

San Mateo raises fees for Poplar Creek Golf Course

By Mike Rosenberg
San Mateo County Times

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SAN MATEO — A round of golf at Poplar Creek Golf Course will soon be a bit more expensive.

The San Mateo City Council on Tuesday hiked fees 10-14 percent at the public golf course at 1700 Coyote Point Drive.

The cost for a weekday 18-hole round of golf will rise from \$35 to \$38 while weekend prices will increase from \$48 to \$53. For San Mateo residents that pay \$20 annually for a golf ID card, prices will rise from \$30 to \$33 on weekdays and from \$38 to \$45 on weekends.

In addition, the \$280 bulk pass for San Mateo County residents to play 10 rounds will be eliminated. A 10-play pass for seniors will increase from \$280 to \$300 for non-San Mateo residents and from \$210 to \$250 for city residents.

The higher prices will go into effect on March 1 and generate \$300,000 per year for the special fund used to bankroll the golf course. That fund consists entirely of green fees and concession sales.

The fund faces a deficit of \$180,000, a figure that would rise to \$240,000 by July without a fee increase, said Parks and Recreation Director Sheila Canzian. With the extra revenue, the city expects to have \$180,000 in the golf fund reserve by June

2011.

The golf budget has been in the red since 2004, thanks mostly to the fact that since 2002 the number of rounds played at the course has dropped 9 percent to 82,000 per year, Canzian said. Since 2002, maintenance costs have risen 4 percent while administrative expenses have ticked up 1 percent.

The last major fee increase for the course occurred in November 2006, Canzian said.

She said the fees will leave Poplar Creek at or slightly above comparable courses.

A few other fee increases approved Tuesday will generate a combined \$62,206.

The city typically increases most of its fees annually based on the Consumer Price Index but decided not to change most prices for the upcoming fiscal year, which begins in July, because the index has stayed flat.

Mike Rosenberg covers San Mateo, Burlingame, Belmont and transportation. Contact him at 650-348-4324.

Poplar Creek Golf Course fee increases, effective March 1

Fee Current New

Weekday 18-hole round \$35 \$38

Weekday round, resident \$30 \$33

Weekend round \$48 \$53

Weekend round, resident \$38 \$45

10-play card \$300 Discontinued

Senior 10-play card \$280 \$300

Senior resident 10-play card \$210 \$250

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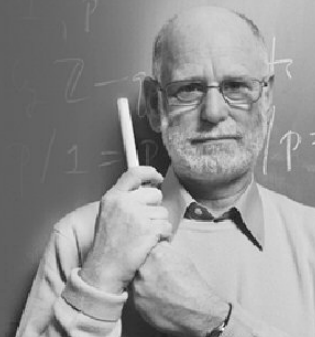


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***Source: city of San Mateo, Poplar Creek Golf Course. Resident rates charged to those living in San Mateo that have a valid golf ID card.**

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