

# The Grass Roots

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

2023 Tournament Results 2  
 2024 Looking Forward 4  
 Announcements 6  
 Meet the Board 7

With our last tournament of the year on November 4<sup>th</sup> at Metropolitan Golf Links, we say goodbye to the 2023 season. We want to take a moment to recognize and express our sincere gratitude to all OCGC members for your support and dedication in making our club a fun and exciting place to be. We cannot overstate the importance of your membership and participation in tournaments. Your involvement plays a vital role in our mission to provide a fun and supportive environment where golfers of all skill levels can come together and enjoy the game. We wouldn't be here without you!



For members who have participated in golf tournaments, we offer the Player of the Year (POY) awards. This award is given to the top five players who exhibits a high level of excellence in their golf game during tournaments. Scoring is through a point system and the prize pot is \$200. At each tournament, points are awarded to the top 22 field low net scores, starting with 40 points for 1<sup>st</sup> place, 30 points for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, 20 points for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, and 19 points for 4<sup>th</sup> place. Points reduces by one point for each next standing until the 22nd place with one point. In case of net ties and team events of two or four players, points are divided equally. Additionally, all remaining players receive one point for their participation.

Going into the TOC tournament, our top five leaders for POY were 1st Nelson Chee, 2nd Yao Liu, 3rd Chris Pangilinan, 4th Alan Lam, 5th Jesmer Lorenzo. Nelson who was unable to attend the tournament left his 1<sup>st</sup> place position undefended. This gave an opening to Yao, who was 1½ pts behind Nelson, to take the lead. Tying 10<sup>th</sup> net with Alex Fong during the TOC, Yao gained 12½ pts winning 1<sup>st</sup> for POY.

A SPECIAL shoutout to Alan Lam, Chris Pangilinan, Judy Huynh, William Tong, and Yao Liu for their participation in all the tournaments this season!! Curious about where you placed? Did you almost make it into the top five? Click this link [here](#) to go to BlueGolf.com to find out.

Standings	Points	Player	Prize
1 <sup>st</sup>	143.0	Yao Liu	\$50
2 <sup>nd</sup>	132.0	Nelson Chee	\$45
3 <sup>rd</sup>	130.5	Harry Huang	\$40
4 <sup>th</sup>	127.5	Chris Pangilinan	\$35
5 <sup>th</sup>	122.0	Alan Lam	\$30
6 <sup>th</sup>	114.5	David Yip	-

# Tournament Results

## October Tournament

The October Tournament was hosted in Livermore at the Course at Wente Vineyard with 28 players. It was extra exciting to play this round at this vineyard in October when we can still see grapes on the vines. Plus, where else would you be able to take a golf cart up Lombard Street but not in San Francisco?

Even though we were playing in optimal golf weather conditions with the gorgeous back drop of the vineyard, some of us were focusing on our struggles on the greens as it seemed like hole placements for most of the greens were selectively placed where no one can make a putt. Despite these challenges, some players were able to navigate the challenging layout and greens to emerge victorious. Congratulations to our winners!



Photo taken on the day of the tournament. Photo credit: Yao Liu.

Award	A flight	B flight	Prize
1 <sup>st</sup> low net	George Kong 71	Gavin Fong 73	\$55
2 <sup>nd</sup> low net	Chris Pangilinan 71	Howard Shao 77	\$35
Low gross/3 <sup>rd</sup> low net	Clifford Tong gross 76	Susan Chen net 78	\$30

### **Skin Winners (22 players, 3 wins \$31 ea)**

- Frank Chiang x 2
- Gavin Fong x 2
- Alan Lam
- Nelson Chee
- Alan Whiteside

### **Closest to the Pin winners (\$15 gift card)**

- #3: Gavin Fong (18'1")
- #7: David Yip (2'0")
- #11: Valerie Yee (26'1")
- #14: Jesmer Lorenzo (14'2")

## Tournament of Champions

The final tournament played on Saturday November 4, 2023 was at Metropolitan Golf Links. There were 21 players with 15 competing for the field low net Champion title. We had a surprise advantage this day as the winds were in our favor, which is a rarity on this course.

The Champion this year managed to win by a 3-stroke difference over other players. As if the stars aligned in a perfect circle this season, our Champion came full circle from the start of the year to the end. Having only placed 1<sup>st</sup> low net once this entire season during the first tournament at Eagle Vine Golf Club, Harry Huang ended the season winning the last tournament. Congratulations to Harry and all the net/gross placed winners!



Left to Right: Judy Huynh, Yao Liu  
Standing with the Lombard St sign before making the journey up the curvy hill

**2023 TOC Champion**

**HARRY HUANG**

net 67, prize \$70.

Award	A flight	B flight	Prize
1 <sup>st</sup> low net	Douglas Deng 70	Tracy Chen 68	\$45
2 <sup>nd</sup> low net	David Yip 74	Jeanne Yip 71	\$35
Low gross/3 <sup>rd</sup> low net	William Tong gross 78	Judy Huynh net 73	\$30

**Skin Winners (19 players, 6 wins \$31 ea)**

Tracy Chen x 2  
 William Tong  
 Tony Tang  
 Harry Huang  
 Yao Liu

**Closest to the Pin winners (\$15 gift card)**

#5 William Tong (13'7")  
 #7 Tracy Chen (8'3")  
 #12 Chris Pangilinan (5'9")  
 #15 Mark Wong (25'5)



Full Season Winner Recaps

Date	Course	Players	Cups	1 <sup>st</sup> low net	2 <sup>nd</sup> low net	low gross (LG)/ 3 <sup>rd</sup> low net (LN)
3/19	WEATHER CANCELLATION					
4/23	Eagle Vine	27	none	A-Harry Huang B-Judy Huynh	A-Johnny Poon B-Alan Lam	A-Kenny Fong (LG) B-Mark Hodge (LG)
5/7	Paradise Valley	26	David Yip Marc Rice	A-Stuart Lum B-Bill Chen	A-Yao Liu B-Judy Huynh	A-William Tong (LG) B-Felix Cho (LN)
6/4	Blue Rock (West)	30	Nelson Chee Director's Cup	A-Yao Liu B-Ray Wong	A-Kenny Fong B-Stephen Lee	A-Douglas Deng (LG) B-Alain Young (LN)
7/16	Tilden Park	21	none	A-Nelson Chee B-Jeanne Yip	A-Yao Liu B-Mark Hodge	A-David Yip (LG) B-Susan Chen (LN)
8/19,20	Poppy Ridge/ Monarch Bay	23	William Tong Club Champ LG Alan Lam Club Champion LN	A-George Kong III B-Stephen Lee	A-Allen Tchoi B-Frank Chiang	None
9/12	Boundary Oak	25	Jesmer Lorenzo Daimo Cup	A-Nelson Chee B-Tony Tang	A-Allen Tchoi B-Tracy Chen	A-William Tong (LG) B-Daniel Yee (LN)

## 2024 Season – What to Expect?

### OCGC Tournaments

The 2024 season is in the making...our Tournament Chairs are working hard and on a mission to lockdown the courses for the coming season. Below is a preliminary draft of which courses we are planning to contact. An updated list will be sent out in conjunction with the membership forms in December as this list becomes more finalized.

Month	Day	Tournament	Possible Courses
Mar	Sun/Mon		Silverado/Country Club
Apr	Sun		Rancho Solano
May	Sun	Marc Rice	Callippe Preserve
Jun	Sun	Director's Cup	Blue Rock Springs (East)
Jul	Sun		Half Moon Bay/Presidio
Aug	Sat & Sun	Club Championship	Diablo Creek & Boundary Oak
Sep	Sun	Daimo Cup	Foxtail North/Peacock Gap/Indian Valley
Oct	Sun		Shadow Lake
Nov	Sat	TOC	Poppy Ridge/Coyote Creek

### NCGA Associate Club Tournaments

Are you interested in participating in an NCGA tournament but not sure where to start? Look no further! As an Associate Club of NCGA, our club can participate in two designated tournaments annually. These tournaments offer a chance to enjoy some friendly competition and represent our club among other Associate Clubs.

Both tournaments are played in team formats and require a qualifying round. The final round is usually played at either Poppy Hill or SpyGlass. If your team qualifies for the final round, OCGC will sponsor and reimburse your team's entry fee. Our goal is to encourage OCGC members to try different tournament formats and provide an avenue for you to expand your golf experience.

Eligibility is pretty simple, you are 18+ years old, have a max handicap of 54.0, and an OCGC member. During tournaments the playing handicap maximum is 18.4 for men and 25.4 for women. If you want to give it a shot, form a team of 2 or team of 4 (depending on the tournament) with other OCGC members. Once you have your team, reach out to Terry Owyang who is the authorized person to help us sign up for the NCGA Associate Club Tournament(s).

Please see the next page for tentative tournament dates and registration information provided by NCGA.

Tournament	Format	Reg. Open	Reg. Closed	Qualifying Round Date	Final Round Date	Final Round Site	Reg. Fee
Four Ball Net	2 Player Team Best Score by Hole	1/15/24	3/18/24	4/8-4/15/24	5/6-5/7/24	Poppy Hill	\$320/team
Club Championship	4 Player Team Best of 2-Scores by Hole	4/15/24	7/2/24	7/24-7/29/24	8/19-8/20/24	Poppy Hill/ SpyGlass	\$640/team

If you need help forming a team or are still hesitating, reach out to a Board member to learn more about this opportunity!

Association of International Golf Clubs Invitationals

iGolfClub invitationals continue next year and are in their planning phase.

The first of the two invitationals is the Memorial Day weekend event who will hosted by the Sacramento Chinese Golf Club in 2024. This event will be held in Reno/Carson City on May 25<sup>th</sup> and May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Tentatively, the three courses being considered are Silver Oaks Golf Course, Genoa Lakes Golf Club, and Toiyabe Golf Club.

The 2024 Intercity invitational for the Labour Day weekend event will be hosted by the Portland Chinese Golf Club likely on 8/31-9/1/24.

As soon as more details becomes available, you will be the first to know.



## Announcements

### Membership Renewals and New Member Referrals

Membership renewal and new member forms will be made available December 1<sup>st</sup> and will be due back December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to avoid a late fee. Similar to this year, forms will include an option to submit online or by mail. Be on the outlook for this email.

Please note that membership fees for the 2024 season are increasing due to the cost of inflation and an increase in the NCGA membership fees (from \$39 to \$47 per person). OCGC regular memberships are increasing from \$95 to \$105 and senior memberships from \$55 to \$65. All other membership levels including new membership fees will remain the same as 2023. We are committed to staying affordable and accessible to our community and appreciate your understanding as this is the first increase we've had in the past five years. We ask for your forgiveness and thank you for your continued support of OCGC.

If you have any questions, please direct them to our Membership Chair Terry Owyang at [luckydogx@yahoo.com](mailto:luckydogx@yahoo.com) or Treasurer Judy Huynh at [jhuynh56@yahoo.com](mailto:jhuynh56@yahoo.com).

### OCGC Website Development

OCGC is looking to revamp our club's website in hopes to improve our communication and provide a space for our members to get information and interact with other members. In addition, we will be updating the securities on the site. We are looking for content suggestions if you have any. If there is information that you would like to see available on our website, please send your suggestions and ideas to our Webmaster Chris Pangilinan at [krispy00@gmail.com](mailto:krispy00@gmail.com) and Judy Huynh.

*thank you*

### Board Member changes in 2024

As we move towards 2024, we would like to take a moment to acknowledge and thank our dedicated Board members who will be leaving their position. Gaby Hemphill, who has been serving as the Secretary since 2019, and Tournament Chairs Jay Lin and Alain Young, who have also been on the Board since 2019, will be stepping down.

We would like to express our utmost gratitude for their time, effort, and commitment to making OCGC a wonderful place for like-minded golfers to meet and enjoy their passion. Please join us in thanking Gaby, Jay, and Alain for their service to OCGC the next time you see them on the course.



With the departure of Gaby, we are looking for volunteers to fill the Secretary position. Please reach out to any of our Board members if you are interested. We would love to have you join our team and help us continue to grow and improve the club.

Last but not least, we would like to announce that Yao Liu will be stepping in to one of the Tournament Chair Co-Chair positions and vacating his current Director role.

We're on the Web!

<http://www.oaklandchinese.org/>

Like us on Facebook



<https://www.facebook.com/oakchineseorg>

Our Beginnings

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



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 meets a few times annually over dinner – join us to learn how each committee functions, gain experience, and make a difference for OCGC. Interested? Call or email any of the current board members for more information.

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 Membership Chair Terry Owyang at luckydogx@yahoo.com.

Affiliates

- 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/>

Meet the Board of Directors

President	OPEN	
Secretary	Gaby Hemphill	510.910.5410 / ghemphill@gmail.com
Treasurer/Historian	Judy Huynh	415.425.2490 / jhuynh56@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
Director/Membership Chair	Terry Owyang	510.769.1772 / luckydogx@yahoo.com
Director	Yao Liu	415.812.6729 / yaolong68@yahoo.com
Director	David Yip	510.339.3488 / yipdog20@outlook.com
Director	Kenny Fong	510.483.3477 / kenz94501@yahoo.com

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