

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

January, 2016

While this PM is addressed primarily to our new members, I think all of us can benefit from increased use of our website to be better informed throughout this year.

First, welcome to our newest members: Chris Boersig, Tom Boersig, Jeff Hebel, Dan Linehan, Rosie Loafea, Jeff Phelps and Jay Rowe. I know a couple of you already, and look forward to meeting the rest of you during the year...hopefully on the golf course!

BAP Website

I urge all members to make good use of our website in 2016; the quality of our site is entirely thanks to the dedication and expertise of Web Directors **Steve Newton and Karen Treat!** I periodically send out e-mails to the full membership when information needs to be disseminated quickly, and **Dean McCurry** does the same for tournament tee sheets and results. However, information such as the progress of the Club Championship and the Memorial Cup, as well as contact information for other members, will be found on the website. Our site includes links to USGA Rules videos, and under the "Shag Bag" tab, you'll find all of the rules that govern BAP tournaments.

Club Championship

It's time to e-mail me (countsfull32@yahoo.com) if you intend to enter and dethrone **Mike Souza**, our reigning Champ! There's no entry fee for this double-elimination event, and we've re-instituted the rule allowing opponents to mutually agree on the course for their match (though later matches that decide bracket winners, etc. will be held at Poppy Ridge). As we did last year, we'll stage a live bracket draw in late February during a no-host brunch at Dean's Cafe in Pleasanton, thanks to **John Correia**; play will begin in March. Rules may be found under the "Club Champion" tab on the website.

Memorial Cup

Find a partner and e-mail Coordinator **David Geary** (dsgear@comcast.net) to enter this two-player round-robin tournament, that has a revised format for 2016. Rules will soon be found under the "Memorial Cup" tab.

Bylaw Revisions; Pace of Play Policy

Under the "Bylaws" tab, you'll find both of these documents. **Our bylaws were revised** by a vote of those members in attendance at our Annual Meeting. The key revision mandates that, effective 1/1/17, members must play in at least 4 stroke play events during the calendar year to avoid being placed on a waiting list for membership the following year; 3 such events must be played by the end of September.

The current POP Policy ushers in the "20 minute rule": members of any group that finishes 20 minutes or more than behind the preceding group will be subject to a one-stroke penalty. Also, in conjunction with a bylaw revision, it establishes 4 hours & 30 minutes as the target for rounds to be completed.

Qualifying for NCGA Events

BAP sends teams to a number of events specifically held for Associate Club members, with initial entry fees sponsored by the club. **You'll soon be notified** of which BAP tournaments serve as qualifiers for those NCGA events held later in the year, and a complete information grid will be posted on "Shag Bag".

We had a very successful 2015 as a club, and, thanks to all of you, I expect no less from 2016!
Don Carlson