



# ALABAMA GOLF ASSOCIATION

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TO: 57<sup>th</sup> Alabama Girls State Junior Amateur Championship Contestants  
FROM: Jeremy Gardner, Alabama Golf Association  
DATE: January 1, 2020  
TOPIC: Girls State Junior Championship Player Information

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The Alabama Golf Association looks forward to seeing you at the 57<sup>th</sup> playing of the Alabama Girls State Junior Championship at Valley Hill Country Club in Huntsville, AL from June 8-10, 2020. Please review the following championship information. Remember that we are guests of the club, we 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 [jeremy@alabamagolf.org](mailto:jeremy@alabamagolf.org). We hope you have a great championship!

**Championship Website:** <http://www.alabamagolf.org/2020-championships>

### Championship History

This year marks the 57<sup>th</sup> playing of the Alabama Girls State Junior Amateur Championship and the second time that Valley Hill Country Club has hosted the Girls State Junior Amateur Championship. Micheala Morard of Huntsville won the title in 2019 at Goose Pond Colony Resort. The Championship was first played in 1963 with Judy Jehle winning the inaugural event. Martha Lang and Micheala Morard hold the record with 4 victories (1967-1970 & 2015, 2017-2019).

### Championship Registration

Players should sign the host plaque in the clubhouse outside of the Pro Shop on Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am-4:00pm.

### Valley Hill Country Club Information

PGA Head Golf Professional: Jay McLelland  
Course Superintendent: Jeff Lee  
Physical Address: 8300 Valley Hill Dr. SE, Huntsville, AL 35802  
Club Website: [www.vhcc.com](http://www.vhcc.com)  
Golf Shop Phone: 256-883-7620  
Golf Shop Hours: 6:30am-7:00pm  
Practice Facility Hours: 6:30am-7:00pm  
Food & Beverage Hours: 8:00am-5:00pm  
Championship Yardage (Valleyside/Hillside): 5816 yards  
Course/Slope Rating: 74.1/134  
Course Architect: John B. LaFoy  
Course Turfgrass: Tees/Fairways/Rough (419 Bermuda); Putting Greens (AU Victory Bent)

### Food and Beverage

All food and beverage consumed on club grounds must be purchased at Valley Hill Country Club. The Grill will be open to service all food needs beginning at 8:00am each morning.

### Directions to Valley Hill Country Club

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

### Lodging

There are a number of hotels near the course. Check online for the best rate.  
<https://post.affinitytravelbenefits.com/v6?siteid=36777&theme=standard>

### Valley Hill Country Club Course Policies

**Cell Phone Policy:** Cell phones may only be used on the golf course in case of an emergency, to call the golf shop in need of a ruling, view tournament leaderboard or 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 carpool 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.

**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 and credit card. MasterCard/Visa or American Express may be used.

*Soft Spike Policy:* This is a soft-spike facility. The penalty for non-compliance is disqualification.

### **Practice Rounds and Practice Facility**

Official practice rounds will be on Sunday, June 7. You must call the golf shop (256-883-7620) to schedule your practice round for this day. Make sure to identify yourself as an Alabama Girls' State Junior 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** \$30.00 fee for each practice round. 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 June 8 will be available on Thursday, June 4 by 5:00pm. Check the AGA website at [www.alabamagolf.org](http://www.alabamagolf.org) or call the AGA office.

### **Championship Format and Schedule**

Championship is conducted at 54 holes of stroke play. The lowest score for 54 holes will be the Champion. In the event of a tie for the overall Championship only, a hole by hole play-off will be held immediately following play. The play-off holes and their order of play will be determined by the Committee.

<b>Sunday, June 7</b>	All Day: Practice rounds. 9:00am-4:00pm: Player Registration in the Clubhouse Foyer adjacent to the golf shop.
<b>Monday, June 8</b>	Round 1: Tee times at 7:30am off #1 & #10 tees Hosted player lunch in the Clubhouse after play Field re-grouped according to score.
<b>Tuesday, June 9</b>	Round 2: Tee times at 7:30am off #1 & #10 tees Hosted player lunch in the Clubhouse after play Field re-grouped according to score.
<b>Wednesday, June 10</b>	Round 3: Tee times at 7:30am off #1 & #10 tees Hosted player lunch in the Clubhouse after play Awards ceremony immediately following play at scoreboard.

### **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.

- A competitor's time to play begins when the competitor has had a reasonable opportunity to reach his or her ball and when it is the competitor's turn to play and can do so without interference or distraction. Penalties are applied individually, but more than one competitor in a group may be penalized.

- In general, competitors in a group are subject to being timed at any time but specifically when the group is deemed to be out of position and over the allotted pace of play guidelines.

Note that a group that is out of position at any time may be asked to close the gap regardless of pace of play guidelines. A group is out of position if they are over their maximum acceptable pace of play and more than 15 minutes behind the group ahead of them. The first group off either side is out of position if they are over their maximum acceptable pace of play.

#### Range Fees; Push Carts

- *Practice Rounds:* Practice round fees are not included in the entry fee.
- *Championship Site:* All range fees during the championship rounds are paid by the AGA and are included in the entry fee. Competitors must walk during championship rounds. Push carts are allowed.

#### Caddies

- **No caddies will be allowed at this event**

#### Spectators

- **No spectator carts will be allowed at this event**
- Non-club owned spectator carts are not allowed except as provided in the [AGA Tournament Manual](#).

#### Prizes & Awards

- Awards will be presented to the top 5 scorers in the Championship. In addition, the Champion will have their name engraved on the *Bee McWane Trophy* housed at the AGA office.

#### Exemptions Earned

- Champion receives exemption into Alabama Girls State Junior for remainder of eligibility
- Champion receives a five-year (2020-2024) exemption into the Alabama Women’s Stroke Play Championship
- Champion receives a five-year (2020-2024) exemption into the Alabama Women’s State Amateur Championship
- Champion receives AJGA exemptions (see AJGA.org website)

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

#### Championship Yardage

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Yards	490	146	312	300	468	117	368	343	320	2864	286	157	288	160	352	500	368	485	356	2952	5816
Par	5	3	4	4	5	3	4	4	4	36	4	3	4	3	4	5	4	5	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 2, 2020**, 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 Friday, June 5, 2020**, 50% of the entry fee will be refunded. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after **Friday, June 5, 2020**.

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

1. Navigate to the [Championship Website Portal](#)
2. Log into your USGATM Account
3. Click “Edit Registration”
4. Choose Cancel Registration under the dropdown menu on the right side of the page

To withdraw from the event after the close of registration, fill out the form here: [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 our Twitter account. Follow @alabamagolf.

**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

Valley Hill Country Club: 256-883-7620