

ROLLING HILLS GOLF CLUB

Volume 4, Issue 4

April 2019

President's Message

As another crazy month comes to an end, I want to thank Jeff Meisner, Tamara Tahir, along with Safwa and his staff, for their tireless efforts. Since taking over as President, I have become more aware how other clubs run events and I think sometimes we take it for granted how well we do things here at Rolling Hills. This is a tribute to the 3 aforementioned people, along with a Board and set of volunteers, that are second to none. Thank you all for what you do.

On April 19th, RHGC will be hosting our annual Oilman's tournament. It has always proven to be a true highlight of the year with a dinner to follow. RHGC members will have the opportunity to build their own team or possibly be asked to join a sponsored team. It should be a great time and there will be more information to follow.

I am sure many of you have noticed the changes around the range. Recreation has worked hard to try and make this an area that is not just for hitting balls. I have contacted them on multiple occasions about nonmembers who are walking the golf course and continually walking to the range just to see the lights/beauty. Recreation assures me that new and larger signs are coming and that the Board/members should be reminding people that it is not safe to just be walking on a golf course.

Lastly, I expect the final part of the Tamarisk removal will be complete by May 1st. Once completed, we will begin phase 2. First, sand will be added to the areas where the Tamarisks were removed and then rolled it to create a hard, yet playable surface. The second part of phase 2 will be the planting of additional trees on the course. We are still working on types of trees and locations where they will be planted but this will be all be ironed out during phase 2.

Have a great month and hopefully these cool temps continue!

Hit em Straight

-Ed Devlin

From the Pro

The next "Golf in a Week" class starts on April 21st. Classes are an hour each day beginning at 7:00 pm and run for 5 consecutive days. Courses aimed at beginner and intermediate golfers. It covers all aspects of the game: Safety, Rules, Etiquette, Swing Method, and an on course Texas scramble. All equipment and range balls are supplied. The cost is 600 SAR. Please sign up in the Pro Shop.

Stuart offers a ladies' only class each Thursday morning from 9:00 -10:00. All equipment is supplied and there is free coffee on arrival. It is ideal for either the beginner or intermediate golfer as it covers all the skills to get one out on the course! The cost is 90 SAR per person per class.

The Junior Tour School will run the last week of March and the 1st week of April every day for that week for the Spring Vacation 8am-9am, Covering Rules, Etiquette and Golf Swing Mechanics. The cost is 300SR.

Individual Lessons can be taken any day at times convenient — for more information on lesson prices, or to register, you may contact Stuart at:

stuart.hurstfield@aramco.com

April 4th — Ladies' Classes Continues

March 24th — Junior Tour School

April 21st — Golf in a Week

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Upcoming Tournament Information

The Oilman's Tournament

The Oilman's Tournament will be held on **April 19th** this year. The tournament is our primary fundraising event. This tournament is organized to promote and bolster the business relationships between the many contracting entities who work with Saudi Aramco by bringing together individuals who enjoy the sport of golf. See the [RHGC Website](#) for more information.

Bi-Monthly Stableford

We are having our Bi-Monthly Stableford on **April 27th**. Registration is now open via [Tournament Manager](#).

The [2019 Tournament Calendar](#) is available on the RHGC's website.

April 19th — The Oilman's
Tournament
April 27th — Bi-Monthly Medal



Ask Carl

Q: Are the USGA and the R&A working to create a World Handicap System to replace the current 6 systems (Golf Australia, the Council of National Golf Unions (CONGU) in Great Britain and Ireland, the European Golf Association (EGA), the South African Golf Association (SAGA), the Argentine Golf Association (AAG) and the USGA)?

A: Yes, they plan to implement it in 2020, see www.usga.org/whs and <http://www.txga.org/keyfeaturesofnewworldhandicapsystem.new>. All golfers are encouraged to provide feedback to the USGA at whsfeedback@usga.org.

If you would like Carl to answer a question, please email a Board member and they will make sure Carl gets it. Which is nice.

Junior Golf

RHGC Jr Golf Event – April 13th, 2019

Junior golfers of all skill levels are invited to participate. Here is the schedule for the day:

- 10:00 am — **Driving/Putting Range (warmups)**
- 10:30 am — **Meeting in Clubhouse for pairings and rules**
- 10:40 am — **Competitive Group heads to #1 or #10 Tee**
- 11:00 am — **Fun Groups head to course**
- 1:00 pm — **All groups back in the Clubhouse for lunch and prizes**
- 1:45 pm — **Finish: Golfers are free to go**

Fun Division For younger and less experienced juniors that just want to have fun playing a few holes of golf on the course

Competitive Division For the older and more experienced juniors that want to test their golf skills on the course and compete for medals

Who Can Play?

RHGC and Aramco Community Club members ages 8-17 years old or those who have or are currently taking lessons from Stuart Hurstfield (RHGC Golf Pro) or Community Club Pro.

Greens Fees

None - Free for all junior RHGC members!

75SR for non members

Equipment Needed

Golf clubs, golf balls and tees. If needed, there will be a limited number of junior golf club sets available for use for free.

Sign-Up

Sign up for the April Golf Event is currently available on the [ForeTees](#) website, or via email if the player does not have a handicap.

For more information ,or to volunteer as a marshal, please contact:

[Coby Long](#) : 054 838 0576 (WhatsApp) or

email at: cobylong@gmail.com

Rules

The 20 Most Important Rule Changes for 2019

1. Search time—Reduced from 5 minutes to 3 minutes.
2. Ball moved during search—Replace with no penalty.
3. Embedded ball—Free relief anywhere in the general area.
4. Measuring a drop—Use longest club (except putter).
5. Dropping—Drop from knee height rather than from shoulder height.
6. Taking stance on the wrong green is no longer allowed.
7. Ball unintentionally hits player or equipment—No penalty.
8. Double hit—No penalty; now counts as only one shot.
9. Touching sand in bunker incidentally is permitted.
10. Loose impediments can be removed anywhere including hazards.
11. Dropping a ball outside of a bunker—two penalty strokes.
12. Water hazards—Now called “Penalty Areas.”
13. Touching ground in penalty area—No penalty.
14. Ball moves on green after being marked—Replace without penalty.
15. Ball accidentally moved on putting green—Replace without penalty.
16. All damage to green can now be repaired.
17. Positioning a club for alignment is not permitted.
18. Caddie assisting with alignment is not permitted.
19. Putting with flag stick in the hole is now permitted.
20. Ball wedged against the flag stick and the side of the hole is deemed as holed.



A promotional advertisement for Ping G410 golf clubs. The background is a gradient of red and dark red. On the left, a large, semi-transparent '410' is visible. In the center, a Ping G410 Plus driver and a Ping G410 wedge are shown. The driver is black with red accents, and the wedge is silver with black and red accents. The text 'A NEW DIMENSION IN FITTING.' is prominently displayed in white and red. At the bottom, the text 'FITTING DAY - APRIL 3RD & 4TH AT ROLLING HILLS GOLF CLUB' is written in white. In the bottom left corner, there is a logo for Rolling Hills Golf Club, featuring a green and white design with the text 'ROLLING HILLS GOLF CLUB' and 'EMIRAN SAIED AL-ABRA' below it.

410

G410

**A NEW DIMENSION
IN FITTING.**

PING G410 PLUS

PING G410

**FITTING DAY - APRIL 3RD & 4TH
AT ROLLING HILLS GOLF CLUB**

**ROLLING HILLS
GOLF CLUB**
EMIRAN SAIED AL-ABRA

Handicap Corner

Please contact the [Handicap Director](mailto:rhgchandicaps@gmail.com) (rhgchandicaps@gmail.com or handicaps@arabiangolf.net) if you have any questions.

HC Stroke Allocation for Mixed Competitions

At RHGC our year long Match Play Ladders are mixed competitions. The rules for allocating Handicap strokes are as per Section 9-3 of the USGA Handicap Manual (excerpts below). **Since our Red Tees have a higher course rating than our White Tees this means that if you're playing in a mixed match, the lady will get one additional stroke if getting strokes (ie. she has a higher handicap), or will give one less stroke if giving strokes (ie. she has a lower handicap).**

In any Stroke Play Competition where men and women are competing together with women playing from the Red Tees and men playing from the White Tees, the women will add one stroke to their Course Handicap.

To ensure fair play in all our mixed competitions, please be sure to follow these Stroke Allocation Rules.

9-3. Assignment of Strokes

a. Where To Apply Strokes

For formats in which handicap strokes are used on specific holes during the course of play, a player generally takes them in the order assigned on the scorecard. For example, a player receiving three strokes takes them on the first, second, and third stroke holes.

In mixed competitions where players play their own ball and where allocations are different for men and women, the players receive strokes based on their respective stroke allocations.

In mixed foursome and selected drive match play competitions, strokes are received based on the men's allocation.

c. Players Competing From Different Tees or Men and Women From Same Tees

(i) Different Tees: Men vs. Men; Women vs. Women; Women vs. Men

Different tees usually have different ratings. Since a **USGA Course Rating** reflects the probable scores of a **scratch golfer**, the higher-rated course is more difficult, and the player playing from the set of tees with the higher **USGA Course Rating** receives additional stroke(s) equal to the difference between each **USGA Course Rating**, with the resulting figure rounded off to the nearest whole number (.5 or more is rounded upward). (See Decision **3-5/1**.)

Example: If women playing from the forward tees, from which the women's **USGA Course Rating** is 71.5, compete against men playing from the middle tees, from which the men's **USGA Course Rating** is 70.2, the women will add one stroke ($71.5 - 70.2 = 1.3$ rounded to 1) to **Course Handicap**.

Grounds

Holes 6-7-8-9-10-11-12-15 have had all, or a significant portion, of the Tamarisk removed. The Grounds Crew are in the process of grooming the Tamarisk zones to make these areas more playable. If you find your ball in a hole that was related to the Tamarisk removal then you have the option of declaring this Abnormal Conditions and proceeding with relief from Ground Under Repair. Please do not abuse this rule and remember to always discuss with your playing partner. Below is the USGA Definition of Ground Under Repair.

Ground Under Repair (GUR)

Any part of the course the Committee defines to be ground under repair (whether by marking it or otherwise).

Ground under repair also includes the following things, even if the Committee does not define them as such:

- Any hole made by the Committee or the maintenance staff in:
 - Setting up the course (such as a hole where a stake has been removed or the hole on a double green being used for the play of another hole), or
 - Maintaining the course (such as a hole made in removing turf or a tree stump or laying pipelines, but not including aeration holes).
- Grass cuttings, leaves and any other material piled for later removal. But:
 - Any natural materials that are piled for removal are also loose impediments, and
 - Any materials left on the course that are not intended to be removed are not ground under repair unless the Committee has defined them as such.
- Any animal habitat (such as a bird's nest) that is so near your ball that your stroke or stance might damage it, except when the habitat has been made by animals that are defined as loose impediments (such as worms or insects).

DIAGRAM 16.1b: FREE RELIEF FROM ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITION IN GENERAL AREA

Free relief is allowed when the ball is in the general area and there is interference by an abnormal course condition. The nearest point of complete relief should be identified and a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.

Reference Point	Size of Relief Area	Limits on Relief Area
The nearest point of complete relief	One club-length from the reference point	The relief area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and • Must be in the general area

Player Notes:
When taking relief, you must take complete relief from all interference by the abnormal course condition.

DIAGRAM 16.1a: WHEN RELIEF IS ALLOWED FOR ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITION

The diagram assumes the player is right-handed. Free relief is allowed for interference by an abnormal course condition (ACC), including an immovable obstruction, when the ball touches or lies in or on the condition (B1), or the condition interferes with the area of intended stance (B2) or swing. The nearest point of complete relief for B1 is P1, and is very close to the condition. For B2, the nearest point of complete relief is P2, and is farther from the condition as the stance has to be clear of the ACC.

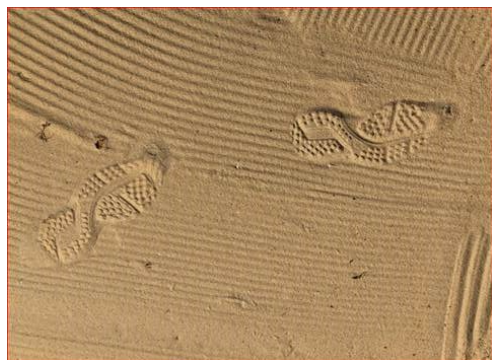
Grounds Con't

Adopt-A-Hole program

The Adopt-A-Hole program is operational and we have a host of volunteers doing their best to help keep the course looking beautiful. If you are interested in lending a hand, contact the program coordinator Barry Wethington wbwethington@gmail.com. This month we'd like to recognize Yong Song Kim who has brought his bucket of sand and shovel every weekend to fill as many divots throughout the course as possible. Thanks Yong Song! While we appreciate the efforts of all volunteers, please keep in mind it is the responsibility of every player to fill their divots and fix pitch marks on the green. If you see your playing partner abusing this responsibility, please point out that everyone must lend a hand and not rely on others to carry the load.

Adopt-A-Hole	
HOLE	Volunteer
1	Troy Thompson
2-3-4-5	Yong Song Kim
	Hyung Kwak
	Sam Shin
6	John Paul Scallon & Doug Loudon
7 & 8	Michael Jones
	Eduardo Delcarmen
9	Kevin Capstick
10 & 11	Mel Rivera
	Chris Padilla
	Patrick Antony
12	Ed Devlin & Dawn Walle
13 & 14	Steve & Ellen Vezendy
	Emma Gold
15 & 16	Les & Sue Hertlein
17	Paul Titley
	Tom Hogan
18	Barry & Kerri Wethington
Practice Areas	Coby Long & Tracey Jackson

Finally, unkempt bunkers and pitch marks continue to plague our course...



From the Treasurer

RHGC is pleased to announce that the 2018 financial statements have been approved by the auditor and Recreation. If you like numbers, the approved statement is accessible through our [Website](#).

In response to some comments made during the AGM about the lack of visibility of the budget status, we have decided to share a budget status update on a monthly basis in a form of a report posted on our Website beginning May 1st, 2019. The cut-off date of these reports will most likely follow the frequency of our board meetings.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Franck Besseat, Treasurer

Oilman's Volunteers

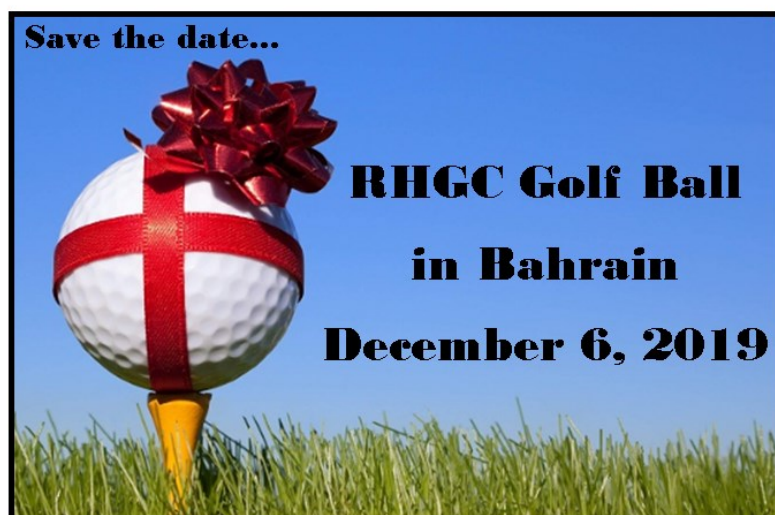


If you would like to support RHGC by helping with our **Oilman's Tournament on April 19th**, we've got lots of ways for you to volunteer.

We need folks to help with swag bag prep, registration, sign set up, and some on-course support. Contact Jane.Sedgwick@aramco.com

If you would like to help with clubhouse set up and decorations, prepping facecloths for the course, driving the drink cart and more, contact Tamara.Tahir@aramco.com or hensonamanda@gmail.com

2019 RHGC Golf Ball



Save the date...

**RHGC Golf Ball
in Bahrain
December 6, 2019**