

# ROLLING HILLS GOLF CLUB

Volume 6, Issue 5

May 2021

## President's Message

I hope everyone is having a happy and safe Ramadan Season. Eid Mubarak a bit early and we here at Rolling Hills wish only good fortune to you and your family.

It has been a quiet month which is actually quite nice. Limited tournaments, good weather, and lots of golf being played. So I thought I would offer a few stats for you.

In 2020 during COVID and during our shutdown we as a club played almost 34,000 rounds of golf. That is just under 3000 a month or 750 a week.

The highest clubs around the world with membership the same size or large than ours average 25,000.

So I am often asked why we shut down for a week on either side and my answer is simple, like us as people, the course sometimes needs a rest. Jason and his crew were able to get so much done and have a very aggressive plan for the summer months. The course is looking very good but we need to continue to do what we can as members and fix divots and ball marks to help our grounds crew.

Another medal in short time but that is the only tournament of May.

Hit'em straight,

Ed Devlin

## From the Pro

The next "Golf in a Week" class starts on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Classes are an hour each day beginning at 7:00 pm and run for 5 consecutive days. Courses aimed at beginner and intermediate golfers. It covers all aspects of the game: Safety, Rules, Etiquette, Swing Method, and an on course Texas scramble. All equipment and range balls are supplied. The cost is 600 SAR.

Stuart offers a ladies' only class each Thursday morning from 9:00 -10:00. All equipment is supplied and there is free coffee on arrival. It is ideal for either the beginner or intermediate golfer as it covers all the skills to get one out on the course! The cost is 90 SAR per person per class.

The Junior Tour School will return on Friday May 7<sup>th</sup> and run each Friday for 4 weeks. The classes are from 8:00am — 9:00. The schools will cover rules, etiquette, and golf swing mechanics. All equipment and range balls are supplied. The cost is 300SR.

Individual Lessons can be taken any day at times convenient — check out the website for more information on lesson prices [www.arabiangolf.net](http://www.arabiangolf.net).

To register, you may contact Stuart at:

[stuarthurstfield@gmail.com](mailto:stuarthurstfield@gmail.com) or WhatsApp +44-775-337-1547

May 6<sup>th</sup> — Ladies' Classes Continues

May 7<sup>th</sup> — Junior Tour School

May 23<sup>rd</sup> — Golf in a Week

## Inside this issue:

Upcoming Tournament Info	2
Ask Carl	2
Ladies' Golf	3
Junior Golf	4
Handicap Corner	5
Rules Corner	8
Hole in One	8
Quiz Night	9
Grounds	9
April Medal Results	10
Live Music Night	11
Golf Ball	12



## Upcoming Tournament Information

### Monthly Medal

The sixth leg of the Race to the Hills is happening on **May 8<sup>th</sup>**. This is not an open play event — playing groups will be created by the Tournament Committee. Registration is now open via [Tournament Manager](#).

### 17th Anniversary Tournament

17th Annual Anniversary Tournament Sign Up is Open! The tournament will be played on June 19th. We are happy to announce that the link for signing up is now open through the 17th Annual Anniversary [Tournament Manager](#).

The [2021 Tournament Calendar](#) is available on the RHGC's website.

### 2021 World Ryder Cup

World Ryder Cup Sign Up is Open! The World Ryder Cup will be played on the weekend of September 3rd and 4th. We are happy to announce that the link for signing up is now open through the [2021 World Ryder Cup Event Portal](#).

Please sign up before May 31st to guarantee your shirt size.

Your Team Captains this year are:

TEAM ROW: Gareth Weale

TEAM USA: Troy Thompson

### 2021 Club Championship

Club Championship Sign Up is Open!

The Club Championship will be played on the weekend of October 15th and 16th. We are happy to announce that the link for signing up is now open through the [2021 Club Championship Event Portal](#).

Please sign up **before June 30th** to **guarantee your shirt size**.

May 8<sup>th</sup> — Monthly Medal  
 June 19<sup>th</sup> — 17th Anniversary Tournament  
 September 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> — World Ryder Cup  
 October 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> — Club Championship



### Ask Carl

Q: Do I need to enter scores in GHIN for RHGC Match Play events?

A: Yes, per the Rules of Handicapping you must enter match play scores. Please see email sent by Match Play Coordinator on April 5th for more details. If any questions please contact [tbilla@yahoo.com](mailto:tbilla@yahoo.com) or handicap director Stephen Vezendy at [rhgchandicaps@gmail.com](mailto:rhgchandicaps@gmail.com).

Q: What is the record for the longest drive ever record in a PGA event?

A: The longest golf on drive ever recorded was 787 yards by Carl Cooper at the 1992 Texas Open Oak Hills Country Club on Hole 3. This monster drive got some assistance from a cart path and a steep downhill, it can be argued that it doesn't count but technically it does since there is no remarks column in the rules book.

Unfortunately for Cooper, this mammoth drive ended up a long way away from the green and he ended up making a double bogey on the hole.

If you would like Carl to answer a question, please email a Board member and they will make sure Carl gets it. Which is nice.

## Ladies' Golf

This past month has seen the TMLL ladies taking part in another of our popular Skills clinics with Stuart, this time focusing on chipping and pitching. Despite the humid and often very breezy weather conditions, 8 ladies attended the busy and enjoyable session.

Sixteen ladies attended our quarterly prize giving lunch, during which various teams and individual players received prizes that had been earned in the first 3 months of the year. We also said a fond farewell to Yuko, who has been a loyal member of TMLL throughout her time in KSA.



Looking forward to the upcoming month, we have a slightly modified and reduced schedule, to reflect the Holy Month of Ramadan and the Eid holiday. Then we will take a break over the summer months, before resuming our TMLL events in September.

As always, if you have any questions, or would like more information about TMLL or ladies golf in general, then please get in touch with me (Amanda Henson) at [rhgladiesdirector@gmail.com](mailto:rhgladiesdirector@gmail.com).



## Junior Golf

### May Jr. Golf Event

Junior Golfers of all skill levels are invited to participate.

**May 22nd, 2021**

Start: 10:00 – Driving/Putting Range (warmups)

10:20 – Group pairings announced

10:30 – Competitive Groups head to #1 Tee, Fun groups to follow

12:45 – All Groups back in the Clubhouse for lunch and prizes

Finish: 1:30 – Golfers are free to go

Fun Division - For younger and less experienced juniors that just want to have fun playing a few holes of golf on the course

Competitive Division: For the older and more experienced juniors that want to test their golf skills on the course and compete against other juniors

#### Who Can Play?

RHGC Club members ages 8-17 years old or those who have or are currently taking lessons from Stuart Hurstfield (RHGC Golf Pro)

Greens Fees - Free for all junior RHGC members and 75 SAR for non-members

Equipment Needed - Golf clubs, golf balls and tees.

#### Sign-Up

Sign up for the May Golf Event is currently available on the Tournament Management (TM) website, or via email to rhgcjuniorgolf@gmail.com

For more information, any questions, or to volunteer as a marshal, please contact:

Jake Rosenthal: 054 774 4309 (WhatsApp) or email at: rhgcjuniorgolf@gmail.com

***REMINDER: Due to current policy regarding non-family members sharing a golf cart, all participants will be expected to walk and carry their clubs***

***If a participant's parent chooses to use their own or rent a cart, then the participant can ride with them, but no other participants may ride in that cart***

***Please ensure all participants arrive with a mask and check-in at the starter shed prior to going to the driving range***

## April Event Scores

Eric Heinold	48
Calvin Manalu	54
Casper Soudant	55
Kangho Choi	56
Shaun Flynn	57
Kangin Choi	61
Minjun Kim	69

## Handicap Corner

### 5 common mistakes high handicap golfers make way too often

Any higher-handicap golfers think their games need a total overhaul for them to reach the promised land of being a consistent 80s-shooter. Often, that task seems so monumental they discourage themselves from trying before they even start, which is a shame, because whether they realize it or not, most golfers are closer to single-digits than they realize.

A few years ago, data was gathered on more than 90 million golf swings, in what they touted as the largest swing study ever recorded. What they found were a number of correlations between low handicappers and higher ones. Here's a few interesting tidbits higher handicappers should keep in mind the next time they go play...

#### They sway too much in their backswings

Your backswing should be a turn, but the study found that for many higher handicaps, it's more of a sway. And that's a problem: higher-handicaps sway about 1.5 inches more away from the ball on the backswing than lower-handicappers, and as a result they never quite make it all the way back to the ball on impact. It's a recipe for inconsistent contact. Place a golf bag outside of your trail foot, and as you turn, work on making sure your hips never come into contact with it.

#### They turn too level

While it's important to turn — not sway — your lower body on the backswing, the same is true with your upper body. But when you do, there is one thought you should have along the way: Turn your left shoulder down toward the ball. The study found that higher handicappers tend to turn their shoulders too level (below, left), which can cause them to come over-the-top on the downswing. Lower handicappers turn their left shoulder down more (below, right), which gives them more tilt and improves their quality of contact.



#### They don't have a consistent miss

Golf is a game of misses, so you should probably know yours! You don't need to hit every shot perfectly, but playing well becomes especially challenging when you have no idea where your bad shots are going. The study found that golfers who didn't boast a common miss (aka, a slice) had an average score of 103.

#### They leave the clubface open

One thing high handicappers do a lot, though? They leave the clubface open — almost five degrees more, on average, than lower-handicappers. It contributes to a slice, and another miss that's common among high handicaps...

#### They miss greens short

When you leave the clubface open, you put more sidespin on the ball. You also add more loft, both of which make the ball fly shorter. Combine this with higher-handicappers' tendency to under-club themselves, and it all results in lots of short misses. So the next time you're on the course and find yourself debating whether to hit a 6- or 7-iron, the correct answer is: Hit 5-iron!

Source: *Golf.com*

Hope you enjoyed this article. If you have any questions about Handicaps or have suggestions for future articles, please email us at [rhgchandicaps@gmail.com](mailto:rhgchandicaps@gmail.com). Stephen Vezendy

## Rules Corner

### Read the 13 original rules of golf, dating back to 1744(!)

Golf is a game of honor that is largely officiated by the players themselves. Because of this fact, it's important to have an understanding of the all-important Rules of Golf. From how to take a correct drop to not improving your lie, understanding how to interpret and follow the rules is essential to the game, and if you use them correctly, they can even save some strokes.

But what are the origins of these regulations? The first known written set of rules dates all the way back to 1744 and were drafted by The Honorable Company of Edinburgh Golfers. The rules were originally known as the 13 Articles and were implemented to govern the first Challenge for the Silver Club tournament played at Leith Links in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Here are the original 13 Articles and their modern equivalents:

**“You must tee your ball, within a club’s length of the hole.”**

Modern rule: 6.2b(1) Teeing area rules — *Your ball is in the teeing area when any part of the ball touches or is above any part of the teeing area. You may stand outside the teeing area in making the stroke at a ball in the teeing area. You may play the ball from a tee placed on the ground or from the ground itself.*

**2. “Your tee must be upon the ground.”**

Modern rule: 6.2b(2) Teeing area rules — *Ball May Be Teed or Played from Ground. The ball must be played from either: A tee placed in or on the ground or the ground itself. For purposes of this Rule, the “ground” includes sand or other natural materials put in place to set the tee or ball on.*

**3. “You are not to change the ball which you strike off the tee.”**

Modern rule: Rule 6.3a Holing out with the same ball played from the teeing area — *A player may play any conforming ball when starting a hole from the teeing area and may change balls between two holes. The player must hole out with the same ball played from the teeing area, except when: That ball is lost or comes to rest out of bounds, or the player substitutes another ball (whether or not allowed to do so). The player should put an identifying mark on the ball to be played.*

**4. “You are not to remove, stones, bones or any break clubs for the sake of playing your ball, except upon the fair green and that only within a club’s length of your ball”**

Modern rule: Rule 15.1a&b Removal of loose impediments — *You may remove a loose impediment without penalty anywhere on or off the course and may do so in any way (such as by using your hand or foot or a club or other equipment). If your removal of a loose impediment causes your ball to move, your ball must be replaced on its original spot (which if not known must be estimated). If your moved ball had been at rest anywhere except on the putting green or in the teeing area, you get one penalty stroke.*

**5. “If your ball comes among water or any watery filth, you are at liberty to take out your ball and bringing it behind the hazard and teeing it, you may play it with any club and allow your adversary a stroke for so getting out your ball.”**

Modern rule: Rule 17.1 a-d Options for your ball in penalty area — *Penalty areas are defined as either red or yellow. This affects your relief options. You may stand in a penalty area to play a ball outside the penalty area, including after taking relief from the penalty area. Your ball is in a penalty area when any part of it lies on or touches the ground or anything else inside the edge of the penalty area or is above the edge or any other part of the penalty area. You may either play the ball as it lies without penalty or play a ball from outside the penalty area by taking penalty relief. If your ball has not been found and it is known or virtually certain that it came to rest in a penalty area you may take penalty relief under this Rule. But if it is not known or virtually certain that your ball came to rest in a penalty area and the ball is lost, you must take stroke-and-distance relief.*

## Rules Rules Corner con't

**6. “If your balls be found anywhere touching one another, you are to lift the first ball, till you play the last.”**

Modern rule: Rule 14.1a Spot of ball to be lifted and replaced must be marked — Before lifting your ball under a Rule requiring it to be replaced on its original spot, you must mark the spot, which means to: Place a ball-marker right behind or right next to your ball, or Hold a club on the ground right behind or right next to your ball. If you lift your ball without marking its spot, mark its spot in a wrong way or make a stroke with a ball-marker left in place, you get one penalty stroke.

**7. “At holing, you are to play your ball honestly for the hole, and, not to play upon your adversary’s ball, not lying in your way to the hole.”**

Modern rule: Rule 6.3c Wrong ball — You must not make a stroke at a wrong ball. In match play: If you and your 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). In stroke play, you 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 do not count. If you do not correct the mistake before making a stroke to begin another hole or, for the final hole of the round, before returning your scorecard, you are disqualified.

**8. “If you should lose your ball, by its being taken up, or any other way, you are to go back to the spot where you last struck and drop another ball and allow your adversary for the same misfortune.”**

Modern rule: Rule 18.2b What to do when your ball is lost or out of bounds — If your ball is lost or out of bounds, you must take stroke-and-distance relief by adding one penalty stroke and playing a ball from where the previous stroke was made. Exception – Player May Substitute Another Ball under Other Rule When It Is Known or Virtually Certain What Happened to Ball.

**9. “No man at holing his, is to be allowed to mark his way to the hole with his club or anything else.”**

Modern rule: Rule 10.2a Advice — During a round, you must not: Give advice to anyone in the competition who is playing on the course or ask anyone for advice, other than your caddie. Touch another player’s equipment to learn information that would be advice if given by or asked of the other player.

**10. “If the ball be stopped by any person, horse, dog or anything else, the ball stopped must be played where it lies.”**

Modern rule: Rule 11.1 a&b Your ball in motion accidentally hits person or outside influence — If your ball in motion accidentally hits any person or outside influence, including you, any other player or any of your caddies or equipment, there is no penalty to any player. If your ball in motion accidentally hits any person or outside influence, your ball must be played as it lies, except in two situations:

Exception 1 – When Your Ball Played from Anywhere Except Putting Green Comes to Rest on Any Person, Animal or Moving Outside Influence.

Exception 2 – When Your Ball Played from Putting Green Accidentally Hits Any Person, Animal or Movable Obstruction (Including Another Ball in Motion) on Putting Green.

## Rules Corner con't

11. "If you draw your club, in order to strike and proceed so far in the stroke as to be bringing down your club; if then your club shall break, in any way, it is to be accounted for."

Modern rule: *A stroke is defined as "the forward movement of your club made to strike the ball."*

12. "He whose ball lies furthest from the hole is obliged to play first."

Modern rule: 6.4b Order of when playing hole — ... after all players start a hole, the ball that is farthest from the hole should be played first.

13. "Neither trench, ditch or dyke, made for the preservation of the links, nor the scholar's holes or the soldier's lines, shall be accounted a hazard; but the ball is to be taken out/teed and played with any iron club."

Modern rule: Rule 16.1b Abnormal course conditions — *If your ball is in the general area and there is interference by an abnormal course condition on the course, you may take free relief by dropping the original ball or another ball.*

Much of the language has changed over the years, but it is amazing to see how many of these original 13 rules are still employed today.

Source: *Golf.com*

Hope you enjoyed this article. If you have any general questions about Rules or have suggestions for future articles, please email us at [rhgcrules@gmail.com](mailto:rhgcrules@gmail.com). Stephen Vezendy

## Hole in One

Congratulations to Narang (Nancy) Cho for getting a hole in one at Rolling Hills Golf Course. On April 19<sup>th</sup>, Nancy used a #5 utility club to score an ace.







## RHGC Quiz Night



On April 7th, 14 teams of 56 players battled through obscure facts and trivia, compliments of our host, Hugh Boddington. In the end, we can confirm that everyone knows less than they think, even the winners.

Be on the lookout for future quiz nights!

First Place: Jeannine, Ed, Sue, and Les  
 Second Place: Louise, Michael, Luke and Andy  
 Third Place: Alyson, Kevin, Angie, and Steve

### Grounds

Maintenance have put up rock barriers around parts of the course to keep players from driving their carts in areas they should not be driving. Please respect these new barriers and also adopt the below:

- No carts driven into penalty areas (water hazards)
- No carts driven between greenside bunkers and greens (holes 2-3-10-13-14-16)
- No carts driven closer than 25 feet of greens
- Try not to drive carts in desert areas to prevent tire track grooves
- Drive on fairways rather than rough

Drive on cart paths when that is an option

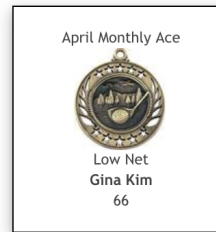
The west side of the driving range is being flattened. Until this area is ready for play, do your best to hit balls and get off the range as soon as possible when the range is busy.

There has been a lot of golf played this year and players are noticing a lot of ball-marks on the greens that have not been fixed. Please do your part by fixing your ball-mark and at least one more, on every green.

If you need help on the course, contact the Marshal or Starter Shack.

013-876-6009	Starter
053-482-5974	Marshal – Bobby
053-109-8498	Marshal – Rafie

## March Monthly Medal Results



### Flighted Winners

#### A Flight

Place	Flight	Name	Front	Back	Total
1	A	Billa, Timothy	34	35	69
2	A	Smith, Derrick	33	37	70
3	A	Choi, Chulsoon	38	33	71

#### B Flight

Place	Flight	Name	Front	Back	Total
1	B	Bolarinwa, Simeon	35	32	67
2	B	Dolor, Gilroy	36	32	68
3	B	Suryantara, Handy	33	36	69

#### C Flight

Place	Flight	Name	Front	Back	Total
1	C	Kang, Geonyoung	33	36	69
2	C	Schultz, James	31	38	69
3	C	Pacho, Jericho	31	38	69

#### D Flight

Place	Flight	Name	Front	Back	Total
1	D	Hertlein, Sue	31	36	67
2	D	Pandiangan, Juni	35	34	69
3	D	Daud, Rodziah	35	35	70

#### E Flight

Place	Flight	Name	Front	Back	Total
1	E	Hong, Sunmyoung	32	34	66
2	E	Svendsen, Kaori	32	35	67
3	E	Canlas, Joseph	35	34	69

## Race to the Hills Top 5

Rank	Player	Tournaments	Wins	Points
1	Lu, Feng	5	2	54
2	Song, Kim-Kyung-Sook	5	1	54
3	Steenkamp, Christo	5	2	45
4	Kim, Gina	3	1	43
5	Evans, Simon	5	1	42

# Live Music Night

## @RHGC

Friday,  
May 21st  
7 PM

Enjoy an outdoor evening of eclectic music and cold drinks with friends.

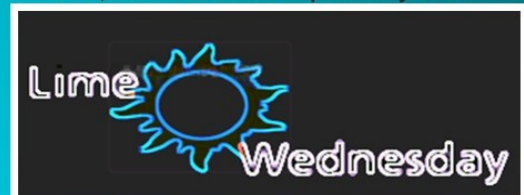
Sign up on Tournament Manager and pick up your tickets at the Pro Shop starting Wednesday, May 5th  
Tickets: 50 riyals  
(Members may buy tickets for guests)

- Pay 50 SAR/person at the Pro Shop by Tuesday, May 18th
- Mandatory temperature check at the starter prior to entry
- Table snacks and unlimited soda and ice provided, please bring your own reusable cup
- Free seating, 5 per table
- When not eating or drinking, masks must be worn



The Sgt. Pepper band was created to perform in a new play being performed by the Dhahran Theatre Group the first week of November, 2021.

Beatles songs form part of the performance: Yesterday, Here Comes the Sun, Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-Da, All you need is Love, and With a Little Help from My Friends.



Lime Wednesday were formed 3 years ago and play progressive and alternative rock music. They have played regular gigs in the Dhahran community.



Glorious Ruins plays songs of hope and songs that remind them



No Commitments play a fusion of Blues, Rock and Soul music. The band for this event comprises of Graham Roberts, Stuart Leach, Rachel Persram, James Aust, and Julio Carvalho. They will play music by artists such as

# THE GOLF BALL

*Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Crowne Plaza, Bahrain*

**Semi-Formal Attire**

**Member-SR500 | Guest-SR550**

**Doors open at 7:00pm**

**Dinner, Door Prizes, & DJ**

**(House drinks until 11pm)**

Ticket Sales begin September 27<sup>th</sup> at the ProShop

Tickets are transferable, but non-refundable

Crowne Plaza special room rates

Double Occupancy = Standard Room - BD50, Deluxe Room - BD55

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