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# THE IMPROVED LIE

Quarterly Newsletter – 2022 Winter Edition: January/February/March

## 2022 Board of Director Election Results

Congratulations to the newly elected board members.

*In Alphabetical Order*

**Brenda Roberts**

**Joseph Schlesinger**

**Jennifer Yount**

**These new board members will be officially sworn in on January 19<sup>th</sup>.**

**2022 PG&CC  
Board of  
Directors**

**Director**  
Jon Banister

**Director**  
Brenda Roberts

**Director**  
Kelsey Hatcher

**Director**  
McKenzie Smith

**Director**  
Harry Pearson

**Director**  
Jennifer Yount

**Director**  
Richard Marzo

**Director**  
Tony Parmisano

**Director**  
Joseph Schlesinger



## President's Message

*By Jon Banister*

Greetings,  
With 2021 in the rearview mirror and 2022 just getting started I wanted to wish all of our members a healthy and prosperous start to this new year.

Please join me in welcoming Joe Schlesinger and Jennifer Yount to our 2022 Board of Directors. Also returning to the board is Brenda Roberts. With the addition of the two new and one returning board members I feel we are in a fantastic position going forward.

At the time of this writing the beautiful green fairways have returned, and the course is starting to dry out. All of this makes for some awesome golfing this time of the year, so if you haven't been out in a while, I would urge you to take advantage of these conditions.

Mackenzie Smith and his centennial celebration committee continue to meet, and they have some really dedicated volunteers working diligently to bring you a celebration to remember as the club turns 100 years old this year. Anyone looking to get involved should reach out to Mac directly and he will put you to work. Remember, the more the merrier!

A reminder that the annual members meeting is coming up soon so if you haven't already planned on attending, I urge you to consider attending this year. We are all equal partners and owners, so everyone's opinion matters.

Cheers,

Jon Banister



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## PG&CC History – Part 23

*By Keith Brians*

### Play Continues 21

The golf club hosted a best ball tournament featuring golfers versus archers who were in town for a regional completion on Sunday, September 17, 1939. Under sweltering conditions, Petaluma pro Harry Borg teamed up with Santa Rosa pro Bill Willis and Walt Rossi to challenge archers Royce Anderson of Petaluma, Vince Dillon of San Rafael, and W. J. Jacks of Mill Valley. The golfers played in the usual manner while the archers had to score by hitting a small target on each green. The archers carried the day with a best ball of 27 to 32 for the golfers. The tournament was well received and plans were made for future matches.

Social events were not neglected. The annual fall bridge tournament on Wednesday, September 20, drew 112 members and friends to a luncheon and afternoon bridge.

The hall was decorated with fall blooms including dahlias, gladioli and other greenery, arranged and placed by Miss Tessie Sweed.

Tournament golf resumed with qualifying rounds on Saturday, October 8, with play over 18 holes to determine a field of 16 players for the Blackburn Cup. The Blackburn, a handicap tournament, narrowed the field to 8 players on October 15, led by the previous year's winner, Jim Crase, club champion. Walt Rossi and Bill Vartnaw moved on as well. The next day, Vartnaw set a new record of 31 for 9 holes, with 5 birdies and bogey. In the quarter-finals, Rossi played Crase without strokes as both had 5 handicaps. On the 18th hole, Rossi was one up and reached the green in two for a birdie. Crase to his credit didn't go down easily, scoring a futile birdie himself. One of the surprises of the tournament was the play of Art Parent, who had only recently taken up the game. He defeated Frank Greene to move on into a semi-final match with Walt Rossi. Rossi had to give Parent 15 strokes, but finally got the better of him on the 18th with his third birdie on the hole of the day. The finals featured Rossi and Vartnaw, both former caddies at the club. On Sunday, November 5th the 36-hole match show-cased both players, but Vartnaw's driving ability led him to a 3 and 2 win over Rossi.

The North Bay women's golf championship was held at the Sonoma golf course on October 18, Mrs. Florence Borg, wife of Harry Borg, Petaluma's club pro, advanced in the semi-finals by beating former Petaluma's golf club champion, Mrs. Sue Hart. Mrs. Borg played Mrs. H. C. Leggett of Mill Valley in the semi-finals on October 25, and won handily 9 and 8. In the finals on Thursday, October 26, she faced Mrs. Ed Milde, the reigning North Bay champion. Mrs. Milde was 7 down with 9 to go when she found her game, winning 4 of the next 6 holes to get to 3 down with 3 to go. Mrs. Borg closed out the match flatting the next hole to win the championship.

The 1939 golf season kicked off on January 14, with qualifying rounds to determine the first flight of the low eight-men playing for the club championship. Forty-nine players started the day with a hearty breakfast before heading out to the course, once again green from winter rains. Walt Rossi, winner of the last two championships, was favored to become the second person to win three times in a row since Eric Nisson won his third straight title in 1928. The quarter finals were played on Sunday, January 21. Players had to fight a bitter, cold wind and the day was noted to be one of the most miserable ever for tournament golf. Rossi, Bill Vartnaw, a former Cal player, Frank Studdert and Bob Armbruster survived the day to move to the next round. In the semi-finals on Sunday, January 28, Vartnaw handily defeated Rossi 5 and 4 and Studdert survived a close match against Armbruster 2 and 1. The championship round was played on Sunday, February 4, and featured Frank Studdert, the 1937 champion and Bill Vartnaw. Vartnaw was favored in part, because of his youth in dealing with the 36-hole nearly 7 mile walk up and down the course's hills and valleys. After braving showers in the morning round, Vartnaw had Studdert down by 4 after 27 holes when Studdert perked up and cut Vartnaw's lead down to 2 with 3 to go. On the 34th hole (now #6) Studdert pushed his tee shot to the right down the hillside, and made a 4 to Vartnaw's par 3, losing the match.



## Fairways and Greens Report

*By Harry Pearson*

First off, I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and here's to a happy & healthy New Year. I want to thank the members of the Green Committee, (Keith Brians, Tom Isaak, Mark Nizibian, Larry Riis, Brad Scott & Mark Thomas), Head Supt Bill Maeder and his crew, (they worked most of the year down two people and faced a tough task of maintaining the course with major water restrictions from July through Oct.), GM Travis Berding, Pro Patrick Steiner and Gary Ingram, (Senior Agronomist/CourseCo). They all had valuable ideas & input. Also, thanks to the B.o.D. for being supportive while maintaining fiscal responsibility to our members.

I'm starting my article with a review of what the Green Committee was able to accomplish in 2021 through our CIDM program. If you read my article in the last 'Improved Lie' you know who we are, what we do and how we're funded.

We were able to roll over \$63,000 of unspent monies from 2020 into 2021. With Covid taking over in 2020, the board was very diligent in keeping spending to a minimum for House & Grounds & us due to just not knowing what was in store financially for the Club.

Year 2021 saw us fulfill all of our predetermined projects except bunkers; (\$70,000), to finish the cart path construction, repair 10 damaged panels and 100ft. of curbing on the course along with pouring a concrete slab for a future driving net, spending \$20,000 on tree removal, ( we have approx. 21 more trees to take down & take down 10 trees that are already stripped), we renovated the 6th tee, constructed more drainage, replaced 24 sprinklers & did landscaping projects. We also sponsored 3 member 'work days' that saw a lot of participation that really helps the crew with 'attention to detail' projects. The crew really appreciated that.

We've planned our projects for 2022. We will be rolling over approx. \$35,000 from 2021 into 2022. Our big project is going to be 'individualized control' of sprinklers in our irrigation system. This was the third recommendation of the 5 suggested in 2015 by Russ Mitchell who is a renowned irrigation architect.

In 2015, through a \$500 assessment we did (#1): put in a computerized central control and radio linked satellite system & (#2): replace approx. 160 outdated sprinkler heads; in 2018 we did (#4): add 4 sprinklers to each green so that irrigation of greens & surrounds could be separated and now we plan to do (#3): install new control wire from sprinkler heads to the controllers, (green boxes). Presently the sprinklers are wired in groups of 2, 3, & 4. If an area gets too wet or dry, the crew has to figure out which sprinklers are coming on in the group and go to the sprinklers in question and manually turn them on or off depending on the wet or dry situation. The new system will allow Bill to turn on or turn off each sprinkler individually, or regulate each sprinkler's irrigation time through the use of the computer or his phone. This will definitely help the efficiency of our irrigation. The cost is heavy, \$180,000. We will pay for it by making monthly payments through our CIDM revenue. (#4) was to replace the 100 valves on the course @ \$70,000. We decided back in 2015 to replace them as needed.

We are also budgeting another \$20,000 for tree removal & \$3,000 for stump grinding. Bunker & tee renovations along with drainage & landscaping are budgeted for \$10,000 & irrigation aside from the big project at \$5,000. The last few years, we've depended on planting new trees through our 'Memorial Tree' donation program, where a member may purchase a tree to be planted on an agreed upon, (member & Green Committee), area to honor a deceased 'Loved One'. Last year we planted 4 trees that were donated by Mike Candau & Conor & Jerry Thompson. Thank you, we greatly appreciate it.

One other thing of note, we have been researching the use of Bermuda grass. With draught conditions always looming, Bermuda grass is becoming more popular because of its ability to need less water. Larry Riis & Travis met with Marc Logan of Greenway Golf and he gave a presentation of what his company does. The proof is at Chuck Corica Golf Complex in Alameda. Larry & Travis played it in early December and I played it in late April & late November of 2021. Absolutely fantastic. I'll have more on this in upcoming articles.

Please adhere to 'cart path' only signs. Check with the counter people whether it's cart path only. In these wet conditions, carts really tear up the course. Also, be very careful when you're walking. Slippage is brutal. Please fill your divots, repair ball marks and rake traps. If you have any suggestions, criticisms or anything else, you can email me at [hp1852@yahoo.com](mailto:hp1852@yahoo.com).

# 18-Hole Women's Section

By Eileen Ostroff and Claudia Little

Visit our new women's golf web site ( <https://pgccwomensgolf.weebly.com> )

**Captain:** Gayle Sarlatte  
**Co-Captain:** Virginia Silacci  
**Treasurer:** Joan Johnson  
**Tournaments:** Claudia Little  
**Handicap & Rules:** Diane Tucker  
**Past Captain / WGANC Ambassador:** Claudia Little  
**Open Days / Communications:** Eileen Ostroff  
**Egg Basket:** Virginia Silacci  
**Sadie Hawkins:** TBA

Claudia Little    Gayle Sarlatte



Loia Skarsten    Dea Steigner

**Mark your calendars for our March 2nd Kick Off**

8:30 tee off, sign up on TeamSnap

**All Club Tournaments:**  
**March 19th: 2 Person Better Ball**  
**May 21st & 22<sup>nd</sup>: PG&CC Stroke Play Championship**  
**June 18<sup>th</sup>: 1 Person Scramble**  
**July 4<sup>th</sup> Red White & Blue**  
**July 16<sup>th</sup>: 3 Clubs & A Putter**

**Registering for Open Days has changed for the coming year. Registrations are now being done in a bunch. Registration for the first bunch begins on January 17th. Check out further information for the Open Day clubs and dates through TeamSnap.**

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## **9-Hole Petaluma Chicks**

*By Sandra Rozmarin*

Women golfers, you are invited to a Coffee on February 22, 2022 at 10:30 am at the club. In attending you will get coffee/tea, some yummy treats, and you will hear about plans for the upcoming 9-Hole Women's Division golf season. Women in the 9-Hole division have a wide range of handicaps. We are high on fun, comradery and encouragement. R.S.V.P. to me if you can attend or if you just want to learn more about the 9-Hole division.

Sandra Rozmarin, Captain 9-Hole Division  
[ss.rozmarin@gmail.com](mailto:ss.rozmarin@gmail.com)

# Men's Tournaments

By Nick Smith



## Men's Medal 1.8.2022 - Stableford

Round 1 Leaderboard

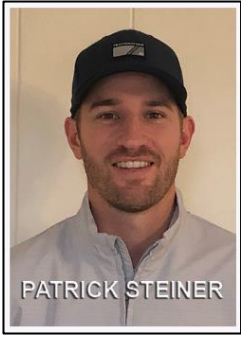


NET Stableford

| Pos. | Player  | Stableford Points |
|------|---|-------------------|
| 1    | <b>John Ryan</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i>      | 37                |
| 2    | <b>Jason Sullivan</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i> | 36                |
| 3    | <b>David Labao</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i>    | 34                |
| 4    | <b>Robert Deering</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i> | 34                |
| 5    | <b>Ross Leask</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i>     | 33                |
| 6    | <b>Loren Warburg</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i>  | 32                |
| 7    | <b>Brett Howard</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i>   | 32                |
| 8    | <b>Larry Riis</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i>     | 31                |
| 9    | <b>Jon Banister</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i>   | 29                |
| 10   | <b>Mike Sturla</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i>    | 28                |
| 11   | <b>Craig Walker</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i>   | 28                |
| 12   | <b>Kelsey Hatcher</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i> | 26                |
| 13   | <b>Ben Sanderson</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i>  | 25                |
| 14   | <b>Nick Smith</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i>     | 24                |
| 15   | <b>Greg Plattner</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i>  | 23                |
| 16   | <b>Aj Hennessy</b><br><i>Petaluma G&amp;CC</i>    | 22                |

### NEXT TOURNAMENT:

- February 5th – Men's February Medal
- February 19th – Gin Fiz
- March 5th – Men's March Medal
- March 19<sup>th</sup> – 2 Person Better Ball



## Junior Golf

*By Patrick Steiner, PG&CC Golf Professional*

The 2022 Junior Golf Program will be very similar to 2021 with some minor changes in scheduling and some small tweaks. We will continue participation in the PGA Jr. League, (hopefully in both 13u and 17u if we can get the participation up in the 17u) and the North Bay League. Please look for an email notification in late February/early March on the dates to sign up for the PGA Jr. League and the North Bay League as well as the Junior Orientation, which will go over everything pertaining to the Junior Programs here at Petaluma Golf and Country Club in 2022. I will be doing 3 Junior Golf Camps in 2022, (in June, July, and

August) very similar to 2021. In terms of the Junior Club Championship, we will be picking a date in the summer time in order to get a bigger turn out. Heading into 2022 my goal is to have more kids participating in our program. I'm going to continue in finding ways to get more kids out here. For the future of this program I envision having the strongest junior program in the area but that can only happen by getting more kids to participate. Rome wasn't built in a day and neither will Petaluma Golf & Country Clubs Junior Golf Program!

### **Junior Golf Development**

The Junior Golf Development Board would like to acknowledge and sincerely thank every member, their family and friends who generously made donations in 2021 to support our mission, vision, and projects to improve PG&CC facilities for both juniors and adult members.

\*The following, in alphabetic order are those who contributed in 2021:

Jack & Maureen Berlin, Roy Burnham, Toby & Sheela Giacomini, Richard Goldstein, Toby & Pat Herfindal, Richard & Joan Johnson, John & Chelsea Matern, Tim & Carole McSweeney, Mike & Sharon Morgan, Jason Morris, Bill & Cecy Mullins, Ray & Milly Nizibian, Michele Orsinger, Jeff & Susan Pottorff, Bill & Gail Reid, Larry Riis, Steve & Debbie Sager, Joe Schlesinger & Sandra Rozmarin, Chad & Danielle Smith, Pat & Bev Smith, Marty & Dea Steigner, Diane & Scott Tucker, Larry & Mary Ann Weber

\*Prior to these donations, in 2020, we received 21 donations in memoriam, from friends and family of Gerald McKenzie. Following are those donors in alphabetical order:

Janet & Harold Althouse, Ron & Marlene Baxman, Dante & Anne Benedetti, Clinton & Mary D'Alemberte, Diane & James Edens, Rose Frates, E.D. Fauser, M. Annette Grossi, Norma & John Howard, Lynn & Gary Imm, Carol & Jack King, Terry Lindley, Arlene & Robert McClure, Max & Joni Mickelsen, Anna Mae & John Mohrman, Sharon & Mike Morgan, Joy & Jim Phoenix, Janice & Doug Rohde, Patty & Ray Soper, Lori & Raymond Teldeschi, Karen & Peter Turnbaugh

Before our Jr. Golf non-profit was established, PG&CC received an initial donation in 2010 to seed the Junior Golf Program from Ed DeCarli and his family.

Going forward, we intend to recognize every January, all the donations made the previous year. Should anyone have questions about Junior Golf Development and how donations are reinvested in the club, please feel free to contact any of our JGD Board members:

Stephanie Baxman, Kelsey Hatcher, Toby Herfindal, Mike Morgan, Pat Smith or Diane Tucker

Thank you to all donors and supporters of Junior Golf at PG&CC!



# UPCOMING MEMBER GOLF TOURNAMENTS



## Petaluma Golf & Country Club 2022 Tournament Schedule

\*All Tournaments are pending due to COVID-19 Restrictions\*

| DATE                      | TOURNAMENT  | GAME TYPE         | CLUBS     |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------|-----------|
| February 19th             | Gin Fizz  | 9 AM Shotgun      | Men's     |
| March 19th                | 2 Person Better Ball Irish Theme!                           | 9 AM Shotgun      | All Clubs |
| April 23rd                | Vartnaw   | 8 AM Shotgun      | Men's     |
| May 6th & 7th             | Goat Hill   |                   | Men's     |
| May 21st & 22nd           | PGCC Stroke Play Championship                               | 8 AM Shotgun (x2) | All Clubs |
| May 25th                  | Egg Basket  | 8 AM Shotgun      | Women's   |
| June 15th                 | Trish Battaglia Tournament                                  | 8 AM Shotgun      | Women's   |
| June 18th                 | 1 Person Scramble   | 8 AM Shotgun      | All Clubs |
| June 22nd                 | Trish Battaglia Tournament                                  | 8 AM Shotgun      | Women's   |
| July 4th                  | Red, White and Blue Tournament                              | 8 AM Shotgun      | All Clubs |
| July 16th                 | 3 Clubs and a Putter  | 8 AM Shotgun      | All Clubs |
| August 13th               | Old vs Young Tournament                                     | 8 AM Shotgun      | Men's     |
| August 20th               | Start of Men's Club Championship (Final Match on Sept 18th) |                   |           |
| September 7th, 14th, 21st | Woman's Championship  | 8 AM Shotgun      | Women's   |
| September 23rd-25th       | Club Centennial Celebration Weekend                         |                   |           |
| October 1st               | Ryder Cup   | 8 AM Shotgun      | Men's     |
| October 12th              | Sadie Hawkins   | 8 AM Shotgun      | Women's   |
| October 15th              | Stableford Championship                                     | 8 AM Shotgun      | All Clubs |
| October 28th              | Spooky Halloween Tournament                                 | 8 AM Shotgun      | All Clubs |
| November 24th             | Turkey Shootout   | 9 AM Shotgun      | All Clubs |
| December 10th             | Ugly Sweater Golf Tournament                                | 9 AM Shotgun      | All Clubs |

Price per tournament will vary per event.

Sign up for events in the golf shop tournament binder or call (707) 762 - 7041

### Men's Medal

January 8th, February 5th, March 5th, April 2nd, May 14th, June 4th, July 2nd, August 6th, September 3rd, October 8th, November 5th, and December 3rd.

### 18-Hole Women's

Play every Wednesday morning at 8:00 am with various games played per week and Saturday morning at 8:30 am for casual fun.

### 9-Hole Women's

Play every Tuesday morning at 9:00 am with various games played per week.

1500 Country Club Dr | Petaluma, CA 94952 | [www.petalumagolfandcountryclub.com](http://www.petalumagolfandcountryclub.com)



## New Member Corner

*By McKenzie Smith*

Let's all welcome these new play wait list members to our great club.

### Billy Angeloni



I'm Billy Angeloni, thank you for welcoming me to the club! After playing as a guest with my buddies Bodie Knueppel and Aiden Jones, this quickly became my new favorite course. I've been playing golf since I was 2 and continue to enjoy the game.

Happy to be here, thanks again,

## Mike and Linette Kemp



Hello Petaluma Golf and Country Club members!

My name is Mike Kemp. I'm a newer member at PGCC joining in July of 2021.

I was born and raised in the Bay Area (Daly City). I moved north to Petaluma in 1991 for work and never looked back. Shortly after I moved, I met my wife of now 25yrs, Linette Jensen. Linette is 2nd generation Petaluma growing up on her family's dairy ranch on Chileno Valley Rd. We have 2 boys, Michael (age 22) and Matthew (age 19). Both graduated from Petaluma HS and currently going to college.

At this time, it's only Matthew and I enjoying golf at the club but we hope with a little persistence, we'll be able to get Linette and Michael out soon. We look forward to attending more of the social events and getting to know more of the members.

Thanks  
Mike Kemp

## **Rocco Scacalosi**



My name is Rocco Scacalosi. I'm 15 years old and a freshman at Petaluma High School. I live in Rohnert Park with my parents and sister. Currently, I play on the freshman basketball team and have hopes of playing on the golf team in 2022. I also enjoy baseball and track. I like to play video games and spend time with my family and friends as much as possible. I look forward to meeting new people at the Petaluma Golf and Country Club.

## Connor and Kelley Waggoner



My name is Connor Waggoner and my wife's name is Kehley Waggoner. I am a native of Petaluma and my wife has been here since 2015. We are the owners of Luma Fitness and my wife is a full time Health and Wellness Nurse Director for Springfield Place, an assisted living facility on the eastside of town. I began playing golf in 2016 after a lifetime of contact sports and a stint of college football at Humboldt State University. My wife has been playing much longer than me and we are fortunate to have golf as a way to spend time together.

Many existing PGCC members are clients of ours at the gym and I have been lucky to have had some fun rounds with each of them at the club before deciding to join. We look forward to many late morning/afternoon rounds and getting to know the other members during organized golf and social events. Cheers and Happy New Year!

## Michael and Kelly Lightner



Hello Petaluma Golf and Country Club Members. My name is Michael Lightner, and my wife is Kelly Lightner. We have a 6 1/2 year old daughter Lauren who is in 1st grade at Grant School., and a 10 year old golden retriever named Davis. I am a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones, and my office is here in town.

I was born and raised here in Petaluma, and growing up, I was a junior member at the country club, so I am happy to be back playing where it began for me. I had to take some time away from golf for a while due to some back issues, but with those behind me, I'm looking forward to getting back out there regularly.

I've known a few members here at the club for a very long time, and being from Petaluma, I'm sure there are a good amount of you I already know as well, so I'm looking forward to seeing you all out there soon.

Michael Lightner