

ALABAMA GOLF ASSOCIATION

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TO: 2017 U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Championship Sectional Qualifying Contestants at Shoal Creek, AL
FROM: Brian Scheufler, Alabama Golf Association
DATE: January 1, 2017
TOPIC: Shoal Creek Golf Club, Shoal Creek, AL Qualifying Contestant Information

Please review the following information for the U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Championship Sectional Qualifier on August 16, 2017 at Shoal Creek Golf Club in Shoal Creek, AL. Remember that we are guests of the club and we need to conduct ourselves in a proper manner. Call me at 205-979-1234 or email: <u>brian@alabamagolf.org</u> if you have any questions.

New Grooves Rule Condition of Competition in Effect for U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Contestants

In Sectional Qualifying and in the Championship proper, the player's clubs must conform to the groove specifications in the Rules of Golf that are effective from January 1, 2010. The condition of competition is available for review on the U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Championship entry application. The USGA and R&A have created a reference resource called the Informational Club Database to assist golfers in determining whether their irons, hybrids and fairway woods comply with the New Grooves Rule Specifications. For information about and to access the database, please use the following link: http://www.usga.org/InfoClubsDB/intro.html

*Penalty for Carrying, But Not Making Stroke with, Club or Clubs in Breach of Condition: Two strokes for each hole at which any breach occurred; maximum penalty per round – Four strokes.

*Penalty for Making Stroke with Club in Breach of Condition: Disqualification

Distance Measuring Devices

In Sectional qualifying and in the Championship proper, a player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect her play (e.g., elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3. For more information, visit <u>www.usga.org/dmd</u>.

Accidental Movement of a Ball on the Putting Green

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.

Transportation (Players and Caddies Required to Walk)

Players and caddies must not ride on any form of transportation during a stipulated round unless authorized by the Committee. The optional condition prescribed in Appendix I of The Rules of Golf will be in effect. Players may carry their own bag during the qualifying round. **Pull-carts are not allowed.**

Caddies

A player may provide her own caddie. Caddies will be available at Shoal Creek for a fee of \$75, call in advance to reserve.

Qualifier Website, Starting Times and Scoring

http://www.alabamagolf.org/2017-usga-qualifying

Starting Time

Please click the below link for your starting time on Wednesday, August 16. https://www.ghintpp.com/bamagolf/TPPOnlineScoring/Pairings.aspx?id=352

Format

U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Sectional qualifying is 18 holes of stroke play.

USGA Policies

The USGA prohibits the use of cellular phones during qualifying and championship rounds. Also, the USGA does not allow spectator carts or spectators to ride in a caddie cart during qualifying rounds or the championship proper. Traditional metal spikes are <u>NOT</u> allowed (the penalty for non-compliance is disqualification). The "One-Ball" rule will be in effect. USGA Hard Card rules sheet is available online at: <u>http://www.alabamagolf.org/Images/alabamagolf/documents/2017_USGA_Hard_Card_Final_.pdf</u>

Shoal Creek Club Information

GPS Address: 100 New Williamsburg Dr, Shoal Creek, AL 35242 PGA Director of Golf: Eric Williamson; Superintendent: Jim Simmons Golf Shop Phone: 205-991-9000. Golf Shop Hours: 8:00am-6:00pm Practice Facility Hours: 8:00am-6:00pm; Website: <u>http://www.shoalcreekclub.com</u> Dress Code: Shirts must have collars and be tucked-in; shorts are allowed but must be Bermuda length, and no denim. The policy is for both players and caddies. Accepted Forms of Payment: Caddies: Cash only Golf Shop: Cash, Credit or reciprocal. Turnhouse (food): Cash or reciprocal

Lodging

There are a number of hotels near the course. https://www.google.com/maps/search/hotels+near+shoal+creek/@33.4978954,-86.8331939,12z/data=!3m1!4b1?hl=en-US

Practice Round and Qualifying Round Fees

You are entitled to <u>one</u> practice round after 10:00am on Tuesday, August 15th when tee times are available. There is a <u>mandatory</u> \$25.00 fee for the practice round. You must call the Shoal Creek golf shop in advance to schedule a practice round tee time. Do not show-up and expect to be accommodated for a practice round without calling first. Make sure to identify yourself as a U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Championship qualifying participant. It would be helpful if you make your own game before calling.

On the qualifying days, there are no other fees are due to the host club unless a player hires a caddie. Range balls are complimentary.

Food and Beverage

The club will have food and beverage service available at the Turnhouse on #10.

Qualifying Spots and Playoffs

An on-course playoff is used to determine the last qualifying spot or an alternate position. Holes to be used will be determined by the Committee based on availability and daylight. Players are responsible for making themselves available at the scoreboard for playoff instructions.

Course Yardage (Course Rating: 74.2/132) Note: Yardage is subject to change.

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Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Yards	369	338	481	357	142	499	397	108	359	3050	362	451	333	155	363	347	140	466	382	2999	6049
Par	4	4	5	4	3	5	4	3	4	36	4	5	4	3	4	4	3	5	4	36	72

Qualifying Schedule

Tuesday, August 15	Tee times available for practice round. Call golf shop in advance for a starting time.
Wednesday, August 16	Qualifying Round: 18 holes of stroke play.
	Playoffs for qualifying spots and alternates immediately following play.
Thursday, August 17	Rain Date (if necessary)

Withdrawals

Contact the USGA Championship Administration Department at 908-234-2300 to officially withdraw.

Pace of Play Policy

A group that is out of position will be advised of the situation and the individuals may be timed. Your AGA issued score card will have the acceptable pace of play per hole printed on it.

- 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.

Important Phone Numbers

Shoal Creek Golf Club	205-991-9000
United States Golf Association	908-234-2300
Alabama Golf Association	205-979-1234