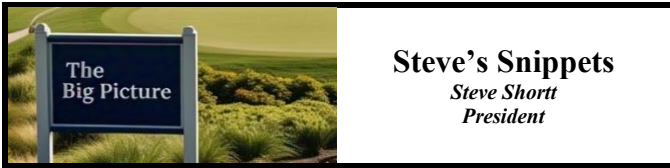


The Red-tail Rattler

CHMGA Bi-Monthly Newsletter

March/April 2026



Steve's Snippets

*Steve Shortt
President*

As we reach the midpoint of the season, I'd like to take a moment to recognize the strong participation and continued commitment from our membership. The success of our club is driven by your involvement, and we look forward to an equally active and competitive second half of the season.

- **Annual Meeting.** Mark your calendars for our Annual Meeting which will be held immediately following our tournament on August 29th. This meeting serves as an important forum to review the current season, discuss updates for the upcoming year, and address any matters relevant to the club and its membership. Attendance is strongly encouraged, as member input plays a key role in shaping the direction and continued success of the organization.
- **Rules of Golf and Player Accountability.** All members are expected to play in accordance with the Rules of Golf and uphold the standards of integrity that define our club. Equally important is the responsibility each member has to ensure that fellow competitors are also adhering to these rules. Maintaining fairness in competition is a shared obligation.

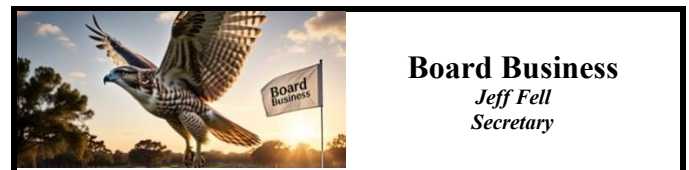
In the event of a rules question, concern, or potential discrepancy during a round, members must report the issue to the Rules Committee (Paul, Justin, or Drew) within one (1) hour of completing their round. Notification may be made via text message, phone call, or by clearly documenting the issue on the scorecard at the conclusion of play. Prompt reporting ensures that all matters can be reviewed and resolved in a timely and fair manner.

- **Tournament Participation Requirement.** This is a reminder that members must participate in a minimum of six (6) tournaments during the season to be eligible for both the Club Championship and the Net Championship. These

requirements are in place to ensure fair competition and to reward consistent participation throughout the year. If you have not yet met this threshold, we encourage you to review the remaining schedule and plan accordingly.

- **Member Feedback and Communication.** We value open and constructive communication within the club. Should you have ideas for improvement, suggestions for future events, or concerns that you would like addressed, please feel free to reach out to me directly. Your feedback is important and will be considered as we continue to enhance the overall member experience.
- **Supporting Course Staff and Facilities.** We are fortunate to be supported by a dedicated team at Cinnabar Hills Golf Club, including staff in the Bar & Grill, beverage cart, snack station, cart services, and driving range operations. Many of these individuals are early in their careers and play an important role in delivering a positive experience for our membership.

I encourage all members to take a moment to acknowledge and thank these team members for their efforts. A simple gesture of appreciation goes a long way. Additionally, where appropriate, offering guidance or sharing professional insight can make a meaningful impact on their development and future aspirations. Supporting those who support our club reflects the values we strive to uphold as an organization.



Board Business

*Jeff Fell
Secretary*

Club Competitiveness

In 2025, the board began tracking and compiling data from our tournaments to understand how competitive our tournaments are, and to ensure all members have an equal chance of competing for tournament purses, and Cinnabar Cup points, regardless of their handicap.

The Red-tail Rattler

CHMGA Bi-Monthly Newsletter

March/April 2026

The table below summarizes the 2026 year-to-date results. The column labeled “Field” shows the percent of rounds played by members in each handicap group through our last tournament on April 17th. The other columns show the percent of rounds where members of each handicap group either won the tournament or finished in the Top 3, Top 5, Top 10, or Top 20 respectively.

Percentage of Rounds Played by Handicap Group and Finish - All Events						
HC Range	Field	Winner	Top 3	Top 5	Top 10	Top 20
0.0 to 4.9	15%	21%	23%	21%	18%	15%
5.0 to 9.9	25%	18%	25%	22%	28%	25%
10.0 to 14.9	21%	29%	15%	21%	22%	21%
15.0 to 19.9	26%	21%	23%	23%	21%	27%
20.0 to 24.9	7%	4%	9%	7%	6%	7%
25.0 to 29.9	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%	4%
30.0 to 34.9	1%	4%	2%	2%	1%	2%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Assuming every member has an equal chance of winning every tournament, then over time (e.g. by the end of the season) we would expect the percentages in each “finishing column” to roughly equal the percentages in the “Field” column

For example, members with TIs between 0.0 and 4.9 have played 15% of the total rounds year-to-date and have placed in the Top 5, 21% of the time. Thus, this handicap group (so far) is doing slightly better than we would expect them to do. Likewise, members with TIs between 5.0 and 9.9 have played 25% of the total rounds year-to-date but placed in the Top 5 only 22% of the time (slightly underperforming what we would expect).

The board reviews the above data at every board meeting (by tournament and by YTD) to ensure the formats and handicap allowances offer every member an equal chance to win; and by the end of the season we expect any differences in the different groups (especially between the “Field” and “Top 5” columns to narrow further. You can find future updates to the above table on the CHMGA website at: [2026 Tournament Competitiveness](#).

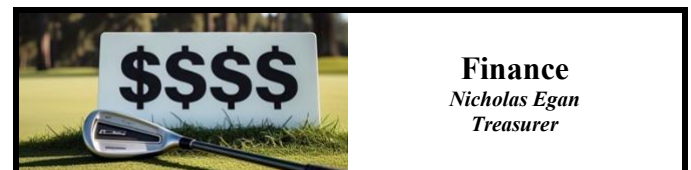
Pace of Play Analysis

Like tournament competitiveness, the board tracks several metrics regarding each members’ Pace of Play, using information provided by the pro-shop

after each tournament. While our overall goal is to have all groups finish in less than 4 hours and 30 minutes, the key metric we review in each board meeting is how well each group/member “keeps up” with the group in front of them. We consider a group “on-time” if they finish within 10 minutes of the group ahead of them (given they tee’d off 10 minutes after them), allowing for a “grace period of a few (3) minutes.

A summary of the number of rounds each member plays where they finish “on-time” or “behind” can be found on the CHMGA website at: [Pace of Play Report Card](#), along with more detail on how we measure the pace of play for various scenarios.

In the second half of the season, we will be using this data to help make decisions on how best to continue to improve the club’s pace of play; based on member pairings, tee time assignment, tournament rules, etc.



Below is a summary of the association finances through the end of March 20206. Detailed finances are on the CHMGA website at: [2026 Finance Report](#).

Item Description	Mar '26
Beginning Balance	\$14,628
Association Business	\$12,903
Tournament Escrow	\$690
2025 Season Points Winner Escrow	\$1,035
Association Business	(\$2,922)
Membership Fees	\$194
Monthly Tournament Escrow	(\$960)
NCGA Tournament Payments	(\$1,750)
Other Expenses	(\$406)
Monthly Tournament Financials	\$272
Tournament Fees	\$2,200
Tournament Payouts	(\$1,928)
Ending Balance	\$11,978
Association Business	\$9,981
Tournament Escrow	\$962
2025 Season Points Escrow	\$1,035

The Red-tail Rattler

CHMGA Bi-Monthly Newsletter

March/April 2026



Tournament Updates

Drew Himes
Tournament Director

Hawk Tees Open!

With the course drying out, we're opening the Hawk tees for future tournaments. When setting initial tee times, we'll default those players who've indicated they prefer to play the Hawk tees in the past to the Hawk tees. If you subsequently don't want to play the Hawk tees, let me know.

Upcoming Tournaments

Majors season begins in May!

- May 2nd, Individual Stableford (Modified Scoring). This is our first major of the year with Cinnabar Cup points increased to ~50% of the normal tournaments.
- May 16th, 2-Person Combined Stroke Play, Member/Guest. Team score equals the combined NET score of both players.
- May 30th, Individual Stroke Play (NCGA NET Amateur Qualifier). Our second Major of the year.
- As always, you can find the complete 2026 tournament schedule on Golf Genius at: [2026 Tournament Schedule](#) (GGID: ch2026).

Socialization

One of the obstacles to more socialization among membership after our tournaments is the lack of shotgun start tournaments, we're able to conduct at Cinnabar Hills. Memberships have told us consistently that if they finished at the same time or at least "closer" to other groups that liked to socialize afterwards, they would take advantage of it.

In the second half of the season, we're going to experiment with grouping groups that want to socialize closer together for tee times (e.g. within 40 minutes of each other). If you would like to take

advantage of this, please email at tournaments@chmga.club and let me know.

Final Away Tournament Venues

- Blackhorse on Sunday, August 9th.
- Poppy Hills on Saturday October 3rd.



Tournament Index (TI)

Justin Smith
Handicapping Chairman

TI Adjustment Policy

Members may request an adjustment to their Tournament Index (TI), for medical and/or other reasons, by contacting the Handicap Chairman. They should provide the Handicap Chairman the reason they are requesting the adjustment and any supporting information the Handicap Chairman requests. The Handicap Chairman will review the request with the members of the Handicap Committee (Handicap Chairman, Rules Chairman and Tournament Director) and decide on the request using the following guidelines:

- If the medical event (or other reason) is temporary, the Handicap Committee will decide between 0 and a maximum of 5 strokes from the player's Low Handicap Index. This adjustment will also apply to the GHIN if Cinnabar Hills is their home club.
- If the medical event (or other reason) is permanent, the Handicap Committee will determine whether to apply the temporary adjustment until 20 new rounds can be posted after the player's medical degradation or have the TI process restart and use an acceptable GHIN as the starting point.
- If the player is deemed to be back to full health (or other reason is no longer relevant), the Handicap Committee will reverse the temporary allowance.

The Red-tail Rattler

CHMGA Bi-Monthly Newsletter

March/April 2026

The Handicap Committee reserves the right to alter or cancel approved allowance if level of play and performance changes.



Rules
Paul Vieth
Rules Chairman

In this issue of the Rattler, I wanted to cover a couple of rules, that while not common, come up on occasion.

Teeing from the Wrong Spot

If you tee off from an area outside the official teeing area (defined as a rectangle that is two club-lengths deep, where the front edge is defined by the line between the forward-most points of two tee-markers the side edges are defined by the lines back from the outside points of the tee-markers) or from the wrong set of tees:

- **In Stroke Play**, the player gets the general penalty (two penalty strokes) and must correct the mistake by playing a ball from inside the teeing area:
 - The ball played from outside the teeing area is not in play.
 - That stroke and any more strokes before the mistake is corrected (including strokes made and any penalty strokes solely from playing that ball) do not count.
 - If the player does not correct the mistake before making a stroke to begin another hole or, for the final hole of the round, before returning their scorecard, the player is disqualified.
- **In Match Play**, there is no penalty, but the opponent may cancel the stroke:
 - This must be done promptly and before either player makes another stroke. When the opponent cancels the stroke, they cannot withdraw the cancellation.

- If the opponent cancels the stroke, the player must play a ball from inside the teeing area and it is still their turn to play.
- If the opponent doesn't not cancel the stroke, the stroke counts and the ball is in play and must be played as it lies.

Playing the Wrong Ball

Before taking a stroke, its essential players make sure they are playing the correct ball (their ball and not an opponent's). But if you do play a wrong ball, or if your opponent accidentally plays your ball, what do you do?

- **In Stroke Play**, the player gets the general penalty (two penalty strokes) and must correct the mistake by continuing play with the original ball by playing it as it lies or taking relief under the Rules:
 - The stroke made with the wrong ball and any more strokes before the mistake is corrected (including strokes made and any additional penalty strokes solely from playing that ball) do not count.
 - If the player does not correct the mistake before making a stroke to begin another hole or, for the final hole of the round, before returning their scorecard, the player is disqualified.
- **In Match Play**, the player gets the general penalty (loss of hole):
 - If the player and opponent play each other's ball during the play of a hole, the first to make a stroke at a wrong ball gets the general penalty (loss of hole).
 - But if it is not known which wrong ball was played first, there is no penalty and the hole must be played out with the balls exchanged.

What to do when a player's ball was played by another player as a wrong ball?

- If it is known or virtually certain that the player's ball was played by another player as a wrong ball, the player must replace the original ball or

The Red-tail Rattler

CHMGA Bi-Monthly Newsletter

March/April 2026

another ball on the original spot (which if not known must be estimated) (see Rule 14.2).



Membership Info

Todd Manley
Membership Chairman

Membership Update

Membership continues to grow, totaling 81 people in the club. Please welcome new members Erik Feldman, Anthony Liatsis and Matthew Hewes. Growing our membership and having a healthy group of golfers looking to participate gives CHMGA options for club activities.

Promotional Events

On April 25th we had our first promotional event at Cinnabar Hills to publicize our membership, events and benefits for golfers who might be interested in joining. We saw significant interest from the local golf community on a rather cold and cloudy day, with over a dozen people interested in learning more. Look for our banner at future events at Cinnabar Hills and other venues and if you'd be interested in manning the information table to talk to prospective members, let me know.

Mid-year Membership Promotion

New members joining the club after May 1st (including new members who joined during the above promotional event) can join at a reduced membership rate of \$125. Make sure to let any golfers you know who might be interested in joining the club to take advantage of this offer.