

THURSDAY SENIOR GOLF LEAGUE

BY-LAWS

2013-2014



THURSDAY SENIOR GOLF LEAGUE OFFICERS 2013-2014

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THURSDAY SENIOR GOLF LEAGUE RULES COMMITTEE 2013-2014

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THURSDAY SENIOR GOLF LEAGUE BYLAWS 2012-2013

1.00 PURPOSE

The league has been established for the golfing enjoyment and fellowship of senior citizens of the Ocean City area.

2.00 MEMBERSHIP

2.10 ELIGIBILITY

Membership is open to anyone who has obtained a minimum age of 55.

2.20 MEMBERSHIP LIMIT

The League Rules Committee will set the number of active members. Membership limit is set at 68 golfers.

2.30 WAITING LIST

The Director - Finance and Administration will maintain a waiting list. Applicants will be added to the list and will be given the opportunity to become members on a first come, first served basis, as vacancies in the membership arise. The Board of Directors may override the current membership limit, but only under special circumstances, and only by unanimous approval.

Applicants who fill in for players who are unable, for health or other acceptable personal reasons, to participate during the current season, will have priority to return the following year providing that there are sufficient open memberships available.

2.40 CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

2.40.10 Payment of dues

Members who have failed to pay the annual dues by the designated date due, as determined by the Rules Committee each year, may be dropped from the league at the discretion of said committee. Re-application will be in accordance with section 2.30 of these bylaws.

2.40.20 Participation in League Matches

Any member who fails to compete in **at least two thirds of the league matches for two consecutive seasons** may be dropped from membership, at the discretion of the league Rules Committee.

2.50 RESIGNATIONS

2.50.10 Notification

Any member who wishes to resign is urged to notify the league Director of Finance & Administration as soon as possible so that another golfer may be chosen to become a member.

2.50.20 Refund of Dues

If any member resigns before the season begins, the annual dues, if paid, will be refunded in full. Thereafter, no refund will be made. That member will be entitled to play as a guest during the season and to attend the Year End Banquet.

3.00 ORGANIZATION

3.10 DIRECTORS

3.10.10 League Directors

The following four officials will direct league activities:
Director Finance and Administration (F & A)
Assistant Director of Finance and Administration (F & A)
Director Weekly Golf Activities (WGA)
Director Scoring, Handicaps, and Statistics (SHS)

3.10.20 Nomination of Directors

Each year, toward the end of the regular season, nominations for the succeeding year's directors are solicited from members in good standing by the Director F & A. At the general meeting on the last day of play, nominations are also accepted and are then closed. Election of the next year's directors, by position, is then achieved.

3.10.30 Term

A member may serve as a Director for two consecutive years, unless the membership agrees to an extension of the term.

3.10.40 Responsibilities

Director Finance & Administration is responsible for:

- Finances
 - Membership and Waiting List
 - Appointment of Rules Committee
- Nomination of Directors for the succeeding year
- League communications
- Publicity
- Recruitment of tournament directors
- Conduct weekly meetings
- Recruitment of volunteers to assist in the above activities

Assistant Director of Finance and Administration is responsible for:

- Scheduling negotiations with golf course management on golf fees.
- Appointment of Rules Committee
- League Schedule
- League Championship Awards
- Assist in recruiting volunteers

Director Weekly Golf Activities is responsible for:

- Weekly registration, prize pool & 50-50 collections
- Assignment of opponents, foursomes and starting holes
- Liaison with Starter regarding starting times & number of holes
- Closest-to-Pin competition

Distribution of prior week's prizes
Recruitment of volunteers to assist in the above activities
News Articles

Director of Scoring, Handicaps, and Statistics is responsible for:

Scoring instructions
Scheduling and co-ordination of volunteer scorers
Preparation of weekly statistics
Handicaps, monthly, updating and new member
Year-end statistics
Prize winners
Recruitment of volunteers to assist in the above activities

3.20 RULES COMMITTEE

The Rules Committee will consist of the four directors and at least three members appointed by the Director F&A at the beginning of each year. Normal term of service is two consecutive years.

The Rules Committee is responsible for the following:

Review and approval of league budgets and finance records
Obtaining an annual financial audit
Review and approval of the Waiting List and acceptance of new members
Interpretations and rulings on special situations and/or member appeals
Changes, additions or corrections to League Bylaws
Rulings require a minimum of four committee members' participation.
Majority votes will be necessary, unless otherwise herein stated.

4.00 FINANCE

4.10 LEAGUE DUES

As early as possible each year, the Director F&A will negotiate price and playing arrangements with the golf course management.

The Director F&A shall confirm, in writing, with the golf course management, the costs of green fees, cart and meal for all members and guests.

Dues will be set annually by the Director F&A and approved by the Rules Committee.

The money received from the annual dues will be used for League Championship and End-of-Year prizes; and also to help defray ordinary league Administrative costs.

4.20 LEAGUE BUDGET

The Director F&A prior to the start of each season, after considering the anticipated revenues and expenses for the coming year, shall prepare the league budget. The budget will be approved by the Rules Committee and then a copy is to be distributed to each member.

4.20.10 50-50

Weekly drawings may be held to help defray league administrative costs.

4.20.20 Expenses

Ordinary league expenses will include League Championship prizes, End-Of-Year prizes, supplies, copying, postage, and film and developing, gift/cards for member illness, hole-in-one gifts, prizes for winning team members of the annual Ocean City Senior League Championship, as described in section 5.30, and any such other expenses as may be deemed proper for the operation of the league.

4.20.30 Surplus

Any surplus at year-end will be used as follows:
Advance deposit, if any, as required for the following year's events Carryover to following year's general expenses, not to exceed \$600.00. Any excessive balance should be distributed to members in a form as selected by the Director F&A

4:30 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Director F&A will prepare a financial statement at the end of the season, showing actual receipts, expenses and surplus for the year just ended.

5.00 LEAGUE SCHEDULE**5.10 LEAGUE MATCHES**

Weekly league matches will be scheduled each Thursday, from early May into September, with the possible exception of the week of the annual Ocean City Senior League Championship Tournament.

5.20 YEAR END TOURNAMENT

The league will hold a Year End Tournament in September, the week following the end of the regular season. Rain date will be the following week.

5.30 INTER-LEAGUE TOURNAMENTS

There may be several joint tournaments between the TSGL and OCSGL scheduled each year. Tournaments scheduled include:

5.30.10 Pre-Season

One day a week, Tuesdays or Thursdays, in alternating years, for four weeks in April (no rain dates/makeup).

5.30.20 Spring Kick Off

First Tuesday in May, with rain date that Thursday.

5.30.30 Ocean City Senior League Championship

Tuesday of the week following the Fourth of July holiday (unless the holiday falls on a Tuesday), with rain date that Thursday. (In the event a rain date is not needed, then consideration may be given to utilizing that Thursday as a league makeup "rain date".) Each league shall provide,

annually, a minimum of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) toward prizes for the winning team.

5.40 PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF SCHEDULE

The Joint Rules Committee, consisting of the two leagues' Rules Committees, will establish the official schedule for each year, including league matches as well as joint tournaments.

The Director F&A for each league will co-ordinate the schedule with their respective golf club management and confirm the schedule dates in writing. Confirmation should include; starting times, whether shotgun or tee times, type of meals to be included, either before or after play, and estimated attendance. The Director F&A will have copies of the official schedule available for each league member.

6.00 MATCHES AND COMPETITION

6.10 WEEKLY MATCHES

Each week each member will play an eighteen-hole match against an assigned opponent. All players will tee off from the Gold Markers

A total of four points will be awarded as follows:

6.10.10 Match Play

Two points. The player winning the **most holes**, after adjustments on the appropriate holes for any handicap differential. In the event of a tie the points will be split equally.

6.10.20 Medal Play

Two points. The player with the **lowest net score**, after adjustment of any handicap differential, will be awarded two points. In the event of a tie the points will be split equally.

In both medal and match play the number of strokes given shall be 100% of the difference between the handicaps of the fellow competitors, but not to exceed eighteen. A **maximum of one stroke per hole** will be given, even if the handicap differential exceeds eighteen.

To determine the specific holes on which strokes are to be given, the handicap ratings for the **Gold tees (Senior tees)** will be utilized in all cases.

6.10.30 Incomplete Matches

If neither player completes 18 holes, the match is cancelled. No match points are to be awarded regardless of the match status when play ended.

If one player in the match leaves due to an emergency and the other player completes 18 holes, it is still an official match and the player who completes 18 holes will be matched against a player with the same or similar handicap. The player who leaves due to the emergency will not lose any points.

For the purpose of eligibility regarding league year-end prizes, any player who plays 13 or more holes will be given credit for that week's play.

6.20 COMPETITION

6.20.10 Determination of League Champions

At the end of the regular season each year, the champion of each flight will be based on the highest winning percentage in that flight.

During the last three weeks of the regular season, the top players in each flight, based on percent of wins, are to be matched against each other.

Any one player should not repeat play against the same fellow competitor more than once during those three weeks. If possible, players should not face an opponent more than twice during the season.

6.20.20 Number of weeks required

A player must compete in at least 12 (excluding rain dates) of the 18 (excluding rain dates) weeks officially played to be eligible for league prizes given at year-end.

Note: The number of weeks played excludes rainouts and cancellations. It does include any make-up dates, but will not count against a player in determining percentage of matches played should he not play in the make-up dates.

6.30 YEAR-END AWARDS

Each league flight champion shall be presented with an appropriate award in addition to the normal monetary prizes.

Other year-end prizes will be awarded in categories to be determined by the Rules Committee.

Winners will be announced and prizes will be made at the year-end outing, or at such other time that may be deemed appropriate. However, since there is to be **no multiple prize winners** (excluding the flight champion), the place of the awardees shall be announced with due recognition to the actual first place member. Funds for the prizes will be obtained from the year-end surplus in the treasury.

7.00 WEEKLY PLAY

7.10 LOCATION

The league will play at the appointed golf course each Thursday, conditions permitting.

7.20 WEEKLY SCHEDULE

7.20.10 Sign up

Daily fees will be paid at the Pro Shop prior to registering for the day's play with the league. The players and their guests will then proceed to register, pay the prize pool monies, and receive their pairings and assigned starting holes.

The fee, which includes golf, cart, meal, and server gratuity, will be agreed upon with the golf course management prior to the beginning of the season. The fee will apply to members and guests alike, except as herein specified.

7.20.20 Meal and Weekly Meeting

League members and their guests will meet at a time to be set by the Directors. A weekly league meeting will be conducted. Scorecards will be distributed and the play should commence shortly thereafter.

7.20.30 Weekly Prize Pool and other costs

The monies (\$7.00) collected will be divided as follows:

\$3.00 Prizes, \$2.00 50-50, \$1.00 for the Bag Boys, and \$1.00 in the surplus fund...

Guests will pay \$5.00, which includes 50-50 and Bag Boys, and are only eligible to win Closest to Pin prizes,

7.30 WEEKLY PRIZES

7.30.10 Flights

For the purpose of even competition for both play and weekly prizes, at least three flights will be established. Each flight will contain approximately the same number of players based on existing handicaps. The Director of Handicaps will establish flights prior to the start of each league season.

7.30.10.10 Flights

Flights will be revised **three times** during the season:
June 1st, July 1st and August 1st_

7.30.10.20 Handicaps

Handicaps will be recalculated monthly and again, immediately following the end of the regular season.

7.30.20 Prizes

The following prizes will be awarded for each week's play:

- Low gross - each flight
- Low net - each flight

Low putts - each flight
Closest-to-Pin - All Par 3s

Awards will usually be distributed the following week.

When two or more players tie for the same prize the prize money will be divided equally among those players.

When tying for Low Gross, in the event that one player is otherwise eligible to win Low Net, then that player will be awarded the Low Net as long as the prizes are equal.

Players who do not complete their round will only be eligible for Closest-to-Pin prizes.

7.30.30 Limitation on Multiple Prizes

A player who appears eligible for both gross and net awards will only be awarded the gross prize. The next lowest net scoring player will be adjudged to be eligible for that category. No player is to be awarded prizes in the same individual category (low gross, low net or low putts) for more than two consecutive weeks.

7.40 ASSIGNMENT OF OPPONENTS

7.40.10 Method of assignment

The Director of Weekly Golf Activities will assign opponents prior to the day of play. He will transmit the pairings to the responsible golf course personnel prior to the day of play. Matches will be played with opponents in the same flight who have not had a previous match to date during the season.

7.40.20 Odd number of players

If there are an odd number of total players for league play on any given week, then one player will be designated as the odd man and he will fully participate in the play.

His record of points, won/lost, will be determined at the conclusion of his round by a match of cards with another player in his same flight.

The other player's record will not be affected by this arrangement. No points will be won or lost by the other player versus the odd player.

The league will endeavor to match the odd player with another player as close to his handicap as is practical. The day's league play schedule will be revised as much as is reasonable to allow the odd player to participate in the same grouping. Every effort should be made to avoid matching cards with a player previously played that year.

7.50 ASSIGNMENT OF TEE TIMES

The Director of Weekly Activities will assign Tee Times. Groupings will be in foursomes by holes, on a Shotgun Start basis. Groups which include guests will be assigned at the Director's discretion.

The number of holes assigned will be determined by the course management and may be dictated by the number of players in attendance that day. When at,

or near, maximum attendance, up to nine holes should be made available.

8.00 HANDICAPS

8.10 METHOD

8.10.10 General

A modified USGA Handicap system will be used. This method is specific to this league and has not been sanctioned by the USGA. Nevertheless, the end result is compatible and might be utilized to arrive at an approximate handicap for other sanctioned courses.

8.10.20 Basis

Handicaps will be computed **monthly**, and will be based on the five lowest scores from each player's last ten league matches.

8.10.30 Course Slope and Rating

The present USGA Course Rating for Gold Tees (Senior) at MLGC is 66.2. The Slope is 114.

8.20 LEAGUE HANDICAP CALCULATIONS

Step 1: Compute the average of the lowest five of the last ten adjusted gross scores. Carry the result to one decimal point. Result is Average Adjusted Score (AAS). This result is used to select as an index to the HCP table to select the appropriate HCP. For compatibility with the Tuesday League follow Steps 2 and 3.

Step 2: Subtract the USGA Course Rating, 66.2. Result is Handicap Differential (HCDIFF).

Step 3: Multiply HCDIFF by .96. Round to nearest whole number. Result would be the current League Handicap (LHCP).

8.30 CONVERTING TO HANDICAPS FOR OTHER COURSES.

Step 1: Multiply LHCP by 113, which is the default slope rating, and then divide by the official course slope rating of 114. Result is the USGA Handicap Index (Index).

Step 2: In the event the course where you wish to utilize the Index does not have a conversion table converting your Index to an applicable handicap then you may divide your current Index by 113. Carry the result four decimal places. Then multiply the result by the slope rating of the desired course. Round out to the nearest whole number and you will have a handicap for use at that course. Remember, our local rules may have an effect on your LHCP.

8.40 HANDICAPS FOR NEW MEMBERS

New members are required to play a minimum of three rounds at the league's appointed golf course, accompanied by at least one league member prior to that member's first official league match.

All rounds are to be played from the gold tees and league playing rules followed. Scorecards will be submitted to the league director responsible for handicaps. These scores will be the new member's initial handicap.

Handicaps will be computed following the procedure in 8.10 Method. The number of adjusted scores to be utilized will vary depending on the number of rounds submitted up to that time:

If 3 or 4 scores, then use the best... 2
If 5 or 6 scores, then use the best ...3
If 7 or 8 scores, then use the best ...4
If 9 scores, then use the best....5

A prospective member must achieve a starting handicap no higher than 36 (USGA max) before he can become a member and play in a match.

NOTE: All member handicaps will be limited to a maximum of 40. Only those members whose handicaps have continuously exceeded that total since the implementation of the current standards are permitted to retain a higher handicap. However, they are not to exceed a handicap of 44. Once a 40 Handicap is achieved by any of those members; it cannot later be increased above the 40 maximum for that particular member.

9.00 RULES OF PLAY

USGA Rules of Play shall apply except for the following League Local Rules.

9.10 IMPROVED LIES

Players may improve the lie in the fairway and rough (tree line to tree line) by rolling the ball over with the HEAD OF THE CLUB ONLY, without penalty.

9.10.10 Club Saver Exceptions- Only After Notifying Your Opponent

If a ball comes to rest on a stony area (including in the trees or woods), a player may lift the ball and smooth the area so that the club may not be damaged and the ball replaced in the exact same spot, without penalty.

If a ball comes to rest on a rock or root, the player may move the ball up to six inches without penalty, BUT ONLY WITH THE HEAD OF THE CLUB.

The ball may not be moved to avoid an obstruction or gain a more favorable angle. The line of flight should remain of equal difficulty. A ball lying against a tree trunk cannot be moved without penalty.

In a sand trap, if the ball comes to rest in a footprint or rut, the player may choose to lift the ball, rake the spot LEVEL, and replace the ball in the same spot. This exception is for the player's benefit and is NOT to be abused.

9.10.20 Unplayable lie

If a player declares a ball unplayable he shall, under penalty of one additional stroke:

A. Play the ball as nearly as possible from the spot where the ball **was removed**

B. Drop the ball **within two club lengths** of the spot where the ball lay **but no nearer the hole.**

C. Drop a ball behind the point where the ball lay, keeping that point directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with **no limit** to how far behind that point the ball may be dropped.

9.10.30 Lost Ball and/or Out of Bounds

Drop another ball, with a one-stroke penalty, anywhere along a straight line from where the ball was last hit and the point where it may be lost, or went out of bounds. Player may declare, and then play, a provisional ball, or replacement ball, in accordance with USGA Rules.

9.10.40 Hitting the wrong ball

Beginning in 2008, USGA Rule 12-2 and 15-3 allow a golfer to lift a ball for identification in a bunker or water hazard.

If a player hits the wrong ball he shall incur a **two-stroke penalty** in medal play, and **loss of the hole** in match play.

For medal play he must **also** replace that ball at the previous spot, counting all strokes made, and proceed accordingly with the proper ball, or a replacement ball, and counting all necessary strokes and/or distance penalties.

9.20 PUTTS

All players must hole the ball out on each hole.

THERE IS TO BE NO "GIMMES", REGARDLESS OF SCORE OR TIME OF PLAY.

9.30 MAXIMUM SCORE PER HOLE

Every stroke must be counted, as league competition includes various weekly, as well as year-end, awards in stroke play. **There is no maximum.**

10.00 SCORECARDS

10.10 GENERAL

Members are to complete the applicable scorecards in accordance with league instructions. Both players must sign the applicable completed card.

In the event that a player must match cards with another, that other player will be requested to also sign the card. The Director Scoring, Handicaps, and Statistics will be responsible for the processing of the cards in a timely manner.

10.20 SCORECARD INFORMATION

The scorecard will reflect each player's last name, handicap (with the higher handicap player listed on the higher lines of the card), gross score and number of putts for each hole. "+" (plus) will be placed in the section applicable to the player winning a particular hole. The card will then be totaled after the finish of the last hole.

A stamp, imprint, or similar device, will be affixed externally to each scorecard, and will be completed at the conclusion of the match. That stamp, et al, will enable the players to properly summarize the match.

10.30 ADJUSTED STROKES

The league has chosen to utilize the USGA Equitable Stroke Control Table for maximum number of strokes allowed on any hole (As relates to maintaining a competitive handicap. In competition, **all strokes** count.)

Maximum strokes are:

Handicap 0-9	Maximum strokes...6
Handicap 10-19	maximum strokes...7
Handicap 20-29	maximum strokes...8
Handicap 30-39	maximum strokes...9
Handicap 40-	maximum strokes... 10

11.00 MEMBER PARTICIPATION

Members should make every reasonable effort to participate each week.

In the event that a member cannot play a particular week, he should contact the **Director of Weekly Golf Activities** as soon as possible, but no later than the Tuesday proceeding the day of play, *in* order that a viable schedule of opponents may be prepared.

12.00 INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of inclement weather, or other applicable circumstances, **call either your captain or the course**, to determine the status of play for that day.

In the event the course is open and the conditions later deteriorate, then the members present will determine as to whether to delay the start of play or to cancel play for that day. That decision must be communicated to the course management in a timely manner.

In order for the week to become official there must be at least sixteen members tee off and at least eight matches completed. Failing that requirement, no scores or results will be valid.

13.00 GUESTS

While guests are welcome, **they are not encouraged** due to the size of our league.

A limit of four total guests per week, one per member, is recommended.

They should be presented, on a first come, first served basis, to the Director of Weekly Golf Activities as early in the week as practical.

Guests are to be limited to three visits per season. Depending on scheduling, a guest may not be able to participate in a particular group.

14.00 TERMINATION OF THE LEAGUE

The league may be terminated at any time by majority vote of all members. Prior to July 4th, any money in the treasury will be distributed equally to all members. Thereafter, all League Championship prizes will be awarded and subsequently the balance of monies in the treasury distributed equally to all members.