



CENTRAL TEXAS GOLF ASSOCIATION

2024 BY-LAWS

1. MEMBERSHIP

The Central Texas Golf Association (CTGA) is a non-profit, Member-supported organization open to all male and female amateur golf enthusiasts in the greater Austin, Texas area.

2. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

As with any golf league, all CTGA Members pay annual dues when joining. Our Annual Membership Dues are \$75.00, prorated to \$35.00 for Members joining after May 31st.

1. Annual Dues are payable at the Members' first tournament after the annual CTGA Classic, unless special arrangements are made with the CTGA Finance Director to defer or extend payments over 2 or 3 events;
2. If deferred payment is granted, any winnings prior to full payment of Annual Dues will be credited toward said Annual Dues only;
3. Minimal funds from Annual Dues used for administrative costs with most retained to supplement our annual Fall Classic.

3. TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

The CTGA fiscal year Tournament Schedule begins with the first event after our annual Fall Classic in October and ends with our next Fall Classic. The time, course, fees and prize logistics for all tournaments shall be the responsibility of the CTGA Directors. CTGA Directors will provide tournament schedules and league information to all Members.

4. CTGA FALL CLASSIC

The annual Fall Classic is open to active CTGA Members only. To compete in the Fall Classic Medal Play competition with **full CTGA handicaps**, Members must play in a specified number of tournaments determined by their current year start date with CTGA.

A general meeting will be held at the conclusion of Saturday's Fall Classic round to discuss and vote on policy and procedure improvements and to elect next year Board of Directors.

5. HANDICAPS

CTGA handicaps will be established and maintained for each Member by the CTGA Tournament/Handicap Director, using GolfSoftware.com Handicap System, which conforms to the [USGA Handicap System](#).

1. CTGA Tournament scores only will be used to calculate Member handicaps.
2. All Active Member handicaps will be carried over to the following year.
3. All new Members and active or inactive Members who have not played in a CTGA tournament within the past 10 months must establish a new CTGA handicap.
4. Members who carry an active approved non-CTGA Handicap in addition to their CTGA Handicap may do so and are responsible for keeping CTGA Handicap Director apprised of this Handicap Index monthly.

6. ESTABLISHING HANDICAPS

A. A verifiable, established Handicap (using USGA approved handicap formula):

New Member submits a current, established USGA/GHIN handicap or other verifiable handicap from a golf association or club. This handicap, after approval by CTGA Handicap Director, will allow the new Member to compete, with no restrictions, in all CTGA tournament competition player pools (including Individual and Team formats), and Trash competitions (Close-To-Pin, Skins, and Deuces) with payout winnings at 100% beginning with his/her first CTGA tournament.

Establishing the new member's handicaps:

1. Seven (7) Provisional Scores (PS) equal to the new Member's approved handicap index are entered into the CTGA [Handicap Manager \(HM\) System](#) database, using Roy Kizer Blue (for men) and Roy Kizer Red (for ladies) course rating as our Home Course, to calculate a provisional CTGA starting handicap;
2. These scores and the New Member's CTGA tournament rounds will be used to determine the calculation of up-to-date CTGA handicaps as follows:
 - a. Combination of the initial 7 Provisional scores and official CTGA tournament scores totaling 10 will be used to calculate up-to-date handicaps;
 - b. Beginning with the new member's 4th CTGA score posted, one Provisional score will be deleted and handicaps determined by the combination of 10 Provisional and official CTGA scores
 - c. With the 10th CTGA score posted, all Provisional scores will have been deleted and the new member's official CTGA handicap will be determined by CTGA scores only.

B. Self-Declaring Handicap: New Members who do not have established and verifiable USGA approved handicaps will self-declare a provisional handicap, based on their average 18 hole scores, using the “[Self-Handicapping Chart](#)” provided in our CTGA Website and submit that handicap to the CTGA Handicap Director for approval. This approved handicap will allow the new Member to compete for all Player Pool payout beginning with their first CTGA tournament, as defined below:

1. In Individual Format tournaments, Player Pool payout will be limited to 50% of the stated payout for each Place within each Flight until three (3) CTGA event scores have been played and entered in our Handicap database;
2. In all other CTGA competitions, including Team tournament competition player pools and Trash competitions (Close-To-Pin, Skins, and Deuces), all payouts will be at 100% beginning with new member’s first CTGA tournament.

Establishing the new member’s Self-Declared handicap:

1. Same procedure as A 1-2 above will be used to calculate Self-Declared handicaps.

Inactive CTGA Members or past Members returning to CTGA who have not participated in CTGA tournaments within the past 10 months must re-establish new CTGA handicaps using either of the two methods above.

Members carrying a non-CTGA active Handicap in addition to CTGA Handicap must submit, at the end of every month, this handicap index to the CTGA Handicap Director for use as follows:

1. If the non-CTGA handicap is lower, this handicap takes precedence and the CTGA handicap will be adjusted to that Handicap Index.
2. If the non-CTGA handicap is higher, the CTGA handicap takes precedence and will continue to be used.

7. TEE TIMES AND PAIRINGS

The CTGA Tournament Director will determine pairings and starting holes for individual and preferred foursomes in our Shotgun Start events. Tee Time priority will be determined, as closely as possible, using our Online Sign Up system, on a first come basis, and will take into account preferred foursomes who sign up at different times. Players signing up via email will be put in first available open spot(s) in our Online signup sheet. Requests for earlier or later start times will be honored on first come basis. Players signing up after Pairings have been sent out will be accepted and placed in open spots based on availability.

8. STARTING TIME AND ENTRY FEE PAYMENT

All CTGA Members and Guests are expected to be at the course and ready to play at least 30 minutes prior to their start time. Starting times and changing of individual player 4-somes on tournament day may be made with CTGA Director approval only.

Payment of all entry fees will be prepaid using our Pay Online system no later than 3:00 the day prior to the event. No fees will be collected at the course on tournament day.

1. It is each Member’s responsibility to ensure his/her fees and accompanying Guest (if applicable) fees are paid as stated above.
2. Entry fee and start time for all CTGA tournaments are listed on the official CTGA tournament schedule. If adjustments are required due to change of venue or changes by the golf course, it will be announced by the Tournament Director prior to that event.
3. If a tournament is cancelled, paid fees for that event will be applied to the Member’s personal account unless player requests a refund.
4. Fees for our optional Skins and Deuces competitions will be included in the tournament entry fee unless the Member or Guest verbally “opts out” of these competitions prior to start of play.
5. Members who fail to pay tournament fees as stated above may be charged a \$10.00 late fee.

9. CANCELLATIONS and NO-SHOWS

CTGA operates on the Honor System. Although CTGA understands and accepts player cancellations at any time resulting from family emergencies and/or work commitments, the following will apply to all Members and invited Guests.

1. Players who cancel after final player commitment has been given to the golf course will be charged:

- a. Course fee only if the course charges CTGA for that spot unless a replacement fills that spot.
- b. Player Pool fee if cancellation is within 24 hours of tournament tee time.
- c. If a replacement player fills the spot, no penalty fee will be assessed.

2. Players who sign up for a CTGA event and fail to show up without contacting Course or Director (No Shows):

- a. 1st time No Show will be given a one (1) grace reminder, but will be charged the course fee if CTGA is charged.
- b. Repeat offender will pay the full tournament fee (Course, Player Pool and Trash)...no exception.
- c. Members will be responsible for invited Guest(s) as they apply to either cancellations or No-Shows.

d. Waiver of any of the above fees may be made at the discretion and agreement of two (2) CTGA Directors.

10. **GUESTS**

CTGA welcomes invited Guests to all CTGA scheduled tournament as shown below. All Guests shall understand and accept the competition eligibility, limitation, Rules of Play, event guidelines and Player Pool/Trash tournament fees as specified within these CTGA By-Laws, including:

1. All applicable tournament fees.
2. Guest(s) must provide handicap (USGA conforming or self-declared) when signing up.
3. Guests may compete in all CTGA Player Pool and Trash competitions a maximum of 2 events within the CTGA Tournament year. Further participation within that tournament year will be as a non-participating Guest only.
4. Guest payout in **Individual Format Competition** will be at 50% of the stated amounts for each Place within each Player Pool Flight.
5. Guest payout in **Team Format Competition** will be at the same stated amounts as for CTGA Team members in each Player Pool Flight.
6. Guest payout in all competition **Trash Flights** will be at 100% payout.
7. Three Guests may play in the same foursome in an Individual tournament as long as accompanied by an active CTGA member.
8. A Guest must partner with a CTGA Member only in 2-Player Team events. Three (3) Guests may partner with one (1) CTGA Member in 4-Player Team Events.
9. Guests are eligible for all CTGA Trash competitions, including Close-To-Pin, Skins and Deuces, at 100% of the winner share.
10. Guests are not eligible for CTGA Hole-In-One or Double Eagle prize.
11. Guests are not eligible to play in our Annual CTGA Fall Classic.
12. Guests are not eligible to compete in our CTGA Cup or CTGA Challenge competitions.

11. **CTGA CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION (RULES of PLAY)**

It is the responsibility of all CTGA Member and Guest to know and adhere to both the USGA and CTGA Local Rules of Golf.

1. All CTGA tournaments will be played in accordance with [USGA Rules of Play](#), Local Course Rules, and specific CTGA Rules of Play. Refer to the [CTGA Rules of Play](#) in the **Rules & Regulations** section in our CTGA Website. Unless otherwise announced, all USGA and CTGA Specific Rules of Play shall be in effect at all tournaments.
2. Playing rules pertaining to inclement weather, course conditions, local course rules, etc., will be announced prior to the start of that event by CTGA Directors and/or Course Professional.
3. Golf etiquette shall be observed at all times by CTGA Members and invited Guests.
4. Personal GPS/Course Rangefinders are permissible in all CTGA tournament play, however, use of Slope capability is prohibited. Use of Slope feature will result in player disqualification.
5. Music may be played within a foursome in all CTGA events, except our Fall Classic, with all players' approve and volume is not excessive.
6. **EVENT CONTRACTS THAT INCLUDE SHARED CARTS:** In the interest of time and consideration to all players, golf bags must be on the carts provided throughout the round. Player(s) may walk, but bags must remain on the carts.

12. **RULES of PLAY CLARIFICATION, PROTESTS AND DISPUTES**

1. CTGA Directors and/or golf course Professional shall reconcile all concerns regarding Rules of Play.
2. If a player is doubtful of his rights or the correct procedure during the play of a hole, he may, without penalty, complete the hole with two balls in accordance with **Rule 20.1c (3)**.
3. CTGA Directors will reconcile disputes and protests concerning scoring or eligibility.
4. Protest of a handicap shall be reconciled prior to the Member(s) start of play on tournament day. The Directors' decision shall be final.

13. **PACE OF PLAY**

CTGA tournaments will be played in accordance with USGA guidelines on Undue Slow Play, as defined in [USGA Rule 5.6a](#).

The accountability of maintaining acceptable Pace of Play throughout the round lies with the entire foursomes and Penalty for **“Undue Slow Play”** will be assessed to all players in that foursome unless circumstances confirm that the slow play is caused by individual player(s).

14. **COMPLETING SCORECARDS IN CTGA TOURNAMENTS (USGA Rule 6-6) (Modify and simplify)**

A single official scorecard will be provided for each foursome for both Individual and Team format events. A marker is designated to record all scores in the official scorecard. In addition...

1. Player scores become the official score of record and not subject to change once the player leaves the course.
2. Each Player is responsible for accuracy of his hole-by-hole scores:

- a. A score recorded for any hole lower than actually taken will result in disqualified
- b. A score recorded for any hole higher than actually taken shall stand
- c. Incorrect hole-by-hole scores as stated above will likewise apply to Skins and Deuces.
3. Failure to turn in the official scorecard before leaving the event will result in disqualification.
4. **TOURNAMENT GROSS SCORES ONLY** are to be entered on official tournament scorecard with circle(s) to show Birdies and Eagles
5. It is strongly recommended that all foursomes keep a separate, personal scorecard during the round to verify correctness of the “official” scorecard.
6. It is recommended that foursomes complete the adding of hole-by-hole scores and record the total gross scores for all players in the foursome.

15. **TOURNAMENT FORMATS**

All CTGA tournament play will be Individual Formats or Team Formats. All tournament formats will be determined and posted on our annual Tournament Schedule. Explanations of formats are available in the CTGA Website under **Tournament Formats** in **Rules & Regulations**. Initial Tournament Formats for a stated tournament may be changed at the discretion of the CTGA Directors.

16. **TOURNAMENT FLIGHTS**

The CTGA Tournament Director will determine the number of competition flights to be played in all events.

Individual Format tournaments: The number of Flights will be determined by the number of players in the field and handicap breakdown.

2-Player and 4-Player Team tournaments with the number of Flights determined by the total number of Teams entered. Team Flights will be determined by the combined handicaps of all Team players.

Trash Flights will always have a minimum of 2 Flights, determined by player handicaps.

17. **TOURNAMENT PLAYING GROUND (TEES)**

The CTGA Tournament Director will determine the Tees to be played in all events.

Individual Format Tournaments

Courses with maximum yardage of 6200 or less:

1. All men will play the Back Tees
2. Ladies will play Tees consistent with their handicaps.

Courses with multiple Tees of more than 6200 yards:

1. Lower handicap men’s Flights will play Tees between 6,300 and 6,500 yards
2. Higher handicap men’s Flights will play next forward Tees (under 6,300 yards)
3. Ladies will play Tees consistent with their handicaps
4. Players may opt to play Next Forward Tees based on High Handicap and/or meeting established 80 Rule;

Team Format Tournaments

1. All men may play same Tees as Individual Format event or the same set of Tees regardless of individual handicaps. Tee assignments will be made prior to each event.
 2. Ladies in same assigned Flights will play Ladies Tees closest to the Slope/Rating of the assigned Men’s Tees.
- All competitors will play from their approved designated Tees. Play from unapproved Tees will result in disqualification or playing from outside the Teeing Area on any hole will result in penalty as defined in Rule 6.1b.

18. **PLAYERS IN SAME FLIGHT COMPETING FROM DIFFERENT TEES**

All players within the same Player Pool Flights will play the assigned Teeing Ground for that tournament, with the following exceptions:

3. Ladies will play assigned Ladies Teeing Ground with applicable handicap for that Tee plus appropriate Stroke/Slope handicap adjustments.
4. Any player scheduled to play the assigned Teeing Ground may opt to play the next Back Teeing Ground with applicable Stroke/Slope handicap adjustment.
5. CTGA 80 Rule allows players, at their discretion, to play the next Forward Tees with applicable Stroke/Slope handicap adjustment. The 80 Rule includes player age plus CTGA handicap. Players must declare move to forward tees concurrent with signing up for that event. If using this option, and the player places in his/her Player Pool Flight, he/she is restricted from moving to next forward teeing Ground as follows:
 - a. 1st Place Finish – not eligible to move to next Forward Tees for next 3 tournaments
 - b. 2nd Place Finish – not eligible to move to next Forward Tees for next 2 tournaments
 - c. 3rd or lower Place Finish – not eligible to move to next Forward Tees for next tournament
 - d. Places in 2 consecutive events by moving Forward: Not eligible to move Forward for next 4 events
6. Players opting to play next Tees Back or Forward will compete in the Flight designated for the original Tees to be played.
7. Players making the CTGA Cup Playoff Finals will play in a single Flight from differing Tees with normal handicap and appropriate Stroke/Slope handicap adjustments.
8. Winnings when competing from different Tees does not apply to our Tournament Trash Competitions.

19. PLAYER POOL DISTRIBUTION & PAYOUT

1. Flight Payout: Determined by the available Pool with guaranteed 30% of the field in each Flight.
2. Player Pool payout for each Flight will be determined by the number of Flights divided by the total number of competing players and the amount of the total prize money available.
3. Corresponding places in each Flight will receive equal payout.
4. Guest Player Pool payout will be as follows:
 - a. 50% of the designated payout at Individual format tournaments.
 - b. 100% of the designated payout at Team format tournaments.
 - c. 100% of the designated payout for all Trash competitions
 - d. All Guest prize payouts will be credited to his/her sponsoring Member's Account.
5. No competition winnings will be paid out at the course on tournament day. All winnings will be put into each member's Personal Funds Account.
6. Player Pool payout adjustments may be required and made after initial pairing information is released due to the loss or gain of our playing field. This adjustment may not be known until after completion of play.

20. PLAYER POOL COMPETITION TIES

First place ties in all tournament player pools shall be settled by scorecard play-off. The winner will be determined as follows:

1. Net Results of the last 9 holes, using applicable Back 9 handicap holes;
2. If still tied, Net Results of the last 6 handicap holes;
3. If still tied, Net Results of the last 3 handicap holes;
4. If still tied, Net results of the 18th hole;
5. If still tied, Net results beginning with the #1 handicap hole until a winner is determined
6. Ties for all other places in each Player Pool Flight will be split equally

21. PLAYER PERSONAL FUND ACCOUNT

1. A Personal Fund Account will be set up for each active Member by our CTGA Finance Director;
2. All winning amounts, including all Trash, will be credited to that Member's Account upon release of official tournament results.
3. At Member's request, the CTGA Finance Director will release funds for any moneys within that Member's Account.
4. All Guest prize payout will be credited to his/her sponsoring Member's Account.
5. Personal Fund Accounts for ex-members who have left CTGA will remain open and available to the ex-members for up to 2 years. After 2 years, ex-member accounts will be closed and said funds forfeited and transferred to the CTGA General Fund. The Finance Director is not responsible for attempting to contact the ex-member regarding said funds.
6. Members are responsible for winning funds available to invited Guests.
7. Players may contact CTGA Finance Director with questions or concerns regarding his/her Personal Fund Account for clarification and resolution.

22. TRASH COMPETITIONS

Three Trash competitions will be played at all CTGA tournaments, including Close-To-Pin, Skins and Deuces (see CTGA Website for Trash competition procedures). Close-To-Pin fee is included in the player's Tournament Fee. Skins and Deuces are optional competitions with \$5.00 entry fee each. **All players are in our Skins & Deuces competitions unless they opt out prior to start of play.**

Two Trash Flights will be determined based on participating player handicaps with as close to a 50% balance as possible.

1. **Close-To-Pin Competition (CTP):** Each Trash Flight will compete for CTP prizes on two (2) designated Par 3 holes. Player with closest 1st tee shot on the green wins that hole. Close-To-Pin prize per hole is \$10.00. If no player hits the green, the prize money for that hole goes into the CTGA General Fund.
NOTE: Failure to measure and record Close-To-Pin distance prior to abandoning exact position of the ball on the green will result in disqualification for Close-To-Pin on that hole.
2. **Skins Competition:** A Skins hole is won by the player whose gross score is the single lowest gross score on that hole within that Skins Flight. Two (2) or more players within the Skins Flight tie with the same low gross score, no Skin is awarded. Skin prize amount will be determined by the number of players entered, divided by the number of Skins won.
3. **Deuces Competition:** All players who record a natural 2 on their scorecard will share in that Flight's Deuce Pot. The Deuce Pot is divided equally amongst the total number of gross Deuces recorded.
4. No Skins and/or Deuces won within a Trash Flight will result in a Carry-Over to the next tournament.
5. Players who did not play in events resulting in Skins or Deuces Carry-Over must buy into the Carry-Over Trash pot(s) at the next tournament.
6. Fee for competing in Skins and Deuces in 2-Day tournaments is \$10.00 each (5.00 for each day).

23. HOLE-IN-ONE-DOUBLE EAGLE PRIZE FUND

CTGA has a Members only prize fund of \$200.00 for Hole-In-One and Double Eagle. When a Hole-In-One or Double Eagle prize is awarded, each Member will be assessed an equal dollar amount, based on the number of active CTGA members, at his/her next tournament to re-establish our \$200.00 prize fund.

24. CTGA CUP and CTGA CHALLENGE COMPETITIONS

Guidelines for our annual CTGA Cup CTGA Challenge competitions can be found in our Website under [Rules & Regulations](#).

25. CTGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a. CTGA Board of Directors shall consist of 4 elected positions. 2022 Board of Directors include:
 - Tournament/Handicap Director - Eddie Nunez
 - Finance Director – Sean Nunez
 - At Large Director – Steve Barnes
 - At Large Director – Scott Preece
 - At Large Director – John Cervantes
 - At Large Director – John Cervantes
- b. The CTGA Board of Directors will govern all logistics of the CTGA organization in accordance with its approved By-Laws.
- c. CTGA Board of Directors have the power to amend or change an existing CTGA By-Laws with 75% approval from current Directors.
- d. CTGA Board of Directors will oversee all tournaments and make general decisions on specific issues and processes at their discretion.
- e. CTGA Board of Directors (BOD) shall have a minimum of 4 Quarterly meetings to discuss organization issues, concerns, strategies, and new process implementation. BOD meetings dates will be announced and are open to all members.
- f. CTGA Board of Directors will preside in office for the fiscal tournament year (Fall Classic to Fall Classic).
- g. CTGA Board of Directors will represent CTGA as a voting member of the City of Austin Golf Advisory Board.
- h. CTGA Board of Directors may be reelected to serve multiple years with no term limits.

26. PLAYERS NOT ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE FOR CTGA PRIZE PAYOUTS

- a. Professional golfers, school age boys and girls who currently and/or will be part of a University, High School, Junior High School, and/or any Junior Golf competition program, etc., may play all CTGA events as “Non-Competing” Guests and are not eligible to compete for any CTGA prizes.
- b. Fees for these special Guests will include course fees (green fees, cart fee, etc.) and a \$5.00 Guest Fee.

27. RESULTS & STATISTICS

Tournament results and other member information pertinent to that tournament and upcoming tournament(s) will be posted on the CTGA Website at the conclusion of each tournament.
Member Statistics will be sent out to Members and posted on the CTGA Website at the end of each calendar month.

**REVISED AND APPROVED BY CTGA DIRECTORS
October 21, 2023**