



Fore You...

From the Golf Committee

May 2025

Playable Rounds. WOW! What a rain event we witnessed earlier this month. That rain has certainly made the spring flowers pop this year and helped the grass start growing again. March was a good month for golf with warm dry weather. Rounds played in March 2025 were 1703 more than in March 2024 but the year to date rounds as of March 31, 2025 were 1863 less than the comparable period in 2024 due to the cold and wet days experienced in February.

Outside Play and Tournaments. Revenue from outside Stay/Play bookings continue to be very strong. Booked revenue is already \$24,200 ahead of the comparable period for 2024. While this income is critical to keep member fees low while providing funds for course maintenance, the golf department is mindful of the balance that needs to be struck so that member play is not impacted.

Maintenance: Balboa course renovations continue but the April rains have definitely caused some delays. Irrigation pipes, lateral lines and sprinkler heads have been completed through Hole 5 and are progressing down Hole 6.

The rainstorms caused significant damage to cart paths and bridge abutments on Holes 6 and 8 at DeSoto. Maintenance crews have addressed many of the damaged areas but be careful on all of the courses as you approach areas that have been impacted by the storms.

Typical spring maintenance is being undertaken at all courses. The crews are also implementing a program to build up the soil profiles on the fairways. This includes aerification and fertilization of the soil. This should improve the grass thickness and durability. Please be aware that cart traffic has a significant detrimental impact on grass. *Please observe the 90-degree rule and return to the cart path as soon as possible.* Avoid driving the carts on any obvious dead or bare spots as this only makes it harder to get grass to cover that area. Also, remember to share carts with other players in your foursome. Reducing the stress caused by cart traffic will improve the quality of the fairways for all of us to enjoy.

Volunteer Days: The first Volunteer Day of 2025 was held at Cortez on April 9th. Nine volunteers performed tasks that the maintenance crews just can't get to, in addition to performing their regular responsibilities. We thank these volunteers for their efforts. Watch the *Fore You...* for additional Volunteer Days that will be scheduled soon. Please contact Karen Nickel (nickelk@live.com) if you or your group would like to assist on these days.

Course Marshals Wanted! We would love to have more volunteers to learn about becoming part of the new Course Marshal Program! Over the next few months, each of the golf committee members will be out on a course learning more about being a Starter and/or Marshal. What a great experience! We're excited about helping the Golf Department ramp up the new Marshal program. The goal of a Starter or Marshal is to improve all golfers' playing experience! This will be accomplished by:

- ✓ Assisting in keeping the pace of play within acceptable limits
- ✓ Answering questions from players not familiar with the course
- ✓ Addressing cart issues on the course and maintaining the carts after play

It would be perfect to have enough volunteers to have two marshals per course on busy days!

If we want to have an effective Marshal program, we must treat them with respect and respond positively to their input. Remember, they are here to help us enjoy our round of golf! Each of us can also help by being aware of our own groups' pace of play and encouraging each other to pick it up if we fall behind the group in front of us.

If you would like to join us in learning more about being a marshal, please contact the Pro Shop manager at the course you desire.

New Golf Personnel: Two new golf professionals have joined the golf department:

- ✓ Jennifer Birdrow – LPGA Teaching professional and manager at Balboa and Coronado golf courses.
- ✓ Bob Guiseppe – PGA Teaching professional and manager at Isabella and Magellan golf courses. Bob is scheduled to start in late April.

Please welcome them to the Village and the golf staff.

Thanks for your interest in HSV golf. If we can answer any questions, or help address an issue, please let us know.

Mike Jackman (mgjackman211@gmail.com)

Karen Nickel (nickelk@live.com)

Richard Spires (spiresrich@aol.com)

