

## 2023 Highlights

See the 2023 winners and most improved players

p5

## Tournament Highlights

View photo highlights of Oct, Nov & Dec tourneys

P6&7

## Be a part of the 2024 Board

Read about how you can become more involved as a Board Director

p9

DECEMBER 2023

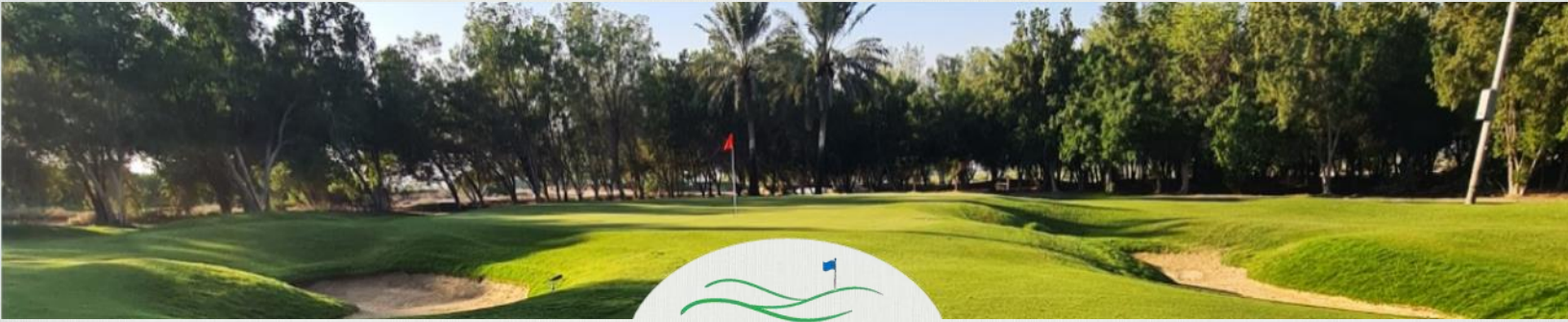
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ROLLING HILLS GOLF CLUB



DHAHRAN, SAUDI ARABIA

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As 2023 comes to a close, I would like to thank all of the RHGC Board members for the great work that they have done this year. The RHGC Board is made up of volunteers who work very hard to provide its membership with the best possible experience.

If you feel in the party/holiday spirit, the **Golf Ball is in Bahrain is this weekend**. There are still a few tickets available at the ProShop. The Golf Ball is always a lot of fun. There will be lots of raffles, including Turkish Airline tickets raffled off as part of your ticket. Don't miss out.

With the Aramco Invitational Tournament (AIT) over, the focus is now on the Club Championship taking place on December 15 and 16. The decision was made to move the Club Championship late into the year to take advantage of the great course conditions after the AIT. Hopefully you have already signed up for the tournament. To sign up online [click here](#).

In regards to the 2023 RHGC Elections, as I was running unopposed, I'll be staying on the Board as President for the next two years. And following the recent voting results announced at this week's Annual General Meeting, Kevin Capstick was voted to stay on as the RHGC Secretary. Thank you to Jeff Kotanchick for running as a potential candidate and to all members who participated in the vote. It's important to note that there are additional **opportunities to be a part of the 2024 Board**. Please consider making a difference, and see page 9 for more information on how to be a part of this great team. I hope to hear from you soon.

The membership drive for 2024 is underway. Renewal forms were sent to all members' personal email address. Please see page 9 for more information.

Looking forward to a great 2024, see you on the course.

See you on the course,  
Bruce Waldner  
RHGC President

## CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP December 15 & 16, 2023

The 2023 Club Championship will be held on December 15 & 16. The qualifying round will be held on the 15th and the Championship round will be on the 16th.

[Click here to register](#) before the December 12 deadline.



An event like this also requires support from volunteers, from helping sign in players, to marshalling, and staffing the clubhouse. If you have a couple hours to spare or wish to know more about the specific volunteer opportunities, [please email Nabeel Haq](#).



RHGC 2023

# Golf Ball

FRIDAY, DEC 8      7PM      CROWNE PLAZA BAHRAIN

Last chance to join the fun! Purchase your [Annual Golf Ball](#) tickets at the ProShop today.

**TURKISH AIRLINE VOUCHER RAFFLE**  
In addition to the incredible menu and DJ at the Golf Ball, there will be a raffle for roundtrip Turkish Airline tickets (DMM>IST). You must attend the Golf Ball to be eligible for the draw.





Hi Ladies,

Hope everyone had a great November. Our last event for 2023 was a huge success! Thank you to each of you for making this event a great end to the year.

I also want to take this chance to say good-bye as I will not be the ladies director in 2024.

Happy Holidays!  
Angela Farley  
Ladies' League Director



# TURKEY SHOOT

Saturday, November 11

## HIGHLIGHTS





Hope everyone has safe and happy holiday and New Year celebrations! - Stephen V.

## HANDICAP CORNER

If you play golf, you know this person. Maybe *you're* this person (maybe *I'm* that person?!). Regardless, when you are stuck on the golf course for four hours with your buddies or just some random players you got paired up with, you're bound to see some things. Frustration might boil over. Or maybe there's a simple lack of understanding regarding proper golf etiquette. Either way, it can get ugly. Or just really annoying.

That's why GOLF.COM asked you, loyal golfers, to vent, and posted a simple question: *What's the most annoying thing you see golfers do?* The comments section blew up (over 600 responses!). Some people spoke generally, listing generic things that irk them while on the course, while others seemed to talk (very) specifically about individual incidents that got under their skin.

Below we'll run through most of them - there were many repeats - for two important reasons: 1) you might learn something you do bothers other golfers; and 2) because it's kind of funny. (Note: They are not in any particular order and some have been edited for clarity)

- Leaving bag or cart on wrong side of the green, which slows down play when they have to go back to get it
- Taking a mulligan on every hole
- Collectively going to each person's shot as a group instead of playing ready golf
- Not repairing ball marks on the green
- Slow play
- Spitting sunflower seeds on greens
- Having an excessive and slow pre-shot routine
- Recording scores on greens instead of doing it on the next tee box
- Throwing clubs
- Handing out swing tips before you swing — right after they hit a bad shot of their own
- Spending too long looking for golf balls
- Spending too long looking for golf balls in areas where hitting from would be impossible anyway
- Those who despise slow play yet play slowly themselves
- Needing help to find their golf ball on every single hole
- When a twosome wants to play through a foursome with nowhere to go ahead of them
- Waiting for the green to clear when there's no chance they'd reach it anyway
- Poor attitudes
- Slowing up play by using rangefinders too often
- Not raking bunkers
- Driving carts too close to greens & tee boxes
- Playing from the tips when it's obviously way too difficult or too far
- Kneeling on the greens
- Slow pre-shot routines that copy pros
- Walking through a putting line on the green
- Talking in someone's backswing
- Spending a lot of time talking to cart girl
- Standing directly behind a player when they are hitting a tee shot
- Excessive practice swings
- Too many waggles
- Spending too much time reading two-foot putts like they are pros
- Chatting or lingering on the green when the hole is finished
- Sitting on greens
- Recklessly gambling on the round
- Spending too much time on tee boxes looking for usable tees to keep
- Lingering to clean clubs or put headcovers back on
- Leaving cigarettes or cigars on greens
- Leaving cigar ashes on greens
- Spending too much time digging in your golf bag looking for a second ball to hit
- Not getting ready to hit until it's their turn
- Playing honors off the tee when it's clearly slowing up the whole group
- Teeing off first on next tee box even though someone else made birdie
- Cheating
- Asking if a putt is good and can be conceded
- Not using the restrooms on the course
- Standing behind the hole when a player is putting
- Slowing down the group using AimPoint putting when they don't know how to use it
- Damaging the greens with their putters
- Using range balls on the golf course
- Walking on the green with sandy shoes from the bunker
- Playing music too loudly
- Not asking other group members if it's OK to play music
- Unsolicited advice
- Talking to another player's golf ball
- Nonchalantly hitting short putts and counting them as made putts if missed
- Breaking clubs
- Getting mad at bad shots they shouldn't have attempted in the first place
- People oblivious to letting other faster groups play through
- Moving while someone is putting
- High-handicaps talking through every shot with caddie
- Retrieving the ball from the cup by using the head of a putter
- Fixing ball marks on greens incorrectly
- Leaving clubs on the greens
- Taking divots with practice swings
- Telling everyone how far they can hit the ball
- Playing well ahead of your group on the hole
- Raking putts from short distances
- Leaving trash on the golf course
- Spending too much time lining up a shot putt for a quadruple bogey
- Putting driver and woods in the bottom section of the golf bag
- Commentating on every shot like they are Jim Nantz

### Quote of the Day

***"In golf, the customs and etiquette and decorum are as important as the rules of play"*** – Bobby Jones.

# 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

## 2023 Most Improved Players

Congratulations to our 2023 Most Improved Players! Historically each RHGC member has been eligible to win the Most Improved Player of the Year Award, which is part of the RHGC Tournament Policy. This is based on the player's December 1 official handicap index (HI) from the start of the season, compared against their season ending November official handicap index.

A player must be registered for the entire calendar year to qualify for this award. The calculation is done using the USGA GHIN handicap system's Most Improved Golfer Report, and validated by the Tournament Directors and Handicap Director. To support inclusivity and diversity, starting in 2023 the Board has approved expanding this award to three categories: adult Male, adult Female and Junior.



Most Improved, Ladies: Bobbi Waldner, HI improved from 33.0 to 21.5  
 Most Improved, Men: Wayne Greenhalgh, HI improved from 25.2 to 12.8  
 Most Improved, Junior: Maaz Bin Saad, HI improved from 6.5 to +0.3

## 2023 Match Play Winners



**Singles Match Play**  
Zaid Al-Amer



**Team Match Play**  
YoungKyoung Ahn &  
Changwoo Son



**Match Play A Flight**  
Les Hertlein



**Match Play B Flight**  
Charles Lee



**Match Play C Flight**  
Juni Pandiangan

### 2023 Race to the Hills Winners

Rank	Name	Total Points
1	Steve Farley	59
2	Maaz Bin Saad	56
3	Dicky Suriakusumah	50



**2023 Race to the Hills Champion**  
Steve Farley



**Aramco Team Series  
Riyadh Golf Club – Pro-Am**

In October, the RHGC team of David Bedford, Steve Farley and Stephen Vezendy, alongside pro golfer Polly Mack from Germany, teed it up in the Pro-Am of The Aramco Team Series, a professional tournament that is part of the Ladies European Tour. The team won 3rd place, it was a total team effort!



**aramco**  
Invitational tournament

Part of Asian Development Tour

At the recent Aramco Invitational Tournament, the Rolling Hills Golf Club was well-represented with the following players: Ahmad Baig, Maaz Bin Saad, Carter Bradford, Gertjan DeJong, Les Hertlein, Jake Rosenthal, John Paul Scallon, and Paul Stent.





2023

There were 232 golfers who experienced an amazing day on Friday, November 17, 2023 during the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Oilman's Tournament. Participants from Aramco and supporting business partners located in Saudi Arabia, neighboring GCC countries and from around the world enjoyed the wonderful weather, the brilliantly prepared golf course and the fantastic dinner, awards and entertainment. RHGC would like to thank all our sponsors, volunteers and event organizers that made the day possible.

We would also like to congratulate all the winners, especially the overall winning team of **Shelf Drilling 1**, consisting of:

- Maaz Binsaad
- Graham Robertson
- Alistair Walker
- Fahad Al-Mulaik

A full list of winners can be found on the [Golf Genius Portal](#), along with all the photos of the day's festivities on the [Photo Gallery](#) page on the RHGC Website. You can also check out RHGC's [Facebook page](#) for more pictures and videos from the day's round.

Next year's event is scheduled to take place on **Friday, October 11, 2024**, and will look to include more contractor led teams, so start networking with your business partners to ensure you're invited to play next year. We look forward to an even bigger and better tournament in 2024.

David Bedford  
RHGC VP & Oilman's Committee Chairman

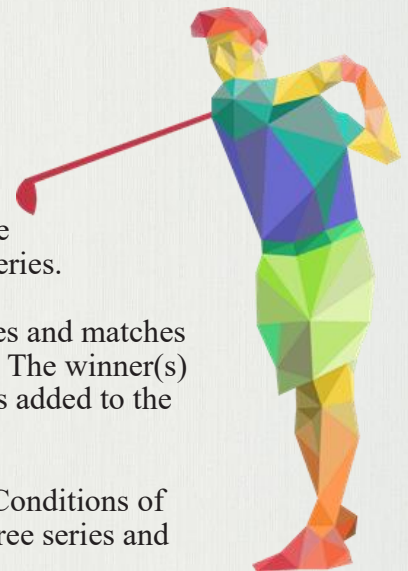


## 2024 Match Play Series

**Registration is now open for the 2024 Match Play Series**, consisting of Singles, Flighted and Teams events. These three series run from the start of the year through to mid-November 2024 when we crown the champions of each series.

Tournament brackets for single elimination rounds are generated for each series and matches are played at the convenience of the playing pairs within a specific timeframe. The winner(s) of each series wins a 400 SAR Proshop voucher along with having their names added to the winner's plaques displayed in the clubhouse.

Each series is open to all RHGC members in good standing, so check out the Conditions of Play for each series on the [registration](#) pages and sign up for one, two or all three series and enjoy the full year event.





### Community Championship - Golf

Community Services has recently announced the **Third Annual Community Championship**. Please note that the **Golf Community Championship Finals** will take place at Rolling Hills Golf Course on:

**February 23 – Men's, Women's, Junior Finals**  
**February 24 – Mixed Finals**

There will be a RHGC **Qualifying Tournament** on January 26 with registration to open after December. For details about the qualifying format, [click here](#).

For more information about the Community Championship, please contact Community Services or access the myCommunity App.

## Safety Tip - Cart Sheds

It is important to remember to drive a golf cart safely in all locations. Specifically, we ask that you remember that the cart shed areas (upper and lower) are busy with pedestrians and carts at all times the course is open. Please drive slowly and carefully, and anticipate that you will encounter others. Please do not cut corners and please keep to the right, particularly at junctions at the end of each row of sheds.

In addition to reminding drivers to be aware and drive carefully, the Board has made a request with Community Services to install mirrors at the end of each row to increase visibility and help keep the course safe.



## Upcoming Club Pro Activities

### LADIES ROLL UP CLASS

Every Thursday, ladies are invited to join group sessions **from 9 - 10 am** for beginner and intermediate golfers. All equipment is supplied and instruction covers all the skills to get one out on the course! The cost is 90 SAR per person, per class and sign-up is at the ProShop.

### GOLF IN A WEEK

The next Golf in a Week class starts on **Sunday, Dec. 10**. Classes are from 7 - 8 pm and run for five consecutive days. These group sessions are ideal for beginner and intermediate golfers and covers all aspects of the game: safety, rules, etiquette, and swing technique. All equipment and range balls are supplied. The cost is 600 SAR. Sign up at the ProShop.

### INDIVIDUAL LESSONS

Individual lessons incorporating GASP video analysis can be taken at times convenient to suit your schedule. Junior pricing is 30 minutes/150 SAR and Adults is 50 minutes/200 SAR. Register at [stuarthurstfield@gmail.com](mailto:stuarthurstfield@gmail.com) or WhatsApp +44 775 337 1547.

### JUNIOR TOUR SCHOOL

The Junior Tour School commences on **Sunday, Dec. 17** for ages 8+. It will run Sun - Thu from 6 - 7 pm. The classes cover rules, etiquette, and golf swing mechanics in a group setting. All equipment and range balls are supplied. The cost is 400 SAR. To register, please visit the ProShop.



*Golf club repairs and re-gripping service available. Contact Stuart for details.*



# RHGC APPOINTED DIRECTORS

RHGC is seeking volunteers from the membership to support our activities, events, and projects. If you are interested in becoming a Board member for the 2024 year, there are a number of yearly appointed Board positions to consider:

- |                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Membership Director        | Social Director       |
| Tournament Director        | Media Director        |
| Grounds and Rules Director | Ladies' Golf Director |
| Handicap Director          | Junior Golf Director  |
| Facilities Director        |                       |

Appointed Board members will be selected by the 2024 RHGC Executive Board (President, Vice President, Treasurer, & Secretary). The following incentives for Board members are included within the RHGC Constitution to encourage participation: 10 day advance tee time booking; 100% discount on the RHGC primary membership fee; and 100% discount on Recreation greens fee.

**Note:** If interested in a Board Directorship, do not pay your 2024 green fees until contacted by the Executive Board; paid green fees cannot be reimbursed.

If you are interested in volunteering for a Board position, please submit your name to the 2024 RHGC Vice President [David Bedford by email](#), and indicate your interest for a specific position. Please supply a paragraph about yourself, and include the qualities you have that will support your application. For example, please list any previous assistance at the RHGC events, or a particular skillset you might have. Please submit your email **by 3:00 pm on Thursday, December 7.**

As per the Recreation Manual, to be considered for one of the above Director positions, applicants must:

- Be a RHGC member
- Be an Aramco employee or a spouse of an Aramco employee
- Work in Dhahran, or have a mailbox located in Dhahran
- Not serve simultaneously on two self-directed groups



## 2024 Membership Renewal

2024 Membership Renewal forms have now gone out to all primary members' personal email addresses that you have registered with RHGC. Attached in the emails are forms that are prefilled with your membership information. If you have not received an email, please first check your SPAM/Junk folder, then please contact the RHGC Membership Director at [RHGCMemberships@gmail.com](mailto:RHGCMemberships@gmail.com) with your membership number to have them resent to you.

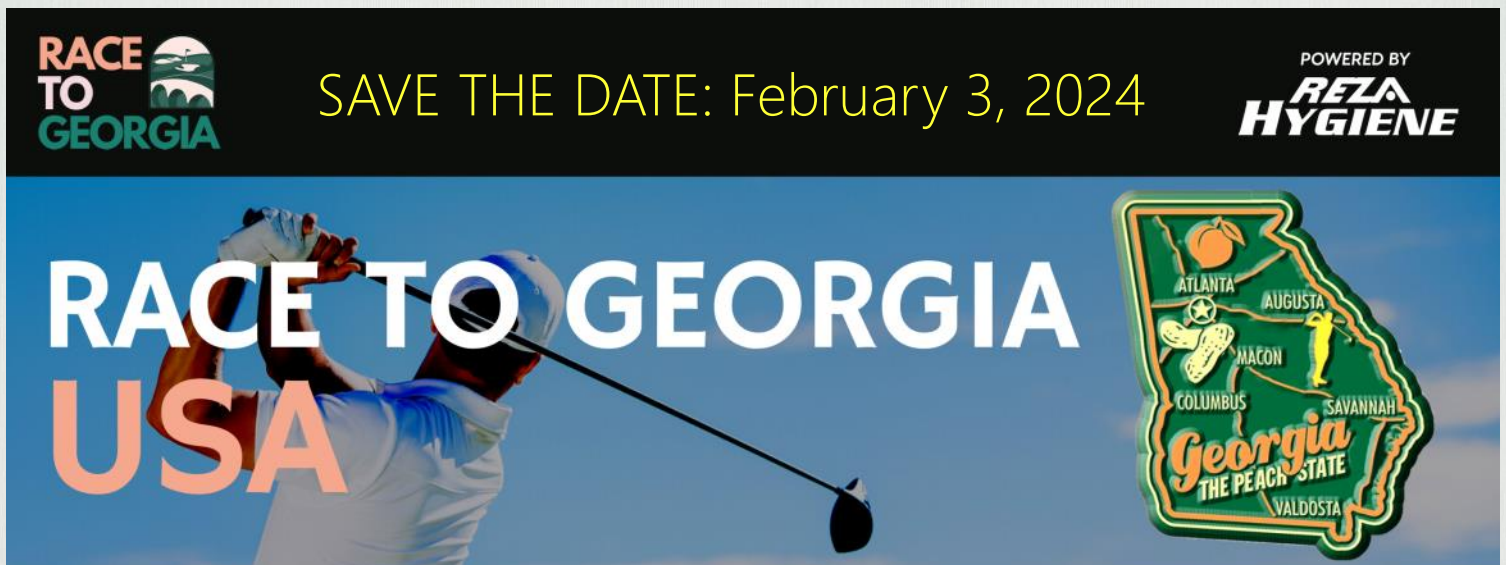
Note: The Proshop **will not** have copies of your forms, please ensure you bring two copies with you for renewal.

The Proshop will begin accepting renewals on Monday December 4, 2023. Regular Proshop hours are: Monday to Thursday: 11 am to 6 pm, Friday and Saturday: 6 am to 12 pm, Sundays: Closed.

The deadline for renewals without penalty is January 31, 2024. Renewals made on February 1, 2024 to February 29, 2024 will be subject to a 250 SAR late fee. Renewals from March 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 will be treated as a new membership application and will be subject to the 500 SAR initiation fee. You will also lose your place on the cart shed waiting list.

Cart shed holders must renew by January 31, 2024. Failure to renew your membership will result in your cart shed being reassigned to the next member on the cart shed waiting list. Cart shed tenants are required to have paid for yearly green fees through Recreation for the calendar year.





The 2023 – 2024 Race to Georgia started last month in Saudi Arabia with a strong pool of 85 players competing for honours at the at Dirab Golf Club. This is the first of 13 qualifying rounds for this popular season long series of events held in Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE, which attracted over 1,500 golfers last season.

The qualifying rounds are open to all amateur golfers; men, women, as well as a junior division, with a maximum handicap allowance of 24 for men and 36 for women.

All events will be played in a Stableford format with 75 percent of registered handicaps, with sanctioning from the respective official golfing authorities; Saudi Arabian Golf Federation, Bahrain Golf Association and Emirates Golf Federation.

The RHGC qualifying even twill take place on **February 3, 2023 at Rolling Hills Golf Course** in Dhahran. More details will follow in the coming months.

From each qualifying event, the category winners and runners-up will qualify to attend the Regional Finals to be held in Dubai at the Montgomerie Golf Club (for UAE qualifiers) on Sunday March 3, 2024, and at the Riyadh Golf Club (for KSA, Bahrain and Qatar qualifiers) on Saturday, March 9,2024.

The ultimate winners of the finals will win an all-expenses trip to the World Final of the Race to Georgia to be held during The Masters week. Part of the prize is a two-day visit to attend The Masters week as a patron.

Keith Watson, the Tournament Series Organiser on behalf of REZA Hygiene, said: “We are all very excited with the growth and interest in this tournament with the ‘Bucket List’ trip to the US World Final and a visit to The Masters. We thank all the participating golf clubs and golfers for their support – many of whom are traditional regulars of the Race to Georgia. Due to the growing interest and awareness of the Race to Georgia, the series has been expanded this season to include Qatar, at Doha Golf Club.”

The series is powered by REZA Hygiene, a leading hygiene solution provider throughout the GCC, whose core mission with their Race to Georgia initiative remains the same; to help promote golf's growth in the region, especially in line with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030. The 2023 – 2024 Race to Georgia is sponsored and supported by Zahid Group KSA, PAPA JOHNS, EMAAR Hospitality, GOLFTEC UAE, DYSON and Rezaroma.