



SENIOR MEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION

LEAGUE POLICIES, RULES & PLAYER CONDUCT

EFFECTIVE 2022

1. Membership and Fees

- Players must be 50 years of age or older.
- Players 50 to 79 play from Gold Tees.
- Players 80 and older play from Red Tees.
- Annual membership is \$30 for two luncheons: mid-year and year-end banquets. All golfers must register and pay the \$30.00 registration fee. This fee does “not” cover the cost of donuts. **We will be doing banquets this season unless the Government re-establishes COVID -19 social distancing protocols.**
- Dues may be refunded to members who are unable to play due to injury or other circumstances beyond their control.
- We will be selling 50/50 tickets at registration/check in on Thursday's. 50/50 monies will be used to purchase donuts. **The cost of donuts has almost doubled due to various reasons. There is also not as much of a variety available as in previous years. If the cost continues to increase, we will either have to increase the cost of 50/50 tickets or the 50/50 will be stopped.**
- Weekly league cost is \$20 for greens fee and cart. If any golfer insists on not sharing a cart, there will be an additional \$5.00 cart fee
- An additional \$8 is collected for weekly gift certificates and cash prizes.
- **Anyone that wants to play golf less than 3 times this year must pay a \$10.00 administration fee. This fee will be paid the first day they golf. If they play for the third time they will have to pay the remaining \$20.00 registration fee.**

2. Dates and Times of Play

- The league will play every Thursday from April through September.
- The league play will continue, weather permitting, from October through the Thursday prior to Thanksgiving for any members wishing to play.
- League play will start at 10:00 AM for the months of April and October and November.
- Players must be paid and registered one-half hour before tee time. A player who is assigned to a team but arrives later may lose their place to a substitute who has come early and wants to play.
- **Range balls will be available 7:15 to 8:15 AM May through September. During April and October/November 8:15 to 9:15 AM.**

3. Weekly Registration

- Sign-ups will be from Thursday morning the day of golf to the following Monday until **3:00 PM**. Player's can sign up for the following week when checking in the day of play. They can also call into Sportsman's at 717-545-0023 to register. Players calling in after **3:00 PM** on Monday will be placed on a standby list. Registration will only be one week at a time.
- The first week of golf will be April 7, 2022. Players can start to call Sportsman's on Thursday March 25, 2022, to register.
- Players will be designated as "A, B, C and D" based on member input, reports and observations by the league committee. Estimated handicaps and/or average scores will only be used to assign a skill level for new players. An individual's designated level is subject to change based on actual performance.
- If you sign up and subsequently learn you cannot play or will be late in arriving, players should call Sportsman's at 717-545-0023 as soon as possible.
- Check-in for Thursday play will be available for 2 hours prior to shotgun start. All players must be checked in no later than ½ hour before shotgun.

4. Rules for Threesome

- **If you are playing in a threesome, the lowest two ranked players of the group will be able to take an extra shot so that the threesome has a total of 4 balls in play. This year the two lowest ranked players will alternate holes with the extra shot. (if a player starts the extra shot on hole #1 he will then take all shots on the odd holes. The other player will take all the extra shots on the even holes.)**

- **If a team is missing the “A” player, the “B” player becomes the “A” player. All groups must have a designated “A” player. The designated “A” player can not take two shots.**
- **The “C” and “D” player can alternate taking an extra shot for a total of 4 shots per group. Until the team reaches the green.**
- **Once the ball is on the putting surface or on the collar of the green, no player can take two shots in a row.**

5. Prize Awards

- Individuals and teams are limited to two prizes (a certificate plus one skill prize or two skill prizes) each week, except for mid-year and year-end outings.
- There is no limit to the number of prizes an individual and team can win at the mid-year and year-end outings.
- Prizes will not be available until the following Thursday and will be handed out at registration/check in. **A golfer can’t collect another golfer’s pro shop card or prize money.**
- The league committee is not responsible once prizes are distributed and cannot guarantee delivery of awards when a player is not present.
- For the mid-year and year-end outings, prizes drawn from the 50/50 tickets will only be awarded to players present at the time. Those prizes will consist of cash awards as well as merchandise.

6. Attire and Pace of Play

- Players are required to wear proper attire and “soft spike” type shoes.
- A brisk pace of play is encouraged, including staying up with the group ahead.
- Players should be ready to take their shot as soon as it is their turn to play.

7. Playing the Ball

- A player may move the ball ONE CLUB LENGTH no nearer the hole. This does not apply to balls in a bunker or hazard.
- **The stream beds that run through the fairways of hole #1 and hole #16 will be in play as a hazard. Whether these stream beds are dry or have water in them. If the best shot of any group is hit into one of these stream areas. Play will be governed in the two following ways. The group can play the ball as it lies. Or the group can take penalty relief which is one club length out of the stream no closer to the hole with a one stroke penalty.**

- You may not change the condition of the original lie while moving the ball. For example, the ball may not be moved from the fringe to the green or rough to fairway.
- **Bunkers will be in play unless Sportsman's announce bunkers are unplayable on the day of golf. If a group hits 4 balls into a bunker, select the best ball you may pick up the ball, fluff or rake the sand and place the ball back on the fluffed sand to hit the ball out. Each golfer may fluff or rake the sand before he hits.**
- If a ball lands in water within a bunker the ball may be moved to the closest point of relief within the bunker where the ball can be hit
- If the ball can't be moved out of water the ball can be moved out of the bunker to the closest point of relief no closer to the hole
- **Bogey is the highest score achievable on any hole.**
- USGA rules govern play as modified by Sportsman's management or the league committee.

8. Scorecards, Tiebreakers and Skill Prize Markers

- Team captains, normally an "A" player, are responsible for properly recording their score on each hole. At the end of the round, captains should ensure their scorecard is correct before turning it in.
- A random tie breaker hole is selected each week. Ties will be broken by going backwards from the designated hole. For example, if hole #4 is the tiebreaker, committee members will look at the score on that hole then #3, #2, #1 followed by #18, etc. until the tie is broken.
- Skill prize paddles and tape measurers will be removed from the holes at the end of the day by Sportsman's.

9. Hole-In-One Club

- All league players are eligible to participate, though it is not a requirement.
- The cost is a one-time entry fee of \$5.00.
- The first player to achieve a hole-in-one wins the total prize money collected.
- If two players have a hole-in-one in the same round, they split the total pot.
- Following a hole-in-one, a new pool will begin with players wishing to enter contributing another \$5.00 entry fee.

Note: at any time during the year without notice these rules could change due to any Governmental requirements due to COVID-19.

10. Player Conduct

- The primary purpose of the Senior Men's Golf Association is to encourage and provide a pleasurable golfing experience promoting social interaction and “friendly” competition among members in a team-based format.
- League members are always expected to conduct themselves as gentlemen . They should always be courteous and show consideration for other players on their team and elsewhere on the course in accordance with the general rules of golf etiquette. This means that no member shall cause their behavior to be questioned by others during play, be it verbal or physical in nature. They should never criticize or make fun of another player for any reason. Advice on club selection or putting should only be offered if another team member requests it.
- If an “unsportsmanlike” or “conduct unbecoming” complaint concerning a league member's actions is received, the following “due process” procedures will be taken:
- Individuals involved will be interviewed by the league committee and/or Sportsman's management to obtain an understanding of the allegations.
- If the complaint is deemed valid, depending on the nature and severity of the offending member's behavior, he will either be (a) suspended from league play for a minimum of two weeks or (b) expelled permanently from the Senior Men's Golf Association.