

SENIOR AMATEUR TOUR



www.senioramateurgolftour.net

2010 Membership Manual

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Tour Policies

Membership Applications and Handicaps

Please provide complete and accurate membership applications. Each piece of data is not only required, but has proven useful to the SAGT in the past in attaining all sorts of extra benefits for members.

It is vitally important that you report handicap indexes accurately. Not only for your personal interest concerning the SAGT rules and points standings, but also so that the Tour Director can pair persons of equal golfing ability for the best competitive experience.

Member Benefits

Membership in the SAGT allows all members to compete in any SAGT event in any tour city. Accurate records must be kept for all SAGT Tour Directors. Be prepared to be paired with SAGT members from other cities both in your home Tour events and other city Tour events.

Always let the course know you are with the SAGT and show your Tour card every time you play. You may get a discount that day. If not, the course knows that we are giving them repeat business and it will help us to negotiate a good price in the future.

Guest Policy

Each member is allowed to invite (and be paired with) a single guest. This privilege is extended to all members and may be exercised once per season. Hopefully you will choose to invite a potential new member, but if you have a visitor in town for the weekend and want to play golf in a Tour event, you may invite this guest providing you:

1. Pay the regular event entry fee for this person.
2. Identify this person on an SAGT membership application as your guest.

Your guest will be paired with you for the day and may be included in the proper handicapped flight for prizes even if you are playing in a different flight. Please note that if your guest wishes to participate in tournament prizes, then said guest will be required to produce a current (or verifiable) handicap index at time of registration.

It is even more crucial that you meet our timetables for advance event registration when you have a guest. Appearing at a tournament with a guest not only makes the SAGT look less than organized, but may also result in our not being able to get your guest on the course.

Assumption of Risk and Release from Liability

By signing or electronically submitting a member application and entering and playing in a Senior Amateur Golf Tour Event, the participant understands and agrees that there are certain dangers involved with the participation in a golf event, including but not limited to being struck by lightning, getting hit by a golf club, suffering from heat exhaustion, heart attack or injury from uneven terrain, all of which risks participant assumes and solely accepts, and waives all claims of injury to body or property against Mac Productions, the Senior Amateur Golf Tour and/or the local Tour Director. Further, the participant agrees that while on the premises of a Senior Amateur Golf Tour Event ("Event"), as well as all other presenting sponsors, co-sponsors and representatives affiliated with the tournament, the participant, and any guest, relative or anyone else affiliated with participant, shall be present at their own risk and that Mac Productions, the Senior Amateur Golf Tour and/or the local Tour Director shall not be liable for any claims for injuries or damages whatsoever to person or property of the participant or related person arising out of or in connection with the participation in the Event or presence at the Event. Participant agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Mac Productions, the Senior Amateur Golf Tour and/or the local Tour Director from all claims by or liability to participant or affiliated person.

Tournament Registrations and Tee Times

One method of keeping event fees as low as possible is for the Tour Director to be able to pay in advance for reserved tee times. Therefore it is important to get entry fees into the system ASAP. Most of the courses accept one week as an acceptable window for the Tour Director to guarantee tee times.

We welcome your registration for all events as soon as possible. Many members register for all of the events that they plan to play in for the season on their membership application. When we receive multiple event registrations, you are marked to play in those events whether you have paid or not. If you notify us within the appropriate time frame that you can't make one of the events, you will not be charged for the event or your money will be applied to your next event.

Tee times will be e-mailed or posted on the SAGT web page two days prior to the event. If you do not receive your tee time information, please call us or the course. The course will also have the pairing sheet.

Cancellations

- ☞ **All events will be held regardless of weather unless the course closes.**
- ☞ In the event a course is forced to close, the Tour Director will determine if a stipulated round can be declared. Normally if the entire field has played at least the front nine a stipulated round will be declared. Rain checks may be available based on policies of the host course. The Tour Director or host course professional will provide details based on conditions.
- ☞ If you are registered for an event that is canceled, your entry fee will automatically roll forward and be applied to the next event for which you have registered.
- ☞ If you must cancel participation in an event, please advise us as soon as possible. If we have prepared the pairing sheets, we will not be able to roll your entry fee forward.

At The Tournament

Please sign in by either locating the Tour Director or the sign-in table. Your timely appearance to the event will be recorded.

Locate your cart with your name on the cart card. Check the official score card to verify that your handicap is right. Since flights are assigned via handicaps, it is important that we have your handicap on file correctly.

Proceed to the driving range or what ever your normal routine is. The Tour Director will call on deck the tee times as well as the players who should be on the tee. Be at the first tee ten minutes before your assigned time.

The SAGT Director will provide the official score card and offer entrance to the skins pool.

The Tour Director or either the course starter will provide local course rules.

On the first tee, be sure to check cart cards for first tee honor, count your clubs, and mark your playing ball. The captain of the group will be the first name on the score card. Please hit in the order of the names on the card.

On the course, enjoy your round and please stay in position. Slow play penalties as indicated in the SAGT rules will be assessed.

At the turn, please have your card ready for the Director to quickly review. The Director will take your front nine score and will be checking for birdies, eagles etc. for the skins pool. Front nine scores will be posted to let other players know where they stand.

After 18 holes, please check, sign and turn in scorecards as quickly as possible. In the event of any on course rules issue on the course, please locate and obtaining ruling from the host course professional before completing your scorecard.

Skins Pool

What is a skins pool?

This is an optional side bet between players. Each player will receive an invitation to enter skins pool on the first tee of each event. **Championship and A flights will have a joint skins pool and B and C flights will have a joint skins pool. The skins pot may vary in each tour city.**

What is a skin?

The single best score on any of the 18 holes is a skin. The player making the single best score on any hole earns one skin. A player with the only birdie, eagle or double eagle on a given hole wins a skin. More than one player making birdie, eagle or double eagle cancels the skin.

Why is the Tour Director involved?

With four flights teeing off over several hours time, players find it difficult to manage a side bet that is event-wide. The Tour Director holds the bets and calculates prizes as a convenience to the players.

How much is in the skins pool?

With 50 players participating in the skins pool, the pool would be worth 250 dollars (\$5 per player wager). At the end of the tournament the pool is divided by the number of skins and that amount is paid in cash to the player earning each skin.

Normally how many skins are made?

Typically there are less than five skins per event.

What happens if no skins are made?

The pool is carried over to the next event if no skins are made.

A tip on how to win skins...

Seldom will more than one player birdie the first hole and par 3's win a lot of times.

Will receiving cash hurt my amateur status?

USGA rules about amateurs not receiving cash apply to tournament prizes, not side bets. Since the skins pool is a side bet between players, your status will not change.

The Points System Formula

The points system is a nationwide formula intended to level the playing field and allows golfers the opportunity to qualify for the Tour Championship. The point system applies to each flight.

Place	Non-Major Tournament	Major Tournament
1	450	900
2	275	550
3	225	450
4	175	350
5	165	330
6	155	310
7	145	290
8	135	270
9	125	250
10	115	230
11	100	200
12	90	180
13	85	170
14	80	160
15	75	150
16	70	140
17	65	130
18	60	120
19	55	110
20	50	100

For each finisher outside the top 20, -2 points will deducted from the previous finish in non major tournaments and -4 points will be deducted from previous finish.

For example: Finishers 21 – 25 would receive the following points:

Place	Non-Major Tournament	Major Tournament
21	48	96
22	46	92
23	44	88
24	42	84
25	40	80

This will continue down until all golfers are accounted for.

Tour Rules

The rules of golf as provided by the USGA will always apply.

- ⌘ Except where modified by the local rule of a host course.
- ⌘ Except where modified herein by a rule of the SAGT.

Protection of the field.

It is the duty of each player to protect the field of players during a round, with respect to the application and interpretation of the Rules of Golf.

The player's field will be divided into four handicapped flights.

Flights	Handicap Index
Championship	0 - 3.9
"A"	4.0 - 8.9
"B"	9.0 - 13.9
"C"	14.0 and Over

Tour Handicap Policy:

The Tour Handicap Policy will introduce throwing out more scores and imputing any scores from the previous season. Using players last 11 tournament scores; the handicap will be derived from the best 7 scores or 66%. These seven scores will still use the differential formula from last season. Along with the new flight ranges this system will do more than ever to keep the integrity of each flight. New players' handicaps will use the same factor and eliminate the highest round after the 4th, 7th & 11th tournaments.

- ⌘ USGA Handicap Index Applies.
- ⌘ Each member certifies that his or her handicap complies with the reporting requirements for the USGA
- ⌘ If a member is caught submitting a false handicap they will be put in the appropriate flight and forfeit all prizes and points earned.

Tee Boxes and course length standards:

- Champ Flight: 6300 – 6500 yds.
- A Flight: 6300 – 6500 yds.
- B Flight: 6000 – 6200 yds.
- C Flight: 6000 – 6200 yds.

Note: These also will be the standard for yardages that will be used for the Tour Championship in Pinehurst, NC.

The Tour dress code requires proper attire.

- ⌘ Shirts with collar.
- ⌘ No denim.
- ⌘ Soft Spikes only.

Players must make assigned tee time.

- ⌘ If a player is not checked in twenty minutes before their assigned tee time, a two-stroke penalty will be assessed.
- ⌘ On the first tee, each player must
 - Identify his ball by a distinctive mark.
 - Count the number of clubs in their bag (14)

Where there is a disagreement or uncertainty on the Rules of Golf.

- Ⓜ The player should announce that he is playing 2 balls.
 - First ball played will be the ball as it lies.
 - Second ball played will be according to the alternate rule interpretation.
- Ⓜ At the conclusion of the round, or the front nine, the player and his playing partners must obtain a ruling from the Tour Director whose ruling will be final.

Speed of play.

- Ⓜ A player can only card a **triple bogey** on any one hole.
- Ⓜ Each playing group will have a captain, whose duty it will be to warn and keep the group within one hole of the proceeding group (or "*In Position*").
- Ⓜ Times of each group at 9 & 18 will be noted. In the event a 17-minute gap exists between groups, the group "*Out of Position*" will be deemed guilty of slow play. The penalty for slow play is two strokes for each player in the group.
- Ⓜ Rangers can warn groups of slow play and if not corrected penalize offenders.
- Ⓜ In an effort to speed up play:
 - Where uncertain of a ball headed out of bounds or into areas where it may be lost, the player must hit a provisional ball.
 - Please play ready golf.

The final scorecard must be signed by all players at the conclusion of play.

All ties will be broken via score card playoff. (#1 handicap hole, #2, 3 etc...)

Electronic Measuring Devices are allowed on the SAGT Tour.

Make-Up Tournaments

Any Senior Amateur Tour player will be allowed to **make up (3) events** with only none being a major at any tour city. The players can play and bring the points back to their home tours to replace a missed tournament. We have some stipulations that must be followed for the points to count:

- The player must contact the tour director at least (1) week prior to playing in the make-up tournament.
- If the flight has > 5 players, the player will receive 80% of the points
- If the flight has > 2 players and < 5 players, the player will receive 60% of the points
- If a player is the sole competitor in the flight, the player will receive 30% of the points

Flight Movement

All players will have an SAGT Index. This will be displayed on the website after each tournament. Players will be moved based on this index. Flight movements are normally done after the player has played in (2) events but the tour director has the opportunity to give out "Battlefield Promotions" at the tournaments if so warranted. The formula used to calculate the SAGT index will not be published or provided to the players. This is another way to keep the flights competitive and fair.

If a player is moved from one flight to another, the player will not be allowed to move any higher than a tie for 3rd place in that next flight. Points will be adjusted to reflect the move. If you are moved up a flight then you will stay in that flight the rest of the current tour season. Flight movements can occur at anytime during the season.

Example: If a player is moved from the "A" flight where they had 200 points, up to The "Champ" flight where 3rd place has only 150 points, then the player's point total will be reduced to 150 and will then be placed in a tie for 3rd.

The Tour does not want to penalize players for getting better, but this will help keep players from taking too many points from an easier flight and moving past everyone in the tougher flight.

In order for a player to move down a flight, the player has to request the move. After the player requests the move, the tour director will examine the player's index and scoring history and move the player accordingly.

Qualification for the 2010 SAGT Tour Championship.

- ⌘ The top 15 point winners for the season in Championship, A, B and C flights qualify for the 36 Hole Tour Championships in Pinehurst, NC. This event will take place November 16-17th, 2010. (Courses will be The National Golf Club, Pine Needles & Mid Pines).
- ⌘ Members accumulate points in every event played.
- ⌘ The Tour Championships will be both an individual and team competition.
(Team Cup is the top 2 scores in each flight are counted)

The SAGT Tour Director will always be the final decision on all Tour matters.