

ROLLING HILLS GOLF CLUB

Volume 2, Issue 5

May 2017

President's Message

The President's Cup is completed, congrats to all, especially the pairing of Les Hertlein and Doug Loudon who won with a very suspicious net 65!

The next big tournament on the horizon is the Oilman's, May 19th. We'll be opening the signup soon for non-corporate teams. Lots of individual skill and team prizes are available; we've had a tremendous response from regional businesses in support of the tournament.

And finally our greens. Many of you are talking about the speed, well not to worry. Jason is working hard on a program which will ultimately soften and smooth them out. What you're seeing now is the short term intervention to get there.

-Dave



From the Pro

Stuart will be running the next "Golf in a Week" class starting on May 21st. Classes are an hour each day beginning at 7:00 pm. This is a 5 consecutive day course aimed at beginner and intermediate golfers. It covers all aspects of the game: Safety, Rules, Etiquette, Swing Method, and an on course Texas scramble. The cost is 600 SAR per person.

A Junior Tour School will commence on May 4th and will last for 5 weeks. The clinic will cover the fundamentals and basics (putting, irons, chipping, and woods) of the game and swing. Only children aged 8 – 16 are permitted to take part in a Junior Clinic. The class runs for one hour each Wednesday from 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm. The cost is 400 SAR and needs to be paid in cash to Stuart.

A Ladies only class runs each Thursday morning from 9-10 AM. 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.

To register, you may contact Stuart via email at:

stuart.hurstfield@aramco.com

May 4th — Ladies Classes
May 4th — Junior Tour School
May 21st — Golf in a Week

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Upcoming Tournament Information

Monthly Stableford

We are having our Monthly Medal on **May 6th**, 2017. Registration on Fore-Tees is already open for the 6:30 AM shotgun start and 12:00 PM shotgun start. Members are allowed to form their own foursome and register on ForeTees.

Shawarmas will also be available for you to purchase at lunch time so bring your cash and an appetite.

May Night Golf

On the evening of **May 11th**, RHGC will be hosting another evening social event. The theme this month is Cinco de Mayo (PLUS 6), so men break out your sombreros and serapes and women your huipils and quechquemits. The event will be a modified Texas scramble. There is a cost of 100 SAR per person for this event. Price includes pre-golf snack and post-round buffet dinner. Additional dinner tickets may be purchased for 100 SAR per guest. Payments can be made now at the Clubhouse and close April 9th. Any team that has not paid by this date will be replaced by teams on the waiting list. This event is now sold out, but contact Jeff.Meisner@aramco.com if you would like to be on the waiting list. You may still purchase dinner tickets, even if you do not play golf. Dinner will be served at 8:15 PM.

The Oilman's

The Oilman's Tournament will be on **May 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.

Contracting entities can sponsor a team for 4,000SR and participate in a 4-person team Texas Scramble. RHGC members can also form a team for 2,000SR. There will be shotgun starts at 7:00AM and at 12:00PM. Prizes will be awarded for lowest Net team score based on flight. Dinner will also be served as part of the awards ceremony.

May 6th — May Monthly Medal
 May 11th — May Night Golf Scramble
 May 19th — The Oilman's Tournament



Ask Carl

Q: I recently played in the president's cup tournament and I was fortunate enough to play on the second day which was a Foresomes format. My partner stood directly behind me on the putting green assessing the break as I made the putt. Our opponents said that this was not allowed under the rules. Are they right?

A: No, this is not allowed. Rule 14-2b states that "A player must not make a stroke with his caddie, or his partner or his partner's caddie positioned on or close to an extension of the line of play or line of putt behind the ball." The penalty is two strokes in stroke play.

Q: Why is my name no longer in Foretees?

A: You did not renew your membership or did not renew it on time. The Board has to pay a cost for each person in Foretees. If you do not pay your membership, your name does not get renewed in Foretees.

The Oilman's Tournament



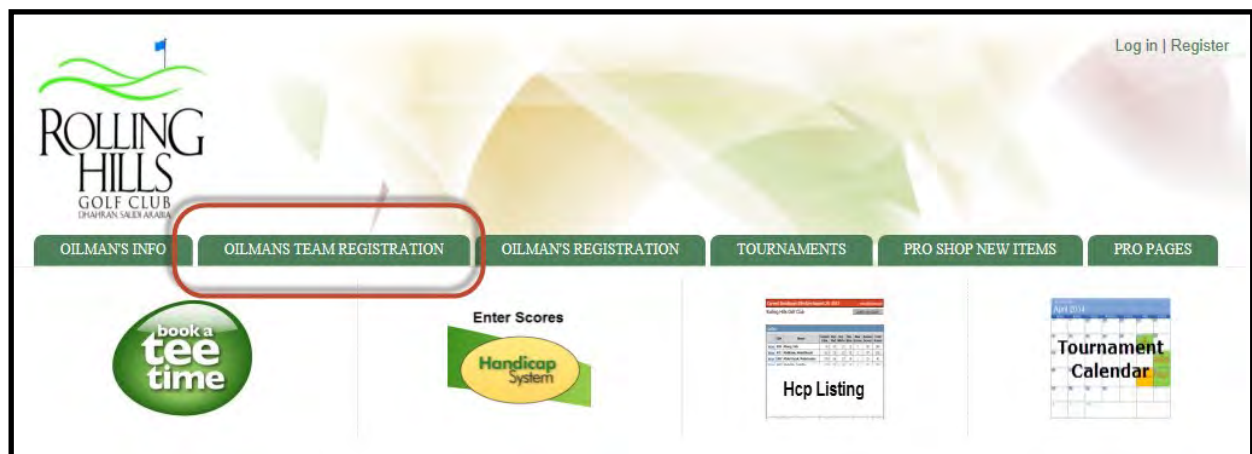
The Rolling Hills Golf Club is pleased to extend an invitation to all non-corporate golfers for the 5th annual Oilman's Golf Tournament.

The Oilman's will be held at Rolling Hills Golf Club on May 19, 2017, with 7:00am and 12:00 noon shotgun starts.

Register your team at the RHGC website, www.arabiangolf.com

Your fee of 500SR per player (750SR per non-Aramcon) will get you a round of golf, goodie bag, lunch, skill prizes, and a ticket to the awards dinner that evening. Additional dinner tickets are available for purchase. We will also have a number of raffle draws for golf clubs, hotel getaways, and much more.

Participants need to pay their registration fee early at the RHGC Pro Shop. However, for those outside of Dhahran, please confirm with the Tournament Director ([Jay Ward](#)) you will be paying at the event's check-in.



Please go to the RHGC website, and click on the [Oilman's Team Registration](#) link.

See you at the Oilman's!

-The 2017 Oilman's Tournament Committee

Junior Golf

Golf is a great way to bring families together and to build bonds that will last a lifetime as well as life skills. Some of them are: patience, overcoming defeat, sportsmanship, focus, humility and drive to get better. Plus, it is a sport that can be played for many years. Lessons learned on the golf course can last a lifetime. Come out and join us:

RHGC Junior Golf Invitational – May 13, 2017

Junior golfers of all skill levels are invited to participate in the April Junior Golf Invitational. Golfers are invited to participate in one or both of the activities. Here is the schedule for the day:

10:15am to 10:45am – Instructional session with Stuart and other club pros at the driving range.

10:45am to 11:00am – Putting Contest (on the practice putting green next to the driving range)

This contest is for fun to see who can sink the longest putt and get a long putt closest to the hole. There will be prizes for the winners.

11:00am to 1:30pm – Round of golf on the course & lunch (starting and finishing inside the Clubhouse)

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

**Parents are welcome to come along and watch their children play. We are also seeking volunteers to marshal the younger golfers as they play.

Who Can Play?

RHGC Club members ages 8-17 years old or those who have or are currently taking lessons from Stuart Hurstfield (RHGC Golf Pro). Members of the other Saudi Aramco Communities Golf Clubs (ABQ, RT, UDH or DH).

Location

Rolling Hills Golf Course (Meet at the putting green / playing on the front 9)

Time

10:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. – see the breakdown above

Greens Fees

None - Free for all junior RHGC members!

75SR for those who are not members of the community Golf Clubs (ABQ, RT, UDH or DH)

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 Golf Invitational is currently available on the ForeTees website, or via email if the player does not have a handicap

For members of the other Community Golf Clubs please have the Club Pro email Coby Long with number of players coming.

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

Coby Long : 054 838 0576 or email at: cobylong@gmail.com

Handicap Corner

Fair handicapping depends on full, accurate information regarding a player's potential scoring ability as reflected by a complete scoring record. If a member participates in the handicap system they are responsible for entering all acceptable scores accurately and timely.

POSTING SCORES

All rounds of play deemed acceptable for posting must be entered by the member into the Handicap System within 3 days after the round is played. It is the personal responsibility of every member with a handicap to enter scores accurately and promptly. Score postings are subject to random audit by the Handicap Committee, and at its discretion, may post "penalty" scores for missing scores.

EQUITABLE STROKE CONTROL

Equitable Stroke Control (ESC) it is the downward adjustment of individual hole scores for handicap purposes in order to make handicaps more representative of a player's potential scoring ability. If a member participates in the handicap system, and enters their grand total score for the round, he/she MUST take into account the maximum score that can be recorded per hole, known as ESC. This table lists the maximum strokes per hole based on your RHGC Course handicap.

EQUITABLE STROKE CONTROL

| COURSE HANDICAP | MAXIMUM NUMBER ON ANY HOLE |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 9 or less | Double Bogey |
| 10 through 19 | 7 |
| 20 through 29 | 8 |
| 30 through 39 | 9 |
| 40 or more | 10 |

RANDOM REVIEWS OF POSTED SCORES

The score posting reviews by members of the Handicap Committee will take place for rounds played on a random basis, by reviewing random days and/or member records. Failure to post scores promptly can result in a penalty score being posted for you. This will show up on your GHIN scoring record as a "P".

The member will be sent a reminder email (see example below). It is the member's responsibility to post the missing score(s) within three (3) calendar days and to inform the Handicap Committee via email of the score entered or reason for a score not being posted.

Scores for acceptable rounds should be posted within 3 days after the round is played. Score postings are subject to random audit by the Handicap Committee.

We reviewed bookings against scores posted for **Date(s)** and noted the following Missing Scores.

Please respond by {date} one of the following:

- 1 – Played and forgot to enter a score (provide score)
- 2 – Played but the round was not an acceptable round (please explain)
- 3 – Did not play (please explain)
- 4 – Other, eg. **the** data below is incorrect (please explain)

The Committee, at its discretion, may post penalty scores for missing scores. If no response is provided, a penalty score will be entered.

Ultimately, it is your responsibility to make certain your scores posted are accurate and entered timely.

If you have any questions about entering scores or the above data please let me know.

Thanks for your response, we appreciate it.

Stephen Vezendy
RHGC Handicap Director

Handicap Corner Continued

We recognize that anyone can occasionally forget to post a score. If you play in a regular golf group, we encourage you to designate one person to check and ensure members of the group post their scores timely. It is also a good method to “help” partners and friends with posting questions.

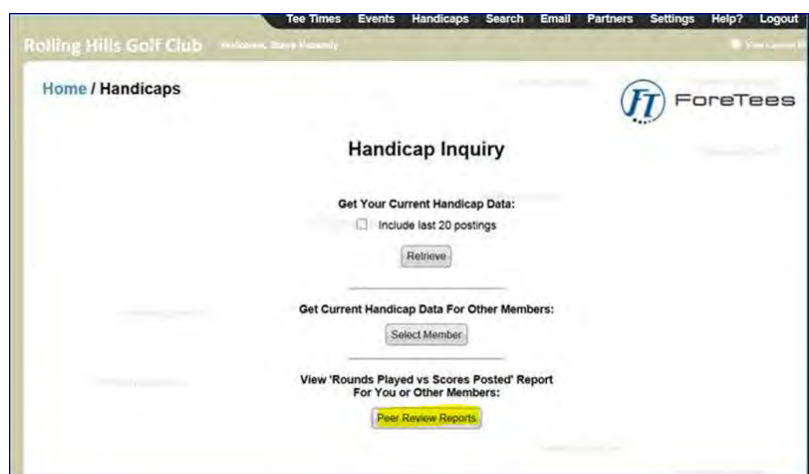
Per Section 8-4b of Handicap Manual. Penalty Scores for Failure to Post: If a player fails to post an acceptable score as soon as practical after completion of round, the Handicap Committee has three options:

- 1) Post the actual score made by the player;
- 2) Post penalty score equal to lowest/highest Handicap Differential in player's scoring record;
- 3) Post the actual score and a penalty score

Note: The Handicap Committee will still perform, as a secondary review, a quarterly review process of comparing number of scores posted versus rounds booked for purposes of identifying any habitual abusers. So, please self-review your score entries, which is explained in the next section. Again, it is YOUR responsibility to enter scores accurately and timely.

Self-Review

Members can review their own score entries and missing scores by logging onto ForeTees and going to Handicaps. Then select Peer Review Reports button “View Rounds Played vs Scores Posted Report for You or Other Members.”



If you have any questions, please contact the Handicap Director.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR BOOKING TEE TIMES IN FORETEES

If you only play 9-holes, make sure you click the 9-hole box. If you do not, then for score recording purposes and peer review purposes, the system is expecting an 18-hole score.

If you play in a scramble or team event, select SCR (not REG) for your round type so the system knows a score for this type of round is not expected.

If you have a booking and do not plan to play, please remove yourself from the booking so the system knows a score will not be posted, not to mention it is common courtesy for your fellow players.

If you have a booking and someone else is playing for you, please make sure the name is changed. Otherwise the system is expecting a score from you.

You are responsible for information in your tee time booking. Inaccurate data could lead to a missing score, and ultimately a penalty score.

If you have any questions please contact Handicap Director Stephen Vezendy at rhgc.handicap.dir@gmail.com or stephen.vezendyjr@aramco.com.

Rules & Grounds

Water Hazards – Know your Rights

You are in front of the water (yellow stakes) on #12 (or any water hazard) in two and hit your third shot into the water without crossing any of the lateral boundaries, the options:

- A. Under one stroke penalty, drop a ball as nearly as possible to the spot where the last stroke was played
- B. Keeping the line from the flag to the point of entry into the hazard, go as far back as you want behind the hazard and, under one stroke penalty, take a drop
- C. Try to find the ball in the hazard and play it without grounding the club, touching the ground with your hand, removing any loose impediments. If you are going to fall in the hazard and touch the ground with your club or hand to prevent that, there is no penalty other than some minor embarrassment.

If you have knowledge or virtual certainty that your ball is in the water hazard, you CANNOT play a provisional ball. If you drop a ball and tell your partner or opponent it is a provisional ball, it is not. Once the dropped ball touches a part of the course, it becomes the ball in play and you must abandon the one that is in the water hazard. If you play the “provisional” ball, you must finish out the hole with that ball. If you did play a “provisional” then find your first ball and finish out the hole with the “water” ball and do not correct this mistake before teeing off on #13, this is disqualification because you never holed out on #12 so cannot turn in a score card. Once you tee off on #13, it is no longer allowed to correct the mistake.

So let's take option C. Now what?

- You find the ball but decide it is unplayable and want to take a drop. No. There is no such thing as an unplayable lie in a water hazard so no relief is allowed. You can go to Option A or B above.
- You cannot find the ball in five minutes. Again, go to Option A or B above.
- You find the ball and decide to play it
 - You successfully hit the ball out of the hazard. Well done you!
 - You exit the hazard but your ball goes out of bounds (hard to do on #12 okay I get that), is lost or unplayable
 - You may drop, with a one stroke penalty, at the spot in the hazard where the previous stroke was taken.
 - Or, with another one stroke penalty (two total), you may revert to Option A or Option B above.
 - You strike the ball but fail to exit the hazard
 - You find the ball
 - Forgetting Einstein's definition of insanity, you may play the ball
 - Or you may proceed under Option A or B above
 - You cannot find the ball
 - Proceed under Option A or B above

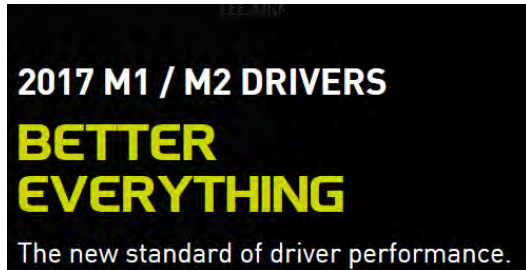
Let's look at another situation. You find yourself short of the water hazard on 12. It's your lucky day. The wind is coming from behind. The tides are right. Somewhere on the planet a full moon is in view. You hit your shot trying to reach the green but you lose it a bit to the right somewhere in between the right side sand trap and the small tree in the water hazard on the right side in the general direction of the golf cart turnaround and you are pretty sure you nailed the shot. So you don't have knowledge or virtual certainty that your ball landed in the water hazard. You think there is a reasonable chance that the ball may be somewhere in the desert on the other side of the cart path. In this case, you CAN play a provisional ball. If anyone questions you, bring it up to the Committee and the Committee will support you. If the original ball cannot be found within the allotted time, the provisional ball becomes the ball in play. Remember there is no rule that says you have to search for a full five minutes before declaring your ball lost. Having said that, simply declaring your ball lost doesn't make it lost. If you declare your ball lost but someone finds it within the allotted time and before you make your next shot with the provisional ball, the original ball is in play and the provisional must be abandoned. So if you really like the provisional, hit it quickly but not out of turn.

Okay last case. You are in front of or in the water hazard playing your shot. Your shot goes toward the green but you put a pretty nasty draw on it such that it lands in the portion of the water hazard left of the green. If your ball passed over the grass between the water hazard and the green (i.e. it exited the hazard and then re-entered it). In other words, you exited the water hazard before you went back into the hazard because the margin of the hazard line extends vertically upward. The ball could exit and re-enter the hazard even if it never landed outside the hazard. That portion of the water hazard is a lateral hazard (red stakes) so you can mark the point where the ball last passed over the margin of the hazard (best guess if you aren't sure) and take a drop (with one stroke penalty) within two club lengths no closer to the hole from the point you marked. There is also a small portion of the “island” on 12 where this situation might apply although it might be difficult to prove in some cases.

From the Pro Shop

Shoe stock, arrived 26 April, many models and sizes, from [Kankura Golf](#), to choose from, men's & ladies.

Also in stock, major winning Taylormade M series:



Clothing, Greg Norman, Ping and Footjoy, Men's and Ladies Stock, new in!



We also have lots of new putters in stock:



Summer vacation soon? Travel bags in stock, along with lots of logo items for gifts for loved ones, how about a set of drinks coasters?



Thursday Evening Golf in April

If you haven't made it out to a Thursday evening golf event yet, you're missing out on some great golfing fun, as well as some fabulous meals from Safwa. The next one is scheduled for May 11th.

Dinner will be a fajita bar!

Check Foretees for details and get signed up by May 4th. There is a limit of 12 teams.

Dinner tickets for players and guests can be purchased in the clubhouse for 100 riyals/person until May 7th.



Volunteer Opportunities

If you played in the President's Cup, you probably saw Angie Farley and Tina Ghant on the course delivering drinks and a smile. Our Oilman's Tournament is coming up May 19th, so if you'd like to drive the drink cart for that event, you can!

To help with the drink cart, setting up the clubhouse, registration/check-in on the 19th, marshalling, or on-course contests, email spalm20109@gmail.com