

Club News January 2026



President: Randy Gilpin

Happy New Year!

If the rain ever stops we can get back out to the course and begin another enjoyable year of golf. The tournament schedule for 2026 is posted now on the website (thanks to new webmaster Paul Collins) and several events will be upon us before we know it.

Get your entry in NOW for the home tournament on January 15. The deadline is tomorrow (1/2).

The re-scheduled El Cariso away event follows later in the month.

A unique event each January is the Jack and Jill tournament presented as a joint venture by our club and the Vista Ladies Golf Club. On Tuesday, January 27 mixed teams of ladies and senior men will compete in a scramble tournament at Vista Valencia in a format similar to our recent December scramble. Shotgun start is set for 8:00 AM, with lunch and presentation of cash awards following in the clubhouse. The entry fee for this special event is \$63, which can be paid in any of the usual ways – Zelle to Roger, check in the box at the course, or check in the mail – with the exception that checks should be mailed directly to me rather than to Risto or Bill. Entry deadline is Friday, January 16.

My address: Randy Gilpin
28130 Caraway Lane
Santa Clarita, CA 91350

There is no usual entry form for this event as ladies submit entries to their club and men to me. However, I must receive some form of written communication from you, either note in the mail or an email, and confirmation that entry has been paid by the deadline.

I look forward to seeing you all teeing it up this year!



Local Tournament Chairman: Risto Salo

Hello Fellow Golfers,

We all enjoyed the December Scramble tournament. Thanks to the Vista Course for setting up a nice lunch area for use.

Our next home tournament is a Low Net event on January 15th. Entry deadline is Friday Jan 2nd. Enter now. I will be picking up any entries in the course box on Tuesday the 6th.

Our agreement with the Vista course is that we must provide a head count and a payment 8 days prior to the tournament. I can add a player if there is room in an existing foursome, but cannot add a foursome. I can drop you from the tournament if needed. You would get a refund of entry fees only if there is someone on the wait list willing to take your place.

During the winter rainy season, only the Vista course management has the option to cancel a tournament. If the course is open and playable, our tournament will proceed. I cannot refund any money if you decide not to play.

To enter a tournament:

- Electronic form on the website (under the “More” heading select “Vista Event)
- Manual entry form (under the “Events” heading and scroll to the bottom of the tournament schedule page), print and fill out. Place it in the box at the course or mail to my address.

To pay for a tournament:

- Checks should be placed in the box at the course or mailed to my address.
- Zelle payments go to VVSMGC@gmail.com

Thank you,

See you at the course,
Risto Salo
Local Tournament Chairman
ristosalo@ca.rr.com
661-644-1209
27492 Bridgewater Dr
Valencia CA 91354



Handicap Chairman & Web Master: Paul Collins

Gentlemen,

I hope you all enjoyed a great holiday with family and friends!

I am looking forward to getting all of the website updates done for the beginning of the year and appreciate your patience as I learn new skills! As Randy mentioned, the Tournament Schedule and Entry Forms are ready now.

Keep posting all your scores! If, you are having problems entering your scores into the handicap system, contact me (pmcd0583@gmail.com). Note- this is also the email you will be receiving Blind Bogey emails from starting in January.

Fun golf fact- The insurance companies that underwrite hole in one contests figure the odds of an amateur making a hole in one to be 12,500 to 1. I am waiting for my first- seems like I may have quite a long time to wait.

Stay dry,
Paul



Away Event Chairman: Bill Westcott

Happy New Year! For 2026 we will have an away tournament each month. We will begin with a tournament at El Cariso on Thursday January 22nd. The future away tournaments can be seen on our website at "Events".

The best way to enter an away tournament is to use the "internet" entry form on the website at "Signups". After completing the form in its entirety, click on "Submit" and I will receive it immediately. Please be sure to tell me how your entry fee will be received (Zelle, US Mail or in the drop box at Vista). Please tell me the amount of your entry fee. This tells me if you are entering the tournament as a senior or a super senior.

This year we will again compete in the inter club competition with senior clubs from DeBell, Knollwood, Buenaventura and Simi Hills (new to the competition). The schedule for this year's matches is not out yet. When I receive it, it will be posted. I will provide additional information regarding the interclub competition in my February newsletter.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have regarding away tournaments and/or the interclub competition.



Membership Chairman: Gary Hallden

We begin the month of January with a total of 144 members. During the month of December, we gained two new members. Tim Hoggatt (70 years old) joined our Club on 12/28 and Peter Kaulbach (67 years old) joined our Club on 12/4. Welcome to our Club gentlemen! I'm sure that you'll enjoy meeting and playing with all our Club members.

Happy Birthday to all our golfers born during the month of January! The following 13 members will officially become one year older: Greg Corralejo (77), Steven Graham (65), Richard Jones (79), Surapon Keawprasert (64), Don Laird (68), Zachary Levy (65), Patrick Murphy (64), Gene Pepi (72), Duane Potts (80), Tony Shields (68), Eun Shin (82), Randy Volar (68), and Mike Wilson (79). Gentlemen, we hope all of you enjoy many more years of health and fun golf days!

Sadly, 2025 has been a bad year for some of our members battling various medical issues. Our members have had to deal with various medical problems including bone surgeries as well as various forms of cancer. We will continue to hope and pray for all our members, asking for a speedy recovery for all of them.

Due to the Hoilday Season, we had no Blind Bogey Events during the last two weeks of December. We will resume our weekly Blind Bogey Events every Tuesday beginning on January 6, 2026.

Our Board Members and the majority of our Club Members discourage "slow" play. Please follow and enforce the "3-minute rule" when looking for a lost ball. Additionally, every player in each foursome should watch each other's shot, which will increase the chances of locating a lost ball.

I hope all of you have a great New Year with many good rounds of golf during 2026!

Gary Hallden, Membership/Blind Bogey Chairman



Treasurer: Roger Jackson

Setting up Zelle is simple, and there are two ways to do it: through your bank or through the Zelle app. Sending your entry fees to VVSMGC goes to: vvsmgc@gmail.com

Option 1: Set Up Zelle Through Your Bank

Most major U.S. banks already include Zelle in their mobile banking apps.

Steps

1. Open your bank's mobile app (or log in on to the website).
2. Look for "Send Money," "Payments," "Transfers," or "Zelle."

Select Zelle®.

3. Enter your email address or U.S. mobile phone number to enroll.
4. Choose the bank account you want to link to Zelle.
5. Verify enrollment (usually via a code sent to email or text).

You're done! You can now send or receive money.

Option 2: Set Up Zelle Using the Zelle App Use this only if your bank doesn't offer Zelle.

Steps

1. Download the Zelle® app from the App Store or Google Play.
2. Open the app and select "Get Started."
3. Enter your U.S. mobile number or email.
4. Create and verify your Zelle account.
5. Link a U.S. bank account or debit card (must be a Visa or Mastercard debit card).

After linking your bank account, you can send and receive money.

Requirements

1. A U.S. bank account.
2. A U.S. phone number or email address.
3. Must be at least 18 years old.

Important Tips

1. Always double-check the recipient's phone or email—Zelle transfers are instant and usually can't be reversed.
2. Zelle is for people you trust (friends, family, known contacts), not for purchases or strangers.



Welcome to the New Year!

As we look forward to many new opportunities this New Year will offer, it's exciting that we will play new courses, meet new friends and laugh together as we learn to play golf.

Just a quick story about how playing in the "Jack and Jill Tournament" was one of the most amazing moments in my short golf career.

Rick Putman and I were paired with two lovely ladies. Both ladies were skilled at golf, but I was just in my first full year of learning to play. Rick is a very talented player, and we had used all his shots, so the last lady and I still had one shot we had to take. We walked up the short hill to "Over the Water-#17th hole", and the lady said clearly, "I am TOO nervous for you to use my shot for this hole". So that left me. My mind and body did not believe this was happening. Full terror.

Rick looked at me and said, "You can do this Cal, no pressure." So, I took a deep breath and swung as hard as I could and the ball went up and landed 2 feet from the Pin on #17. Everyone was shocked and so relieved, but no one was more astounded than me. Rick said, "I knew you could do it". He obviously had NOT seen me dump 5 balls in the lake the previous 6 times before.

Rick then asked me to try and putt the ball in the final 2 feet. Another miracle with the birdie.

I still can see that ball falling in today. Life is full of amazing moments if we dare to live them.

Hope to see you on the golf course for the Jack and Jill Tournament.

Your Secretary, Cal



Rules Chairman: Ken Rosso

Greetings all. I hope you all enjoyed your Christmas holiday. A couple of questions came up during the last month.

First off, I was asked what the proper etiquette was for where you should place the rake in a bunker. Inside the bunker or outside? I talked to one of the desk workers at Vista and he said they really didn't have a rule for this. I did a little more research and consensus is as follows: We should place the rake tines in the bunker with the handle being placed outside of the bunker. This makes sense to me and I would appreciate everyone's efforts towards using this method.

The second question was regarding if we get free relief if we can't find our ball in all the leaves. We discussed this at our November board meeting and decided there is no free relief. You have three minutes to find your ball and if you can't, you play it as a lost ball.

Finally, I came across a great YouTube video for anyone who wants a refresher on the rules. It's called "Every Golf Rule Explained Like You're 10" by Golf Xplained. Check it out if you'd like.

That's it for now. See you on the course.

If you have any questions or need a rule clarification, feel free to contact me at
kjrosso618@gmail.com.