

2023 Sycamore Ridge Men's League

Tuesday Nights (May 2nd – August 29th)

League Rules and Regulations

- Registrations will be taken as 2-man teams with complete information only. All players will be responsible for finding their own partner; Sycamore Ridge will not be responsible for pairing players or finding partners.
- All league participants will be required to provide a valid phone number and email address when registering for use when updating league standings, notifying of changes to the schedule, etc.
- A player questioning a Handicap and/or dotting of a scorecard must bring proof when questioning. This means the work must be done and written out to support your argument. Penalties will be assessed if you fail to follow this process:
 - 1st time offense – Loss of hole
 - 2nd time offense – Forfeit the match
 - 3rd time offense – Removal from league

Team Composition

- Each team will consist of 2 male players.
- No club affiliation/membership is required to play.
- Employees are not allowed to play with another Sycamore Ridge Employee.
- League is open to players and teams of all abilities and all ages. All league participants must have a valid USGA Handicap established to participate. If players fail to establish a USGA Handicap index prior to the first round of league play, they will be required to play as “scratch” (No Handicap) until a valid handicap is established. A Handicap can be purchased through Sycamore Ridge via phone or by visiting the Pro Shop (Fee of \$40)

League Fees

- All participants will be required to pay the full league initiation fee of **\$150** per player. This amount is due at the time of team registration. No exceptions, please.
- All league participants must pay a \$25 weekly green fee in the golf shop for 9 holes of league play. (Members will defer to the conditions of their membership for this weekly fee.)
- All league participants must check in with the golf shop prior to weekly play.

Format for League Play

- There could be as many as 3 divisions. The number of divisions will be dependent on the number of teams that sign up during the registration period.
- Teams will be assigned to a division based on the average handicap between the two players.
- A Shotgun Start will begin at 5:30pm weekly. A League Schedule will be provided as soon as all spots have been filled, or by no later than **April 25th**.
- Players will have a 10-minute “grace period” from 5:30pm start time to report for a match. Once the “grace period” has expired, the tardy team forfeits the match.
- One “rainout” session will be incorporated into the league schedule to accommodate any inclement weather cancellations, attempting to ensure that no more matches are forcefully “halved” than absolutely necessary.
- Start time may be adjusted slightly towards the end of the season due to daylight.
- You have three (3) options if you or your playing partner cannot make a match:
 1. Find a sub(s).
 2. Play with only one player.
 3. Forfeit the match.
- Sub(s) need to be announced by 12pm the day of matches. Otherwise the sub will have to play as scratch.
- League play will attempt to rotate between the two nines of the course. Sycamore Ridge will determine which starting holes will be used and will be provided on the schedule.
- Teams will compete in a “Four Ball” format; in which, all players will play their own ball throughout the hole, and the team score will be determined by the lowest score of the two team members less any strokes given through match handicapping.
- Teams will compete under “Match Play” rules; 3 points will be awarded to the winning team of each match, while 1 point will be awarded to both teams in the event of a tie. Zero points will be awarded to the losing team of each match.
- In all matches, players will play off of their valid USGA Handicap index. An official scorecard will be available in the Golf Shop prior to play. Cards will be “dotted” by staff.
- Play will take place from the “Blue” tees for all men, in all matches. Seniors (age 55 and older) and any juniors (age 15 and under) will be allowed, but not required to play from the “White” tees, Seniors (age 70 and older) will be allowed, but not required to play from the “Green” tees.
- Your tee box will be determined prior to the first league match and cannot be changed during the season.
- All USGA Rules will govern play in all matches and all league play; it is each player’s responsibility to know and enforce the rules at all times. Any rules disputes will be decided by the League Coordinator/Supervisor immediately following play and in conjunction with the USGA Rules of Golf. All decisions are final.

League Handicapping

- All League participants must have a valid USGA GHIN Handicap established to participate. USGA Handicap enrollment can be acquired for a fee of \$40 (tax included) via phone, by visiting the Golf Shop, or by purchase via Central Links Golf online.
- A maximum course handicap of 27 will be allowed. If your course handicap is higher than 27, you will only be allowed to play as a 27. Only 80% of handicaps will be used.
- Valid USGA GHIN Handicaps from other courses will be accepted.
- Players are encouraged, and obligated, to enter scores throughout the season to ensure handicap accuracy. Penalties will be assessed otherwise.

How to determine Course Handicap using Handicap Index

A Course Handicap is the number of strokes a player receives on each particular course. Determine a course handicap by multiplying the Handicap Index by the Slope Rating (from the course and tee you choose) and dividing by 113 (standard difficulty rating). Round the result to the nearest whole number.

Course Handicap = Index x (Slope Rating of Tee on Course / 113)

Example:

The following assumes an index of 12.5 and a Home course slope of 134.

Course Handicap = $12.5 \times 134 / 113$

= $1,675 / 113$

= 14.82

= 15

Explaining handicap strokes (dots) on scorecards

Tournaments using anything less than 100% Handicap Allowance, will display both the full Course Handicap and the Course Handicap after the allowance is applied. For instance, John Smith's full Course Handicap is 11, but after the 80% allowance is applied, he is moved to a 9. John Smith is playing a match against someone who is a zero handicap. That means John will get 9 strokes (dots) from his opponent. In a 9-hole match the strokes would be divided by two. In the case of an uneven number, John would receive 5 strokes on the harder nine and 4 strokes on the easier nine.

League Payouts

- The following payouts are based on a full league.
- Weekly merchandise gift card payouts will be awarded to the winners of each match. (\$10 merchandise gift cards will be awarded to each member of the weekly winning team.)
- Merchandise gift card payouts will be awarded to teams finishing in 1st–5th place based on overall win/loss record as follows (head-to-head record will be used to break all ties)

- A complimentary League Awards Banquet will be provided to league participants at the conclusion of the 16-week league. Tentative date is Tuesday, August 30th following play.

Substitute Policy

- All Substitutes will be required to pay the \$23 league fee and substitutes must also have a valid USGA Handicap, or play as “scratch” (no handicap).
- Any use of substitutes must be announced to the League Coordinator or Sycamore Ridge staff by no later than 12:00pm of the league day. If a substitution is announced after 12:00pm the sub will play as a scratch. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Schedule:

May 2nd
May 9th
May 16th
May 23rd
May 30th – Off Week (Memorial Day)
June 6th
June 13th
June 20th
June 27th
July 4th – Off Week (4th of July)
July 11th
July 18th
July 25th
August 1st
August 8th
August 15th
August 22nd – Rainout Week
August 29th – Championship (Awards Banquet)