

San Juan Hills Women's Golf Association

Club History

Past Presidents

1969 Margaret Debach	1993 Betsy Bosworth	2017 Debbie Geyer
1970 Jeanie Chabot	1994 Binky Valentine	2018 Debbie Geyer
1971 Melitas Forster	1995 Joyce May	2019 Terry Burd
1972 Binky Valentine	1996 Dorothy LaFever	2020 Terry Burd
1973 Liz Shattuck	1997 Dorothy LaFever	2021 Barb Kowalczyk
1974 Liz Shattuck	1998 Jean Thorn	2022 Barb Kowalczyk
1975 Chris Behm	1999 Jean Thorn	2023 Cheryl Graber
1976 Fern Holmes	2000 Dianne Burdick	2024 Cheryl Graber
1977 Dorothy LaFever	2001 Dianne Burdick	2025 Letty Burks
1978 Helen Jerram	2002 Tomi Gettel	
1979 Jane Miller	2003 Tomi Gettel	
1980 Norma Voyles	2004 Judy Soulakis	
1981 Norma Voyles (Moore)	2005 Judy Soulakis	
1982 Katie Milsted	2006 Judy Soulakis	
1983 Peggy Baker	2007 Bobbi Taylor	
1984 Margy Anderson	2008 Bobbi Taylor	
1985 Bonnie Roos	2009 Linda Healion	
1986 Bonnie Roos	2010 Linda Healion	
1987 Doris Davis	2011 Mary Dean	
1988 Dorothy LaFever	2012 Mary Dean	
1989 Dorothy LaFever	2013 Mary Bebek	
1990 Robert Alexander	2014 Mary Bebek	
1991 Robert Alexander	2015 Reni Vidovich	
1992 Betsy Bosworth	2016 Reni Vidovich	

SJHWGA Club Champions

1970 Fern Holmes	1996 Linda Healion	2022 Lori VanHove
1971 Jeanie Chabot	1997 Linda Healion	2023 Lori VanHove
1972 Pat Hill	1998 Linda Healion	2024 Lisa Free
1973 Sue Hill	1999 Linda Healion	
1974 Jan Fohl	2000 Linda Healion	
1975 Dorothy DeVries	2001 Linda Healion	
1976 Dorothy DeVries	2002 Charbe Benvenuto	
1977 Dorothy DeVries	2003 Linda Healion	
1978 Dorothy LaFever	2004 Linda Healion	
1979 Fern Holmes	2005 Linda Healion	
1980 Dorothy LaFever	2006 Teresa Gonzales	
1981 Delma Brodeck	2007 Jan Baker	
1982 Audrey Etchison	2008 Jan Baker	
1983 Dorothy DeVries	2009 Linda Healion	
1984 Audrey Etchison	2010 Corkie Birdsall	
1985 Ginny Waugh	2011 Linda Healion	
1986 Dorothy LaFever	2012 Linda Healion	
1987 Dorothy LaFever	2013 Lori VanHove	
1988 Dorothy LaFever	2014 Lori VanHove	
1989 Dorothy LaFever	2015 Lori VanHove	
1990 Dorothy LaFever	2016 Teresa Gonzales	
1991 Diane Burdick	2017 Lori VanHove	
1992 Charbe Benvenuto	2018 Lori VanHove	
1993 Linda Healion	2019 Lori VanHove	
1994 Linda Healion	2020 Lina Huh	
1995 Linda Healion	2021 Lori VanHove	

SJHWGA President's Cup Winners

2002	Lisa Ulnick	2021	Helen Kim
2003	Linda Healion	2022	Tracy Kilpatrick
2004	Linda Healion	2023	Nancy Webster
2005	Diane Burdick	2024	Barb Kowalczyk
2006	Linda Healion		
2007	Judy Hoyt		
2008	Mary Dean		
2009	Lynn Nelson		
2010	Linda Healion		
2011	Sonia Shalhub		
2012	Linda Healion		
2013	Val Fitzpatrick		
2014	Mary Dean		
2015	Karen Yoshihara		
2016	Sonia Shalhub		
2017	Sonia Shalhub		
2018	Tracy Steele		
2019	Cindy Schumacher		
2020	No Tournament		

History of SJHWGA

In the late 1960s, a group of women envisioned creating a women's golf league at the newly built San Juan Hills Golf Course. With support from course management, Chris Harrington, the wife of the Director of Golf, reached out to several women golfers to bring this idea to life. Among the founding members was Dottie LaFever, who later served five terms as SJHWGA President.

As the story goes, Thursday was chosen as Ladies Play Day because Dottie was already committed to bowling on the originally proposed Tuesday. Marge Debach became the first President in 1969, leading a club that started with approximately 40 members. They established by-laws and procedures, and the club quickly grew in popularity. At one point, membership required sponsorship and meeting qualifying standards, with some women waiting up to two years to join.

SJHWGA initially affiliated with WAGA (Western American Golf Association), and many members played active roles on the WAGA board. Later, WAGA merged with WSCGA (Women's Southern California Golf Association), which primarily served private golf clubs. In 2008, SJHWGA switched to the San Diego County Women's Golf Association. Once again, members contributed actively, participating in team play, association events, course ratings, and board activities. The club is currently affiliated with SCGA (Southern California Golf Association). Membership grew rapidly between 2020 and 2023, leading to a cap of 120 members.

Many members cherish fond memories of earlier years. Liz Shattuck, President in 1973 and 1974, proposed the roadrunner as the club's official symbol. Linda Healion, the Club President in 2009 & 2010, introduced the Hills Creek Cup, a three-round challenge with the Tijeras Creek Golf Course ladies' club. Dottie LaFever and Binky Valentine, President in 1994, coordinated biannual "away trips," which became legendary adventures both on and off the course. The club has even seen intergenerational membership, with Corkie Birdsall, the 2010 Club Champion, following in the footsteps of her mother, Adele Hanson, a once-active SJHWGA member.

The Binky Valentine Pink Ball Tournament was later renamed the Binky-Burdick Tournament to honor Diane Burdick, a longtime member who passed away on December 24, 2020. Known for its entertaining moments, the tournament often involved players going to great lengths to retrieve the pink ball—even wading into lakes! This event has since evolved into a three-day Eclectic Major Tournament.

In 2020, Tournament Chair Robin Fong initiated the "Home 2 Home" friendly team competitions with other local golf courses. By 2022, overnight away trips were reintroduced, becoming highly popular and fun events

In 2024, SJHWGA adopted the Golf Genius platform for managing weekly tournament stats and mobile scoring. Spearheaded by Tournament Chair Letty Burks, board members organized training sessions to help members learn the system. This effort streamlined the scoring process and was a great success.

The SJHWGA continues to make history, creating new memories while honoring its rich legacy.