

WIGWAM UPDATE

Wigwam Country Club • December 2024 • www.wigwamcc.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY ERIC PEREZ, WCC PRESIDENT, eric@wesellhay.com



Hello WCC Members –

This past month I had a unique experience that reminded me of how great our community is here around the Wigwam Country Club. My regular Sunday golf group was a man down, so I invited a gentleman I had only played with one other time a few months ago. After the round, he told me about a birthday party he was taking his family to that afternoon. I inquired about the whereabouts, and he said it was on Campina Drive – the same street I grew up on. I gave him my old house number and told him to let me know if he was nearby. Soon after he left, I received a text from him telling me he was at my child-

hood home, and the new owners wanted to meet me.

I quickly jumped in my cart and headed over, and what an experience it was! The family gave me a full tour of the home, including my old bedroom and the original basketball hoop that still stood in the backyard. To top it all off, during a remodel of the kitchen, they found an old photo of me with my bike in the front yard. They concealed the photo and other items they found in a time capsule with photos of their own family and placed it in the wall during their remodel for someone down the road to find.

Not only was this a great experience for me, but it demonstrates how wonderful this community really is. This family valued the memories of others without even knowing them, preserved them for the future, and gave me an opportunity to revisit my childhood. Our WCC community has so much to offer each other – from our history to our present day – and I hope that each of you get to experience a piece of this wonderful community over the upcoming holidays.

Merry Christmas!



GET READY FOR THE 2024 PATRIOT ALL AMERICA TOURNAMENT!

BY DENISE JAMES DENISEJAMES6229@GMAIL.COM

We hope that you all will come out and support the Patriot All-America Golf Tournament, whether it's thru volunteering, purchasing VIP tickets or just watching some amazing golf.

What is the Patriot All-America Tournament? <https://patriotallamerica.com>

It's like the Phoenix Open, only featuring the top college golfers in the world instead of PGA pros. Many of these players will go pro after college! It's a tournament like no other, it honors those heroes who paid the ultimate sacrifice by having a College All American golfer carry a bag remembering the fallen with their name on it.

When is it? December 29-31, 2024 and it's hosted right here at our very own Wigwam Golf Resort.

New this year is the West Valley Maverick's own version of the iconic 16th hole at WMPO, it's on the 18th green and will have lots of energy and excitement. There is also a Salute to Service tent and Veteran's Village, sponsored by USAA and is FREE to all active-duty personnel and veterans.

Opening Ceremony is held on December 28 at 10am on the Wigwam driving range and is always a spectacular event, the Am / Am follows opening ceremonies. If you would like to play in the Am / Am, <https://patriotallamerica.com/the-patriot/am-am/> to sign up, use Promo code PA24WIGWAM to receive \$100 off of the entry fee. When registering, indicate you are not a sponsor and there is an option for Wigwam CC members. Make sure you show your ID at check-in.

If you would like to volunteer, there are many opportunities available:

Hospitality volunteer opportunities can be found here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E45A8A629A0FA7-52232967-2024>

Operations volunteer opportunities can be found here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E45A8A629A0FA7-52233027-2024>

There is also an Unplugged Concert on December 30, from 5p-10p which will highlight a Nashville recording artist. If you would like tickets, https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-patriot-all-america-thunderbolt-invitational-tickets-1028363752667?aff=oddtdtcreator&inf_contact_key=7653ae1e6e3dafa3110561559dd1febb680f8914173f9191b1c0223e68310bb1

GOLF TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

BY SHAWN KANE, shawnkane22@gmail.com



Happy Post Thanksgiving and wishing you and your family a Merry Christmas. Here is a list of upcoming tournaments, please note cut off dates in ForeTees.

12/10 AND 12/12 -MEN'S SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

12/15- DIVORCE OPEN

1/4 AND 1/5 - COUPLES CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

1/18 AND 1/19 - MEN'S MEMBER/MEMBER

Congratulations to Jovito Salonga for his hole in one during the Presidents Cup- Gold #16.

See you on the course,

Shawn

HANDICAP COMMITTEE

BY ANJEANETTE BROWN ANJGOLF4@GMAIL.COM

Soft Cap & Hard Cap



1. It starts with your Low Handicap Index®

A Low Handicap Index serves as the baseline for the cap procedure and is the lowest Handicap Index achieved by a player within the 365 days preceding the most recent score in their scoring record. A player does not establish a Low Handicap Index until they have 20 scores in their scoring record.

2. The caps are applied automatically

Each time your Handicap Index® updates, the new value is compared to your Low Handicap Index and:

- If a 3.0 stroke increase occurs, the soft cap reduces the rate of upward movement beyond 3.0 strokes by 50 percent.
- If a 5.0 stroke increase occurs (after the soft cap is applied) the hard cap prevents any additional upward movement.

3. The WCC Handicap Committee can override the cap - but only if necessary.

Every golfer occasionally encounters a rough patch, but since a player's basic skill level doesn't usually fluctuate dramatically in a short time, their Handicap Index generally trends back to their Low Handicap Index. However, if a golfer suffers an injury or illness that results in higher scores and triggers the application of caps, the Handicap Committee at their home club has the authority to override the cap and adjust the Handicap Index to more accurately reflect the player's current ability.

More Soft Cap & Hard Cap Information

For questions regarding your Handicap Index or Scoring Record, please let me know.

GROUNDS & GREENS

BY MATT MINSHALL MATTM@UPTIGHTCARPET.COM

MEMBER ISSUES:

Staff has requested that we ask the Members to make a consistent effort to repair ball marks on the greens. There has also been members driving across Blue 14 fairway to get to practice facility, they are asking to stay on cart paths until the courses are fully open.

Blue Course update:

Greens are going down to .125 (1/8) this week and over the next 2 weeks we should start to see a higher density of turf along with better color as the grass matures.

Red Course update:

Oscar stated with the cooler temperatures and Bermuda grass going dormant, he can definitely see the areas that he and his staff need to work on. They are going to increase fertilizer in some areas for better density and focus on some of the wet areas and are currently making adjustments in the irrigation system.



WEBSITE UPDATE

By TOMMY BERRY, tommyberry@gmail.com



Exciting Changes Coming in the New Year!

As we head into 2024, we're excited to announce some improvements and enhancements to our golf tournament experience. Expect to see significant updates with the integration of Golf Genius and our website. These changes are designed to provide a fresh, new look and feel for our tournaments, making it easier than ever to stay connected and engaged.

The new platform will offer a more seamless and intuitive experience for all participants. Among the improvements, you can look forward to better communication, including timely updates and notifications. In addition, we'll be introducing real-time scoring and results, so you'll be able to track tournament progress and standings as they happen. One of the best new features will be the ability to access tournament results throughout the year, allowing you to revisit past events and performances at your convenience. We're confident these upgrades will elevate your tournament experience, making it more enjoyable and easier to stay informed.

In other exciting news, the WCC Pickleball Tournament email will be sent out next week. This will include all the details you need to know, so be sure to keep an eye on your inbox. The registration deadline for the tournament is December 15th, so don't miss your chance to sign up and be part of what's sure to be an exciting event. Be sure to register early to secure your spot!

“BY THE RULES”

By KEVIN MCELVAIN, kevinmcelvain@msn.com



How and where to take a drop

We have all been faced with situations that require us to “take a drop” because the ball cannot be played as it lies. When we do that, the rules tell us not only where but how we are to drop the ball.

When a ball is lifted with the intent to take either free or penalty relief it may be cleaned, or another ball may be substituted. There are three requirements that must be met for the ball to be properly dropped:

1. The **player must drop the ball**, not his caddie or partner or anyone else.
2. The **ball must be dropped straight down from knee height** without touching the player or equipment before it hits the ground. No tossing, spinning or other motion that might affect where the ball will come to rest.
3. The **ball must be dropped in the proper relief area**, or on the line if taking “back-on-the-line” relief.

For **free relief**, the reference point is the nearest point of complete relief, no closer to the hole, from whatever it is that is causing you to take relief (abnormal course condition, immovable obstruction, etc.) The size of the relief area is a one club-length radius (defined as the longest club in your bag other than a putter) and the relief area must be no closer to the hole and must normally be in the same area of the course (general area, bunker, or putting green) as the reference point.

Should you be faced with a **stroke and distance penalty**, an option that is always available, the reference point is the spot where the previous stroke was made. The size is one club-length, and the location must be no closer to the hole and in the same area of the course (general area, penalty, area, bunker) as the reference point. If your stroke and distance penalty requires you to return to the tee, the relief area is the entire teeing ground, and you may tee the ball up.

Lateral relief is available from Red Penalty Areas (RPA) and unplayable lies. The reference point for relief from an RPA is the point where the ball last crossed the edge of the penalty area (red line), the size is two club-lengths, and the location may not be closer to the hole nor be in the same penalty area. For an **unplayable lie** the reference point is the original spot and the relief area is again two club-lengths, no closer to the hole and in the same area of the course. Note that **our local rules allow relief on either side of RPAs**. For example, if one of your shots on #18 Gold enters the canal (RPA) from the out -of-bounds side, it is not OB, and you may take penalty relief on the grass side. The reference point is then the edge of the penalty area across from where the ball crossed, equidistant from the hole.

Back-on-the-line relief is also available for RPA and unplayable lie relief. In this case the ball is to be dropped on the extension of a line defined by the original unplayable spot, or the point where the ball crossed the boundary of the RPA, and the hole. The reference point is where the dropped ball hits the ground. The relief area is one club-length in any direction from the reference point, even closer to the hole.

Here's hoping you don't need this info very often. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

WOMEN'S GOLF

BY SHEILA RIORDAN, shebear1949@gmail.com



Happy Holidays! I hope everyone enjoyed a nice Thanksgiving with family and friends. The holiday fell as late as it possibly could in November so that means Christmas will be here before you can blink. Good luck completing your Christmas shopping as the malls are already teeming with people, hopefully you have it already purchased and wrapped.

The WWGA has just completed the **Individual Eclectic tournament**. All who participated had a great time and even the weather cooperated. Our luncheon was held at Papa Paul's and the prizes were awarded to those who won in their flights, be sure to go to ForeTees and check out the tournament results so you can congratulate all on their superior play. Our next tournament is the **Cactus Cup**, December 5, 10, and 12th. It is a three day event, with three different formats, divided into two teams and it's all match play. If you are unable to compete all three days let them know and the committee will try and accommodate you. This is an event we all love and look forward to each year. A reminder, if you need to cancel do not call the pro shop call Shelley Benton, this holds true for all weekly play. We all know how hard it is to deal with a cancellation, so try your best never to cancel, sometimes we know it is unavoidable, let Shelley know ASAP!

The **Christmas Luncheon** will be held at the resort following play on December 12th. There will be a White Elephant gift exchange at the luncheon, if you want to participate bring a \$30.00 wrapped gift and take it to the luncheon. In previous years there have been some coveted gifts stolen from recipients, it's legal! It also provides so much entertainment and a lot of laughter, it's a great way to start the season of giving, (and taking!)

Speaking of giving, we thank all of you that participated in the **Thanksgiving Charity**. The **Christmas Charity** donation box is in the locker room, or you may give your donation to Emily Haas our Social Chair. Your generosity knows no bounds and is so appreciated by so many.

Please take time to look at the poster in the locker room that Tracy Schmidt created to introduce you to some new members. She did a great job, and it is a wonderful way to recognize the new ladies and introduce yourself to them. It's always hard to be the "new kid", make it easier, I'm sure they will appreciate you for doing it and you'll end up the winner when you make a new friend.

The **Patriot All America Tournament** will be starting real soon, competition begins on the 29th and goes thru the 31st of December. Volunteers are always needed, if you are interested contact Denise James, you won't be sorry that you did and I'm sure she will have a spot for you. This is a tournament that features elite college athletes honoring military hero's and raises funds for the families of fallen and injured service members and first responders. This tournament started at the Wigwam, and we all are extremely proud of what it has become.

Have a merry, and blessed Christmas! I hope the coming New Year has great things in store for all of you!

TENNIS & FITNESS

BY CARLOS HASSEY, DIRECTOR OF TENNIS, chassey@pyramidglobal.com



Can you believe the holidays have arrived? The changing of seasons can move like a blur – like a tennis ball with topspin. We are excited to dive into the new year. But before we get ahead of ourselves, we want to take a moment to reflect on some highlights of 2024.

Our **Friendsgiving Tennis Social** last month was a blast! The event combined fun social tennis with players categorized as either Turkey or Gravy players because, of course, you need each other to be just right. Afterward we shared a nice Thanksgiving meal with all the classics, and the good spirits spilled over to fun cornhole play. We thank the members who helped with setting up and give a special thank you to the wonderful Karen Smith for all her help!

Now we look ahead to our highly anticipated **Ladies Holiday Luncheon** on December 6th, which is a festive blend of fun tennis play, a nice lunch at Red's, and lastly a white elephant gift exchange. And the elephant in the room is this: the real competition of this event is not the tennis!

We also look forward to our **Singles Tennis Championship** held on December 7th and 8th. This tournament calls the few and the brave to test their resolve with one-on-one matchups. The pure heart of tennis is on display here: one competitor on each side of the net, battling against each other... and themselves. Stay tuned for the results in the next newsletter.

So here we are, closing yet another chapter. And look, the next page is completely blank. Can you feel the page staring back at you? It is waiting for your ink. The tennis staff thanks you for sharing with us your kindness, joy, and love. We are happy to serve you (pun intended) and love to call this place a second home. And as someone once said, "Home is not a place, it's a people." We hope you and your families have a blessed holiday season, and from the bottom of our hearts, we wish you a Merry Christmas!

“DID YOU KNOW?”

BY RICK OLIVEIRA, Rickoliveira821@gmail.com

Taken directly from the WCC Archives Commentary

The Wigwam at War



In 1942, immediately following the outbreak of World War II, the Wigwam was closed and dedicated to housing pilots training at Luke Airfield. The two Goodyear airships (Blimps) were sold to the military to be used for reconnaissance. Like the rest of the country, Goodyear quickly began to convert their facilities to support the war effort. They got their new plant (coincidentally located at what is now called the Goodyear Airport) up and running barely four months after Pearl Harbor and earned many Kudos.

Goodyear Zeppelin Corporation had been formed following World War I as a partnership with the German company Luftschiffbau Zeppelin. Germany was prohibited from building airships after the war and this arrangement allowed Goodyear to manufacture products using the German patents. Probably the best known product of Goodyear Aircraft was the FG-Corsair made famous by Pappy Boyington and his Black Sheep Squadron. Goodyear Zeppelin Corporation would expand to become Goodyear Aircraft and then Goodyear Aerospace. Goodyear Aerospace would be sold in 1986 (along with the Wigwam and all of Goodyear's Arizona holdings) to fend off a hostile takeover bid.

Next Month: “It’s 1953 and the Wigwam Country Club is BORN!”

WIGWAM EMPLOYEE CHRISTMAS GRATUITY FUND SETS NEW RECORD!

In 1963 the WCC Board of Directors voted to recognize select Wigwam employees with a small “Thank You Christmas gift” in the form of cash. Seventeen employees received \$10 cash gifts funded via WCC member donations. This tradition has continued for the past 61 years and has grown substantially. Because of your generous donations, in the middle of December 157 employees will receive a share of the record high \$18,425 collected!

These employees not only include those “customer facing” folks who work hard to support us every day, but also those behind the scenes like the golf course maintenance crew and

Red's kitchen staff. Management and pro shop staff are included but this does NOT extend to hotel employees.

Very well done members!!!

SECRETARY'S CORNER

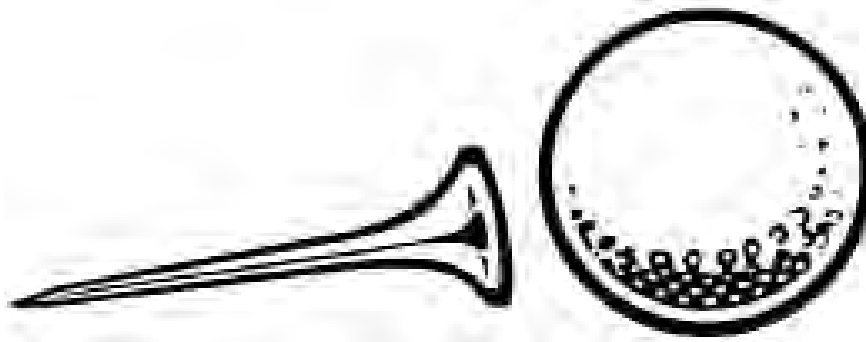
BY RICK OLIVEIRA WCC SECRETARY, Rickoliveira821@gmail.com



We certainly have a lot going on as we enter the busiest part of our season. In addition to the events mentioned above, your board of directors has a lot of irons in the fire. Two of the biggest are to work on the two cart policy and preparing for our upcoming election.

The **two cart policy** continues to be a thorn in the board's side. JDM Golf has an established policy that all groups playing at the Wigwam are limited to no more than two carts. Simple. The club requested a special waiver from that policy if the entire group was using private carts. The waiver was granted so long as members agreed to "police ourselves" and not put that burden on the Ambassadors. Also, simple. Unfortunately, we still have a handful of members who, for whatever reason, feel they don't need to comply with the conditions of this waiver. We are currently in real danger of losing this privilege, so the board is considering ways to ensure that all of our members do not lose out due to the actions of a few. Hopefully something will be coming out on this soon. In the meantime, please do your part by complying with and "policing" this requirement. If you are in a group with a resort cart being used by someone, do not even tee it up if there are more than two total golf carts in the group. It is highly likely that the approach the board takes on this will include automatic suspensions for a first offense and the suspensions will include everyone playing in the group.

The other big iron in the fire which will be getting hotter is our **election**. The actual voting doesn't take place until April, but preparations will soon begin. This year will be especially challenging because five of our eight voting director seats will soon be vacant. The three year terms of Sheila Riordan (WWGA) and Karen Smith (Tennis) expire the end of April. These two will have replacements appointed by their respective committees and won't be elected by the membership at large. The seat vacated when Grant Lincke resigned from the club earlier this year remains open and will probably have someone appointed by the board to fill out the rest of Grant's term which expires in 2026. The terms of Eric Perez and Denise James expire in April and will be the subject of our upcoming election. Now is the time to be thinking about serving on our board of directors! Please consider it and watch for upcoming announcements next month.



FROM THE RESORT:

By JESSICA KELLEY



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Litchfield's | 8:00am - 11:00am
Saturdays, December 7 - December 21
Sundays, December 8 - December 22
\$45 per adult and \$25 per child*

Experience the enchantment of the holidays at our Breakfast Buffet with Santa. It's a magical morning filled with delicious treats, festive merriment, and unforgettable memories that will warm your heart for years to come.

**Reservations required. Gratuity and tax not included. Child prices are for ages 4-12. Children 3 and under are complimentary.*



Scan to Reserve
Your Seat



NEW YEAR'S EVE AT THE WIGWAM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

Litchfield's

Why wait for Midnight to celebrate? Experience New Year's Eve at Litchfield's for a complimentary glass of sparkling wine and a four course prix-fixe dinner featuring seasonal culinary creations sure to delight your palate!

5:00pm-10:00pm | Starting at \$129 per person*



Scan to Reserve
Your Seat

Prefer something a bit more casual?

Wigwam Bar

Live music by the Fabulous Keen Brothers |
7:00pm-Midnight

Red Allen's Bar & Grill

Live music from 7pm-10pm & watch the New York City ball drop on the TVs at 10pm!

**Reservations required. Gratuity and tax not included. Child prices are for ages 4-12. Children 3 and under are complimentary.*



CHRISTMAS DINING

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT LITCHFIELD'S

Join us for a festive dinner at Litchfield's, where Chef de Cuisine Adam Dunton presents a seasonal, three course prix-fixe menu featuring a delightful selection of holiday classics. Starting at \$119 per adult and \$30 per child*

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24 | 4:00pm-8:00pm

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25 | 2:00pm-6:00pm

CHRISTMAS DAY AT RED ALLEN'S BAR & GRILL

Open for Lunch 11:00am-4:00pm

Red Allen's will serve their everyday menu of your favorite American comfort food on Christmas Day.

**Reservations required. Gratuity and tax not included. Child prices are for ages 4-12. Children 3 and under are complimentary.*



Scan to Reserve
Your Seat