



New Member Orientation

Welcome to the Sheridan Park Golf Club, we've excited to have you as a member. Our club holds several tournaments and social events throughout the year. An event calendar is posted in the Men's Locker Room at the Sheridan Golf Course and on our website <http://www.SheridanParkGolfClub.com>.

Getting a Handicap - The first thing you need to do is establish a handicap. Our club follows all Handicapping Rules and Procedures of the USGA, uses the USGA's GHIN Handicap Computer System, and is licensed by the USGA to issue official USGA handicaps. If you're coming from another club and have a USGA handicap on the GHIN system already, that handicap will be brought forward to our club. If you don't already have a handicap, you'll be starting from scratch. Scores for all 9 and 18 hole rounds played at Sheridan and all other courses must be posted in the GHIN system. Scores can be posted on the handicap computer in the Clubhouse or online at GHIN.com.

Once you have a handicap established you must start adjusting the scores you post using the Equitable Stroke Control (ESC) procedure. ESC adjusts the scores you post for handicap purposes only and must not be used to adjust scores submitted for tournaments. Details on how to adjust scores are posted above or beside the handicap computer in the Clubhouse and in the Men's locker room.

Handicaps are revised every other Friday using scores posted by 9pm Tuesday. You need to have a minimum of 5 scores posted in order to get a handicap. Revision dates and Official Handicaps are posted in the Men's Locker room and on our website.

Full details on USGA Handicap procedures are available at <http://www.usga.org>. Please contact me (contact information at end of this document) for questions on handicaps.

Tournaments - Once you have a handicap established you can start playing in Club tournaments. Our club hosts several large tournaments each year and also has a weekly tournament.

- For weekly tournaments, you can play your 'tournament round' anytime between Tuesday and Sunday but must play with another club member who either scores your round or attests your score. You must sign and date the tournament sheet in the locker room prior to starting your round to ensure you play only one round per weekly tournament. You then post your gross score (not adjusted for ESC) on the tournament sheet in the locker room and put your scorecard (signed by you and the other club member) in the tournament scorecard box. The club has 3 handicap classes and prizes are awarded weekly for the best 3 net scores in each handicap class. Winners are posted weekly and prizes (normally \$20 gift certificates to local establishments) can be picked up at Lindner's Golf Shop across the street from the course. Each member can only win two weekly tournaments a year so your chances of winning improve as the year goes on.
- For larger tournaments a signup sheet is posted in the locker room well in advance of each event. Signup to participate and if after you've signed up you cannot participate **please** (as a courtesy to those running the tournaments) cross your name off the signup sheet, call me, or call the course (875-1811) to let someone know. If you call the course, please ask the Town employee who answers to let the Club Tournament Director know you can't make it.



Parties – The club hosts three non-tournament related parties – the Spring Party, Fall Party and Steak Roast. Each of these events requires a small additional charge (normally \$15) to participate and is optional. We provide a good meal and free drinks at each event and the Spring and Fall parties include hundreds of dollars of golf merchandise raffled as door prizes.

Hole-in-1 Pool – Club member George Kubala runs a hole-in-1 contest on the Par 3 6th hole. Participation is optional. George collects \$2 from members who want to participate and the entire pool is paid out to Club members who hit a hole in one on that hole. Note that you must be playing with another Club member who can attest to the hole-in-1 and you must play all 18 holes on the day you hit it to win. Depending on how frequently a club member hits this, the payout is normally around \$200-\$300. Once George pays out, he starts collecting again so if you hit one right after someone else, the pool will be smaller. George collects money at the course and Club events and isn't shy about finding people.

Local Rules – Our Club has a set of local rules and procedures you should be aware of:

- In all circumstances, we require that all putts, no matter how short, be holed. No 'gimmes' are allowed under any circumstances.
- In all circumstances, we play 'Preferred Lies' which allows for you to move the ball in your own fairway only up to one club length not nearer the hole. You cannot move any ball in the rough nor in the fairway of a hole you are not playing (other than to identify it). While playing Preferred Lies year round is frowned upon by the USGA and many Club Members, it's what the vast majority of the club members want and are accustomed to. The Board revisits this each year.
- All other rules as designated on the scorecard apply. A couple of clarifications:
 - On hole 7, the fence that previously lined the left side of the hole has been removed but many of the fence posts remain. Those fence posts still mark the out-of-bounds line and you do not get relief from the posts themselves.
 - On hole 12, there is a drop area across the creek for tee shots that do not clear the creek. It's just over the water to the right of where the cart path enters the fairway. This is normally marked with a white circle painted on the grass but not always.

We do our best to keep the website up-to-date so check there frequently for news. If you have any questions and you have email the best way to get answers is to email the club @ SheridanParkGolfClub@roadrunner.com. I check and reply to emails there daily. If you don't have email or have a more immediate question you can call our Director of New Member Services Pat Conner at 833-9035 or call me directly at 510-5153.

Thanks for joining and I hope you have as much fun as I do playing this wonderful and challenging course and competing with and interacting with about 250 fine gentlemen who are your fellow Club members.

Mike Zimmer

President and Handicap Chairman
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