



# THE DRIVER

Newsletter of the Madrona Links Men's Club

February 2019

## Men's Club Tournaments and February Events

### Screwdriver Open

4-Man Scramble, February 16

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### Screwdriver Open

The Screwdriver Open is an event put on by Madrona Links every February. Technically, it is not a Men's Club event, so things are a bit different from our regular tournaments. The entry fee includes a buffet breakfast and lunch. There is also an open "screwdriver bar" before the tournament.

This is a four-man scramble played from the blue tees, and as the name implies, it is open to anyone with a GHIN handicap.

Get an entry form at the desk in the Pro Shop and get your team together in a hurry. Space could be limited.

### The Knuth System, Revisited

Several members have expressed concern or confusion about the use of the Knuth System of handicap adjustment by our club. The idea behind handicaps is that they help equalize the competition, and if handicapping is perfect then everyone would have an equal chance of winning an event. Looking at the list of winners in past tournaments, it is apparent that not everyone appears on the winners list. By instituting the Knuth System, the idea is to make it possible for those folk that haven't quite made it into the money to have a better chance. Only the top 5 net scores in each tournament will be given Knuth Points, and it takes 7 Knuth points before it changes your tournament handicap.

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Men's Club**

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**The Driver**

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**The New Rules, Again**

There is bound to be an adaptation period to the new rules that the USGA has instituted. It is highly recommended that you go to the USGA site and watch the videos explaining the new rules. There's even a free rules app you can put on your phone. During our transition it will be natural for some folks to fall back into using the rules we have had for so long.

For a casual game of golf, using the old rules may not be a problem, but in any Men's Club events, the new rules (the OFFICIAL RULES), and the rules in the Men's Club Handbook apply. Men's Club events are any of the games listed in the Men's Club Handbook and all of the tournaments at Madrona.

If you notice a player unknowingly violating the rules, please point it out so that they can correct the problem. If there is any doubt about the rules, the player should play two balls from the spot of the suspected infraction until both are holed out, and report both scores when the scorecard is turned in. If the problem is not corrected it is the responsibility of the witness to inform the tournament committee of the potential infraction so that the appropriate penalty, if any, can be assessed.

Golf is a game of honor where we are expected to point out our own rules infractions, but we all make mistakes and can use the help of our playing partners from time to time. If you are *gently* reminded of the new rules (or the old ones that haven't changed) please don't take it personally. This transition time could be rough for a while.

**Congratulations**

Only one name for this issue. That may be due to the fact that I have been ill for the past two weeks and haven't been to the course. That's also why this issue is late.

**Les Barnett** shot a 70 from the whites. Again shooting below his age.

**Feb 16  
Screwdriver Open  
4-man Scramble  
Blue Tees**

**March 16  
2-Man Chapman  
7-stroke max differential  
White tees**

**April 13  
4-man 2 Best Ball  
Blue Tees**