

CELEBRATING 29 YEARS OF SINGLES GOLF® IN AMERICA

THE VILLAGES SINGLES GOLF

The Villages Chapter - American Singles Golf Association - February 2021

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST - GOLF AT MONARCH



President's Corner

Hopefully, when we all get the vaccine we can start having our socials. The VILLAGES CHAPTER will be taking

over the Florida Cup this year from the Jacksonville chapter. We will get credit for doing this, and it saves us a great deal of time because they have done a lot of the preliminary work. We will need volunteers to help with registration, 50/50, raffle prizes, etc., and golf coordinators.

If anyone is computer savvy, **Beth Disque** could use some help with transferring/updating website information from 'PerfectGolf'.

Stay healthy and enjoy golf.

~Abram Scherbekow, 1967goat@comcast.net

PLEASE VOLUNTEER. WE NEED YOUR HELP TO RUN OUR CHAPTER.



New Member Chairperson

Welcome New Members!

Carol McNeal 352-753-3776
cmcneal8@centurylink.net
Reeta Brendamour 513-607-8243
rhb537@gmail.com
Tony Marmo 717-448-8354
tonymarmo@comcast.net
Don Nelson 352-999-2322
donnelsonhome@outlook.com
Michael Busch 734-646-5909
mjbusch67@gmail.com
Yvonne Auxier 352-410-2110
teeupwithyvonne@aol.com
Craig Schoenrock 201-887-7782
cfsdvm@live.com
Phyllis Tess 954-393-8448
pltess52@yahoo.com
Gerry Oliver 314-363-5215
gerryo2@swbell.net

Elizabeth Shaban 914-393-6637
eshaban0603
Bruce Scher 516-220-2669
bms412@aol.com

FYI: The chapter has a newly revised Member Handbook. It's available to read and print on the chapter website at the bottom of the home page. The handbook covers our website, signing up for events, guidance for our golf events, social activities and even using Google Sheets on mobile devices. It has already been sent, along with a welcome letter, to all members joining since January.

~Connie May, constancejmay@gmail.com



Golf Chair

Email notices will update golfing events.

~Ron Horte,
rhorte@yahoo.com

NATIONAL EVENT INFORMATION

Events Open to All Members Nationwide

FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE

Multi-Chapter Events (MCEs) will be curtailed until we begin to feel safe to travel. ASGA National expects our next event will be Memorial Day Weekend, 2021, if that. We're all hoping for success with the vaccine distribution. If things appear to be improving, we may plan a trip to Scotland for August or the Barcelona side of Spain for September of 2021. A return trip to Cabo may be in the offing as well. These three locations represent the best turnouts in ASGA's history since we started doing events outside of our country ten years ago. Stay tuned!

LOCAL CHAPTER INFORMATION

Regular Meeting Date

On Hold

Next Meeting

TBD

Location

Rohan Rec Center

Our Chapter Website: asgavillagesflorida.net

(See next page for list of officers and board members.)

National Office

Office Hours: 9:00am to 2:00pm, M-F (Eastern)

National Office: 980-833-6450 or 1-888-GOLFMATE

Go to www.SinglesGolf.com/MyAccount to make changes to your address, phone, etc. To join or renew your dues, go to www.SinglesGolf.com/join

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The Villages Chapter
of the
American Singles Golf Association



Chairman of the Board
Mary Joy
Mjoy122@yahoo.com
630-323-4829

President
Abram Scherbekow
1967goat@comcast.net
916-837-3025

Golf Chairperson
Ron Horte
rhorte@yahoo.com
757-334-4842

Social Chairperson
Kathy McManus
Anniefox121@yahoo.com
513-543-4700

Membership Chairperson
Connie May
constancejmay@gmail.com
847-732-2003

Communications Chairperson
Beth Disque
villagesasga@gmail.com
352-633-5673

Secretary
Patricia Van Horn
vanhornpat@gmail.com
352-461-8359

Treasurer
Larkin Fields
larkinwfields@gmail.com
704-576-5566

Newsletter
Open

Monday Priority Golf
Larry Sheets
Lga313@yahoo.com
404-229-7985

Monday Executive Golf
Brent Mitchell
Mitchellbom@hotmail.com

Thursday Priority Golf
Marcia Smith
ommsmith@gmail.com
631-603-8773

Thursday Executive Golf
Mary Joy
Mjoy122@yahoo.com
630-323-4829

Friday Executive Golf (October to April)
Charlene Barton
Charlene_barton@yahoo.com
301-580-6065

Friday Nine and Dine (May to Oct)
Jack Parker
Jacpar4105@aol.com
910-987-1178

Saturday 18 Hole Golf
Chris Avent
cwavent@msn.com
952-999-0589

WeCare/Sunshine
Rose McGurk
Clubgolfer2009@gmail.com
407-310-1586

Advisor
Jeri Spriggs
jerispriggs@gmail.com
407-810-0033

Hole-in-One

Congratulations to **Lois Schwartz** for a hole-in-one on number 7 at Okeechobee while golfing with ASGA on January 21. As a member of the hole-in-one pool, Lois will receive \$100 from ASGA for this awesome accomplishment. (Read the information at the end of this newsletter about how to get into the hole-in-one pools.)



MONDAY 18-HOLE CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF (MCG)

Monday 18-hole championship golf is limited to 32 players. You must be a priority member to sign up for the Monday championship golf group. After we have been assigned our tee times, an email will be sent to all ASGA members, including non-priority members. If there are any openings, non-priority members can sign up for the openings through the tee time system. We generally have 12 to 20 golfers, and we follow golf with dinner in the country club restaurant. Sign up at the ASGA website/Events Calendar/ Monday Priority Golf. Points and money games have been suspended, for now.
~Larry Sheets, lga313@yahoo.com



THURSDAY 18 HOLE CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF (TCG)



Thursday Championship Golf is now being played in the afternoon wave with tee times usually starting at 11:56 a.m. Sign up is closed at NOON on the Friday before the week we play, and any requests for a playing partner or guest should be made by then, also. You must have a Priority Membership to sign up, but any openings after we receive our reservation are available on a first one to contact me basis by text/call to 631-603-8773. If you do not have a Priority Membership and would like to play the Championship courses occasionally, feel free to contact me the week before and I will put you on a waitlist and do my best to fit you in.

~Marcia Smith, ommsmith@gmail.com



MONDAY 9 HOLE EXECUTIVE GOLF (MEG)

Please join us. In general, we will try to get golf courses between 466 and 466a, with tee times between 10:30 and 11:30. We generally use the scramble game format we have used for many years. (\$2, per player, with prizes, at the after-golf social.) The Villages has relaxed many of the Covid rules, however, most golfers are still using their own golf cart. All are welcome. Walkers are always welcome. Please sign up on the ASGA website\ Calendar\Monday Executive Golf or use the links included in the Monday golf emails.

~Roni Feldblum, nori10065@gmail.com

THURSDAY 9 HOLE EXECUTIVE GOLF (TEG)



Please join us Thursdays as we play the executive golf courses in The Villages. All are welcome. If you don't have a golf cart, we will pair you with someone who does. Walkers are always welcome. The emphasis is enjoying a round of golf with friends. Please sign up on the ASGA website\ Calendar\Thursday Executive Golf.

~Lydia Merriweather, dancer5763@gmail.com



FRIDAY EXECUTIVE GOLF

Charlene Barton will be coordinating Friday Executive Golf on the 2nd and 4th Friday's of the month.

To sign up for Friday Executive Golf - use the EXECUTIVE GOLF Signup sheet on our website.

~Charlene Barton, charlene_barton@yahoo.com



SATURDAY 18 HOLE CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF

Happy New year to all. I have taken over the Saturday Golf duties from Chris Avent. Many Thanks to Chris for the awesome job he did for the group. I look forward to playing with most of you as we go forward. I have some great courses on the schedule for the upcoming months.

February we will be playing CC of Mt. Dora 2/6 and Monarch which will be played on SUNDAY 2/21. Monarch is a short fun course that is normally in great shape. The restaurant will be open after play, and is very good. I am also looking into a possible 3 day getaway on one of the coasts for this summer; playing golf 2 days. Once I get some details I will let you know.

We are collecting \$3 for prizes based on quota points, and closest-to-the-pin prizes. We will have a socially responsible gathering after the game to collect money and points, and distribute prizes. If you have any course suggestions, send them to **Kathy Notley**, and she will evaluate to see if the suggestion can fit into our schedule.

Saturday golf provides a venue for both Priority and Non-priority members and guests, to experience golfing and socializing with our ASGA membership. Sign up on the ASGA website calendar.

~Kathy Notley, katnot72@gmail.com



SOCIAL CHAIR

Hoping we are all staying healthy in the new year. The sad news is that there will be no meeting in February because of the COVID-19 virus. And once again, it will be wait and see for the month of March.

Happy hour will be at Edna's on the Green on the second Friday in February beginning at 4pm. Please bring your own chair and wear a mask. If you have any symptoms of the COVID-19 virus, please stay home.

~Kathy McManus, anniefox121@yahoo.com



Secretary

Minutes will be taken at monthly meetings when the latter resume.

~Pat Van Horn,

vanhornpat@gmail.com



Pickle ball courts are reserved for ASGA players twice a week.

Canal Street Rec. Center

on Wednesdays from 12 - 1:50 p.m.

Bacall Rec Center on Fridays from 12 - 1:50 p.m.

We have extended Friday's activities to include the Bocci and Shuffleboard areas at Bacall. Mark your calendar for all Friday's, 12:00 to 2:00 for Bacall Recreation Center - Bocci Golf and Shuffleboard!! Beginners welcome!

Bocci Golfers - please bring your putter and two (2) golf balls. Dick Skinner will be on hand to teach Bocci Golf to any members at that time. Thank you, Dick Skinner!!

Please join us for friendly pickleball, shuffleboard, bocci, and bocci golf. All levels are welcome.

Remember to bring your own water!

Balls are provided, and supplies are available to clean the balls. All 4 nets are up, and the benches are back. Hope to see you there!

~Beth Disque



USEFUL LINKS FOR GOLFERS

4 steps to improve your game (video):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6uBBuVnbtDs>

10 Tips to improve your beginner game (read):

<https://theleftrough.com/golf-tips/>

Consistently break 90 (read):

<https://pluggedingolf.com/how-to-break-90/>



HOLE-IN-ONE FUND

The Villages ASGA started voluntary hole-in-one insurance funds for both executive and championship golf in January 2018. Those who choose to participate, pay \$5.00 into the "pot" (or \$10 to be included in both pots). If you get a hole-in-one while playing in any Villages ASGA golf event (executive, championship, or nine & dine), you will receive \$100 at the next ASGA Monthly Social.

We made it for one year with our Executive Hole-in-One pot, but needed a replenishment in January 2019. The original Championship pot is still healthy. If you haven't joined the pool and if you play golf with ASGA, now would be a good time to get your name on the list(s)... just in case.

We know that the odds of one of us making a hole-in-one are 12,500 to 1, but just think of how many of our fellow Village ASGA members have scored an ace. We've already paid out \$800 to members who have had holes-in-one. (Six is the average number of hole-in-

TREASURER'S REPORT



Beginning Funds Available (PayPal & Checking) \$6414.35
12/31/2020

Receipts (Membership Dues & Scrambles) \$ 686.25

Less Disbursements (New Website, Scrambles, etc) \$3149.72

Ending Funds Available (PayPal & Checking) \$3950.88
01/27/2021

~Larkin Fields, larkinwfields@gmail.com

ones per day in The Villages!) We all have a chance to get lucky!

Don't delay. Hurry and get your name on the participant list. PLEASE DO NOT PAY UNTIL YOU CHECK THE LIST TO SEE IF YOUR NAME IS ALREADY ON IT.

Below are the links you need to get started or you can find the information on our web site at: https://asgavillagesflorida.net/Golf_Info.html

List of Executive Hole-in-one fund participants – Please check before paying <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1sk3Wq1hkjm2qW1mdu5DquSbJvr6GK0wdBxcX1NahX3l/edit#gid=0>

List of Championship hole-in-one fund participants – Please check before paying [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1OB-](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1OB-MZv2oPdKlumr8hsyMRTOWKvDGcg9p-pH2b1qTkVYc/edit#gid=0)

[MZv2oPdKlumr8hsyMRTOWKvDGcg9p-pH2b1qTkVYc/edit#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1OB-MZv2oPdKlumr8hsyMRTOWKvDGcg9p-pH2b1qTkVYc/edit#gid=0)

PayPal link for Executive hole-in-one fund - https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s

Please note that names will be added to the lists usually within 24 hours after we receive notice from PayPal that you have paid.

~Beth Disque Website/Communications

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

(THIS REPORT RAN 02/08/2021)

Happy Birthday to these members:

Judy Biernat - 02/25
Donna Blackburn - 02/18
Donna Bulthuis - 02/05
Wilson Burgess - 02/26
Phil Busacco - 03/14
Margaret Butler - 02/28
Carol Curtiss - 03/02
Richard Dawson - 03/10
Mary Beth Disque - 02/16
Allen Edmison - 03/12
Phillip Ellis - 02/01
Ken Falls - 03/02
Pamela Frase - 02/08
Robert Furphy - 02/07
Karen Gearhart - 02/09
V Faye Gibson - 02/24
Judith Grande - 02/14
Elizabeth Gualfetti - 03/08
Pamela Guilmet - 03/13
James Hamilton - 03/01
Jim Hanson - 02/01
Elizabeth Helsel - 02/18

Michael Homschek - 02/08
Kathy Hoover - 02/17
Leo Houston - 03/14
Judith Jackson - 02/25
Joetta Jones - 03/13
Daniel Joyce - 03/13
Lucy Kelly - 02/23
Maureen Kenney - 02/16
William Kincannon - 02/22
Richard Kolb - 03/12
Vickie Langkam - 02/23
Susan Leoni - 02/01
Lorna Litton - 02/15
Kathy Maloney - 03/15
Michael Mello - 03/11
Ellen Mowles - 03/07
Susan Pugatchenko - 02/03
Lee Robinson - 02/06
Alex Santoriello - 02/09
Linda Saul - 02/05
Abram Scherbekow - 02/13
Jimmy Sheppard - 03/05
James Taylor - 02/14
Mary Thomas - 03/04
Kristine Tygrett - 03/10
Thomas Weldy - 03/03
Mike Willeford - 02/15
Barbara Wysocki - 02/14

These members are up for renewal:

(date shown is last day of membership)

Patricia Allard - 02/28/2021
Nancy Berg - 02/28/2021
Judy Brushingham - 02/28/2021
Georgia Carli - 02/28/2021
Craig Chalkley - 02/28/2021
David Colbert - 02/28/2021
Bonnie Cook - 02/28/2021
Justin Doll - 02/28/2021
Carol Donovan - 02/28/2021
Allen Edmison - 02/28/2021
Catherine Fallon - 02/28/2021
V Faye Gibson - 02/28/2021
Nancy Gipe - 02/28/2021
Pamela Guilmet - 02/28/2021
Donna Harpoe - 02/28/2021
Dianna Hinsenkamp - 02/28/2021
Richard Kolb - 02/28/2021
Vickie Langkam - 02/28/2021
Annette Leonhard - 02/28/2021
Carolee Litwinka - 02/28/2021
Kent McClean - 02/28/2021
Brent Mitchell - 02/28/2021
Ken Moreau - 02/28/2021
Jefferson Mott - 02/28/2021
Michael Mullins - 02/28/2021

Daniel T O'Connell - 02/28/2021
Daniel Pereira - 02/28/2021
Diane Prather - 02/28/2021
Donald Rogers - 02/28/2021
Carol Snyder - 02/28/2021
Sandy Stanton - 02/28/2021
Richard Stenzhorn - 02/28/2021
Cynthia Swift - 02/28/2021
Judith Waidelich - 02/28/2021

Welcome newest members:

Yvonne Auxier - Joined 01/15/2021
Reeta Brendamour - Joined 01/05/2021
Michael Busch - Joined 01/13/2021
Ed Casmere - Joined 01/29/2021
Simon Goujon - Joined 01/04/2021
Anthony Marmo - Joined 01/13/2021
Carol McNeal - Joined 01/06/2021
Don Nelson - Joined 01/13/2021
Gerry Oliver - Joined 01/25/2021
Bruce Scher - Joined 01/25/2021
Craig Schoenrock - Joined 01/19/2021
Susie Sherlock - Joined 01/28/2021

These members recently renewed:

Sandy Cain
Barbara Celentino
Michael Conley
John Davis
Ken Falls
Diane Futrelle
Lee Hayes
Elizabeth Higgins
Eric Jensen
Raymond Kreis
Dorine LeBlanc
Ray Marcos
Constance May
Donald McCarty
John Mitchell
Kayla Rarey
Fred Robinson
Marianne Rogers
Arlene Ruberti
Warren Rydell
Linda Sanfilippo
Elizabeth Shaban
Phyllis Tess
Gerald Walford

These members did not renew their dues:

(date shown is date membership expired)
Andy Bienvenu - 01/31/2021
Elaine Bondie - 01/31/2021
Diane Boss - 12/31/2020

Karen Brennan - 01/31/2021
 Martin Bucher - 01/31/2021
 Anthony Cutillo - 01/31/2021
 Pete Daub - 12/31/2020
 Dante Fiocca - 01/31/2021
 Rich Fruin - 12/31/2020
 Alfred Gipson - 01/31/2021
 Carolyn Goldstein - 12/31/2020
 Drew Harrington - 12/31/2020
 Elizabeth Hollmann - 12/31/2020
 Susanne Howells - 12/31/2020
 Debbie Johnson - 12/31/2020
 Rick Johnson - 01/31/2021
 Pat Lake - 01/31/2021
 Peter Lilly - 01/31/2021
 Kimberly Michaels - 01/31/2021
 Cynthia Moore - 01/31/2021
 Ronald Myers - 01/31/2021
 Richard Peterson - 01/31/2021
 Patty Pope - 12/31/2020
 Jean Puckett - 01/31/2021
 Richard Reaume - 12/31/2020
 Mary Lou Riccio - 01/31/2021
 Patricia Tillman - 01/31/2021
 Margaret Walker - 12/31/2020
 Eleanor Walsh - 01/31/2021
 David Welch - 12/31/2020
 Roger Worsley - 01/31/2021

To renew your dues today, go to
SinglesGolf.com/renew If you wish to
 renew over the phone, call 980-833-6450,
 M-F, 9-2 Eastern Time.

Our chapter currently has 343 members.



Put Yourself In Position To Hit A Solid Tee Ball

~By David Leadbetter, *GolfDigest.com*

If you struggle to hit a good tee ball, you're not alone. I've found that many times the easiest way to get a player to learn a skill or correct a mistake is to have them overemphasize the movement needed to execute the task—or even do the opposite of what they're doing, so they can find middle ground. I call this teaching philosophy the art of exaggeration. Here's a great example of overemphasizing a move to get you to swing with proper width, so you can hit better tee shots.

Many amateurs mistakenly bend the right arm almost as soon as they start the backswing. This pulls the club up and inside the target line way too soon, narrowing the swing arc and putting the club in poor position for the proper through-swing. Remember, your goal with a driver is to sweep the ball from the tee, not hit down on it like you would with an iron off the turf. As your club approaches the ball, it should be on a shallow path—as if it's tracing the ground—and your arms should be as long as they were at address. That's what I mean when I say proper width.

If tee shots are one of the weakest parts of your game, you need to work on your takeaway. What you really want is a relatively straight right arm during the initial part of the backswing, as this promotes width. The move to accentuate is keeping the right arm on top of the left as you take the club back for as long as you can.

As your upper body rotates away from the target, your right arm will fold under the left naturally. But the key is to focus on the right staying on top of the left during the takeaway. It sets you up to really launch your drives better than ever.



Thank You 2020 Volunteers!

ASGA chapters would not exist without the effort of local volunteers *who make your life more enjoyable*. They book the golf outings, social events, do membership committee work and handle the communications you receive through emails, your newsletter and website postings. So a **big thank you** to those who stepped forward to make a difference in 2020. Names in **BOLD** are members who held chairperson positions within the chapter:

2020 Chapter Presidents

Marian Gogola, Albany
Carmine Manicone, Asheville
Mike Lawton, Boston
Alice Zyks, Chicago
Donna Lawson, Cincinnati
Michael Bowyer, Dallas-Ft. Worth
Sandi Smith, Denver
Rich Zdunczyk, Hartford
Dolores Scardine, Indianapolis
Claudia Skarvinko, Jacksonville
Miles Hartley, Kansas City
Pat French, LA-Orange County
Bob Puglis, North Jersey
Carolyn Aldorfer, Orlando
Marc Levinson, Palm Beach County
Dianne Gardner, Palm Springs
Kurt Kraenbring, Philadelphia
Mike Young, Pinehurst
Fred Weinberg, Sarasota
Pat Bonner, Seattle
Kim McIntyre, SE Michigan
Lola Arena, SW Florida
Roberta Clark, Tampa Bay
Mary Joy, The Villages
Terrie Juba, Tucson
Dan Morris, Washington DC

Board Chairpersons

Mary (Bunny) Antonellis, Boston
Ruth Wiechmann Browne, Chicago
Tim Maybury, Cincinnati
William Wray, Dallas-Ft. Worth
Debbie Misrack, Denver
Rick Avery, Hartford
Rick Buie, Kansas City

Tom Connolly, North Jersey
Andy Knisley, Sarasota
Marcy Tufarolo, Seattle
Nelson Greaves, SE Michigan
Dottie Hockey, The Villages

Golf Committee Members

Deb Ptansinki, Albany
Sandy Kunz, Albany
Andy Anderson, Asheville
Janice Schneider, Boston
Marie Bush, Chicago
Marsha Barnholtz, Cincinnati
Dave Forney, Cincinnati
Steve Verret, Denver
Hank Denst, Denver
Paul Masimer, Denver
Cheryl Woodin, Hartford
Ann Van Ness, Indianapolis
Wayne Fullington, Jacksonville
Gerri Pulaski, Kansas City
David Martin, Kansas City
Pat Pack, North Jersey
Bob Driscoll, Orlando
Rich Levy, Palm Beach County
Barbara Nuismer, Palm Springs
Lori Alvarez, Philadelphia
Kathy Slotter, Pinehurst
Butch Lundren, Pinehurst
Earl Quam, Pinehurst
Mike Young, Pinehurst
Shirley Mandarino, Sarasota
Janet Swanson, Seattle
Tish Gordon, SE Michigan
Suzanne Schmidt, SW Florida
Nathan Pearlman, Tampa Bay
Sarah Brown, Tampa Bay

Jane Boyle, The Villages
Larry Sheets, The Villages
Carol Sexton, The Villages
Jeanne Simmons, The Villages
Marcia Smith, The Villages
Tom Boylan, The Villages
Charlene Barton, The Villages
Jack Parker, The Villages
Chris Avent, The Villages
Sue Sleasman, Tucson
Charlie Walters, Washington DC
Ruth D'Alessandro, Washington DC

Social Committee Members

Kathleen Patterson, Albany
Kathie Alonso, Asheville
Paula Fish, Boston
Dianne Williams, Boston
Kathi Brown, Chicago
Sharon Meyer, Chicago
Donna Lawson, Cincinnati
Dawn Mason, Cincinnati
Lynne Lustig, Dallas-Ft. Worth
Karen Doebelin, Denver
Barbara Mahoney, Hartford
Barbara Dean, Jacksonville
Kay Fore, Kansas City
Dan Fagan, Kansas City
Camille McEntee, North Jersey
Christine Giancola, North Jersey
Virginia Borchert, Orlando
Barbara Arnold, Palm Beach County
Caroline Brinker, Philadelphia
Ray Druss, Pinehurst
Pat Koubek, Pinehurst
Bobbi Amato, Pinehurst
Kathie Alexander, Sarasota

Pat Walsh, Seattle
Barb Schuler, SE Michigan
Jeanne Prior, SW Florida
Sandra Fulton, Tampa Bay
Charlene Emmett, Tampa Bay
Ken McGray, The Villages
Susan Olson, Tucson
Alicia McCarthy, Washington DC

Membership Committee

Members

Tim Ryan, Albany
Mary Fields, Asheville
Marla Dolan, Boston
Richard Bachman, Chicago
Jim Rybolt, Cincinnati
Joyce Flatt, Dallas-Ft. Worth
Tony Tierney, Denver
Dee DiMauro, Hartford
Nancy Elliott, Hartford
Robert Corbett, Indianapolis
Claudia Skarvinko, Jacksonville
Steve Arrington, Jacksonville
Anita Mooney, Kansas City
Penny Zadeh, Kansas City
Julie Good, LA-Orange County
Bill Fanaras, North Jersey
Leni Tamboer, North Jersey
Pam Reese, Orlando
Nikki Rineer, Philadelphia
Patty Allan, Pinehurst
Pat Hruska, Pinehurst
Linda Davis, Sarasota
Jennifer Krause, Seattle
Carolyn Arlen, SE Michigan
Andrew Fox, SW Florida
Linda Floyd, Tampa Bay
Nancy Hartshorn, The Villages
Cami Trowbridge, Tucson
Tom Huckabay, Tucson
Kathie Hiatt, Washington DC

Communications Committee

Members

Jack Aernecke, Albany
Hank Parish, Asheville

Terry Starr-Klein, Boston
Cindy Pausic, Chicago
Kathy Hendrickson, Chicago
Peggy Layton, Cincinnati
Linda Muller, Dallas-Ft. Worth
Fredlee Shore, Denver
Rick Avery, Hartford
JoAnne Ratermann, Indianapolis
Terry McFarland, Jacksonville
Jan O'Dell, Kansas City
Pam McFadden, LA-Orange County
Donna Beland, North Jersey
Linda Marcet, Orlando
Carrie Duncan, Palm Springs
Christine Brady, Philadelphia
Scott Smith, Pinehurst
Jim High, Pinehurst
Jim Johndrow, Sarasota
Sue Haley, Seattle
Patricia McKenna, SE Michigan
Linda Brown, SW Florida
Beth Disque, The Villages
Ken Katafias, Tucson
BJ Barger, Washington DC
Francine Vigliotti, Washington DC

Chapter Secretaries

Gary O'Brien, Albany
Michele Anderson, Asheville
Dave MacTavish, Boston
Christine Coyne, Chicago
Diane Kerley, Cincinnati
Elaine Tracey, Denver
Carole Grady, Hartford
Sharon Johnson, Kansas City
Corinne Cullison, North Jersey
Mitzi Seem, Orlando
Joe Cifune, Palm Beach County
Katie Serbin, Philadelphia
Eileen Merchant, Sarasota
Judy Cupp, SE Michigan
Barb Hughes, SW Florida
Beverly Houghton, Tampa Bay
Marianne Rogers, The Villages
Deborah DeCuir, Tucson

Chapter Treasurers

Paul Clark, Albany
Mary Shanahan, Asheville
John Crockett, Boston
Deborah Backman, Chicago
Ann Wassmann, Cincinnati
Murray Tanner, Dallas-Ft. Worth
Patty Robinson, Denver
Ken Maher, Hartford
Jay Hufferd, Indianapolis
Joan Drew, Jacksonville
Donna Mallard, Kansas City
Geri Powder, North Jersey
Steve Hall, Orlando
Rich Levy, Palm Beach County
Donna Wolfe, Palm Springs
Paul O'Connell, Philadelphia
Jim Legg, Pinehurst
Mary Buckley, Sarasota
Mary Yax, Seattle
Cheryl Balconi, SE Michigan
Lee Ann Parkinson, SW Florida
Rich Kreger, Tampa Bay
Ron Horte, The Villages
Cathy Kammerer, Tucson
Rita Daley, Washington DC

Other Positions

Noreen Matt, Nine & Dine, Albany
Rita Roberti, Nine & Dine, Albany
Mary Lynn, Zoom Meetings, Boston
Robin Rash, Legal Counsel, Chicago
Tim Ryan, Webmaster, Chicago
John Eudy, Handicaps, Hartford
Ken Maher, Meetup & HASGA Cup, Hartford
Patricia Patton, Vice-President, Kansas City
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COVID-19 Rules and Handicapping FAQs

The guidance below supplements a memo released by the USGA as to how the Rules of Golf and Rules of Handicapping apply in response to questions received from golf course owners, administrators, tournament organizers and golfers. As was noted in that memo, it is not the intended purpose of the below guidance to either encourage or discourage anyone from playing the game, but rather, in our governance role, to help golf course operators, committees and golfers better understand how the Rules of Golf and Rules of Handicapping apply to the various questions we have received.

The questions received fit into four main topics. In each of the four topics below, the guidance provided serves both to directly answer the questions asked as well as cover additional considerations that might also serve useful.

FLAGSTICK

May a course remove all flagsticks to minimize the possibility of exposing players to coronavirus?

May a committee introduce a code of conduct that does not allow players to remove (or even touch) the flagstick?

- The flagstick serves an important purpose in the game of golf – that is as an indicator to a player as to where the hole is located on the putting green or a target for shots.
- If a Committee decides to set-up a golf course without flagsticks, consideration should be given as to how best to support such a decision by providing players the location of each hole on the green. Whether this is general guidance (such as in the right front portion) or through a detailed hole-location sheet.
- As another means of minimizing exposure to players, a Committee might decide to introduce a code of conduct that prohibits players from touching or removing the flagstick. As is authorized under Rule 1.2b, such a code could also include penalties (such as one penalty stroke or the general penalty) if a player is in breach of its standards.
- Before a Committee decides to introduce such a restriction, it is recommended that consideration be given to the fact that removing the flagstick is an instinctual, even automated, act for many players. Drafting such a code of conduct to restrict only deliberate acts to affect the outcome of the hole would be reflective of that reality and would mean that a player who instinctually removes the flagstick would not get a penalty in doing so.
- If a Committee takes any of the above actions, it is at the discretion of the Committee whether scores would be acceptable for handicap purposes.

BUNKERS AND BUNKER RAKES

We have removed all bunker rakes from our course to help stop the spread of coronavirus. What options do we have for players who end up in unraked areas?

- By removing rakes from the course, the Committee has various options as to how best to address the likely possibility of a player's ball coming to rest in an unmaintained area of sand and should consider which is the best approach under your unique circumstances.
- If you have limited play and most players at your course use a golf cart, the best approach might be to ask that each player takes a rake with them.
- If it is decided that no additional Rules will be put into effect to deal with these areas, it would be advisable to strongly encourage that players try their best to smooth the disturbed area with a foot or a club.
- Additional options could include changing the status of bunkers to be part of the general area. This would give players additional options under multiple relief rules (Rules 16 and 19) and would remove the restrictions normally in effect under Rule 12.
- Ground under repair could be used in two different manners. The first being to declare all bunkers to be ground under repair and treat them as part of the general area. This would allow players the option to take free relief outside the bunker under Rule 16.1. The second is to treat disturbed areas only as ground under repair. This would still allow a player free relief from such areas, but would require such relief to be taken elsewhere within the bunker.
- As a last resort, we have fielded questions as to whether a Committee may add a preferred local rule that would allow a player to place the ball elsewhere in a bunker without penalty (such as within one club length of where the ball came to rest). While that may seem like a good option in that it requires players to play from the bunker, there will be times when no effective relief would be available to a player, such as when a bunker is frequently played from and large areas are unraked. It would be recommended that the other options, such as those listed above are considered first, noting that using

the ground under repair options above ensure a player will get full relief and when dropping from knee height, balls very rarely plug.

- If a Committee takes any of the above actions, it is at the discretion of the Committee whether scores would be acceptable for handicap purposes.

SCORECARDS AND SCORING

We are holding a competition, but want to limit how scorecards are exchanged both between players and after the round to the Committee. Do you have any recommendations?

- The Rules already allow numerous options to address these concerns noting that certifying a score does not require a physical signature, nor does it require a physical scorecard.
- If a Committee wishes to run a competition using a form of electronic scoring, this could come in many forms, such as asking that each marker send an email to the Committee and the player he or she is marking for, including the player's hole-by-hole scores. The player can then reply to verify the accuracy of the card.
- When electronic methods are used, such as the email example above or similar methods that involve text messaging, the Committee should decide when a scorecard would be considered to have been returned. For example, this could be when the player responds certifying that the scores are correct or some other action that the Committee might consider more appropriate.
- A Committee might also wish to employ the above method but also combine these with a physical scorecard by having the marker take a picture of the completed scorecard and either email or text it to the Committee using the same process described above.
- If physical scorecards are the preferred method, a Committee may wish to have the player and marker not exchange cards but rather verbally communicate the hole-by-hole scores to the Committee verbally in the scoring area. Additionally, verbal confirmation could be a substitute for the physical signature. As with the electronic scoring methods described above, the Committee should be diligent to clearly define when a scorecard has been returned, such as when a player leaves the golf shop if that is where the process takes place.
- If a Committee takes any of the above actions, it is at the discretion of the Committee whether scores would be acceptable for handicap purposes.

MODIFICATIONS TO THE HOLE; NOT REQUIRING THAT PLAYERS HOLE OUT

A number of questions have been received that relate to modifying the hole so that players no longer need to reach into the hole to remove a ball to minimize the possibility of exposing golfers to coronavirus.

These have included some courses setting holes so that the hole liner remains an inch or two above the surface of the green while others have placed various objects into the hole or around the flagstick (such as foam pool noodles or plastic piping) so that a ball is unable to fall to the bottom.

While in all of these instances, the ball is not holed per the Rules of Golf (Rule 3.3c), a round played under these conditions will result in an acceptable score for handicap purposes using the most likely score guidelines (see Rule 3.3 of the Rules of Handicapping).

While the most likely score procedure is intended to support certain formats of play where the player is not required to hole out (such as in match play when the player's next stroke is conceded or in fourball stroke play when a partner picks up), it is also temporarily in effect where the above described safety measures are being used.

When using most likely score, the player should consider the number of strokes most likely required to complete the hole, and determine whether the ball would have been holed or not. Most likely score is at the player's best judgment and should not be used to gain an unfair advantage.

This measure is temporary and in effect within the United States until advised otherwise by the USGA.

The above guidance will continue to be updated. If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact the Rules of Golf and Rules of Handicapping departments by going to www.USGA.org.



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