



Catta Talk

CATTA VERDERA COUNTRY CLUB

FEBRUARY 2025



Clint Bassett, PGA
General Manager

FROM YOUR PGA GENERAL MANAGER

Happy February Catta Members,

I must say that we have all been a bit spoiled with the weather we experienced here as we kicked off 2025. These comfortable temperatures afforded a record number of our members and guests the opportunity to come out and enjoy all that is happening here at our club both on, and off the golf course. If we all think back to January of 2024, or even as far back as 2023, we remember that we were primarily washed out with some record setting rainfall in those previous years. But this January was much different. We were excited to see 2,866 rounds played which equates to an increase of 23% over 2024, and more than 37% over 2023.

The enjoyable sunshine also contributed to an increase in participation of just over 12% in club social functions. With events like Ladies' Night, Thurs-Dates in Madelena's, Catta Book Club, and Chef Keelan's weekly specials, we made sure that there was something to do for everyone.

This level of involvement and enthusiasm shows us that our membership is enjoying their time at the club more than ever.

Unfortunately, we do need some rain, and February reminds us quickly that we are still in the heart of winter here in Northern California. In spite of what the rest of the country thinks, it's not always sunshine and green grass here on the West Coast. Rain is now scheduled (off and on) through the first week of February, so if you can't get out on the course, come up and keep the team in Quixote's company, and prepare for all the functions that we have planned.

On that note, coming in February, buckle up for some fun. We will have Super Sunday specials going on all day for the big game on the 9th, a romantic Valentine's Dinner on the 14th, our big Couples' Valentine's Tournament on the 15th, and our always popular Catta Crab Feed on the 21st. This is just a taste of what is to come here at Catta in February, so don't let the rain keep you cooped up. Come join us at The Club!



[Click Here](#)

to view the Catta Verdera Women's Golfers monthly newsletter from Sasha Macktinger.





Kyle Hundley
Director of F&B

Food & Beverage

FROM YOUR DIRECTOR OF F&B

Enhancing Your Dining Experience: Introducing the Quixote's Host Program

As we continue to refine and improve your experience at Quixote's, we're excited to introduce a new Host Program that we will roll out in March. This addition is designed to enhance service flow, improve communication, and create a more seamless dining experience for our members.

The host stand will be located in the Quixote's lobby where all dining members will be greeted and seated for both the dining room and patio (The bar area will remain self-seating).

While this system may seem simple, it does come with unique challenges—particularly at Catta Verdera, where multiple entrances allow access to the restaurant and patio. To make this successful, we kindly ask that all members engage with the host instead of seating themselves in the dining or patio areas.

This new format is about more than just organization—it's about better service from start to finish. With a host in place, every guest will be greeted promptly, seated with menus, and have their arrival communicated to the staff immediately. This will help alleviate past challenges such as delayed greetings, missing menus, or servers being unaware that a table has been seated.

The kitchen will also benefit significantly from this new approach. By controlling the flow of seating, we can better manage how orders reach the kitchen. When everyone sits at once, everyone expects their food at the same time which can create unavoidable delays. Just staggering seating by a few minutes will help reduce bottlenecks and ensure a smoother, more consistent pace in the kitchen.

Additionally, we plan to make the new host stand the pickup location for to-go orders. This will clear congestion near the bar and make takeout pickup more efficient. However, hosted seating will primarily be in effect during busier times—Thursday through Saturday evenings and throughout the day on Sundays.

As with any new system, there will be a period of adjustment for both staff and members. We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we fine-tune this process to create a better dining experience for everyone.

Here's to a fantastic January and an even better year ahead!

CATTA VERDERA'S



FEBRUARY 21, 2025 | 6PM

\$75++ PER PERSON
GUESTS WELCOME!

RSVP ON FORETEES | 48-HOUR CANCELLATION



Robbie Barich,
Head Golf Professional

Golf Department

FROM YOUR HEAD GOLF PROFESSIONAL

This month I would like to focus on some substantial changes coming to our premiere men's event here at the club, The Cabrillo Classic. As you might have heard already, there will be changes coming to both the format, and the process to sign up for the Cabrillo Classic. We believe these changes will enhance not only the event itself, but also increase the opportunity for more members take part in this memorable tournament. We are going to roll out these changes in two phases. The first phase will be a format change that will take place this year, and the second phase will address the sign-up process that will be implemented for the 2026 event.

For the new format, The Cabrillo Classic will move to 9-hole Matchplay instead of the 54-hole Stableford format that has been used in the past. Now don't worry you will still be playing 54-holes for The Cabrillo Classic. Instead of five 9-hole matches we will be playing six 9-hole matches (two matches each day). Matches 1 & 2 will be played on Day 1, followed by the Parish Barker Memorial Horserace. Day 2 will have matches 3 & 4 and some competitive side games. Day 3 will be matches 5 & 6 followed by The Championship Shootout.

Another big change this year will be the move from a shotgun start to tee times off holes 1&10 allowing us to get 12 more teams into the event. We consistently have 30 teams on our waitlist each year and this move substantially helps us reduce that, again giving more members the opportunity to play. Tee times will also help solve one of the major issues we are confronted with related to The Cabrillo Classic, and that is how long the rounds take. We are confident that this format change will make everyone's experience better than ever.

In 2026 we will change the sign-up process to get into The Cabrillo Classic.

With a full membership here at Catta Verdera Country Club, we needed to find a way to make sure our entire membership has a fair opportunity to experience the Cabrillo Classic. While we still want to be mindful of those of you who have been playing in the event for more than a decade, we want you to know that you will still have the best opportunity to continue that tradition. To do this, we will move to a tenured lottery system for the 2026 Cabrillo Classic.

To start, there will still be some exemptions that lock you in. Like The Masters, we value tradition, and if you win The Cabrillo Classic (or are a past Champion), you are in for life.

For the lottery, we will assign each member a Class based on when you joined the Club.

- ◆ The Class of 2006 (Joined before 2006)
- ◆ The Class of 2012 (Joined between 2007 - 2012)
- ◆ The Class of 2018 (Joined between 2013 - 2018)
- ◆ The Class of 2026 (Joined between 2019 - and after)

Each member that signs up for the lottery will get a pre-determined amount of lottery balls based on their class.

- ◆ The Class of 2006 will get 10 lottery balls
- ◆ The Class of 2012 will get 6 lottery balls
- ◆ The Class of 2018 will get 3 lottery balls
- ◆ The Class of 2026 will get 1 lottery ball

Once the signup period ends, we will be hosting a Lottery Party at the Club to see who gets drawn in to The Cabrillo Classic.

We understand that there will be many questions and possible concerns about these changes. I ask that you contact me directly so that we can go through all of this in detail.

We look forward to making The Cabrillo Classic the best it can be!





T.J. Urban, PGA
Director of Instruction

FROM YOUR PGA DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION

3 Ways to Improve your Putting

Putting is arguably the most important facet of the game of golf. It's what gets the ball in the hole, it's where scores are made or busted, it's where rounds are saved or soured. Many players want to do better on the putting green, and even those with a great putting stroke find themselves looking back at a missed opportunity here and there.

Here are three things you can do to get your putting in shape this year.

1. Track your putts per round – The easiest way to know where you're going, is to know where you are and where you've been. The leader in putts per round on the PGA Tour right now, Beau Hossler, averages 26.75 putts per 18 holes. A scratch golfer will typically average around 29 putts per round, an "average" handicap golfer will typically average around 32 putts per round, and a "high" handicapper will live in the 36+ putts per round range. Knowing what you currently do will help you set goals and targets to get you where you want to be.
2. Practice putting from 3', 6', and 9' – This is simple enough, put a tee or ball mark at locations of 3'/6'/9' from the cup and hit putts from each location. These are the "scoring zone" putts, and are the most important. The tour average for these three length putts are – 3': 99%, 6': 70%, 9': 46%. Practicing these putts inside the "scoring zone" will greatly help keep your scores lower, even if it feels routine.
3. Practice like Tiger – Arguably one of the best putters of all time, and definitely one of the best pressure putters, here are two drills Tiger has done throughout his career:
 - a. *Gate Drill*
 - i. Place two tees slightly wider than the width of your putter on either side of the golf ball, making sure the "gate" is on your putting line. Place the ball directly in the middle of the gate, then hit putts. This helps ensure centeredness of contact, as if you waver in either direction, you will hit the gate. The goal is to putt without making contact with either tee.
 - b. *Putt One-Handed*
 - i. Using either hand, then placing the other behind your back, hit putts as normal but only using one hand/arm. This will help you develop feel and distance control with each hand, giving you a greater understanding and feel for what each arm does during the stroke. It can also pinpoint which hand/arm is leading to your problems on the greens!

THE LESSON VAULT – WITH PGA PROFESSIONAL FRANKLYN RICHARDS

Franklyn continues to help golfers around the world with his unlimited knowledge of the golf swing. As you watch these stories from Franklyn's very own YouTube channel, don't forget to send him a question about your swing, and begin to play better immediately.

To view this week's playlist on "EQUIPMENT", click [HERE](#).

To schedule a lesson with Franklyn here at Catta Verdera, please email him at britishpga@gmail.com or call the Golf Shop at 916.645.7200



ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NEWS & NOTES

I am happy to submit our first installment of “News & Notes” from our January Advisory Committee meeting. Our committee of seven started the year off with a full list of items to address, and I want to give a high-level summary of what was discussed in this first gathering.



While many topics were on the agenda, the list below is an outline of the items that required the most attention throughout the meeting:

- ◆ Annual Member Survey Results – Food Quality & Consistency, Apparel selections in our Golf Shop, Pace of Play issues on our course, and Course Conditions and scheduled improvements were all discussed with general timelines given on execution.
- ◆ Dues Increase – The committee voiced the concern from Membership of how these monies will be used. While financial details are not under the purview of this committee, a general breakdown of how this increase will impact and improve our club was discussed.
- ◆ Course Maintenance Task List – The committee addressed access to our Driving Range during wet weather, how to accommodate walkers more on the course with benches and walk paths between tee boxes, bridge repair and replacement over certain creeks, and addressing the penalty areas right of holes 12, 13, & 14.
- ◆ F&B and Social Events – Feedback was shared on the new menu that was recently implemented, what Social Events are successful (bringing back Dueling Pianos), and communication timing improvements on specials and other items from our F&B Department.

These again are some of the main topics that were discussed during our first meeting together with the new committee. The Club’s process following these meetings is for all Department Heads to get together and develop an action plan on how to address each issue.

Many of you may have already noticed that some of these items are already being addressed (and some even resolved), while others are ongoing and updated with the committee.

In closing, I encourage everyone to communicate with our committee members to gain even more details related to all topics discussed. I also ask that if you have a topic that needs to be added to our agenda, that you email me or a member of our Advisory Committee so that it can be added to our topics of discussion.

2025-2026 Committee Members:

- ◆ Ellen Grivna
- ◆ Sean Harrigan
- ◆ Dena Lumbirt
- ◆ Sasha Macktinger
- ◆ Matt Morgan
- ◆ Kris Palmer

Email contacts for each Advisory Committee Member can be found on our Member’s Website Page under the “Committee” tab.



CATTA VERDERA PRESENTS

Valentine's ^{DINNER}



*Dress your best and let's make this
Valentine's unforgettable!*

Champagne Greeting ♥ 4-Course Dinner ♥ Live Music

Friday, February 14th Casa Alegria

Seating at 6pm & 6:30pm

\$160++ Per Couple

RSVP on ForeTees to select
your time, salad, and entrée choices



**Jogi Choung, GCSAA
Superintendent**

FROM YOUR GCSAA COURSE SUPERINTENDENT

Happy February everyone,

Although we have rain falling to start our month, my team was able to begin the task of softening the entry to a number of bunkers throughout our course. We were able to complete the shaping of the first two bunkers (Holes #5 & #6) before the rain started to fall. I have been in contact with our sod provider and we should expect to see this arrive in the next week (weather permitting). Next, we will address Holes #7 and #9 which will complete the front 9.

Before we move to the Back 9 bunkers, we will assess sod availability for our tee box renovation project. Based on how much we can acquire, our goal is to redo the tee box on Hole #13 before the Cabrillo.

This is just a small sample of some of the items we will be working on throughout the coming months. While doing these, we will maintain our focus on keeping up our playability standards that we have worked so hard to achieve. Green Speeds, bunker depths, and clean-up work are still our priority. As always, fill your divots, rake your bunkers, and fix two ball marks per green.

“Golf is deceptively simple and endlessly complicated” – Arnold Palmer

February 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5 Men's Golf Day Ladies Night in Madelena's	6 Ladies' Golf Day Thurs-dates in Madelena's	7	8
9 Super Bowl Specials in Quixote's	10	11	12 Advisory Committee Meeting Men's Golf Day	13 Ladies' Golf Day	14 Valentine's Dinner	15 Couple's Valentine's Day Golf
16	17 President's Day Club Open	18 Club Closed	19 Men's Golf Day	20 Ladies' Golf Day	21 Annual Catta Crab Feed	22 Women's Club Saturday Golf
23	24	25	26 Men's Golf Day	27 Ladies' Golf Day	28 Men's Club Friday Golf	

Coming in March...

- Every Wednesday
Men's Golf Day
- Every Thursday
Ladies' Golf Day
- Tuesday, March 4th
Ladies' Night in Madelena's
- Friday, March 7th
Pruett Wine Dinner
- Saturday, March 8th
Women's Club Mojo Tournament
- Sunday, March 9th
Daylight Savings Time
- Wednesday, March 12th
Men's Club Tournament
- Wednesday, March 12th
Advisory Committee Meeting
- Thursday, March 13th
Women's Club Tournament
- Friday, March 14th
Dueling Pianos with The Kelley Twins
- Sunday, March 16th
St. Patrick's Day Celebration
- Wednesday, March 19th
Catta Book Club
- Saturday, March 22nd
Men's Club Saturday Golf



**CATTA
VERDERA**
COUNTRY CLUB

Where everyone wants to be.

PHONE NUMBERS

- Clubhouse 916.645.7200
- Fax 916.645.6729
- Membership 916.645.6745
- Events 916.645.6722
- Quixote's 916.645.6742