



EL PRADO MEN'S GOLF CLUB

6555 Pine Avenue ♦ Chino, California 91710 ♦ 909-597-1753

www.elpradomensclub.com

Volume XLIX

May 2025

2024-2025 Board of Directors

Danny Ortiz President/Membership
 Mark Rief Communications
 Wayne Nichols Bookkeeper/Treasurer
 Scott Harlin Treasurer/Membership
 Gil Vicario Social/Membership

Doug Benc Golf Competitions
 Gary Abbott Golf Competitions
 Lance Ford Social/Golf Competitions
 Tim Sleeper Handicap
 Art Guevara Director of Golf Courses

President's Message

I Hope everyone had a wonderful Easter Sunday surrounded by family and friends! What a beautiful day it was.

I want to take a moment to extend a big thank you to Frank, Danielle, Art, and Rich for everything you do for El Prado Golf Courses. The recent improvements to both courses have not gone unnoticed. The transformation has been remarkable, and it's truly appreciated by all our members. We're excited to see the continued progress and can't wait for the final results. If you get the chance, don't hesitate to thank the El Prado staff and ownership in person—they've earned it.

Additionally, the board is considering offering Zelle as a payment option for future tournaments. Please share your thoughts or feedback with any board member.

See you soon,
Danny Ortiz, President



Your leaders hard at work at the monthly board meeting

UPCOMING DATES

May 13
Online Tournament
Signups Close

May 17
2 Man Better Ball
4 Club Red Tees

May 20
Derby

June 5-7
Getaway

June 17
Online Tournament
Signups Close

June 21
2 Man Scramble

June 24
Derby

SIGNUPS

Saturday Skins
(772) 408-2421
dbenc@ap.org

Tuesday Skins

Tournament News

The April tournament enjoyed great weather and a full field. 92 players competed for \$4,232 in payouts. The 5-4-3 Out format always gives us hope during the round, knowing that a blow-up hole won't hurt our score.



We had one unfortunate situation: There was a no-show at the check-in table, but the first player on the waitlist was standing by, so he took the spot. The original player showed up later, only to find but his spot was already filled. We always put the closing time in the tee time email, usually 45 minutes before the last tee time, so everyone knows. Another lesson to read your emails and be on time!



We had three 50/50 winners with \$110 each: Dan Hughes, Colby Poh, and Victor Sanchez. Lyle Furgeson won the free round of golf.

Pairing requests have gotten out of hand. This month the tournament had 37 requests – many of them impossible. The most common problems are requests to play with somebody who is on the other course or has not signed up. We understand you don't know if you're going to be on the same course as your buddy, but if he doesn't sign up, your request will be ignored. Every player is responsible to sign himself up by clicking a button in the email invite – not sure how we make that easier. One member requested to play with any of 5 players, but 2 were not playing and 3 were on the other course. After the pairings came out he asked to play with three other players. The answer is NO – once we balance the flights, set the pairings, and print the scorecards, we're not going back. Another player had to play after 10:00. With the last time at 8:51, that's not going to happen. Sorry!

The good news is the closest markers were handled very well this month, so thanks to the first and last groups for taking care of them.

We had pace of play issues on Butterfield Stage. The last groups teed off 25 minutes late, which may not be under our control. But the groups at the front and middle of the field spread out, with some groups 1-2 holes behind, and that **is** under our control. I spoke to some of the players and was told "There's nobody waiting on us" and "It was wide open in front of us when we started". So clearly, some of you need

to go back and re-read Doug's column from last month.

The board decided it's time to **PLAY THE BALL DOWN**. That's right – we think the course is ready to play golf without preferred lies. This applies to **all skins games and tournaments** until further notice.

On the financial side, Zelle works well for the Getaway, so Scott and Wayne are looking to see if we could use it to pay for monthly tournaments. There are some details to be worked out, but we will keep you posted.

May 17th is our next tournament, the 2 Man 4 Clubs – Red Tees Better Ball. Look for on-line signups to open early again! Tournament signups will close Tuesday May 13th. Sign your team up early to guarantee a spot. Online signups will close earlier if the player limit is reached before May 13th. We will confirm the roster of players in email on Wednesday May 14th before the tournament, and release tee times and pairings Friday May 16th.

It's a TEAM event and only one member needs to signup/register your team in GG.

When Signups open, please follow these steps to register:

Step 1. You or your Playing Partner will need to navigate through the signup confirmation buttons below by checking playing.

Step 2. Click on the signup other members link scroll and add your playing partner's name.

Step 3. If you choose - you or your Playing Partner can SEND message to the manager either noting your TEAM PAIRING and/or include any special requests in your message.

Step 4. Hit the SEND button.

The tee sheet link in Golf Genius will populate names for the confirmed list of players. Pairings will not appear until TEAMS are made on the back end in Golf Genius. As always, be assured we will monitor signups closely and communicate with you if there are any issues. Registered players should get a Golf Genius automated signup confirmation email.

Finally, it will be important this month to talk early with your team partner and make sure they are playing before you sign up! If you are a single with no partner, please sign up as a single making a note in Golf Genius to the manager and we will try our best to pair you up with another single. Remember that we cap our tournament size and will place players on a waitlist if reached. If you're lost in the

signup process, or need any assistance please communicate with us.

This month: 2 Man 4 Clubs – Red Tees Better Ball tournament - AB flights will be on Butterfield and CD Flights will be on Chino Creek.

Mark Rief, Communications
Gary Abbott, Golf Competitions

Spring Golf is Here!

Welcome to Spring. Golf starts to get serious now that the weather is changing, and the punched greens are recovering. The course is in excellent shape and getting better every week.



I know some of you have seen some of the changes we have made in the Saturday Skins flights. We are always trying to ensure the flights are fair and attempt to keep them as equal as we can within those flights. We do not like to make changes very often, because it can be confusing to members trying to remember what flight you fall into. Until further notice, the flights below are what we are using for Saturday Skins.

**A Flight: 7.5 and below
Blue Tees (Both Courses)**

**B Flight: 7.6 - 14.6
Blue Tees on Butterfield
White Tees on Chino Creek**

**C Flight: 14.7 and above
White Tees (Both Courses)**

Another change is that we are **playing the ball down** again. No more lift clean and place until further notice. As I stated above, the course is in as good of shape as it's been in many years, and this is a natural progression back to normalizing golf for our members.

With that said, the course is doing a great job in defining the fairways and that means the rough will be thicker. Please do your best to help other golfers watch their tee shot so that everyone can help find those balls in the rough. You still need to ensure that you don't spend more than 3 minutes looking for your ball.

A couple of notes to remind us all to help out all our members and the club.

- No more than two carts in any group. If you want your own cart, you must talk with the pro shop and have it approved.
- Pace of play is based on keeping up with the group in front of you, not staying ahead of the group behind you.
- At the end of the round, please bring your card to the scorekeeper immediately before going to your car or hanging out in the parking lot.
- Be on the tee ready to hit before the group ahead of you has left the fairway on #1.
- Have fun and enjoy the game. It makes it better for everyone you are playing with.

Thanks,
Doug Benc, Golf Competitions

TOP 25 - 2024-2025

Rank	Name	Total
1	Patel, Amaan	614
2	Kramer, John	585
3	Montelongo, Cruz	535
4	Collins, Nick	522
5	Bruder, Thomas	517
6	Moir, Justin	477
7	Bates, Patrick	471
8	Cabezas, Cali	455
9	Ortiz, Danny	448
10	Dufour, Jerry	433
10	Willman, Jason	433
12	Moir, James	430
13	Deshay, Stan	424
14	Walsh, James	423
15	Earhart, Tom	418
16	Gonzalez, Paul	414
17	Tamashiro, Wes	410
18	Lovell, Ron	380
19	Nichols, Wayne	380
20	Barcenas, Cristhian	357
21	Cabezas, Alberto	337
22	Boucher, Norm	334
23	Johnson, Kelly	334
24	Baker, Clarence	333
25	Rief, Mark	332

Derby News

We held our first Derby of the year on April 15 after Tuesday's skins game. Seven teams competed for the \$170 pot. All each team had to do was outlast 3 other teams to go for the money on hole 5. The four teams left standing were Doug Benc & Lawrence Renteria, Tom Earhart & Gary Moore, Tim Sleeper & Danny Ortiz and Dave Lorenz with Pat Bates. Doug & Lawrence tied Tom & Gary with bogey. Tom & Gary took home 3rd Place as their sand shot in the chip off edged out Doug's very good attempt. Tim & Danny tied Dave & Pat with Par. In no surprise to anyone, the team with Pat (Derby Killer) Bates prevailed as he and Dave Lorenz took home 1st place money with the better of the two sand shots, leaving Tim & Danny the 2nd spot.



The next Derby is May 12. We will check in at 4:00, draw partners, and tee off at 4:30. We would love to see you there!

In case you forgot, this is a 5-hole horse race on Tuesday afternoon after the monthly tournament. It is alternate shot with a blind draw partner, focused on fun. It's a great opportunity to play with somebody new, from places you may have never played from.

We play the holes together as a group, so if you've never seen 20 carts on the fairway at the same time, you won't want to miss it. And when we reach the green, we putt out closest to farthest. The highest scores on each hole earn the team an early exit, with ties broken by a chip-off. It's only a \$5 buy in, and the club sweetens the pot with an extra \$100.

Lance Ford, Social/Golf Competitions

Getaway News

Thank you to all the players that have signed up for the Getaway. We had a mad rush on tournament day to beat the deadline, and we should have a great crowd. We are finalizing tee times with the golf courses and will send out golf details to those attending shortly.



If you have not done so, please make sure to make your room reservation at CasaBlanca as soon as possible, before they release what's remaining in our block of rooms.

Scott Harlin, Treasurer

Eric Hagelberg 1959-2025



Former member Eric Hagelberg passed away on Saturday April 12.

Eric was an active member for over 30 years, during which time he served on the board, published the newsletter, won several tournaments and the President's Cup. He had a wonderful upbeat

approach to the game of golf, and was always a pleasure to play with.

After experiencing some memory issues, he was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's and moved to Texarkana three years ago.

A Celebration of Life will be held at El Prado on Sunday May 18 at 2 PM. If you plan to attend, please answer [this Invitation](#), or let me know directly, so that we can estimate the food.

Mark Rief, Communications

Pro's Corner

Congratulations to the winner of our St. Patrick days promo, the winner (Nestor Y) won a set of Callaway Elite golf clubs along with a driver, putter, wedges and a golf bag. The retail value of the prize is over \$2,000, and we raised \$700 for our El Prado junior golf program. Please stay in tune with us for our next promo, we will be doing a US Open themed drawing.



We are proud to inform everyone of our latest member perks, we now offer grip changing to our members. We found a service that will pick up your clubs from the pro shop on Saturday afternoons and deliver your clubs back here mid-week. They have offered to change your grips for a discounted rate so let the pro shop know if you would like to avail of this service.

I hope everyone is seeing our golf courses bloom after our aerification process last month. Our greens have come back nicely and with our new equipment that we recently purchased, both golf courses are seeing some dramatic changes. Please help me in thanking Richard Lizarraga our outside services manager who most of you know, he and his crew have done amazing enhancements to our golf course.

In the next few months our coveted Summer Golf League will begin with new leadership and new expectations. I am proud to introduce Aaron Fekin, PGA Associate, as the new leader in this very successful player program that El Prado golf club offers. Aaron has informed me that entries have been coming in and a few flights are nearing completion. The summer golf league or SGL is a partner fourball event, it starts at 5:00 pm every Wednesday starting on May 29, 2025, and goes for about 12 weeks. If any of you are interested in

playing, please reach out to Aaron (aaron.fekin@pga.com) and he will make sure to get you and your partner set up. Flights A and B are needing players, if you and your partner fall into the category of shooting scores in the range of 72-80 then your team is classified as an A team, if you and your partner shoot in the range of 80-86 then your team is classified as an B team. The remaining flights are either full or close to being full so please reach out to Aaron for more information.

Lastly, our rules winner of the month was John Kramer. John correctly stated the correct rule in effect when a player hits a provisional ball and the player failed to identify which ball was his original ball. Rule 18.2 is the correct rule for this scenario. We will pass on this month's rules question. I will resume with a rules scenario for next month's newsletter.

Art Guevara, PGA
art@elpradogolfcourses.com



Tournament Results – ILN 5-4-3 Out – April 12, 2025

All payouts are in El Prado Golf Courses scrip. Team payouts will be split.
Complete results are always available at <https://www.golfgenius.com/ggid/epmc>

Individual Low Net 5-4-3 Out

A Flight	Player	To Par	Par 3	Par 4	Par 5	Total	Purse
1	Ortega, Jose	-9	9	30	12	51	\$140
T2	Mouw, Billy	-4	9	34	13	56	\$110
T2	Anderson, Nolan	-4	9	34	13	56	\$110
T4	Dancses, Brian	-2	9	34	15	58	\$80
T4	Mercado, Martin	-2	8	36	14	58	\$80
T4	Deshay, Stan	-2	9	37	12	58	\$80
B Flight	Player	To Par	Par 3	Par 4	Par 5	Total	Purse
T1	Lizarraga, Richard	-6	9	30	15	54	\$120
T1	Gonzalez, Paul	-6	9	31	14	54	\$120
T1	Hughes, Daniel	-6	9	29	16	54	\$120
T4	Cerda, Mario	-5	9	30	16	55	\$80
T4	Davis, Bruce	-5	9	32	14	55	\$80
T4	Johnson, Kelly	-5	9	35	11	55	\$80
C Flight	Player	To Par	Par 3	Par 4	Par 5	Total	Purse
1	Lovell, Ron	-7	8	31	14	53	\$140
T2	Moir, Justin	-5	8	35	12	55	\$110
T2	Anderson, David	-5	10	30	15	55	\$110
T4	Verne, Troy	-4	11	33	12	56	\$85
T4	Bruder, Thomas	-4	7	36	13	56	\$85
T6	Boucher, Norm	-3	6	33	18	57	\$12
T6	Harlin, Steve	-3	8	34	15	57	\$12
T6	Bretado, Henry	-3	10	33	14	57	\$12
T6	Souther, William	-3	10	32	15	57	\$12
T6	Rief, Mark	-3	10	34	13	57	\$12
T6	Rief, Brian	-3	9	34	14	57	\$12
D Flight	Player	To Par	Par 3	Par 4	Par 5	Total	Purse
1	Kramer, John	-9	5	30	16	51	\$140
2	Albany, Ramy	-6	8	34	12	54	\$120
T3	Armijo, Albert J	-5	8	35	12	55	\$90
T3	Walsh, James	-5	8	34	13	55	\$90
T3	Ruiz, Manuel	-5	7	34	14	55	\$90
6	Young, Larry	-4	5	37	14	56	\$70

Total Purse Allocated:
\$2,402.00

Gross Skins

A Flight	Skins	Purse	Details
Mouw, Billy	1	\$36	Birdie on 18
Jones, Brad	1	\$36	Birdie on 7
Ignacz, Ken	1	\$36	Birdie on 16

Patel, Amaan	1	\$36	Birdie on 10
Mercado, Martin	1	\$36	Birdie on 4
Anzora, Nelson	1	\$36	Birdie on 14

B Flight	Skins	Purse	Details
Gonzalez, Paul	2	\$54	Birdie on 4, Eagle on 11
Cerda, Mario	1	\$27	Birdie on 15
Mercado, Ted	1	\$27	Birdie on 14
Tapia, Mike	1	\$27	Birdie on 1
Pierce, James	1	\$27	Birdie on 9
Baker, Clarence	1	\$27	Eagle on 5
Johnson, Kelly	1	\$27	Eagle on 17

C Flight	Skins	Purse	Details
Lovell, Ron	1	\$48	Birdie on 17
Bates, Patrick	1	\$48	Birdie on 11
Boucher, Norm	1	\$48	Birdie on 7
Verne, Troy	1	\$48	Birdie on 9
Aleemuddin, Azam	1	\$48	Birdie on 18

D Flight	Skins	Purse	Details
Young, Larry	1	\$60	Birdie on 17
Renteria, Lawrence	1	\$60	Par on 5
Albany, Ramy	1	\$60	Birdie on 12
Dominguez, Philip	1	\$60	Birdie on 3
Total Purse Allocated: \$912.00			

Closest to the pin

A Flight	Player	Purse	Details
	Anzora, Nelson	\$55	#14 6 ft 11 in
	Ignacz, Ken	\$55	#16 6 ft 11 in
	Mercado, Martin	\$55	#4 9 ft 6 in
	Ford, Dane	\$55	#7 12 ft 8 in
Total Purse Allocated: \$240.00			

B Flight	Player	Purse	Details
	Davis, Bruce	\$55	#14 15 ft 3 in
	Poh, Colby	\$55	#16 5 ft 8 in
	Kostyk, David	\$55	#4 5 ft
	Lizarraga, Richard	\$55	#7 10 ft 4 in
Total Purse Allocated: \$260.00			

C Flight	Player	Purse	Details
	Souther, William	\$60	#14 9 ft 7 in
	Lovell, Ron	\$60	#17 3 ft 8 in
	Estacio, Rod	\$60	#2 3 ft 1 in
	Boucher, Norm	\$60	#7 11 ft 8 in
Total Purse Allocated: \$240.00			

D Flight	Player	Purse	Details
	Kramer, John	\$160	#2 1 ft 5 in, #14 7 ft 1 in
	Jensen, Paul	\$80	#17 8 ft 4 in
Total Purse Allocated: \$240.00			