

The Grass Roots

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Remembering Hugh Lee

Hugh Lee, who joined Oakland Chinese Golf Club (OCGC) in 1960, passed away at the age of 86 on August 11.

Born in Seattle, WA March 11, 1935, Hugh was the youngest of six children. His parents, who were restaurant owners, moved to Baker City, OR where Hugh spent his youth. In 1957, he graduated from Oregon State majoring in Business Administration and Technology. After serving the US Army Finance stationed in Fort Sill, OK, he was "honorable discharge" in 1959 and assigned to the Army Reserve in Oakland where he then unknowingly, within a decade, became a force to be reckoned with in the golf community.

Hugh first joined the OCGC's Board of Directors in 1962 and thereafter held office 56 times in varying roles. In 1970 as President of OCGC, he engaged with seven other golf clubs founded the Federation of Chinese Golfs Clubs (Federation) – which in 2019 renamed to Association of International Golf Clubs (AIGC) to better represent current members. In this arena,



Hugh served 30 years as the Secretary-Treasurer from 1970 to 2000 where he, "made life-long friends and [had] one of [the] most satisfying experiences and contributions in furthering the game of golf," Reflections 2004.

Some of Hugh's most memorable golf achievements were winning first low net at the first Federation Invitational in Reno, grossing 74 at Hayward Golf Course winning the 1984 OCGC Director's Cup, aching the 12th hole at Las Positas Golf Course, and after 21 tries won the OCGC Biennial completing the Chinese Grand Slam. A personal achievement, somewhat related to golf, was meeting his wife Shirley during the Director's Cup social in 1961 and in

1962 became OCGC's first golf wedding.

Hugh's dedication led him to be our Historian for the last 20 years, author of "OCGC Reflections Forty-Six Years" published in 2004, and the editor of The Grass Roots until recent. Over the years, Hugh's commitment did not go unnoticed. In 2007 the Tournament of Champions (TOC), first hosted in 1996, was renamed to Hugh Lee TOC honoring his contributions. We were so lucky to have met Hugh and had a chance to share laughs and memories all these years.

Association of International Golf Clubs



has dedicated a page on their website to honor Hugh Lee's Legacy, check it out!

<http://cbakkennet.ipage.com/igolfclubs/Hugh/index.html>

Announcements

In Memory of Edward Jang

We are saddened by passing of long-time member Edward “Ed” Jang in August at 100 years old. Born December 8, 1920 in Courtland, CA, Ed joined OCGC in 1976 and was first to earn the title “oldest active member” playing well into his 80’s – shooting his age at 82 and 83 while playing in Santa Clara. As a long-time supporter of our club, Ed played at every Marc Rice Memorial tournament through 2000. Ed played golf up to 99, what an inspiration!

Membership Renewals and New Member Referrals

Membership renewal and new member forms are due to Kenny Fong by December 15, 2021 to avoid a late fee. The form can be found on our website under “Membership”. Any questions can be directed to Kenny Fong at kenz94501@yahoo.com or Terry Owyang at luckydogx@yahoo.com.

Tournament Software

NCGA has partnered with BlueGolf to provide members a simple and easy to use tournament management software replacing GolfGenius. The Board has been evaluating this program and are extremely excited about the opportunity as the software has the potential to streamline tournaments from registration to scoring. Keep your eyes and ears open for additional announcements as this software becomes available in 2022.

NCGA Golf Magazine has Gone Digital

All OCGC member are automatically registered as a NCGA member. To date, you would have periodically received physical copies of the award-winning NCGA Golf Magazine by mail. Starting with the 2021 Fall volume, this magazine is now fully digital and can be accessed through NCGA’s website. The digital version makes reading convenient and easy as it’s available to read on your computer, tablets, phone, and as a pdf download. What a great way to save paper and our environment!

The Fall volume features an article on Poppy Ridge sharing its rich history since its opening in 1996. Guess where we are playing next season? That’s right! Take a chance to learn more about the course before you head into the Marc Rice Memorial Tournament next year. Check out, “Pop the Corks for Poppy Ridge” by Ron Kroichick.

To access the latest release, go to <https://ncga.org/golf-magazine/> and start catching what’s new in golf.



Photo: Edward Jang (left) and wife, Louise Lee Jang (right)



Photo: Edward Jang playing golf at age 99

Hugh Lee TOC Results

The final tournament of the year was played on Corica Park's South Course Saturday November 6, 2021. There were 32 players, two flights, teeing off mid-day. Temperatures were in the low 60's and wind speeds of 8-9 mph making the course a bit more challenging to play. Despite the cooler conditions, we had some incredible scores and stiff competition especially in the A flight where the low net winner won by a single stroke difference. As always, thank you everyone for coming out to the last event of the season!

2021 TOC Champion

ALAN LAM

79-19-60, prize \$60.

Awards	A flight	B flight	Prize
Low gross	David Yip 71	Stuart Lum 84	\$25
Low net	Mike Lee 79-10-69	Frank Chiang 85-12-73	\$30
2 nd low net	Christian Poon 75-5-70	Nelson Chee 90-17-73	\$20

Skin Winners (22 players, 8 wins \$27.50 ea)

Alan Lam x 3, Nelson Chee x 2, Jesmer Lorenzo, Elmer Meredith, Christian Poon

Closest to the Pin winners (\$10 gift card)

Hole 5 Lawrence Wong 13' 2.5" Hole 7 Kenny Fong 15' 5"

Hole 11 Evan Meredith 12' 5" Hole 16 John O'Shaughnessy 5' 1"

*"Congratulations
to all the
winners!"*

Are you curious about your results for each of the tournaments and events? A full list of member results can be found on the OCGC website under the "Tournaments" page.



2021 Season Winner Results

Player of the Year

\$200 in total awards, Player of the Year is designed to encourage tournament participation and reward members who have shown a high level of excellence throughout the season. Scoring for POY is as follows:

- At each tournament, points are awarded to the top 22 field low net scores beginning with 1st place 40, 2nd place 30, 3rd place 20, 4th place 19, then reducing one point for each next standing until 22nd place with one point.
- For participation, all remaining players receive one point.
- For net ties and team events of two or four players, points are divided equally.

Going into our last tournament of the year at Corica Park South Course, Frank Chiang was in the lead only by ½ a point ahead of Christian Poon. Following close behind were Kenny Fong and Yao Liu who were 5 and 6 points behind, respectively. Frank did not let up in the final race tying for 2nd low net to slip equally 30 points with Nelson Chee, taking the 2021 Player of the Year title!

Standings	Points	Player	Prize
1 st	130.0	Frank Chiang	\$50
2 nd	123.5	Alan Lam	\$45
3 rd	119.0	Johnny Poon	\$40
4 th	114.5	Kenny Fong	\$35
5 th	114.0	Nelson Chee	\$30
6 th	111.5	Christian Poon	-

Match Play Tournament

Reclaiming the title as Match Play Champion after skipping a year, the 2021 winner is Ray Jeung. In a very close match with Frank Chiang at Monarch Bay Golf Course on Saturday October 2, 2021, Ray won 1 up. He pulled even with Frank on hole 16, then taking the lead for the first time during the entire match on hole 17, and finally sealing the win on the last hole.

According to “our on-field reporter Alex Fong, who played with the group, described how well the entire match was contested – both players made good shots throughout. Frank had slim leads of +2 at various times during the first 15 holes, but Ray managed to stay close,” Stuart Lum, Match Play Chair.

Congratulations to Ray for his win and thank you to the 22 club members who competed in this year’s Match Play Tournament for a chance to win part of the total purse prize of \$640. Our 2021 champion took home \$180 and players who at least won the first match of the four brackets received a minimum of \$20 each.

For those who were not in on the fun this year or did not win, there is next year! Players beware though, I heard Stuart is working on his “Bryson” swing.

Full Season Winner Recaps

Date	Players	Cups	Low gross	Low net	2 nd Low net
3/22	20	none	A-David Yip B-Jay Lin	A-Alex Fong B-Stephen Lee	A-Yao Liu B-Alan Lam
4/18	31	Johnny Poon Marc Rice	A-David Yip B-Eugene Wong	A-Kenny Fong B-Alan Lam	A-Christian Poon B-Thomas Poon
6/13	28	Ray Jeung Director’s Cup	A-David Yip B-Steve Wang	A-Justin Fong B-Bernie Lee	A-Robert Wade B-Jesmer Lorenzo
7/12	21	none	A-Christian Poon B-Ray Jeung	A-Douglas Deng B-Steve Wang	A-Kenny Fong B-Alain Young
8/14,15*	19	Christian Poon Club Champ	none	A-Johnny Poon B-Nelson Chee	A-Allen Tchoi B-Alain Young
9/12	24	Yao Liu Daimo Cup	A-David Yip B-Terry Owyang	A-Douglas Deng B-Frank Chiang	A-Jesmer Lorenzo B-Stephen Lee
10/10	19	none	A-Douglas Deng B-Jesmer Lorenzo	A-Harry Huang B-Frank Chiang	A-Kenny Fong B-Alan Lam

*8/14,15 The Club Championship tournament also awarded Field Low Net to Eugene Wong and Women’s Field Low Net to Judy Huynh

May 9th Dublin Ranch Fun Tournament were played in teams – winners 1st place Stephen Lee and Alan Whiteside, 2nd place Nelson Chee and Anthony Tse, 3rd place Ken Leung and Alain Young.

Hole in One winner(s): Harry Huang, Marc Rice Memorial Tournament at Rancho Solano’s 12th hole 200 yard par 3 over water with a 4 iron. Witnessed by Alain Young, Tyler Eng, and a guest.

THANK YOU to our Tournament Chairs Douglas Deng, Frank Chiang, Jay Lin, and Alain Young for organizing and running this year’s tournaments!



Photo: 2021 Match Play Finalist, Ray Jeung (left) and Frank Chiang (right)



Most Improved Golfer

NCGA makes available a "Most Improved Golfer" (MIG) report ranked on the basis of the USGA GHIN handicap index. A factor is calculated and ranked highest to lowest. The factor is calculated by adding 12 to the beginning and ending handicap index then dividing them. The 2021 OCGC members top 10 MIG are:

Rank	Member	1/1 Index	11/30 Index	Factor
1	Alistair Maxwell	6.8	3.9	1.182
2	Samuel Li	3.2	1.2	1.152
3	Steve Honda	19.7	15.7	1.144
4	Christopher Lang	14.1	11.0	1.135
5	Yao Liu	12.4	9.6	1.130
6	Chuck Chinn	30.8	26.0	1.126
7	Valerie Yee	20.8	17.3	1.119
8	Stephen Lee	18.9	16.0	1.104
9	Dave Maxwell	11.5	9.3	1.103
10	Alain Young	21.0	18.0	1.100

These are some amazing improvements! When you see these MIGs at the next tournament, definitely ask them for their secret.

2022 Season – Looking Ahead

Our fun pack 2022 season includes a variety of courses from public to semi-private throughout the Bay Area. We'll kick off our first tournament at Silverado Resorts in Napa where the South course was last played by OCGC in 2016. We welcome guest, so invite friends and family to make the day more memorable.

03/20 Sun March Tournament – Silverado Resort (South), Napa

04/23 Sat 60th Marc Rice Memorial Tournament – Poppy Ridge Golf Course, Livermore

Tentative 05/15 Sun May Tournament – Las Positas Golf Course, Livermore

06/12 Sun 64th Director's Cup – Boundary Oaks Golf Course, Walnut Creek

07/09 Sat July Tournament – Half Moon Bay Golf Links (Old), Half Moon Bay

08/13 Sat 64th Club Championships Day 1 – Canyon Lakes Golf Course, San Ramon

Tentative 08/14 Sun 64th Club Championships Day 2 – Metropolitan Golf Links, Oakland*

09/10 Sat 19th Daimo Cup – Callippe Preserve Golf Course, Pleasanton

10/02 Sun October Tournament – Chardonnay Golf Club, American Canyon

Tentative 11/05 Sat 27th Tournament of Champions – Corica Park Golf Course (South), Alameda

*Dinner will follow after the final round of the Club Championships tournament.

Restaurant location and time to be announced at a later date. Awards and prizes will be handed out during dinner.

Association of International Golf Clubs Invitationals

AIGC invitationals are coming back! After a two-year hiatus, Los Angeles Chinese Golf Club and Vancouver Chinese Golf Club are in line to host the May Weekend and InterCity Golf Tournaments, respectively.

05/28, 05/29 May Weekend Tournament hosted by Los Angeles Chinese Golf Club
Location: Morongo Golf Club at Tukwet Canyon, Beaumont, CA

09/03, 09/04 InterCity Golf Tournament hosted by Vancouver Chinese Golf Club
Location: TBD

These tournaments are a great way to meet other golf enthusiasts – mark your calendars, plan ahead, and represent OCGC! Updates will be provided as information becomes available.

Other Tournaments and Awards

Match Play Tournament will resume in 2022. Thank you Stuart Lum for stepping up to Chair the tournament for another year. Be on the lookout for announcements to sign-up and participate in the best of OCGC traditions!

Player of the Year awards and scoring will continue in 2022. The more you play the higher the chance of making it to the top five to win a prize.

General Information

Volunteers Opportunities

We are looking for volunteers to help host events and fill open positions on the Board of Directors (see list below for openings). The Board conduct meetings through the year – join us to learn how each committee functions, gain experience, and make a difference for OCGC. Interested? Call or email any one of our board members.

Sponsorship Opportunities

Would you like to sponsor a part of what makes OCGC exciting? Please reach out to a board member and we will be honored for the opportunity to work with you.

Member Contact Updates

For any changes to your address, phone number, or email, contact Secretary Gaby Hemphill at ghemphill@gmail.com.

Affiliation

Association of International Golf Clubs – <http://www.igolfclubs.org/>

Northern California of Golf Association – <https://ncga.org/>

United States Golf Association – <https://www.usga.org/>



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Our Beginnings

The Grass Roots newsletter, first published in 1958 in bulletin format, was started by Howard Quan, one of the 11 OCGC founding members. In addition to periodical releases, The Grass Roots has a collection of anniversary editions, marking the 10th, 25th and 40th years of OCGC. Since its humble beginnings, this newsletter continues to serve as an avenue for sharing golf news and memories of the club.



Meet the Board of Directors

President	OPEN	
Secretary	Gaby Hemphill	510.910.5410 / ghemphill@gmail.com
Treasurer	Kenny Fong	510.483.3477 / kenz94501@yahoo.com
Tournament Co-Chair	Doug Deng	415.846.9010 / ducksseason@hotmail.com
Tournament Co-Chair	Jay Lin	415.308.9177 / jaysauto125@gmail.com
Tournament Co-Chair	Alain Young	415.286.0676 / japlumbinginc@yahoo.com
Tournament Co-Chair Elect	Frank Chiang	925.785.1638 / frank_chiang@msn.com
Social Chair	Stephen Lee	510.339.7320 / skwle@comcast.net
Handicap Chair	Alex Fong	415.387.3341 / alf170@sbcglobal.net
Historian (interim)	Judy Huynh	415.425.2490 / jhuynh56@yahoo.com
Director	Terry Owyang	510.769.1772 / luckydogx@yahoo.com
Director	Joyce Shao	925.376.7019 / joyceshao@comcast.net
Director	David Yip	510.339.3488 / yipdog20@outlook.com
Director	OPEN	

A special thank you to Webmaster Chris Pangilinan, Match Play Chair Stuart Lum, Facebook Moderator Clifford Tong and all volunteers who make OCGC possible!