



ELIGIBILITY: Entry is open to amateur golfers who are members of the NYSGA (belonging to an NYSGA member club, including NYSGA eClubs), where they keep an active, up-to-date licensed USGA Handicap Index.

RULES: Play is governed by the USGA Rules of Golf, as modified by Local Rules. Rules questions must be referred to on-course NYSGA Rules Officials. If none are readily available, you may call the lead official's cell phone (number to be provided).

FORMAT AND RULES: The format of this competition is 18 holes of individual stroke play, gross and net (90% course handicap) scores. The USGA Rules of Golf govern play.

ENTRIES, FIELD SIZE, AND WAIT LIST: Entries are accepted online only, on a first-come, first served basis. The entry fee includes golf, cart, access to the club's range, and prizes. Entries will not be accepted after the entry deadline. The field is limited to the first 96 players to register, after which players will be added to a wait list (and not charged) in the order that they register. The NYSGA reserves the right to revoke a player's entry for any reason.

EVENT INFORMATION: Pairings and additional pertinent information related to the competition will be emailed to all registered and waitlisted players approximately three (3) days prior to the competition.

WITHDRAWALS AND REFUND POLICY: The following is the refund policy:

- **Before Entry Deadline:** Open Date to Entry Deadline: \$15 fee.
- **After Entry Deadline to Day Prior to Competition Date:** \$30 fee.
- **Withdraw on Competition Date:** No refund.

A player may initiate a refund via the event website (see confirmation email message) or by calling the NYSGA office at 315-471-6979.

MAX SCORE: The maximum score allowed during the play of a hole is 9. Once a player has made nine (9) strokes, they should pick up and record the maximum score for that hole. Players who do not comply with this policy may be liable to a penalty of up to disqualification.

HANDICAP: Players must have an active, up-to-date USGA Handicap Index, issued from their NYSGA member club.

- **Handicap Index Used:** The player's index when pairings are released (approximately three business days prior to the tournament) will be used for the NYSGA Amateur Series.
- **Definition of "Up-to-Date":** Defined as having five scores posted in the previous two posting months.
- **Max Course Handicap:** 36 strokes
- **Reductions for Multiple Winners:** A player who wins first place (net) in two events in a calendar year are liable, after review by the NYSGA, to having their USGA Handicap Index reduced as follows: after 2nd win 10% reduction, after 3rd win – 20% reduction, after 4th win – 30% reduction, and so forth.
- **Knock Out Rule:** A player's net score will be rejected if it beats the course rating by eight (8) or more strokes and beats the next best net score in their division by four or more strokes.
- **NYSGA Review:** The NYSGA monitors handicap score posting and reserves the right to adjust course handicaps and/or withhold prizes for competitors whose handicaps are considered unrealistic or who have participated in a disproportionate share of NYSGA prize distributions.

CADDIES: Caddies are not permitted.

PACE OF PLAY: Players are reminded that Rule 5.6 carries a penalty for undue delay and/or slow play, which will be enforced by the NYSGA official-in-charge. Each group is expected to keep pace with the group ahead. Players who receive multiple complaints for slow play will be disqualified from future events.

SPECTATORS: Spectators are not permitted.

COURSE CONDITION AND INCLEMENT WEATHER: The NYSGA requests the host club provide a course in good condition but has no control over the condition or weather. If the event is played, there will be no refunds granted. NYSGA staff will be in communication with players via email/text regarding possible weather delays.

CARTS: Golf carts are required and included in the entry fee. The host club sets the cart policy including when "cart path only" is in effect. If the club will not permit the use of carts, the competition will either be rescheduled or canceled.

HOST CLUB REQUIREMENTS: Players must abide by all host club requirements including dress code. Traditionally accepted, cleaned and neatly pressed golf attire is required. Personal coolers are not permitted unless for water.

CELL PHONES: The responsible and reasonable use of cell phones during play is permitted only if the phone is set to silent (not vibrate) and its use does not impact any player on the course. Cell phone apps for distance measuring purposes are permitted if they adhere to the Rules of Golf.

CODE OF CONDUCT: Players must conduct themselves in a reasonable manner. Any breach of the NYSGA's Code of Conduct will result in the following penalty structure: 1st Breach (Warning), 2nd Breach (2 Stroke Penalty), 3rd Breach (Disqualification). A serious breach of etiquette will result in immediate disqualification.

SCORECARDS, SCORECARD RETURNED, AND SCORE POSTING: A group will have one player enter scores digitally in the Golf Genius mobile app and another keeping a physical scorecard. ***The physical scorecard is the official scorecard for the round.*** The NYSGA is responsible for posting scores (adjusted for Equitable Stroke Control) to your GHIN account.

TIES: All ties are broken using the USGA recommended method of matching scorecards, which compares the last nine holes (10-18), then last six holes (13-18), last three holes (16-18) and then the final hole (18).

PRIZES: The top net and gross finishers will receive prizes in the form of pro shop gift certificates. Prizes will be awarded immediately following the conclusion of scoring and unclaimed prizes will be left with the host club pro shop. Gift certificates may have an expiration date as noted on the award. The NYSGA will not replace any lost or unclaimed gift certificates.

CLOSE OF COMPETITION: The competition is closed after the awards ceremony has been completed.

THE POINTS LIST: The top-120 players on the Points List at the end of the season will be invited to compete in the NYSGA Amateur Series Championship. Players earn points based on their net finish, with the sum of their top-5 finishes (it is not required that you play in five competitions) counting towards their final score.

PAIRINGS REQUESTS: Pairing requests may be submitted during the registration process. Before submitting a request, ensure that the other player you are requesting knows about and agrees to your request. **DO NOT REQUEST A PLAYER(S) WITHOUT THEIR APPROVAL.** The NYSGA does not guarantee that pairing requests will be accommodated.

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