

THE GOLF ETC MEN'S LEAGUE

2014



CONDITIONS OF PLAY

A. FORMAT:

The Golf Etc Men's League ("the League") is an invitational Medal Play team event that will comprise six league matches per season.

League matches in 2014 will be played once per month at the listed Golf Course during the period April to September. The schedule for 2014 is as follows:

• Saturday, April 26th	Shotgun start: Teams Assembled at 12:45pm	Port Royal G.C.
• Saturday, May 31st	Shotgun start: Teams Assembled at 12:45pm	Belmont Hills G.C.
• Saturday, June 28th	Shotgun start: Teams Assembled at 12:45pm	Ocean View G.C.
• Sunday, July 27th	Shotgun start: Teams Assembled at 12:45pm	Mid Ocean G.C.
• Sunday, August 24th	Shotgun start: Teams Assembled at 12:45pm	Mid Ocean G.C.
• Sunday, September 28th	Shotgun start: Teams Assembled at 12:45pm	Port Royal G.C.

Competing teams will comprise four male golfers from which the three best gross scores will determine the team score.

A player may only play for one team (Golf Club) in any League season notwithstanding that he may be a member of more than one invited club.

However, Clubs may field a maximum of two teams. There is no restriction on players playing for different teams within the club

Points based on team scores will be awarded to each participating team in increasing increments of two points with the team that finishes in last place on each match day being awarded two points. An extra point will be awarded to the winning team on each match day. In the event that two or more teams finish on equal scores for first place, it is deemed that no one team came first and no extra point is awarded. Points awarded (excluding the extra point awarded for winning) will be doubled in the final week of the League season. **After the last League Match has been played, only the 5 best team scores out of the 6 will count towards the teams total point score. (The dropping of the team's worst score will not affect the individual league table.)** The team with the most points at the end of the League season will be declared the Golf Etc Men's League Team Champions.

Results will be maintained for each individual participant in the League and a League Table will be created. Results for each individual participant will be tabulated on a gross basis only and will be tabulated by reference to the course rating of the courses played during the League season. In order to qualify as a participant in the Individual Championship, a player must play at least 4 League matches. The individual with the best cumulative result based on his best 4 rounds during the League season will be declared the Golf Etc Men's League Individual Champion.

Team scores will also be tabulated on a net basis using the best three net scores from each team. Points will be awarded for the net results of each team as for the gross results and a net team prize will be awarded at the conclusion of the League to the team with the most net points. **The best 5 out of 6 point scores will count in the same way as in the Gross League.**

The Birdie count will encompass all matches played by any particular team.

There will be an end-of-season celebration and prize presentation at the conclusion of the League in October. All participants will be encouraged to attend and to show their support of the League and of the League's sponsors.

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B. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Participation and management

Participation by teams shall be by invitation only. Teams shall comprise 4 male players all of whom must be members in good standing of the club they are representing. Each club will appoint a team manager who is responsible for organising the team for each league match. The manager is not required to be present on match day unless he is playing. Participants must wear only approved and conventional golf attire, which shall include the use of soft-spike golf shoes

2. Competition fee and registration

Each player will be required to pay the Cart Fee applicable at the time at each League venue per League Match. This will afford them courtesy of the course. Participants will be allowed to walk during League matches, however, the Cart Fee must still be paid. Players may use caddies. All participants are required to report to the League registration desk and be assembled with their teams at 12.45 p.m. and ready to play

3. Times and pairings for each League match

Times and pairings for each League match will be posted on the Golf Etc website and/or Facebook by 6.00PM on the Thursday before match day and will also be available by telephoning the course on the Friday before match day. Every effort will be made to ensure that team members do not play together.

4. Notification to League manager of team members

The team managers are asked to forward names, USGA Indexes of the team members 7 days prior to the league match to the League Manager. (542 GOLF (4653) or info@golfetcbermuda.com) It is understood that there may be changes to the team due to unforeseen circumstances closer to the game day.

5. Team Scoring

Each League match shall comprise 18 holes with each team's gross score comprising the total of its 3 best gross scores. Each team will also determine its net team score which shall comprise the total of its 3 best net scores.

6. Ties

Should there be a tie for a team prize at the conclusion of the League the combined scores of the tied teams last match will be subject to "retrogression". Best last 9, 6, 3 etc. Individual ties will also be decided the same way.

7. Teeing Ground

The teeing ground to be used for each League match will be selected on each League day by the Tournament Committee and will take into account weather conditions and general course conditions.

C. RULES

8. Rules Governing Play

The League will be played and conducted in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Scotland, Local Rules as listed on the Score Card of the course being played, and other Local Rules as approved by the Tournament Committee.

9. Conforming Golf Balls

All competitors must only play with Golf Balls named on the current R&A/USGA list of conforming Balls.

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10. Late on Tee

Players are requested to report to the first tee 10 minutes prior to their listed starting time. Players arriving late for their starting time shall be subject to disqualification – Rule 6-3a. The Tournament Committee may, under certain circumstances, modify disqualification as provided by the Note to Rule 6-3a.

11. Pace of Play

Play during League matches shall be in foursomes and each foursome shall be allowed 4½ hours to complete the Round. All players must play without undue delay – Rule 6-7. Each foursome will be expected to monitor their own performance as regards pace of play and to manage any “slow play” that may arise in their foursome.

Marshals shall have the authority to warn players deemed to be responsible for “slow play” and the Tournament Committee will impose penalties. A player shall be warned twice, thereafter a two stroke penalty shall be imposed. For purposes of managing “slow play”, pace of play during the competition shall be governed by the following guidelines:

To complete a Par 5 hole = 16 minutes

To complete a Par 4 hole = 15 minutes

To complete a Par 3 hole = 14 minutes

12. Doubt as to procedure

During play, players who are in doubt as to procedure should proceed under Rule 3-3.

13. Local Rules

Port Royal are as follows:

Local Rules as set out on the Score Card shall apply, together with the following:

Young trees from which free relief is provided (Rule 25) will normally be marked by a stake, however, there may be young cedar trees that should be marked with a stake but are not. A player whose ball comes to rest in close proximity to unmarked and young cedar trees should consult with their fellow competitors to determine whether free relief should be provided – Rule 25 (G.U.R.) applies;

Areas on the course marked with white lines shall be considered G.U.R.;

Ponds on Holes 1, 3, 17 and 18 – see score card for applicable Local Rule and designated Drop Areas. (Rule-26);

Hole 8 will be played with no hazard markings;

Hole 16 – all areas to the left of the white line are defined as a water hazard. For safety reasons, balls coming to rest anywhere in the water hazard must neither be played nor retrieved. A Drop Area for balls coming to rest in the water hazard is provided at the 150 yard marker. A player whose ball comes to rest in the water hazard may drop a ball within two club lengths of the 150 yard marker, no nearer to the hole than the 150 yard marker;

Crab holes on the course may be treated as holes made by a “burrowing animal”. Unless the ball is in an unplayable lie, the ball may be lifted and dropped - Rule 25-1 applies;

Cart paths, fences protecting plantings, stakes supporting plantings, sprinkler heads and walls attached to houses are all examples of *Immovable Obstructions*. (Rule 24 applies). Boundary walls and roadways are NOT obstructions, therefore, no free relief is allowed.

Out-of-bounds will normally be marked with stakes but may at times be marked by white lines.

Local Rules for the remaining courses will be made available on match day.

14. Range Finders and Electronic Devices

Devices that measure only distance may be used during the competition. Devices that measure any other characteristic, such as slope, may not be used during the competition.

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Penalty for breach of Rule : Disqualification from the days play (only applies to the individual team member that contravenes the rule)

15. Cellular Phones

The Tournament Committee has a responsibility to protect participants during play from unwanted disturbances from cellular phones. The Tournament Committee is cognizant of the reliance placed by the general population on cellular phones and, in forming its policy for cellular phones, has taken such reliance into consideration. Accordingly, cellular phones will be allowed to be taken onto the golf course during League matches, however, the ring tone of the cellular phone must be in silent mode so that there is no risk of the cellular phone ringing during play.

Penalty for breach of Rule : Disqualification: The team may incur a maximum of a 3 point deduction from their point tally for the day. The penalties are subject to review depending on the severity of the infringement.

16. Inclement Weather prior to starting a League Match

In the event that weather conditions are forecasted to be poor on match day, the Tournament Committee will provide cancellation notice 24 hours in advance, such cancellation notice to be posted on the Golf Etc website and/or Facebook, and also available by telephone to the golf course. If a League match is cancelled, unless it is the last League match for the year, it will not be rescheduled and the points for the cancelled League match will be rolled over into and included with the next League match.

17. Thunder, lightning and other dangerous conditions during a League Match

There are three warning signals to be aware of:

The "discontinue play immediately" signal is one prolonged blast from the siren;

The general "discontinue play" signal, under which the player may complete the hole he is on, is three short blasts from the siren;

The "resume play" signal is two short blasts from the siren.

18. Rules Amendments.

The committee may adjust the rules as the competition progresses in order to accommodate any unforeseen circumstances that may arise. This will be an act of last resort.