

2023 Charleston Area Men's Interclub Rules and Regulations

Starting Times. See schedule at <http://chsinterclub.org/schedule.pdf> .

General Rules. USGA's "The Rules of Golf and the Rules of Amateur Status" govern Interclub play except as noted below. Any additional guidance/policy changes for COVID 19 will be provided on Interclub website.

Interclub Local Rules.

Tardiness (Player(s) arriving late). If they are prepared to hit from the tee **before** the last player of their group hits their second shot, they can play that hole with no penalty. For all prior holes missed they will be assessed a penalty. The penalty is max score (0 points) for each hole missed or deemed missed.

Exception to the USGA Rules of Golf.

Lift, clean and place. The standard Interclub rule is lift, clean, and place in your own fairway (extends to the fringe – 1st cut – of the green) within one club length in same condition. If poor course conditions exist, a decision may be announced to extend lift, clean, and place rules to the “general area” (everywhere except penalty areas). However, if in the rough, you must remain in the rough. The Host Club Golf Professional or Interclub Officer will indicate any other local rules prior to the beginning of play.

Pin IN or OUT. COVID19 forced us to keep the pin IN when chipping/putting near/on the green to avoid shared contact with flagstick. That rule is rescinded and the rules go back to USGA Rules – player’s choice of pin IN or OUT.

Root Rule. To prevent personal injury and/or golf club damage from roots exposed away from the tree. Exposed Roots applies only to roots that have surfaced away from the normal trunk of the tree. In the spirit of sportsmanship and fair play, if it is determined that your ball has come to rest on or within striking distance of an Exposed Root, you can request relief with these rules:

- You must get concurrence from a player in your foursome from the other team before taking relief;
- The allowable relief distance must be ‘minimum’ distance required to ensure complete relief (usually about 6-12” from the exposed root).
- Take relief (without penalty) under USGA rules – the ball may be cleaned under this Rule.
- Player’s “stance” NOT to be, of itself, interference under this Rule.
- Do not take additional relief that could improve your stance or swing.
- Root Rule does not apply in marked penalty area – you must take penalty area relief under [USGA Rules](#).

Colluding with Team cart partner: Giving/receiving playing advice with team cart partner **IS** allowed.

Playing Tees. Two tees are used – 1) Primary tee (~5600-5800 yds) for all players, and 2) Forward Tees (~5000 yds) for older or higher handicap (lower Stableford points) players who ‘select’ to move up.

Rules for Moving to Forward Tees. For existing Interclub players, the Forward tee decision will be determined prior to the 1st match of the player’s season. New (index) players will decide/declare prior to their first match.

- Player Eligibility: *1)* At least **70** years old; OR 2) less than 30 (**29 or lower**) target points; OR 3) Permanent physical disability.
- Play forward tees for entire selection year, even if points go above 29 points.
- Initial Match Adjust: A one-time point adjustment for first match played after selection – thereafter, normal adjusts. The adjustment does not count towards 29-point max eligibility requirement. See [HERE](#) for adjustment.
- New (Index) Players: Must meet Player Qualifications as defined above (after GHIN Index calculation by Handicap Chairman). The point adjustment is not used to determine eligibility. Once declared, follow rules above.

Rules for moving to/from Regular Tee and Forward Tee: A one-time point adjustment will be made based on formulas in the Points Rules sheet (link [HERE](#)). Player must stay at chosen tees for rest of year.

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Ready Golf. When teeing off, the player who is ready should hit first – honors are not important for Ready Golf. When you get to your ball but you are not away, check and see if another player is about to hit - if not, go ahead and hit your ball if path is clear, regardless of position. If one player has hit his ball in a situation requiring more time, hit your ball before you assist him. Leave your golf cart near where you will exit green. Wait until next tee to fill out scorecard. See this link for more tips: https://chsinterclub.org/ready_golf.pdf.

Interclub Modified Stableford System. Gross score per hole translates to Stableford points as follows:

Fig. 1 - Modified Stableford Point Distribution

Score To Par	Name	Points
3 Over or More	* Triple Bogey or Higher	0
2 Over	Double Bogey	1
1 Over	Bogey	2
Even	Par	3
1 Under	Birdie	5
2 Under	Eagle	7
Hole-in-One (Ace) <u>OR</u> Double Eagle		8
* To speed play, players will “pick up” after they have reached 2 strokes over par and not holed out.		

Eligible players. Interclub participants are required to be amateurs as defined by the USGA. A player must maintain a GHIN handicap. If a player maintains his handicap at multiple clubs, they must declare a club to represent to the Handicap Chairman.

First time Player. Must have valid USGA handicap. Handicap Chairman will determine the Modified Stableford point quota for first time player based on GHIN index. In first tournament (individual and team scores), player is limited to five (5) points above his point quota regardless of his total score. If the player scores over his point quota, that score will be his new point quota for the next tournament (up to a +5-limit adjustment). If he is under his point quota his score is adjusted same as an established player. A player who has not posted an Interclub tournament score within twelve-12 consecutive months is considered a first-time player and we will recompute points based on GHIN handicap.

Established Players. The Handicap Chairman adjusts scores after each tournament using the following formulas/rules (Fig. 2) and Examples (Fig. 3):

Fig. 2 - Point Adjust Rule

Points Above (+) or Below (-) Quota Points	Point Adjust for Next Round Quota
-9 and over	3 down (-3)
- 6 thru -8	2 down (-2)
-3 thru -5	1 down (-1)
-2 thru +2	No Change (0)
+3 thru +4	1 up (+1)
+5 thru +6	2 up (+2)
+7 thru +8	3 up (+3)
+9 thru +10	4 up (+4)
... and +1 for every +2 above quota	

Fig 3 - Player Examples of Point Quota Adjustment

	Player Example #	Points Quota	Actual Points	+/- Points	Adjust Points	New Quota
Above Quota	1	28	29	+1	0	28
	2	36	39	+3	+1	37
	3	30	37	+7	+3	33
	4	40	54	+14	+6	46
Below Quota	5	28	26	-2	0	28
	6	36	33	-3	-1	35
	7	30	23	-7	-2	28
	8	40	28	-12	-3	37
NOTE: Lowest Target Points Quota allowed is 18						

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Team Scores. Teams consist of ten (10) players. A team score normally consists of the best eight (8) individual scores. The individual player's maximum points for team score is seven (7) points. First time player's maximum for team score is five (+5) points.

We always encourage each team to have 10 players. If a team only has 7 players, they can still compete but must count 8 scores. Their 8th score will be the lowest (worst) score "counted" by any team in the match. This will also apply if a team ends up with less than 8 players in the event of someone dropping out (Withdraw/WD) during the match for any reason. Note: A WD is not usable for individual or team score.

Fig. 4 - Team Match Point Table

Place	Points	Place	Points
1st	15	7th	7
2nd	12	8th	6
3rd	11	9th	5
4th	10	10th	4
5th	9	11th	3
6th	8	DQ	0

Fig. 5 – Individual Gift Certificate Breakdown

Place	Prize	Place	Prize	Place	Prize
1st	\$ 65	6th	\$ 55	11th - 25th	\$ 45
2nd	\$ 63	7th	\$ 53		
3rd	\$ 61	8th	\$ 51		
4th	\$ 59	9th	\$ 49		
5th	\$ 57	10th	\$ 47		

Individual Gift Certificate Winners.

The player's total point score determines gift certificate winners. Ties are broken comparing the scores beginning on the number one handicap hole of the host club (Exception: Places 11-25 tiebreaker will be a random draw of tied scorecards). Gift certificate amounts for the best twenty-five (25) scores are awarded in accordance with **Fig. 5** above.

Closest to the Pin gift certificates are \$35 each. Exception: Summerville CC and Shadowmoss - five (5) Par 3s - \$ 28 each.

Score card Submission. The player must submit his score card signed by a scorer (another player from a different team in their group) and attested by the player. Failure to do so may result in disqualification of the player for team score, individual score, individual gift certificates and closest to the pin certificates.

Weather Interrupted Matches. In the event a match cannot be completed due to weather (rain, lightning, etc.) we will score the match based on the first 9 holes for each player. If every golfer has not completed at least 9 holes the match will be considered postponed. Target points will be halved; half points will be rounded down. 9-hole points will not be used to adjust player targets. CTP holes will be awarded based on which player is closest, even if the hole is not one of the first 9 holes for that player.