



2010 Membership Manual

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MICHIGAN AMATEUR GOLF TOUR

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Assumption of Risk and Release from Liability

By signing or electronically submitting a member application and entering and playing in a Amateur Golf Tour Event, the participant understands and agrees that there are certain dangers involved with the participation in a golf event, including but not limited to being struck by lightning, getting hit by a golf club, suffering from heat exhaustion, heart attack or injury from uneven terrain, all of for which risks participant assumes and solely accepts, and waives all claims of injury to body or property against Mac Golf, the Amateur Golf Tour and/or the local Tour Director, CL4 Golf LLC or any of its employees. Further, the participant agrees that while on the premises of an Amateur Golf

Tour Event ("Event"), as well as all other presenting sponsors, cosponsors and representatives affiliated with the tournament, the participant, and any guest, relative or anyone else affiliated with participant, shall be present at their own risk and that Mac Golf, the Amateur Golf Tour and/or the local Tour Director shall not be liable for any claims for injuries or damages whatsoever to person or property of the participant or related person arising out of or in connection with the participation in the Event or presence at the Event. Participant agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Mac Golf, the Amateur Golf Tour and/or the local Tour Director, CL4 Golf LLC or any of its employees from all claims by or liability to participant or affiliated person.

Tour Policies

Membership Applications

Please provide complete and accurate membership applications.

Each piece of data is not only required, but has proven useful to the AGT in the past in attaining all sorts of extra benefits for members. **(Click on Join the Tour button of the website).**

It is vitally important that you report handicap indexes accurately.

Not only for your personal interest concerning the AGT rules and points standings, but also so that the Tour Director can pair persons of equal golfing ability for the best competitive experience.

Member Benefits

Play all over the USA membership in the AGT allows all members to compete in any AGT event in any of the 30+ tours around the country. Members of the tour may travel and compete in any of our events provided registration deadlines are met. Each tour has its own individuality tour but players will enjoy the consistency of well run tournaments and consistent player flight assessments that assure you will be playing against players of equal ability.

See your real game, players may track their progress and trends and the trends of others by using the website.

The keeps track of every hole ever played on the tour and may reveal insight into your game.

Benefits at the courses you play please let the course staff know that you are with the AGT Tour every time you play. You may get a discount that day. If not, the course knows that we are giving them repeat business and it will help us to negotiate a good price in the future.

Guest Policy

Each member is allowed to invite (and be paired with) a guest.

This privilege is extended to all members and may be exercised anytime during the season. We hope that you will choose to invite a potential new member, but if you have a visitor in town for the weekend and want to play golf in a Tour event, you may invite this guest providing you:

1. Pay the regular event entry fee for this person plus \$10.
2. Identify this person on an AGT membership application as your guest with verified handicap.

Your guest will be paired with you for the day and may be included in the proper handicapped flight for prizes even if you are playing in a different flight. Please note that if your guest wishes to participate in tournament prizes, then said guest will be required to produce a current handicap index at time of registration.



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Tournament Registrations and Tee Times

One method of keeping event fees as low as possible is for the Tour Director to be able to pay in advance for reserved tee times. Therefore it is important to get entry fees into the system ASAP. Most of the courses accept one week as an acceptable window for the Tour Director to guarantee tee times. We welcome your registration for all events as soon as possible. Many members register for all of the events that they plan to play in for the season on their membership application. We consider a player registered only after they have paid for an event. You will see your name on the tee time sheet as a confirmation that your payment was received (allow 2-3 days for processing). **Registration fees received after 11:30am the Monday before the tournament are considered late and the player will be charged a \$10.00 late fee at the course or on the website.** Tee times will be posted on the MIAGT web page on Wednesday evening (typically by 9:00pm) prior to the event. **Check your tee time the evening before the event as times are subject to change.**

Cancellations

All events will be held regardless of weather conditions unless the course closes. In the event a course is forced to close, the Tour Director will determine if a stipulated round can be declared. Normally if the entire field has played at least the front nine a stipulated round will be declared. Rain checks may be available based on policies of the host course. The Tour Director or host course professional will provide details based on conditions. If you are registered for an event that is canceled, your entry fee will automatically roll forward and be applied to the next event for which you have registered. If you must cancel participation in an event, please advise us as soon as possible. If we have prepared the pairing sheets, we will not be able to roll your entry fee forward. Late withdrawal fees do apply based on the following schedule and whether the course charges us for the reserved tee times:

- Withdrawal 4 days before the tournament fee = \$0
- Withdrawal 3 days before the tournament fee = \$10
- Withdrawal 2 days before the tournament fee = \$15
- Withdrawal 1 days before the tournament fee = \$25
- Withdrawal day of the tournament fee = typically 50%

These fees may be higher if the fees caused by the player's withdrawal are more than the amounts shown. We do not refund tournament entry fees we will credit all carried over entry fees to another tournament or next season.

At The Tournament

Please sign in by locating the Tour sign-in table. Do not sign in at the pro shop. Your timely appearance to the event will be recorded. Sign up for any day money games skins, etc. Locate your cart with your name on the cart card. If you are riding in a cart with another player ask if that player has checked in and seek them out so that you are not looking for them when it is your tee time. Proceed to the driving range or whatever your normal routine is. Players should be at the first tee ten minutes before your assigned time. The AGT Director will provide the official score card on the cart and it should not be removed. The Director or the course starter will provide local course rules. On the first tee, be sure to check cart cards for first tee honor, count your clubs, and mark your playing ball. The captain of the group will be the first name on the scorecard. Please hit in the order of the names on the card. On the course, enjoy your round and please stay in position. Slow play penalties as indicated in this manual rules will be assessed. After 18 holes, please check, sign and turn in scorecards as quickly as possible. In the event of any on course rules issue on the course, please locate and obtain ruling from the tour director or one of the tour rules committee members they will consult the host course professional if necessary.



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Prize Payouts

Prizes are always awarded at the tournament. We enjoy giving the awards to players and having the opportunity for the other players to recognize their achievement. Prize pools are based on the number of players entered, course costs and of course the cost to run the tournament. We always strive to give out the highest payouts that can be afforded for each event.

Trophies are given to the first place player in each flight.

If a player has to leave before awards are given his prizes and trophies will be held until the next tournament or next season.

We do not mail trophies or prizes ever.

Skins Pool

What is a skins pool?

This is an optional **side bet** between players. Each player will receive an invitation to enter skins pool on the first tee of each event.

What is a skin?

The single best score on any of the 18 holes is a skin. The player making the single best score on any hole earns one skin. A player with the only birdie, eagle or on a given hole wins a skin.

Why is the Tour Director involved?

With four flights teeing off over several hours time, players find it difficult to manage a side bet that is event-wide. The Tour Director holds the bets and calculates prizes as a convenience to the players. It is the player's pool.

How much is in the skins pool?

With 50 players participating in the skins pool, the pool would be worth 500 dollars. At the end of the tournament the pool is divided by the number of skins and that amount is paid in cash to the player earning each skin.

What happens if no skins are made?

The pool is carried over to the next event if no skins are made.

Will receiving cash hurt my amateur status?

USGA rules about amateurs not receiving cash apply to tournament prizes, not side bets. Since the skins pool is a side bet between players, your status will not change.



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Tour Rules

The rules of golf as governed by the USGA will apply with the following exceptions:

- Player's in B C or D flights can only card a **triple bogey max** on any hole. Champ and A must count them all.
- The one ball rule is not in effect
- We require all players that are playing for prizes in A B C or D flights must be a member of GAM or an official USGA handicap organization.
- B C or D flights will not be allowed to return to the Tee for a lost or out of bounds ball, the player may take a drop at an agreed upon place that the ball was lost and incur a 2 stroke penalty or take the triple bogey max and pick up. If the spot where the ball was lost cannot be agreed upon by the group the player must take a triple bogey max and pick up. Players should hit provisional's before leaving the tee to avoid the 2 stroke penalty.
- New Permanent Local Rule No Practice Putting during the round, you may practice your stroke as usual but you may not use a ball.

Dress Code and Player Conduct

The AGT will strictly enforce a tournament dress code with no exceptions. Collared shirts and soft spikes are required.

(Short Sleeve Mocks are considered Collared Shirts). No jeans, denims, jogging outfits, or sweat pants are permitted.

Shorts may be worn.

The AGT will not tolerate swearing, vulgar language, club throwing, alcohol abuse, lack of golfing etiquette, or other such behavior. Such conduct may result in tournament disqualification and suspension or expulsion from the Tour.

Tour Handicap Policy:

The Tour Handicap Policy will introduce throwing out more scores and using scores from the previous season. Using each player's last 11 tournament scores; the handicap will be derived from the best 7 scores or 66%. These seven scores will still use the differential formula from last season. Along with the new flight ranges this system will do more than ever to keep the integrity of each flight. New players' handicaps will use the same calculations and eliminate the highest round after the 4th, 7th & 11th tournaments.

Flight Indexes

The current flight indexes are shown below:

Flight	AGT Index
Championship	0 - 3.9
A Flight	4.0 - 8.9
B Flight	9.0 - 13.9
C Flight	14.0 - 18.9
D Flight	19.0+

The tour director is responsible to make sure that each player is playing in a flight that gives fair competition.



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Typical Flight standards:

Flight	Tee Box	Typical Yardage
Championship	Black	6800 to 7200 yes.
A Flight	Gold	6500 - 6800 yes.
B Flight	Blue	6400 – 6600 yes
C Flight	White	6200 – 6500 yes.
D Flight	White	6000 – 6300 yes.

Women 85% may play one tee box up from their flight tee boxes.

Note: These also will be the standard for yardages that will be used for the Tour Championship in Hilton Head, SC

Flight Movement

All players will have an AGT Index. This will be displayed on the eGolf AGT website after each tournament. Players will be moved based on this index and their official USGA index if applicable. Flight movements are normally done after the player has played in (2) events but the tour director has the opportunity to give out "Battlefield Promotions" at the tournaments if so warranted. The exact formula used to calculate the AGT index will not be published or provided to the players. This is another way to keep the flights competitive and fair.

If a player is moved from one flight to another, the player will not be allowed to move any higher than a tie for 3rd place in that next flight. Points will be adjusted to reflect the move. If you are moved up a flight then you will have to stay in that flight until mid-season flight adjustments are made. Flight movements to a more difficult flight can occur at anytime during the season.

Example: If a player is moved from the "A" flight where they had 200 points, up to The "Champ" flight where 3rd place has only 150 points, then the player's point total will be reduced, the new flight total will take into account how that player would have placed in the Champ flight if he had played with the champ flight as well as an adjustment for yardage variations. The Tour does not want to penalize players for getting better, but this will help keep players from taking too many points from an easier flight and moving past everyone in the tougher flight. The same considerations are used when moving a player to an easier flight.

In order for a player to move down a flight, the player has to request the move. After the player requests the move, the tour director will examine the player's index and scoring history and move the player accordingly.

Tee Times and Check In

- Players **must** check in 20 minutes before their assigned tee time.
- Players that arrive after their assigned group has left the tee box are disqualified. Disqualified players may choose to join the group at the next tee box but their score will not count for the tournament.

Make-Up Tournaments

Any eGolf Amateur Tour player will be allowed to **make up (3) events** only (one of the 3 can be a major) at any tour city. The players can play and bring the points back to their home tours to replace a missed tournament. We have some stipulations that must be followed for the points to count:

- The player must contact the tour director at least (1) week prior to playing in the make-up tournament.
- If the flight has > 5 players, the player will receive 80% of the points.
- If the flight has > 2 players and < 5 players, the player will receive 60% of the points.
- If a player is the sole competitor in the flight, the player will receive 30% of the points
- Players may not make up tournaments to replace tournaments already played.



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Scoring

- All 1st place ties will go to sudden death playoff on the course. (If time and weather permit, otherwise, a scorecard playoff will be used).
- All ties for second place and below will be broken by a scorecard playoff. (Playoff is decided by score on # 1 handicap hole # 2, 3 etc.).
- Players with same score will share the points (except 1st place).
- **Each player must sign an official scorecard or they will be disqualified from the event. Scorers may not sign their own card they must sign their opponents card. Two (2) official scorecards from each group must be signed and turned in together.** Do not sign an incorrect scorecard
- If there is a disagreement or uncertainty of the Rules of Golf a player may play a second ball under an alternate rule. The player must announce that he is playing a second ball. The first ball played will be the ball as it lies; second ball will be according to the alternate rule. At the conclusion of the round the group must obtain a ruling from the Tour Rules committee and or the Tour Director before signing their cards.
- The Tour Director and or the Rules Committee will make the final ruling in any suspected discrepancy of the rules.
- The Tour Director will make all final decisions.

The Points System

The points system is a nationwide formula intended to track the performance of players over the course of a season. We use this points system to determine which golfers are given the opportunity to play for the Tour Championship in Hilton Head SC as well as other local tour awards. The following point system applies to each flight:

Place	Regular Tournament	Major Tournament
1	450	900
2	275	550
3	225	450
4	175	350
5	165	330
6	155	310
7	145	290
8	135	270
9	125	250
10	115	230
11	100	200
12	90	180
13	85	170
14	80	160
15	75	150
16	70	140
17	65	130
18	60	120
19	55	110
20	50	100



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The Points System (continued)

For each finisher outside the top 20, 2 points will be deducted from the previous place in regular tournaments and 4 points will be deducted from previous place for major tournaments.

For example: finishers 21 – 25 would receive the following

Points:

Place	Regular Tournament	Major Tournament
21	48	96
22	46	92
23	44	88
24	42	84

This will continue down until all golfers are accounted for.

Players with the same score will share the points.

Speed of play

Pace of play can give this tour a bad reputation with local courses so it is imperative that we finish our rounds as quickly as possible.

- B C and D Flight Players can card a triple bogey max on a hole, after that the player must pick up for the hole.
- Players must always hit a provisional ball when a ball goes into an area where it may be lost or out-of-bounds.
- B C or D flights will not be allowed to return to the Tee for a lost or out of bounds ball they may take a drop at an agreed upon place that the ball was lost and incur a 2 stroke penalty or take the triple bogey max and pick up. If the spot where the ball was lost cannot be agreed upon by his group the player must take a triple bogey max and pick up. Players should hit provisional's before leaving the tee to avoid the 2 stroke penalty.
- Permanent Local Rule No Practice Putting during the round, you may practice your stroke as usual but you may not use a ball.
- Rangers will act as Tour officials and will warn slow groups and then report to the director. Times of each group will be noted after the first nine holes.
- Groups more than 1 hole or 15 minutes behind the group in front after 9 holes will be assessed a 1 stroke penalty unless the pace of play is less than 2hrs 15min.
- Groups more than 1 hole or 15 minutes behind group in front after 18 holes will be assessed a 1 stroke penalty. This time is based on when your cards are turned in at the scoring table. You must turn in your card less than 15 minutes after the group in front of you unless the pace of play is less than 4hrs 45 min.
- Groups that are 2 holes or 30 minutes behind at any time may be disqualified and removed from the tournament. (The entire group may not be disqualified if the slow player(s) in the group are identified and removed from the tournament).
- Repeat offenders being asked to leave the Tour for the sake of all other players.
- Final decisions on penalties and disqualification are up to the Tour Director and the rules committee.



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How to qualify for the Tour Championship at Palmetto Dunes Plantation and Port Royal Plantation in Hilton Head, SC.

- Top ten point winners from each of the five flights qualify for the 2010 eGolf Tour Championship.
- 1st and 2nd half season points champions will qualify for Hilton Head.
- Points can be accumulated in other cities; you can make up only 3 tournaments that you may have missed on your home Tour. **Only one major may be transferred!**
- The top point winners in each flight receive a crystal trophy with their name/flight/year engraved. Additional awards are up to each local director to decide.

- **The AGT Tour Director will always be the final decision on all Tour matters.**