



September 2020 Newsletter



President's Report by Roy Burchill



The first sentence in my President's report in January said, "2020 should be a fabulous year of golf at Torrey Pines." For the most part, that has been true, but who could have predicted the craziness we are all experiencing this year? All of us golf fanatics should feel fortunate that our sport is one of the safest activities during the pandemic. From what I have experienced, golfers are doing everything possible to keep golf safe by following COVID protocols. If only one of us fails, our ability to continue golfing could be impacted.

We'd like to think we are the best golf club in San Diego but there is a lot more to being a great club than the high-quality golf courses we play and the tournaments we have.

Our website has needed an update for many years. We are finally investing in a website that will look so much better than the current website that it wouldn't be fair to compare the two. Even more important is that it is being designed to make the user experience easier and to increase the efficiency of what it takes for the club to run tournaments. We are confident it will be implemented before year-end and will be used for the 2021 year. We will all have to learn new processes for tournament sign-ups, paying tournament fees, etc. We will most likely communicate these new processes via email. You should pay attention to all club emails, but particularly those you will be receiving about the new website. There will be a member and a public section; you will use a login and password to access the member section where you will sign up for tournaments. We think you will be very impressed with the public section and it might make your friends envious that they are not members.

If you have feedback about any aspect of your membership with the club, we can only improve 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.

TPMGC and COVID

Because of COVID, several of our tournaments were cancelled earlier this year. But COVID will continue to impact our events in a number of ways.

- We will not resume closest to the pin awards until it is considered safe to have multiple members touching the stakes and pencils.
- Until rakes are provided, you will continue to be able to improve your lie in bunkers.
- Torrey Pines GC will continue to have shallow golf holes. Your ball is not holed out unless it remains in the hole.
- Golf Genius became the official tournament score rather than scorecards. That will most likely be a permanent change. For our few members still not entering scores in real time, it's time to get on board so that our leaderboards are accurate.
- Our by-laws require the club to have two general membership meetings each year. This year we cancelled the May meeting but we are planning to have a November virtual meeting where we will update members on club activities, conduct our board election and have a Q & A. More details will be provided via email as the meeting plans are finalized.
- Everyone seems to be doing their best to stop the spread by wearing masks prior to and after golfing and remaining socially distant as much as possible while golfing. We hope our collective efforts are successful. But if you come down with COVID-type symptoms after playing in a TPMGC event, please be courteous to your playing partners by notifying them so they can take appropriate action. Contact the tournament chair if you don't have contact info for your playing partners.

New Club Logo



During the summer we invited members to submit ideas for a new club logo. Our current logo had not been updated for several decades. Some members liked it, others said it looked like a boy scout merit badge, and many didn't even know we had a logo.

It turns out we have some quite creative minds among our club members and their families. Ten members submitted ideas for a new logo. It was a tough decision, but the Board decided on the three variations of the logos above. You can also view a larger version of the logo at the top of page 1.

The winner of our logo contest is Tom Taliaferro whose wife, Cathy, designed the winning entry. Tom receives free membership dues in 2021 and our thanks.

2021 Tournament Schedule

One of the unique aspects of membership in the Torrey Pines Men's GC is that we share our world class championship courses with the Farmers Insurance Open, the US Open, Junior World, California Amateur and other significant golf events. This is a testament to the quality of our home course. But it also means, occasionally our access is reduced. This will certainly be true next year.

The 2021 schedule has not been finalized, but we do know that we will have fewer events at Torrey Pines. The North course will begin its transformation on February 8th when a driving range for the US Open will begin being constructed on the 1st and 18th holes. Those holes will be shortened immediately. There may be other changes due to the heavy equipment needed to construct the range. In April, we anticipate the course being closed so that merchandise tents can be constructed on the 10th fairway. We anticipate it will take at least two months after the completion of the Open for new turf to be planted and old turf to recover.

The South course will be closed to the public for a number of weeks surrounding the US Open which is scheduled to take place from June 14 through June 20.

These timelines are subject to change if fan attendance is reduced or eliminated.

Our tournament 2021 schedule should be finalized in November.



Torrey Pines Men's Golf Club

2020 CHAMPION GOLFERS

Eric Sams	Club Champion
Roy Burchill	Super Senior Gross Club Champion
Bob Ross	Super Senior Net Club Champion
<u>Weekday</u>	
Jorge Pelayo	SCGA Better Ball Champions
Mike Sahn	
Peter Salmon	Senior Gross Club Champion
Colin Bennet	Senior Net Club Champion
<u>Weekend</u>	
Mark Griffiths	SCGA Better Ball Champions
Eric Sams	
<i>TBD</i>	Senior Gross Club Champion
<i>TBD</i>	Senior Net Club Champion

9-7-20

Champion Golfers of the Year... are the winners of "major" 2020 club tournaments.



Grand Torrey Cup

The 2nd annual Grand-Torrey Cup took place in July. This is a 2-day match with 24 person teams from the Grand Del Mar and from our club. The format is better ball of partners match play. The scoring is similar to Ryder Cup where each match has a total of 3 points available for winning the front, back and overall.



12 matches took place at Torrey South on July 22 and at the Grand on July 25. Unfortunately, the Grand was too much for us and they won again 40-32.

To make the team, our members had to win certain tournaments throughout the year. We will have a similar qualifying process each year.

Why would you want to be on the team? Having a team of 24 members results in a lot more camaraderie than you typically see in our events. And you have an opportunity to play a private course at a very reasonable price. I'm sure if you talk to one of the team members, they will tell you it was a great experience despite the loss and most will strive to make the team again.

2020 GRAND ~ TORREY CUP

Torrey Pines

2.5	0.0	SHUSHAN HOOD	vs		
1.0	0.0	ROSS DOWN	vs		
3.0	2.5	HENDREY REGAN	vs		
0.0	0.0	KLEIN HUNTER	vs		
0.5	2.0	CUTHBERTSON REFERMAT	vs		
1.5	0.0	GRIFFITHS SAMS	vs		
1.5	1.5	DRESSER MUCKEN	vs		
0.0	2.5	HOFFMAN ARKIN	vs		
2.0	2.5	SAHD PELAYO	vs		
2.5	2.5	VIDAL PEDERSON	vs		
1.0	1.5	COUILLARD EISEN	vs		
0.5	1.0	AVARELLO BURCHILL	vs		
16	16	32			

Grand Del Mar

0.5	3.0	WHITE WANG			
2.0	3.0	UMANSKY HALL			
0.0	0.5	HOPPEL MILLER			
3.0	3.0	WAILES DEVERETT			
2.5	1.0	KLEIN BASSUK			
1.5	1.0	WEINER ZIMMER			
1.5	1.5	AXTMAN HAYES			
3.0	0.5	GIBSON WALKER			
1.0	0.5	PISTORIUS AMEN			
0.5	0.5	LANGLOIS TROMBETTA			
2.0	1.5	GHOSH MURPHY			
2.5	2.0	GROSS RUDY			
40	20	20			

Grand-Torrey Match Photos



The team of Dan Hendrey and Matthew Regan was our top team capturing 5.5 of 6 points – our second best team was Richard Vidal and Art Pederson who scored 5 points.



Jorge Pelayo and Mike Sahd are looking sharp for the Grand Torrey Cup – Jorge and Mike qualified for the event by winning the weekday SCGA Better Ball Championship.



Club Membership

As of September 15, we had 1184 members, 1032 San Diego City residents and 152 county residents not qualifying for City residency.

All City residents may purchase a San Diego City Residence ID Card which is used for discounted Torrey Pines green fees – see following website for instructions and qualifications for a “City Card”:
<https://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/golf/torreypines/reservations>.

Members without Resident Cards must pay non-resident green fees for all rounds of golf played at Torrey Pines golf course.

Although we are not currently using time clocks, pace of play is still an important issue. We all want to have an enjoyable round and golf course management is always on the lookout for slow groups. Here's some tips that can speed up your pace of play:

Golf Genius Email Unsubscribe



- Tighten your pre-shot routine. If you can't play without a practice swing, limit yourself to just one practice swing.
- Limit your search for a lost ball to 3 minutes maximum. This is the official time limit according to the Rules of Golf.
- Hit first, then search. Play your shot before going over to help your playing partners.
- Have your club and target selected when you get to your ball.
- Play ready golf whenever it is safe to do so. The old etiquette of “you're away” no longer applies.
- Take more than one club to your shot and proceed down the fairway after your shot.
- Read and line up your putt while others are putting.
- Continuous putting, finishing short putts on the green rather than marking them.
- If you are the cart driver, drop off your passenger at his ball before proceeding to your own ball.
- Keep the flagstick in (even after COVID) as it is no longer a penalty when a ball strikes the flagstick.
- After you hole out, proceed to the next tee. There is no need to wait until all members of the foursome hole out.

A new Golf Genius feature that allows members to unsubscribe from Golf Genius emails is causing us problems. When a member selects the “unsubscribe” button at the bottom of all Golf Genius emails, he will not receive any further emails until he resubscribes. The unsubscribe message appears as follows:

Sent by Torrey Pines Men's Club. [Unsubscribe](#)

Do not select unsubscribe! If you opt to unsubscribe you will not receive any club emails. All club emails now come through Golf Genius. They inform you about important items such as tournament tee sheets, scorecards and other valuable event information. All members must be able to receive emails from Golf Genius.

Unfortunately, we are finding that some members are “accidentally” unsubscribing by unwittingly selecting the unsubscribe button without intending to do so. If you accidentally unsubscribe from Golf Genius emails please contact Ed Carter, our membership chairman (edcarter4golf@gmail.com) to resubscribe.

If you are not receiving Golf Genius emails for tournaments for which you have signed up, also contact Ed Carter so that he can check your Golf Genius member record to make sure you are subscribed to emails. He will send you a resubscribe email if required.

Code of Conduct

Probably most members don't even know about the club's Code of Conduct because you behave appropriately during club events. But a club as large as ours occasionally has to refer to this Code to decide how to handle situations involving members' behavior. You can find the entire document on our website.

We play Torrey Pines and other courses at the pleasure of the owners. We can easily lose access to any of the courses because of members' unacceptable behavior. This has never happened and we don't ever want it to happen. That's one of the reasons the Code of Conduct is in place.

The code describes various types of inappropriate behavior that would be considered code violations. If you observe behavior of this type during a club event, it is your responsibility to notify the Tournament Chair. He will then ask you for more details and conduct an investigation. We will maintain your confidentiality if you request it.

One of our board members is designated as the Rules and Conduct Chair and he will take the information from the Tournament Coordinator and continue his investigation until he is satisfied he has all of the facts. He then notifies the member of the disciplinary action, if any, for the infraction. The member may appeal the decision to the club's President.

Discipline could range from none to multiple months suspensions to ejection from the club. When some club members intentionally recorded scores lower than their actual scores, they were suspended from club events for 6 months. When a member criticized course management using inappropriate language loud enough to be heard by other foursomes and a golf course employee, he was suspended from 2 tournaments.

If you observe or are a target of inappropriate conduct, don't ignore it... report it!

TPMGC Budget and Annual Dues

In its September board meeting, the club's 2020/2021 budget was approved for our fiscal year beginning October 1.

During recent years, the club has made a concerted effort to reduce its balance of undesignated funds and use those funds to benefit our members. This is how we have provided members with annual gifts in recent years including hats with the club's name on them and 2021 US Open shirts. A portion of those funds is also being used to develop our new website.

This year's budget does not provide funding for a member gift. But the good news for all members is annual dues will remain unchanged at \$100 for (on-time) renewals and \$250 for new members.

Up a Tree



Dave Struwe's tee shot on 14 north - he was able to save a stroke after he identified his ball and took an unplayable lie. Over one month later, the ball was still in the tree!



- **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 are hitting your 4th shot. Do not replay your ball from the original spot of the previous shot as this causes pace of play issues.

Shallow Golf Holes... We don't know how long Torrey Pines GC will be using shallow golf holes. Unfortunately, several members have been victimized by those holes when seemingly perfect putts do not remain in the hole. The rule remains that a hole is not completed until your ball comes to rest in the hole. We are not making any exceptions because of the shallow holes.

VISA Gift Cards... You can order \$250 Visa Gift Cards with your prize winnings. There is no limit on how many you can order at one time. Once ordered a card takes 7-10 business days to be delivered.

GHIN Member Profiles... since January 2020 members lost the ability to update their GHIN profiles such as email address and phone number – SCGA has been working to restore this capability and recently announced it would be back up and running by the first of next year. Until then, contact our membership chair, Ed Carter for updates.

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

Golf Carts at Torrey Pines GC... The pro shop is no longer issuing \$130 5-round cart passes. You can use your tournament winnings to pay for carts. To do so, request a certificate from the prize fund chair and the pro shop will monitor the balance on the certificate. For TPMGC events only, cart prices are currently \$25 for single and \$30 for a shared cart. During open play, the cost is \$40 for a cart whether you have 1 or 2 riders.

Member Gift... This year's member gift – a 2021 US Open shirt – was a big hit. More than 850 members picked one up and are wearing it proudly. The deadline for picking up your shirt has passed and they are no longer available as a gift.

2021 US Open at Torrey Pines

Did you enjoy all of the commercials for the 2021 US Open at Torrey Pines? It's pretty cool to see your home course repeatedly mentioned on national TV...and this is only the beginning. Just wait until next June!



Because our club's home course is the site of the US Open, we were invited to sign up volunteers for the tournament in advance of the public being allowed to sign up. We were hoping to have enough members sign up to guarantee our club being assigned to marshal holes #1 and #18 as we did in 2008. Our worry was unfounded. So many members signed up as volunteers that the USGA will have us marshal a third hole TBD.

We have little additional information at this time regarding volunteering but we anticipate in early 2021 all the information will be forthcoming including your US Open volunteer apparel! If you have any questions in the meantime, please email Roy Burchill or Larry Prosi.

Please note that US Open tickets are already on sale and the club does not have any special access to US Open tickets.



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*

Board Election

We have a very hard working 15-member Board of Directors. Managing a club with almost 1,200 members and 60 tournaments per year requires a lot of volunteer time. For those of us on the Board, it is a labor of love...our job involves golf!

There aren't many perks. The primary perk is you get first priority to play in our tournaments. We also have an annual year-end dinner paid for by the club. That's it!

We are always looking for new blood for the board. You have to like working with computers and be proficient with Excel. You will have to learn Golf Genius as an administrator because ultimately all board members should be able to run tournaments.

If you are interested in running for a board seat, watch for an email coming soon inviting members to submit their interest. Our Nominating Committee will screen candidates to ensure they have a full understanding of what is expected of board members and to ensure they have the appropriate skills.

If you want to be a part of the leadership team of the best golf club in San Diego, we hope you give serious consideration to running for a board seat!