

President's Message May 2024

Our 2024 Season is well underway! Are those cold winter and spring days behind us? We hope so!

New Members

Please welcome **Mary Drake** as our newest member. Mary is a Ranch resident, and was Evie Thompson's guest for our Cactus Flower tournament. We're so glad she's joined us!

Tournaments

Our 4th member guest tournament, **The Cactus Flower**, was a great success, with 86 women participating! Starting off with putting and chipping contests on the first day, we had a Partner Best Net on Tuesday and a Texas Shamble on Wednesday. Fabulous lunches and a cocktail party rounded out the festivities over the three days. Congratulations to our overall winning team, **Nanci Messner and her guest Linda Bowers!** Big thanks go to all the people who made the tournament work: the Tournament Committee of Nanci Messner, Cathy Steel and Maggie Merrick, Cathy's League Play team of Kay Johnson, Joanne Garcia and Suz Schuster, Maggie's Social team of Evie Thompson, Ingi McManus, Fran Harrington, Charlotte Graham, Karen Oprish and Marge Rodgers. The SBRMGA, who provided spotters and helped create and set up the putting contest course. And to our Pros, Mike and Ken, who handled score verification and the leaderboard.

Coming up is the **SaddleBrooke Women's Classic**, our annual intra-league event with SaddleBrooke One and Mountainview/Preserve, being held at the Ranch on May 21. We anticipate a big turnout for this fun tournament!

In the works is a summertime event - on July 2. Details will be forthcoming later this month.

Breaking News! Tuesday Lunch Service

I met with Kelly regarding food service after Tuesday League play. I expressed our concern that we no longer fit in the Sports Bar, and that players are not staying for lunch as they have no desire to stand in line at the bar to order food and a drink. This is negatively impacting our desire for League socialization and camaraderie after golf, in addition to causing Robson to lose revenue.

After exploring several options, Kelly proposed that players gather in the Private Dining Room on May 7, and our orders will be taken as we are seated. Kelly and Tyler will be handling the service, and from there, they will be able to better evaluate how our growing group can be best accommodated. If all goes well, we expect to continue to have our lunch service in the PDR each Tuesday.

If you play on May 7, I will ask that you please leave a tip, preferably at least 20%. Tipping in the PDR has been an issue in the past, which creates a problem with servers not wanting to work the PDR. Kelly and Tyler will distribute the tips among the servers on staff that day.

In addition, please refrain from complaining that your food isn't being delivered quickly enough. The kitchen and Kelly and Tyler will make every effort to get us served as promptly as possible. I know you've all observed how the staff hustles continuously, and it's no different behind the scenes in the kitchen.

Kelly and Tyler will set up the room to best handle taking orders. They've asked that tables not be moved or joined together. They'll set up the room for tables of 8. If we have more than 48 women coming in for lunch, the overflow should order at the bar and head to the Sports Bar.

Pace of Play and Safety

Our league has always emphasized the importance of pace of play. For the most part, we are pretty good at it! Our website has an entire writeup on how to maintain pace of play. Check out the section under Rules/Pace of Play: www.sbrwga.com

The first best practice pace of play should be to always keep the group in front of you in sight. If they've moved ahead out of sight, some of the other hints will help get you back on pace.

Conversely, keeping pace of play DOES NOT mean rushing the group in front of you. Be aware of the distance between you and the group in front of you, and do not take your shot if there is even a remote chance you will hit into them. We've had a few players hit by golf balls over the years, and injuries can be very serious.

Other Golf Events

The Pueblo Del Sol WGA has extended an invitation to participate in their annual **Hummingbird Classic**, on June 4 & 5. The flyer and sign-up sheet is in the Pro Shop. See *Colleen Carey* for details or questions.

Rule of the Month

1 Club-Length Relief vs 2 Club-Lengths Relief:

When do you take free relief under the Rules, e.g. from an immovable obstruction (not a tree), casual water (not a water hazard), ground under repair, wrong putting green, or a staked tee (if there is a Local Rule), you must drop within *one club-length* of the nearest point of relief that is not nearer the hole.

When you are taking a penalty relief, e.g. from an unplayable lie or from a lateral water hazard, you must drop within *two club-lengths* from the reference point, not nearer the hole.

*Submitted by our Rules/Handicap Chair, Deb Lawson

Fun Fact

Member Debby Felzien found this little bit of golf history while re-reading The Hobbit.

"...Bullroarer who was so big (for a hobbit) that he could ride a horse. He charged the ranks of the goblins of Mount Gram in the Battle of the Green Fields, and knocked their king Golfimbul's head clean off iwth a wooden club. It sailed a hundred yards through the air and went down a rabbit-hole, and in this way the battle was won and the game of Golf invented at the same moment."

Who knew?

Wishing you only sunny and warm golf days,

Pam Horwitt, President

SBRWGA