

ROLLING HILLS GOLF CLUB

Volume 5, Issue 1

January 2020

President's Message

Hard to believe it has been a two years since I started this job! If you came to the AGM in December you heard quite a bit about the accomplishments and the challenges that we have faced this past year. As we move into 2020, we will continue to build upon our vision of bringing the course back to its original design. We will continue the phase 3 of the plan to work on areas outside of the rough along with tree and beautification planning.

Remember that the new year also brings the World Handicap System. To find out more, check out [USGA WHS](#).

The Golf Ball proved to be a wonderful end to our calendar year. Tamara Tahir and Dina Hancock did a wonderful job of leading a powerhouse team of volunteers including: Dawn Walle, Sue Hertlein, Kerri Wethington, Angie Farley, Codi Long, Jeff Meisner, Amy & Mel Rivera, and Jeannine Devlin. Thanks again to this group and anyone who had a role in making this a truly exceptional evening.

Hit em Straight
-Ed Devlin

From the Pro

The next "Golf in a Week" class starts on January 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 return on Saturday January 12th and run each Saturday for 4 weeks. The classes are from 8:00am — 9:00. The schools will cover rules, etiquette, and golf swing mechanics. All equipment and range balls are supplied. The cost is 300SR.

Individual Lessons can be taken any day at times convenient — check out the website for more information on lesson prices www.arabiangolf.net.

To register, you may contact Stuart at:
stuart.hurstfield@aramco.com

January 3rd — Ladies' Classes Continues

January 12th — Junior Tour School

January 21st — Golf in a Week

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Upcoming Tournament Information

Opening Day Tournament

The 2020 Opening Day Scramble format this year a Florida Scramble and will take place on **January 11th**. You may pick your own four person team or join an existing one. There will be three mixed-gender flights. Please note: in order to play in the opening day scramble you must be a member in good standing of the Rolling Hills Golf Club for 2020 with 2020 membership fees paid. Sign-up is already open in [Tournament Manager](#).

Monthly Medal

We are having our Bi-Monthly Medal on **January 18th**. The format will be STROKE play. Registration is now open via [Tournament Manager](#).

Yearly Match Play

Sign-ups for yearlong match play competitions are now open. Register via [Tournament Manager](#).

CEO Cup—Save the Date

The CEO Cup will be held on **February 7th & 8th**. It will be an 18 hole Stableford tournament. There will be 3 Shotgun starts: **February 7th** at 7:00 AM and 12:00 PM and **February 8th** at 7:00 AM. Pairings will be by committee. Registration is open on [Tournament Manager](#). See [page 4](#) for more details.

The [2020 Tournament Calendar](#) is available on the RHGC's website.

Yearlong Match Play

January 11th — Opening Day Tournament

January 18th — Monthly Medal

February 7th & 8th — CEO Cup



Ask Carl

Q: Why did we vote on the 2020 budget online instead of at the AGM in December?

A: To ensure we get the maximum amount of RHGC members to vote, a decision was made to do an online vote.

Q: Why is the December medal part of the 2020 tournament schedule?

A: The tournament schedule runs for December 1st to November 30th each year so that the winners of all the Player of the Year awards can be announced at the annual Golf Ball.

Q: I want to help out on the Board, but not be President or anything like that. Can I do that?

A: Yes, this year there are 9 appointed Board members: Handicap & Rules Director, Membership Director, Youth Golf Director, Pro Shop Director, Grounds Director, Clubhouse Director, Ladies Golf Director, Social Director, and Media Director. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact the RHGC President [Ed Devlin](#).

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.

2020 CEO Cup



Initial Announcement

2020 CEO CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT February 7th and 8th, 2020

The 2020 CEO Cup will be hosted by Rolling Hills Golf Club on Friday, February 7th and Saturday, February 8th, 2020. This year's event will have 3 tee-time slots wherein you can sign-up (Friday 07:00AM, Friday 12:00noon and Saturday 07:00AM). The 2020 CEO Cup Tournament Committee will be coordinating all aspects of the golf event with your designated representative. This year's event will utilize a Stableford scoring format applying 75% of each player's established handicap. We are planning four (4) men's flights and, depending on participation level, two (2) ladies flights.

Eligibility

Any Saudi Aramco employee or dependent, 16 years of age and over, whom is a member in good standing at any of the SAGA golf clubs, holding a current handicap at one of the clubs.

Fees

There is no entry fee for 2020 CEO CUP and no green fees will be charged for this event.

Registration

CEO Cup registration is now open via Tournament Manager. Please follow this link to register: [CEO Cup 2020](#). Registration closes on January 30th, 2020 @ 4pm. Cancellations must be made no later than February 2nd.

Due to order and shipping restrictions the CEO Cup Committee can only guarantee shirt sizes to those that have registered by December 12th.

Note: SAGA no-show policy is in effect for this tournament for all competitors.

Tee-Times

There will be three (3) shotgun starts, Friday at 07:00AM, Friday at 12:00PM and Saturday at 07:00AM. Draws will be arranged to maximize golf cart utilization.

2020 CEO Cup con't

Handicaps

RHGC Golfers holding current handicaps are eligible to play. Handicap indexes must be provided on the attached data sheet. Handicaps will be limited to 36 for men and 40 for ladies.

Rules & Decisions

The competition will be played under USGA/R&A rules in addition to RHGC Local Rules. Any dispute or doubtful point on the rules will be referred to the Tournament Grounds and Rules Committee whose decision will be final. Ties in the competition will be settled by USGA Countback (Rule 3.5)

Prizes & Handouts

Prizes will be awarded as follows;

- CEO Cup Winner Men's & Ladies (Most Stableford Points Overall)
- 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th - All Flights (Ladies 1st, 2nd and 3rd)
- Closest-to-Pin Skill Prizes*
- Most Stableford Points RHGC, ANGC, WASGC, SSGC club winners to receive Proshop voucher

*Competitors are eligible for one skill prize only.

Breakfast & Lunch

Lunch will available for all Friday competitors and breakfast will be available for Saturday competitors. Water and soda will be available during the tournament. There will be no cost to the competitors for food or drink.

Dinner & Award Presentation

As in years past, a dinner and awards presentation will follow the competition on the evening of Saturday, February 8th - and it is anticipated many members of Executive Management will be in attendance. This dinner banquet and awards ceremony will be held at the Plaza Conference Center (PCC) in Dhahran, and all competitors and spouses/guests are welcome and encouraged to attend. There will be a guarantee fee of 150 SAR for competitors who are attending the dinner, which shall be refunded vis credit to your RHGC account upon presentation of their Player banquet ticket. Non-playing spouses or dinner guests may purchase a dinner ticket for 150 SAR. Tickets will be available starting Thursday, January 23rd and may be purchased from the RHGC Proshop. The PCC doors will be open starting at 5:00PM on February 8th, 2020. Reception will between 5:30 – 6:00PM. Further details of the program will follow as they become available.

Cordially on behalf of the 2020 CEO Cup Organizing Committee,

Les

Les Hertlein

2020 CEO Cup Chairman

Junior Golf

RHGC Junior Golf Event – January 25th, 2019

Junior golfers of all skill levels are invited to participate in the January Junior Golf Event. 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 Tee**
- 11:00 am — **Fun Groups head to course / back in Clubhouse by 1:00**
- 1:00 pm — **Competitive Group back in the Clubhouse for lunch and prizes**
- 1:30 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

**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).

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 March Golf Event is currently available on the Tournament Manager 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

Junior Golf
DEVELOPING THE PLAYER, GROWING THE GAME™

Tournament Policy

Eligibility

You must be a member in good standing, with an active GHIN handicap. All event participants must be of age 16 or higher to compete in all RHGC and SAGA Events on the date of the event. RHGC has a well established Junior program for members under the age of 16.

Handicaps

With the advent of the World Handicapping System on January 1st, 2020, Handicaps Indexes will be locked for events on the Wednesday prior to the event. Tournament eligible scores will be posted by the tournament committee immediately after the tabulation of the results for the event. We encourage all members to abide by the posting rules for the new World Handicapping system and post their eligible scores immediately upon completion of their non-tournament round.

Starting Time

All players are expected to tee-off at their designated starting time. If the player arrives, at his starting point, ready to play, within five minutes after his starting time, in the absence of circumstances that warrant waiving the penalty of disqualification as provided in Rule 33-7.

Penalty: The penalty for failure to start on time is loss of the first hole to be played in match play or two strokes in stroke play. Penalty for lateness beyond five minutes is disqualification.

Suspension of Play

When play is suspended by the Committee for a dangerous situation, the players in a match or group are between the play of two holes, must not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they must discontinue playing immediately, mark their ball position and not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play.

Penalty: If a player fails to discontinue play immediately, he is disqualified unless circumstances warrant waiving the penalty as provided in Rule 33-7.

Scorecard

In stroke play, the Committee will provide each competitor with a scorecard containing the date, name, and handicap. In stroke play, the Committee is responsible for the addition of scores and the application of the handicap recorded on the scorecard. The competitor is responsible for ensuring that the correct hole by hole gross scores are recorded on the card, accuracy of the handicap and signatures of marker and player. If a player withdraws from tournament, "WD" should be noted on card, the reason for withdraw, and gross scores recorded for holes played.

In four-ball stroke play, the Committee is responsible for recording the better-ball score for each hole and in the process applying the handicaps recorded on the scorecard, and adding the better-ball scores. The competitor is responsible for ensuring that the correct hole by hole gross scores are recorded on the card, accuracy of the handicap and signatures of marker and player.

Tournament Policy con't

Decision on Ties

Match Play Competitions

A match that ends all square should be played off hole by hole until one side wins a hole. The play-off should start on the hole where the match began. In a handicap match, handicap strokes should be allowed as in the prescribed round.

Stroke-Play Competitions

In either a scratch or handicap stroke-play competition the winner will be determined on the basis of the best score for the last nine holes. If the tying players have the same score for the last nine, determine the winner on the basis of the last six holes, last three holes and finally the 18th hole. When this method is used in a competition with a multiple tee start, the "last nine holes, last six holes, etc." is considered to be holes 10-18, 13-18, etc.

No Show

The RHGC Tournament Committee has instituted a policy to address the incidence of Members registering for Tournament competition and not showing up at their respective registered event or withdrawing from competition for reasons that are unjustified. The policy is designed with the objective of respecting the spirit of competition and the integrity of our tournament results, while also recognizing that considerable time and effort are invested by volunteers in organizing these events. The policy also takes into account that cancellations are sometimes necessary due to medical conditions, unexpected work-related issues, or other emergencies that cannot be avoided. The policy is structured in two parts: (1) the "No Show" policy, and (2) the "Unjustified Withdrawal" policy.

Notification

Competitors are required to notify the RHGC Tournament Committee of their withdrawal from a tournament prior to the start of the event. . **If it is necessary to withdraw after the event closing time, competitors must contact the committee via an SMS text message.** Failure to comply with this requirement will result in a preliminary determination that the Member violated the No Show policy. The circumstances surrounding a Member's inability to comply, such as verifiable medical injury, will be taken into account by the Committee in its final determination of violation. The No Show policy applies to ALL RHGC organized tournaments.

Tournament Director's Mobile (Jeff Meisner):+966 56 045 0576

Please state your name in the text message

Suspension:

<i>First Offense</i>	2 Tournament (Consecutive) Ban from RHGC/SAGA Competitions*
<i>Second Offense</i>	4 Tournament (Consecutive) Ban from RHGC/SAGA Competitions*
<i>Third Offense</i>	6 Month Ban from RHGC/SAGA Competitions*

(*) RHGC/SAGA Competitions defined as tournaments scheduled in the RHGC Tournament Calendar. The start of suspension from RHGC/SAGA Competitions is at the discretion of the RHGC Executive Board. All rulings are final.

Exception: None

Tournament Policy con't

Unjustified Withdrawal

An Unjustified Withdrawal may occur in cases where the Member withdraws during the competition due to poor play or lack of ambition to play or does not return their scorecard after completion of the competition. Incomplete scorecards will be given to the Handicap Committee for the determination of the final score. The suspension applies to ALL tournaments including open play format and any round of a multi-round competition.

Exception: None

Suspension:

<i>First Offense</i>	1 Tournament (Consecutive) Ban from RHGC/SAGA Competitions*
<i>Second Offense</i>	2 Tournament (Consecutive) Ban from RHGC/SAGA Competitions*
<i>Third Offense</i>	4 Month Ban from RHGC/SAGA Competitions*

(*) RHGC/SAGA Competitions defined as tournaments scheduled in the RHGC Tournament Calendar. The start of suspension from RHGC/SAGA Competitions is at the discretion of the RHGC Executive Board. All rulings are final.

Notification

No Show

Players will be notified of the penalty by e-mail immediately following the competition. The Player has 48 hours to dispute the penalty at which point the Tournament Committee will make its final decision and communicate back to the player via e-mail.

Withdrawal

The player will be notified of the penalty by e-mail immediately following the competition. The player has 48 hours to dispute the penalty at which point the Tournament Committee will ask the fellow competitors about the players' claim to withdrawal. The Tournament Committee will make its final decision and communicate back to the player via email.

Record Keeping

The following will be issued next to the player's name in the tournament results based on the situation.

No Show (NS): If a player does not show up for tee time without contacting the Tournament Committee, it will be recorded as a No Show (NS).

Withdrawal (WD): If a player withdraws during the tournament, it will be recorded as a Withdrawal (WD).

No Card (NC): If a player begins the tournament, and for any reason fails to turn in a signed scorecard for a completed round, it will be recorded as a No Card (NC). It will also be considered under the Unjustified Withdrawal policy noted above.

Disqualification (DQ): If a player is disqualified, it will be recorded as a Disqualification (DQ).

Handicap Corner

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

There is a Handicap Bulletin Board in the Club House, please stop by and enjoy some interesting reading!

World Handicap System effective January 1, 2020

This is the link to the USGA Handicap website:

<https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/handicapping.html>

This is the link to the World Handicap System (WHS) manual:

https://www.usga.org/content/dam/usga/pdf/Handicap/Rules-of-Handicapping_USGA_Final.pdf

NO SCORE POSTING Jan. 1-5, PLEASE HOLD YOUR SCORES AND SUBMIT THEM ON Jan. 6

The World Handicap System officially becomes effective Jan. 1; however, you won't notice a change in your Handicap Index until Jan. 6. To allow the USGA to migrate all Handicaps and maintain the integrity of the new system during the changeover, the current system will be turned off Jan. 1-5.

As a result, golfers will not be able to post scores within the GHIN system (kiosk, website and app) during the five-day shutdown. On Jan. 6, the WHS will take effect and golfers must post any scores recorded between Jan. 1-5 as part of the new WHS. Also, starting Jan. 6, golfers are required to post their scores as soon as possible on the day they play. They can view their new index the following morning on the TGA or GHIN app or at GHIN.com.

The single most important change to your Score Posting will be that you must make every effort to post your score IMMEDIATELY (same day) after the round is complete.

With the new WHS your HC will be calculated daily and will include a "Playing Condition Calculation" that counts on everyone submitting their scores **the same day they play**. Please help the RHGC Handicaps to be as accurate as possible by doing your part and submitting your scores **the same day you play**.

Below are several other important changes to be aware of

12. Maximum Hole Score for Handicap Purposes (Net Double Bogey)	
Old:	The maximum hole score for handicap purposes is based on a player's Course Handicap and the Equitable Stroke Control (ESC) table.
New:	The maximum hole score for each player will be limited to a Net Double Bogey, equal to Par + 2 + any handicap strokes received (based on the player's Course Handicap).
Why it matters:	By factoring in Par and Stroke Index values under the Net Double Bogey procedure, adjusted hole scores will be more precise and reflective of each player's demonstrated ability.

Handicap Corner con't

7. Frequency of Handicap Index Updates	
Old:	A Handicap Index is updated on the 1 st and 15 th of each month.
New:	A player's Handicap Index will update daily, provided that the player submitted a score the day before.
Why it matters:	Provides players with a more responsive and up-to-date Handicap Index. This will also allow new golfers to establish their first Handicap Index more quickly.

10. Course Handicap Calculation and Application	
Old:	Course Handicap = Handicap Index × (Slope Rating ÷ 113)
New:	Course Handicap = Handicap Index × (Slope Rating ÷ 113) + (Course Rating - Par)
Why it matters:	<p>Beginning in 2020, Course Handicap values will change more from tee to tee, as they will represent the number of strokes needed to play to Par.</p> <p>This new calculation will allow players to compete from different tees without any adjustment - unless a difference in Par exists.</p> <p>Players will be able to determine their Target Scores (the score they'll shoot if they play to their handicap) by simply adding their Course Handicap + Par.</p>

3. Basis of Handicap Index Calculation	
Old:	When a score is submitted, it is converted to a Handicap Differential based on the Course Rating and Slope Rating of the tees that were played. Uses average of <u>10</u> best differentials out of most recent 20, and the result is multiplied by .96.
New:	<p>When a score is submitted, it will be converted to a Score Differential based on the Course Rating and Slope Rating of the tees that were played. In addition, a Playing Conditions Calculation will be included to account for any abnormal course or weather conditions.</p> <p>The Handicap Index calculation uses the average of the <u>8</u> best Score Differentials out of the most recent 20 - with safeguards added to prevent extreme upward movement (see #4) and automatically reduce a Handicap Index if an exceptional score is posted (see #5).</p>
Why it matters:	An 8 of 20 system will allow for greater responsiveness to good scores and eliminate the need for a bonus for excellence. Safeguards add integrity to the system and support Handicap Committees.

4. Limit on Upward Movement of a Handicap Index (Cap)	
Old:	There is no restriction on the upward movement of a Handicap Index built into the calculation.
New:	A "Soft Cap" and "Hard Cap" will be included within the Handicap Index calculation. The Soft Cap will slow upward movement by 50% if a 3.0 stroke increase takes place within a year. The Hard Cap will prevent upward movement beyond 5.0 strokes.
Why it matters:	There's no limit on the amount by which a player's Handicap Index can decrease, but the Soft Cap and Hard Cap will ensure that a temporary loss of form doesn't cause a player's Handicap Index to increase to a level inconsistent with their demonstrated ability.

Grounds Crew Lunch

On December 9th, Sue Hertlein organized some ladies to put on a luncheon for the hard working Grounds Crew!! Thanks to all those who contributed food. A good time was had by all. If you get the chance, take time to acknowledge and thank these guys who work hard so we can play on our wonderful golf course.



Adopt a Hole

The adopt a hole program is seeking additional volunteers for 2020 to help keep the course in great shape. Adopt a hole volunteers spend roughly 1 hour/week looking after 1 or 2 holes on the course ensuring the tee box, fairways and greens are in good shape. In addition, they highlight to the grounds crew repairs and modifications for improvement. If you are interested please contact Barry Wethington (wbwethington@gmail.com).

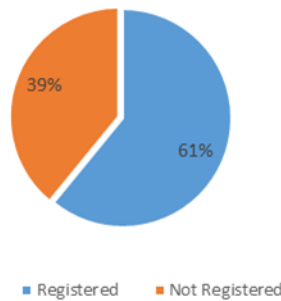
Membership

Have you renewed your 2020 RHGC Membership?

61% of our members have already renewed.

If you have not renewed, you are not considered a member in good standing and are not allowed to play in RHGC tournaments such as the Opening Day Tournament. If you haven't done so, please stop by the Proshop and renew today. Bring your pre-printed membership form that was emailed to you on 11/14. For members with an assigned cart shed, please make sure that you sign your cart shed agreement form. More information can be found on the [RHGC Website](#).

2020 RHGC Membership Renewals



From the ProShop

Due to RHGC PProShop staff vacations, ProShop hours will be limited in January. Hours for January are below.

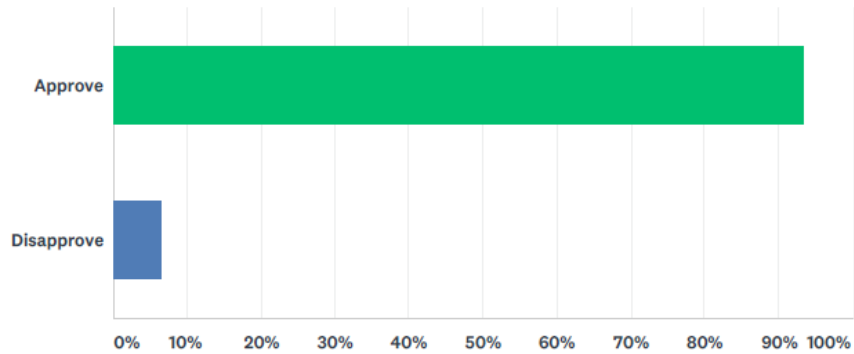
Sunday		CLOSED
Weekdays	Monday	2:00 PM – 6:00 PM
	Tuesday	10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
	Wednesday	10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
	Thursday	2:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Weekend	Friday - Saturday	CLOSED

Thank you for your understanding and for your continued support of the Pro Shop

RHGC Online Voting Results

Q1 Do you approve the proposed 2020 RHGC Budget?

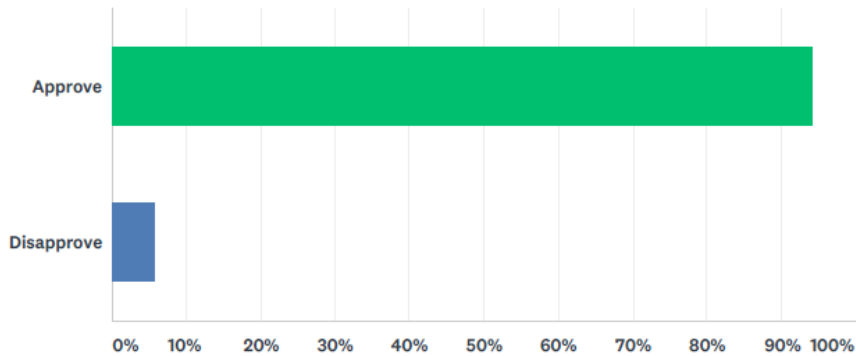
Answered: 107 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Approve	93.46%	100
Disapprove	6.54%	7
TOTAL		107

Q2 Do you approve the revised RHGC Constitution/Bylaws as written?

Answered: 104 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Approve	94.23%	98
Disapprove	5.77%	6
TOTAL		104

SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY

| MARCH 21 |
ROLLING HILLS GOLF CLUB

BOY SCOUT
FUNDRAISER GOLF
TOURNAMENT



SUPPORT YOUTH
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

TICKET SALES START JANUARY

2000SR FOR A TEAM OF 4

EXCITING PRIZES AND GIFTS!

TICKETS INCLUDE TROOP 1'S
FAMOUS SMOKED BRISKET!

70 YEARS OF
SCOUTING
IN DHAHRAN



TROOP 1 - DHAHRAN, KSA
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA