



Golf Society
2020 Season Handout – COVID-19 YEAR

Fellow Member,

On behalf of the Golf Society Committee we extend a warm welcome to the Society. As you all know we are living in unprecedented times and our 2020 Season will not look like past years. However, we hope we can make this years' experience enjoyable while staying safe and healthy!

As we are not allowed to convene before or after Tournaments (at least as of the end of May 2020) we will not be providing food after each tournament. This situation also affects our ability to award prizes after each tournament – so we will have to settle for a congratulatory email following each of the Tournaments and we will arrange to get the prizes to the Winners! We wish to give a hug SHOUT OUT to Jimmy Fay for agreeing to accept our scorecards after each tournament and entering our scores and determining winners in the computer system. Thank You So Much Jimmy!

We hope that this handout provides the information which will allow you to plan for our 2020 events and, in the case of new Members, gives sufficient information for you to understand the various procedures associated with registering, paying and attending events.

Please note that updates and general information relevant to the Golf Society can be located on the Irish Club of Mississauga website:

www.irishclubmississauga.ca

The handout contains the following:

- *Season overview, Tournament Fee Information.....page 2*
- *Prize structure & 2020 Tournament Schedulepage 3*
- *Names and Email addresses of the Golf Society Committee, Signup & Method and Timing of payment for eventspage 4*
- *Contact information for the Golf Courses..... page 5*
- *Match Play and Golfer of the Year details..... pages 6 & 7*
- *Handicap and Rules information pages 8 to 11*

We all look forward to an enjoyable and successful 2020 golfing season, despite COVID-19.

Your Committee
On behalf of the Golf Society

Overview of what is organized during the season

The Golf Society season usually starts in April (this year it started with our May Golf Outing) and finishes in October, weather permitting. One event is organized each month. Usually we have made long term arrangements with the Golf Courses to reserve 10 tee-off times, which means we can accommodate 40 golfers. To maintain a good relationship with the Golf Courses we agree to confirm the number of players one week before each event. To facilitate this the **closing date for signing-up is the Sunday - 13 days before an event.**

For this year, and in order to give Members a reasonable opportunity to indicate their intention to play, the Captain of the Society will send out an email for Members to register by reply email. If you know of anyone who does not have email please let Sheelagh Byrne the Captain know so she can call to confirm their interest in participation. (Sheelagh Byrne sheelaghbyrne@bell.net 905-914-7151)

Due to COVID-19 rules there are no “walk-on” golfers allowed. Anyone wanting to golf (Members or Guests) will need to register and submit payment electronically in advance in order to golf on the day of the Tournament. (See Method of Payment in this document for details.)

The Society will hold 5 tournaments this year. Due to the April Tournament being cancelled and the May Tournament just being a fun day out golfing the Committee has agreed that 4 out of the 5 remaining tournaments will be included in the Golfer of the Year (GOY).

Who do you play with?

For most events you can chose to make up your own 4 ball – you will need to identify that when registering by email. Otherwise the Society Committee will assign 4 ball groups and advise by email prior to the Tournament.

Please note that the Captain’s Day is being held at Hidden Lake (New Course) in August – Should the rules allow it by then, we will join the Club Membership at their Annual BBQ after the tournament. The Society will pay the \$10 cost for any Member who played golf on the day.

What time do I tee-off?

Tee-off times are drawn at random. The draw is made on the Sunday before the Tournament. The draw will be emailed to the membership as well as being posted on the Club/GolfSociety website. Our aim is to have this available on the Monday before an event.

2020 Tournament Fees

Each Tournament may be a different cost. These fees will always include green fees and cart fees plus taxes, see the chart on page 3 for each specific cost that is payable electronically.

Guests

At the 2018 AGM a motion was passed regarding guests playing in Society Tournaments. The motion is as follows: “a local person can golf as a guest at one tournament per year at the regular fee

paid by current Society Members. If they would like to golf other tournaments that year, they are required to pay the \$50 Membership Fee and then the regular fee paid for the tournament.”

However, if guests are from distant places (i.e. Ireland, Scotland, Montreal, etc.) and they wish to play more than once per year they are welcome with no surcharge and no requirement to pay the Membership Fee.

Prizes open to guests are the Money Hole and all Par 3 closest to the Pins. However, this will only be available when the Courses allow it.

Prize Structure

The way prizes are determined will alternate at each tournament as follows:

At one tournament, the flight prize structure will be in effect whereby prizes are given to the four levels: Overall Winner, Flights A, B, & C winners. NOTE: There will no longer be a Ladies Flight, women golfers will be included in the appropriate Flight based on handicaps. Then for the next tournament, prizes will be given to the top 4 winners (not based on flights but on points).

Golf Society 2020 Calendar of Events

Event Date	Venue	Convenor	Payment Due	Cost / Tee Times (To be confirmed)
May 2	Victoria Park East	Cancelled	April 19, 2020	\$50.00/walking; \$60 carts (HST included) X-over at 11:30 am
May 23	Cambridge	Held: Not a Tournament	May 10, 2020	\$50 walking; \$65 riding HST included 10:00 am first tee time
June 20	Hidden Lake (Old Course)	Sheelagh Byrne & Kevin Arey	June 7, 2020	\$62 walking; \$79 carts (HST included) 10:00 am first tee time
July 18	Grey Silo	Sheelagh Byrne & Kevin Arey	July 5, 2020	\$68 walking or riding (HST included) 10:00 am first tee time
August 15	Hidden Lake (New Course) Captain's Day	Sheelagh Byrne & Kevin Arey	Aug 2, 2020	\$62 walking; \$79 riding (HST included) 10:00 am first tee time
September 12	Springfield	Sheelagh Byrne & Kevin Arey	Aug 30, 2020	\$50 walking or \$68 riding (HST included) 10:06 am first tee time
October 3	Willow Valley	Sheelagh Byrne & Kevin Arey	Sep 20, 2020	\$70 Walking or Riding (HST included) 10:00 am first tee time
October 17, 2020	Captain's Dinner – 7:30 pm			
November 8, 2020	Golf Society AGM 2020 – 2:00 pm (Sunday)			

If you need to contact a member of the Committee concerning a particular event, please contact Declan Kidd at 416-953-2243, Sheelagh Byrne at 905-914-7151 or Kevin Arey at 905-510-6320.

2020 Society Committee Members

Name	Telephone	Email address
<i>Kevin Barry - President</i>	416-576-7809	kbarry1000@gmail.com
<i>Sheelagh Byrne – Captain</i>	905-914-7151	sheelaghbyrne@bell.net
<i>Declan Kidd – Vice Captain</i>	416-953-2243	djkidd@rogers.com
<i>Kevin Arey -Treasurer</i>	905-510-6320	karey_cga@rogers.com
<i>Bernadette O’Sullivan - Secretary</i>	647-225-3100	bosullivan@rogers.com
<i>Peter Byrne</i>	416-801-7486	peter_byrne@sympatico.ca
<i>John Rudden</i>	416-277-9586	trigreenconst@bellnet.ca
<i>Doug Cussons</i>	647-405-0555	dougcussons@bell.net

Method and Timing of Payments

Payment for an event **must be made seven days before the event**. The bottom line is that if you haven't paid when the draw is being made then you will not be included in the draw. The Society in many cases has to commit to a specific number of players PRIOR to the event and that includes financial commitment.

The following method of payment is available:

- **Email Transfer** – Please electronically send all fees (Membership, Green Fees, Cart Fees) to Kevin Arey at karey_cga@rogers.com. If you have any difficulties please feel free to contact Kevin and he will be able to provide details on how the process works.
 - Note: If you are unable to make email transfers please arrange to have your cheque mailed to Kevin Arey's office in plenty of time before the Tournament.
 - 322-2498 Yong Street, Toronto, Ontario M4P 2H8

If you pay for an event and don't play you may forfeit your deposit should the Golf Course charge the Golf Society. If the Golf Society is not charged the green fee, your payment will be offset against the next event you play in or refunded to you. The contract at most of the courses includes a clause that we will be charged for the number we confirm 8 days before an event. So, if you are not able to play, please let us know as soon as possible.

2020 TOURNAMENT COURSE INFORMATION

Event Date	Course Name	Address	Web site & phone #
<i>May 2</i>	<i>Victoria Park East</i>	<i>1096 Victoria Rd S. Guelph, ON N1H 6H8</i>	<i>www.victoriaparkgolf.com (519) 821-2211</i>
<i>May 23</i>	<i>Cambridge</i>	<i>1346 Clyde Rd, Cambridge, ON N1R 5S7</i>	<i>www.cambridgegolfclub.com/ (519) 621-5491</i>
<i>June 20</i>	<i>Hidden Lake (Old Course)</i>	<i>1137 1 SIDEROAD, Burlington, ON L7P 0T1</i>	<i>www.hiddenlake.clublink.ca (905) 336-3660</i>
<i>July 18</i>	<i>Grey Silo</i>	<i>2001 University Ave E, Waterloo, ON N2K 4K4</i>	<i>www.golfgreysilo.ca (888) 833-8787</i>
<i>August 15</i>	<i>Hidden Lake (New Course)</i>	<i>1137 1 SIDEROAD, Burlington, ON L7P 0T1</i>	<i>www.hiddenlake.clublink.ca (905) 336-3660</i>
<i>September 12</i>	<i>Springfield</i>	<i>2054 Gordon St, Guelph, ON N1L 1G6</i>	<i>www.springfieldgolf.ca (519) 821-4653</i>
<i>October 3</i>	<i>Willow Valley</i>	<i>8475 English Church Rd Mount Hope, ON L0R 1W0</i>	<i>www.willowvalleygolf.com (877) 651-7041 (905)679-2703</i>

If you have a problem on the day of the event and you cannot play, please contact the Golf Course.

Sheelagh Byrne 905-914-7151

or

Declan Kidd 416-953-2243

2020 MATCHPLAY CHAMPIONSHIP

Entry Fee \$10.00

Maximum 32 draw

**SHOULD A MATCH NOT BE PLAYED BY THE SCHEDULED DATE,
THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE SHALL DECIDE WHO ADVANCES
TO THE NEXT ROUND.**

Brendan Baragwanath and Jimmy Fay will organize the event this year.

The match play for 2020 is based on a strictly knock-out format from start to finish.

First round matches will be made by an open draw with no handicap seeding.

If there are less than 32 players initially, the requisite byes will be by open draw.

Full details including schedules will be available by email to all Members and also on the Golf Section of the Club website. Once the Club is open the draw-sheet will also be on the Golf Society Noticeboard in the Club.

All players have equal responsibility in contacting their opponent to arrange to play the match at a mutually agreed course. It is the responsibility of all players to make every effort to get the game in on time.

Matches will be played from the white tees with the exception of **designated super seniors and ladies.**

Ladies will play from the Red Tees.

Super-Seniors (those 75 years of age or older) please refer to the Handicap Policy Section for tee options.

Should a problem arise and the match is postponed or cancelled, please contact either Brendan Baragwanath at (519)-404-5500 or Jimmy Fay at (905) 616-4869.

PRIZES. There will be prizes for the Winner and Runner-up.

HANDICAPS:

Play off the handicap as shown on the handicap website.

The player with the higher handicap will receive the full difference between the two handicaps.

GOLFER OF THE YEAR (GOY) CHAMPIONSHIP

The rules of the Championship are as follows:

Championship points will be awarded on the basis of a player's best results obtained in 4 out of 5 tournaments during the year.

At the end of the 2020 Season the Golf Society Champion will be the golfer who accumulates the highest number of Stableford points from the qualifying Society events played during the season.

In the event of a tie, the Golfer of the Year will be decided by a tiebreaker played at a venue to be agreed by the competitors involved. Should the competitors be unable to agree on a venue, the Committee will decide on the venue.

Handicap and Rules Administration

A Committee appointed by the Society Committee will manage the Society Handicaps and issues pertaining to this topic, together with Rules for Society Tournaments.

The Committee for 2020 is comprised of Peter Byrne, Brendan Baragwanath, Tommy Porter and Jimmy Fay and Kevin Barry.

Handicap Season

The season will open on June 1st 2020 and end on October 31st 2020

Cards should be submitted for all rounds played between these dates.

The Handicap Committee will meet after each Society event to address any issues arising.

Entering Scores

The options available to get scores entered on to the system are:

- *Post COVID-19: Leave the completed card in the payments box provided at the end of the bar in the Irish Club of Mississauga.*

In the meantime:

- Please take a photo of your score card and send it by e-mail to jimmyfay461@gmail.com (See e-mail requirements below).
- All names must be clear and identifiable.
- The tees played must be clearly marked. (If they are not, the championship tees, and associated slope and rating, will be assumed).
- The date the round was played should be entered on the card.
- Draw a line through the names of players who are not ICMGS members
- Cards that are not clear will be excluded.
- Cards must be marked if other than Rules of Golf were applicable, e.g. "winter rules". The Committee will have the discretion to accept or reject such cards.

e-mail Requirements

- Provide the date, tees played, course name, course rating and course slope.
- Provide the scores on a hole-by-hole basis.

Handicap Policy for 2020

The maximum handicap index for men is 32. The maximum index for ladies is 36.

The maximum playing handicap for men is 36. The maximum playing handicap for ladies is 40.

New members will normally be given a handicap by the Handicap Committee. The onus is on the new member to provide the Handicap Committee with any information, such as an OGA handicap, to assist in assigning a fair handicap. Once 3 - 5 tournament cards have been submitted, the handicap system will determine their handicap. Their handicaps will be reviewed after each tournament and may be adjusted up or down at the Handicap Committee's discretion based on cards submitted or other further information received.

Super-Seniors (those 75 years of age or older) have three choices when playing their round:

- 1) Play from the same tees as everybody else with full handicap.
- 2) Play from the next set of tees forward from those being played by everybody else.
The Super-Senior handicaps will be adjusted downward on the day according to the tees from which they elect to play.
- 3) Play from the same tees as everybody else with full handicap but with the option to play from forward tees at holes of their choosing incurring a penalty shot at each such hole played.

These accommodations for Super Seniors are only intended to help those with higher handicaps who still have difficulty playing to their handicaps.

The intent is to do what is best for the Super Seniors to level the playing field in as fair a manner as possible.

Handicap Adjustments:

Handicaps will be adjusted based on how a player performs vs. the course rating. Slope will also be used for this calculation. The adjustment is based on the player's handicap.

For most men they will be cut 0.3 or 0.4 shots per stroke net under the course rating. Handicaps are adjusted upward by 0.1 shots per round above the course rating plus a buffer, which for most men is 3 or 4 strokes.

For most women, the cut will be 0.5 shots per stroke net under the course rating. Handicaps for women are adjusted upward by 0.1 shots per round above the course rating plus a buffer, which for most women is 5 strokes.

These handicap adjustments will apply in all society tournaments and in a match play tournament. In match play the full differential in handicaps is used.

IN ADDITION.....

The Handicap Committee will have the discretion to adjust system-generated handicaps when they have reason to believe that a member has not been submitting scores for all rounds (except match play rounds) played between April 1st and October 31st. They also have the discretion to adjust handicaps when they have good reason to feel that the system-generated one is not appropriate.

We hope these provisions will make for keen and equitable competition in the coming season; now go out and have a good time!

Rules of Golf

1. **Unless otherwise advised the Rules of Golf applies.**

You are reminded the ball must be played as it lies, unless a local rule is in operation.

Penalty: 2 strokes

2. Local rules of the course we play will be applied (e.g. a rule regarding environmental areas, drop zones or fescue).

Due to the COVID-19 epidemic no rakes are in bunkers. To avoid players getting an unfair lie in a bunker, most courses have made a rule permitting smoothing the area where the ball is and placing it on this surface. We will play this rule until rakes are returned.

Holes are modified but in almost all cases, are playable. Therefore, unless notified otherwise, the ball must stay in the cup to be considered holed.

3. For unplayable, lost and out-of-bounds balls, the following remedies are available:

a) Unplayable ball remedy:

i) Drop within 2 club lengths, not nearer the hole. Penalty: 1 stroke

ii) Drop back on a straight line away from the hole. Penalty: 1 stroke

iii) Drop at the point of entry into the rough. Penalty 2 strokes

b) Lost ball remedy:

i) Drop at point of entry into the rough, not nearer the hole. Penalty 2 strokes

c) Out-of-bounds remedy

i) Drop a ball at the point of exit: Penalty 2 strokes

4. **Score Cards:** In order to reduce the risk of passing along COVID-19, one score card per group should be submitted at the 18th hole. Due to COVID-19 we do not require them to be signed or initialed by the player. However, please verify your scores before the card is submitted.

5. **Anchored Clubs:** As of January 1, 2016, the new Rule 14-1b prohibits anchoring the club either "directly" or by use of an "anchor point" in making a stroke. Anchoring occurs when a player has the club (usually, but not necessarily, a putter) in direct contact with the body or when a forearm is held firmly against the body establishing a stable point or anchor point.

The penalty is loss of hole in match play or 2 strokes in stroke play.

Note: Any putter is legal and allowed by ICMGS. *What is now prohibited is anchoring the club.*

Please see <http://www.usga.org/content/dam/usga/images/rules/anchoring/814RevFINAL.pdf>

