



# TPMGC

## Stephen Lee's PRESIDENT'S LETTER

March 2026



### Mission Statement of TPMGC

*"The Torrey Pines Men's Golf Club strives to provide well organized tournaments and support our community through volunteerism and stewardship of the Torrey Pines golf courses."*

#### **To all our TPMGC members-**

What a start we have had to the 2026 season! By the time you receive this, we will have already completed 20 tournaments. Torrey has been playing tough after the FIO, but I think we can all agree that the course has been in immaculate shape.

Big congratulations to Kurt Martin and Nguyen Le who both have holes in one this year! Kurt got his on hole 4 at Singing Hills (1/29/26) and Nguyen got his on hole 11 at Torrey South. I saw Brooks Koepka 3 putt for a double bogey on hole 11 during the FIO so... Both Kurt and Nguyen will receive a special plaque from our club commemorating their feat.

This newsletter covers a lot of valuable information, so grab your favorite beverage and settle in for some enjoyable reading.

#### **Tournament logistics (selection process, priorities, waitlist, no shows, Golf Genius)**

For tournaments at Torrey Pines Golf Course (TPGC), we have an objective and fair process to ensure that the 1,000+ TPMGC members have equal access to our limited tournaments on TPGC. Your priority for a particular tournament is based on the last date you played at TPGC. The more recently you played, the lower your priority. "Ties" are ordered by a random number generator through our priority selection tool. At the current time, you can expect to get into every 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> tournament on TPGC, but this can vary.

A few caveats to be aware of: Volunteers who use an earned priority will always get into the tournament. This makes earning volunteer priorities extremely valuable.



If you get off the waitlist and into a tournament on TPGC, your priority for the next tournament on TPGC will drop and may mean that you are removed from the subsequent tee sheet even if you have already been assigned a tee time. To use a recent example for tournaments we had on 3/19/26 (Thursday) and 3/22/26 (Sunday). If you were on the waitlist for 3/19 and were already on the tee sheet for 3/22 but then got off the 3/19 waitlist and put on the tee sheet, you will be removed from the 3/22 tee sheet and placed on the waitlist as the lowest priority. What does this mean? You need to prioritize and plan ahead.

For 2-person team events, the team priority will be based on the member who has the highest priority.

For away tournaments, it is rare to have an oversubscribed away tournament (with the exception of Balboa). If it happens though, the entire field will be assigned priorities by a random number generator through our priority selection tool. Volunteer priorities still take precedent.

#### Cancelling from the waitlist

There is never a penalty for canceling the waitlist before the cancellation deadline. There is also no penalty if you cancel from the waitlist after the cancellation deadline as long as you have not yet been placed on the tee sheet posted on the website. For these reasons, we encourage you to cancel yourself from the waitlist if you know you cannot play or do not have the flexibility of being added to the tee sheet at the last minute because of a late cancellation from the tee sheet. This will make the job of the tournament coordinator much easier.

#### Tournament no-shows

Given the value of tee times, especially at TPGC, we want to do everything we can to keep our tee sheets 100 percent full and give all our members the maximum opportunities to play. To this end, no matter how late, if you know you will not be able to make the tournament (i.e., will be a no-show), please send the tournament coordinator (TC) a note as soon as you can. The TC will do what he can to fill your spot, even if it is at the last minute.

#### Verifying scores at the end of your round

We make it a point to repeatedly emphasize how important it is to verify scores at the end of your round and confirm they have been finalized in Golf Genius (leaderboard, scorecard email). You have 15 minutes to get this done after your round.



Any late change puts you or your team at risk of a DQ. Unfortunately, we have already had multiple instances of having to DQ players, including "in-the-money" winners, for late changes. Remember, you are ultimately your own scorekeeper and responsible for your score. If you are having problems with Golf Genius, get in contact with the Tournament Coordinator ASAP. His contact information will be on the scorecard.

**Handicap Committee, Co-Chairs Jim Lackritz, Brian Dresser**

The Handicap Committee completed its audit of members' handicaps and identified only one golfer whose handicap index will be adjusted due to being out of compliance with our club's rule for home versus away scoring differential. The next audit will take place in early June 2026.

**Code of Conduct Committee, Chair Jamie Ogle**

Our ability to secure all the tournaments we do at TPGC is based on years of developing and maintaining a mutually beneficial, respectful, and positive relationship with the city and golf course administration. Unfortunately, our access is not guaranteed, and poor behavior can jeopardize it. Golf is also a game that emphasizes integrity, acting with honesty and respect. To quote our immediate past president Larry Prosi:

*"Protect the field! If you see a fellow member violate any rules of golf, report it to the TC. Members who do not follow the rules have an unfair advantage over those who do. To maintain fair competition, we rely on playing partners to notify us when the rules are not followed.*

*If you can prevent a rule violation from occurring, tell the member what they should do to avoid the rules violation."*

To this end, the Code of Conduct (CoC) committee was developed and has now finalized a process to investigate, evaluate and adjudicate issues related to behaviors that may violate TPMGC or facility rules and expectations, negatively affect our club's reputation and standing, or compromise the integrity of our tournaments. Penalties may range from warnings, suspension, and even expulsion. Ultimately, any decision regarding suspension or expulsion is discussed and voted on by the full board. To be clear, this is a responsibility that the Board takes very seriously. And I think it is appropriate to say that we all bear responsibility to support the standards of our club and "protect the field" - speak up if you see something that is not right, or if you don't feel comfortable doing that, reach out to the tournament coordinator for that event.



As of this newsletter, the following actions have taken place:

- The CoC Committee completed its first quarterly review of top money winners, in-the-money winning percentages, and other variables to identify golfers who are winning at unusually high rates. For the first quarter, we identified 7 golfers in this category. These golfers are required to sign up as individuals for tournaments until the next quarterly audit
- One member suspended for 6 months and banned from major club tournaments for one year; issue related to actions that compromised the integrity of the tournament
- Four members suspended for 4 months; issues related to violating TPMGC/facility expectations, negatively affecting our club's reputation and standing
- One member suspended for 6 months and banned from major club tournaments for one year; issue related to actions that compromised the integrity of the tournament
- Although not under the purview of the CoC committee, one member was suspended for 3 months for excessive no shows, thus denying waitlisted members from getting onto the tee sheet

#### **Tournament Committee Update, Chair Roy Burchill**

We had mostly individual formats in the first quarter of the year so you could enjoy scoring your best at Torrey Pines in its finest condition.

Congratulations to Simon Lewis who is the 2026 overall champion of our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Tournament of Champions (TOC) held on Torrey North on March 12. Qualifiers for the 2027 TOC event are members who win a flight in an individual format tournament during 2026.

During the Spring season, we will have many partner tournaments. Among the partner events are several opportunities for members to qualify to be on Torrey's Grand Torrey Cup team. You may only attempt to qualify once. In each qualifying tournament, the teams that win a flight qualify to be on Torrey's team. It is a magnificent event and worth trying your hardest to qualify.



The Grand Torrey Cup is a two-day competition between members of TPMGC and The Grand Golf Club. Each team has 24 members. The format is a four-ball match play with Ryder Cup-type scoring. The competition is from July 27-29. The Grand is a semiprivate course with green fees above \$300. Each of our team members will pay \$250 and for this you will play a practice round on Day 1 at The Grand, play at Torrey South on Day 2 and play at The Grand on Day 3 followed by a nice meal. (\$250 only covers Day 1 and Day 3).

We also have several quality away tournaments to look forward to during the next few months including LaValle (formerly Morgan Run), Golf Club of California, Steele Canyon, and El Camino CC.

The handicap allowance for individual tournaments is now set at 100%; previously, it was 95%. The USGA has stated that when the field is flighted, there is no need to adjust the handicap allowance.

Local rule for lost ball or OB for all TPMGC tournaments, home or away. If you did not hit a provisional, then drop a ball up to 2 club lengths in the fairway at the same approximate distance as the original ball was lost or hit OB and add 2 strokes. You also have the option of dropping the ball within 2 club lengths from where the ball went OB or where you think you lost the ball. For example, if your drive is lost, then you are hitting your 4<sup>th</sup> shot after taking your drop. And remember, once you put another ball in play, you can no longer play the original ball.

#### **Volunteer Committee Update, Chair Sean Tucker**

Volunteerism is going extremely well with our divot patrol and marshalling program. On behalf of the board, thank you for your time and dedication.

I want to highlight the upcoming special events that are coming up that will provide more volunteer opportunities and a chance to participate in some really cool events, for lack of better descriptive. The Adaptive Golf Championship is one that is near and dear to our club as we are the title sponsor for this special tournament. To find out more, please visit the U.S. Adaptive Golf Association website at: <https://www.usaga.org/about-adaptive-golf>. You can sign up to volunteer through our TPMGC website: Volunteering-The Club Volunteering Program-Tournament Support section.



2025 Adaptive Golf Championship – Tuesday, May 5th

- North Course, 8:00 a.m. - Shotgun Start
- Requesting – 27 volunteers
- 3 to 5 hours – volunteer shifts

Boys Season CIF SD Section High School Final Round –  
Wednesday, May 20th

- South Course, 6:50 a.m. – Consecutive tee times
- Requesting – 27 volunteers
- 3 to 5 hours – volunteer shifts

San Diego City Amateur Championship (3 to 5 hours volunteer  
shifts for each day)

- **Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup>** – North & South Courses, 7:00 a.m.,  
Consecutive tee times (*Requesting – 25 volunteers*)
- **Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>** – North & South Courses, 7:00 a.m. –  
Consecutive tee times (*Requesting – 25 volunteers*)
- **Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>** – North & South Courses, 7:00 a.m. –  
Consecutive tee times (*Requesting – 25 volunteers*)

**Spring members' meeting**

Our in-person members' meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 16 next to the Torrey Pines golf range. This is a fun meeting where you can meet other members, board members, have some good pizza and drinks, participate in a putting contest, and win a raffle prize MCed by our own famous Bob Hood. More information to come but mark your calendars. You do not want to miss it!

As always, it is an honor for our Board to lead this club. We are constantly striving to make it the best club around for our membership to enjoy. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out.

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