



ALABAMA GOLF ASSOCIATION

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TO: 89th Alabama Women's State Amateur Championship Contestants
FROM: Adam Powell, Alabama Golf Association
DATE: January 1, 2021
TOPIC: Women's State Amateur Championship Player Information

The Alabama Golf Association looks forward to seeing you at the 89th playing of the Alabama Women's State Amateur Championship at RTJ Golf Trail at The Shoals in Muscle Shoals, AL from July 6-8, 2021. Please review the following championship information. Remember that we are guests of the club, need to conduct ourselves in a proper manner and adhere to all host club policies. Also, make sure to be at your assigned tee ready to play at least five minutes before your starting time. Call me at the AGA office if you have any questions or e-mail me at adam@alabamagolf.org. We hope you have a great championship!

[Championship Website](#)

Championship History

This year marks the 89th playing of the Alabama Women's State Amateur Championship and the first time that the RTJ The Shoals has hosted the Women's State Amateur Championship. Julie Baker of Hoover won the title in 2020 at Huntsville Country Club in Huntsville, AL for her first state amateur title. The Championship was first played in 1929 at Country Club of Birmingham, with Mrs. Henry S. Geismer of Birmingham, AL defeating Mrs. Carl Hess 5 and 3 to win the inaugural event.

Championship Registration

Players should sign the host plaque outside of the Golf Shop on Monday, July 5th from 9:00am-4:00pm.

RTJ Golf Trail at The Shoals (Schoolmaster) Information

Director of Golf: Cully Gillem, PGA
Course Superintendent: Doug Tinkham
Physical Address: 990 SunBelt Parkway, Muscle Shoals, AL 35661
Club Website: www.rtjgolf.com/theshoals
Golf Shop Phone: 256-446-5111
Golf Shop Hours: 6:30am-6:00pm
Practice Facility Hours: 6:30am-6:00pm
Food & Beverage Hours: 10:00am-8:00pm
Championship Yardage; Course/Slope Rating: 6289 yards/76.0/138
Tournament Yardage; Course/Slope Rating: 5531 yards; 71.8/129
Course Architect: Robert Trent Jones
Course Turfgrass: Tees/Fairways (419 Bermuda); Rough (419 Bermuda); Putting Greens (Jones Dwarf Bermuda)

Food and Beverage

All food and beverage consumed on club grounds must be purchased at RTJ Golf Trail at The Shoals.

Directions to the RTJ Golf Trail at The Shoals

<https://www.google.com/maps>

Lodging

There are a number of hotels near the course. Check online for best rate:

<http://post.affinitytravelbenefits.com/v6/home?siteid=36777&theme=tournament>

Host Club Policies

- *Cell Phone Policy:* Use of cellular phones is prohibited on the golf course except for emergencies, a ruling, entering hole-by-hole scores, viewing tournament leaderboard or weather forecasts or using as a distance measuring device. We ask that phones are set to silent while on club grounds. Silent communications (text, email) may be used inside buildings. Verbal communication (phone calls) must be outside buildings.
- *Parking:* There is a limited amount of parking available at the host club and we ask that players, caddies and family members car pool as much as possible.
- *Dress Code:* Appropriate golf attire must be worn. Slacks or Bermuda shorts. No cut-offs, no denim, no cargo pants or cargo shorts. Men must wear shirts with collars and sleeves, tucked in at all times. Non-metal spikes only. Dress code applies to caddies and spectators.
- *Coolers:* Personal coolers are not allowed. All food and beverage consumed on club grounds must be purchased at host club.

- *Personal Items:* Make sure not to leave any valuable personal items unattended such as jewelry, wallets, etc. even if they are tucked away inside your golf bag. It is best to leave your valuables locked in your automobile. Neither the AGA nor the host club will be held responsible for any lost or stolen personal items.
- *Accepted Forms of Payment:* Club accepts cash or credit card for practice round fees and for food & beverage purchases. For golf shop equipment or merchandise purchases, MasterCard/Visa or American Express may be used.

Practice Rounds and Practice Facility

Official practice rounds will be on Monday, July 5. You must call the golf shop (256-446-5111) to schedule your practice round for that day. Make sure to identify yourself as an Alabama Women's State Amateur Championship participant. It would be helpful if you make your own group before calling. Do not just show up at the course and expect to be accommodated for a practice round. There is a mandatory \$35.00 fee for each practice round whether you walk or ride. Players are limited to playing one ball except from the teeing ground. Players are welcome to use the practice range and putting green throughout the championship.

Starting Times

Starting times for July 6 will be available on July 2 by 5:00pm. Check the AGA website at www.alabamagolf.org or call the AGA office.

Championship Format and Schedule

18 holes of gross individual stroke play to determine seeding within each division. Championship Division will be cut to low 16 players from the stroke play qualifier that will compete for the overall championship. Remaining Championship Division players will be divided into flights of four (4). Tournament Division players will be divided into flights of four (4) to compete at match play based on qualifying round score. All players are guaranteed a minimum of two matches due to consolation brackets for each flight.

Monday, July 5	Registration and Practice Rounds
Tuesday, July 6	7:30AM – 1 st Round, 18-hole stroke play qualifier for all divisions to determine positions for match play.
Wednesday, July 7	7:30AM – Championship Division: (AM) Round of 16. (PM) Quarterfinals and Consolation Quarterfinals. Tournament Division: (AM) Semifinals.
Thursday, July 8	7:30AM – Championship Division:(AM) Semifinals and Consolation Semifinals. (PM) Final and Consolation Tournament Division: (AM) Finals and Consolation Finals.

Pace of Play

The AGA wants all players to enjoy competing in our events. Pace of play may differ depending upon the venue, weather and course conditions. Every player is accountable for playing at an acceptable pace, therefore we need your help. Please observe the following guidelines to help ensure a pleasant tournament experience for all:

- Make sure to keep pace with the group in FRONT of you. The group behind should keep pace with your group and so forth.
- Go directly to your ball. If sharing a golf cart, drop-off the player farthest from the hole then proceed to the other ball.
- Be ready to play when it is your turn.
- Keep practice strokes and time taken to read putts to a minimum.
- Play a provisional ball if your original ball may be lost or out of bounds.
- Keep time taken at the snack bar or between nines to a minimum.

If everyone does their part, then 4½ hours should be the maximum time taken to play a round of golf at an AGA tournament. Following the lead of the USGA, the AGA has developed a pace of play policy, based on Rule 5.6b and Model Local Rule 8K that is fair to every competitor.

*Note: a group may receive a "friendly reminder" of their position regardless of pace of play guidelines.

Maximum Allowable Time

The maximum allowable time is the maximum time considered necessary by the Committee for a group to complete its round. This is expressed in a per-hole and aggregate time format and includes all time associated with playing the game, e.g., for rulings and walking times between holes.

Both the specific maximum time allotted per hole and for the completion of 18 holes at AGA championships will be denoted on each player's AGA issued scorecard.

See the complete [AGA Pace of Play Policy](#) for the procedure if a group is "out of position" and penalty for breach of Pace of Play Policy.

Cart/Range Fees; Push Carts

- *Practice Rounds:* Cart/range fees are not included in the entry fee. Cart rental is mandatory for practice rounds payable at the host club.
- *Championship Rounds:* Championship site cart/range fees are paid by the AGA and included in the entry fee. Competitors have the option to either walk or use a golf cart during championship rounds. Personal push carts are allowed.

Caddies

- *Caddies:* Caddies are allowed for championship rounds. Caddies will not be available at host club.
- *Caddie Cart Policy:* During the play of a hole, either the player or his caddie may ride in a golf cart but not both at the same time.
- Caddies are required to wear an AGA issued caddie bib at the championship proper.

Spectators

- *Spectator Golf Cart Policy:* Due to the limited number of available golf carts, spectator carts may not be available during the championship.
- *Disability Golf Cart Policy:* In consistency with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), AGA will grant an individual with a bona fide disability a golf cart if the following conditions are met:
 - Requesting individual completes and submits a [Disabled Golf Cart Request Form](#) by the close of entries date;
 - Host club has a golf cart available;
 - Requesting individual pays host club the appropriate fee;
 - Requesting individual presents to the AGA staff or AGA representative a disability card issued by a government agency.
- Spectator carts must remain on the cart path at all times and spectators must adhere to the club's dress code policy.
- Spectators are not allowed to ride in a player's golf cart at any time. Non-club owned spectator carts are not allowed except as provided in the [AGA Tournament Manual](#).

Prizes

- *Stroke Play Qualifying Rounds:* Lowest Scoring Player for 18 Holes in Championship Division: Silver medal; if a tie, duplicate medals will be awarded.
- *Match Play:* Awards will be presented to the Champion, runner-up and semi-finalists in the Championship Flight. All other flights will be awarded flight winner and consolation winner.

Course Set-Up/Yardage (*All yardage is subject to change based upon wind direction and weather conditions)

Championship Division – AGA Red Tee Markers

Course Rating: 76.0/138

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Yards	382	135	393	504	373	178	339	369	562	3235	168	521	501	353	333	347	146	347	338	3054	6289
Par	4	3	4	5	4	3	4	4	5	36	3	5	5	4	4	4	3	4	4	36	72

Tournament Division – AGA Blue Tee Markers

Course Rating: 71.8/129

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Yards	337	135	337	478	315	158	268	325	488	2841	147	489	479	307	265	267	135	283	318	2690	5531
Par	4	3	4	5	4	3	4	4	5	36	3	5	5	4	4	4	3	4	4	36	72

Championship Policies

- [AGA Code of Conduct](#)
- [AGA Tournament Manual](#)
- This is a soft-spike facility. The penalty for non-compliance is disqualification.

Withdrawals

If an accepted player withdraws for any reason before the close of registration at 11:59pm on Tuesday, June 29, 2021, the entry fee will be refunded, subject to a \$30.00 service fee. If an accepted player withdraws for any reason after the close of registration and before 11:59pm on Saturday, July 3, 2021, 50% of the entry fee will be refunded. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after Saturday, July 3, 2021.

To withdraw from the event before the close of registration, follow these steps:

- 1) Navigate to the [Championship Website Portal](#).
- 2) Sign In to your AGA Tournament Registration Account.
- 3) Click "Edit Registration" from left side of the page.
- 4) Choose "Cancel Registration" under dropdown menu on right side of page.

To withdraw from the event after the close of registration, complete the [Online Tournament Withdrawal Form](#).

*Note: AGA will process your withdrawal and applicable refund within 72 hours.

No Shows

Players that fail to notify the AGA of their withdrawal and "No Show" their starting time will not receive a refund for any reason. "No Show" players may be subject to suspension from future AGA events.

Tournament Delays and Updates

The AGA will text players with any tournament delays or schedule changes. Notices will also be posted on our Twitter account. Follow @bamagolf.

COVID-19 Conditions

- If you are not feeling well or have a fever you - Stay Home!
- AGA reserves the right to temperature check all persons coming onto property
- AGA reserves the right to limit the number of spectators coming onto property (Maximum of 2 per player)
- Appropriate social distancing should be maintained. All persons on property should not touch at any point unless from the same household (i.e. Handshakes or Hugging is discouraged)
- AGA reserves the right to remove all bunker rakes. Please do your best to smooth with your feet after use
- AGA reserves the right to remove the starters boxes (Tees, Sunscreen, Pencils, Bug Spray, etc.) from the starting tees
- AGA reserves the right to not provide bottled water on course, please plan accordingly
- AGA reserves the right to not allow the removal of flagsticks at any time
- AGA reserves the right to assign all players a designated "range time". Players cannot use the practice facilities outside of their assigned times
- AGA will not provide complimentary player lunch following the round
- AGA reserves the right to limit attendance of the awards ceremony strictly to players that are receiving an award
- AGA reserves the right to remove any person that does not following social distancing guidelines; including but not limited to, players and/or spectators

Phone Numbers

Alabama Golf Association: 205-979-1234

RTJ Golf Trail at The Shoals Golf Shop: 256-446-5111