

## STX Golf Tour Notice to Players & Local Rules

Play is governed by the rules of golf. Disregard any local rules found on the golf course scorecard.

**FORMAT:** 18 hole net stroke play competition.

**TEE MARKERS:** All players under 50 years old will play the back tee markers (unless otherwise noted in the events local rules sheet). Players 50 and up may choose to play 1 tee marker up from the tournament tees. However, if a player chooses to move up a tee box, 2 strokes will be subtracted from their starting handicap for the round to account for the difference in course rating and slope.

**OUT OF BOUNDS:** Out of bounds is defined by white boundary stakes and/or fence lines bordering the golf course property.

**NATIVE AREAS:** All native areas within the golf course boundaries (marked or unmarked) will be played as a lateral hazard. You may play the ball as it lies, or take relief (with a 1 stroke penalty) by dropping the ball outside the native area, either back on the line between the hole and where your ball last crossed, or within 2 club lengths of where your ball last crossed into the native area, but not closer to the hole.

**SAND BUNKERS:** Players are allowed to "rake and place" their ball in the bunker within 1 scorecard length of where it lies, and no closer to the hole.

**GROUND UNDER REPAIR:** Players may take relief from abnormal and unmarked course conditions such as <u>extreme</u> bare spots on fairways and greens. Players are asked to use their best judgment on this and consult their playing partners before taking relief.

**LISTENING TO MUSIC:** Model local rule G-8 will be in effect and modified as follows: During a round, a player must not listen to music or any other similar broadcast on a personal audio or video device that might be distracting to other competitors.

**PACE OF PLAY:** Play "ready golf." Rounds should be completed in less than 4.5 hours. The tour reserves the right to penalize slow players and/or groups who fail to finish within 20 minutes of the group in front of them.

**HANDICAP & NET SCORING SYSTEM:** New players without a mature "Tour Handicap Index" (less than 5 tournament rounds) will have scoring restrictions and limited to a score of 2 under par (net). After a player's 3rd tournament round, they will receive a "Tour Handicap Index," which is based solely off scores shot in STX Tour events. Once a player has completed 5 tournament rounds, their tour handicap will be considered mature and they will no longer have limitations on their net score.

**STARTING HANDICAP (new players):** New players will be given a starting handicap based off their GHIN, or recent tournament scores that can be found online for players without a GHIN index. If the tour is unable to approve a player's GHIN, and/or not enough scoring info is available to create a starting index, the player can play off a "0" for their initial tour index. The lowest starting index that will be allocated to any player is (+4), and the highest index a player is allowed to play at is (9). This is the case regardless of a player's GHIN and/or their "Tour Handicap Index."

- One ball rule is **NOT** in effect.
- The slope feature on distance measuring devices IS allowed.