff Coughran, Steve Neil, Dan Gallegos and Dave Dean all going 3-0 in their respective groups.

**SMAILS BRACKET**

Player	W	L	T
Jeff Coughran	3	0	0
Bo Montgomery	2	1	0
Amy Arnold	0	2	1
Rich Perry	0	2	1

**SPACKLER BRACKET**

Player	W	L	T
Dave Dean	3	0	0
Elmer Schmidt	2	1	0
Kris Saccuci	1	2	0
Mike Tobin	0	3	0

**CZERVIK BRACKET**

Player	W	L	T
Steve Neil	3	0	0
Val LeChuga	2	1	0
Adam Dizes	0	2	1
Ben Goodwin	0	2	1

**NOONAN BRACKET**

Player	W	L	T
Dan Gallegos	3	0	0
Joe Pilewicz	1	1	0
George Banach	1	2	0
June Vutrano	0	2	0

The rainout at Orange Tree threw a wrench into the scheduling, so Jeff and Steve played their semifinal outside a regular SGL event, choosing Encanto as the venue. Jeff prevailed in that match, 2 and 1. It was tightly contested throughout, with Jeff leading through the first 9 holes, then Steve winning the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> to take a 1-up lead. Jeff evened it on the 13<sup>th</sup>, then won 14 and 16 to go 2-up. When they halved the 17<sup>th</sup> hole, the match was over.

The Dan vs. Dave match took place at Legend at Arrowhead. It was back-and-forth early, as they constantly traded one-hole leads over the first 9, not halving a single hole. Dan took command on the match with a three-hole winning streak from their 11<sup>th</sup> thru 13<sup>th</sup> to go 4-up with five to play. Dave rallied to get it back to 2-down with 3 to play, but Dan's par won their 17<sup>th</sup> hole and gave him a 3 and 1 victory.

Travel schedules will prevent the final happening this week, so the Dan vs. Jeff championship match and the Steve vs. Dave 3<sup>rd</sup> place match are now slated for next week at Superstition Springs. Good luck, gentlemen!

**Cup Race Shaping Up**

We are just beyond two-thirds of the way through our 2019-20 regular season, with ten events left prior to the Tony Albrecht Cup Playoffs. Any member who has played in at least eight events qualifies. We are currently on pace to have 64 players reach that threshold, pointing us toward a three-flight playoff structure.

If the season were to end today, below would be the top seven players for seeding in each of the three flights. Your qualifying points are determined by your accumulated Cup Points (from finishing 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> in your flight each week), your number of events played and your number of flight wins.

### Flight 1--Current Indices 3.1 to 11.1

Player		Handicap Index	SGL Cup Points	Events Played	Flight Wins	Total Points
Dave	Dean	9.4	58	25	5	88
Dan	Gallegos	10.7	39	20	2	61
Bob	Owen	6.7	38	16	3	57
Bo	Montgomery	6.7	35	18	2	55
Elmer	Schmidt	9.1	31	19	3	53
JR	Blaszek	5.4	33	13	4	50
John	Wilhelm	10.4	27	19	3	49

### Flight 2--Current Indices 12.3 to 17.7

Player		Handicap Index	SGL Cup Points	Events Played	Flight Wins	Total Points
Val	LeChuga	17.5	37	16	4	57
Jeff	Coughran	16.3	38	14	4	56
Ben	Goodwin	12.3	30	18	1	49
Ron	Sweat	12.5	28	15	2	45
George	Banach	14.8	22	21	2	45
Mike	Tobin	16.6	26	17	1	44
Brennan	Murray	17.7	35	6	3	44

### Flight 3--Current Indices 18.1 to 34.4

Player		Handicap Index	SGL Cup Points	Events Played	Flight Wins	Total Points
Richard	Perry	23.7	40	23	4	67
June	Vutrano	19.9	31	21	2	54
Nandita	Shah	32.5	36	11	2	49
Lori	Neiderman	33.6	32	14	2	48
Lovell	Robinson	32.2	26	19	3	48
Amy	Arnold	18.1	26	17	0	43
Frank	Vutrano	26.5	29	11	1	41

Why show seven places? Because in the final round, a player can move all the way from 7<sup>th</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> place, and with this year's championship round being contested on the treacherous Las Sendas course, that kind of movement is very possible.

Again, there are 10 events remaining in our regular season. If you are currently short of the eight you need, be sure to sign up now to make sure you can get in on the fun!

**Fist Bumps, Elbow Touches, Etc.**

In light of the coronavirus panic, SGL encourages its members to use their best judgment regarding handshakes and other contact. Keep watch of the news to see how long this may persist.

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