



The Hawk's Eye February 2022 Newsletter

President's Message, By Doug Korb



We're almost there. It should only be a few more weeks until our fairways turn green and the golf course returns to the conditions we love.

With the improved bunkers and resurrected greens, we should be looking at a great golf course a couple of weeks after the greens are punched. I would say that by mid-April we'll have a prime course to enjoy for the next 6-8 months. We're all looking forward to those conditions again.

Membership Update, By Mike Re



As of February 16th, Redhawk Golfers Club has 107 members. We have one new member since last month.

Please welcome:

Levi Hart

Levi resides in Temecula. Please extend a warm welcome to our new member at our next Tournament.

Multi-Member Rebate Program.

Did you know that the SCGA offers a rebate program for golfers who are members of more than one SCGA club? Please see the Membership page of our club website for more information and the link to the rebate form. [Rebate Program](#)

Handicap Update, By Alan de la Sierra



Stroke Index Allocation

In last month's newsletter, I presented the holes that had the highest differential to par. How does this relate to the Redhawk Golf Course hole handicaps you see on the scorecard or on any course you may play.....[Continue Reading](#)

Rules Update, By Greg Stoffel



More to come next month.

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Tournament Update, By Roger Morey

Apologies for the late scoring results Tuesday. There were some unusual difficulties matching up payments with the team game. However, while there was some inconvenience waiting for results, I want to recognize the fact that **Alan** drove all the way from San Marcos just to fulfill his scoring responsibility; and that **Ken** jumped in to help him clear up the confusion. It's easy to take things for granted but efforts like those need to be recognized and understood.

As a reminder, we have one tournament round a month (3rd Tuesday) and the tournament schedule is on the website for reference. The cost for the tournaments is \$15 plus skins. All other games are \$10 plus skins.

Please always have one envelope per group with all the names listed including the amount paid next to each name (including \$0, if applicable).

February Tournament

Congratulations to **Ken Phipps** who held off a strong field to win our Stableford tournament by 3 shots earlier this month.

Our March tournament will be held on the 15th, and will be the qualifier round for our upcoming match play.

Short Putts

John Beggin Returns.

John is our new Course Superintendent. John welcome back, we look forward to complimenting you often. Please stop by the pro shop on a Tuesday morning and say hi to the Men's Club.

Course Closure.

Redhawk will be **closed for play on March 21 & 22** while the maintenance crew punches the greens. While inconvenient to players this is a very necessary part of golf course maintenance for good greens.

The Board is looking for an alternative site for our March 22nd game. Stay tuned.

Thursday Game, any interest?

Today there are 8-10 guys playing most Thursdays. I've spoken to **Jeff Sampson** (Pro) and **Geno Ketelsleger**, who organizes the Thursday game, about expanding their game. Both have agreed that if we had enough interest, we could block 4-5 tee times and play a more regular game on Thursdays. If this is something you would be interested in, please let myself or Geno know. If we can get some momentum, we'll shoot to do something in February.

Choice of Tees

As agreed upon during our Membership Meeting in December the players were allowed to pick their tee of choice during our game on February 15th (2nd Tuesday of the month). We had 34 players in the game, with 23 playing the combo tees, 9 playing white, and 2 played the blue tees.

12 players won money that day. 2 of them played the white tees, 1 the blue tees, and the remaining 9 winners were on the combo tees.

Over the course of 2 months, we've had 8 KPs under this format. 5 of the winners played the combo tees, while 3 winners played the white tees.

We will continue to track the results through March and determine a go forward plan for tee selection in April.

Player Profile

This month's Player Profile highlights, **John Lopez**. Many thanks to **Don McAuliffe** and John for working together on this. You can learn more about John by visiting his profile. [John Lopez Profile Here](#)

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Sneak Peek Into Next Month's Profile

This world traveler has been to more countries than states in the USA. Name a country and he's probably been there done that. He lost his dad when he was 3, but 7 years later remembers delivering the Santa Monica Evening Outlook to the 30 customers on his newspaper route. By age 15 he had saved up enough working odd jobs to put a down payment on a home his mom bought in Culver City. A brown belt in karate he almost ended up working for the CIA in support of its famously covert Air America operation in Indo China. He has three holes in one to his name and once shot his age – 77. Who am I??

Monthly Video

As we approach the return of Daylight Savings (March 13th) I thought I'd share a few clock lessons with you. I'll bet you'll learn something.

[Lesson #1](#)

[Lesson #2](#)

[Lesson #3](#)

[Lesson #4](#)

Remember, the most important shot in golf is your next shot.

See you in the short grass,
Doug Korb, President

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Stroke Index Allocation

In last month's newsletter, I presented the holes that had the highest differential to par. How does this relate to the Redhawk Golf Course hole handicaps you see on the scorecard or on any course you may play.

Most of us have played a course and we get to the #1 handicap hole and you say to your buddies, "This isn't the hardest hole on this course! Hole X is must harder".

What determines the hole handicap ranking of the 18 holes on any course? Contrary to popular belief, the stroke index is not determined solely on hole difficulty, but also to ensure an equal distribution of strokes are given/ received in a match play competition.

The source for this is the USGA/RA Rules of Handicapping which was revised and updated in January, 2020 as part of the overall "World Handicap System" revision. Appendix E discusses the "Stroke Allocation Index". Per Appendix E,

1. The odd hole numbers should be the front 9 and even index holes in the back 9 which is the case at most golf courses including Redhawk.
2. Strokes are to be allocated in 6 triads over the 18 holes based on the overall difficulty of the holes relative to par.
3. Allocate the stroke holes evenly over the 18 holes so players have the opportunity to use a high proportion of these strokes before the match has been decided.
4. Apply the lowest stroke index hole (1 or 2) on each nine in the middle triad (e.g. 4-6, 13-15) where possible. If not place it, end of first triad or the beginning of the last triad (e.g. hole 3 or 7, hole 12 or 16).
5. Apply the second lowest stroke index hole (3 or 4) in either the first and third triad unless the 1 or 2 index hole was placed in the same triad.
6. If possible, avoid consecutive low stroke index holes (6 or less) on consecutive holes.
7. The SCGA recommends "... in the event of a hole-by-hole playoff, the club should consider not placing lower numbered strokes on the first and second holes".

After all that, pretty simple task??? Take the chart from the last newsletter and try it for yourself. See how you would allocate the hole handicaps given the above guidelines. They are guidelines, not rules and there will always be exceptions and the course management can decide to override the recommendations. Many courses have the 9th or 18th hole as their signature hole which may result in that being the #1 handicap hole. Look at the PGA West Stadium Course. Holes 9 & 18 are their #1 & #2 handicap holes respectively. Obviously, they departed from the above recommendation.

The most difficult hole on the course generally will not be the #1 rated hole. Redhawk's hole #5 could be up for an argument. It looks much harder from the black tees than the whites. It is all uphill with a narrow entry. Then again, Hole 2 looks pretty daunting from the tips with trouble down the entire left side, deep sand traps guarding the green, the green runs at an angle narrowing the landing area and don't hit it long over the back of the green. The Men's club scoring record says Hole #2 is harder but we play from the white tees. Both look pretty hard to me but Hole #5 is located in the middle triad so it makes sense based on the USGA recommendations. The next time, you stand on the #1 handicap hole. See if it is in the 2nd triad or not. Even if it does not seem like the most difficult hole, now you have an idea why.