



# NEWSLETTER



## President's Message



To begin with, congratulations to Taib Abang, Captain of Team ROW, for winning the 2024 Ryder Cup. Thanks to Jeff Meisner for being Captain of Team USA/Canada and for all the hours that he and Taib spent organizing their teams. More about the Ryder Cup can be found on page 3.

While I am handing out congratulations, big congratulations go out to those RHGC members that competed in and won the 2024 Community Championship for golf in their respected divisions. The Women's champion was Soonhae Kim, the Men's champion was Maaz Bin Saad, and the Mixed team champions were Les Hertlein, Sue Hertlein, Steve Farley, and James Platt.

March also has RHGC's second social golf event of the year. St. Paddy's night golf is always a fun event. Anyone that has never golfed on a pitch black course using glow-in-the-dark golf balls is in for a treat. Plus, add in some great food and you have one really good time. Please see page 7 for more information.

As the holy month of Ramadan approaches, I am very happy to announce that the course will be open an hour later during Ramadan to allow RHGC's Muslim members a greater opportunity to golf early in the morning and after sunset. Starting on March 11th – through April 8th, RHGC will have the below tee times:

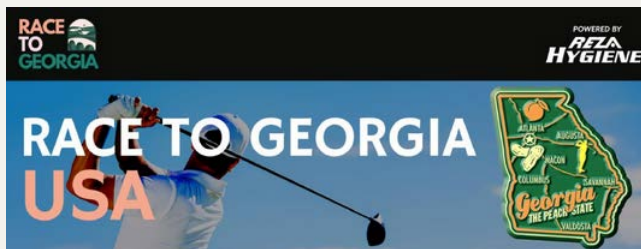
- Sundays: 4:00pm – 10:00pm
- Monday through Saturday: 5:30am - 10:00pm

The intent is to keep the Proshop "AS IS" during Ramadan:

- Sunday : Closed
- Monday - Thursday : 11am to 6 pm
- Friday and Saturday : 6am to 12 pm

See you on the course,  
Bruce Waldner, President



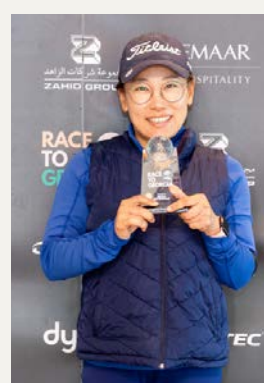


RHGC qualifying event took place on February 3, 2024 at Rolling Hills Golf Course in Dhahran. The qualifiers are moving on to Saudi Arabia Qualifier for the Race to Georgia that will be held at the Riyadh Golf Club on Saturday, March 9, 2024. The winners of this qualifier will win an all-expenses trip to the World Final of the Race to Georgia to be held during The Masters week.



Congratulations and good luck to the winners!

Winners	
A Flight; 1 <sup>st</sup> place	Kevin Capstick
A Flight; 2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Alex Hollander
B Flight; 1 <sup>st</sup> place	Hayden Ponsford
B Flight; 2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Borim Ha
Juniors; 1 <sup>st</sup> place	Maaz Bin Saad
Juniors; 2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Eric Heinold
Lucky Dip	John-Paul Scallon
Lucky Dip	Ida Aritonang





Congratulations to Team ROW for a hard fought victory bringing home the cup for a third year in a row! At the end Day 1, there was only one point separating the teams after Team Canada/USA fought back from being four down in the morning to win the afternoon session. However, it was always going to be an uphill battle for Team Canada/USA to overcome the stroke advantage Team ROW took into the singles. The final score was Team ROW = 46.5 to Team Canada/USA = 38.5.

Well done to everyone that participated to represent their team in one of the best formats golf has to offer, it's no wonder even the pros see it as an honor and a privilege to be selected to play in these types of events. Special thanks goes out to Jeff Meisner and Taib Bang for Captaining the teams. Everyone we spoke to really enjoyed their competition (win, lose or tie), so it was great to see such sportsmanship and camaraderie on display.





# Race to Hills - Top 10 February Update

Current Rank	Previous Rank	Player	Events	Number of Wins	Points in this Event	Total Points	Points Behind Lead
T1	-	Chun, Soyong	2	1	13	22	
T1	T7	Lee, Jae	2	1	9	22	
T3	T7	Kim, Soonhae	2	0	9	18	4
T3	T2	Boukbira, Abdelbaki	2	1	11	18	4
T5	T2	Lee, Myung Hwa	2	1	11	16	6
T5	T27	Masoud, Rodney	2	1	1	16	6
7	-	Simamora, Alfian	1	1	0	15	7
T8	T27	Hong, Sunmyoung	2	1	1	14	8
T8	T27	Abdullah, Zulkiflie	2	1	1	14	8
T8	T27	Musa, Ismaeel	2	0	1	14	8



The 2023 Valentine’s Day Event, “Romance with a Twist” was a fantastic evening of fun, golf, excellent food and most importantly, full of love (and chocolate). Set against a backdrop of a pastel Saudi sunset, the evening began with a two and four person Golf Scramble Tournament, with chocolates and flowers awaiting the winners. After conclusion of play, a beautifully presented 3-course meal was served in style. Highlights included seafood bisque and Rocco salad; choices of chicken, pasta or filet mignon; and tasty desserts including a chocolate fountain. The evening ended with the prize-giving ceremony. Congratulations to 1st Place Couple: Christy & Hayden Ponsford and 2nd Place: Silvia & JP Scallon. 1st Place Foursome went to the team of Danae & Alex Hollander and Lisa & Gary Collins. Finally, congratulations to Vicki & David Bedford, who swept the “Best Dressed” vote in a landslide.

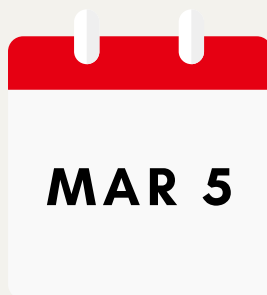
Stay tuned for more fun RHGC Social Events coming in 2024, including St. Paddy’s Day Night Golf, Cinco De Mayo, and of course the RHGC Signature Golf Ball.





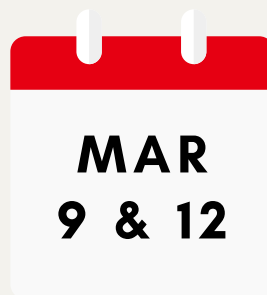
The weather has been perfect for golf! Our skills clinics and Nine & Dine are well attended, but there's room for more! Please join us! If you're interested in getting involved with ladies' golf, contact [rhgcladiesdirector@gmail.com](mailto:rhgcladiesdirector@gmail.com) to be added to the WhatsApp chat and keep an eye out for email invites for the Tuesday Morning Ladies League (TMLL) and the evening Nine & Dine each month.

We hope to see you on the course!  
Peggy and Tamara



**MAR 5**

**TMLL**



**MAR  
9 & 12**

**SKILLS  
9AM**



**MAR 20**

**NINE &  
DINE**





A Flight		
Place	Player	Total Net
1	Sammy Kim	69
2	Soonhae Kim	70
3	Anton Tarihoran	72

B Flight		
Place	Player	Total Net
1	Abdelbaki Boukbira	69
2	Jae Lee	70
3	Hakseon Kim	71

C Flight		
Place	Player	Total Net
1	Soyoung Chun	70
2	Johnseungjun Oh	72
3	John Temaga	75

D Flight		
Place	Player	Total Net
1	Dennis Updike	71
2	Juan Michelangeli	73
3	Soyun Yoon	73

E Flight		
Place	Player	Total Net
1	Yeong Joo Kim	68
2	Simon Evans	72
3	Ifeanyi Uche	73

Ladies Flight		
Place	Player	Total Net
1	Myung Hwa Lee	67
2	Yeong Joo Kim	68
3	Soyoung Chun	70

Closest to the Pin		
Hole	Winner	Distance
4	Soohae Kim	7 ft
8	Jung Hyun Park	3 ft 11 in
11	James Platt	11 ft 1 in
14	Hank Falck	3 ft





# Upcomings Events

Click on the picture to link to registration details



**RHGC**

Monthly Medal  
March 1st  
**Registration closes  
Feb 26**

Register now at  
[golfgenius.com](http://golfgenius.com)



**RHGC**

Monthly Medal  
April 20th  
**Registration closes  
April 16th**

Register now at  
[golfgenius.com](http://golfgenius.com)



Save The Date  
May 2, 2024

**CINCO DE MAYO**

## 2024 St. Patrick's Day Scramble -- "Feelin' Lucky?"

March 14, 2024

Join the festive fun with a 9-hole, four person scramble, glow-in-the-dark golf balls, dinner and prizes. Dinner will be provided with the "Feelin' Lucky" Prize ceremony for:

- 1st and 2nd Place 4-Person Scramble
- 1st Place Best-Dressed 4-Some
- 1st Place best decorated golf cart

Cost is 75 SAR per person, payable at the ProShop.

Limited to first 72 players.

**Registration closes March 12th**





# JUNIOR GOLF EVENT

FOR JUNIOR GOLFERS AGES 8-17 OF ALL SKILL LEVELS!



March 2nd & April 6th

## WHO CAN PLAY?

Free For Club Members and all juniors currently taking lessons from Stuart Hurstfield

## DETAILS

**Competitive Division:** For older/more experienced golfers who want to compete  
**Fun Division:** For beginners/juniors who just want to have fun!  
All golfers must bring their own clubs, balls, and tees

## AGENDA

10:00 AM	Driving Range/Putting Warm up
10:20 AM	Pairings Announced
10:30 AM	Competitive groups head out to 1st Tee
10:40 AM	Fun groups head out to 1st Tee
12:30 PM	All groups back to clubhouse for lunch and prizes

Register Now:

[rhgcjuniorgolf@gmail.com](mailto:rhgcjuniorgolf@gmail.com)

+1-713-584-9889 Whatsapp Alex Hollander Junior Golf Director







# Awali Golf Club

A Bapco Refining Sports Facility in the Kingdom of Bahrain

presents  
the

## 59<sup>th</sup> Bahrain Open Championship

combined with the

## 35<sup>th</sup> Bahrain Ladies Open Championship

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – practice round

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – 1<sup>st</sup> Round

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – Final day

WHS Handicap Index limit for BO is 9.7

WHS Handicap Index limit for BLO is 36

**Entry Fee:**

**35 BHD for guests**

**25 BHD for members**



For more information please contact the  
secretary on  
[opensecretary@awaligolfclub.com](mailto:opensecretary@awaligolfclub.com)





April 26 & 27, 2024

**The President's Cup is a two-day event, with teams of 2 golfers. Day 1 is a qualifying day, which top 50% plus ties proceeding to Day 2 (President's Team proceeds to Day 2 regardless of placing).**

Day 1:

- 75% handicap, Stableford, each golfer plays own ball
- Best ball of the two in the Team is counted each hole
- Skill prizes for Nearest to Pin on Par-3s, Longest drive for Men/Ladies as well as closest to President's drive on Hole #1

Day 2:

- 75% handicap of the average of the team.
- Stableford, Alternating shots.
- 1 Player will tee off the Odd tees and the other will tee off the Even tees, with alternating shots until the ball is holed

**Registration closes April 23rd**





## EID ECLECTIC April 9th - 14th

- Maximum 6 Rounds
  - o Men – White Tees
  - o Ladies – Red Tees
- Declare to your playing partners before you begin the round that it will be a tournament round that will count towards the Eclectic Score.
- For a round to count towards your eclectic score, you must complete at least 14 of 18 holes of the round. In other words, maximum of 4 "X outs" per round.
- You may only play 1 tournament round per day
- Tournament cards will be available to all who sign up. There will be one card for each day. These will be at the Starters Shack. Only official tournament cards will be accepted.
- Sign your card and have your player partner initial the card once the round is completed and place it in the green tournament score box to be located at the Starter.
  - All cards will be picked up at 8pm each day.
  - Cards for that day will not be accepted after 8pm that day.
- The committee will be entering your daily scores into Golf Genius. You can track your progress via the Leaderboard on the app.

**Registration closes April 2nd**





**TURKISH  
AIRLINES**  
WORLD GOLF CUP  
AMATEUR SERIES

# Turkish Airlines World Golf Cup 2024 Amateur Series

More than 100 destinations

March - December

Sponsors

**GLORIA**  
HOTELS & RESORTS

**Rolling Hills Golf Club**

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> May

Registration/Breakfast: 05:30AM

Group Photograph & Tournament Briefing: 06:10AM

Shotgun Start: 06:30AM

Lunch & Award Ceremony: 11:30AM

**Registration closes May 6th**





## Spring Renovations

**“The annual spring renovations of the golf course will take place during the month of March, as a result:**

- **The Back 9 will be closed from March 10th to 13th (Sunday to Wednesday inclusively), and**
- **The Front 9 will be closed from March 17th-20th (Sunday to Wednesday inclusively).**

**A communication will be sent to all members to confirm the above closer to the time.”**

During the two weeks the golf course is closed for the spring renovations the grounds team led by our superintendent Jason Sexton, have be working very hard to execute some critical activities for the betterment of the course, as explained by Jason below:

Turf Management and the control of thatch which is a layer of organic material that accumulates at the soil surface. An excessive thatch layer has negative consequences resulting in the decrease of gas exchange in the soil, impacting water infiltration into the soil that creates excessive moisture at the soil surface promoting disease and scalping.

The main tools used to combat thatch are Verticutting and Core Aeration. These processes physically removes the organic material that is from the thatch layer. The photos below from these renovations illustrate just how much of this material was “choking out” the system.



Core aerification has the added benefit of relieving soil compaction created by golf carts, maintenance equipment and foot traffic. Compacted soil decreases gas exchange and water infiltration in the turf making core aerification an essential part of the turf management process.

The frequency and timing of these practices is determined by soil type, turf type, amount of play, climate, available equipment, budgets etc. Although this process can be disruptive, any inconvenience caused by these practices greatly improve course conditioning and protects it from disease ensuring making any inconvenience more than worth it.



The RHGC board, in collaboration with the club professional Stuart Hurtsfield, are pleased to offer an exclusive 50% discount on golf lessons to all Rolling Hills Golf Club members. Whether you are looking to refine your swing or perfect your putting skills, these discounted lessons provide a great chance to elevate your game. See below for the discounted rates:

	Non-Member (SAR)	Member (SAR)
1 x 50 minutes Adult	200	100
2 People Adult Lesson	300	150
1 x 50 minutes Junior	150	75

This offer is available until 31 March 2023.

In addition to the discounted lessons, the RHGC club professional will provide a free one-hour teaching clinic, per month, covering subjects such as putting, chipping and bunker play to members. Each clinic will include discussion as to rules, etiquette and pace of play. This month's lesson will take place on **Sunday the 31st March 2024 6pm and will cover driving for long and straight shots; equipment check, address position and swing technique, manipulating the ball, keeping it low.** Classes will be limited to 20 persons, and there will be a waiting list if anyone drops out. So, get that booked in early with the Golf Pro. Please keep an eye out for future dates in the monthly RHGC Newsletter.

To take advantage of these discounted golf lessons and free one-hour teaching clinic, and make the most of your membership benefits, register at [stuarthurstfield@gmail.com](mailto:stuarthurstfield@gmail.com) or WhatsApp +44 775 337 1547, and include your RHGC membership number in the booking.

**FROM THE CLUB PRO...**

STUART HURTSFIELD P.G.A MEMBER

**SIMPLE TIPS TO TO PLAYING THE FLOP/LOB SHOT...**

Often the ball comes to rest near the target with very little green to work with...  
The high flop shot is an effective way to stop the ball quickly and get it close..

1. Assess The Situation...

Firstly check the Lie is suitable ideally sitting up and not on a tightly mown area...  
Get a closer look at the green and where the flag is, pick a spot where you want the ball to land..



2. Club Selection

Choose your most lofted or angled club (56/60 degree)



3. Swing Technique

"Lay the club face open before the hold is established...  
Hands are behind the club face...  
Ball position forwards...  
Weight favor's the trail foot..."



4. Swing Technique

Make a full committed swing holding the club face open through impact...  
The ball will travel almost vertically so stopping dead..."



Ladies Roll Up Class

Every Thursday morning 9-10am for beginner and intermediate golfers. All equipment is supplied and instruction covers all skills to get one out on the course. Cost is 90 SAR per person, per class with sign-up at the Pro Shop.

Golf in a Week

The next Golf in a Week class starts on Sunday, March 24. 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.

Junior Tour School

The Junior Tour School commences on Sunday, March 17 for ages 8+. It will run Sun - Thu from 6-7pm. 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.

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.

Golf Club Repairs and re-gripping service available by contacting Stuart for details.

