October/November 2026

CLUB NEWS



HOLE 2, ROLLING HILLS

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STARTER HUT
OPENING HOURS

SUN	4PM-9PM
MO - SA	6AM-9PM

013-862-1380

PRO SHOP
OPENING HOURS

SUN	CLOSED
MO - THU	11AM-6PM
FRI-SA	6AM-12PM

013-872-2692

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

October was another fantastic month at RHGC, with some great golf, exciting competitions, and plenty of memorable moments. I'd like to start by congratulating the winners of two of our major events.

Our **Mixed Foursomes Club Championships** saw some excellent competition across all three flights. Congratulations to our champions:

* A-Flight: **Vera and Pedro Castro**
* B-Flight: **Myung Hwa Lee and Geonyoung Kang**
* C-Flight: **Celia and Gavin Bethune**

Well played to all our competitors, and thank you to everyone who took part in making this such an enjoyable event.

We also crowned our **Race-to-the-Hills champions**, with **Soyoung Chun** taking first place with an impressive 56 points, followed by **Gertjan De Jong** in second with 53 points. And, for the second year running, I somehow managed to sneak onto the podium myself, finishing third with 52 points! Congratulations to Soyoung and Gertjan on their fantastic performances, and thank you to everyone who competed throughout the qualifying season.

Looking ahead, **November brings a few significant changes to our calendar**. Due to escalating geopolitical tensions in the region, SAGA and the Asian Tour have made the difficult decision to postpone the **Aramco Invitational Tournament (AIT)** until 2027. The **World Firefighter Games**, originally scheduled for November 6-8, have also been deferred until 2027. While these are disappointing developments for the organizers and everyone involved, the safety and wellbeing of participants, visitors and our wider community must remain the priority.

On the positive side for our members, these changes mean that **RHGC's course will remain fully open throughout November**. We hope everyone will take advantage of the opportunity to enjoy some extra golf while the course is available for regular play.

With the course remaining open throughout November, we're pleased to add an extra **Monthly Medal on November 28th** to the calendar. This is another great opportunity to get out on the course, enjoy some competitive golf, and perhaps put in a strong score before the year draws to a close with the **Club Championships in December**. Keep an eye on the RHGC Tournaments WhatsApp group for registration details!

Without the course shutting down, I'm also hopeful that the **new Front 9 lighting project** may be completed earlier than originally anticipated. The team has been making good progress, and an earlier completion would be a welcome bonus for everyone looking forward to enjoying evening golf across all 18 holes. We'll keep you updated as the work progresses, but in the meantime, please continue to take care around the construction areas.

Another priority for the Board has been securing a new **coaching professional** for our members in Dhahran. We're continuing to work closely with Recreation to finalize the necessary contracting agreement, along with the payment arrangements and booking process for lessons. I hope we can have everything in place by the end of November, allowing members to book lessons and work on their games with professional support. Thank you for your patience as we work through the details.

Finally, don't forget our **End-of-Year Gala Dinner** on November 13th! Tickets are still available, but registration will close soon. If you haven't secured your place yet, now is the time to do so. It's shaping up to be an amazing evening of great food, entertainment and good company, giving us all a chance to celebrate another year at RHGC away from the golf course. I look forward to seeing many of you there!

Although the regional situation has brought some unexpected changes to our plans, there's still plenty to look forward to at RHGC as we approach the end of the year. **Thank you to our Board members, volunteers, staff and, of course, our members for your continued support, flexibility and enthusiasm.** It's that collective spirit that makes our club such a special place. Enjoy the extra opportunities to get out on the course this month, and I hope to see you all at the Gala Dinner!

David Bedford
RHGC President

RESULTS

October/November 2026

MIXED FOURSOMES CHAMPIONSHIPS

OCT 10 2026



Edo Syafron (Tournament Director), Pedro and Vera Castro



Kang Geonyoung and Myung Hwa Lee



Celia and Gavin Bethune

FLIGHT A

1. Pedro and Vera Castro
2. David and Vikki Bedford
3. Jae Lee and Soonhae Kim

FLIGHT B

1. Kang Geonyoung and Myung Hwa Lee
2. JD and Mikki D'Antoni
3. Simon Fletcher and Yolande Hollingworth

FLIGHT C

1. Gavin and Celia Bethune
2. Feng Lu and Mary Ma
3. Edo and Olivia Syafron

FULL RESULTS AVAILABLE HERE



FULL RESULTS AVAILABLE HERE

UPCOMING EVENTS

October/November 2026

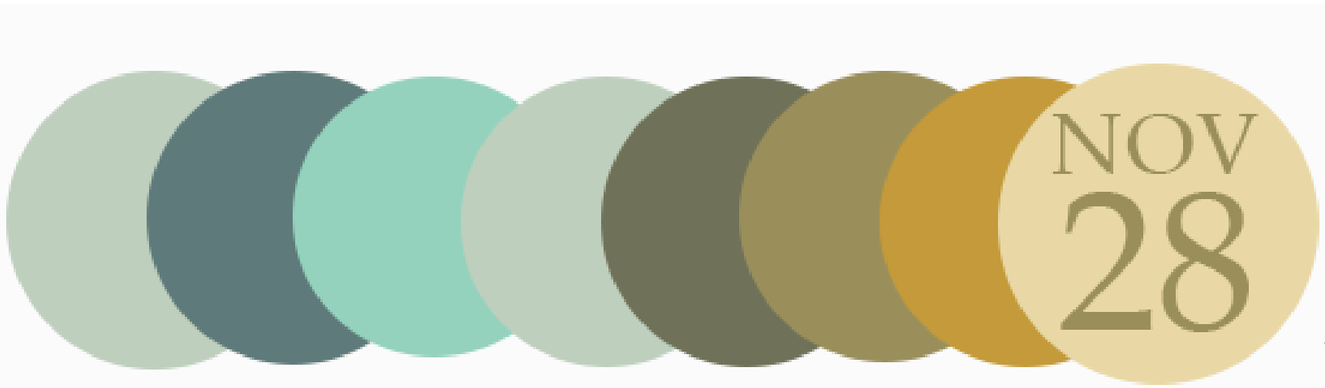


LADIES 9 'N DINE



NOVEMBER 11th

CLICK TO REGISTER



MONTHLY MEDAL

CLICK TO REGISTER

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Keep an eye out for your 2027 RHGC **Membership Renewal email**, which will be sent on **December 1**.

It will include a prefilled membership renewal form, a cart shed agreement (for current holders), and green fee and membership payroll deduction forms.

Please remember that you must be a 2027 member to play in 2027. ForeTees access will be turned off at the end of the day on December 31, 2026, for anyone who has not renewed.



ROLLING HILLS GOLF CLUB
DHAHRAN, SAUDI ARABIA

Join us at the RHGC Clubhouse for our Annual General Meeting

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER

5PM

TWO SECONDS, TWO TOOLS: WHY FIXING PITCH MARKS AND DIVOTS MATTERS

A small habit on every hole keeps our course playing at its best for everyone who follows you.

Walk any green at RHGC and you'll see it: unrepaired pitch marks, ball marks left to heal on their own, and divots left bare. Many golfers simply don't think about it once the ball has landed, but fixing them takes seconds, and the difference it makes to the course is significant.

Green Health and a True Roll

A pitch mark left unrepaired damages the putting surface: fixed promptly, it's smooth within 24 hours; left alone, it can take two to three weeks to heal, leaving an open door for disease and weeds. Multiply that by dozens of rounds a day, and greens develop a bumpy, inconsistent texture that affects everyone's putting. Unfilled divots on the fairway damage your next lie and, over a season, turn smooth turf into a patchwork of bare soil.

Basic Course Etiquette

Fixing your mark, and repairing one or two others you spot along the way, is one of the clearest signs of a considerate golfer.

The 30-second habit: Use a pitchfork or tee to push (never twist) the edges of a ball mark inward toward the center, then tap it flat with your putter.

For divots, replace the turf if it is intact and press it down, or fill the scar with the sand provided at the tee. Level the sand with the surrounding surface—do not mound it.

Winter and the Busy Tournament Calendar

Cooler weather brings more members out more often, meaning greens and fairways take far more traffic—and more unrepaired marks. With a full tournament calendar underway, a flat green and fair lie are part of what makes a result honest: a ball finding an old pitch mark or someone's unfilled divot is pure luck, not skill. Repairing your marks is part of playing fair.

The Cost of Not Doing It

- Greens take longer to recover, meaning more disruptive maintenance and closures.
- Repair costs rise, affecting budgets.
- Playing conditions become less predictable for everyone.

None of this requires expertise—just fix your mark, fix one more if you see it, and fill your divot. Multiplied across every round this month, that habit keeps RHGC's course in the condition we all enjoy.

Pitch-repair tools are available at the pro shop.

EVERY SECOND COUNTS: HOW SMALL DELAYS ADD UP ON THE GOLF COURSE

A few extra seconds before every shot might not seem like much, but over 18 holes, they can add significant time to a round — and affect everyone playing behind you.

We have all experienced it: standing in the fairway waiting for a player to finish their pre-shot routine, watching someone take several practice swings before addressing the ball, or waiting while a player repeatedly steps away, reconsiders their club selection, and starts the process all over again. Individually, these moments may seem insignificant. After all, golf is a game that requires concentration, preparation, and a certain amount of time to execute each shot. Nobody is suggesting that players should rush their swings or sacrifice their routine. However, there is a difference between taking the time needed to prepare for a shot and spending more time than necessary doing so.

The real issue is how quickly those extra seconds accumulate.

The 15-minute problem

Consider a golfer who shoots 90 — a perfectly respectable round of bogey golf. If that player spends just 10 unnecessary seconds on every shot, the additional time adds up to approximately 15 minutes over 18 holes.

That calculation is based on 90 shots, multiplied by 10 extra seconds per shot, giving 900 seconds — or 15 minutes.

Now consider a group of four golfers, each shooting around 90. If all four players take those extra 10 seconds, the group could theoretically accumulate an additional hour of unnecessary time across their combined shots. Of course, not every extra second translates directly into additional elapsed time. Players can prepare while others are playing, and some activities happen simultaneously. Nevertheless, when those delays occur at the wrong moments — particularly when a player is not ready to play, repeats their routine unnecessarily, or holds up the group — they can have a real impact on the pace of play.

And remember, the original 15-minute calculation assumes only one player in the group is taking those extra seconds. If two, three, or all four players develop the same habit, the cumulative effect can be substantial.

It's not about rushing — it's about being ready

Good pace of play does not mean hurried golf. It means playing efficiently, being considerate of others, and making the most of the time available.

EVERY SECOND COUNTS: HOW SMALL DELAYS ADD UP ON THE GOLF COURSE

There are several simple habits that can help:

- Prepare while others are playing. Start assessing your next shot, selecting a club, and planning your approach before it is your turn, provided it is safe to do so.
- Keep your pre-shot routine consistent. A practice swing or two may be helpful, but repeated rehearsals, prolonged deliberation, and starting over unnecessarily rarely improve the outcome.
- Trust your decision. Once you have selected your club, identified your target, and committed to your shot, step in and play.
- Be ready when it's your turn. Keep an eye on the group, know where your ball is, and avoid unnecessary delays getting ready to hit.
- Keep moving between shots. Walk purposefully to your ball, and complete routine tasks such as replacing clubs, cleaning your ball, or recording scores without holding up play.

None of these suggestions requires anyone to compromise their game. They simply encourage players to distinguish between the time genuinely needed to play a shot and the time lost through habit, indecision, or distraction.

Everyone's time matters

Golf is a shared experience. Our pace of play affects not only our own group but also every group behind us. A delay of a few seconds might seem harmless to the player taking the shot, but repeated delays can disrupt the rhythm of an entire round and contribute to bottlenecks on the course. The goal is not to eliminate every pause or turn golf into a race. It is to recognise that small, avoidable delays can have a disproportionate impact when repeated over 18 holes.

So, the next time you step up to your ball, take a moment to ask yourself: *Am I taking the time I need to play this shot, or am I taking longer than necessary?* Ten seconds might not seem like much. But over a round of golf, those seconds matter — to you, to your playing partners, and to everyone waiting behind you.

Play ready golf. Be decisive. Enjoy your round. And remember that good golf etiquette includes respecting other people's time.

MEMBERS MOMENTS



Monday Night Golf went pink this month! **Thanks to organiser Tom Harneshaug**, the group raised an impressive 1,110 SAR for a charity supporting early detection and patient care.

LADIES NINE & DINE



A big shout-out to everyone who came out for **Ladies Nine & Dine**! We had a full field (24 Ladies!), wonderful weather, and fantastic camaraderie and delicious food!

Our next event on the 11th is already nearly full, so register soon—we'd love to have you join us!

MEMBERS MOMENTS

LADIES NINE & DINE



LADIES TUESDAY MORNING GOLF

Tuesday Morning Ladies golf is picking up now that the weather is changing! WELL DONE to the winning team (Soonhae, Sunyoung and Celia) coming home with +1 after our 9-hole scramble.

SOCIAL CORNER

October Social Recap: A Spooky, Spectacular Success!

What a night! Our annual Halloween Social Event brought out **40 enthusiastic participants** for an evening full of laughs, wild costumes, and creative golf.

Because of safety precautions around current course construction, we couldn't run our traditional play in the dark this year—so we got creative and switched up the format!

Creativity at Its Cutthroat Best

The costumes this year set a whole new bar. We saw everything on the course—from football fans and hard-hatted construction workers to a clever "Cereal" Killer and an iconic Run DMC crew. Judging was nearly impossible, but the team **"Struck by Golf Balls"** ultimately walked away with the Best Costume honors for their painfully creative look!

Tricks, Treats & Scary Scores

The golf itself featured plenty of tricks and treats. Teams made good use of their "Resurrection" Mulligans and "Monster Tosses" out of hazards. However, the 4 Witch's Cauldron holes proved to be the ultimate trick—no one managed to dunk a chip into the cauldrons this year!

When the ghost dust settled, the leaderboard was tight:

- **2nd Place:** The Desai family with a fantastic score of **7 under**!
- **1st Place:** The "Flintstones" team (the D'Antoni and Bedford crew) taking top honors with a net score of **8.2 under**!

A massive thank you to our Food & Beverage Director, who truly pulled out all the stops. The post-round meal was absolute magic and made the evening shine!





SOCIAL CORNER















UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS
DESERT STARS GALA

Tickets are still available! Register today to secure your spot.

Date: Friday, November 13, 2026
Time: Doors Open at 5:30pm
Location: Hilton Bahrain
Price: SR100 (member) / SR200 (non-members)

SOCIAL CORNER

October 2026

