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**THE
LINKSLETTER**

MEN'S GOLF CLUB
OF LINCOLN HILLS



Men's Golf Club of Lincoln Hills (MGCLH)

MGCLH is the official golf club for SCLH male residents. Established in 2004, the club currently has over of 300 members who are able to enjoy monthly tournaments to fire their competitive juices. MGCLH is an excellent way to meet people to enjoy the game of golf, especially for those who have recently moved to Sun City Lincoln Hills. The club plays by the USGA Rules of Golf. You must be a resident of Lincoln Hills to participate.



A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

"April showers bring May flowers." This familiar saying originated from Thomas Tusser in his 1557 work "A Hundred Good Points of Husbandry". The original quote reads: "Sweet April showers do bring May flowers."



Fred Jaicks

We experienced a brief early warm spell, and hopefully it won't cause any issues for your gardens, plants, or trees.

There's a lot happening within our club. Be sure to check the other articles for full details, but here's a quick snapshot: CVS is underway, the Interclub Scramble with the ladies' groups took place in April, and coming up we have a Home & Home event with Timber Creek.

In addition, the Gross Club Championships will be held in May. We encourage everyone to jump in and enjoy these events with fellow members.

If you have any feedback about your experience with MGCLH, feel free to reach out to me at fred.jaicks@gmail.com.

Fred Jaicks

LH GOLF COURSE GENERAL MANAGER

As the weather gets nicer and we get into the year, that means it is starting to be tournament season, which also means there are going to be some days that are not available to play but that's the nice thing about having 2 courses.

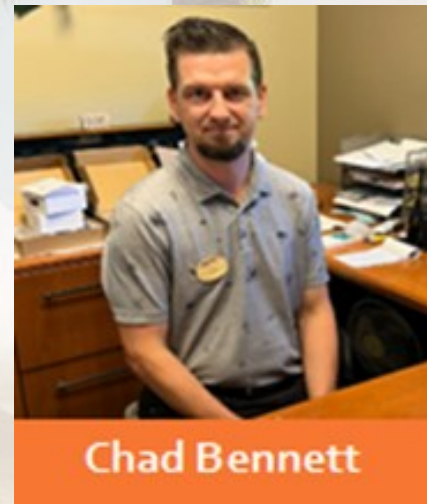
In May there will be 3 double full field tournaments that will have both courses closed until the afternoon, but the practice facilities will be open usually around 12:00.

More details will come out in an email for specific dates that both courses are closed, and we appreciate your understanding as we get into busy tournament season. Also know that we are a public golf course and the tournament revenue that we generate helps to be able to keep your membership costs lower.

We continue to look forward to the progression of the work being done on the bridges throughout the courses. This is a slow process but so far, the work being done on the bridge going from Orchard 14 tee-box to the fairway looks great and we can't wait for the first bridge to be completed hopefully within a month or two with a much smoother ride.

We appreciate everyone's continued patronage at Lincoln Hills, and we look forward to more good things coming.

Chad Bennett, PGA
General Manager



HANDICAP DIRECTOR



Congratulations to our 3 most improved golfers. for the first quarter of 2026.

Nice work guys !

There will be a \$25.00 credit in the pro shop sometime soon for each of you from the MGCLH.

Thanks for posting your scores.

The winners are:

Ray Overton 0 to 9.9.

Ron Chinnapongse 10 to 19.9

Vance Sharp 20 and above.

In order to win this award. You must post 3 scores per month at our courses and and be in good standing with the MGCLH.

Brett Pearson

Handicap Director

NCGA REPRESENTATIVE

NCGA Members get BIG discounts with Ship Sticks!



Jim McGeough



It's starting to warm up outside and more of us will be looking to play golf in places outside our beautiful compound of Sun City Lincoln Hills. Maybe a local course? A course on the

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE..



Brian Fox

Interesting article on bunkers...



The Secret Life—and History—of Golf Bunkers

They are one of the most-expensive parts of a golf course to build and maintain. And they didn't always come with rakes.

BY BRADLEY S. KLEIN

EVERY GOLFER knows the feeling: a solid swing, a hopeful flight, and then the soft thud as the ball disappears into a bunker.

These sand-filled hollows are designed to cause golfers trouble. They cost them strokes, require a unique swing to escape, and force players to clean up any mess they leave behind in the sand.

The nature of the threat posed by sand pits was put aptly by golf writer Aleck Bauer in 1913: "Bunkers are not intended to be pleasure grounds but places of repentance."

But for all the angst they elicit, bunkers remain a mystery for many golfers and nongolfers

alike. How did they come about? What goes into creating—and maintaining—them? And what's with the rakes?

It's time for some answers.

Small but mighty

Bunkers comprise only about 1%-2% of the golf course, yet take up an inordinate amount of a golfer's energy and anxiety.

A typical 18-hole course will have anywhere from 30 to 100 bunkers, totaling 1 to 2 acres, compared with 25-30 acres of fairway and 2 to 3 acres of greens. But there are no rules on their structure or how many of them there should be—or if there should be any at all.

The Preserve at Eisenhower in Crownsville, Md., for instance, has no bunkers, while Whistling

Straits in Mosel, Wis., has over 1,100. Nor is that number stable at many courses. Augusta National Golf Club, annual home of the Masters, originally sported only 24 bunkers. Now it has 44.

A standard midlevel player who scores on average between 80 and 100 will likely land in three to five bunkers a round (and lose a stroke each time it happens).

Expensive to build

Bunkers weren't always intentional. Centuries ago, they emerged on seaside courses as natural pits and hollows caused by erosion and by animals sheltering from the wind. Gradually, these crevices became filled with sand and a standard part of the golf landscape.

Since the advent of professional golf design around the turn of the 19th century, these bunkers are now manufactured. Today that entails a complex process of excavator or bulldozer work, creating a stable soil base, embedding a subsurface drainage system for water to escape, and often a permeable liner of fabric, polymer or aggregate material to provide a firm base for the sand to adhere to while reducing erosion and washouts from heavy rains.

Costs of a new bunker can easily run \$10 to \$20 a square foot, or \$10,000 to \$20,000 for a typical bunker. That's about the equivalent square-foot cost of a new green.

Expensive to maintain

Elite clubs maintaining "championship" conditions on their course might spend 10%-15% of their annual budget on bunker maintenance—almost as much as on putting surfaces. A more-modest municipal or public course might spend 5%-8% on bunkers. In either case, on a per-shot basis that is much more money than spent on fairways or greens.

Bunkers are expensive to maintain because their sides erode, players often break down the walls climbing out, the sand gets compromised or washed out, mechanical raking by the crew breaks down the bunker edge, and hand raking by the crew takes many man-hours.

A unique swing

The basic instruction for golfers is to hit the ball solidly. Except, that is, when escaping a bunker: It is the only time in golf when an ideal shot never makes contact with the ball.

The goal is to make a descending blow that impacts the sand an inch or 2 (but not 3!) behind the ball and creates a cushion of sand, upon which the ball rides the face of the golf club on its way up and out. Make solid contact with the ball first,

instead, and you'll hit the ball either into the bunker wall or send it shooting across the green into the rough or another bunker. The hardest part of bunker escape is getting used to playing the sand first, not the ball.

A brief history of rakes

It is common courtesy today to reach for a nearby rake after you have played from a bunker, and to smooth out the surface for the rest of the players. Rakes, however, are a relatively recent addition to the golf world. For centuries, golfers played the ball "as it lay" in the sand, regardless of the conditions.

Mark Fine, who has co-written a book about bunkers, says the increased use of rakes after World War I was the result of a shift from match play to stroke play. With match play, players compete to win individual holes, so if you land in an unraked bunker, and need three strokes to get out of it, you simply lose that hole. With stroke play, he says, "one bad break like that would ruin your chances for the entire event."

Suddenly, a well-raked bunker wasn't just a nice thing to have. It was necessary for fair play.

An elitist attitude

Everyday golfers are usually thrilled—and surprised—if they are able to escape a bunker in one shot, let alone get the ball close enough to the hole for a one-putt to save par.

Elite players, by contrast, expect to be able to save par from greenside bunkers, and often appear to aim deliberately at the hole (while everyday golfers typically are thinking more about just getting out of the sand). Statistics on their par-saving success bear out their confidence. PGA Tour pros managed to score par 57% of the time in 2025 from greenside bunkers. Their LPGA counterparts averaged 43% over the same time frame.

Bradley S. Klein is a writer in Bloomfield, Conn. He can be reached at reports@wsj.com.

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CVS — CENTRAL VALLEY SENIORS

As April comes to an end, CVS members have participated in two outings,

Woodbridge CC saw 15 players as the sun came out and gave us a beautiful first outing of 2026. Yolo Fliers was played on the 27th.

Next up is Timber Creek at Sun City Roseville, our only outing for the month of May.

In June we visit El Macero which just finished redoing their course and the always tough Rancho Murieta.

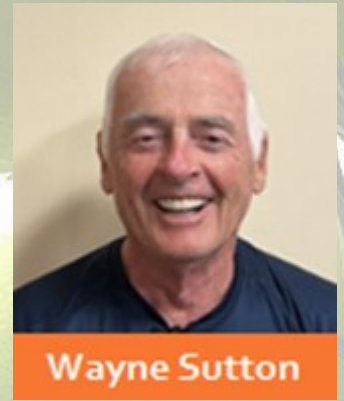
July's outing is to Valley Hi CC and in August we play Cameron Park and one of our favorite courses, Sierra View.

It is not too late to join CVS for the rest of this year.

You can do so by going to the CVS page on the men's club website. It is only \$25 to join and you too can be playing some of the area's top private golf courses.

You can join and Pay online here:

[2026 CVS Signup Link](#)



FOR SALE ITEMS

Check out the current for-sale golf items on the MGCLH website by clicking this link:

<https://mgclh.club/category/for-sale/>

Note: Golf Items For Sale is for MGCLH Members only. Items listed For Sale or Wanted must be Golf related. For example: used clubs, pull carts, electric golf carts, etc. All items will be listed for 90 days and then removed by the Webmaster. Businesses will not be allowed to post items. The Webmaster and Board of Directors reserve the right to reject any items they deem not appropriate.

COURSE CARE INITIATIVE

We are all concerned about the condition of our course - especially the fairways and greens. In order to be a part of the solution, your Men's Club Board of Directors is asking our members to participate in filling extra fairway divots and fixing additional ball marks on the greens when time during your rounds permit it. In the fairways, please fill your divot and several others. Sand for filling your bottles is available at the driving range. On the greens, please fix your ball mark and two others.

Also, a friendly reminder to keep golf carts at least 30 yards from the greens. Let's do our part to protect our golf course and keep it in good shape.

Thank you for being willing to be a part of the solution to make our courses better.

LH PRO SHOP “SWEEPS” INFORMATION

PLEASE NOTE, THIS IS NOT A PART OF MGCLH BUT WE HOPE OUR MEMBERS CAN ENJOY PLAYING IN THIS. THE SWEEPS ARE RUN AND ORGANIZED BY THE PRO SHOP. THE PRO SHOP COLLECTS THE MONEY FOR IT AND PAYS OUT INTO YOUR CREDIT ACCOUNT WITH THE PRO SHOP. ****PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE MGCLH TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR OR OTHER MGCLH BOARD MEMBERS WITH ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SWEEPS****

HOW IT WORKS:

The Lincoln Hills Golf Club Pro Shop hosts a weekly “Sweeps” on Tuesday mornings.

A \$3.00 contribution to the prize pool, a GHIN number, and your greens fees are all that is needed to participate.

The sweeps are stroke play with flights based on handicaps.

You can sign up as a single and meet new golfers each time.

You can also sign up as twosomes, threesomes, and foursomes.

There is 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th prize money per flight for Low Gross, Low Net, Closest to the Pin (CTTP), and Long Drive.

Your prize money is deposited in your credit account at the Pro Shop.

You can view your credit balance of winnings in the CHRONOGOLF app.

To sign up for the sweeps, send an email to (Sherrill Slotsve) sherrills31@gmail.com. Provide your GHIN number and the Tees you play from.

She will then include you on her weekly emails to sign up for the following week's sweeps.

There are no “Sweeps” on the Tuesdays when the Men's Golf Club is holding a tournament.