



ALABAMA GOLF ASSOCIATION

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TO: 25th Alabama State Senior Four-Ball Championship Contestants
FROM: Brian Scheufler, Alabama Golf Association
DATE: January 1, 2019
TOPIC: State Senior Four-Ball Championship Player Information

The Alabama Golf Association looks forward to seeing you at the 25th playing of the State Senior Four-Ball Championship at Valley Hill Country Club in Huntsville, AL from October 11-13, 2019. 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. We hope you have a great championship!

Championship Website: <http://www.alabamagolf.org/2019-championships>

Championship History

This year marks the 25th playing of the Alabama State Senior Four-Ball Championship and the first time Valley Hill Country Club has hosted the State Senior Four-Ball Championship. Stan Sherlin and Joey Holley captured their second team title in 2018 at Wynlakes Golf & Country Club. The Championship was first played in 1995 with Tom O'Melia and John Pryor winning the inaugural event at Cotton Creek Club.

Championship Registration

There will be a formal registration for all competitors in the Golf Shop on Thursday, October 10 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
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: (Valley/Hill) 6570 yards, par 36-36--72
Course/Slope Rating: 72.1/130
Course Architect: John B. LaFoy
Course Turfgrass: Tees/Fairways (419 Bermuda); Rough (419 Bermuda); Putting Greens (A1 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/place/Valley+Hill>

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>

Valley Hill 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 card. MasterCard/Visa or American Express may be used.

Practice Rounds and Practice Facility

Official practice round will be on Thursday, October 10. You must call the golf shop 256-883-7620 to schedule your practice round. Make sure to identify yourself as an Alabama State Senior Four-Ball 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/player fee for the practice round whether you walk or ride. Players are limited to playing one ball except from the teeing ground. Players seen hitting multiple shots from other areas of the course (bunkers, fairways, putting greens) will be removed from the golf course. Players are welcome to use the practice range and putting green throughout the championship.

Starting Times

Starting times for October 11-12 will be available on October 4 by 5:00pm. Check the AGA website at www.alabamagolf.org or call the AGA office.

Championship Format and Schedule

- Entry is limited to the first 48 sides.
- If championship is full at the time of registration, a side may opt to 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 four-ball stroke play.
- The field will be cut to the low 24 sides and ties after 36 holes.
- The lowest score for 54 holes will be the Champion.
- In the event of a tie for first place in 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.

Thursday, October 10	All Day: Practice rounds. 9:00am-4:00pm: Player Registration in the Golf Shop.
Friday, October 11	Round 1: Tee times begin at 7:45am and 12:00pm off #1 & #10 tees.
Saturday, October 12	Round 2: Tee times begin at 7:45am and 12:00pm off #1 & #10 tees. Field cut to the low 24 sides and ties for final round. Field re-grouped according to score.
Sunday, October 13	Round 3: Tee times at 8:00am 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. 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

Awards will be presented to the top three finishers. Merchandise prizes will be awarded to the top finishers. Champions will have their name engraved on the Bob Phillips trophy and may take possession of the trophy for the ensuing year.

Exemptions Earned

Champions receive an exemption into the 2019 State Amateur.

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

Course Rating 72.1/130

(Valley is Front Nine, Hill is Back Nine)

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Yards	570	174	393	335	503	154	404	394	391	3318	350	179	379	179	372	525	389	499	380	3252	6570
Par	5	3	4	4	5	3	4	4	4	36	4	3	4	3	4	5	4	5	4	36	72

*AGA may use the following tee locations in addition to the above yardages as conditions warrant: Hole #1 (544), Hole #8 (420), Hole #15 (552), Hole #17 (517), Hole #18 (400). Par 3 yardages will vary each day, all tees may be used.

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 side withdraws for any reason before the close of registration at 11:59pm on Tuesday, October 1, 2019, the entry fee will be refunded, subject to a \$30.00 service fee. If an accepted side withdraws for any reason after the close of registration and before 11:59pm on Tuesday, October 8, 2019, 50% of the entry fee will be refunded. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after Tuesday, October 8, 2019.

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

Sides 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" sides 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

Valley Hill Country Club: 256-883-7620

Alabama Golf Association: 205-979-1234