



Swing of Things

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 5



DENNIS CORBETT

President's Message—

Dear OCSGA Friends—

The weather has certainly impacted us this year. We were very disappointed to have to cancel Pechanga and Bear Creek in March, but it's good that we did. As you may know, banquet dinners have a drop dead date typically 3 days in advance. We were required to cancel on the prior Friday to avoid being committed to the hotel reservation and the banquet cost. As it turned out, that Monday and Tuesday were drenched. Those are great venues and we'll look forward to another chance down the road. We did have a nice outing on April 17th down at Morgan Run in North San Diego County, but even still the course was showing significant impacts from the rains. See the results from that event later in this issue.

Our next event is Torrey Pines, June 4th through 7th — my President's Tournament already! On the one hand it's nice to say that we are sold out for that event as that hasn't happened for a while; however, it's disappointing to me if we are not able to accommodate all who are interested. The City of San Diego has very stringent rules for granting tee times — unless you buy out the course (144 players) the maximum slots we can have is 92, and we've filled all of those. We continue to try to squeeze a few more slots, but the City has consistently declined. That said, we are keeping a waitlist in the event of cancellations. There is certainly no guarantee of that but you never know. If you have the flexibility to make a late decision on going, let Joanna know of your interest.

As for events next year, our first outing will be Fairbanks Ranch in North San Diego County. I'm told that is an outstanding site and generally very difficult to access, so take advantage of this unusual opportunity. That event will be on August 14th, with an expected start time of 11:00. In October we will be returning to Hawaii, specifically to the Fairmont Orchid Resort on the North Kohala Coast of the Big Island. That event occurs on October 8th to 13th. Also of note, our Holiday event is planned for Hacienda Country Club on December 11th.

Since our founding in 1966, OCSGA has been “a club of gentlemen amateur golfers.” At our April Board meeting your Board took the first step toward welcoming ladies to become members. Please see my additional article in this newsletter on this important step.

As I begin to contemplate the end of my tour as your President, I am reminded of the hard work put in by so many of you in support of our grand organization. I am truly appreciative of our Board and Joanna Mergelmeyer for their tireless support. Several others played a part too — for example some of our past presidents in helping to conceive and implement our Silver Seniors initiative this year.

Just as I did in our prior issue, my final thought is to return to the critically important topic of membership and participation. The organization needs for all of us to promote our group and to help us grow and encourage strong participation. That is far and away the best prescription for trying to mitigate rising costs and gain access to our favorite venues. Again, please help us help you!

Dennis

Morgan Run Club & Resort Results

Overall Low Gross—Men

DAVID ROOT @ 81

Overall Low Gross—Women

LESLIE MAYES @ 86

Overall Low Net—Men

JOHN DEMMAN @ 68

Overall Low Net—Women

VICKIE MILLER @ 168

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS BY FLIGHT

LOW NET, FLIGHT A

1. Ron Plummer @ 72
2. Jeff Christoffers @ 72
3. Vito Canuso @ 75

LOW NET, FLIGHT B

1. Gray Farley @ 74
2. Kevin Dunn @ 74
3. Dave Nowlin @ 75

WOMEN'S LOW NET

1. Lori Bacca @ 72
2. Leslie Mayes @ 72
3. Mitzi Demman @ 76

TEAM RESULTS

FIRST PLACE @ 126

Leslie Mayes
Lori Bacca
Lolly Curry

SECOND PLACE @ 128

Dave Nowlin
Jeff Christoffers
Ron Plummer

THIRD PLACE @ 130

Brenna Cristoffers
Vickie Miller
Suzanne Ferraro





VERNE LUSBY
Membership Chair



Monthly Membership Report

It has been a pretty good year for signing up new members with 30 Silver Seniors joining and slow but steady growth month over month. I have hope everyone will renew for the coming year. Bill and the team have worked hard to come up with some new and interesting courses for us to play in 2023 - 2024. What would really help the club succeed is participation in our events. If half of the membership would play in each tournament, we could start booking even better courses. Many courses are requiring a minimum of 72 or 100 players. Invite a friend or friends to play one of the upcoming tournaments. When they join our club, you earn credit towards a future tournament. What could be better, playing with your buds and free money. If you have a potential candidate or if you just want to know about how to go about bringing a friend in, please reach out to me (Verne Lusby 714-473-2581) or Joanna (ocsga@la.twcbc.com) for assistance.

Here is a snapshot of our membership and the participation at Morgan Run.

Total Membership 02/09/23: 139

New Silver Seniors adds: 1

Other new members: 2

Candidates: 8

Members lost in same period: 1

Members on medical leave: 3

Total Membership 05/02/23: 139

New Silver Seniors adds: 0

Other new members: 0

Candidates: 11

Members lost in same period: 0

Members on medical leave: 1

Participation at Morgan Run

Members, Spouses & Candidates: 35

Guests: 2





Orange County Seniors Golf Association

General Membership Incentive

Any OCSGA member who is the primary sponsor of a candidate who becomes a member in good standing of the OCSGA will receive a certificate for \$225 toward your entry fee at any tournament.

- ◆ New member must meet all the qualifications of membership.
- ◆ New member must have paid the initiation fee and annual dues.
- ◆ Only members in good standing are eligible for the complimentary round.
- ◆ Certificates will expire one year after being issued.
- ◆ Board may cancel or modify this program at anytime .

OCSGA to Welcome Lady Members

As I noted in my President's Message, our Board voted in April to accept membership applications from ladies. We have one application already and that gentlewoman will begin the evaluation process in the near future, with the potential to become a member in August or soon thereafter.

My commentary here is admittedly lengthy, but this issue is so important to our wonderful organization that I beg your indulgence.

Our current Board and its predecessor Boards have considered this step for some time. You may recall that we conducted a Membership Survey in early 2021 which included questions related to this topic. At that time, 81% of respondents were in favor of including lady members. On a few subsequent occasions we polled members at tournament gatherings (including Annual Membership Meetings), and again we have seen consistent support from a decided majority of those asked. The Board voted in April of 2021 to move forward with lady members subject to the resolution of some related procedural matters such as: the maximum GHIN Index at the time of application (the limit for men has been 26) and how dues would be handled for multi-member households. During that time though we also received feedback from some members strongly opposed to changing OCSGA from our original gentlemen-only formula. In their defense, these are fine gentlemen who all have been supportive and welcoming of participation by lady spouses and significant others at our travel events. They felt though that the monthly local events should remain gentlemen-only so as to preserve the formula that has served us so well since our founding in 1966. At the beginning of my term last summer our current Board took this topic up again and discussed the concerns that had been raised after the April 2021 vote. We reached out to those who's had expressed reservations to understand as best we could their specific concerns.

All of this has been occurring against the backdrop of the concern we have had for several years about our declining membership and related to that the declining participation in our monthly local events. Our last monthly tournament prior to the Covid-19 crisis was at Monarch Beach in February, 2019. We had 67 participants at that event — ALL MEN. At that time we were already concerned about declining participation — 67 seemed low, as had all but one of the prior events that year which registered 53, 91, 67, and 55, again ALL MEN. Then the April and May local events following that were cancelled due to Covid (as was the President's Tournament planned for Bacara near Santa Barbara.) We started up again with 44 MEN in August at Tustin Ranch. In September we invited the ladies! There were 8 that first time and we managed a total of 51 players at Goose Creek. Ladies have been with us at every local tournament since and on a number of occasions we would not have met our contractual minimum player obligations without them. Since September, 2020 ladies have represented about 30% of our player headcount! This year, we have averaged just under 50 players at our 4 local events, with ladies a significant component. For the monthly events in 2019 / 2020 season (before Covid) we averaged 73 players — ALL MEN.

It is clear to the Board that in the current environment continued participation by ladies, whether as guests or as members, is critical to our continuing success, and perhaps our survival.

Given all of that, the Board felt it was time to move forward and include lady members. In the interest of full transparency, the Board voted 9-1 to do so. To be clear, as a legal matter, OCSGA has the right to continue as a gentlemen-only membership organization. However, it is clear to the Board that our future vitality is better served by including ladies.

Regarding some of those procedural matters, the Board decided to have the same maximum GHIN index of 26 for men and women alike. We will monitor how that plays out and may revisit that in time. We decided to charge the same annual dues for men and women, and in particular there would not be a household discount for multiple members. There are various other details that can be shared in time as needed, but for now I just wanted to note that spouses and significant others will continue to be welcome as guests as they are now, even if they do not qualify or choose not to apply for membership.

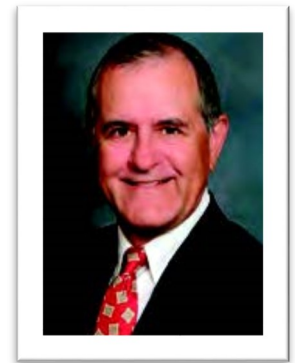
I don't expect to see a flood of lady applicants and I don't think that their evolving presence will significantly alter the "feel" of our monthly events. After all, as noted above, the ladies are already here — and I am grateful for that.

Respectfully,

Dennis Corbett, President

Introducing the 2023–2024 Season

FAIRBANKS RANCH COUNTRY CLUB



BILL CLOUD
Vice President

Expanding our horizons, we have found a winner this time in Fairbanks Ranch Country Club.

Located in Rancho Santa Fe, the course has easy access off I-5, and sits about 40 miles South of San Clemente. This private club, purchased by the Bay Club in 2016 is both scenic and pristine. Fairbanks Ranch was an equestrian site in the 1984 Olympics. We were fortunate to fill a hole that had opened in their schedule.

We have contracted to play Monday, August 14th. We will offer breakfast burritos before an 11 AM shotgun start. A no host cocktail reception will start at 4 pm (cash is not accepted at the bar, but credit cards are). Their Wine Country dinner buffet opens at 5 pm, offering a choice of three entrees. Being near the coast, the temperature usually hovers around 80, ideal for golf and al fresco dining.

The cost for members and spouses will be \$250 each. Guests may play at \$275. We are offering a \$10 discount on entries received by June 15th.

Lodging is available close to the course. We have contacted the Hilton San Diego Del Mar regarding a group rate. The San Diego Marriott Del Mar is also nearby.

See the entry form on the next page or sign up online ([link here](#)).



Orange County Seniors Golf Association

2101 E. Chapman Ave., Fullerton 92831 * (714) 870-9343 * ocsga@la.twcbc.com

Fairbanks Ranch Country Club

15150 San Dieguito Road

Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067

(858) 259-8811

Monday, August 14, 2023



- 11:00 a.m. Shotgun Start
- Check-in opens at 10:00 a.m.
- Entry fee includes golf, cart, breakfast burritos, buffet dinner, and prizes
- Women and non-member guests welcome to attend

Member/Candidate Entry \$240 until June 15, \$250 thereafter

Name _____ GHIN # _____

Special Meal Request: *Vegan Vegetarian Gluten-free*

I would like to play from the Super Seniors Forward Tee (Please Circle) YES NO

Spouse/Significant other Entry \$240 until June 15, \$250 thereafter

Name _____ GHIN # _____

Special Meal Request: *Vegan Vegetarian Gluten-free*

Guest Entry \$265* until June 15, \$275* thereafter

Name _____ GHIN # _____

Host's Name _____ Guest's Email _____

Special Meal Request: *Vegan Vegetarian Gluten-free*

**10% guest surcharge may be applied to dues if guest becomes an OCSGA member in 2022-23*

Total Amount Enclosed: _____

Tournament Refund Policy: Tournament entry money will be refunded if the Tournament Committee is advised prior to the day of the tournament and if the OCSGA is not charged for your reservation at the venue where the event was held.

To cancel after the pairings are set on Thursday, August 10, call Tournament Committee Chairman Lee Gibbons at (909) 573-6650. If you must cancel on the day of play and are unable to reach Lee, call the Pro Shop: (858) 259-8811.

Tournaments 2022 — 2023

September 12, 2022

Tijeras Creek Golf Club

Rancho Santa Margarita, California

October 16 *through* October 21, 2022

Omni Barton Creek Resort

Austin, Texas

November 21, 2022

South Hills Country Club

West Covina, California

December 5, 2022 (*Holiday Scramble & Party*)

The Huntington Club

Huntington Beach, California

January 21 *and* 22, 2023

Heritage Palms Golf Club

Indio, California

March 20, 2023

Bear Creek Golf Club*

Murrieta California

March 21, 2023

Journey at Pechanga*

Temecula, California

April 17, 2023

Morgan Run Club & Resort

Rancho Santa Fe, California

June 4th *through* June 7th, 2023 (*President's Tournament*)

The Lodge at Torrey Pines

La Jolla, California

Tournaments 2023 —2024

August 14, 2023

Fairbanks Ranch Country Club

Rancho Santa Fe, California

October 8th *through* October 13th, 2023

Fairmont Orchid Hawaii

Kamuela, Hawaii

December 11, 2024 (*Holiday Tournament & Party*)

Hacienda Golf Club

La Habra Heights, California

January 22, 2024

Via Verde County Club

San Dimas, California

June 30th *through* July 3rd, 2024 (*President's Tournament*)

Ojai Valley Inn

Ojai, California