

# **SGL WEEKLY TEE**

**HOLE IN ONE ALERT!**



**Congratulations to Bo Montgomery who ACED the 8th hole at Bear Creek Golf Complex last Saturday. According to Bo: "The hole was playing 150-ish and a little uphill. Wind was into our face. I played a chippy 7-iron to keep it low out of the wind and hit it a little fat. Ball mark was about 15 feet in front of the hole. Tom beat me to the hole and found my ball at the bottom of the cup. The sun was in our face so I didn't get to see it go in."**

**In case you don't recognize him, Bo is on the far left in the picture, along with Steve Park and Ken Slagle. A HUGE congratulations to Bo... that chippy shot earned him \$710. Time to fill up the kitty again!**

## DID YOU KNOW?

**Did you know there is a Guinness Book world record for the longest putt ever made? This record wouldn't hold up on the PGA Tour because the stroke is considered a putt only if the ball is lying on the green. However, in February 2017, at Point Walter Golf Club in Australia, a team of trick shot experts recorded a putt of 395 feet.**

## SGL RULE OF THE WEEK

Let's say you're on the tee box gazing into a beautiful fairway of lush winter rye grass. There's a long bunker along the left side and wild desert on the right side lined with white stakes. Remember, white stakes indicate OB (out of bounds). Focusing on perfect form, you whip your driver around and connect with your brand new, shiny golf ball. As your shaft rests on your shoulder, you watch your ball soaring down the right side of the fairway... it takes a nasty bounce and veers off into the thick desert. You whisper to yourself, "Aw shucks, what do I do now?" Welcome to the Desert Rule.

**Desert Rule:** The SGL has established a desert rule to help pace of play. If a ball comes to rest in a natural desert area or in an area landscaped to resemble a natural desert, a player may either choose to hit their ball from the desert with no penalty or take a drop as if the ball entered a lateral hazard. If a player chooses to play from the desert, grounding the club and moving loose impediments will be allowed with no penalty including the desert is marked as a penalty area by the local golf course. The following rule definitions will be applied to taking a drop from the desert with a 1 stroke penalty:

A) A player has 60 seconds to locate their ball in the desert to have the option to play from the desert. The 60 second clock starts once the player starts their search in the desert area. After the 60 seconds search in the desert, the player must abandon their search in the desert and the ball cannot be played from the desert even if found after the 60 seconds. Searching for a ball outside of the desert can continue based on USGA rules searching for lost balls. The following gives examples based on USGA rules of 3 minutes of search time for lost balls: Player hits ball toward desert area but ball may have come to rest in fairway/rough. Player may spend 3 minutes searching for ball in fairway/rough but only 1 minute of search can be spent on searching for ball in desert. After spending 1 minute of search in desert, player must abandon search in desert and may continue the remaining time of the 3 minutes searching fairway/rough. B) The margin of the desert is the line established by the end of the grass line and the beginning of the desert area.

C) The original ball does not have to be found to apply the "Desert Rule" when there is reasonable certainty that the ball did in fact come to rest in the desert / rough and searching for the ball would likely delay play.

D) If the ball is clearly hit out of bounds or in a desert area where an out of bounds designated area or marker exists, a provisional ball must be played. All players are encouraged to hit provisional balls when hitting into the desert where houses or out-of-bound markers are clearly seen in the desert. There will be no consensus by the group on this ruling. The ball must be found in the desert and in bounds to apply the desert rule. If the ball is not found in 3 minutes the provisional ball must be played which will apply the stroke and distance penalty prescribed by the USGA rule for a ball hit out of bounds. If a provisional ball was not played, the desert rule will be applied based on the following:

- The player will play the next shot using one of the four SGL desert options outlined below. There will not be an additional penalty on top of the 2-stroke penalty for taking the drop. Per USGA rules, there are four options a player may take for a penalty area with a 1 stroke penalty. The point of entry into the desert as a lateral hazard will be the grass line for the hole (fairway or rough). [See Figure 1](#) for point of entry example.

**Option 1:** (Stroke and distance) - A player may choose to take a drop as close as possible from that player's previous shot (no closer to the hole). If the previous shot was the first shot for the hole from the tee box, the player may re-tee or place the ball in the tee box using the same tee markers as the previous shot.

**Option 2:** A player may take a drop from the point of entry the ball crossed into the desert as far back as desired. The player must keep a direct line with the flag and the point of entry into the desert when taking a drop. [See Figure 2 Option 2.](#)

**Option 3:** A player may take a 2-club length lateral drop from the point of entry into the desert (no closer to the hole). [See Figure 2 Option 3.](#)

**Option 4:** A player may take a 2-club length lateral drop from the opposite side of the desert (if there is a fairway/rough on the opposite side of the desert). The ball cannot be placed any closer to the hole from the original entry point into the desert. See [Figure 3 Option 4.](#) The player will not be allowed to go back to hit a provisional ball unless the ball never crossed a grass-line (fairway or rough) from their previous shot. If the player is unable to go back to hit a provisional ball, this would be equivalent to not finishing the hole and picking their ball up off-the-green and taking max allowable score MAS (see MAS below).

- If a player's ball is hit out of bounds or lost, a player may invoke the local rule known as the E-5 rule. Drop a ball two club lengths in the fairway, no closer to the hole, from the point the player believes the ball was lost. The player must take a two-stroke penalty. You may not use this rule on the original ball if you have hit a provisional ball. You may use the rule on your provisional ball if it is lost or out of bounds. You may not use this rule if your ball is lost in a penalty area (formerly known as a hazard). The rule has been recommended by the USGA and R&A to speed-up play. For more information, refer to this [video](#).

E) If a player chooses to apply the "Desert Rule", and the point of entry is in question, the player and playing group must agree to the point of entry by consensus opinion. Consensus means a majority of the playing group of which the player is a part of.

F) A provisional ball should be played if the ball does not clearly pass over a grass area. If the playing group cannot reach a consensus opinion about the point of entry into the desert a provisional ball should immediately be played.

## **MATCH PLAY UPDATE**

**The second round of Match Play was tense! Congrats to Mitchell Bacon, Joe Pilewicz, Tom Hegna, Ken Slagle, Chris Cabat, George Banach and Amy Arnold for winning their Match Play last Saturday.**

**Match Play is on vacation this Saturday... so the next round of Match Play is scheduled for Saturday, Mar. 5th, at Aguila Golf Course.**

## BEAR CREEK RECAP - 2.19.2022

A group of 43 golfers took to the links last Saturday at Bear Creek Golf Complex, and what a day it was!

Amy Arnold decided to back up to the white tees to garner 10 strokes and took Flight 1 with a 68 net - aw shucks. Joe Pilewicz had a banner day with a 69 net in a close race to take Flight #2 - nice! June Vutrano tallied a 69 net to take Flight #3 - sweet! Kevin Hudspeth had a huge day with a 64 net to take Flight #4. And Lou Terranova grabbed the top spot in the Callaway flight with a 73 net - awesome!

Seven deuces were circled on the scorecard for Gareth Broudy, Wayne Fox, Jim Dragon, John Wilhelm, Jim Bieleniewicz, Stephen Park and George Banach. Edward Salanga and Justin Szela snagged an Eagle. And of course, Bo Montgomery had the ACE! Nice job guys!

George Banach was the Greens Whisperer with only 28 putts - amazing!

CTPs were taken home by Ken Slagle, George Banach, Jim Bieleniewicz and there was one other one... who was that... oh yes, Bo Montgomery with his hole in one - doesn't get closer than that!

Top money winner was none other than Bo Montgomery with \$798 - sweet as sugar!

Congrats to all winners at Bear Creek!

## RINGERS UPDATE

The two remaining Ringers dates at San Marcos: 3/12 and 4/2. The cost is \$25 to enter, and you can still enter! Here are the current standings: [Net Ringers](#) [Gross Ringers](#)

## NEXT ON THE TEE

Go Lopes! Originally called the Maryvale Golf Course constructed in 1961, our next event is at [Grand Canyon University Golf Course](#) on Saturday, Feb. 26. This event has a Tee Time start of 10:52am and the cost of the round is \$107 plus additional side games.

### Base Tees

Male Tee: White 68.4/120 6089 yards Par 71

Female Tee: Red 68.2/115 5079 yards Par 71

CTP's: #2, #8, #11 and #13 Hole In One Pool: **\$0.00**

*Reminder: Signups and cancelations must be done before Wednesday at 11:59pm by email or text.*

## PALM SPRINGS!!

Palm Springs road trip! Start planning now for the weekend of 4/29, 4/30 and 5/1. Click here to see a flyer: [SGL Palm Springs](#)

AirBNB, Vrbo, Hotels.com... it's time to start planning a memorable weekend in beautiful Palm Springs. To save a little on lodging, you might also check out nearby Yucca Valley.

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## Handy Links

[Golf Genius Portal](#) -- For the 2021 – 2022 SGL Season (Need to bookmark for tee sheets and results)

[SGL Schedule](#)

[SGL Facebook Page](#)

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