



## 2009 FINAL NEWSLETTER

### Dealing with Anger

*“But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips”.*

Colossians 3:8

Let's just say you gained an audience with Often a day at the golf course can bring out the best and the worst in an individual. Great shots may be rewarded by high fives, knuckle bumps, and pats on the back. However, bad shots may expose a side that we really would not like to share. Let us all remember that God has given each of us talents and gifts that can be used for Him. We cannot all be Tiger Woods on every shot but we can and should realize that a day on the golf course is about fellowship, exercise, perhaps a chance to witness, as well as friendly competition. A wise man once asked me during a particularly bad round “do you control golf or does golf control you”. If we let God be in control, we can all enjoy a wonderful day at the golf course and be rid of all those negative thoughts and reactions.

Disclaimer: I send out my apologies for not getting the newsletter out sooner. It should have been published a couple of months ago. Hopefully I will get everyone up to speed as we enter into our last tournament of the year.

### SIERRA MEADOWS:

Our club championship concluded in July on the beautiful and challenging course at Sierra Meadows. Low gross went to Bill Horg, while Vic Araujo took low net in flight one. In flight two-Miles Baty was the low net and Luis Armando Medina took low net honors in flight three. There were also team competitions going on. In flight one, Vic Araujo and Norm Wiens took a one-stroke victory over second place finishers Brad Fry and Bill Horg. In flight two the team of Miles Baty and Ryan Roloff won a tie- breaker over Dennis Hammond and Tony Crisco. The third flight had the team of Jim Sullins and John Grove taking a one-stroke victory over the team of Ruben Rey and Luis Armando Medina. The team competitions could not have been much closer. Congratulations to all the winners.

This was also the final round of the 2009 Club Championship points' competition. The point total winners will be going to represent the club at NCGA competitions. Luis Armando Medina was the clear-cut winner (by one point) in flight three. Congratulations to Luis! Flights one and two were not so clear-cut. Both of these were forced to go to a playoff to determine who would represent the club. Norm Wiens and Vic Araujo squared off in flight one while Miles Baty and Bob Albertson did battle in flight two. Here is the recap of that playoff that Norm and Vic collaborated to tell the story:

### **The Greatest C.G.C.C.C. Games Ever Played**

The matches were set for Friday afternoon at Sierra Meadows. With temperatures predicted to reach 108, nothing could or would stop the games. It was on. Vic vs. Norm for the Net Club Championship, Bob vs. Miles for the N.C.G.A. net qualifier spot. Vic and Bob would start the matches' two strokes back.

On the first hole Bob and Norm find the rough, Miles leads with a Birdie. Vic pars, Norm takes a Bogey and Bob has a double. Bob is five back off the bat. Vic is one behind Norm and the matches are under way. Bob and Norm get one back on number two and Miles drops another on number three. Then Bob and Norm both pick up one more with good putting on number 4 (the one with the ski slope green). Bob is now two back and even for the day with Miles. While Vic is three back and down one for the day. On to number five, the par three over Millerton Lake. Vic and Bob safely hit the green and make par. Norm misses left but saves par with a great putt. Miles needed to cool off and went swimming, ending up with a double. Vic and Norm both par number six, Bob gets bogey, Miles can't dry off and takes a triple but stays calm while Bob keeps pressing the gas pedal to the floor. Bob is practically on the next green. He is the fastest player in the west. ATA, the Marshall's call him (already there Albertson). Hole #7, the number one handicap keeps Miles on a skid with a double but proves to be no problem for Norm, who throws a birdie at Vic's par and speedy ATA, Bob, takes bogey. Norm seems to be on a roll, but loses it on 8 and takes a triple to Vic's bogey. Bob picks up another on Miles and keeps burning rubber. Vic finds the water on #9 and takes a bogey, while Norm pars and Miles drops one more to Bob as he orders up a Sierra Meadows dog. Bob is now 5 up and Vic is 3 down as they make the turn.

On #10, the blue tees are nowhere to be found. Then Miles spots them tucked in the left corner almost in the woods. The hole proves to be cruel, several tee shots later; Norm gets up and down for a great par. Vic loses a ball and takes a double. Bob makes a triple and Miles picks up two with a bogey. The back nine is under way and Bob's foot slips off the pedal while Vic skids. Eleven gives Miles trouble around the green and Bob gets one back while Vic misses for birdie and Norm makes a great five foot sliding putt to save par. Miles makes an easy par on 12 while everyone else takes bogey. Miles seems to have recovered and plays steady through the next three holes including #14, the par three through the woods over the creek to grandma's house. Bob gets eaten by the Big Bad wolf on 14 and takes a triple to go even with Miles with four holes to play. Vic picks up one on 13 with a par, then Norm tangles with the Big Bad wolf on 14, takes a triple. Vic pars and is now one back with four to play. Norm is feeling the heat and Bob can't believe what just happened. There is little said walking off the green on 14. The matches were heading to the final stage. It was Showtime!

Norm made a great up and down to stay one up on Vic who missed a thirteen-foot birdie putt. Bob found trouble in the rough to drop another stroke to Miles who goes up one with three to play. All four players find the tall grass off the tee on 16 and shift to a scrambling urgency to find the lie that awaits them. After mowing down the cornfield, Norm and Bob get on in three and two putt for bogey. Vic makes par and Miles nails a slippery, five-foot putt that broke hard right to stay one up on Bob. Heading to 17, everyone knows exactly where they stand and there is a strange silence in the group. Vic and Norm are even and Bob is one down to Miles.

The tee box

on 17 might as well have been in Chowchilla. 205 yards to a blue flag. Miles tries to play 16 again, while Bob goes rock climbing and has to hit a provisional. Norm falls short of the green and Vic goes to the beach along with Bob's provisional. Bob's first ball is lost so he plays his fourth shot out of the bunker to seven feet, while Miles has trouble crossing the road from 16, but sticks his fourth shot inside of two feet. Bob misses his putt for five, and then misses again from inside of one foot while trying not to step on Miles line. He can't believe he missed the short putt and immediately starts doing cartwheels and jumping jacks all around the green (just kidding). Miles makes his putt, takes a five to Bob's seven and goes up three with one to play. Norm gets on the green and two putts for bogey. Vic's par putt just slips by the right edge and lips out. Norm wanted to do some jumping jacks too after that putt missed.

Going into 18, Bob was exhausted from all the exercise and Miles just about had the W. Vic had a big grin on his face and said to Norm "we could have just teed off on 18". Norm grinned too. Bob, Miles and Norm all hit the fairway off the tee on 18. Vic hits the tree on the left, loses the grin and lands in the rough, but manages to hit his second shot in the fairway 105 yards out to a red flag. Norm's second shot lands in front of Vic's 80 yards out. Miles struggles a bit and gets on in four while Bob hits the middle of the green in three. Vic hits his third shot right of pin and it settles at the edge of the green for an 18-foot birdie putt. Norm saw the door open, started licking his chops and stuck it five feet left of the pin for a level putt. Bob knew his only chance was to drain the long birdie putt. He looked it over like a used car, and then gave it an aggressive roll to the hole. I would like to say it was close, but it never had a chance. Bob was too exhausted to do cartwheels and jumping jacks, so he settled for 150 pushups. Miles two putted and secured the victory. Congratulations to Miles and good luck in the qualifier don't forget there are 18 holes on a golf course and its not over until it's over. Vic prowled around his putt like a hungry wolf as Norm patiently watched, peeking at his own putt wondering if it would have to make it to tie or win. Vic stood over the putt, made the stroke, the ball rolled uphill toward the hole on line then stopped short. Vic marked the ball and wondered if Norm had the wits to make the pressure putt for the win or would there be another hole to play. Norm stood over the putt, probably not as confident as he looked and made the stroke as we all watched. The putt rolled in perfectly and Norm looked as if he knew he had it all the way. He had a look on his face, like the cat that ate the canary. Norm made a great birdie on the last hole when he needed to. That certainly defines a champion and he certainly is the C.G.C.C. first flight champion. Congratulations Norm, nice birdie.

p.s. I'll be back  
Joseph Vic Araujo

What a great story. Our hats off the four great golfers and a great day of golf!

### **EAGLE RIDGE:**

The month of August took the club back to the central coast, one of the hot beds of golf in California. The first stop was a new course for us, Eagle Ridge in Gilroy. The course proved to be a legitimate

challenge to everyone. The team of Michael Crocker and RJ Luna narrowly defeated the team of David Rey and Ruben Rey by one stroke. Great playing in tough conditions, guys.

### **POPPY HILLS:**

The day after Eagle Ridge the group gathered for another day of battle at the legendary Poppy Hills. What a thrill it was to be able to walk the fairways that we have often seen the pros play on TV. At one point a courtesy car pulled up, the chauffer began unloading clubs and the anticipation of seeing a professional golfer grew. It turned out however to be our own John Gallagher who was receiving the PGA treatment. You certainly know how to make an entrance John. After all the hoopla settled, some very good golf was played. RJ Luna and Michael Crocker teamed with Luis Armando Medina (when will this guy cool off?) and Mike Leal to win again. They had a five shot victory over the team of Daniel Cowherd, Miles Baty, Mike Gerosa, and Richard Rathbone. Congratulations. You can now say you have had a win at Poppy Hills. Everyone enjoys the opportunity to play an excellent course such as this.

### **MADERA MUNI:**

The month of September took us to a familiar old friend, Madera Municipal Golf Course. The format was a two man best ball. Jeff Ragan was returning from surgery that had kept him away for several months. You would not know however, as he teamed with Russell Westerman to shoot 86 for the win. Don Mendenhall and Ruben Ray had matched that score but the tiebreaker went to Jeff and Russell. Mark Saltzman and Steve Major took the tiebreaker for third over Raymond Goins and Mike Leal. Both teams posted an 88. What a great day for fellowship!

### **MADERA COUNTY CLUB:**

Madera Country Club was our gracious host for the month of October. What a great venue for a great day of golf. Club members were placed in four man teams, which produced a great day of competition. First place went to the team of Dennis Hammond, RJ Luna, John Gallagher, and Luis Medina (who they stole on a blind draw) with a score of 18 under. Great job, guys! Mark Saltzman, Daniel Cowherd, Mike Leal, and Jerry Neff finished one stroke behind for second place. Third place was the team of Doug Nelson, Norm Wiens, Ruben Rey, and Rhys Twitty at 14 under. It was nice to be on such a beautiful course.

### **KINGS RIVER COUNTRY CLUB:**

In November, we finished out the season at another great venue, the Kings River Country Club. A wonderful day on a beautiful course produced some excellent golf. The team of David Angel, Rick Cowin, Phil Henderson, and Rhys Twitty won the tournament with an excellent score of 20 under. Awesome job! Second place went to the team of Gonzales, Cunningham, Garcia, and Leal. The team of Hammond, Ramos, Baty and Cowherd followed them closely. Congratulations to everyone. Also, a big thank you to the scheduling committee for arranging some great courses to finish the season.

### **THE RULES OF GOLF:**

The concept of “winter rules” is one of the most misunderstood terms in golf. As there are no “winter rules” some courses provide local rules during adverse weather in order to protect the course. Tournament directors may also allow players to “lift, clean, and place” the ball under wet conditions and there is a rule dealing with “casual water”.

“Casual water” is defined as any temporary accumulation of water on the course that is not in a *water hazard* and is visible before or after the player takes his *stance*. A ball is in *casual water* when it lies in or any part of it touches the *casual water*.

“Casual water” is considered an *abnormal ground condition* and a player is entitled to relief as explained in **Rule 25 –1, b**. This rule states that a player may take relief from interference by an *abnormal ground condition* as follows:

- (i) **Through the Green:** If the ball lies *through the green*, the player must lift the ball and drop it, without penalty, within one club-length of and not nearer the *hole* than the *nearest point of relief*. The *nearest point of relief* must not be in a *hazard* or on a *putting green*.

Remember this rule the next time you are in wet conditions and it may save you a few strokes.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

January 23, 2010	Ridge Creek (Dinuba)
February 26, 2010	Rancho Maria
February 27, 2010	Blacklake
March 27, 2010	Fig Garden

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN 2010!