

Sudden Valley Golf Club News

Introducing Our New Head Professional —Darren Chapman

To all members of the Sudden Valley Golf Course, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself.

My name is Darren Chapman, and I will be the new Head Golf Professional at the course from the end of April.

Late last year my wife, young daughter and I relocated to Washington State, and we are excited about the move to the Sudden Valley area to become a part of not only the golf club but of the community.

I have been a member of the Australian PGA for more than 20 years and have worked at a number of courses throughout Australia as well as spending the last 10 years between South East Asia and the Middle East.

I believe that the knowledge I have gained over the years will allow me to bring a unique perspective to the club and I look forward to exchanging ideas with you as we meet over the coming months.

I am thrilled to be given the opportunity to be your Head Golf Professional and I am motivated to provide the best possible experience to our members and guests.

Let's have a fantastic summer, playing wonderful golf while having a great time.

See you soon!

Regards,

Darren



Darren Chapman, Head Pro SVGC

Darren Chapman Bio

Darren grew up in a small country town in Northern New South Wales, Australia and started playing golf at the age of 15. After a few years and steady progression, he decided that he wanted to pursue a career as a Golf Professional.

After graduating the PGA Trainee Program, Darren became a full member of the PGA of Australia in 2003 and set off in his life as a Golf Professional.

Over the next 10 years, he took on several different roles across the East Coast of Australia to improve his skill set.

In 2013 Darren was offered the opportunity to be the Golf Academy Director at the award-winning Montgomerie Links in Central Vietnam.

After six years in Vietnam, it was time for the next challenge. This time it was as the Head Golf Professional, at The Ras Al Hamra Golf Club in Muscat, Oman.

From late April, Darren will be the Head Golf Professional at the Sudden Valley Golf Club.

The SVGC Board appreciates your support. We hope to continue to bring many more fun events throughout the year.

President: Jean Maixner
VP: Guy Calb
Treasurer: Dave Strauss
Club Captain: Kelly Devlin
Secretary: Lorna Lane
Ladies Captain: Melissa Reece

Men's Captain: Dan Perrino
Greens Chair: John (Fuzzy) Fuchs
Social Chair: Beth Johnston
Handicap Chair: Rick Larrabee
Membership/
Nominations Chair: Guy Calb

To contact SVGC board members, please email: llane.suddenvalley@gmail.com

Sudden Valley Golf Club News

Two-Person Scramble/Bellingham Food Bank May 18th, 2024

Wow, we have already had great golf weather and fun opening events. This year's Two-Person Scramble is scheduled for May 18th. In addition to being a fun event, we hope to raise awareness and funds for the Bellingham Food Bank (BFB). The need for quality food is immense.

Before the pandemic the Bellingham Food Bank spent just under \$1,000,000 on food annually. In the year 2023, BFB surpassed \$3,000,000 spent on food. Over 5,000 households visit the food bank each week, up from 1,700 households in 2021. BFB remains the busiest food bank in all of Washington State.

The people who depend on the food bank are our friends, neighbors, community members and Whatcom County residents who suffer from food insecurity. These households include families who struggle with paying for housing and must decide if they can afford to buy food. A father who has lost his job and no longer has the resources to feed his family. A mother whose spouse dies and suddenly finds herself single with children to feed. An elderly person whose pension goes to pay for medical bills and leaves little for food.

This year we are asking everyone who participates in the Two-Person Scramble, members and non-members, to donate a minimum of \$20.00 to the Bellingham Food Bank. The food bank asks for monetary donations because it can more appropriately address the needs of the pantry and purchase the needed items at discount rates.

To decrease Pro Shop congestion on the morning of May 18th, please give your donation BEFORE the May 18th event. Give at: <https://donations.bellinghamfoodbank.org/give/569923/#!/donation/checkout>
Or scan the code:



Thank you all for supporting a great cause.

Jean

Holes-in-One Congratulations



Melissa Reece #13

On Easter Sunday, March 31, *Melissa Reece* had a hole-in-one on No. 13.



Steve Kaestner #9

On April 2, *Steve Teske* aced No. 9 while playing with his granddaughter, Hannah.



Steve Teske #9

Coincidentally, Hannah's Dad, *Steve Kaestner* also aced No. 9 during the Master's Par Three Tournament on April 12. It was Steve's 2nd hole-in-one.

Sudden Valley Golf Club News

Congratulations to April 2024 Tournament Winners*

Masters Par 3 Tournament—April 12

Gross—Men's First Flight

1st S. Kaestner (23)
2nd tied R. Shockey (25)
D. Knutzen (25)

Net—Men's First Flight

1st J. Maurer (22)
2nd tied C. Swift (23)
C. Brown (23)

Gross—Men's Second Flight

1st tied D. Warner (27)
B. Healy (27)
C. Stinnett (27)
2nd tied R. Shockey (25)
D. Knutzen (25)

Net—Men's Second Flight

1st L. Jammes (21)
2nd tied L. Simkins (24)
P. Lewis (24)
J. Bird (24)

Gross—Women's Flight

1st J. Perrino (25)
2nd C. Allen (27)

Net—Women's Flight

1st tied E. Maki (23)
M. Reece (23)
3rd tied C. Neely (26)
N. Davis (26)

Golf Club Opening Day—April 20

1st S. Card, R. Gray
S. Teske, L. McRoberts (59)
2nd tied G. Russell, D. Czarnecki,
K. Larrabee, N. Flacco (62)
D. Knutzen, C. Gerner,
N. Berg, N. Davis (62)

Men's Opening Day—April 27

Gross—Men's Flight

1st D. Perrino (76)
2nd tied S. Kaestner (79)
M. Linville (79)

Net—Men's Flight

1st R. Kenny (74)
3rd tied T. Haggard (75)
D. Knutzen (75)
J. Joslin (75)

Gross—Senior Flight

1st tied S. Neely (79)
S. Pake (79)

Net—Senior Flight

1st L. Jammes (71)
2nd tied R. Asai (76)
D. Warner (76)

*See SVGC Website for complete results of tournaments.

Events in May

- 5/4 Sudden Valley Cup
(18 hole Individual Stroke Play)
- 5/11 Ladies Opening Day—Delayed from April
(4 person Scramble ABCD Pairings)
- 5/11 Horse Race to Honor Brian Kruhlak
See additional info on page 4 of this Newsletter.
- 5/18 Two Person Scramble
(Food Bank Fund Raiser)
See additional info on page 2 of this Newsletter.
- 5/25 Ladies Koeniger Cup

Sudden Valley Golf Club News

Do you know?

Rules & Etiquette

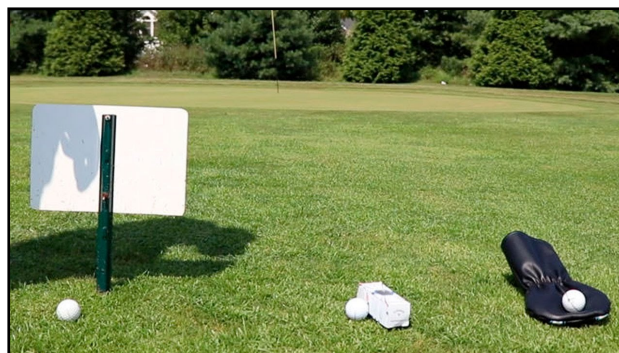
Rule 15—Relief from Loose Impediments and Movable Obstructions

Loose impediments and movable obstructions are two categories of items that the Rules do not consider part of the challenge of playing the game, and therefore they can be moved. *Loose impediments* are unattached natural objects such as sticks, leaves, twigs, and blades of grass so long as they are not fixed or growing, solidly embedded in the ground, or sticking to the ball. *Movable obstructions* are artificial objects that can be moved with reasonable effort such as a water bottle, scorecard, broken tee, trash can, bench, etc.

Loose impediments and movable obstructions can be moved anywhere on or off the golf course, including in bunkers and penalty areas, even when your ball also lies in the bunker or penalty area. If your ball moves when moving a *movable obstruction*, there is no penalty and you simply replace the ball. However, you need to be careful when moving *loose impediments* because if that causes your ball to move, you get a one-stroke penalty (with only a few exceptions) and must replace your ball.



Loose Impediment



Movable Obstruction

Horse Race on May 11th to Honor Brian Kruhlak's Retirement

The Horse Race will take place at 5pm on May 11th, has a \$20 entry fee for players, and is open to anyone (members, guests, friends, family) who would like to participate (or just walk along) and join in celebrating Brian's retirement. The Sudden Valley Pro Shop has a [registration link](#) and flyer for the Horserace posted - you can register via the website or by calling the shop. Folks can sign up as a team or individually, and the minimum combined team handicap will be 15. The plan is to have the Horserace on holes #1-5, and after the completion of the Horse Race on #5, we'll all gather to take a group photo with Brian near the green (and lake).