

## **Saints golf team boosters:**

### **Golf team update:**

With our first week of qualifying completed, the team begins varsity matches next week. With no returning varsity letter-men returning, the upcoming season will be much more unpredictable than recent years and will also provide opportunities for players to earn their way into varsity matches. We have several players who gained valuable match experience last year who now will become the leaders of the team. Juniors Liam Hudson, Diego Gonzalez, and Rodrigo Bremer played in multiple varsity matches last year and are in the top four players through the first week of qualification. Senior Alec Padilla has worked regularly on his game throughout the past year and is currently 2nd on the team ladder after three rounds of qualifying. A large group of sophomores have also put themselves into the mix after the first week with Anthony Konja, Diego Bremer, Andres Garza and newcomer Daniel Gutierrez all putting themselves among the top nine players this week and figuring to get early varsity match experience this season. A group of juniors also are in contention in their third years with the program: Nicolas Correa, Brandon Toscano, Tim Feiner, and Patrick Laff all sit just outside the top 6 players at this early point in the season, along with senior Hugh Maguirre. With a combination of many more rounds of qualifying as well as matches coming up, the ladder will be very fluid throughout the season based on the players' hard work and results. It will be a very fun season as we all get to watch the players compete to play in matches!

A highlight of the coming season will be on Thursday March 22nd with Saints serving as the host school for the 6th Annual "San Diego Country Club - High School Invitational". Played at one of the very nicest country clubs in the region, the event will feature nine local high school teams as well as some individual golfers. Whereas spectators are not allowed at other high school golf events throughout the season, we are proud to offer family, friends, and high school golf supporters the opportunity to walk with the golfers throughout the 18 hole event (or join players at the 10th tee for the back nine holes). This is also a great chance to walk a beautiful course that last summer was the host of the USGA Women's Amateur, which is the premier amateur event in the world. The course has also hosted other major amateur and professional events over the past 90 years at its present location. Following the round of golf, the field and families will sit down for dinner in the club's banquet room. The first groups will tee off at 12:30pm and the #1 players from teams will be on the tee at 2:00pm so feel free to come down to support the event. If you would like to join us for dinner, the cost is \$20 per person (please contact me at least three days in advance so that the proper arrangements are made with the banquet manager).

To make it easy to follow Saints golf throughout the season, our schedule is posted on the team webpage at [www.sahs.org](http://www.sahs.org) and results will be updated on the page on a weekly basis. Also, the Union- Tribune publishes the varsity scores each morning in the Sports section of the newspaper.

### **Other pieces of news:**

- We would like to thank Saintsman Dan Morrin for again underwriting the cost for our team to host the 8th grade class from St. Patrick's Elementary School for a day of golf lessons and fun at Colina Park GC on January 11th. With 24 St. Patrick's students and 10 Saints golfers, our team was able to show the younger students what makes golf such a wonderful pastime. We also thank Colina Park for making their instructors and golf course accessible for this event as well as for our team's weekly round of golf at the course;

- Congratulations go out to Tyler Torano (Saints 2010, Loyola Marymount 2014) on his recent success in qualifying for the Farmers Insurance Open last month at Torrey Pines. The first Saints golfer to play in a PGA Tour event, Tyler had to overcome extreme odds in two rounds of qualifiers (finishing in the top 3 of 90 professional golfers) just to get into the Farmers Open. Not content to merely qualify for the event, Tyler made a serious run at making the cut, shooting rounds of 73-74 on one of the most difficult venues on the PGA Tour. Tyler will continue playing professionally on the PGA Latino American Tour as well as in various mini-tour events throughout the United States to prepare to try to qualify for the Web.com Tour next fall;

- Armando Favela also continues his professional career, playing on the PGA Latino American Tour (as a former winner on the Tour!) as well as in various Web.com and mini-tour events, also with the goal of earning his Web.com status;

- Within the collegiate ranks, Luis Calderon is in his 3rd season at California State Northridge, Teddy Oitzman is in his 2nd season with the Oregon Ducks, and Robert Case is in his 2nd season with the University of Redlands Bulldogs. All of their results can be found on their school websites. The entire Saints community supports the hard work and dedication that it took to earn those positions on their college golf teams!

Thank you again to the entire Saints family who makes it possible for our team to offer a wide variety of programs as a way for our student-athletes to learn more about golf while sharing a great experience on the course with their Saints brothers.

Sincerely

Saints Golf coaches: Tom Isaak, Christian Da Luz, Bill Davis, Jess Wilson, and Tom Graciano