



# ALABAMA GOLF ASSOCIATION

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TO: 104<sup>th</sup> Alabama Men's State Amateur Championship Contestants  
FROM: Brian Scheufler, Alabama Golf Association  
DATE: January 1, 2020  
TOPIC: State Amateur Championship Player Information

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The Alabama Golf Association looks forward to seeing you at the 104<sup>th</sup> playing of the Alabama Men's State Amateur Championship at Saugahatchee Country Club in Auburn, AL from July 29 – August 1, 2020. 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/2020-championships>

## Championship History

This year marks the 104<sup>th</sup> playing of the Alabama Men's State Amateur Championship and the fourth time that Saugahatchee Country Club has hosted the Men's State Amateur Championship (1979 Jud Stockard of Florence, 1987 Sam Farlow of Birmingham, 1996 John Coles III of Moody). John Goldasich of Birmingham won the title in 2019 at Turtle Point Yacht & Country Club. The Championship was first played in 1915 at Montgomery Country Club in Montgomery, AL. Jack Allison of Birmingham, AL defeated Norborne R. Clarke 13 and 12 to win the inaugural event. The Championship was not played in 1917-18 due to World War I. Format was changed from match play to stroke play in 1955.

## Championship Registration

There will be a formal registration for all competitors in the clubhouse on Tuesday, July 28 from 9:00am-4:00pm. Please register to sign the host plaque and have your photo taken for website scoring.

## Saugahatchee Country Club Information

PGA Head Golf Professional: Charlie Richardson

Course Superintendent: Justin Lowery

Physical Address: 3800 Bent Creek Road, Opelika, AL 36804

Club Website: <http://www.saugahatcheecountryclub.com/>

Golf Shop Phone: 334-749-4342

Golf Shop Hours: 6:30am-6:00pm

Practice Facility Hours: 6:00am-7:00pm

Food & Beverage Hours: Wed-Thur (no breakfast) 8:00am-8:00pm Lunch starts at 10:30am Friday-Sat (breakfast) 7:30am-8pm

Championship Yardage: 7040 yards. Par 36-36—72

Course/Slope Rating: 73.2/136

Course Turfgrass: Tees/Fairways, Rough (419 Bermuda); Putting Greens (Miniverde)

## Food and Beverage

All food and beverage consumed on club grounds must be purchased at Saugahatchee CC.

## Map to Saugahatchee Country Club

<https://goo.gl/maps/e67kpZszpux>

## Lodging

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

[Affinity Travel Benefits](#)

## Saugahatchee Country 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, Credit Card and limited reciprocal.**

### Practice Rounds and Practice Facility

Official practice round will be on Tuesday, July 28. You must call the golf shop 334-749-4342 to schedule your practice round. Make sure to identify yourself as an Alabama Men'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 \$30.00 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 July 29-30 will be available on July 24 by 5:00pm. Check the AGA website at [www.alabamagolf.org](http://www.alabamagolf.org).

### Championship Format and Schedule

- The field will be cut to the low 60 players and ties after 36 holes.
- The lowest score for 72 holes will be the Champion.
- In the event of a tie for the Championship, a three-hole aggregate play-off will be held immediately following play. The winner will be the player with the lowest aggregate score for the play-off holes. In the event of a further tie, play will immediately continue hole by hole until Champion is determined. 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.

#### Tuesday, July 28

All Day: Practice rounds.

9:00am-4:00pm: Player Registration in the Clubhouse Foyer adjacent to the golf shop.

#### Wednesday, July 29

Round 1: Tee times begin at 7:00am & 12:30pm off #1 & #10 tees. 18 holes Stroke Play.

#### Thursday, July 30

Round 2: Tee times begin at 7:00am & 12:30pm off #1 & #10 tees. 18 holes Stroke Play.

Cut to low 60 scores and ties.

Field re-grouped according to score.

#### Friday, July 31

Round 3: Tee times begin at 7:30am off #1 & #10 tees. 18 holes Stroke Play.

11:00am-3:00pm:

Field re-grouped according to score.

#### Saturday, August 1

Round 4: Tee times begin at 7:30am off #1 & #10 tees. 18 holes Stroke Play.

11:00am-3:00pm:

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

**\*Note: Due to the uncertainty surrounding Covid-19 and social distancing rules that may affect the 2020 Alabama State Amateur Championship, the AGA reserves the right to change policy to a walking only event. Players will be notified at close of entries if this policy change is implemented.**

- *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 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 are awarded to the top finishers. Champion will have his name engraved on the *Sam Perry Trophy*.
- Prizes in AGA amateur championships comply with USGA Rules of Amateur Status (see USGA Rules of Golf).
- High School or collegiate players should check with their institution compliance department regarding High School or NCAA regulations relating to accepting prizes or merchandise.

### Exemptions Earned

- Champion receives a lifetime exemption into the Alabama Men’s State Amateur Championship.
- Champion receives 10 year exemption into the Alabama State Match Play Championship (2020-2029).
- Champion receives 10 year exemption into the Alabama State Mid-Amateur Championship (2020-2029) (must be 25 years of age or older by first day of Championship).
- Players finishing in the top 30 (and ties) will receive an exemption into the 2021 Alabama Men’s State Amateur Championship and 2020 Alabama State Mid-Amateur Championship (must be 25 years of age or older by first day of Championship).
- Players finishing in the top 16 (and ties) will receive an exemption into the 2020 Alabama State Match Play Championship.

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

Course Rating: 73.7/137

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Yards	560	408	444	212	349	421	176	555	415	3540	550	393	430	186	378	537	172	420	434	3500	7040
Par	5	4	4	3	4	4	3	5	4	36	5	4	4	3	4	5	3	4	4	36	72

\*AGA may use the following tee locations in addition to the above yardages as conditions warrant: Hole #1 (535), Hole #3 (408), Hole #5 (313), Hole #10 (524), Hole #12 (401), Hole #18 (404). Multiple tees may be used on par-3 holes.

### Championship Policies

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

**Withdrawal:** If an accepted player withdraws for any reason before the close of registration at **11:59pm on Tuesday, July 14, 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 Monday, July 27, 2020**, 50% of the entry fee will be refunded. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after **Monday, July 27, 2020**.

**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.

**Alternates:** Full refund if player does not gain entry into the championship.

All dates and time refer to **date and time of receipt** at the AGA office.

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 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

Saugahatchee Country Club: 334-273-8406