



TPMGC

Torrey Pines Men's Golf Club

January 2020 Newsletter

President's Report by Roy Burchill



2020 should be a fabulous year of golf at Torrey Pines. Golf course construction is behind us and except for regular course maintenance, both courses should be fun to play throughout the year.

Your board continues to do its best to improve the member experience. Dues remain the same while we continue to offer more benefits such as the Grand-Torrey Cup (see article in this newsletter) and much better member meetings in May and November.

Your golf handicap will change even if your game doesn't. Read the article on the World Handicap System which became effective on 1/1/20. These changes impact every golfer. Particularly, when you post your own score, you need to understand what is different now.

We had a board election in November with all incumbents being reelected. A picture of this hard-working Board is on page 7. This is the group of 15 volunteers who put on 60 tournaments each year while running day-to-day functions of the club. If you are seeking out a board member at one of our tournaments, look for guys wearing a light blue shirt with the club logo on the front and BOARD MEMBER on their sleeve. This is the beginning of my 5th year as a board member and I am proud to say these 15 guys are the best board I have been a part of!

Remember to thank them when you see them!

If you have feedback about any aspect of your membership with the club, we can only do better if you share that feedback with me. Please email your criticism, compliments, random thoughts and questions to me at royburchill@gmail.com and I guarantee you will receive a reply.

Bragging Rights

Torrey North and South are both on Golf Digest's Top 100 Public Golf Courses in America.

For the first time, Golf Digest recognized both of our home courses as among the best 100 public tracks you can play in the United States!

South is ranked at #36 and has been on the list for a long time. The recent renovation of North resulted in its reevaluation and its first appearance on the list at #93.

How many other golfers can brag that their home club has 2 golf courses ranked so highly?

Golf Digest

93 (NEW) TORREY PINES G. CSE. (NORTH)



La Jolla, Calif. / 858-452-3226 / sandiego.gov/golf / William F. Bell (1957) / Tom Weiskopf (R. 2016) / 7,258 Yards, Par 72 / Points: 56.1180

Tom Weiskopf won his first PGA Tour event in 1968 at the Andy Williams San Diego Open played at Torrey Pines, the first time the 36-hole complex hosted the event that's now called the Farmers Insurance Open. Nearly 50 years later, Weiskopf won the bid to remodel the North Course at Torrey Pines, and he moved from Arizona to San Diego to devote all his energies to the task of making it a worthy companion to No. 36 Torrey Pines South, which, of course, is host to the 2008 and 2021 U.S. Opens. Weiskopf's goal was to bring North Course to the same technological standards and level of prestige as the South. To do so, he switched the front and back nines, rebuilt all greens, relocated most bunkers and rerouted a few holes. As a result, the North is ranked among the Top 100 Public for the very first time.

The World Handicap System (WHS) replaced the USGA handicapping system on January 1, 2020. The WHS is intended to create consistency in the determining of golf handicaps worldwide. Here are some of the important changes you should be aware of.

Fewer scores count toward your

Index... Under the old USGA system, 10 best of your past 20 rounds (multiplied by .96) determined your Handicap Index. With the WHS, that number falls to 8 of your past 20 (with no multiplier). The reduction is intended to allow for greater responsiveness to good scores and rewards more consistent play.

Your index updates after each score

posted... Your index will no longer be updated only on the first and 15th of each month. A new index will be calculated daily (or at least any day after you post a new score). This is meant to create a more responsive handicap and keeps players from having to wait up to two weeks for new scores to have an impact. For tournaments a cutoff date will be established for determining handicaps.

Net double bogey is the maximum

post-able score... To safeguard against sandbagging, the USGA system employed Equitable Stroke Control (ESC) to cap the maximum score on any hole. ESC was calculated on a sliding scale, depending on your course handicap (10-19 could take no more than a 7 on any hole, 20-29 took a max of 8, etc.). The WHS also has a maximum, but it uses net double bogey as the universal standard. When you post your own score, it is your responsibility to post correctly using the net double bogey maximum.

Your index will be more intuitive... The addition of a “playing conditions calculation” (PCC) will adjust how your score impacts your index depending on the average of all scores posted at that course that day. Say 20 mile-per-hour winds cause you to shoot in the high 80s when you normally post 78s and 79s. The WHS algorithm accounts for this to keep the score from negatively affecting your index, particularly if all scores that day were high.

Your course handicap will go down...

The formula that computes your handicap index isn't fundamentally changing, but the one that calculates how many shots you're getting from any set of tees is. Previously, your course handicap represented the number of strokes you got based on your handicap index in relation to course rating. Now course handicaps reflect the strokes you get in relation to par. When the course rating is less than par, your handicap will go down.



Old Formula for Course Handicap:
Handicap Index x (Slope Rating/113)

New WHS Formula for Course Handicap:
Handicap Index x (Slope Rating/113) +
(Course Rating – par)

Examples for Torrey Pines North gold

tees... assuming index of 12, slope of 120 and Course Rating of 69.3:

Old Formula: $12 \times (120/113) = 12.7 = 13$

New Formula: $12 \times (120/113) + (69.3 - 72) = 10$

Other Changes Include... In tournaments, stroke adjustments will no longer be needed when golfers are playing from different tees or when men and women are competing against each other.

Course handicap values from tee to tee will vary more under WHS. Golfers playing forward tees will get fewer strokes than before, and those playing back tees will get more. This might affect matches in which you're playing from one tee and your opponent is playing from another. But if you're playing the same tees, the difference in the shots you're giving to or getting from an opponent should be similar to before WHS was implemented.

There are actually several more changes that are less visible. But this article is long enough so those will be explained in the next newsletter.

Grand-Torrey Cup

The second annual Grand-Torrey Cup matches will be held this summer. 2019's event was a very enjoyable and competitive experience for everyone who participated. This will be an annual event and an additional benefit of membership for those who qualify to play.

It will be a home and away event with 24 members on each team. The format is better ball of partners match play. Our home match will be played on Torrey Pines South on Wednesday, July 22 with tee times beginning at noon. The date of the match at the Grand Del Mar has not been determined but will likely be on July 25. Members who qualify are expected to play on both dates.

We had very little notice about the inaugural event last year, so our team was mostly board members and their guests. For 2020 and future years, the team will be made up primarily of members who earn their spot by winning qualifying tournaments during the first half of the year.

The winning team gets to retain a beautiful custom-made trophy and bragging rights for the year. Even though we lost the first event, it was an enjoyable experience meeting and competing with the players from the Grand Del Mar. In 2020, focus on qualifying for the event and bringing the trophy home!

Here's a list of Grand-Torrey Cup qualifying events and how many will qualify at each event:



WEEKDAY Events

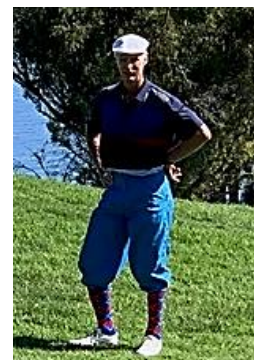
- February 20 Golf Club of California; Better Ball of Partners low net team (2)
- April 2 Torrey Pines South; net winner of each flight (4)
- April 16 Torrey Pines North; Better Ball of Partners low net team (2)
- May 28 Torrey Pines North; SCGA Better Ball of Partners low net team (2)
- June 18 Torrey Pines North; Better Ball of Partners low net team (2)

WEEKEND Events

- March 8 Torrey Pines North; Better Ball of Partners low net team (2)
- May 3 Torrey Pines North; President's Cup net winner of each flight (4)
- June 7 Torrey Pines South; SCGA Better Ball of Partners low net team (2)

Get your game in peak shape for these events!

Halloween 2019



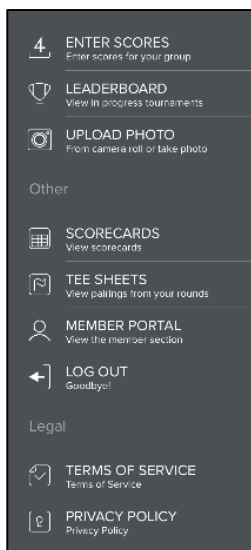
Golf Genius Mobile App



After using Golf Genius (GG) for more than a year, board members are becoming more proficient in using the software to print scorecards and score events.

Hopefully, club members are also getting adept at using the Golf Genius app on their mobile phones to enter hole-by-hole scores during the round. Entering scores during the round helps tournament coordinators to score the event. All the coordinators need to do is check to see if the scores entered via the GG app agree with signed scorecards (of course, when there's a difference the printed scorecard has priority).

To run the Golf Genius app you will need your group's Golf Genius ID (known as GGID). Each event scorecard has their group's GGID printed in the bottom right corner of the card. The GGID must be entered into the Golf Genius app when the app is first opened. If you have previously run the app and want to enter a new GGID you must logout then re-login.



Running the GG mobile app is great for viewing the leaderboard during your round but also anytime after the round. Be sure to copy the GGID on your tournament scorecard so you can check back after the last group finishes. Money awards aren't published until days later but you should get a good idea of where you stand since most tournaments pay approximately 40% of the field.

Pace of Play

Why do we care about pace of play? Here's two big reasons: to make each round a more enjoyable experience; a round of golf is not as fun when the pace is so slow a player has a wait before each shot. Second big reason is when our club play is slow, course management is not happy - it affects their bottom line. Club tee times given to us by Torrey come with the agreement we will do what needs to be done to ensure all club events are played at an acceptable pace.



Our goal is to play at an average pace of 4:20. In 2019 we did a pretty good job at achieving this objective with most of our rounds averaging between 4:20 and 4:30. However, this average includes those rounds we played on Torrey South when we only had 16 golf holes. (2019 pace-of-play statistics were captured for all club tournaments played at Torrey for which our time clocks were used to record start and finish times).

To enforce our policy goal of a 4:20-round average players get warnings when they finish more than 15 minutes after the group ahead of them. This policy isn't perfect but there are very few other options to identify slow groups. (Club volunteer marshals are used to help alleviate large time gaps between groups during the round).

When a group finishes late (more than 15 minutes behind) all members of the group are sent a slow-play warning email (plus a monetary penalty may be issued if a player has more than two warnings). Many times, players voice their displeasure of getting a warning/penalty when in their opinion they were not at fault for causing the group to fall behind. Please understand, there's no good way to determine who in the group should shoulder the blame. When one player falls behind the group falls behind. All members of the group will be held accountable.

Thanks to all members for doing a great job in 2019 in adhering to our pace policy:

<http://www.tpmgc.org/dl/misc/PaceOfPlay.pdf>.

Low Gross Awards

The primary reason our Board exists is to ensure you have a top-notch membership experience. With an average index of about 12, our club is one of the strongest clubs in the county. The weekend tournaments have regularly paid prize money for low gross scores, but the weekday tournaments have not. Starting in October 2019, the Board decided to pay a low gross award in each flight for weekend and weekday individual and partner tournaments.

The Board's decision was not unanimous and, in fact, we would welcome member feedback about this. Those in favor of this think it is appropriate to award gross scores and not just net scores.

Those opposed did not think it was fair to offer additional prize money that only a few members have a chance to win. To address this specific issue, it was decided to award a low gross prize for each flight rather than the first flight only. This means players of all abilities have a chance to win a low gross award.

The prize money for the low gross award for each flight is the same amount as first place low net in that flight. Many others benefit from this additional award as the low gross winner is removed from the net competition and everyone beneath the low gross winner in the net standings moves up one spot.

Low gross awards will be in place for individual and partner tournaments through 9/30/2020. This summer, the board will decide whether to continue with these awards, change the process, or discontinue gross awards.

If you have an opinion about this, please send an email to rburchill@tpmgc.org.





- Tap Ins -

Lost Ball... the rule for all TPMGC tournaments is the local rule adopted in 2019. If you cannot find your ball, drop a ball no closer to the hole than where you believe the ball was lost. You may drop anywhere on the line between the estimated location of the lost ball and 2 club lengths into the fairway. The penalty is 2 strokes. Therefore, if you lose your tee shot, after dropping in the fairway, you're hitting your 4th shot. Do not replay your ball from the original spot of the previous shot as this causes pace of play issues.

2020 Tournament schedules... are now on the website. Some of the event formats may change but the dates are locked in.

TPMGC has a Facebook page... Type Torrey Pines Men's Golf Club into the search box. The page is still being developed. If you have any content to add including pictures, club member Pete Gross has volunteered to maintain the page. You can contact him at pete.gross.jr@gmail.com.

We have 2 Member meetings each year... one in May and one in November. The May general meeting will be on the Torrey Pines driving range immediately following our May 3rd shotgun tournament on Torrey North. With free drinks, pizza, raffle prizes along with a putting contest and other activities, we expect to have our largest turnout ever. You can attend whether or not you play in the May 3rd tournament. Mark your calendar!

Be proud... that you belong to a club of skilled golfers. Our average index is 12.2 including 14 members with a plus index.

I want to acknowledge a very special member... who did not renew his membership. Jim Kerr joined the club over 40 years ago and served as a board member for several years. In recent years, most golf courses were just too long for Jim as he approached age 90, but he was on the course for most tournaments enjoying the camaraderie of his fellow members. Sadly, Jim did not renew for 2020 and he will be missed.



Torrey Pines Men's Golf Club

CHAMPION GOLFERS OF THE YEAR

Roger Sodergren	2019 SCGA Better Ball
Jose Marquez	Club Champions (Weekend)
Rob Dill	2019 SCGA Better Ball
John Banker	Club Champions (Weekday)
Paul Albitz	2019 Senior Gross
	Club Champion (Weekday)
Brian Cincotta	2019 Senior Net
	Club Champion (Weekday)
Mike Mehran	2019 Club Champion
	(Overall)
John Hoffman	2019 Senior Gross
	Club Champion (Weekend)
Bill Rocco	2019 Senior Net
	Club Champion (Weekend)

11-2-19

Champion Golfers of the Year... are the winners of "major" club tournaments over the past year (note: the champions list will be updated and included in all future newsletters)

Club Membership

Our club currently has 1100 members of which 150 are county residents. And we have room to grow! Remember any county resident can join our club but only those with a city resident card issued by the city of SD can get the discounted rates at Torrey Pines GC. Our club also plays at other courses around the county regularly and when we play elsewhere any member, city or county, is entitled to the discounted rate we negotiate with those courses.



back row: Johnnie Donnelly, Ruben Huerta, Bob Hood, Brian Cincotta (*photoshopped*), John Hoffman, Steve Arkin, Gary Paluso, Ed Carter, Marc Couillard, Steve Shushan

front row: Brian Dresser, Roy Burchill, Michael Berg (*photoshopped*), Larry Prosi, Ken Bien

2020 TPMGC Board of Directors

Officers

Roy Burchill - *President*
 Larry Prosi - *Vice-President*
 Brian Dresser - *Secretary*
 Ken Bien - *Treasurer*

Board Members

Steve Arkin - *Technology / Website Development*
 Michael Berg - *Handicap / Rules and Conduct*
 Ed Carter - *Membership / Pace of Play*
 Brian Cincotta - *Penalties*
 Marc Couillard - *Asst Weekend Tournaments*
 Johnnie Donnelly - *Weekend Tournaments*
 John Hoffman - *Member-At-Large*
 Bob Hood - *Weekday Tournaments*
 Ruben Huerta - *Player Assistant*
 Gary Paluso - *Special Events*
 Stephen Shushan - *Prize Fund*

All board members were reelected in the election last November. We interpret this as a vote of confidence that members are pleased with how the club is run. There are a few changes in board member assignments for 2020.

Steve Arkin is focusing all of his time on Technology. As Technology Chair, he is working with a vendor to implement our new website this year.

Johnnie Donnelly and Marc Couillard are teaming up to run our weekend events. Johnnie is the Chair and Marc is Assistant Chair.

John Hoffman has so much club knowledge gained during his long service on the board. We will be tapping into that knowledge in his new role as Board Member at Large.

Ed Carter is adding the significant responsibility of Membership Chair to his role of Pace of Play Chair.

Gary Paluso will focus his energies on chairing our Special Events. Many of the recent upgrades are a result of Gary's efforts.

All other board members are staying in the same roles with most also chairing multiple golf tournaments during the year.