

# HVGA NEWS

## Family Beach Day | Draft Day | Mock Up Group April Tournament

### Winners -Flights

Jamie Bao Ng.	A-Gross	68
Khang Le	A-Net	75/65.8
Brandon Ng.	B-Gross	79
William Kwan	B-Net	79/66.9
Thai Ng.	Sr-Gross	78
Vinh D Vu	Sr-Net	83/68.2

### Closest to Pin

#3 (175y)	Sam Phan	6'2"
#8 (168y)	Mike Ta	2'10"
#10 (127y)	Andrew Tran	3'1"
#16(185y)	William Kwan	2'1"

### Event Dates

April 6 10am Shotgun Start  
 Mock Up Group Tournament @  
 Wilderness GC, Lake Jackson  
 Family Beach Day  
 Draft Day

April 27 3:00pm (tentative)  
 Annual Crawfish Boil  
 @ Tuan Anh's house  
 11630 Echo Spring Ln 77065

September 28-29  
 Hot Spot vs Diamond Boyz  
 @ Wildcat GC

October 2-6  
 TexCal Cup  
 @ Golf Course in SoCal



Tiep, Jamie, Kiet, Dr Think

**4 under!** That's the record setting score Jamie Bao Nguyen shot in the *Hot Spot Cajun Seafood House March Tournament*. Jamie started with a bang. Par 5 2nd hole, 205yds out, he hit a 5i to 4ft and made the putt for eagle, finishing the front 9 at -3. Two birdies and 1 bogey on the back lead to a stellar round of 68.

*Jamie: I was lucky to have great playing partners (Tiep, Kiet, Dr Think who encouraged me to keep going, especially on the back 9 when I needed to stay in the moment. I donno, it was just one of those days when everything clicked. I think I hit like 15-16 GIRs.*

*Tiep: It was amazing to watch. He was making putts, hitting every club in the center of the sweetspot, putting on a ball striking exhibition, but most impressive was playing 'boring golf,' just FWs and greens all day. No mistakes. Great for us to witness but also to learn from.*

Congrats to all the winners!

Khang Le for winning A-Net with 65.8 hdec adjusted, William and Vinh for also shooting net 60's to capture B & Sr Net, Brandon and Dr Thai for shooting in the 70's to take home B & Sr Gross. These boys are sending a message to all competitors, "better shoot in the 70's if you want to take home a trophy."

### Lavalion Match Play vs MAVGA @ Wildcat GC recap

Thank you to the Mid Atlantic Vietnamese Golf Association for flying down their team to compete with us. We had a great time getting to know you and competing with you. Lead by their Captain, anh Bach Nguyen, they reminded us what true sportsmanship looks like: Win or lose, play with integrity, try your best, and despite the odds stacked against you, vow to work harder to perform better the next go round. MAVGA and HVGA share these same values and this bodes well for amateur VNmese golf. Capt. Bach is also the new president of VGA of America, so we look for great things from them.

Thanks to Capt. Bang, Co-Captains Jesse & Tuan Anh, and our volunteers who forfeited their playing spots but still worked tirelessly with smiles on their faces to organize a fun tournament.

So proud of our players for winning the event in style and with class.

Special thanks to *Linh from Lavalion Roofing and Home Services*, whose Platinum level donation made the event possible. Several HVGA members are already her satisfied customers, so look her up.



HVGA/MAVGA models



Calvin, Dr Q



Linh, CEO of Lavalion, our sponsor



MAVGA & HVGA

HVGA Singles			MAVGA Singles				HVGA Best Balls				MAVGA Best Balls			
Name	Status	Handicap	Name	Handicap	Handicap Difference	W/L	Points	Team	Handicap	Team	Handicap	Handicap Difference	W/L	Points
Jamie Bao Nguyen	M	0.0	Alex Ju	5	0.0	W	1	3 2 1 Phillip Tran/Tommy DFW Nguyen	0.0	Branden Nguyen/Sonny Pham	0.0	0	W	1
Tommy DFW Nguyen	M	1.7	Derek Nguyen	2	0.0	W	1	1 5 2 Jamie Bao Nguyen/Binh Pham	0.0	Ty Nguyen/Alex Ju	0.0	0	W	1
Phillip Tran	M	0.3	Harrison Do	2	0.0	L	0	6 8 3 Jeremy Nguyen/Thinh Vu	0.0	Minh LC Nguyen/Hieu Ly	0.0	0	W	1
Andrew Nguyen	M	2.4	Sonny Pham	7	0.0	W	1	4 10 4 Andrew Nguyen/Brian Tran	0.0	Harrison Do/Derek Nguyen	0.0	0	L	0
Binh Pham	M	1.0	Ty Nguyen	8	0.0	W	1	7 13 5 Justin Vu/Noah Nguyen	7.3	Thach Do/Darryl Toon	12.0	5	L	0
Jeremy Nguyen	M	0.7	Branden Nguyen	3	0.0	L	0	12 11 7 Alan Pham/Jacob Duong	9.1	Hoa Do/Anh Nguyen	18.9	10	L	0
Justin Vu	M	3.1	Darryl Toon	10	-5.5	W	1	9 16 6 Ton Le/Hai G Nguyen	11.8	Bach Nguyen/Michael Washburn	13.6	2	W	1
Thinh Vu	M	3.3	Michael Washburn	10.6	-5.9	W	1	15 14 8 Hiep Pham/Minh Do	11.5	Bao Hoang/Huy Le	15.5	4	W	1
Ton Le	M	7.9	Thach Do	10	-1.7	W	1	17 18 9 Quyen Trinh/Calvin Nguyen	15.5	Tuan Army Nguyen/Kiet Phan	17.2	2	W	1
Brian Tran	M	3.5	Huy Le	10.8	-5.8	W	1	19 20 10 Vinh D Vu/Jimmy Nguyen	18.9	Tracy Tran/Oanh Bui	25.8	7	L	0
Jacob Duong	M	3.8	Tuan Army Nguyen	14.7	-8.8	W	1	21 22 11 Nhi Ngo/Hien Tran	16.0	Linda Nguyen/Shannon Nguyen	23.2	7	W	1
Alan Pham	M	11.4	Anh Nguyen	15	-2.9	W	1	23 24 12 Gina Tran/Anna Dang	21.8	Kelly Nguyen/Hang Le	22.8	1	AS	0.5
Noah Nguyen	M	9.0	Bach Nguyen	12	-2.4	W	1							
Minh Do	M	10.9	Minh LC Nguyen	9	1.5	W	1							
Hiep Pham	M	8.3	Hieu Ly	10	-1.3	W	1							
Hai G Nguyen	M	11.8	Hoa Do	16.5	-3.8	W	1							
Quyen Trinh	M	12.4	Kiet Phan	14	-1.3	W	1							
Calvin Nguyen	M	13.5	Bao Hoang	15	-1.2	W	1							
Vinh D Vu	M	15.1	Kelly Nguyen	23	-6.3	W	1							
Jimmy Nguyen	M	16.3	Shannon Nguyen	23	-5.3	AS	0.5							
Nhi Ngo	M	11.7	Tracy Tran	20	-6.7	W	1							
Hien Tran	M	15	Hang Le	15	0.0	W	1							
Gina Tran	M	13.4	Linda Nguyen	15.6	-1.8	AS	0.5							
Anna Dang	M	23	Oanh Bui	23	0.0	W	1							
										<b>Total Points</b>	<b>28.5</b>	<b>7.5</b>		
										<b>Sun Total Points</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3</b>		
										<b>Sat Total Points</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>4.5</b>		

# DRAFT DAY

## HotSpot vs Diamond Boyz Sept. 28-29 @ Wildcat GC

### Draft Day

April 6, immediately after Mock Up Wilderness tournament, approx. 3:00pm at Luan's beach house

### Beach Family Day

April 6, 2024 all day HVGA family members invited to Luan's Beach House in Surfside (20min from Wilderness GC) to enjoy while we compete nearby and meet up afterwards.

BYOB and potluck.

**107 Yucca Ave  
Surfside Beach, TX 77541**

### Mock Up Tourney

April 6, 2024 10am Shotgun  
ICo-host with HCGA  
Houston Chinese Golf Assoc.  
[www.hcga-inc.org](http://www.hcga-inc.org)

@Wilderness GC



Andrew Hotspot, Prez Mike Ta, Diamond Boyz Johnny Dang

### Hot Spot vs Diamond Boyz

We are excited to announce the Houston Cup match play event at the end of the season Sept 28-29 will be sponsored by Hot Spot Cajun Seafood House and Johnny Dang's Diamond Boyz! New name of the event will be *Hot Spot vs Diamond Boyz Match Play*.

Team Captains Justin Vu and Andrew Nguyen will be choosing their players, one at a time immediately after the April tourney, so be sure to sign up to see who you will be playing for.

- To qualify for draft selection, you must be a paid member of HVGA for 2024
- All paid members will be chosen, but to compete at the year end event, members must still qualify via TC Cup point rankings, #1-80 get to play.
- Hot Spot vs Diamond Boyz will be 36 holes, AM session is 2-man teams, PM session will be singles
- Draft Day will take place immediately after April tournament at Luan's Beach House, 20 min. from Wilderness GC at Surfside Beach.

## Platinum Sponsors

---

Daniel & Co.  
Johnny Dang's Diamond Boyz  
Titans Construction & Pool  
West Oaks Urgent Care  
Lavalion Roofing & Home Services  
HotSpot Cajun Seafood House

## Gold Sponsors

---

5 Star Dental  
Ad Valorem Tax Management-  
Property and Income Tax  
Mock Up Group

## Silver Sponsors

---

Priority Insurance- Sandra Tran  
MMA

## *Beach Day- 107 Yucca Ave Surfside Beach, TX 77541*

For the 1st time in HVGA history, we are hosting a Family Day on tournament day. All HVGA family members are invited to drive down to Surfside Beach the morning of the tournament, April 6, 2024, and enjoy the day at Luan's Beach House, 20 minutes from Wilderness GC. Golfers will join after the tournament to conduct Draft Day and announce tournament winners. We can stay after nightfall.

Thank you, Luan!!

### **107 Yucca Ave Surfside Beach, 77541**

Event will be *BYOB and Potluck*. Tommy will bring a surprise bucket of food (LOL), Mykel will bring some pork belly and other meats to grill, Alan banh cuon, Mike Ta banh bo, Jimmy dessert. Sign up list of what you plan to bring will be posted on WhatsApp. Any Grill Masters wanting show off, let us know!



## Board of Directors

Anh Ha

Kraig

Nhan

Mike Bui

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/Scoring App - Calvin

Marketing/Events - Tommy

Rules Chair - Justin Vu

Newsletter - Mykel

## HotSpot vs Diamond Boyz

Captains-

*Justin Vu vs Andrew Nguyen*

Co-Captains:

Tommy Huynh/anh Ha/Andrew

Tran/Luan vs

Jimmy Ng./Angelo/Johnny Dang

## Mock Up Group Tournament

### at Wilderness - April 6 10am Shotgun Start

We will return to shotgun start for this tournament, as we are co-hosting with the Houston Chinese Golf Association (HCGA), competing in 2 separate competitions concurrently. The event is full capacity of nearly 120 players signed up, so most holes will have 2 groups. Remember that HCGA will be our guests, so please welcome them, HVGA style! Please make a point to:

- arrive 45min earlier than normal to warmup so we can yield the limited range spots to the Chinese from 9-9:45a
- introduce yourselves and invite them to the after party
- keep an eye out for their stray balls when playing near them
- play 'Ready Golf' so we can finish under 4.5 hours

Hopefully, this will be the beginning of a longterm relationship between our 2 clubs.



## New C-Flight Gross / New handicap brackets

In response to membership feedback to consider our higher handicap members, we are bringing back the C-Flight Gross trophy, starting with April Mock Up Group Tournament at Wilderness.

Recalibration will be as follows:

- A-Flight < 8.5
- 8.5 < B-Flight < 13
- 13 < C-Flight

Senior Gross trophy will go away, while Senior Net trophy will stay.

	< 8.5	8.5 <= && <= 13	> 13
All Members	44	47	51
2024 Members	25	31	30

## *Jesse's Battle Cry:*

### *Words from our Co-Captain*

“In the wake of Thomas Nguyen’s passing, we honor his memory and bid him a peaceful journey. As we reflect on the 2023 TX Cup, let’s channel our grief into something extraordinary—a golfing revolution that will echo across fairways and greens.

*HVGA vs. California (TC Cup)*  
The Ultimate Swing-Off!

*California Dreamin’*  
The West Coast giants await. Their palm trees sway, but our Texan oaks stand tall.

*Young Blood, New Fire*  
Our rising stars—swift drives, precise putts. They are the heartbeat of our mission.

*National Spotlight*  
We’re not just competing; we’re rewriting the Vietnamese Golf Associations playbook. HVGA on the map!



Jesse, CoCaptain

*Legacy Beckons*  
Thomas Nguyen’s spirit fuels us. Let’s make him proud, one swing at a time.

*HVGA’s 3-Year Blueprint:*

- Championships Galore: We’ll chase titles like eagles chasing prey.
- Skill Sharpening: Our practice greens will witness dedication and finesse.
- Unity Swag: One team, same mission unifying our hearts and souls on the battlefield
- Networking Fairway: Connect with fellow golfers, share stories, and forge bonds.

*Join the HVGA Revolution:*

- Visit <https://hvga.com/> and sign up for our monthly tournament
- Dust off those clubs, visualize the perfect swing, and step onto the tee box.
- Remember, legends aren’t born—they’re crafted on dew-kissed mornings and sun-drenched afternoons.

*Fore!*  
Let’s make history. California, all VGAs across America, and the spirit of Thomas Nguyen watch as HVGA takes flight.

Together, we’ll redefine what it means to be the best. Swing true, my HVGA family.”

- Uncle Jesse

## TC Cup

Oct 2-6, 2024 Wed-Sun  
 2 practice rds, 2 match play rds  
 airfare, shared room  
 uniforms  
 banquet  
 lunch on golf days  
 cost: ~\$2000/pp (or less)



Angelo, Tx Cup trophy, TK, Justin

## Crawfish Boil

April 27th, Saturday 3:00pm  
 (tentative)  
 @ Tuan Anh's House  
 11630 Echo Spring Lane  
 Houston, TX 77065



## TexCal Cup vs California VGA Oct in SoCal

It's confirmed! We have signed a 3 year contract with VNmese golfers from California for our TC Cup. To keep up with our high level of play, they have informed us they will recruit from the entire West Coast: CA, OR, UT, WA, NV, AZ. Locations will be: 2024 in SoCal, 2025 in Houston, 2026 neutral site.

Preliminary details:

- up to 5 Non-Viets can make the team
- 4 seniors over 50 y.o. must be part of the team
- 28 players/team to play each session, + 4 alternates = 32 total
- top 16 TC Cup rankings qualify, Captains will pick 16 more = 32
- no team member is guaranteed to play, Captains' decide lineup
- plan to travel Wed-Sun tournament week
- fly into SoCal Wed morning
- on the course practice rounds, Wed PM and Thu AM
- no playing on Fri allowed, practice OK
- Sat 2-man Best Ball, Sun Singles
- cost is approx. \$2000/pp, will likely be lower with Sponsor help
- includes: 4 rounds of golf, 5 days/4 nights, airfare, banquet Sat night, lunch on golf days
- memories to last a lifetime... priceless

West Coast vs HVGA will be a Battle Royale! We will need to take our game up a notch to have a chance to bring home the Cup. So set your 2024 schedule accordingly to play in enough tournaments to qualify and practice, practice, practice! This will be our toughest matchup yet!

I suggest returning players save their red and blue shirts from 2023 victory to wear on Wed and Thu practice days in SoCal.

## Annual Crawfish Boil April 27 Sat 3:00pm (tentative)

@ Tuan Anh's House

We will host our popular Crawfish Boil at Tuan Anh's 4-acre property in Cypress. There will plenty of room for the kids to roam around, a state of the art Golf Simulator for those who want to get their club distances verified, and some fun surprises. Sign-up list for volunteers will be posted on WhatsApp.

Thank you Tuan Anh and family for hosting!

## *Sponsor highlight*

Richard Ta works for a private equity company in the Oil & Gas industry. As a side hustle, he runs the financial side of Mock Up Group, a custom apparel business specializing in casual menswear, hats, tees, hoodies, etc.



HVGA: How did you get started in golf?

Mock Up Group: *Tiger Woods! We are about the same age, so when he won the Masters by 12 in 1997, I was a sophomore in college and was inspired to go to the range. That 1st session, I flushed a few shots, and wham! I was hooked! As broke college students we would play anywhere that was cheap, like the 9-holer at San Jacinto GC.*

HVGA: How did you come to HVGA?

Mock Up Group: *My wife is cousins with Quyen, wife of Kiet Luong, who was president of HVGA at the time. Kiet and I are good friends, he's a good golfer and he recruited me to HVGA. And now, my brother Mike Ta is HVGA president so I gotta support!*

HVGA: Tell us a bit about Mock Up Group.

Mock Up Group: *Since it's a family business, the name is the initials of my 2 daughters and my brother-in-law's 2 daughters. Thank goodness we didn't name it after him, Hung 'Boi' Dong, which would be a completely different image! LOL. He's been in the apparel business for a long time and wanted to build his own company. He asked me to join last year to take care of the financials and operations while he does design, sales, and production. The main warehouse in Santa Ana, CA and our factories are in China. We specialize in what the industry calls 'Cut to Sew' which is total design customization from scratch, not just a replication of existing designs that are rebranded.*

HVGA: Very VNmese thing to do, keep everything in the family, from the name to the manpower. Who are your customers and is the MOQ (minimum order quantity)?

Mock Up Group: *We have customers who are big chains like Macy's, to boutiques, to influencers doing private label. Our typical order is 200-300 pieces per design per color. 8000-10,000 would be one of our bigger orders, but we can go as low as 1000 pieces. Since we are a new entity, business is mostly word of mouth, but we look to begin marketing and our sponsorship of HVGA is one of the ways.*

HVGA: What does the future look like for you?

Mock Up Group: *If things continue to go well, I hope to leave my 9-5 day job and work on Mock Up Group full time, control my own schedule and play more golf with you sharks!*

## Sponsor Highlight

Lavalion Roofing and Home Services has expertise in residential, commercial, and emergency roofing services. New this year, Linh, the founder and CEO, added home services for more comprehensive support for homeowners.

HVGA: How did you get involved with HVGA and why did you want to sponsor us?



Lavalion: *Tuan Anh is my client and he was kind enough to spread the word so we replaced 5 roofs for your members. Meeting him, seeing how he sticks to his word and how much he cared about HVGA, when he asked me to sponsor, it was an immediate 'Yes.' In fact, I sponsored you last year as well. My staff and I noticed how much you appreciate us, everyone coming up to introduce themselves and saying 'Hi,' making us feel so welcomed and special, we decided to become Platinum Sponsor in 2024.*

HVGA: How did you start your business?

Lavalion: *I came to the US from Vietnam on an international student scholarship. I worked my way through school, majoring in marketing, then completed my MBA in project management. My 1st jobs were with startups, a lot of stress, a lot of work. Then I got hired by a new roofing company to build their business systems — from HR, to scheduling, accounting, legal, everything operations — leaving the owner to go out and sell and grow the business. That gentleman moved away and retired after a few years. I've always liked to fix things, build things, so I took my business systems and started Lavalion Roofing in 2021. Not the easiest time to start a construction business, but we made it.*

What would you like us to know about Lavalion Roofing and Home Services?

Lavalion: *We are a minority owned business specializing in arguably the most important part of your house, your roof, but yet few of us think about it. Without a roof over your head, what can you do, right? We will review your homeowners insurance policy and work with the insurance co. to get you the most economical solution for a new roof. Now we've expanded to do remodels, home maintenance, and commercial services. We work with home inspectors to give new homeowners a list of what they should do when buying a home and how to maintain and protect their biggest investment. We pride ourselves as being more than just a contractor. We educate our clients, partner with them, not just show up to do a job and forget about them later.*

HVGA: I love the VNmese spirit in you. We see an opportunity and we take it. No fear.

**SCHEDULE A FREE CONSULTATION**

 **(855) 952-8299**  
**855-9LAVA-99**

Lavalion: *Exactly! I love sharing my knowledge and experience, hopefully to inspire the next girl or guy who wants to strike out on their own and build something everlasting. I budgeted a sponsorship/marketing fund into Lavalion, so we are looking forward to staying involved with HVGA and all the great people I've met so far.*

## Comments

The sudden passing of my friend Thomas Nguyen left me in a daze for most of March. Sometimes out of nowhere, the emotions overwhelm me.

So it was heartening to see us compete with MAVGA, the group he introduced to us; to see his son Noah get out on the golf course, to battle and play the sport his dad so dearly loved; to see the outpouring of love that collected \$15,000+ for his kids; to see all of your faces at his wake and funeral services; to see his legacy continue: make friends, play golf, and take care of family.

After the funeral, I sat down to dinner with anh Bach, president of VGAAoA, and Olivia Tran, the Toronto businesswoman and sponsor. We made plans for the future, how to interconnect all the VGAs in America, how to grow the game, how to uplift and inspire our VNmese community, on and off the golf course. It was cathartic to look ahead and plan for bigger better things... just like Thomas would've wanted. Some may say immortality can only be found in one's faith. I say life beyond death lingers in the hearts and minds of those we leave behind. We miss you, Thomas. And the best way to honor and remember you is to continue your legacy: friends, golf, family.



Hai AC, Steve Ng., TK, Minh David

## Chim for Thomas

These 4 hooligans started a fund they call *Chim* for Thomas (*chim* = birdie), to pay for all golf related fees for Noah and Nicolas. It's an incredibly thoughtful gesture. If you'd like to contribute, reach out to Hai AC, Steve Nguyen, Tung Kieu (TK), Minh David, and anh Ha (not pictured).

You guys humble me with your generosity and initiative. I'm so proud to be part of HVGA, how we will forge ahead to a brighter future.

*-Mykel*

# THOMAS NGUYỄN

March 16, 1965-March 10, 2024

Father. Golfer. Leader. That's how I will remember Thomas, my dear friend... "*Nhớ Thomas.*"

He met his wife Ashley in college and was devoted to her for 30 years. He was so proud of their 3 kids, always bragging about Audrey in Med School, Nicolas joining her next semester, and Noah always by his side, joining him for dinner with his adult friends or traveling with him on his many golf trips.

Thomas was a golf fanatic so, of course, all 3 kids played. For him, the perfect day would be golf, eating and laughing with friends, and if his kids were with him, he couldn't be happier. It's poetic justice that his last days were spent golfing. He lived life to the fullest.

There was Social Thomas - at dinner, laughing and joking, then there was Competitor Thomas - on the golf course. Betting was a given, but he wanted to win, he wanted to beat you. As with all of us, our golf game comes and goes, but if he had a birdie putt, he would flip a switch, turn on the concentration of a chess grandmaster, sneak up behind the ball, and willed himself into the Zone. Make or miss, you knew he would give that birdie-try everything he had, every time. That's a lesson I will take with me, when an opportunity presents itself, give it your all, everything, every time.

He was a great reader of the greens, as he was a great reader of people. Put him in a room full of people and by the end of the night, he could tell you what everyone did for a living, their strengths and weaknesses. He was so persuasive that some of these new acquaintances would be sponsors for his next golf event or organization. And he loved connecting people from all over the world. I've met so many new friends because of Thomas, and I've donated my fair share to his causes. We can all take a page out his book: instead of complaining, get involved and change things for the better. It's not an understatement to say he was one of the most influential voices in amateur Vietnamese golf today. That will be one of his legacies. VGA of America reached unprecedented heights under his watch. HVGGA owes a lot of our evolution to Thomas. And whether you agree with him or not, there's no denying he always fought for what he believed in. That's another lesson I'll take with me.

In Vietnamese the word for missing someone and remembering him is the same: *nhớ*. The void he left in this world is irreplaceable... "*nhớ Thomas luôn luôn (forever).*"

*-Mykel*

