

Bunker Hills Senior Men's League (BHSML)

2023 Policies and Procedures

The following Policies and Procedures are adapted and approved by the BHSML Board of Directors on 1/6/2022. Members voted on changes at the Mid Summer meeting on 6/8/22, Changes are underlined.

Section 1: Definitions

1. League Year:

- a. For purposes of a golf season, the League Year runs from mid-April to Mid-September.
- b. For business purposes, the League Year runs from November 1st to October 31st. The League year is named as the Calendar Year of League play.

2. League Round or Event:

- a. A Standard Event Is defined as a competitive, 18-hole round of golf, including Prize Pool (net and gross), Skins Games (net and Gross) and a Points Race.
- b. Alternate formats may be applied for any tournaments conducted by the League (Scramble, Best Ball, or similar team-based competitions.)

3. League Fees:

- a. Registration Fee: A fixed amount assessed each year for the expenses incurred by the League for League Operations. The primary expenses are MGA GHIN fee, meeting expenses, software licensing fees, and annual league awards.
- b. Competition Fees: Fees incurred by each member for competing in the Prize Pool, Skins games (gross & net), points race, and match play events.

4. Golf Genius:

- a. Is the software application used by BHSML to manage League Events including registration, requesting tee times, and scoring your round.
- b. Learn more about Golf Genius in this [Introduction](#) on BHSeniorGolf.com.
- c. Key Contacts are: Jim Donnelly donnely108@gmail.com (763) 313-0707, Tim Clevon, clevontm@msn.com (651) 485-3733, or Greg Olson gregolson0707@gmail.com (763) 292-1210 for any issues with Golf Genius.

5. BHSML Website: BHSeniorGolf.com

- a. The website contains all current League information:
 - i. Member and financial information is stored behind a password-protected page.
 - ii. The site has links to the most frequently used functions of Golf Genius: Calendar, Tee Time Request, Tee Sheet Review, and Results.
- b. Direct links to Bunker Hills Golf, USGA, & GHIN Sites.

Section 2- Policies

All Golf will be played in accordance with the USGA Rules with the exceptions noted in these Policies and Procedures.

1. Handicaps

- a. The League uses the USGA GHIN handicap system. Each member is required to post scores for all non-League rounds played that adhere [to USGA Rules of Golf](#).
- b. New for 2023, we will conduct all competitions at 80% of the USGA Course handicap.
 - i. The course handicap for Bunker Hills' Gold tees is about 4 strokes below your USGA handicap.
 - ii. Therefore if your handicap is a 24, your course handicap is 20, and your handicap for BHSML rounds would be 16.
- c. **New Member Handicaps:** New members are advised that a minimum of 54 holes (3 18-hole rounds or combination of 9 hole and 18 holes rounds) eligible scores must be posted before a handicap can be calculated. These scores can be achieved at any golf course during the golf season.
- d. Players without an established handicap may play in League events, but will be playing at a "0" Handicap.

2. Preferred Lie Before June 1st and after September 1st.

- a. The League will support a preferred lie rule during the above time period.
- b. Preferred lie relief may only be taken on balls that are in the fairway. Balls in a penalty area or rough must be played as they lie unless you take relief (and a penalty) per USGA rules.
- c. Mark ball, lift, clean and drop the ball within 1 club length of the nearest point of relief, no closer to the hole.
- d. No Penalty.

3. BHSML has adopted the USGA Local Rule E-5 for lost or out of bounds balls.

- a. Follow this Link for [USGA Local Rule E-5](#).
- b. When a player's ball has not been found within 3 minutes or is known or virtually certain to be out of bounds, the player may proceed as follows rather than proceeding under stroke and distance.
- c. For two penalty strokes, the player may take relief by dropping the original ball or another ball in this relief area (see Rule 14.3):
 - i. Two Estimated Reference Points:
 - a. Ball Reference Point: This is the point where the original ball is estimated to have come to rest on the course, or last crossed the edge of the course boundary to go out of bounds. (A)
 - b. Fairway Reference Point: The point of fairway of the hole being played that is nearest to the ball reference point, but is not nearer the hole than the ball reference point. (B)
 - ii. Drop the ball, no closer to the hole,
 - a. in the fairway within two club lengths of Point B, or
 - b. in any spot in an arc between points A & B in the rough.
 - iii. Once the player puts the ball in play, the original ball may not be played even if the original ball is subsequently found.

4. Inclement Weather, Stoppage of Play

- a. **Bunker Hills Golf Course Staff** will be the only authority to **cancel** play on any given day.
- b. **However**, the BHSML President may, with the approval of one additional board member, suspend *League Play* or cancel a *League Event*. The BHSML Vice President will replace the President in the event the President is not available.
- c. **The decision to continue playing is always a personal decision. We recommend all groups have a weather app on their mobile phone that will notify you when inclement weather is approaching.**
- d. The primary reason for canceling a League Event or Suspending Play is that the weather or course conditions are not conducive for conducting a safe and/or fair league competition.
 - i. Members of the board will blow an air horn 3 times when there is a decision to suspend play.
 - ii. We will also put a notice on Golf Genius and/or send a text message informing members of a decision to suspend and/or restart play.
- e. The board, in consultation with Bunker Hills Pro Staff, will decide whether to restart suspended play. The decision to restart will be made within 30 minutes of suspension.
- f. In the event of Event Cancellation, all competitions are canceled. No fees will be assessed for prize pool or skins competitions and no points or dollars will be awarded.
- g. Bunker Hills "Rain Policy" will dictate credit policy for green fees paid to Bunker Hills on the day of the event.

5. League Championship Event

- a. The League Championship is a 36-hole competition that is held over a two (2) week period in mid-August.
- b. In the event of cancellation of a Round for any reason, the board will try to change the date(s) of the Championship and/or shorten the Championship as necessary.
- c. Members who qualify for the League Championship must have competed 8 League Rounds/Events before the League Championship.

6. Guest Policy

- a. A Member may invite a guest to play one time per year with the approval of a board officer.
- b. Men eligible as guests before September 1st are either out-of-metro region visitors or prospective members.
- c. Guests are not eligible to play in Tournament or Championship events.
- d. Guests will be required to pay green fees.
- e. Guests will NOT be eligible for Prizes awarded during the event.

7. Member Resignations

- a. Members who resign the league for personal or family health related reasons shall receive a prorated refund of his **Registration and Competition Fees** net of any fees already paid to a third party (MGA GHIN or other).
 - i. Proration will be calculated on the basis of a 20-week season.
 - ii. The former member shall be reinstated after approval by the Executive Committee of the board.

- iii. Upon reinstatement, the member must pay the prorated fees for the current season.
- b. Members who resign from the league for any reason other than above, shall receive a prorated refund of his **Competition Fees**, net of any fees paid to a third party.
 - i. Proration will be calculated on the basis of a 20-week season.
 - ii. The former member may apply for membership in the league no sooner than the next League year.
 - iii. Members who have resigned from the league and received above refund may not play in League events as a guest for a period of 18 months after resignation.
- c. In either case, the member who resigns will receive payment for all competition winnings with-in 30 days of resignation.

8. Rules Violations Members are expected to enforce the USGA and the League's local Rules rules on themselves and competitors. Rule 1 of the USGA includes references to a code of consult which would include disputes regarding pace of play, use or damage of course facilities or actions which could be of danger to a player, staff, or spectator.

- a. Examples and definitions of the above infractions include but are not limited to:
 - i. Pace-of-Play. A group violates the pace-of-play policy by falling more than one hole behind the group they are following AND the elapsed time to play two (2) consecutive holes exceeds **33** minutes.
 - ii. Use or damage of course facilities: Unauthorized use of a cart or driving range/practice green, intentional damage to greens/ fairways or dangerous use of power carts.
 - iii. Actions that can be dangerous include intentionally hitting a ball into a group of golfers, staff or spectators or vociferous confrontation of other golfers or staff.
- b. All disputes, interpretation of playing rules and rules infractions must be brought to the attention of a Board Member, Rules Committee Chair, or Club Professional immediately after completion of the round.
 - i. These individuals will lead the investigation of the incident in accordance with Article VI, Section 6 of the BHSML By-Laws.
- c. Procedure for addressing disputes:
 - i. **Upon observation of infraction**
 1. Document the infraction including time and location.
 2. If appropriate, request pro-shop to talk to the group about the infraction
 3. Report the infraction after the round to a board Officer, including as much detail as available.
 - ii. **Warning.**
 1. An offending group may receiving a warning of an infraction by the pro-shop or by a BHSML Board Officer
 2. Upon receipt of the warning by the board, the group will be asked to address the issue with a Board Officer.
 3. If the finding is that a violation has occurred the Board Officer will report his finding to the BHSML board with recommendation of penalty
 4. The Board shall follow [BHSML By-Laws Article VI, Section 4](#) the Board in assessing penalties.
 - iii. **Penalties**
 1. **First Warning**
 - a. Membership will be notified by newsletter that an infraction has been reported, and the board is following up with the parties involved.
 - b. Group and/ or member is notified of the infraction and that further incidents will result in escalation as follows.

2. **Second Offense**
 - a. Group (or offending member) is suspended from play for two (2) weeks
 - b. Offending party forfeits winnings for the week of the second offense AND forfeits competitions fees prepaid for the two weeks of offense.
3. **Third Offense:** Suspension is for three (3) weeks with the same forfeiture of fees and winnings.
4. **Fourth Offense:** Member is expelled from the league for the season. The member will receive all earned competition winnings and unused competition fees paid by the end-of-the following month. An expelled member may not rejoin the league without full approval of the board.

Section 3 - Procedures

1. Event Registration and Tee Time Requests using Golf Genius.

- a. Members (or their designee) are responsible for responding to the email from Golf Genius and **registering** for the round upcoming (10 days out).
- b. Online registration is open the calendar week (Sunday-Saturday) before the Wednesday morning event. Registration will be held open for the round until 5:00 PM on Saturday.
- c. Members may register up to three (3) additional golfers to play in the round.
- d. Guests will be put on a waiting list, subject to time availability after close of online registration.
- e. Contact BHSML for tee time requests or cancellations between online close and Tuesday prior to play. We will consult with Bunker Hills to schedule your round, (bhseniorgolf@gmail.com)

2. Tee Time Request

- a. Upon registration for a round, you can sign **request your tee time and course** using a prompt incorporated in the program or by responding to an email confirming your registration.
- b. You may request the times for up to three (3) additional golfers.
- c. You will receive an email confirming your request and group members
- d. Members who register for a round, but do not request a tee time, will be assigned one by the League.
- e. Note: Tee slots designated with an "F" are on the Fast course. Members who choose this course commit to playing their round in four hours or less.
- f. Bunker Hills and BHSML reserve the right to consolidate tee times to fill in gaps in the tee sheet. We recommend that you check your tee time the night before play.
 - i. Groups will NOT be broken up if consolidation occurs.
 - ii. The maximum time shift you could experience is 2 slots (16 minutes)

3. Scoring

- a. **Groups are responsible for scoring their round on the Golf Genius App or on the Golf Genius website immediately after play.**
- b. All scores must be submitted by **3:00 PM** on the day of play.
- c. Before submission, the members of the group should, at a minimum, acknowledge that the scores marked are accurate.
 - i. We recommend that **two group members keep score on the app** or each group also keep a separate paper scorecard and attest scores before submitting the final score through Golf Genius.
- d. You will receive an email from Golf Genius with a copy of your scorecard. (You cannot change the information on this scorecard. It is for your information only)
 - i. Report any errors on your scorecard to the League through the Chat Room on the Golf Genius App or an email to bhseniorgolf@gmail.com

ii. We will need an attested copy of the scorecard to change any scores.

4. Starting Times & Pace of Play

- a. Bunker Hills has reserved 24 tee slots for League Play for 2022.
- b. Tee times start at 6:56 AM and run at 8-minute intervals through 8:24 AM. We will normally play on the same set of nines, starting on the first hole of your designated course. On occasion, we will play on all three Bunker Hills nines.
 - i. We are assured of additional tee slots if Event registrations indicate we need more.
 - ii. Please be at your assigned tee box 10 minutes before your scheduled tee time.
- c. Bunker Hills may adjust our window based on darkness, frost delay, shotgun starts or any other reason. Please follow information on BHSeniorGolf.com for any changes in the schedule. Such adjustments may impact how many tee slots are available for League play.
- d. Bunker Hills' standard for community play is 4 hours 30 minutes.
 - i. The league target is for each round to be completed in 4 hours 15 minutes.
 - ii. To accomplish this goal, members are encouraged to use ready play techniques recommended by the [USGA Rule E-6](#) with the exception that we have NOT implemented the Max Score recommendation.

5. Safety: Members will at all times adhere to Bunker Hill's Golf Course Safety Procedures.