

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

January 1, 2024

Happy New Year to all of you! I hope you all had wonderful holiday celebrations with family and friends, and that most of you weren't struck down by the nasty respiratory virus running around the Ranch that found some of us.

We are looking forward to yet another great year of women's golf at SaddleBrooke Ranch. I have a lot of good information to share this month, so bear with me.

New Members

We had several women join our League at the end of 2023. Please welcome:

Lynn Mulhall
Nancy Stirling
Joan Grawe
Paula Jackson
Michele Madgar (rejoined)
Marilyn Heasley
Lyn Olson
Bev Franklin
Barbara Lythjohan
Carol Sacks (rejoined)

This brings our current membership to an amazing 120 golfers! We are growing by leaps and bounds!

2024 Board

This year's Board is ready to get started planning great social activities, games and tournaments for our League. Our first Board meeting is January 9th. We meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the Private Dining Room, at 1:00.

This year's Board:

President: Pam Horwitt
Vice President: Nanci Messner
Secretary: Jen Valverde
Treasurer: Kathi Dyer
League Day Chair: Cathy Steel (Assistants Suz Schuster, Jo Garcia, Kay Johnson)
Social Chair: Maggie Merrick (assistants many!)
Membership: Susan Ness
Webmaster: Barb Simms
Handicap/Rules: Deb Lawson
Sponsorship: Jackie Elphic

SBRWGA 2023 Audit Volunteers Needed

I'm looking for 3 volunteers to audit the 2023 books. This is an annual requirement that must be completed by non-Board members within 60 days of the end of our fiscal year (December 31). You don't need to be a CPA to participate! Outgoing Treasurer Kay Johnson and incoming Treasurer Kathi Dyer will oversee the audit and help with any questions. Please respond to me if you'd like to help.

Tournaments

Coming up soon is our first tournament of the year. **Del Sud** (day 1) will be held on February 6. It's also the first State Medallion qualifier. I do want to remind you all that our **Cactus Flower Tournament** (formerly Member Guest) will be held on April 23 & 24, so your out-of-town guests can start planning their travel. Keep in mind that there will likely be a pre-tournament event of some kind on April 22. For a complete list of our tournament dates, check our SBRWGA website. www.SBRWGA.com.

League Play

Our League Day Chair, Cathy Steel, has some items in the works for 2024.

Live Scoring: We've been practicing using Live Scoring for a few months now. In early 2024, we will be formalizing the process and instructions for Live Scoring on the Golf Genius app.

League Games: Cathy and her team are making plans for gathering data on which games you like, which you don't like, and other games that might be added to our repertoire.

World Handicap System

The USGA will be releasing the updates to the WHS around January 16. Check your December USGA Handicap email for details on the changes to the WHS.

The Never-ending Question: Am I Playing from the Correct Tees?

There are lots of ways to answer this question. Can I get on in regulation? Is my handicap consistent or creeping higher and higher? Do I rarely win in my flight? Am I just plain frustrated?

A common rule of thumb is to determine your correct tee boxes by how far you hit your driver. This guideline is even on the back of the SBR scorecard. However, many players have at least a 20 yard variance on their driver at any given point. The 7-Iron Solution may be a better gauge. Most of us know exactly how far we hit our 7-iron. It doesn't fluctuate much, does it? Recently in a USGA article the 7-Iron Solution parameters were described. Give it a try. If you want to change your designated tee, contact Cathy via SBRWGA@gmail.com

7-Iron Distance	Best Course Length	SBR Course (approx.)
80 yards or less	3,500 - 3,700	
95	4,100 - 4,300	Gold tees
110	4,800 - 5,000	Gold/Plum Combo tees
125	5,400 - 5,600	Plum tees
140	5,900 - 6,100	
155	6,400 - 6,600	
170 or more	6,700 - 6,900	

SBRWGA League News

A BIG “thank you” goes to *Mary Hoover*, who completed a beautiful diamond dot picture, and then donated it to our 14th green restroom! Stop in and check it out when you’re next on the course.

Our *Hole-In One fund* could use a little more replenishing, since Marge Rodgers wiped it out in August with her hole in one! Please give your \$5 to Diane Taylor if you would like to contribute. And if you don’t remember if you already contributed, you can check the Hole-In-One spreadsheet on our website.

The *SBRWGA Suggestion Box* is the best place to ask questions, make suggestions, clarify policies, or even (constructively) raise concerns. Our Board reviews and responds to every signed suggestion submitted. It’s the best way to make your voice heard. The clear Lucite Suggestion Box sits next to our larger SBRWGA box in the Pro Shop.

News from Other Leagues

The first *Kachina Dolls Tournament* is Feb 26. The signup sheet is in the Pro Shop. I’ve attached the flyer. Make sure you put your check in the SBRWGA box the same day you sign up, so our representatives don’t have to chase you down for your payment.

The *Mountain View/Preserve Charity Tournament* is Feb 20. The registration form is attached. Sign-up closes Jan 31.

The *Catalina Cup, Southern District, AGA and Tucson City League* schedules are all on our website under Schedules & Events/Offsite Golf Events.

Lastly, I’m very honored to serve as your President this year. We have wonderful camaraderie in our League, and it couldn’t be a better place to learn, play, compete and improve our golf games!

Wishing you only sunny golf days,

Pam Horwitt