

**RED WING SENIORS GOLF ASSOCIATION  
(RWSGA)**

**LOCAL RULES OF GOLF**

**(ADJUSTED FOR ASSOCIATION MATCHES)**

As of January 7, 2025

Prepared on behalf of the Board of Directors by: Tom Schneid (Secretary)

Approved by: Board of Directors, March 1995 Bill Nelson, President

Amended by: Tournament & Rules Committee, August 2003 Jake Dohner and Bill Holland

Amended by: Vote of the Membership, March 2007 Bob Saunders, President

Amended by: Vote of the Membership, March 2008 Thomas Metz, President

Amended by: Vote of the Membership, March 2010 Douglas Miller, President

Amended by: Vote of Board of Directors, March 2011 Al Bush, President

Amended by: Vote of Board of Directors, February 2015 Harry Watson, President

Amended by: Vote of Board of Directors, February 2016 Doug Johnson, President

Amended by: Vote of Board of Directors, July 2019 Joe Domozick, President

Amended by: Vote of Board of Directors, January 2022 Steve Coomer, President

Amended by: Vote of Board of Directors, January 2024 Douglas Miller, President

Amended by: Vote of Board of Directors, February 2024 Douglas Miller, President

Amended by: Vote of Board of Directors, January 2025 Tom King, President

THESE RULES OF GOLF APPLY TO THE RWSGA AND ALL DO NOT COMPLY WITH THE USGA RULES OF GOLF. HOWEVER, USGA RULES OF GOLF SHALL APPLY IN ALL OTHER SITUATIONS NOT COVERED BY THESE RULES. RWSGA IS A HANDICAP LEAGUE BASED ON POSTED SCORES FROM ASSOCIATION SPONSORED ROUNDS. THE MAXIMUM HANDICAP INDEX FOR ANY PLAYER IS SET BY THE USGA (CURRENTLY IS 54), HOWEVER, THE HANDICAP RULES STATED IN SECTION VIII WILL APPLY TO ALL RWSGA LEAGUE EVENTS.

## SECTION I RULES OF PLAY

1. **THREE OVER PAR MAXIMUM:** If a competitor fails to hole out on any green, the player will record an automatic 3 over par; however, EXCEPT AFTER REACHING TWO STROKES OVER PAR, the player must pick up and record a 3 over par for that hole. At any time when playing a hole, the maximum number of strokes to be recorded is 3 over par.
2. **BALL LOST OR OUT OF BOUNDS:** If a ball is lost outside of a water hazard or out of bounds, the player will drop a ball, under penalty of one (1) stroke, as nearly as possible to the spot from which the original ball was last seen crossing the margin of the rough or out of bound lines and/or stakes.
3. **PREFERRED LIES:** A ball in the fairway, rough or trees may be lifted, cleaned, and placed as well as rolled with a club head without penalty, within one (1) club length of where it originally lay, not nearer the hole, and to preserve as nearly as possible the stance required to play from the original lie. A ball in a bunker may not be moved except as provided for under USGA rules.
4. **DRAINAGE DITCHES:** A ball coming to rest in a “drainage ditch” and found by its owner may be removed and dropped or placed at the nearest point of relief within two (2) club lengths from the spot where the ball came to rest but not nearer the hole without penalty providing the ditch is not red staked. If the ditch is red staked, then the lateral water hazard rule applies.

## SECTION II PACE OF PLAY

Members of the RWSGA are senior citizens whose prowess over the years have diminished and whose abilities are not the same as they once were. These abilities include hitting distance, mobility, and visual impairments. These factors impact the “pace of play.” The “pace of play” is not viewed in the same way by all players. The enjoyment of playing golf with friends and acquaintances is the purpose on which this Association was founded. However, in order not to detract from the enjoyment of other golfers, all efforts must be made to maintain a “pace of play.” It is the goal of this association to complete eighteen (18) holes of golf in no more than four hours and fifteen minutes (4:15). A player is considered “in position” when he remains within a shot of the group in front of him; the player is “out of position” when the group behind is waiting to play its next shot or the group falls more than one (1) shot behind the group in front of them. In order to encourage this “Pace of Play,” the following rules are provided:

1. **PLAY READY GOLF:** A player should proceed directly to his own ball and immediately play his shot if he is “out of position” on the Course. Plan the next shot and select a club while approaching the next shot. Be ready to hit after other players in the group hit. A player should keep a spare ball in his pocket and play a “provisional” ball when in doubt. Read and memorize the rules of golf especially those regarding “out of bound,” “hazards,” and “lost balls.”
2. **SAVE TIME DURING YOUR ROUND:** Players should never record scores or replace clubs in their bags until reaching the next tee. Park the bag and/or cart away from the green and head to the next tee. Give lessons on the practice tee, but not on the golf course. Players should not delay the next shot if “out of position.” Players should carry enough clubs, balls, tees, towels, and ball markers with them; don’t return to the cart to retrieve these items. If a ball is lost, respect the “three-minute rule” and drop a ball in a timely manner.
3. **SMART CART GOLF:** Players should make every reasonable effort to utilize the golf cart to maintain pace of play. Whenever it is practical and safe, a player should exit the cart, pick a club (or two) and then allow their partner

to proceed to play their ball. Once the partner who has taken the cart has played their shot, they can then return to pick up the other player (or that player can walk to the cart) and proceed to the next shot. There is absolutely no excuse to be at your golf ball and **not** have a club in hand.

4. **WHEN ON THE TEE:** The first player to reach the tee should promptly hit when safe to do so especially if your group is “out of position.” Each player should return to his cart/bag after teeing off and be prepared to move to his next shot.
5. **WHEN ON THE GREEN:** Players should place cart/bags in line with the next tee. Each player should know the putting line before he approaches his putt. Putt out if possible, especially when your group is “out of position.”
6. **PAY ATTENTION TO OTHER PLAYERS:** Watch other players’ shots and identify landing areas by other landmarks to speed up the process of finding all players’ balls.
7. **CART PATHS ONLY:** When carts are restricted to cart paths, each player should take his clubs, balls, and towels with him so he will be ready to play away.
8. **PUTTS:** All putts will be holed out with the below listed exceptions:
  - a. See Section I paragraph 1 (Three Over Par Maximum).
  - b. A putt may be conceded if the ball is “within the leather” of a putter unless the putt is for a Birdie or Par in which case the player must putt it out (**during the Club Championship, all putts must be putted out**).
9. **FAILURE TO MAINTAIN PACE OF PLAY:**
  - a. Any group who falls one (1) hole behind the group in front of them, will be warned to speed up play.
  - b. Any group who falls two (2) or more holes behind the group in front of them may be told to pick up their ball, head to the next tee box and record a triple bogey for all members of their group for the hole not completed. Subsequent violations will result in disqualification for that week including a forfeiture of all skins or birdie money paid.

### **SECTION III**

## **CLUB CHAMPION TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY**

1. Participants must be members in good standing with all applicable dues paid.
2. Participants must have a minimum of 10 rounds of golf played during sanctioned events of the RWSGA during the current year and prior to the Club Championship Tournament.
3. Sanctioned events for RWSGA are held on Thursdays from March to November.
4. Only participants who meet the ELIGIBILITY requirements will be the CLUB CHAMPION or winners of any flight in the CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT.

## SECTION IV CLUB CHAMPION WINNERS

1. There will be a Low Gross Score Winner and a Low Net Handicap Winner.
2. Low Gross Score Winner will be designated as the Club Champion.
3. Low Net Handicap Winner will be designated as Club Champion Low Net Winner.
4. In addition to the above winners, there will be three handicap flights, and each flight will have a first, second, and third place winner.
5. **If Low Net and Low Gross is the same person**, the Low Net will be Club Champion Low Net, and the next lowest gross score will be Low Gross winner. If the second place or any Low Gross Winner placed in any handicap flight, he would be removed from that flight, and then 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners would be established for that flight. If the second place or any Low Gross Winner was a winner in flight, his winnings would be \$30.00 less than what he would have won by staying in the flight.
6. Low Gross Winner or Low Net Winner will not be allowed to win any place in any of the three handicap flights. Only one win per player is allowed.

## SECTION V PAYMENT OF MONETARY AWARDS FOR RWSGA EVENTS

**Background:** Not all players remain at the club house at the conclusion of RWSGA sanctioned outings. In many cases, those that depart have won some money. This practice has created a secondary system where Association officers (and others that manage birdie and skin winnings) become the caretakers of personal monetary winnings until they meet up with winning players. In some cases, this has taken several weeks/months. Money managers should not be placed in a situation where they become liable for maintaining personal winnings.

The following policy will be followed for issuing monetary awards to players after RWSGA sanctioned events:

**Team Play events:** Award money will be given to Team Captains to disseminate to team players. Individuals that "are not present" should identify another player to receive their winnings on their behalf. If a player is not present, it will be the Team Captain's responsibility to hold the money until they can give it to the player involved.

**Individual Play:**

1. Individuals that "are not present" (when winners are announced) can identify another player to receive their winnings on their behalf. The player must notify the Treasurer (for individual prize money) and the Birdie/Skins coordinators before the player leaves.
2. If no alternate is selected to receive winnings for another player, then the money will be held for "no more than" the next two RWSGA sanctioned events". It remains the player's responsibility to get with the right person (Treasurer, birdie/skin coordinators) to receive their winning(s).

**NOTE: If winnings are not picked up "by the end of the second RWSGA sanctioned event," then they will be deposited into the RWSGA budget funds.**

## PAYOUT FOR EVENT WINNERS/RWSGA PAYOUT SCHEDULE

INDIVIDUAL PLAY	TEAM PLAY	MEMBER/MEMBER	CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP
PAY 3 FLIGHTS	PAY 4 PLACES	PAY 5 PLACES	PAYS 3 FLIGHTS
<b>TOTAL \$135</b>	<b>TOTAL \$200</b>	<b>TOTAL \$200</b>	<b>TOTAL \$300</b>
1 <sup>ST</sup> Place    \$20	1 <sup>ST</sup> Place    \$80	1 <sup>ST</sup> Place    \$60	1 <sup>ST</sup> Place    \$50
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place    \$15	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place    \$60	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place    \$50	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place    \$30
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place    \$10	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place    \$40	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place    \$40	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place    \$20
	4 <sup>th</sup> Place    \$20	4 <sup>th</sup> Place    \$30	
		5 <sup>th</sup> Place    \$20	
<b>\$45 each flight</b>			<b>\$100 each flight</b>

### CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

- CLUB CHAMPION LOW GROSS TROPHY**                      **Receives free following year membership**
- CLUB CHAMPION LOW NET TROPHY**                      **Receives free following year membership**
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place all three (3) Flights TROPHY**

## SECTION VI

### GOLF RAIN DELAY RULES FOR RWSGA SANCTIONED EVENTS

Golf courses have procedures in place to notify players when the course is closed due to unsafe weather conditions. When alerts are sounded, players should finish the hole they are on and immediately proceed back to the club house. If weather conditions do not allow the completion of a hole, then players should mark their ball location so they can return to the same spot if play should continue. In these rain delay cases, there are two (2) outcomes:

**1. Suspended Play:**

Course management expects to reopen play once inclement weather passes. If it is expected that play will resume in a brief period (within one-hour time), then players will wait at the golf course and resume play once allowed by golf course management.

**NOTE: Players leaving the course without completing their 18-hole round are disqualified from any prize monies and birdie/skin wagers.**

**2. Cancellation:**

In this case course management decides to keep the course closed for more than 1 hour (or for the day). The RWSGA sanctioned event will be cancelled. In this case:

- a. Prize money and any other collected monies (i.e., Birdies and Skins):** If all players complete “the same 9 holes,” then award monies will be calculated on the 9-hole scores.

- b. If all Players ***do not complete “the same 9-holes”*** then birdies and skins money will immediately be returned to each player. **NOTE:** *Players should not leave the golf course without collecting their wagers. Those that do will forfeit their monies which will be placed into the RWSGA fund.*

3. **Rescheduling:** If the golf outing needs to be rescheduled, the Golf Scheduler will work with the RWSGA President (or VP in his absence) on a new date.

## SECTION VII SUPER SENIOR TEES REQUIREMENT

1. All members will have the opportunity to play from the forward (super senior) tees in lieu of the normal, senior, tees. No other tees are allowed.
2. Members must submit a request, in writing, by March 15th to the Handicap Committee stating their intention to play from the forward (super senior) tees.
3. Once a member has elected to move to the forward (super senior) tees, they will have *only one opportunity* to return (back) to the senior tee if requested (in writing) from the Handicap Committee. The change will be effective on August 1<sup>st</sup> and will remain in effect for the rest of the RWSGA golfing season.

## SECTION VIII HANDICAPS

1. RWSGA will use the current USGA approved handicap system with the following exception: the maximum handicap allowed for league play, including ‘Extra Play’, is thirty-six (36).
2. New Member Handicap Options are:
  - a. Provide signed score cards from five (5) rounds of golf played with RWSGA members or five (5) signed score cards from other courses showing eighteen (18) holes played or a combination of both. Rounds must have been played within the last three (3) months.
  - b. Play five (5) rounds of golf with RWSGA including both winter play and summer play.

## SECTION IX HONORARY MEMBERS

The RWSGA recognizes that there will be exceptional cases where certain members may (1) incur long-term disabilities that no longer allow them to partake in golfing events, and (2) are recognized for their contributions and support over the years. Such individuals may be nominated (and considered) for an honorary membership. Honorary membership is awarded solely at the discretion and simple-majority vote of the Board of Directors. The number and term of honorary memberships are limited and determined by the Board of Directors. Conversely, the Board reserves the right to revoke an honorary membership at any time.

1. **Eligibility:** It is preferred that a nominee has been a continuous member for at least fifteen (15) years. However, in exceptionally unusual circumstances, a nominee may be considered with at least seven (7) years of continuous

membership. Honorary members will be considered individually and on their personal attributes and achievements, and not in comparison to others.

2. **Submission Process:** The Honorary Membership Nomination form shall be completed and sent to the Secretary, who will present the nomination to the Board of Directors for consideration/approval. Once approved, the appropriate certificate will be prepared and presented to the awardee by the President (or Vice President in his absence).
3. **Limitations:** Members awarded honorary membership status are:
  - exempt from paying annual dues.
  - may not vote or hold any office.
  - may attend local social events.
  - may not transfer out of honorary membership status to another membership status (i.e., Full Membership/Social Membership).
  - Once terminated, Honorary membership status cannot be reinstated.

## SECTION X HOLE-IN-ONE POOL

The purpose of the Hole in One Pool is to assist any member who is fortunate enough to have a hole in one with purchasing drinks for all members who are in attendance on the day of the sanctioned event. The funds will be kept separate as part of the budget and reported on by the treasurer. The treasurer will also be responsible for maintaining the list of members who have paid into the pool. The fee and operation of the pool are as follows:

1. The Hole in One Pool is optional for all current members.
2. Fee to enter the Hole in One Pool (as of January 1, 2025) is \$3 and will be collected by the treasurer.
3. A member may join at any time during the season BUT must have paid the treasurer PRIOR to scoring their hole in one for them to be covered by the Hole in One Pool.
4. The Hole in One Pool ONLY covers official, RWSGA sanctioned events. These generally occur on Thursdays except for the Club Championship which is played over a two-day period (Wednesday and Thursday).
5. If a member who has paid their fee into the pool scores a hole in one, the member has the following options:
  - Pack up your clubs, drive home and purchase no drinks and do not receive any money from the pool.
  - Purchase drinks for just your foursome (playing partners) and do not receive any money from the pool.
  - Purchase drinks for all members present and be reimbursed for drink expenses from the Hole-in-One pool. The member pays the bill and submits a receipt to the treasurer for reimbursement. Reimbursement cannot exceed the available pool balance. The Treasurer will then begin collecting entry fees from the general membership to replenish the pool and to start a new list of members for the next Hole in One Pool.
6. If no one scores a hole in one during the current season, all funds will be carried forward to the next season and those who paid their fee prior will continue to be 'covered'.
7. A list of those in the pool will be provided and forwarded to the membership prior to the first match of the season and periodically during the season as necessary.

## SECTION XI REDEX COMPETITION

The REDEX cup was designed to mimic a PGA FEDEX cup type competition allowing players to accumulate points throughout the regular season and declaring winners and awarding prizes at the end of the season (last date played in October).

1. Points are earned:

a. At all sanctioned RWSGA events at Redwing Golf course once per week:

- i. 1 point for playing
- ii. 2 points for winning 3rd place in each of 3 flights
- iii. 3 points for winning 2nd place in each of 3 flights
- iv. 4 pts for winning 1st place in each of 3 flights

b. At all RWSGA sanctioned away events not at Redwing Golf Course once per week:

- i. 2 points for playing
- ii. 3 points for winning 3rd place in each of 3 flights
- iii. 4 points for winning 2nd place in each of 3 flights
- iv. 5 pts for winning 1st place in each of 3 flights

c. Points for club championship play

i. Each day

(1) Same as 1.a above.

ii. Overall

(1) Participation on both days: If eligible to play in the Club Championship, and the member plays both days, they will receive 5 points.

(2) Top 3 Best Gross scores: 1st – 4 pts, 2nd - 3 pts, 3rd –2 pts

(3) Top 3 Best Net scores by flight in each flight: 1st – 4 pts, 2nd - 3 pts, 3rd –2 pts

iii. Player may only win pts in one category (Gross, or Net Flight) If they win in both, then they would receive points in the best gross category and everyone in their net flight would move up one position.

d. No points on weekly events are awarded for any ties beyond 3rd place winner.

e. Point for showing up means showing up and playing at least 9 holes.

2. The cost to participate will be free to all RWSGA members.

3. No points are awarded for team play events.

4. Awards for the top ten overall point winners are as follows:

- First Place: \$70
- Second Place: \$65
- Third Place: \$55
- Fourth Place: \$45
- Fifth Place: \$40



Sixth Place: \$35  
Seventh Place: \$30  
Eighth Place: \$25  
Ninth Place: \$20  
Tenth Place: \$15

Total - \$400

5. Ties, if any, will be broken by:
- a. For 1st place
    - i. Individual with the most rounds played during the current season
    - ii. Low Net score for the year (Through Oct 31)
    - iii. Low Net score hardest handicap hole from final tournament

**NOTE:** Actual amounts of individual awards at the end of the year may vary based on budget availability.

## **SECTION XII ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES**

Association Committees are responsible for directing the regular golf sessions as to procedures and types of competitive play and will be responsible for staging tournaments and planning occasional play away from the home course on regular golf days.

1. Golf scheduler: Responsible for establishing the annual RWSGA sanctioned golfing schedule for approval and dissemination by the President.
2. Pairing scheduler: Responsible for assigning pairings and starting holes for players signed up to play on regular RWSGA scheduled golfing days.
3. Extra play scheduler: Responsible for setting days and courses to play on non-regular golf days (i.e. Monday, Tuesday, and Winter golf days).
4. Scoring Committee: Responsible for verifying player scores upon completion of regular RWSGA sanctioned Thursday golf outings to determine winners for each flight.
5. Handicap Committee: Maintain and approve the handicap of each member.
6. Website Manager: Maintains the RWSGA website and gathers league news, information, and pictures to post on the RWSGA website.
7. Officer Selection Committee: Each September, creates a slate of officer nominations to present to the Board for the following year. This Committee provides a minimum of two (2) names per position and consists of members appointed by the President. Selected nominations will be voted on (and approved) by the General Membership during the annual (end-of year) meeting.
8. Jim Cooper Award Committee: Meet in September of each year to select an award winner. The committee will consist of past Jim Cooper Award winners.

9. Memorial Gifts are provided to the family of an Association member, the spouse of the member, or the child of a member if he/she is living in the same household. The gift should not exceed \$70.00 and is procured by the President and/or the Vice-President.
10. The Board will appoint an active member to purchase plaques and trophies for the Association. The appointed member will also maintain RWSGA Bulletin boards.
11. Refreshment and Entertainment Committee: Responsible for arranging and providing these support services as needed for RWSGA events.