

# HVGA NEWS

## 2024 Tournament Schedule | Changes to TX Cup | Growing the Club

### 2024 schedule

Feb 3 Saturday 12:00PM  
Daniel & Co. Têt Tourney  
@ El Dorado, Quail Valley GC

Mar 3 Sunday 12:00PM  
Hot Spot Cajun Tourney  
@ Highlands, Wildcat GC

Apr 6 Saturday 8:00AM  
Mock Up Group Tourney  
@ Wilderness

May 4 Saturday 8:00AM  
Titans Construction & Pool  
@ Cypress Lakes

Jun 8 Saturday 8:00AM  
3mA Audio Tourney  
@ Lakes, Wildcat GC

Jul 14 Sunday 8:00AM  
West Oaks Urgent Care  
Club Championship  
@ Golf Club of Houston

### Team Match Play

Sep Sat (TBA)  
HVGA North vs HVGA South  
@ Wildcat (TBA)  
top 80 Tx Cup point getters

Oct Wed-Sun (TBA)  
HVGA vs out-of-state VGA  
@ GC outside TX  
top 36 HVGA members



### Big Changes

While HVGA members were enjoying the holidays with friends and family, your HVGA volunteers are working hard to grow and improve the club. Board and Committee members gathered at President Mike Ta's house in early December to set the agenda for the 2024 season.

At left is the tournament schedule. Notice there will be only 6 tournaments this year, but 2 team competitions (Match Play, of course) to end the season:

Texas Cup: HVGA North vs HVGA South in Houston

TC Cup: HVGA vs VGA outside of TX

### *Tx Cup vs Dallas is suspended...*

...for the time being. After many discussions with the leadership of DFWVGA, they decided *not* to host Tx Cup in Dallas this year. Luckily for us, our club is well respected around the country, both for our hospitality and our high level of play. We have invitations to play against the best competition nationwide and

## Social Calendar

April 2024 (TBA)  
Annual Crawfish Boil  
@ (TBA)



Sept 2024 (TBA)  
Year End Dinner  
@ (TBA)

## Board of Directors

anh Ha  
Kraig  
Mike Bui  
Nhan  
Kiet

## Committee

President - Mike Ta  
TC Cup Captain - anh Bang Le  
Co Captains - Jesse & Tuan Anh  
Treasurer - Nhan  
Handicap Chair - anh Ha  
Tournament Coord. - Jimmy Ng.  
Webmaster/ScoreApp - Calvin  
Marketing/Events - Tommy  
Rules Chair - Justin Vu  
Newsletter - Mykel

we are evaluating challenges from SoCal VGA, as well as other VGAs. Preliminary (not final) details of the TC Cup are:

- 36 players will compete in: 2-Man on Sat & Singles on Sun
- qualify by winning TC Cup points via monthly tournaments
- top 24 TC Cup rankings make the team, the rest are Captain's Picks, no one is guaranteed playing time, Captain will decide
- 42 man roster able to travel outside TX from Wed-Sun the week of TC Cup, be prepared to budget \$2000/player
- 2 Non-Vietnamese players will be allowed to participate (looking at you Justin Griffin, Ralf Barbosa, Jim Davis-LOL-)
- 2024 location outside TX, 2025 in Houston, 2026 neutral site
- Details/rules will be posted on [www.hvga.com](http://www.hvga.com) after finalized.



## HVGA North vs HVGA South..

...will be a fierce Match Play competition held in September:

- top 80 players in our year long TC Cup points system will qualify, no Captain's picks
- 2 Young Guns from HVGA will be selected to be Captains, each will choose his team from the top 80 ranking players

## Cost

Single player membership - \$150

Family membership - \$250

Student membership - \$100  
(with valid school ID)

Tournament fee - Cost + \$30

Student tournament fee - Cost  
only

Active committee tournament  
fee - Cost only

\*For all Ex-Presidents - no  
membership fee (Thank you for  
your service!)

\*\*Sorry Mike Ta, current  
President still pays membership:)

## Match Play Cost

Texas Cup: North vs South  
expect \$200-300 for 2 rounds of  
golf, uniforms, and dinner

TC Cup: HVGA vs non-TXVGA  
expect \$2000/player for 2 rounds  
of golf, airfare, accommodations,  
uniforms, some meals

- 36 holes: morning 2-man teams, afternoon Singles
- 2 uniforms: North vs South

### Membership requirements

- paid membership fee for 2024
- play at least 2 rounds, from Aug 2023 to Jul 2024 with HVGA
- be in good standing with HVGA standards. Board and Committee can determine by majority vote if you are not.

### Membership Sign-up

Members can now pay the yearly membership fees and tournament fees via links on our website:

[www.hvga.com](http://www.hvga.com)

.....  
We are honored to have the support of the following Sponsors, who help make HVGA the best VNmese golf club in America:

### 2024 Platinum Sponsors

Daniel & Co.

3mA Audio

Titans Construction & Pool

West Oaks Urgent Care

### 2024 Gold Sponsors

5 Star Dental

Hot Spot Cajun Restaurant

Mock Up Group

Ad Valorem Tax Management

### 2024 Silver Sponsors

Priority Insurance

MMA

## *Sponsor Highlight*

Daniel Dang designs and manufactures for high end jewelers, such as Deutsch and Zadok. Lucky for us, he showcases his best work at Daniel & Co. on Bellaire Blvd.



HVGA: How did you get started in golf?

Daniel & Co: *I started in 2004-2005 playing with my friends and my cousin Phong (Dang, HVGA Member). We played for fun and to get some exercise, but mostly to take a break from work.*

HVGA: Why did you decide to sponsor HVGA?

Daniel & Co: *I wanted to support the big VNmese community here in Houston. In small part, to promote our brand, but mostly to promote VNmese golf, both the older generation and the younger generation.*

HVGA: What is your best golf dream?

Daniel & Co: *To one day spend my week playing more golf than working. I love it!*

HVGA: How did Daniel & Co. get its start?

Daniel & Co: *The whole story may take a week to tell [chuckling], but I'll give you the short version. I left Vietnam by boat with 7 or 8 other kids, no family. At 14 years old I somehow made it to a refugee camp in the Philippines and 18 months later, made it to the US by myself. In 1991, I worked alongside my dad doing jewelry repair in a flea market. Later, I became a master jeweler and did some design and manufacturing for the famous jewelry stores around town, until one day, striking out on my own, using money borrowed from friends and family and going way negative [in net worth]. It's been a long road, but here we are!*

HVGA: What would you like us to know about your company Daniel & Co.?

Daniel & Co: *We offer exclusive, high end, fine jewelry designs, in house, fully custom, from nothing but an idea to something you will want to keep forever.*

HVGA: Sounds like what you do everyday in your business parallels your life's journey, from nothing to something to be treasured.

Daniel & Co: *Exactly!*

## Comments

Change is always difficult, but if we approach it correctly, it could be a stepping stone towards greater heights. After a record breaking performance by the Tx/Challenge Cup team, HVGA now possess both Trophies ad infinitum and fittingly so. We never quit. Win or lose, we get stronger every year. It makes me so proud to know that about us, as a unit, as a team, as the best Vietnamese golf organization in the country.

Now we have a chance to compete against bigger clubs outside Texas. I suspect we will attract more and more members, not just locally, but also from out of town. Our club will grow in stature. Captain Bang is still negotiating with the proper opponent for us — maybe Social VGA, or Virginia/Maryland VGA, or Seattle/Portland VGA? A world of possibilities lays before us. Stay tuned.

But we haven't forgotten about our beloved members. The TX Cup will be expanded to 80 members, so now, most anyone who wants to feel the heat of battle will get a chance to do so, North vs South. Best of all, we will be competing against honorable fellow members, who honor the rules as well as their bets. I will be looking forward to this, to see the new members and the uninitiated test their mettle, performing under pressure, staring down opponents, trying to quiet the demons in your heads, feel the thrill of competition. It's this competition that makes HVGA what it is, makes this club thrive. A rising tide lifts all boats. HVGA has accomplished its 2-headed goal of 1) nurturing high level golf and 2) inclusiveness, with the new format of 2 match play events.

If I had a wish list, I would love to see HVGA achieve 3 goals:

- average 120 players per tournament
- garner enough sponsors to fund our mission to share Vietnamese culture and passing on core values the next generation
- more volunteers

With 120 players, we could buy out the entire golf course and not have to worry about players outside our tournament in our midst, improving pace of play, and get better terms from golf courses.

Sponsorship has given HVGA the ability to create a scholarship fund, alleviate the cost to our younger members, put together banquets to remember, fit our teams with the best uniforms, bags, and gifts that adorn our members with enough logos to be the envy of the nation. But most importantly, sponsorship affords us the environment to share our culture and values, to our youths and to our friends. Bringing together high value people has its benefits. Our young gun Justin Vu met his medical school girlfriend here. The athletic Michael Riechmann met his Div. 1 golfer fiancée via HVGA. Many of us have found business associates, other have found friends for life. Sponsorship does indeed have its privileges.



January 4, 2024

Lastly, we are always open to volunteers. There are 18 volunteers in official capacities but countless more in the wings who are unsung heroes. But to get better every year, we need more help. Please thank Calvin in particular when you see him. He's taking on the monumental task of revamping our website to be more dynamic and stable. On top of that, he has to rewrite the Scoring App from scratch. Wow! If you have coding talents, maybe offer us a hand. And give thanks to Jimmy Nguyễn for taking on the tedious Tournament Coordinator position. Bravo, lads!

Look forward to seeing y'all in on the tee box. It's going to be a great year!