



Upcoming Events:

2/11: Superbowl Saturday Par 3 9:30am

2/23: Garnet & Black Baseball 10:00am

2/25: MGA Pinehurst Alt. Shot 9:00am

Weekly Member Play:

Ladies Day: Tuesday & Thursday 9:15am

SMGA: Tuesday @ 10:00am

Dogfights: Wednesday @ 12:00; Friday @ 12:00;

Saturday @ 10:00; Sunday @ 12:00

Local Knowledge:

• Super Saturday

Kick off the Superbowl weekend with our Par 3 tournament on February 11. Every hole on the course will be set up as a Par 3. Experience the course from a different point of view in this fun format. Register in the Golf Shop.

• Ladies Golf Association

Make plans to attend the 1st LGA meeting of the year on February 2. This will provide you with a great opportunity to learn all the exciting plans they have for the upcoming year. Read more about the meeting and the LGA on page 2 of The Link.

• Lessons & Grips

Our Assistant Golf Pro, Justin Fowler, is available for golf lessons for all ages & skill levels. You can book through the Golf Shop or call Justin at (803) 979-1395. The rate for members is \$65/hr & lesson packages are also available. Justin is also available for regripping clubs.

• MGA - Pinehurst Alternate Shot

The MGA will kick off their year with a Pinehurst Alternate Shot tournament on February 25. Find a partner and help the MGA get the year started with some friendly and fun competition.

• Tennis Lessons

Sean Koch offers tennis lessons for all ages & ability levels. Whether you're looking to pick up the game or improve it, he can assist. Contact Sean at (803) 719-1104 or snkoch5@gmail.com

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News from the Golf Shop

We hope this newsletter finds you doing well. One of the unique things about golf is the many challenges it offers. Some of those challenges include things such as: Should I hit driver or 3 wood off the tee? Can I squeeze that iron shot between the trees or should I pitch out? Should I lay up or go for it? Can I carry the water from here? Counterintuitively to most things in life, these challenges are what keeps bringing us back to the game we all enjoy. We hope 2023 will bring many opportunities to face those types of challenges.

January brought another set of challenges, cold temperatures and rain throughout the month. Never fear, Spring is right around the corner and now is the time to get your game in gear. We hope each of you will be able to carve some time out of your February to enjoy all the challenges the great game of golf offers at Golden Hills.

One of the unique challenges offered in February is our Superbowl Saturday Par 3 tournament. On Saturday, February 11th every hole on the golf course will be turned into a par 3. There will also be some unique shots available such as playing #5 from the 6th tee. If you have not played in this event before it is a fun format that affords you the opportunity to see the golf course from a different point of view. Play will begin at 9:30 with a shotgun start and will be limited to the first 90 participants that sign up. You may sign up in groups of as many as 5. The cost of the tournament is only \$30 + cart fee. If you are planning on walking, please let the Golf Shop staff know when you sign up. If you do not have a complete group or would like to sign up individually, the Golf Shop staff will pair you up with other players wanting to participate. Call the Golf Shop at (803) 957-3355 to sign up or let us know the next time you come and play!

The Men's Golf Association will also begin its season this month on Saturday, February 25th. The format will be a Pinehurst Alternate Shot. In this format, each player hits a tee ball. On the second shot, both players will hit their partners drive. Then the team will select 1 ball and continue to alternate until the ball is holed. Tee times will begin at 9am. MGA dues for 2023 must be paid prior to playing in the tour-

namment. If you would like to sign up simply call the Golf Shop.

It seems like if we have a drought all we need to do is schedule the Senior Men's Golf Association to play golf. For the past two months, most every other Tuesday the SMGA has been hit with adverse weather conditions. Thankfully, winter will be over soon and we can get back to enjoying some fun and fellowship on Tuesday mornings with this great group of guys. The Senior Men's Golf Association plays every Tuesday morning at 10am (shotgun start). If you are new to the club or just looking for a steady game, anyone over the age of 55 is welcome to come join in the fun. To sign up, simply call the Golf Shop by 3pm Monday afternoon.

Ladies Day continues to be a hit and seems to be growing every month! In February, the ladies play at 9:15 on Tuesdays and Thursday. It doesn't matter if you are a beginner or scratch golfer, play 9 or 18, walk or ride, all are welcome to come and join in the fun.

Of the many issues that face any golf course, the hardest topic to tackle is slow play. While we love to see each and every one of you enjoying the great game of golf, we all have the responsibility to show proper etiquette and play in a timely fashion so all may enjoy their round. An LPGA Hall of Famer described it this way: If you are not waiting on the group ahead of you, you may be playing to slow. Here at Golden Hills, we have a pace of play policy posted on the first tee of 4 hours or less for 18 holes. Please help everyone enjoy their time at Golden Hills by playing in a timely fashion.

We have finalized the 2023 tournament calendar for all club, MGA, and LGA events. It is going to be a great year and we hope you make plans to participate in as many events as possible. The schedule will be posted in the online newsletter edition or you can contact us at: info@goldenhillsgolf.com for a copy.

Your Golf Shop Staff,

Steve Larick, Justin Fowler, Jared Courtenay

Ladies Golf Association

Are you ready for a year filled with lots of golf, time with old and new friends and fun activities? We are and we welcome your participation! If you want to learn more about the LGA and all the plans we have in the works for the year ahead, join us for our first meeting of the year on February 2. The meeting will follow our Thursday Ladies Play Day at the clubhouse around 1:45. Join us for both golf and the meeting or just the meeting if you can't make our 9:15 tee time.

If you are new to the club, picking up the game or looking for more playing opportunities, please join us at the club each week for the Ladies Play Days. We have tee times set aside each Tuesday and Thursday at 9:15. To participate, please contact the Golf Shop at least 48 hours in advance sign up. Whether you like to walk or ride, play 18 or 9, all ladies are welcome to participate.

Our board met last month to discuss a few business items, new additions for 2023 and the list of activities for the year. The 2023 Board includes: President - Trish Proctor, Vice President - Regena Sellers, Secretary/Treasurer - Annemarie Keene, Sandlapper Representative - Tia Davis. If you have any questions or suggestions for the upcoming golf season, please contact our LGA President, Trish Proctor at: proctrish@gmail.com.

For those of you who would like to read more about golf news in the Palmetto state, the SC Golf Association offers the Palmetto Golf Magazine free to anyone interested. You can learn more about the SCGA and how to get a copy of the magazine by visiting their website at www.scgolf.org

If you would like to join in on our fun or learn more about the LGA, contact Trish Proctor at: proctrish@gmail.com

Senior Men's Golf Association

Don't let your game go cold this winter! Join us each Tuesday at 10:00am for a fun and friendly round at the Midlands Best Golf Course ~ Golden Hills! All senior men, age 55 and over, are invited to participate. If you would like to play, you can register by calling the Golf Shop by 3:00 on the Monday preceding each Tuesday match at (803) 957-3355.

The SMGA Golf Council met in December to discuss plans for 2023. Effective January 1, 2023: Dues will be \$25/member. Entry fees for our 2 large tournaments will be increased to \$15 for the Yellow Ball and \$30 for the SMGA Championship. Those who attend the summer social will be asked to bring a shareable appetizer and the treasury will pick up the bar tab. We will have the entrée for our Christmas Party catered and will ask those attending to bring a salad, appetizer or dessert. The council also discussed a few new formats for 2023 that include: Blind Draw - Due to the number of members, many in our group do not mix up their playing partners each week. In order to switch things up a bit, once every 2-3 months the foursomes will be drawn at random. That foursome will be who you play with that day. We will try this once and put it out to the membership to decide how often we should mix groups up.

Results from our SMGA events are as follows:

January 3: 1st - Dale Mamele (+7); 2nd - Keith Morgan (+5); 3rd - Dwight Johnson & Steve Lyman (+4); 5th - Rick Green (+3); 6th - Del Crawshaw & Gary Maynard (+2); 8th - Randy Book, Rick Hubbard, Bill Lorenzen, Randy Miller & Dan Sass (+1)

January 10: 1st - Dale Mamele (63); 2nd - Randy Book & Rick Green (67); 4th - Doug Stanard (69); 5th - Chuck Dunlap & Steve Lyman (70)

January 24: 1st - Rick Hubbard (+13); 2nd - Bill Lorenzen (+6); 3rd - Mark Lipinski (+5); 4th - Ray Chiellini (+3); 5th - Don Elliott (+2); 6th - Robert Davis, Rick Green & Doug Stanard (+1)

If you would like to receive emails from the SMGA about events and results, send your address to Ray Chiellini. He can be reached by calling (803) 518-4215

2023 RULES OF GOLF: 5 KEY CHANGES

The R&A and the USGA have released the most recent edition of the Rules of Golf, effective January 2023.

HERE ARE 5 KEY CHANGES

New Rule — Modifications for Players with Disabilities

These modifications are now part of the Rules and are in effect for all competitions and all players who fall under the categories covered in new Rule 25.



Ball Moved by Natural Forces

When your ball is at rest after taking relief and then rolls into another area of the course due to natural causes, there is no penalty, and you must replace it.




Replacing Damaged Clubs

If your club is damaged during a round (except in cases of abuse) you may replace it, repair it or continue to use it.



Simplified Back-on-the-Line Relief

When using this relief option, you are required to drop your ball on the line, and it may roll up to one club-length in any direction.



Handicap on Scorecard (Stroke Play Only)

You are not required to put your handicap on your scorecard and there is no penalty if you return your scorecard in a competition with an incorrect handicap, as this is now the Committee's responsibility.

This change is consistent with other penalty reductions, such as reducing the penalty for playing an incorrectly substituted ball from the general penalty to one stroke.



For more information on the Rules of Golf, please visit usga.org or randa.org.