



## SENIOR MEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION

# LEAGUE POLICIES, RULES & PLAYER CONDUCT

### EFFECTIVE 2021

#### 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 three luncheons: opening kick-off, mid-year and year-end banquets. This fee does “not” cover the cost of donuts. **For 2021 we are going to attempt to have banquets at mid-year and end of year. Details will be given at an appropriate time.**
- 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 to be sold by Sportsman's. You will have to print your name on the ticket. Half of the money will be used for year-end cash and merchandise prizes. Half of the money will be paid to the Winners the following week.**
- Weekly league cost is \$20 for greens fee and cart. **For 2021 as long as the pandemic continues. Currently single occupancy carts are not required. If one 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.
- Guests will be permitted to play no more than three (3) times a year. They must pay the weekly \$8 prize fee and can also participate in the 50/50 drawing.

#### 2. Dates and Times of Play

- Every Thursday from April through September.
- League play will continue, weather permitting, from October through the Thursday prior to Thanksgiving for any members wishing to play.
- **For 2021 as long as the State of Pennsylvania mandates the need to sanitize golf carts, we will be using sequential tee times to start. Starting tee time will be based on the number of golfers and conditions for that week (weather, daylight etc.). Due to social distancing requirements please be at the pro shop no more than 30 minutes before your scheduled tee time. Please be loaded and in your cart ready to play 20 minutes before your tee time.**
- **All players must register with Sportsman's pro shop between Thursday and the following Monday before noon. You must be available to play at any time during the day. Tee times will be generated randomly by computer. There will not be any special tee times available for anyone. That includes I need early or I need late.**

- **Walk on player's that show up Thursday that have not been placed on a team. Sportsman's will have a list of players and their rankings. Player's will be added to a team if they would fit on a team according to their ranking. (Example if you are an A1 player and there are only openings in a C2 spot you will not be added to a team.)**
- **Range balls will be available at the price that is set by Sportsman's. Golfers may come early and purchase range balls if the driving range is open. Please be at the pro shop 20 minutes prior to your tee time ready to play.**

### **3. Weekly Registration**

- **Registration will be from Thursday morning the day of golf and the following Monday until noon. Players 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. Registration will only be one week at a time.**
- **The first week of golf will be April 1, 2021. Players can start to call Sportsman's on Thursday March 25, 2021 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.**
- **During the first week of play and all following weeks, players are encouraged to sign up that Thursday. Registration will close the following Monday at noon.**
- **The committee and Sportsman's will determine the total number of player's able to play on Thursday based on the conditions for that week.**
- **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.**
- **Because of having to use sequential tee times play this year, players who do not cancel through the pro shop or they just don't show up to play, will be tracked. If this happens on a frequent bases the committee and Sportsman's will evaluate the situations and will impose suspensions as necessary. This rule has always been here and has never been enforced. It will be enforced this year. PLEASE CALL IF YOU CAN'T PLAY.**

### **4. Rules for Threesomes or Twosomes**

- **If you are playing in a threesome, the lowest two ranked players of the group can alternate taking an extra shot for the group.**
- **If you are a twosome both players can take one extra shot.**

### **5. Prize Awards**

- **We are going to start the year with skill prizes this year. A team designated player will be provided gloves, a pencil and hand sanitizer to mark the paddles when they are closest to the hole.**
- **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.**
- 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.
- **There will no longer be a rule for hole #1 and hole # 16 for the ditch that crosses the fairway. If all 4 golfers hit a ball in those ditches it will be a one stroke penalty to move the ball from the ditch.**
- 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 this year unless Sportsman’s deems the bunker unplayable because of conditions. There will be no rakes. If a group hits 4 balls into the bunkers, select the best ball you may pick up the ball, fluff the sand and place the ball back on the fluffed sand to hit the ball out.**
- **When putting even with the noodles on the flag stick, all putts must end up in the hole. Putts that appear to hit the noddle and return to the putting surface will be puttied again. Putts that hit the flag stick and return to the putting surface will be puttied again.**
- 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 into the **pro shop. Please hand your scorecard to the pro shop attendant. DO NOT JUST LAY YOUR SCORECARD ON THE COUNTER AND WALK AWAY.**
- 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.

## **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.