



# LINKSLETTER

Volume 2 No 2

Lincoln Hills Men's Golf Club

FEB 2016

Check us out on the Web at [www.lhmgc.org](http://www.lhmgc.org)

## President's Report



*By Rodger Oswald*

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT



President's Report.

I am aware that there is some degree of consternation regarding the change from cash payments to Pro Shop credit for our tournament winners. My hope is you understand that the Board discussed this with great care and with concern for our club as well as our members. The most important issue is that our club is an NCGA affiliate and, therefore, bound by their rules (which are integrated with USGA rules). Those rules make it clear that we are not allowed to give out cash prizes. There are exceptions for hole-in-one prizes, and we are interpreting that same exception for our "horse race, shoot out and putting contest." To knowingly and intentionally ignore or violate the "no cash rule" could result in NCGA sanctions as well as lose the process of maintaining an index/handicap. Knowing this we appealed to the Pro Shop asking them to administer our pay outs. Not only did they graciously agree, but we're willing that accumulated "winnings" could be used for the purchase of playing cards (e.g., Summit, Gold Rush) or driving range cards as well as shop merchandise. I certainly hope our membership can embrace that this decision was made with concern that we do what is proper and, thereby, do not jeopardize our club or any individual member. Below is the NCGA Policy:

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Dear Club Official,

Over the past year we received numerous calls regarding acceptable prizes at club events. Please note that cash prizes of any amount are a breach of Rule 3-1 of the Rules of Amateur Status. Any amateur who plays for cash prizes without waiving his right to the prize money prior to participating in the event will forfeit his amateur status. Therefore, any player who plays for cash prizes, even in a private club event, would not be eligible to compete in NCGA, CGA or USGA qualifying or championships.

In view of the above, we urge you to change the prize format in the competitions conducted at your club so as to conform to the Rules of Amateur Status for any competitions where cash prizes are awarded. This can be done by offering merchandise or prize vouchers redeemable for merchandise of a retail value not greater than \$750 instead of cash. This course of action will ensure that no one jeopardizes his amateur status.

At the least, we ask that you advise the players of their forfeiture of amateur status if they play for cash prizes, and offer them the opportunity to waive their right to any prize money before playing. Waivers for amateurs who wish to waive their right to prize money in order to play in an event offering cash prizes are available at [www.usga.org/rules/amateur\\_status/Amateur-Status/](http://www.usga.org/rules/amateur_status/Amateur-Status/).

The prohibition against cash prizes includes golf skills challenges like closest to the hole or longest drive contests. Please also see the Appendix to the Rules of Amateur Status for the Policy on Gambling.

If you have any questions about the Rules of Amateur Status please feel free to contact the NCGA at 831-625-4653, or email Ryan Farb at [rfarb@ncga.org](mailto:rfarb@ncga.org).



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## **Sponsor Report: Every month will feature one of our Sponsors**

**By Bob McCollum**

**This month is: Gilchrest Golf Carts**

Thank you to all Lincoln Hills Men's Golf Club members that have used our services since we became a sponsor back in 2010. We sincerely look forward to our sponsorship once again in 2016.

At Gilchrist Golf Cars, our goal is to provide the highest quality golf cars and service in the region. Our choices for new cars include the Club Car NEV, and the Yamaha Drive AC PTV. Both cars are stocked at our showroom in Rocklin at 4361 Pacific St. All new

Yamaha AC PTV models are stocked with the Sun City package factory-installed and are ready for immediate use in Lincoln Hills. The new Yamaha AC drive system coupled with the industry leading Trojan T-875 8v batteries are a perfect combination for high performance and low cost of ownership for Lincoln Hills residents. We welcome you to stop by for a test drive to see for yourself.

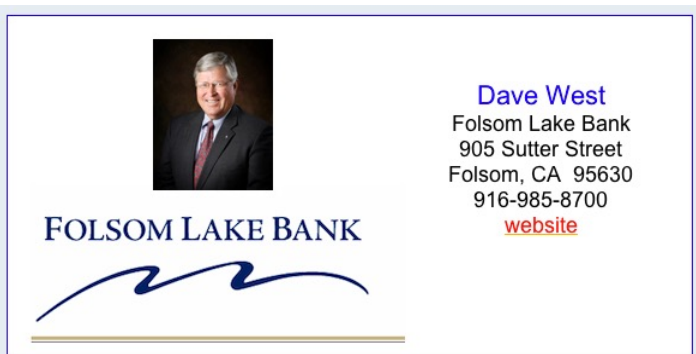
Our service department is expanding further in 2016, and we continue to focus on high quality service, at your house, without transporting your car back and forth unless absolutely necessary. We now have a combined over 40 years' golf car experience company-wide and are positioned to provide the excellent customer service and products that Lincoln Hills residents expect.

We are open Monday through Friday, but we can meet on weekends for appointments for added convenience to visit our showroom. Thank you and we look forward to serving you.

Derek Gilchrist  
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**FOLSOM LAKE BANK**

**RULES CHAIRMAN  
ROGER VAL**

Roger Val, Rules Chairman

Last month I introduced the new Rules changes for 2016. Hopefully you went on the USGA web site and read and viewed the more in depth explanation of these new Rules and Decisions.

This month I would like to focus on the Rule Book itself. As you know Rules one through 34 cannot be change until the year 2020. However the rest of the contents can be amended during the next four years, if needed. If one of the rules needs more explanation this is done through the Decisions on the Rules of Golf, which can be amended every two years.

One of the most important sections is the Definitions. In order to understand the rules you should first know the Definitions. There are over 50 defined terms and these form the foundation around which the Rules are written. The defined words, when used in the Rules, are italicized in the written language of the Rule, which is very important to the correct application of the Rules. You will notice that every Rule begins with the reminder that the defined terms are in italics and can be found alphabetically in the Definitions section.

The Rules of Golf have their own language and must not be interpreted in any other manner. They are very precise and deliberate. You should be aware of and understand the following differences in word use: *MAY* means optional, *SHOULD* means recommended, *MUST* means instruction (penalty if not carried out), *A BALL* means you may substitute another ball and *THE BALL* means you must not substitute another ball.

Appendix I is divided into two sections Local Rules and Conditions of the Competition. This information is valuable in setting up the local rules for championships and every day play at the club level.

Appendix II, III and IV cover the specs of clubs, balls and devices and other equipment. The USGA reserves the right, at any time, to change the rules relating to clubs, ball and devices and make or change the interpretations relating to these Rules.

It is recommended that you should carry a Rulebook in your golf bag or down load the USGA Rules of Golf Application onto your phone. If you are a USGA member you have already received a Rulebook or you can order one through the USGA.

Remember, do not try and change the meaning of the Rule as written as it has its own language for interpretation of applying the Rule. You will find out what you think you know is what you don't know.

## TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR



PETE SACO and TOM TRAXEL

- ABCD Scramble was held on Tuesday, February 9 and it went very well. We had 120 players and the pace of play was great as the round was completed in 4 1/2 hours.
- The winners payouts will be credited to their accounts in the pro shop. Please allow at least two weeks for this to occur. The results were emailed to everyone. They are also posted on our bulletin board by the main entrance to the pro shop.
- The next tournament is the Lone Ranger on March 15th. The flyer should be emailed by February 20 at the latest.
- I want to thank Gene Andrews for his great support and mentoring as I transition into this position.

**Congratulations to Ron Waisner for his HOLE IN ONE on hole #4 on the OC during the ABCD Tournament!**



**REMINDER:** All players must check in the Pro Shop before all tournaments.

**COURSE CARE SUGGESTION:** When driving to your ball from the cart path, obey the cart arrows and posts and avoid driving on grass areas that have been repeatedly driven over. Give the grasses a chance to re-grow.

## HANDICAP

### DAVE JANSEN, DIRECTOR

February 2016 Linksletter report.

2015 was an eye opener for me as Handicap Chairperson. In the middle of the year the NCGA required every golf club to be certified by taking a test about the USGA Handicap Manual. This was given on-line and covered every chapter with a short quiz at the end of the chapter. I have to say I learned a lot and most importantly passed the test. During the year, I will be sharing some of the things that were covered in the manual that you may or may not know.

As I continued with my audit and verification of the Tuesday Sweeps postings, I found that I was not the only one that couldn't add or remember to post a score. In fact, of all the errors that occurred in the second half of the year, when posting a score, 61% of the errors were due to math errors. In, addition, I found that 17% of the errors were due to posting scores higher than were recorded on the card and 22% of the errors were caused because a player did not post his scores. Overall, I checked 567 posting, with an overall 14.6% error rate compared to the total checked. This is not good, ***but there is light at the end of the tunnel that will give us 100% accurate postings (at least for the Sweeps).*** Starting February 1<sup>st</sup>, the Pro Shop (Jason and Ryan) agreed to post our Tuesday Sweep scores. So, all you have to do is remember to turn in your **signed** score card. You don't even have to add up your scores, you just need to make sure that every hole you play is scored correctly. This change will also eliminate the need for the Pro Shop to deduct credits earned because there will no longer be any posting errors. (This refers to a point Rodger Oswald made in an email at the end of January). Finally, my review of the Tuesday Sweeps postings suggests that for all other times we play, we need to be sure that we take the time to review our cards for accuracy and post what is on the scorecard.

Dave Jansen, Handicap Chairman

## MEMBERSHIP


By *ROGER CUMMINGS*

We are now at 266 renewing members and 30 new members. We are on the way to having over 300 members this year! If you have not received an email from me welcoming you to our club or a renewal letter from me, you are probably are not signed up for 2016. Membership for new and renewing members is now at \$93.00.



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**COLDWELL BANKER**

SUN RIDGE  
REAL ESTATE

**CVS [CENTRAL VALLEY SENIORS]**  
KARL WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR

### WHAT IS THE CVS?


The CVS stands for Central Valley Seniors which is an association of 11 golf clubs in the Central Valley area. This gives it's members the opportunity to play at these 11 great golf clubs with a cart, range balls and a wonderful hot sit down meal. All for the amazing price of \$45.00.

At Lincoln Hills we have a limit of 60 CVS members. To qualify for CVS Membership you must be a Lincoln Hills Men's Club Member. The membership fee is \$60.00 per year.

The Lincoln Hills Men's Club joined this association in 2009 when one of our Board members (Paul Apfel) was approached by the CVS Secretary (Ralph Hilber). Ralph asked Paul if Lincoln Hills Golf Club would like to join the CVS association. Paul headed up the Lincoln Hills CVS for a couple of years, and then on the third year Paul presented the CVS to the Lincoln Hills Men's Club Board of Directors. At this time, creating another seat on the Board (CVS Director). After another year Paul resigned from the Board and John Engelmann took the seat of CVS Director for the next two years. Then John moved to another position on the Board. In 2015 the seat was taken over by Karl Williams



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## Sunshine Alert

**By GIL LUCAS**

From time to time, someone in the Men’s Golf Club or their spouse will have a serious illness or pass away. As head of the of the Sunshine Effort, I would like to be informed of these events so I can send the person or their family an appropriate card. Also, if the member agrees, this information will be publicized in our monthly Linksletter so all members will be aware.



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# LINCOLN HILLS MEN'S GOLF CLUB WEBSITE

by Al Soares

Just a reminder, our website now contains a Golf Club & Equipment For Sale or Wanted page. It's located under the "Members" section. Terms & Conditions are listed on the page. To post an item please send me the following information: Name, phone number, email name, item description, amount and picture(s) are always good to have..

A special note regarding our Sponsors: since our sponsors provide the prize money for our tournaments, they are going to be displayed more prominently though out the website. They have their own section on the main menu: "Sponsors". You can also go to the sponsor website by clicking on the website link. Please patronize our sponsors whenever possible.

Just a reminder, check the 'Golf Clubs for Sale' on a monthly basis to view golf clubs and equipment listed for sale. During the past month we listed a set of Callaway Big Bertha irons for sale. Also, the tournament results are listed on the Tournament Calendar page.



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