



The Flagstick

Ancil Hoffman
Golf Club
~
Carmichael, California
Spring 2014

President's Message Greg Hovious ~ AHGC President

Happy Spring to all Members!

While I know we need more rain, hard to complain about the weather we have been enjoying. I don't have anything pressing to share with you, just some random thoughts:

John Catlin (Jesuit 2009/New Mexico 2013) turned Pro in late 2013. John already has a professional victory, having won at Troon North in December 2013. I have had the pleasure of knowing John from his days at Jesuit. My son Chris was a year ahead of John and spent three years together playing for Kevin Fleming at J-Hi. I still see John around Ancil, and he is as personable and polite as ever – a fine young man. I encourage you to follow John's career at johncatlingolf.com. It would be great for him to have your support. And I'll bet he would be happy to discuss potential sponsorships! Play well John!

How many of you read the article in the Sacramento Bee, April 16, about PGA and others looking at alternate rules to bring more players to the game? I found the article fascinating because the ideas are attempting to make golf more approachable for the casual golfer. And what got me is the PGA and Golf Digest are at the forefront of the concept. How many of you nearly stopped playing because it was too hard to hit the ball? Or have friends or family who don't play anymore? The ideas range from charging by the hole and 6, 9, 12 hole rounds to shorten the time to play to making the hole wider. The point I got from the article and giving it thought is that there is nothing wrong (and probably right) with an occasional, casual round with casual rules. Not postable, but I bet more enjoyable for all players at the 19th hole!

After getting punched the greens at Ancil have certainly come back. The entire course is in very good shape. We still are contending with Number 14 green's refusal to mature, so make sure to take extra care to fix ball marks and treat her kind!!

Jennifer's 10-year celebration was May 3. She has been with us 10 years – that deserves a special thanks from each of you. Make her tip jar smile.

The Inaugural Ancil Derby in April was a great success and so much fun. Hats off to Rich Fleischer and Rob Viebrock for putting it all together. I was amazed at how many people bet on others to Win, Place or Show – and did not wager on themselves. I can think of two individuals who regret not believing in themselves! Let's hope more of these fun events are added to our schedule.

Please support the NCGA, USGA, Sacramento Golf Council and all local golf groups by participating in their tournaments.

Enjoy the weather, play often, hit 'em straight and enjoy golf!

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916.224.7375



Traditionally this space is reserved for pictures of Ancil's abundant wildlife. Indeed, the first running of the Ancil Derby brought together players, spectators and a new furry friend of undetermined species.

THE FLAGSTICK SPRING 2014

2014 AHGC TOURNAMENT SCHEDULES

2014 MIDWEEK SCHEDULE

May 22	Two-Person Best Ball & Senior NCGA Qualifier
June 19	Individual Stroke & NCGA Net Qualifier
July 24	Cha Cha Cha
August 21	Individual Stroke Play & Member/Guest
September 11	Two-Person Best Ball, Chapman, Scramble
October 16	Individual Stroke (Ancil Cup Playoff)
November 20	Individual Stroke & Wayne Parsell Senior Net Championship
December 18	Skins Game

2014 WEEKEND SCHEDULE

May 17	Individual Stroke
June 8-9	President's Cup
July 12	Individual Stroke Play & Club Championship Qualifier
August 17	Individual Stroke Play
September 20-21	Club Championship
September 27-28	Club Championship & Individual Stroke Play
October 25	Stableford (Ancil Cup Playoff)
November 15	Cha Cha Cha (Ancil Cup Playoff)
December 13	Individual Stroke Play (Ancil Cup Playoffs)

2014 Board of Directors

President

Greg Hovious
916 591-4218
drcontract@comcast.net

Vice-President

Khalil Cox
916 813-3437
yduhwake@yahoo.com

Secretary

Liz Reedman
916 486-6240
elizabeth.reedman@att.net

Treasurer

Gary Younglove
916 486-8972
garyyounglove@yahoo.com

Midweek Tournament Chair

Harry Massingill
916 217-1734
wintheskinsgolf@gmail.com

Weekend Tournament Chair

Rob Viebrock
916 718-1880
rtvbrock@gmail.com

Handicapper

Rob Dixon
916 601-4200
dixon.robert@comcast.net

Parliamentarian

Patrick Harrold
916 202-1797
dude@astrodude.com

Program Director

Brett Dodge
916 212-3032
dodgecity@surewest.net

Publications Director

Humphreys McGee
662 801-5513
humpmcgee@gmail.com

Course Affairs Representative

Ray Cheung
916 224-7375
luca777@aol.com

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Ancil Hoffman GC

Course Superintendent

Greg Blied
916 482-9792
bliedg@saccounty.net

Director of Golf

Dane Bohrer
916 482-3813
dbohrer@empiregolf.com

Midweek Tournament News

Harry Massingill

Midweek Tournament Chairman

Hello Ancil Hoffman Golf Club Members! All this late rain has really improved the conditions at Ancil Hoffman Golf Course. Spring (and golf) is in the air!

The turnout for the Midweek Tournaments has been excellent! I anticipate full fields from here on out so please sign up early to assure your spot. We have two NCGA Qualifiers coming up in May and June. The 2-person Better Ball and Senior NCGA 4 ball Qualifier is May 22 and the Individual Net Stroke & NCGA Net Qualifier is June 19. Both tournaments are also part of the Ancil Points Playoff Race.

We are still striving to improve the pace of play for the Midweek Tournaments, especially for those playing later in the day. One part of that discussion has been our Midweek Tournament rule (keeping up with the group in front of you) vs. Ancil Hoffman Golf Course's acceptable pace (2 hours and 15 minutes per 9 holes). Our tournament rule of keeping up with the group in front of you is what the players are to follow for the Midweek Tournaments. If we were to use the 2 hours and 15 minutes per 9 holes guideline and players starting early played in that time frame, those players at the back of the pack would be looking at a really long day on the course. It's my opinion that the only way we can have all tournament participants play in that 4.5 hour time frame is to have foursomes keep up with the group in front of them. Our goal is to have the early groups play in 4 hours, the middle groups in 4.25 hours and the later groups in 4.5 hours. We've made great strides and have had some recent tournaments where everyone is finishing in less than 4 hours and 45 minutes. Let's keep up the good work!

Weekend Tournament News

Rob Viebrock

Weekend Tournament Chair

Spring is here, Ancil Golfers!! Our first tournaments of the year have been very successful in both turnouts and competition. Again, the Ancil Points competition is exceeding my expectations as more and more players are getting involved. Congratulations go out to February's NCGA 4-Ball Qualifier winners Pete Deacon/Will Alexander, Brett Dodge/Scott Sullivan and Tony Newman/Rob Godwin. Congratulations as well to March's NCGA Zone Qualifier winners, Humphreys McGee/Kevin Flynn and Dave Hodge/Roger Siler.

Rich Fleischer and I, introduced Ancil's first "Ancil Derby," held in concert with the Individual Stroke tourney on April 26th. It generated tremendous participation and interest, A single ticket holder, Jim McCulligan, won the grand prize on the back of his son, Ross McCulligan. Longtime member Bob Synhorst was the place horse and El Presidente Hovious came in with a show. Both those horses had multiple ticket holders — congrats to all!

Seems like you can't write a re-cap of events without bringing up pace of play. I must say, thanks to Roger Siler's prodding, the pace has dramatically decreased down to rounds of 4:30 - 4:45 for a substantial portion of the field. Thanks to all of you who help keep things moving along at such a great pace!

Finally, congratulations to Joe Rodriguez's hole-in-one in March's Weekend Tourney, hole 14. It represents the 1st hole-in-one on my watch. Joe will receive \$100 from the pro-shop along with \$100 from the AHGC. Joe says this was only his warm-up hole-in-one and wanted to put everyone on notice,; next time the gloves are off and he's gunning for the hole-in-one pot, which is still out there.

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Two-Person Better Ball & NCGA Senior Four-Ball Qualifier

Thursday, May 22, 2014

Entry Fee: \$15 per player/\$20 per player on teams attempting to qualify

Make checks payable to AHGC Entries Close 6 Days Prior To Event

Name _____ GHIN _____ Phone #: _____

I request to play with _____ at a(n) early _____ mid _____ late _____ tee time.

I will participate in: _____ net skins (\$5) _____ gross skins (\$5) _____ Ancil Cup Points (\$5) _____ hole-in-one insurance (\$1)

Mail to: Weekend TC, 6700 Tarshes Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608 or drop in the locked box in the Pro Shop

Individual Stroke Play & NCGA Net Qualifier

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Entry Fee: \$15 per Player/\$25 per player attempting to qualify

Make checks payable to AHGC Entries Close 10 Days Previous To Event

Name _____ GHIN _____ Phone #: _____

I request to play with _____ at an Early _____ Mid _____ Late _____ tee time.

I will participate in: _____ net skins (\$5) _____ gross skins (\$5) _____ Ancil Cup Points (\$5) _____ hole-in-one insurance (\$1)

Mail to: Midweek TC, 6700 Tarshes Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608 or drop in the locked box in the Pro Shop

Cha Cha Cha

Thursday, July 24, 2014

Entry Fee: \$20 per Player / Make checks payable to AHGC Entries Close 10 Days Previous To Event

Name _____ GHIN _____ Phone #: _____

I request to play with _____ at a(n) early _____ mid _____ late _____ tee time.

I will participate in: _____ net skins (\$5) _____ gross skins (\$5) _____ Ancil Cup Points (\$5) _____ hole-in-one insurance (\$1)

Mail to: Midweek TC, 6700 Tarshes Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608 or drop in the locked box in the Pro Shop

Individual Stroke (Guests Welcome)

Thursday, August 21, 2014

Entry Fee: \$ 15 per player

Make checks payable to AHGC Entries Close 10 Days Prior To Event

Name _____ GHIN _____ Phone #: _____

I request to play with _____ at a(n) early _____ mid _____ late _____ tee time.

I will participate in: _____ net skins (\$5) _____ gross skins (\$5) _____ Ancil Cup Points (\$5) _____ hole-in-one insurance (\$1)

Mail to: Weekend TC, 6700 Tarshes Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608 or drop in the locked box in the Pro Shop

President's Cup

Saturday and Sunday, June 7 and 8, 2014

Entry Fee: \$30 per Player — Make checks payable to AHGC — Entries Close 10 Days Previous To Event

Name _____ GHIN _____ Phone #: _____

I request to play with _____ at an Early _____ Mid _____ Late _____ tee time.

I will participate in: _____ net skins (\$5) _____ gross skins (\$5) _____ Ancil Cup Points (\$5) _____ hole-in-one insurance (\$1)

Mail to: Midweek TC, 6700 Tarshes Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608 or drop in the locked box in the Pro Shop

Individual Stroke / Club Championship Scratch Qualifier

Saturday, July 12, 2014

Entry Fee: \$20 per Player/Additional \$15 to qualify. Make checks payable to AHGC. Entries Close 6 Days Previous To Event

Name _____ GHIN _____ Phone #: _____

I request to play with _____ at an Early _____ Mid _____ Late _____ tee time.

I will participate in: _____ net skins (\$5) _____ gross skins (\$5) _____ Ancil Cup Points (\$5) _____ hole-in-one insurance (\$1)

Mail to: Weekend TC, 6700 Tarshes Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608 or drop in the locked box in the Pro Shop

Individual Stroke Play

Friday, August 16, 2014

Entry Fee: \$20 per Player — Make checks payable to AHGC — Entries Close 6 Days Previous To Event

Name _____ GHIN _____ Phone #: _____

I request to play with _____ at an Early _____ Mid _____ Late _____ tee time.

I will participate in: _____ net skins (\$5) _____ gross skins (\$5) _____ Ancil Cup Points (\$5) _____ hole-in-one insurance (\$1)

Mail to: Midweek TC, 6700 Tarshes Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608 or drop in the locked box in the Pro Shop

Individual Stroke Play

Saturday, May 17, 2014

Entry Fee: \$20 per Player — Make checks payable to AHGC

Name _____ GHIN _____ Phone #: _____

I request to play with _____ at an Early _____ Mid _____ Late _____ tee time.

I will participate in: _____ net skins (\$5) _____ gross skins (\$5) _____ Ancil Cup Points (\$5) _____ hole-in-one insurance (\$1)

Mail to: Midweek TC, 6700 Tarshes Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608 or drop in the locked box in the Pro Shop

THE FLAGSTICK SPRING 2014

From The Treasurer Gary Younglove

This is my seventh year of having the privilege of being our club's Treasurer. Each of those years our club's membership has declined. Coincidence? I hope not. In 1993 our club's membership topped out at 1,261, while this year's projection is 570. The good news is that we have a higher percentage of our members participating in club activities (midweek and weekend tournaments, putting championship, and quarterly meetings). Despite our declining dues income, we carry a surplus from last year that will allow funding club activities at last year's levels.

I am proud to acknowledge 24 AHGC members who generously donated a total of \$480 to the NCGA Foundation this year. The foundation provides deserving youth the opportunity to develop life skills and values through golf through their **Youth on Course** program. For more information visit their website at www.ncgafoundation.org. This year's contributors are:

Mark Arruti
Robert Bell
Steve Biondi
B.T. Carmichael
Nicholas Clevenger
Matthew Costa
Cliff Cox
Tom Curran
Sharon Day
Rob Finley
Bob Fletcher
Jan Hoffman
Tim Hunter
Chris Johnson
Dennis Luther
Bruce Mace
Kevin McCarl
William Nassear
John Quattrin
Matthew Shelton
Joseph Smith
John Solie
Jim Vassaka
John Wood

Thanks to all who contribute to keep AHGC strong!

From the Handicapper Rob Dixon

Frequently Asked Questions

With a new golf season and new members now is a good time to review some of the frequently asked questions and conundrums about handicaps and tournament golf at AHGC.

Q: What if I posted the wrong score?

A: If you incorrectly post a score or have any troubles with your GHIN please call or email me. It is easy to fix. It is not necessary to contact the NCGA. If you do, they will politely ask you to contact your club handicapper. To contact me, or any board member, check the AHGC website at ancilhoffman.com under 'Board of Directors'.

Q: What scores should I post?

A: Every golfer is responsible for posting their score as soon as practical. Every acceptable round of golf, whether match or stroke play, must be posted for peer review. When you play in a tournament, it is your responsibility to know if you will post the score or if the tournament director will post. For all AHGC tournaments, the Handicap Committee posts the tournament scores.

Q: How serious is this score posting business?

A: Every acceptable round of golf must be posted for peer review. If you are aware of someone not posting scores, please consider reminding that person of their responsibility. When that fails, please inform the appropriate tournament or club official. For Ancil members, that's me.

Q: How did I get this handicap for the tournament?

A: First off, the tournament director (TD) is the final authority in all tournament matters. The TD establishes your handicap for a tournament based on the lower of your Tournament Index (TI) or your GHIN Index. However, the final decision is up to the TD. When in doubt ask the TD.

Q: What is the AHGC Tournament Index?

A: Our club maintains a separate index composed solely of scores posted in club tournaments. The club uses the lower of your GHIN Index or AHGC Tournament Index (TI) to set your handicap for club tournaments. This protects the tournament field from the occasional disparity in a player's tournament and non-tournament play. A report, showing your TI and tournament scores, is available on the club website. Plus there is a TI FAQ with more details.

New members: Play in our great tournaments. Ancil has two tournaments a month. You can be paired with your friends or the tournament directors will be happy to pair you with like players. You will have fun and make new friends.

From the Superintendent

Greg Bliet

Another spring greens aeration is behind us. We had great weather this year and the spring rains are helping the greens grow in nicely. We completed the new turnaround for the upper tee box on #4 and the re-leveling of the back tee box on #5. We have been trenching around the course as well to continue in our effort to reposition some sprinklers and increase pipe sizing so although there are still multiple heads on a single valve at least now they have proper pressure and spacing.

We are entering a very busy time of mowing for us so you will see the mowers running non-stop for the next couple of months. We will also be working to complete cart path edging, bunker edging, sand re-positioning in bunkers, tee slope trimming, weed spraying around every tree and down fence lines and landscape beds, and numerous pruning projects.



From The Programs Director

Brett Dodge

The April 2014 Quarterly Meeting was held Wednesday, April 23, 2014 in the Main Event restaurant located at Ancil Hoffman Golf Course. Sign in and raffle ticket sales began at 5:00 p.m. The free dinner was served at 6:30 p.m. The members enjoyed a flowing keg and a presentation by Jim Fuoti of the Sacramento Golf Council.

The long days and warm weather mean the prestigious AHGC Putting Championship, traditionally held in July, will be here before we know it. Watch your email and the AHGC website for details!





This is a core sample of soil taken recently from the 14th green at Ancil Hoffman. The layer in the middle is what is left of the sod planted on the green. Sod normally comes with a thatch layer from growing it in quickly at the sod farm so it can be sold, but this sod came with a layer that was not only unusually thick but very dense — so much so that it won't allow gasses below the green to escape or water to penetrate from the top, both leading to turf loss. More frequent aeration usually remedies this situation within the first year or two. In our case I have settled on aeration once a month since last August, and that has proven to open up the green often enough to protect the turf. As a result, the layer has thinned out at a much faster rate. At some point, when the layer is dissolved, we will be able go back to a regular aeration schedule.

— Greg Blied,
Golf Course Superintendent
Sacramento County