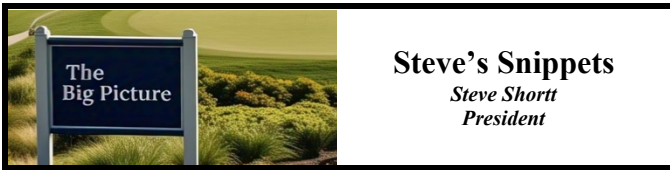


The Red-tail Rattler

CHMGA Bi-Monthly Newsletter

May/June 2025



Welcome back to another edition of the Red-Tail Rattler. I must say I really look forward to sending out our newsletter. Inevitably it generates conversations between the Board and the members about the direction of the association and what would make it more valuable for each of you.

I wanted to start this edition by thanking all of you who attended the Annual Meeting we had in early May. While I wish more people would have been able to make it, the feedback and discussion we had at the meeting was invaluable, and as you'll see in the newsletter, we've initiated several actions within the Board based on this feedback.

I can't stress enough how much the Board values the feedback we receive from **ALL** members about how you'd like to see the association improve. This is **YOUR** club and the Board aims to make it a club that is fun, competitive, and enjoyable for as many members as possible. Case in point, we recently ran a survey about how to improve the upcoming Club Championship. I'll be honest, I was disappointed by the response we received (roughly 1/3 of the members responded). While others on the Board have told me this is a good response rate for a survey, I personally hate making decisions based on feedback from only 1/3 of our members.

In the next month, we'll be launching our annual membership survey, and I strongly encourage all members to take the time to respond when you receive it. Simply put, if you don't take the time to respond, don't be surprised when you aren't heard.

On a final note, we're entering the home stretch of the 2025 season. For those of you in need of a tune-up (and who couldn't use one), I'd like to take a moment to recommend you reach out to Don Leone, one of Cinnabar Hill's golf pros. No doubt many of you know Don, but for those of you who don't, Don is the head of the Don Leone Golf Academy at

Cinnabar Hills and is the 2012 Northern California PGA Teacher of the Year. He is a level #2 certified Titleist Performance Institute instructor (TPI) which allows him to screen a golfer's physical limitations through a 12-step process, to design a custom online fitness workout regimen that allows them to reach their maximum athletic potential. If you're looking to improve your game, you can get more information and contact Don at [Don Leone Golf Academy](#).



One thing I love about serving on the Board is the very active discussions we have about topics. Our board meetings in May and June were no exception as we discussed ways to address membership feedback from the Annual Meeting in May.

A few of the topics we discussed and made decisions on in these meetings are summarized below:

- **2025 Club Championship.** The Board voted to open up the 2025 Club Championship to all members who want to compete for it, as long as they play from the Hawk tees using Gross scoring. In addition, the Board voted to create a 2025 NET Championship for players who don't compete for the Club Championship. For details on the modified format for the Club Championship, and the new format for the NET Championship, refer to the attached page on the CHMGA website:
 - [Club and NET Championships](#)
- **Twilight Golf Series.** Due to insufficient interest, the Board decided to cancel the Twilight Golf Series we had initiated in April for the rest of the year. Instead, we will focus on promoting member sponsored tournaments at select golf courses in the bay area, with the goal of adding several such events to the official CHMGA tournament calendar in 2026.

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- **Tournament Side Bets.** The Board has been unable to identify a new coordinator for tournament side bets, so decided to put all side betting in CHMGA tournaments on hold for the remainder of 2025. We will re-evaluate side-betting in 2026 based on the feedback we get during this year's annual survey in July.
- **Membership Advertising.** The Board discussed allowing members to use the CHMGA website to advertise their personal businesses to other association members. While the Board agreed there is value in providing this service, we ultimately decided it would be a distraction from our core objectives.



The association finances continue to track well against our planned expenses, and below you'll find the association finances through the end of June.

Item Description	Jun '25
Beginning Balance	\$13,810
Association Business	\$5,611
Tournament Escrow	\$1,699
2025 Season Points Winner Escrow	\$5,400
2025 Club Champion Escrow	\$1,100
Sub-Totals	
Association Business	(\$233)
Membership Fees	\$250
NCGA Membership Payments	(\$138)
Other Expenses	(\$345)
Monthly Tournament Financials	\$251
Tournament Fees	\$2,350
Tournament Payouts	(\$2,099)
Ending Balance	\$13,828
Association Business	\$5,378
Tournament Escrow	\$1,950
2025 Season Points Escrow	\$5,400
2025 Club Champion Escrow	\$1,100

As discussed during our Annual, you can find the detailed financial results for every month of 2025 on the CHMGA website at [2025 Finance Report](#).



REMINDER: for all tournament questions or issues, please contact Erik Feldman by text or phone at:

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

No More Registering Others for Tournaments

It is no longer possible for an individual to register their fellow golfers for tournaments through Golf Genius. Unfortunately, we've had several instances of golfers being registered for a tournament and not even knowing they were signed up. This resulted in multiple late cancellations and "no shows."

If you want a fellow golfer registered for a tournament, then you can either ask them to register themselves, or you can send an email to me asking that they be signed up. If you request to sign someone up, then you are taking responsibility for them being there (and for the \$25 late cancellation fee in the event they cancel late or don't show up).

Pace of Play Has Improved

The last couple tournaments have seen a much better pace of play by club members. With just a few exceptions, foursomes have been finishing in the required 4 hour 30 minute time; and while the new CHMGA pace of play policy allows for 2-stroke penalties for slow play, none has yet to be assessed.

Thank you to all club members for their efforts. Please continue to place your foursome in the proper position on the course and always [Play Ready Golf](#).

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Cinnabar Cup Standings

With almost 80% of the season in the books, the Cinnabar Cup standings are getting very tight. The current standings can be found at [Cinnabar Cup Points Summary](#). Ashwin Rajendra sits atop the standings with Gary Berg and Trent Gilfoil in close pursuit.


As a reminder, the top two golfers will become team captains at the 3rd Annual Cinnabar Cup on October 18 and 25. The remaining players in the top 20 will be placed on teams via a “snake draft”. More information to come in the future.

Remaining Regular Season Schedule

There are four tournaments remaining in the regular season – four more chances to improve your place in the Cinnabar Cup standings.

- July 13: 2-Man Chapman Scotch (Member-Guest)
- July 26: 2-Man Total Net (Major #4)
- August 16: 4-man Best 2-of-4 Stroke Play (Shotgun Start)
- August 23: Individual Net

Demand for recent events has been high, so please sign up early. Although we have had a waitlist for recent events, those waitlists have always cleared in the week before tournaments.



Handicapping

Tournament Index (TI)
Justin Smith
Handicapping Chairman


During the Annual Meeting, several members had questions about the Tournament Indexes (TIs) we use for handicapping our tournaments. TIs, which compute a member’s handicap based on scores from official CHMGA tournaments only, were implemented during the 2024 season to address several issues the association was having with members’ normal NCGA/USGA handicaps.

I wanted to take a few minutes to remind members how TIs are calculated. You can also see the details behind your specific TI on the association website at: [Member TI Lookup](#).

Tournament Index Calculations:

- All indexing follows the USGA rules of handicapping as published at [USGA Rules of Handicapping](#).
- All adjustments for normal USGA postings are applied to CHMGA Tournament Indexes.
- Your TI is calculated the same way your USGA handicap is calculated (by averaging your 8 best score differentials from your most recent 20 postable rounds), **EXCEPT** only rounds from CHMGA tournaments are used.
- New members play at 80% of their USGA handicap until they have participated in three CHMGA tournaments from which a score can be posted.
- All Tournament Indexes are updated 72 hours after the official results of applicable tournaments are posted.

For questions or issues with Tournament Indexes or handicapping in general, please contact me at handicapchair@chmga.club.



Membership Events
Richard Lebakos
Membership Operations Chairman

Welcome New Members

The association continues to grow and now has 96 full members. Please join me in welcoming the following new or returning members to CHMGA since our last newsletter: Dave Duran, Shaan Gagneja, Chad Hartman, and Bob Payne. Be sure to reach out and introduce yourself to each of them in one of our upcoming tournaments.

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Member Sponsored Golf Outings

We have several member sponsored golf outings coming up later this summer/fall that we wanted to share with everyone. While these are not official CHMGA tournaments, the sponsoring members are opening them up to any CHMGA member who might want to play in them (based on availability). If you're interested in any of these events, please contact the member listed next to each event.

- **August 10th**, The Club at Pasadera in Monterey. Contact Ketki Mathuri via text at 510-909-9024.
- **August 30th**, Poppy Hills Golf Course. Contact Steve Shortt at 408-307-8718.
- **November 8th**, Bayonet Golf Course. Contact Steve Shortt at 408-307-8718.

NOTE: Any rules and/or sign-up requirements for the above events are determined by the sponsoring member and not CHMGA.

Callaway Pre-owned Golf Club Discounts

Callaway is offering some fantastic discounts on pre-owned Callaway golf clubs. If interested, you can check out what they have at the following link, [Callaway Pre-owned Golf Clubs](#), or reach out to Tad Rhyan at 512-617-7169. Be sure to let Tad know you are from the Cinnabar Hills Men's Golf Association and that "Steve (Shortt) sent you". Negotiate like the Donald and take advantage of Tad.