

Huntington Harbour Golf Club Bylaws

ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE

The Huntington Harbour Golf Club (HuntingtonHarbourGolfClub.org or HHGC) is a group of members, mostly of retired and semi-retired individuals, who want to play leisure golf, as well as competitive golf once a month (usually but not always the 3rd Monday) at both public and private golf courses around the Southern California area.

ARTICLE II - CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS/OFFICERS

The Club is required to have a member serve as the President. The Club President will appoint a minimum of 4 additional club members, in good standing, to serve as officers to fulfill the functions of the Club. Additional board members may be added at the discretion of the Club President.

Presidents function:

It will be the responsibility of the Club President to operate the Club in an efficient and business-like manner. The Club President is responsible for:

1. Preserving and enforcing the Club's Bylaws.
2. Insuring assigned responsibilities of the Clubs Officers are carried out.
3. Presiding at General Membership and Board meetings.
4. Reviewing Club operating budget and conducts audits as needed.
5. Acting or assigning a Master of Ceremony at Club functions.

Functions of the Board Officers:

The 4 additional positions to oversee specific Club functions will be a:

1. Handicap Chair (as required by SCGA)
2. Treasurer (budget & accounting)
3. Secretary (communications)
4. Tournaments & Rules Chair

Special Committees:

As deemed necessary, the Club President may appoint special committees to help accomplish specific Club projects or activities. Any such committee may be headed by one of the sitting Club Directors.

Vacancy of Club President:

In case the Club President resigns, or is voted out by the Board of Directors, the Board of Directors will create a special nominating committee to nominate the President who must be a member in good standing with the Club. The nominee will be presented to the Board of Directors. The majority of the vote of the members of the Board of Directors and the members of the nominating committee will elect the President.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

As an affiliate member of the Southern California Golf Association (SCGA), the Club requires applicants to register through the SCGA website and receive a GHIN number (Handicap Index). Once registered, all members in good standing shall have equal rights, and access to all Club activities and privileges.

Fees:

There is a fee to join and maintain membership in the club. This fee may change from year to year, but not within the same year. This fee includes the cost charged to the HHGC by the SCGA for membership in their association and help pay for the costs of running the club and tournaments.

Membership Conduct:

Members are expected to follow the rules of the game. The Club, represented by the board of directors, possess the authority to impose sanctions on any of its members.

Criteria for Sanctions:

Sanctions will be imposed based on an evaluation of the member's conduct and its impact on the Club's reputation and the experience of other members or Club courses and at Club events.

Conduct considered uncivil or unsportsmanlike may include, but is not limited to:

- Violation of Club rules and policies
- Not posting golf scores accurately or not posting scores at other non-club games
- Any behavior that undermines the spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie within the Club
- Conduct deemed uncivil or unsportsmanlike amongst members, guests, or golf course employees
- Use of offensive language or gestures
- Intentional damage to Club property

The decision to impose sanctions will consider factors such as the nature and severity of the conduct, any previous incidents, and the potential impact on the Club community. Sanctions are designed to address the behavior effectively while promoting accountability, rehabilitation, and the maintenance of a positive Club environment.

Types of Sanctions to Members:

Sanctions may vary based on the severity of the conduct and are at the discretion of the Clubs Board of Directors (Officers). Potential sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- a) Verbal or written warnings.
- b) Suspension of membership privileges for a specified period.
- c) Probationary status, with conditions for reinstatement.
- d) Expulsion from the Club.

Enforcement:

The Club's Officers are responsible for enforcing these sanctions in a fair and consistent manner. Sanctions will be communicated to the member in writing, outlining the reasons for the decision and the sanction. Clear communication helps ensure understanding and compliance with the sanctions imposed.

The decision-making process should be fair, impartial, and conducted in accordance with these Club bylaws and established procedures.

Appeal Process:

Members subject to sanctions have the right to appeal the decision. The appeal process will be:

- A). a written statement by the offender to the Club President explaining why he/she feels the Clubs Officers ruled unfairly and thus the reason for the appeal.
- B). upon receiving that statement, the President, and/or the Board of Directors, will create a special committee of three or five members to review the reason for the sanction, the sanction imposed and the appeal.
- C.) a majority vote will be taken by the committee, and the result of that vote will be the final decision on any sanctions that were taken against the member.
- D.) the committee chair will communicate to the Club President the findings which will be shared with the Board of Directors and the individual(s) being sanctioned.

Note: This policy is established to uphold the standards of behavior and professionalism expected of all members within the Club community, promoting a positive and respectful environment for all participants.

Club Championship:

Members have a chance to be a (low-net or low-gross) Club Champion in order to play in the annual SCGA Tournament of Champions. The Club Championship will be outlined at the onset of a new Season.

S.C.G.A. Club Competitions:

In addition to the regularly scheduled tournaments, the Club will support various SCGA competitions open to Affiliated Club Members.

ARTICLE IV - HANDICAP SYSTEM

Governing Authority:

As an affiliate member of the SCGA, all Club Members will establish their player handicaps in accordance with the rules and procedures of the GHIN/World Handicap System (WHS). This system governs all major amateur competitions throughout the United States.

Posting of Scores:

The accurate and timely posting of scores is essential to the administration of the GHIN/World Handicap System and required of all Club Members. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in Handicap Index adjustments or penalty rounds.

Establishing Handicaps:

A Club Member is not considered to have an "established" handicap index until he/she has posted 8 scores on the computer-generated GHIN/World Handicap System. A "provisional" handicap index can be established by posting as few as 54 completed holes. Until a "provisional" handicap index is assigned to a Member by WHS, they will have their handicap calculated and assigned by the Club's Membership and Handicap Director.

ARTICLE V - TOURNAMENTS

Monthly Tournaments:

The Club will attempt to organize and conduct monthly tournaments. To the extent possible these tournaments shall be conducted at different golf courses and include a variety of formats. Selection of courses and teeing placement shall be at the discretion of the Tournament Chair and based upon "playability" by the membership.

Tournament Rules:

The Club may establish its' own rules depending upon weather, pace of play, etc at tournaments. We always follow the course rules first (e.g. cart path only, out of bounds, etc.) and then members are to follow the rules established by the Club, including rules for that day as announced by the tournament chair.

Tournament Participation:

Any Member in good standing may participate in the Club tournaments by registering by means established by the Club for that tournament. All members are encouraged to play as many tournaments as possible. However, in some cases, due to capacity limitations imposed by some golf courses, it may not be possible to accommodate all members and thus the field of players is based on a “first paid, first served basis.”

Cancellation and No-show Fees for Club Tournament-

Any Member who registers to play in a tournament and cancels his reservation for that tournament after the due date to register, should not expect a refund due to confirmations made with the course.

If the club can secure a refund/adjustment for the “no show”, the player will be credited to a future tournament or be refunded.

Note: This policy aims to emphasize that members are accountable for any financial obligations resulting from their cancellations or failure to attend tournaments so the Club is not incurring costs for the “no show”.

Rules of Golf:

HHGC Members will be expected to follow and adhere to the USGA Rules of Golf, and when applicable “local golf course rules”, whenever and wherever they play. This is especially important during Club Tournaments when competing for prizes. During Tournaments, failure to do so will result in the addition of penalty strokes and depending on the infraction, could result in disqualification.

Tournament Handicaps:

Members will compete in Club tournaments using their Club Index or their GHIN Index per the Huntington Harbour Golf Club Handicap Policy. The maximum handicap allowed any player competing in a Club tournament is 36.

Tournament Flights:

The Tournament Chair may establish different handicap flights or handicap adjustments for each tournament. Each Tournament is usually a different format and will be publicly announced at the registration site.

Guest Participation in Club Tournaments

Guests are always welcome to play in HHGC tournaments unless announced otherwise. The Club has an established guest policy and is announced on the Clubs website or registration form. The following guidelines are established to facilitate the participation of guests in club tournaments while ensuring fairness and adherence to club regulations:

1. Tournament games:

In an effort to help members that cancel after the registration deadline from losing their tournament fee, the board may ask the membership to help fill these spaces with non-members (guests). Guests will be allowed to participate in the wagers if they have a verifiable handicap. If the guest does not have a verifiable handicap, they still may participate in tournament wagers but will play at the same handicap as the lowest handicap player in the tournament. Guest cannot compete in the optional skins games.

2. Tournament Price for Guests:

Guests may be subject to a higher tournament price if the club has subsidized costs such as lower green fees or provided extras like range balls using club funds. The adjustment in tournament price for guests will be determined based on the extent of club subsidy for the tournament, the work required to accommodate guests, and any other fees or charges incurred.

Also, any guests that do play and participate in the wagers of a tournament are only eligible to receive prizes from the tournament they are playing in but not including any rollover of prizes from previous tournaments.

3. Guest play: In some cases, guests may be asked to play on an as needed basis as many times as needed. Guests cannot receive preferential treatment to sign up to play on a regular

basis or have any member benefits. The Club has an established policy regarding the number of games a guest can play before needing to become a member. This is to encourage the guest to become a member.

ARTICLE VI- CLUB BYLAW CHANGES

Changes to the Bylaws of the HHGC can be authorized by a majority of the current board of directors.

Members have an opportunity to call for changes to the by-laws as well by communicating the desired change to the Club President and/or the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has the option to approve the change.

If the change requested does not meet the member's desired change, the member may ask the membership for support via a written document signed by a majority of the members to request the change. Upon verifying the results, the board will approve the bylaw change.

Date approved: 2/11/2025

David Walker, President

Tim Chisam, Secretary

Bob Baker, Treasurer

Ted Allred, Handicap Chair

Doug Oldham, Tournament Chair