



Coto de Caza
Golf & Racquet Club

MGA Newsletter

October 2007

2007 MGA Tour

The Tour rolls on and the two day Ryder Cup finale on December 7 and 8 is getting awfully close. Anyone within 100 points of the 24th place has still got a chance if they have a great “Ryder Cup” and a stellar Fall Stampede.

The top 24 will be named after the Fall Stampede and will include President’s Cup points to that date. Points for the President’s Cup Individual Tournament are included in the current standings.....10 points for each round won.

The finale will be 27 holes on Friday and 18 Saturday. The players finishing 1st and 2nd will be captains. They will select two co-captains to help them pick their pairings. The match will be played as five sets of nine holes. Formats will be Best Ball, Modified Chapman, Scramble, Best Ball, Singles. If you cannot play you will share the winnings with your replacement. You will be replaced by the next person on the leader board. Uniforms will be provided.

1	Stoddard, Scott	526	16	Akers, Jim	336
2	Trausch, Tom	457	17	Forkner, Randy	324
3	Turner, Bob	456	18	Carroll, Scott	310
4	Contrucci, Rick	430	19	DePatie, Gene	305
5	Murrell, John	408	20	Gately, Bill	301
6	Coate, Chris	401	21	Rosenbaum, John	287
7	Griffith, Mark	390	22	Almquist, Scott	280
8	Beans, Cornell	376	23	Peterson, Greg	280
9	Duarte, Joe	370	24	Chaney, John	277
10	Rodie, Don	369	25	Kelly, Joe	275
11	Hubbell, Richard	360	26	Heath, Clark	265
12	Kim, Woojin	352	27	Raljevich, Rick	261
13	Heino, Gene	350	28	Walter, Jim	260
14	Kelly, Brian	350	29	McAdam, John	255
15	Olsen, Ted	340	30	Berlin, Scott	246

Always check your points to ensure we keep score correctly.

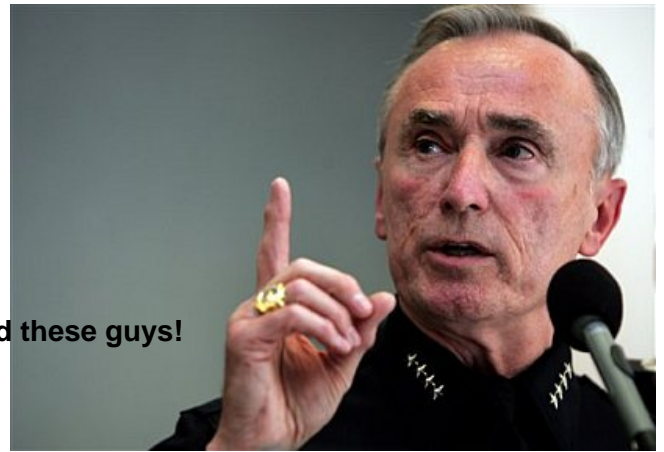
Scott Stoddard has jumped into the lead after two victories in the Best of Buddies and the Lone Wolf and a great President’s Cup. It still looks like 300 points + is the target. Full list at Communications Center in locker room.

SELF POLICE



Let's show that we don't need these guys!

Let's self police!



A few critical items to focus on:

- fix your own pitch marks and one or two more
- sand your divots and one or two more
- rake the bunkers
- tuck your shirts in
- keep kids under control
- hats on the right way round

You are a member of a classy country club – do your bit to keep it that way! The “broken windows rule” can even apply to our club!

The green keepers have been putting small green and white stakes on the fairway. The idea is that carts should enter and exit through these “gate”. Concentrating on just a couple of points really protects the semi-rough and fairways. Please use them.

Also when parking your carts, please try and stay on the paths. The ruts created by just going a few feet off the path really do not enhance the cosmetics around the course. It does not take much, just a bit of care!

This is how we want our policemen to be. Self police and they can sleep off their Dunkin Donuts in blissful peace!





President's Cup Singles

The President's Cup Singles is well underway heading into its final stages. This year the event was flighted based on the participant's score in the qualifier. This meant that each flight had a wide range of handicaps. It would be interesting to get your comments on how this should be organized. I personally think there should be no qualifier (late entrants would just have to play an additional round) and it should be a blind draw but maybe that's my Scots coming out and a belief in our handicapping system!

The converse of course is that you flight by tournament indices or, as this year, flight by qualifying score. Email your views on this; I am sure we have a wide range of opinions.

Last year's winner, Tim Aspel, had to give a bunch of strokes to the ever improving Chris Coate. Too many as it happened and Tim exited in the 1st round. Kelly O' Grady had to play another guy who's tough off his handicap, Greg Peterson. They had a royal battle with Kelly 3 down with only a few holes to play. But the President's Cups seem to bring out the "Fighting Irish" in the bhoys and he prevailed on the 18th. In the doubles he had single-handedly (his "Irish" partner, Johnny Mac being out of town) taken on Contrucci and Burke and only lost in extra time.

Another great match in the early rounds was between Ray Burke and Steve Ludwig. You think if you shoot 78 off an 8 handicap you've got to win. The answer is obvious unless your opponent shoots a 74 off a 5 handicap. Steve doubled 18 to lose 1 down. So Ray marched on but unfortunately he got his come-uppance in round 2 against Eric Krantz. Eric established a 4 hole lead but then began to play at a level appropriate to his handicap and Ray brought it even going on to 17 North. He hits a drive down the middle leaving a 6 iron in to a back left pin. Eric has lofted his tee shot into the left semi rough leaving 200+ in. Ray was real happy to see his utility shot landing 8 feet from the pin and stroking!!!! Ray had thought his par would be enough. He didn't think he would have to sink a 20ft putt to take it to extra time. Eric is a streaky player and he certainly hit the mother lode on the 19th hole by parring 1 North to close Ray out and win an epic match.

Another fantastic match was between John Murrell and the 2007 Saddleback Cup winner, Don Rodie. We know Don is a great competitor but was he getting enough strokes to make it a match? It seemed like it was as he had John dormie going on to 17 South. John had to do something dramatic which he did....drove the green and left himself with a 10 foot eagle putt. Don throws a wedge into 20 feet but narrowly misses birdie. John just lips out for eagle so on to 18. Unfortunately for Don, John had decided to go to the aviary and follows up his birdie with a nice eagle. No wonder Don succumbed in extra time. You shoot a 74 and lose...tough when your opponent hits you with a 69!!

Games People Play

If you've run out of ideas for games for your foursome to play, here is a suggestion which you may want to try. It is a variation of "Skins" but rewards solid play rather than the odd good hole.

SKIN CONTROL



Natalie Gulbis puts her best assets forward her pinup calendar.

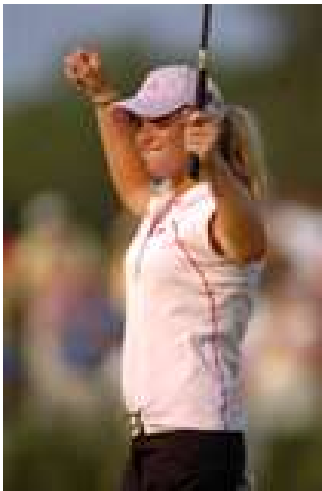
A good game for 3 or 4 players.

You set the rate for a skin, say \$2. You can play gross or net. The basic idea is that you win a hole (a skin) and then you are in "**Skin Control**" and continue winning skins at an established rate until an opponent (s) beats you. \$1 is added for every hole that is drawn so if the first skin is not won until the 6th hole then that skin is worth \$7 and the winner is in "**Skin Control**" and keeps winning \$7 a hole until someone actually beats him. So if the person plays really solid golf and stays in control all the way home he can win \$91 from each of his opponents ($\$7 * 13$ holes).

Let's say it was Natalie who won the 6th hole (need to keep your attention somehow!) but Paula birdies the 7th and takes over "**skin control**" then the rate is reset to the original rate and Paula wins \$2 for the 7th and she then wins \$2 for every hole thereafter if she can maintain control.

However.....if Paula also wins the 8th outright a \$1 is added and she has upped the rate to \$3 and again, if she wins the 9th, another dollar is added so she is taking \$4 a hole from Natalie et al.

Note if Paula and Suzanne have both birdied 7 then Natalie has still lost control and the rate is reset and begins to build again until someone wins outright.



If you like to play for big money then the rate could obviously start much higher and the increments could be 100s instead of 1s or whatever. It is unlikely that someone will "take it home" so the chances of losing a lot of money are low. If the start rate is \$1 then the worst case is that you could lose \$90 - \$125 but this would mean that no skins were won until the 10th hole and then the winner maintained control through to 18. It would reach the higher level if the person won every hole from 10 -18. This is all very unlikely but always possible! It did happen in our group once but the "controller" was only winning at a \$1 a hole rate.

Now read this again as you probably started dreaming about being the 4th in that foursome and didn't understand a word!!

MGA Tour 2007

Coming soon to a course near you.....



“Ryder Cup” (October 27, 2007)

The MGA Tour is heading for the December finale.

We thought we would have another 2 man “team” format. Sign up with a partner and see if you can handle the Ryder Cup formats. If you are a new member, or your usual partner is out of town, sign up anyway and we will find you someone suitable to play with.

Format : 6 Holes Best Ball, 6 Chapman, 6 Scramble
Field will be in flights, max. 8 shot differential between partners

“The Fall Stampede” (November 15-17, 2007)



The MGA cordially invites you to enter the final “major” of the year *“The Fall Stampede”*. Two days of great competition and camaraderie.

The fun will start on Thursday night with some interesting competition, good food and an open bar; then into the competition proper on Friday morning with the traditional Horse Race (hopefully not stampeding) on Friday afternoon. Saturday will then sort out the real Cowboys.



This will be the last chance to win points for the MGA Tour.

The 19th Hole

A good editor should always endeavor to educate his readers. As we indulge ourselves in the 19th hole it is instructive to illustrate how we may be (Read "ARE") perceived by the fairer sex. The following provide some insights.....

WHY DO MEN BECOME SMARTER DURING SEX?

Because they are plugged into a genius!

WHY WERE MEN GIVEN LARGER BRAINS THAN DOGS?

So they won't hump women's legs at cocktails parties!

HOW MANY MEN DOES IT TAKE TO PUT A TOILET SEAT DOWN?

Don't know.....it never happened!

One day a housework-challenged husband (99.9% of us) decided to wash his sweat-shirt. Seconds after he stepped into the laundry room, he shouted to his wife,

'What setting do I use on the washing machine?'

'It depends,' she replied. 'What does it say on your shirt?'

He yelled back, 'University of Oklahoma'

And they say blondes are dumb.....



(Husband came home for lunch?)

A couple is lying in bed. The man says,

'I am going to make you the happiest woman in the world.'

The woman replies, 'I'll miss you...'

'It's just too hot to wear clothes today,' Jack says as he stepped out of the shower. 'Honey, what do you think the neighbors would think if I mowed the lawn like this?'

'Probably that I married you for your money,' she replied.

Q: What do you call an intelligent, good looking, sensitive man?

A: A rumor

Q: Why do little boys whine?

A: They are practicing to be men.

Q: What does it mean when a man is in your bed gasping for breath and calling your name?

A: You did not hold the pillow down long enough.

Q: How do you keep your husband from reading your e-mail?

A: Rename the mail folder, "Instruction Manual"

And you lot actually believe they like us???!!!!

Some other stuff to smile about (apparently true "Smart Ass" answers).....
It was mealtime during a flight on a British Airways plane: "Would you like dinner?" the flight attendant asked the man seated in the front row.
"What are my choices?" the man asked.
"Yes or no," she replied.

This guy must have been late for his tee time!



A truck driver was driving along on a country road. A sign came up that read "Low Bridge Ahead" Before he realized it, the bridge was directly ahead and he got stuck under it...
Cars are backed up for miles... Finally, a police car comes up...
The policeman got out of his car and walked to the truck's cab and said to the driver, "Got stuck, eh?"
The lorry driver said, "No, I was delivering this bridge and ran out of gas!"

A teacher at a college reminded her pupils of tomorrow's final exam.
"Now listen to me, I won't tolerate any excuses for you not being here tomorrow. I might consider a nuclear attack or a serious personal injury, illness, or a death in your immediate family, but that's it, no other excuses whatsoever!"

A smart-ass at the back of the room raised his hand and asked, "What would happen if I came in tomorrow suffering from complete and utter sexual exhaustion?"

The entire class was reduced to laughter and sniggering. When silence was restored, the teacher smiled knowingly at the student, shook her head and sweetly said, "Well, I suppose you'd have to write the exam with your other hand!"



Off the Ranch

On October 4th through 7th, a team representing some of the finest from Coto de Caza took on five of Club Corp's most competitive clubs in an excellent individual and team format hosted by Firestone CC in Akron Ohio.

Led by Rick "the Silver Fox" Booth into battle, players such as John "Are You Not" Murrell...Rick "the Rookie" Feld....Tommy "Bespoke" Thompson....Kevin "KO" Pratt....Larry "Refuse To Lose " Hickey... Albert "The Suitcase" Palucci... Derek"The Black Angel of Death" has no last name...and Martin "Mellow" Hannigan played in perfect conditions at Firestone CC.

(Editor's Note - Interesting Nicknames, must be some stories there! Unfortunately what happens in Akron stays in Akron!)

This year the Coto team finished third. Canyon Gate from Las Vegas won the event this year beating out teams from Boston, Georgia and Ohio. "Mellow" and "He who refuses to lose" were the big points winners on the Coto team.

A great time was had by all...the Coto team was treated to the coveted Locker Room, accommodations used by many of the Touring Pros during Firestone's PGA events.

Thanks go to Rick Booth for arranging such a flawless trip....

MGA Board Elections

The Board was structured to have 9 Directors with 3 positions rotating off each year. This was done to provide a core group with the task of ensuring that the great MGA programs and initiatives continue.

So there are 3 positions up for election. If you are interested in running for the Board please sign up in the Pro Shop. The elections will take place, as usual, after the Fall Stampede on November 17, 2007.

The Board has been blessed over the last few years with a strong group of people who are motivated, willing to roll their sleeves up (even if it's something new), and really gelled as a team. If you are going to present yourself for election please reflect on whether you do really have the time and true motivation to make a difference before throwing your name in the hat.

MGA Tour 2007

“Lone Wolf”

(September 15, 2007)



This event is proving to be one of the most popular of the MGA Tour. Again a Tour event was well supported with 80 guys out there hoping to win on the day but also secure the much needed points to get into the Top 24 for the MGA Tour finale in December.

There is definitely a lot of strategy as to who goes on his lonesome. The scoring does come down to the Lone Wolf not having a total disaster. It's even worse when it's the so called "A" player who screws up. Keeping your A player for the low handicap holes can certainly blow up in your face.

This year's scoring did not match 2006 when the two top teams managed to shoot 29 and 28 under respectively. That is totally unbelievable but this year was still awesome when the top 5 teams were separated by one stroke each. The winners shot a nice 24 under or 120.

The teams are selected on a random A-B-C-D basis just before the shotgun. When the team of Carl Chang, Tom Trausch, Scott Stoddard and Gene de Patie was announced, someone in the crowd suggested we were all playing for 2nd place. He should have put his money where his large Scottish mouth was as he proved to be right. However, in the end, it was a closely fought contest with the Rich Hubbell team ably supported by Bob Varo, Mark Griffith and Al Clerc only losing out by 1 shot.

There were a bunch of "Lone Wolves" who contributed nice double digits to their team's score but they are best to remain nameless as they may never play again. Fortunately, so far, we have had no team leave someone in the lake at 8 with a nice 4 iron embedded in his skull. Many of us may have wanted to do that but this is a sport of gentlemen and we all know that..."there, but for the grace of God go I!"



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“The Canyon Cup”

In December we will have the inaugural "Canyon Cup". This will be contested between Coto and Dove Canyon. This will be a Ryder Cup style event with 20 players representing both clubs. Steve Ludwig and Jim Akers are heading this up for Coto and will be making their selections over the next few weeks. So keep playing well!

MGA Board of directors

John Whipple	President
John McAdam	Communications
Rick Raljevich	Major Tournaments & Greens
Jim Akers	Major Tournaments
Mike Steele	Handicaps, SCGA liaison and Tournaments
Mike Castner	Treasurer
Steve Ludwig	Tournaments
Scott Carroll	Communications
Lou Skubic	Handicaps

MGA 2007 Calendar **(Red for Majors, Blue for Minors)*

MGA Tour Events

January 7	President's Cup - 2 man
February 24	MGA Tour "CotoBowl I"
March 30, 31	Spring Classic
April 28	MGA Tour "Shoot your Handicap"
April 4 – May 9	Thursday Night League
May 17, 18, 19	Windmill Invitational
June 8, 9, 10	Club Championship
July 7	President's Cup - Individual
July 20 Friday	MGA Tour "Skins"
August 25	MGA Tour "Best of Buddies"
Fall	Thursday Night League (canceled)
September 15	MGA Tour "Lone Wolf"
October 27	MGA Tour "The Ryder Cup"
November 16, 17	Fall Stampede

December 7, 8 MGA Tour Championship

Other Events

January 21	Pinehurst Qualifier
March 3	Windmill Invitational Sign up
March 2, 3, 4	Senior Club Championship
March 18	Pinehurst Qualifier
April 22	Pinehurst Qualifier
June 2	Pinehurst Qualifier
June 16	Pinehurst Finals
March 14	Monster Day
December 9	Pro Skins at 1:00pm

(Any letter, comments, corrections, suggestions.....Email John McAdam)
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