

Subject: 2023 Rutherford Golf Initial Newsletter

Welcome to Rutherford Golf Association for 2023. We have 'locked in' six of our planned eleven events.

This email is going to all 2022 RGA members as well as those on our guest or RGA friends list from prior years. If you are interested in joining or staying informed, please respond via email or we will purge your name from further emails this year. If family or friends would be interested feel free to forward or let me know. Thanks.

Key links: RGA Website: www.RGAGolfClub.com

RGA Membership Form for 2023:

Also, we plan on having a "membership call" from 5:30 to 6:00 pm on Thursday, February 23.

2023 RGA Schedule-**WORK IN PROGRESS**

* Confirmed

updates in
red

as of 2/7/2023

Guesses

Course	Date	First Tee Time (~ = NOT CONFIRMED)	Fee At Course or Guests	Member s Fee in Advance
Fox Hollow*	Sat, Apr 22	12:00 PM	70	65
Clustered Spires*	Sat., May 13	11:30 AM	70	60
Pine Ridge	Fri., May 19	~12:34 PM	55	50
Compass Pointe(or new-maybe?)	Fri., June 16	~ 12:00 PM		
Tanglewood*	Sat., June 24	11:00 AM	55	50
Mt. Pleasant	Fri., Jul. 21	~ 12:00 PM	55	50
Bridges	Sat., July 29	~11:00 AM	60	55
Bay Hills (or another new-maybe?)	Thurs., Aug 3	~12:00 PM		
Honey Run*	Sat., Aug. 19	11:00 AM	55	50
Diamond Ridge*	Fri, Sept 15	~11:00 AM	65	60
Rocky Point* + Pizza Johns	Sat., Oct. 7	12:00 PM	75	70
11	events			

Average Rate \$ 62.22 \$ 56.67

Those times in the above tentative schedule with a ~ starting time indicate approximate. We have not booked those dates or courses. Not all rates are confirmed...so several updates will likely occur. Formats are usually low individual net. Handicaps based upon the new USGA World Handicap Index format that we describe a little later.

Leadership and Role of Tournament Host:

Drew Bonthron and Bill Keagle are the two "officers". Drew handles the mailing, tracking the money and scheduling pairings and Bill will continue to manage our handicaps. We are hoping to get other volunteers from other members to help "HOST" an event. The Host would take over some of the tasks of the 'day of' **activities** like getting CTP markers, coordinating with starter, **getting RGA golfers to the tee**, etc. for some of the events. If you are likely to play an event and you want to help with HOSTING, please let me know. Thanks!

If you would like to assist in any way, we're happy to have the help.

Financial Position of RGA:

The dues of \$ 25 per member cover prizes. Most of the tournaments are priced at "cost of green fees and carts plus \$ 5 for prizes". We have ~ \$ 2600 in the bank and are well positioned from a financial perspective.

Membership:

Last year we had 27 members with 4 new members. Hoping to increase to 35 this year...so let's get busy folks!!

I hope you will put the RGA dates on your calendar and try to tweak your schedules accordingly to play often.

The goal for 2023 is for each member to again recruit one person as a new member that they would be willing to play regularly.

Any skilled level golfer is welcome! Of the 27 members last year, about two thirds have handicaps above 20 and the average H/C for all our golfers is 26.6.

Any new RGA members you can recruit by the April 3 deadline for the first tournament will reduce your \$ 25 dues by \$ 5 per new member (up to 4).

Handicaps

RGA will continue to calculate a Course Handicap for each tournament using a member's modified World Handicap "Index" for each individual and the USGA Course Handicap Calculator. Handicaps for "guests" will not be calculated, but we will retain their scoring should they later wish to join RGA. In WHS double bogey with handicap strokes is Maximum Score. We will use 6 on par 3, 8 on par 4 and 9 on par 5 as Maximum Score.

Keeping scores accurately

PLEASE adopt the practice of having each cart be responsible for keeping score for all players and then reconciling scores and math as necessary. Both players keeping the score, should sign and attest one card to turn in. We know this is 'a chore' and it is easy to swap scores and players, so this is the easiest way to 'make it right'. **We seem to have THE SAME GROUPS with math errors and hope a process to check the other cart's card first will help reduce these errors.** Thanks for helping out!

RGA Special Rules

We will continue to follow the USGA Rules of Golf with the following additions:

1. "Gimee" putt at the discretion of your assigned team captain (so add one to your score). Please be consistent within your foursome. Suggest you agree on 'a regular putter' placed inside the hole and the ball "within the leather" or something 'repeatable'.
2. "Roll the ball" permitted in the fairway only. Interpret this to mean you may 'roll the ball' within four inches without penalty IN YOUR FAIRWAY (not the rough).
3. Pick up when you are having a bad hole and record Maximum Score (par 3 = 6; par 4=8; par 5=9).
4. If the course Marshal asks you to skip a hole to catch up, all players in the group will mark the maximum score for the skipped hole".

Prizes (adding "Par 3 points" continues for 2023):

Prizes of Dicks Sporting Good Gift (also valid at Golf Galaxy or online at Dicks and Galaxy) cards same as last year for 1st and 2nd place in each tournament (3rd place if we have > 12 players) and two of the closest to pin (CTP) on par 3's. And we award prizes for Golfer of the Year based upon ranking at the tournaments. As we did last couple of years, we'll limit CTP to one per tourney (unless you are the only person on both CTP greens.

As in 2022, we will track "greens in regulation" for all Par 3's. Meaning if you hit your tee shot (not a mulligan) on the green (not the fringe) you will earn some extra points to golfer of the year. This was definitely impactful in last year Golfer of the Year rankings and most folks seemed to like it.

Fees and Discounts:

Guests are welcome at all events ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS at the paying at course rate, but they are eligible only for a closest to the pin. Guest's fees will not be subsidized by the club.

Meetings and Socials:

As stated earlier, we plan to have a Zoom meeting on Thursday, February 23 from 5:30 to 6:00 pm.

Plans are for another 'social' and year end party at Pizza Johns in Essex after our final tournament at Rocky Point on October 7.

Are you back?

Please let me know via email that you are going to join and particularly if I should forward to any prospective members. And as always, we welcome any comments or suggestions to help!

Regards,

Drew

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February 7, 2023