



# ALABAMA GOLF ASSOCIATION

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TO: 29<sup>th</sup> Alabama State Mid-Amateur Championship Contestants  
FROM: Brian Scheufler, Alabama Golf Association  
DATE: January 1, 2017  
TOPIC: State Mid-Amateur Championship Player Information

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The Alabama Golf Association looks forward to seeing you at the 29<sup>th</sup> playing of the Alabama State Mid-Amateur Championship at Burningtree Country Club in Decatur, AL from September 22-24, 2017. 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 [brian@alabamagolf.org](mailto:brian@alabamagolf.org). We hope you have a great championship!

**Championship Website:** <http://www.alabamagolf.org/2017-championships>

### **Championship History**

This year marks the 29<sup>th</sup> playing of the Alabama State Mid-Amateur Championship and the first time Burningtree Country Club has hosted the State Mid-Amateur Championship. Clay Guerin of Hoover won the 2016 title at Country Club of Mobile. The Championship was first played in 1989 with Emile Vaughn winning the inaugural event. Mike Greer and Scott Weaver each have 3 victories, with Weaver winning his consecutively (2001-2003).

### **Championship Registration**

Players should sign the host plaque in the clubhouse outside of the Pro Shop on Thursday, September 23 from 9:00am-5:00pm.

### **Burningtree Country Club Information**

PGA Golf Professional: Jim Settles  
Course Superintendent: Kyle Sheheane  
Physical Address: 2521 Burningtree Drive, Decatur, AL 35603  
Club Website: [www.btcountryclub.com](http://www.btcountryclub.com)  
Golf Shop Phone: 256-355-5982  
Golf Shop Hours: 6:30am-6:00pm  
Practice Facility Hours: 7:00am-7:00pm  
Food & Beverage Hours: 8:00am-Dusk (Grill Room); 5:00pm-8:00pm (Main Dining Room)  
Championship Yardage: 7032 yards, par 35-36--71  
Course/Slope Rating: 73.9/123  
Course Architect: George Cobb  
Course Turfgrass: Tees/Fairways, Rough (419 Bermuda); Putting Greens (Champion)

### **Food and Beverage**

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

### **Directions to Burningtree Country Club**

<https://goo.gl/maps/EiLF5GTapxQ2>

### **Lodging**

Check online for best rate:

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

### **Burningtree Country Club 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 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.

*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**.

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

You are entitled to **one** practice round on Thursday, September 21. You must call the golf shop (256-355-5982) to schedule your practice round. Make sure to identify yourself as an Alabama State Mid-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** \$25.00 fee for the 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 September 22-23 will be available on September 15 by 5:00pm. Check the AGA website at [www.alabamagolf.org](http://www.alabamagolf.org) or call the AGA office.

### **Championship Format and Schedule**

- Limited to the first 132 players.
- Exempt players are accepted at time of entry (See page 3 of Entry Form for "EXEMPTIONS" ). Non-exempt players will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis to fill the championship field. If championship field is oversubscribed, players not gaining entry will be placed on the alternate wait list. Wait list alternates are ranked according to date/time an entry is received and processed.
- 54 holes of gross individual stroke play.
- The field will be cut to the low 60 players and ties after 36 holes.
- The lowest score for 54 holes will be the Champion.
- In the event of a tie for the Championship, 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.
- Initial groupings will be for two days; the field will be cut and re-paired by score after the second round.

<b>Thursday, September 21</b>	All Day: Practice rounds. 9:00am-5:00pm: Player Registration in the Clubhouse Foyer adjacent to the golf shop.
<b>Friday, September 22</b>	Round 1: Tee times at 7:30am & 12:30pm off #1 & #10 tees.
<b>Saturday, September 23</b>	Round 2: Tee times at 7:30am & 12:30pm off #1 & #10 tees. Cut to low 60 scores and ties. Field re-grouped according to score.
<b>Sunday, September 24</b>	Round 3: Tee times at 7:30am off #1 & #10 tees. 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. Your AGA issued score card will have the acceptable pace of play per hole printed on it.

### **Pace of Play Policy**

A group that is out of position will be advised of the situation and the individuals may be timed.

- Any competitor who is discovered taking more than 40 seconds to play a stroke is subject to a warning for slow play and will be advised of the fact.
- The competitor will be notified that exceeding 40 seconds on one more occasion will result in a penalty of one stroke in stroke play or loss of hole in match play. A third violation will result in a two stroke penalty in stroke play or loss of hole in match play, followed by disqualification for a fourth violation.
- A warning is any notice given to a competitor regarding pace of play.

- 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.

#### 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/Spectators

- *Caddies:* Caddies are allowed for championship rounds and will be denoted by wearing an AGA issued caddie bib. Caddies will not be available at host club.
- *Spectators:* Spectators are welcome at AGA championships. Club owned spectator carts are not allowed. Spectators are asked to remain on or near cart paths and adhere to the club's dress code policy.
- *Caddie/Spectator 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. Spectators are not allowed to ride in a player's golf cart at any time. Club owned spectator carts are not allowed except as provided in the [AGA Tournament Manual](#). Due to the limited number of available carts, spectator carts may not be available during the championship.

#### Prizes

An award will be presented to the Champion. Merchandise prizes are awarded to the top finishers. Champion will have his name engraved on the *Elbert S. Jemison Jr., Trophy* and may take possession of the trophy for the ensuing year.

#### Exemptions Earned

- Champion receives a 5 year exemption into the Alabama State Amateur Championship and the Alabama State Match Play Championship (2018-2022).
- Players finishing in the Top 10 (and ties) will receive an exemption into the 2018 Alabama State Amateur Championship.
- Players finishing in the Top 8 (and ties) will receive an exemption into the 2018 Alabama State Match Play Championship.

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

Course Rating: 73.9/123

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Yardage	418	459	170	435	460	193	554	402	423	3514	421	408	207	521	172	421	547	392	429	3518	7032
Par	4	4	3	4	4	3	5	4	4	35	4	4	3	5	3	4	5	4	4	36	71

\*AGA may use the following tee locations in addition to the above yardages as conditions warrant: Hole #2 (470), Hole #3, (201), Hole #6 (172, 140), Hole #9 (393), Hole #10 (521), Hole #11(159), Hole #12 (179), Hole #14 (152)

#### Championship Policies

- This is a soft-spike facility. The penalty for non-compliance is disqualification.
- Local Rule allowing the use of conforming distance measuring devices will be in effect (i.e. measure distance only) in this competition. A player may use a device to measure distance only. However, if, during a stipulated round, a player uses a function to measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., gradient, wind-speed, temperature, etc.); the player is in breach of Rule 14-3. Compass and weather applications are now permitted on the device.
- Local Rule for accidental movement of a ball on the putting green will be in effect. When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment. The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced. Note: If it is determined that a player's ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new location. A ball-marker moved in such circumstances is replaced.

#### Withdrawals

If an accepted player withdraws before **10:59 P.M., Thursday, September 21, 2017** for any reason, the entry fee will be refunded, subject to a \$30.00 service fee. No refunds will be made for any reason after **10:59 P.M., Thursday, September 21, 2017**. To withdraw from the event click on link below and follow steps 2-4 or email [Brian@alabamagolf.org](mailto:Brian@alabamagolf.org):

- 1) <http://www.ghintpp.com/bamagolf/TPPOnlineGolfer/TournamentPlayerList.aspx>
- 2) Log into your TPP account.

- 3) Click "Events Registered For".
- 4) Click "Withdraw" under "Actions" column

**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 @bamagolf.

**Phone Numbers**

Burningtree Country Club:	256-355-5827
Alabama Golf Association	205-979-1234