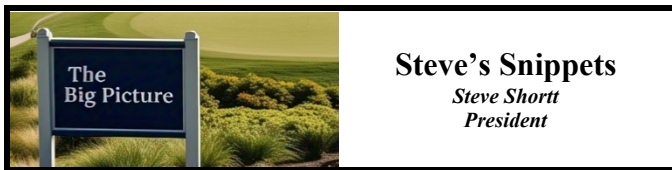


The Red-tail Rattler

CHMGA Bi-Monthly Newsletter

January/February 2025



Welcome to the first edition of the Red-tail Rattler, a bi-monthly (every other month) newsletter we're introducing to keep CHMGA membership informed on topics of interest to the golf association. Our intent is to use this newsletter to update members on key topics such as: Board decisions affecting the association, upcoming membership events, golf tournaments, and updates to the rules of golf.

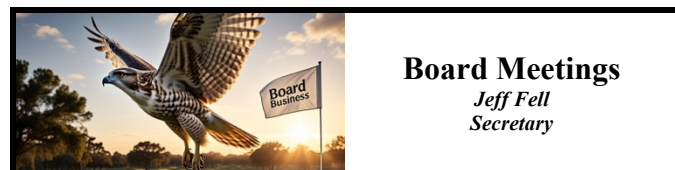
First and foremost though, on behalf of the membership, I'd like to thank the previous board members (Mark Cogliandro, Chuey Perez, Richard Morton, John McCleary, and Scott Rhine) for their efforts in the past year (and in many cases several years) managing the association. The success of our association is directly attributable to the work they've done. As the new board President, I'm looking forward to building on their work to further grow and improve the association.

I'd also like to share some of the key priorities I'd like the board to focus on in 2025. These priorities are based on the feedback I've received directly from members and from last year's membership survey.

- **Grow the club.** Growing the club is critical for us to be able to offer the membership more tee time options and events, such as shotgun starts.
- **Improve the social interaction.** Many members are looking for more social interaction within the club, and we are actively investigating several options in this area.
- **Drive for more shotguns.** Shotgun starts are a key component to providing more opportunities to socialize among members.
- **Bring back sweeps.** Several members have asked us to investigate bringing back the weekday sweeps events the association use to sponsor.
- **Use our finances to achieve goals.** Key to our success is improving the transparency of the

associations finances to achieve our membership goals.

I'll share more about each of these priorities in upcoming newsletters and at the upcoming membership meeting we're looking to have as part of our May 3rd shotgun start tournament. In the meantime, I very much look forward to meeting and talking to each of you in the coming months. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any of the board members directly for feedback or questions about the association's activities.



The CHMGA Board of Directors meets monthly to discuss and make decisions regarding association business and tournaments. Summarized below are some of the key items from the board's December, January, and February meetings:

- The previous board decided in December to abandon the experiment to use Blue Golf as the association's tournament management system and stay with Golf Genius. The new board is in the process of migrating back to Golf Genius and expects to have it operational for future tournaments beginning in March. More information will be provided via the Tournament Director.
- It was decided to update the association's by-laws, to bring them current with association/board activities. In April, we will be distributing the proposed changes to the by-laws for approval at the May 3rd association meeting.
- The board approved the continued use of the Tournament Index (TI) handicapping methodology through the remainder of 2025.
- The board approved the use of the Cinnabar tee boxes for the low handicap flights during the Winter/Fall season, and the Hawk tee boxes during the Spring/Summer season
- The board approved Erik Feldman as the interim Tournament Director, replacing Michael Tovish

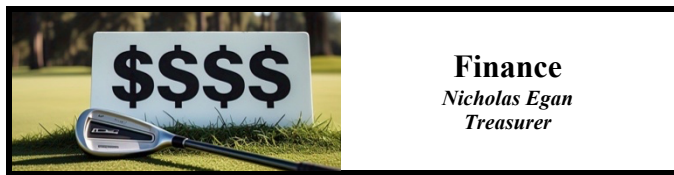
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who stepped down from the board for personal reasons.

- The board is in the process of establishing flighting guidelines for the remaining 2025 tournament schedule to clarify how tee box and flight decisions are made for each tournament format. We anticipate these being distributed to members in mid-March.
- As of the end of January, we had 75 active members in the association



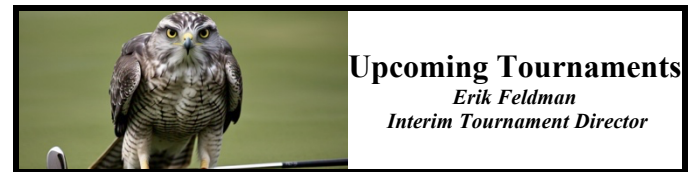
At the May 3rd annual meeting, we'll be sharing the 2025 annual budget for the association. Our goal is to ensure membership has full transparency of the budget and where member's dues and tournament fees go. It will also help us get feedback on different ways the association might want to use these funds to improve and grow.

As part of this newsletter, we'll provide regular updates about how the association is doing against the budget, both monthly and year-to-date. The table below provides a snapshot of the association's finances as of the end of January, which total \$19,808 (across association business, the tournament escrow, and the 2025 Season Points Winner escrow).

Item Description	Jan 2025
Beginning Balances	
Association Business	\$9,400
Tournament Escrow	\$377
2025 Season Points Winner Escrow	\$6,500
Association Business	
Membership Fees	\$3,217
NCGA Membership Payments	(\$0)
NCGA Tournament Payments	(\$0)
CHMGA Social Events	(\$0)
Tournament Financials	
Tournament Fees	\$2,675
Tournament Payouts	(\$2,361)
Tournament Escrow	\$314
2025 Season Points Winner Escrow	\$0
Side-bet Fees	\$340
Side-bet Payouts	(\$340)

Ending Balances	
Association Business	\$12,617
Tournament Escrow	\$691
2025 Season Points Winner Escrow	\$6,500

Finally, the board is in the process of performing a financial audit of the association's finances for 2024, as required in the by-laws and will publish the results of the audit in the next newsletter.



Thanks Mike!

As previously announced, in February Mike Tovish decided to step down as Tournament Director from the CHMGA board. We would again like to thank Mike for the immense creativity and endless dedication that he brought to the club. Mike continues to spend a lot of time and effort making sure things run smoothly during the ongoing transition. Thanks Mike!

As a reminder, all inquiries regarding tournaments should now be directed to Erik Feldman, the interim Tournament Director. This includes inquiries regarding tee times, playing partners, tee boxes, etc. Erik's contact information is:

- Cell phone (text or call): **650-269-9701**
- Email: **erikfeldman1@gmail.com**

Migration to Golf Genius

Starting with the Chapman Scotch event on 2/22/25, the club has moved back to Golf Genius to organize our tournaments and summarize the results. Registrations for future events, detailed hole-by-hole results and summaries of dollar/point awards will be available for each tournament on Golf Genius. Additionally, an effort will be made to migrate the tournament results from our first six events over to the Golf Genius platform.

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As a reminder, the password to the Golf Genius website is our GGID: **ch2025**

Discussions are currently being held by the board on how to maintain the CHMGA website and what data to continue providing there. Data such as the Cinnabar Cup standings and Tournament Index calculations for every club member have been previously available on the website. However, there may be disruptions in the availability of that data until final decisions are made by the board.

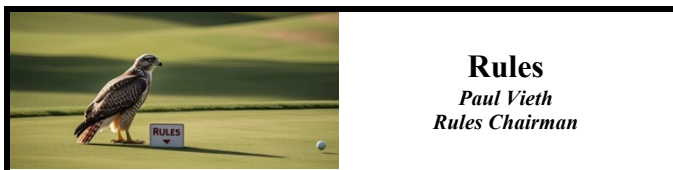
Shotgun Start Tournaments

The club currently has two shotgun start tournaments scheduled this season on **May 3** and **August 16**. These two tournaments will give members an excellent chance to socialize after the round and enjoy a drink or two while the scores are posted and the winners are crowned.

Please note that the second shotgun start tournament was originally scheduled for July 26, but was recently moved to August 16.

Upcoming Tournaments

- March 8: 2-Man Better Ball (NCGA Qualifier)
- March 22: 5-Club Challenge
- April 12: Individual Net (NCGA Qualifier, CHMGA Major #1)
- April 26: 2-Man Better Ball (NCGA Senior Qualifier)
- May 3: 2-Man Multi-Format -- Scramble, Best Ball, Chapman (Shotgun Start)



One of the areas the board receives a great deal of feedback on is regarding how well members are following the Rules of Golf during tournaments. There is a sense that many members are not familiar with the rules and that the association is too lax in the enforcement of the rules.

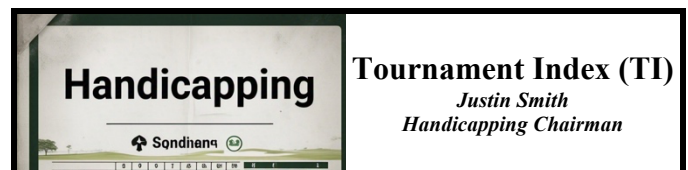
It is the responsibility of every member to know the rules of golf, and to ensure they apply them when playing in our tournaments. This is critical if we are to have fair and equitable tournaments where all members have an equal chance of winning, and to ensure accurate USGA and CHMGA Tournament Indexes (TIs) for handicapping purposes. Members can find the complete set of rules that govern CHMGA events below:

- [USGA Rules of Golf](#)
- [NCGA Hard Card \(NCGA events only\)](#)
- [CHMGA Local Rules](#)

In the coming months, the board will be taking several steps to assist members in improving their knowledge of the above rules and how they should be applied during our tournaments. Specifically, we are looking to do the following:

- Review and update the CHMGA local rules to ensure they reflect membership feedback.
- Create a CHMGA Hard Card combining the Cinnabar Hills local rules and the CHMGA local rules. These cards would be distributed to membership during tournaments.

Additionally, the NCGA regularly hosts half-day on-course rules seminar for members wanting hand-on learning regarding the Rules of Golf. Upcoming sessions include one at Stanford on April 17th and one at Poppy Hills on April 23rd. To sign-up for either of these sessions or to view the complete list of sessions planned for 2025, you visit [NCGA On-Course Rules Seminars](#).



In 2024, the association implemented the Tournament Index (TI) for use in handicapping CHMGA tournaments, with the goal to reduce issues the association was seeing with USGA handicaps not accurately reflecting members playing capabilities at Cinnabar Hills. The TI utilizes the same USGA

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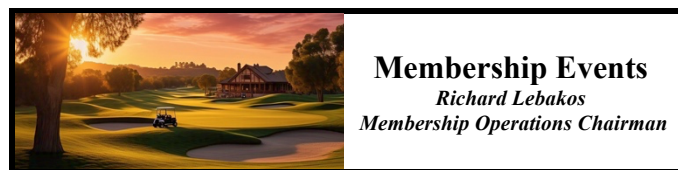
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handicapping methodology, however it is calculated only on members CHMGA tournament results. Note: the TI for new members who have not yet played in 3 CHGMA tournaments is set at 80% of their USGA handicap. Prior to the implementation of the TI, we had several cases where members were shooting exceptionally low NET scores on a regular basis, and some members winning tournaments more often than seemed statistically possible.

Recently the board reviewed the effectiveness of the TI in achieving the objective of ensuring our handicapping accurately reflects a member's playing ability in CHMGA tournaments. Some of the key findings from this review are outlined below:

- The number of tournaments where a member shot a sub-70 NET round reduced by ~40%, and the odds of a member shooting an exceptional round to win a tournament reduced by ~70%, compared to the year prior to the implementation of the TI.
- 57% of our member's TI are within one stroke of their USGA index, and 80% are within 2 strokes.

There are several areas that we found we can further improve upon the use of TI in our tournaments that are currently under discussion with the board. Stay tuned.



One of our goals for 2025 is to improve the social aspects of the association, and to that end we're looking at several upcoming events and activities you'll be hearing about soon.

- A key event will be our CHMGA annual meeting. It's been several years since the last meeting, and we're planning to coincide the meeting with the May 3rd shotgun start tournament to make it easy for members to attend.

- We're discussing with Cinnabar Hills leadership about initiating bi-weekly 9 hole twilight tournaments, and combining it with social events for members, such as membership BBQ nights.
- We're investigating how to expand golfing opportunities with other Bay Area golf clubs and courses, to provide reciprocal golfing opportunities to CHMGA members and grow the size of our own tournaments.