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(717) 872-4500**



Senior Men's League

2024

Rules & Procedures

March 4, 2024

Crossgates Senior Men's League – Rules

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- ❖ Every Thursday beginning the 1st week of April thru the last week of October (no minimum round requirement)
- ❖ Tee times will be randomly assigned to each golfer.
- ❖ Minimum age is 60
- ❖ All play will be from the SR. Tees (with exceptions. See Handicap Rules)
- ❖ Weekly Food and Beverage specials: each week in our Restaurant

Costs:

1. \$44 to ride, no walking rate. (\$39 Greens Fee and Cart Fee + \$5 prize money). All golfers MUST take a cart. Walking is NOT allowed in the Crossgates Senior Men's League.
2. Cost includes \$5 for the prize \$ purse each week. The Pro Shop staff will maintain a yearly cumulative money list. You may redeem your onetime league fee and / or winnings weekly, or you can allow them to accumulate as long as you wish, even from 1 year to the next. When you redeem your winnings, they will be paid in the form of Pro Shop credits.
3. There will be an additional \$20 cart fee charge to any member who prefers to ride alone in a cart.
4. All prize \$ will be issued to individuals in the form of a Pro Shop credit. No team prize \$ will be issued, except for scrambles. Pro Shop credits may be used toward greens fees, cart fees, range balls, or Pro Shop merchandise. They cannot be used for food and beverage items.

Pairing & Team Assignments:

We use one of 4 methods to accomplish the weekly pairing. See the schedule on our website for the format being used each week:

1. The “Similar Handicap” pairing: Members with single handicaps will be paired together, those in the teens will be paired, etc. etc.
2. Our “Standard” pairing process results in each team consisting of an A, B, C, & D player, based on handicaps. You could be an “A” one week and a “B” the next, depending on the number of players each week.
3. Our “Buddy” System for pairing. The Buddy system enables any member to request to play with any other member *regardless of handicap*. If you are interested in this pairing, please confirm with your buddy before you request the committee. These “Buddy” pairings will be unchanged throughout the season unless requested by the captain of the team (the A

Player). If a “Buddy” team does not make up a foursome, that group will be filled in by other members to make up foursomes.

4. The **“Scramble Format”**: The 4th format we use is for our scrambles. Using member’s handicaps, we pair the *lowest A* player with the *highest B* player, the *lowest C* player, and the *highest D* player to make up the first foursome. We continue that process until all players in the scramble are assigned to a foursome. This methodology results in each team being very closely matched by handicap. It is our only format where prize money is awarded to **Teams** Vs individual members.

Guest Policy: - Guests who are 60 or older, and not league members are permitted. The cost for a guest is \$42, the normal senior rate. Guests are **not** eligible for prize \$. Members with guest(s) must have another member in their group, to be eligible for prize money.

Scramble Format – We will use a scramble format for all scramble rounds during the season. Those dates will be communicated to the membership before the start of the season. Teams will be assigned based on handicaps to “balance” the teams. Fees and prize money are as follows.

Fee: \$5.00 per member (no guests are allowed)

Prize money: based on lowest **Team** scores (% & # of payouts subject to change each scramble pending turnout):

1. 1st Lowest Net 40%
2. 2nd lowest Net 30%
3. 3rd lowest Net 20%
4. 4th lowest Net 10%

Scramble Pairing – We pair the teams based on handicaps to ensure fair and balanced competition of teams. As such, members must have a league handicap to participate in league scrambles. However, members without a league handicap (less than 3 rounds in the season) are welcome to play in our scrambles. They will be paired with other members without a league handicap. They will not be eligible for prize money for that round, including closest to-the-pin, but all other league benefits will apply. They will be eligible for the Hole-in-one pool if they are participating in that pool and are playing with another Crossgates Senior Men’s League member.

Weekly Playing Procedure:

1. Starting the 2022 season, we are changing our weekly sign-up to play procedure. You will no longer be able to sign up in the pro shop OR BY EMAILING THE LEAGUE. The new email-based procedure, requires that each member who intends to play a given week, responds to an email requesting his intent.

By noon each Friday, the league will send an email to all members asking if they intend to play the following Thursday. If you respond with a "NOT PLAYING", or do not respond at all, you will not be paired for that coming week's round.

If you respond with a "*Playing*", you will be paired for that coming week's round and your tee time will be posted to the website by noon on Wednesday the day before the round. This tee time notification is the same procedure we used during the 2021 season.

Whichever way you decide to respond, you must do so by **5pm the Monday** before Thursday's round. This gives each member time between Friday at noon and Monday at 5PM to let us know your intentions.

Note, we will no longer accept "future" plans (multiple weeks) as we did in the past. You must respond each week you intend to play.

Note: Members who show up to play, but are not on the pairing list because they have not advised us in advance using one of the above notification methods, will be considered as a "**walk-in**" for that week. If you are a "**walk-in**" and:

- a. ...there are only foursomes, you **will not** be able to play in the league that week.
 - b. ...it is a scramble week; you **will not** be able to play in the league that week.
 - c. ...there are open threesomes, the league will do its best to pair you with an open threesome. However, you **will not** be **eligible for prize money** that week including Closest-to-the-Pin and any of the other league awards, except Hole-in-One, if participating.
2. Members who will be bringing guests **must** send an email to XSML@crossgatesgolf.com by 5pm the **Monday** before Thursday play with the names and number of guests expected.
 3. Pairing and teams will be accomplished randomly using one of the four methods mentioned above.
 4. The pairings and tee times will be posted to the website at <https://crossgatesgolf.com/> by noon each Wednesday.
 5. An XSML (Crossgates Senior Men's League) score card will be **on the weekly sign in table**. Teams should keep a 2nd score card for verification and validate the official score card before submitting to the Pro Shop at the end of the round. **All scores submitted to the Pro Shop are FINAL** – There will be no adjustments after the fact. **Scores are entered Hole by Hole and the computer tallies the total. Scores are NOT entered by the total you came up with.**
 6. On the Thursday of play, members will; go in the pro shop to pay for the round, get a key for the cart, pick up score cards on the table at the base of the steps, and join the 3 other members assigned to that **tee time**.
 7. All golfers will be randomly assigned a tee time, each week. The group & tee time will be posted to the Crossgates Website (<https://crossgatesgolf.com/>) by noon each Wednesday.

Before proceeding to the 1st hole tee box, each team should designate a “Team Captain”, who will;

- a. Circle his name on the XSMC score card to indicate he is the “Team Captain”.
- b. Post *Starting* and *Ending* times on the XSMC score card.
- c. Enforce league rules and pace of play.
- d. Keep official score on the XSMC score card, sign, and turn it into the Pro Shop.
- e. Keep two score cards. One official, one unofficial, and reconcile at the end of the round. All scores on the official XSMC score card, submitted to the Pro Shop, are FINAL!

***Handicaps:**

1. **Initial Handicap:**

New members, and returning members with less than 3 rounds in the previous season, will not be eligible for prize money, including Closest-to-the-Pin, nor will they be allowed to play in any league scrambles until they’ve played 3 league rounds in the same season. You will be given a handicap of 99 (to indicate you are pending a league handicap) until you’ve played 3 rounds. After playing 3 rounds; you will be given a league handicap, you will be eligible for prize money, including Closest-to-the-Pin, you may play in any league scramble, and your handicap will be adjusted throughout the season based on our handicap rules. New members with a 99 handicap are eligible for the Hole-in-One prize if they are participating in the Hole-in-one pool.

Returning members with more than 3 rounds in the previous season will be given their ending handicap from the previous season.

2. Your handicap for your **4th & 5th rounds** will be the average of your first 3 scores, -72.
3. Your handicap for all rounds **after your 5th** will be the average of your last 5 scores, -72.

***Note on our handicapping:** Many of our rules are designed to avoid slow play - e.g.:

- Maximum league handicap is 36.
- All play from gold tees. Members with Handicaps of 32 or higher can optionally play from the red tees. This applies to par 4’s and 5’s only. Par 3’s must be played from the gold tees by all players. This rule applies to all rounds, including scrambles.
- Hit No provisional balls.
- You may “stir” your ball within the length of a scorecard.
- **Triple Bogey is the max score** on any given hole. If you’re not in the hole after 6 strokes on a par 3, 7 on a par 4, or 8 on a par 5, pick up the ball and take a max score!

Because of these liberal rules, members *should not* use the Crossgates Senior Men’s League handicap for any play that requires a USGA handicap. Your Crossgates Senior Men’s League

handicap is a good measure of your skill level, but should not be used as an "Official" USGA handicap. If you have any questions on this, please call the Pro Shop (717) 872-4500.

We apply the **Adjusted Gross Score** to maintain valid handicaps.

Adjusted Gross Score (for H'Cap-not Prize \$)

<u>Handicap</u>	<u>Maximum on any hole</u>
9 or less	Double Bogey
10 thru 19	7
20 or more	8

Scoring:

1. Post *Actual* Scores on every hole. However, there is a "Cap" of **Triple Bogey** on any given hole. If you're not in the hole after 6 strokes on a par 3, 7 on a par 4, or 8 on a par 5, pick up the ball and take the max score!
2. All scores posted to the "official" score card and turned into the Pro-Shop at the end of the round are "final". No adjustments will be made once turned into the Pro-Shop. It is incumbent upon all members to ensure their **Hole-by-Hole** scores are accurate and verified **before** being submitted to the Pro-Shop. It is the reason we ask all teams to use two scores cards; one "official" and one for verification. **The computer will tally your total based on your hole-by-hole scores.**
3. For prize money, all scoring will be NET, determined by your handicap, each week.
4. Please post **Starting** and **Ending** times on the score card so we can monitor playing times.

*The scores turned in by the members will be verified by two committee members. Adjustments to handicaps, based on above rules, will not exceed **36 strokes** in any given week.*

Prize Money:

1. The purse for each week will be \$5.00 x number of playing members (no guests or members with handicaps of 99 can participate in Prize Money).
2. The total purse will be divided into 2 OR MORE flights depending on the number of players. The flights will be established based on handicaps (High & Low).
3. Guidelines for the distribution of Prize money for each of the **ABCD Flights** are as follows:
 - a. 1st Place = 30 % of that flights total
 - b. 2nd Place = 25 % of that flights total
 - c. 3rd Place = 20 % of that flights total
 - d. 4th Place = 15 % of that flights total
 - e. 5th Place = 10 % of that flights total
4. Gross and Net Winners in the A Flight - In 2019, we began handing out Gross prizes in the A Flight during similar handicap weeks (once a month).

The prize money will be split evenly between Gross and Net in the A Flight only. Players cannot win gross and net. Players can only win once per week. The committee will give the player the most beneficial result, either gross or net.

Example:

15 Players in the A Flight

15 Players x \$5 = \$75.00

\$5 taken out for CTP prizes.

Total Prize Pool is now = \$70.00

The \$70 in the prize pool will be split in half - \$35 for Gross and \$35 for Net.

In this example the payout for each division (gross and net) will be:

1st Place = 50% of the prize pool (\$17.50)

2nd Place = 30% of the prize pool (\$10.50)

3rd Place = 20% of the prize pool (\$7.00)

5. **Two Closest to the Pin awards** per week. Each week, the League will use a portion of the prize money pool for any given week to be paid out as a reward for the member(s) who is "Closest-to-the-Pin" on the two par 3's designated by the league for that week. The prize will be **\$12.50** for each of the two CTP par 3's. The same member can win both CTPs if he is that lucky. This rule is in effect for all weeks of play including league scrambles. You must complete the round in order to collect a Closest-to-the-Pin reward.
***Note:** The proper measurement for the Closest-to-the-Pin award is to measure from the edge of the cup to the front of the ball. You should hook the tape measure to the edge of the cup between the flag & your ball. Measure from the edge of the cup to the front of your ball. The ball must be on the green, not the apron or beyond.*
6. PRIZE MONEY Ties: Ties will be distributed at the discretion of the committee members based on varying circumstances.
7. Prize money for each week's winnings (and the season accumulative) will be posted to the Crossgates website at www.crossgatesgolf.com , by noon the Friday following Thursday play.
8. **Hole-in-One Pool (HIOP) ...**
 - a. **Eligibility:** Any Senior League Member can voluntarily participate in the HIOP at any time during the season with an entry fee of \$5.00. Simply sign up in the ProShop.
 - b. **Participation** is totally voluntary. The total of the HIOP will be posted weekly in the Pro Shop. The pool fund will be maintained by the league Treasurer. If a **HIO** is made during the season by a member of the HIOP, the individual will win the entire **HIOP**. In the unlikely event of multiple **HIOs** on the same day, all winners will share equal portions of the pool. There is no requirement or obligation for the winner to share his good fortune. When a **HIO** is made by a member of the **HIOP**, the pool will be set to zero and members are welcome to join the next pool with a fee of \$5.00. If the season ends before the pool is won, the pool will carry over to the next season.

There will be no entry fee for the new season's pool for the members who paid into that pool in the previous season. If a member, who was not in the pool in the previous season, wants to be part of the HIOP, he will be required to pay the \$5.00 entry fee to join the pool.

Other Membership Benefits:

1. Any Senior League Member who scores a hole-in-one will receive a *Free Round of Golf*.
2. Any Senior League Member who plays **85%** of the Senior League rounds in a single Senior League season will receive a *Free Round of Golf* (excludes rainouts; includes scrambles).
3. Any Senior League Member with a Gross Score equal to, or lower than his age will receive a *Free Round of Golf*, one per season.
4. Once a month we will randomly select a member's birthday (from all 12 months, not just that month) and celebrate his birthday with a *Free Round of Golf*. To be eligible, we must have your date-of-birth on file and you must have played 50% of the season to-date rounds.
5. Any member who sponsors a *New Member* will receive *Free Round of Golf* when the *New Member* has played 10 rounds of golf with the Senior League. The new member *must* indicate your name on his application for you to be eligible. (Note: the 10 rounds must be played in a single season).
6. At season's end the league will award a *Free Round of Golf* to members who achieve the following during the season:
 - **League's Lowest Gross**
 - **League's Lowest Net**
 - **League's Low Average Gross**
 - **League's Low Average Net**
 - **League's Most Improved Player**

Note: The member must have played 50% of the season's rounds, and had a league handicap going into the season, in order to be eligible for any of the above awards. None of the "Free Rounds of Golf" mentioned above may be used for a round with the Senior Men's League.

Other Rules and suggestions:

1. Have fun!
2. NO MULLIGANS / NO GIMMES (**putt everything out!**)
3. If you're not in the hole after 6 strokes on a par 3, 7 on a par 4, or 8 on a par 5, pick up the ball and take a max score!
4. You may "stir" your ball within the length of a scorecard, in the fairway and the rough, *but not in the sand, or hazard*, or to the point where you receive an unfair advantage- if your ball is behind a tree, keep it behind a tree! If the ball is moved to get relief from the object - add one penalty stroke.

5. **Play READY golf** on all tees and greens - hit when you are ready.
6. The drop area for a ball hit into the water on hole #17 is the red tee box. There is a one stroke penalty and you will hit your third shot from the drop area.
7. **Lost ball** – We follow the USGA rule of **3 minutes** to find a lost ball. Please adhere to this rule to maintain pace of play.

8. OB & Lost Ball RULE:

One stroke Penalty. 2 Options

1. Decide **RIGHT AWAY** that you are going to put a new ball in play. Re-Tee with a 1 stroke penalty. If you re-tee, you **MUST** play that ball! Limit of 1 re-tee shot with penalty. This is **NOT** a provisional. Once you decide to re-tee, that ball is in play and the original ball is no longer “in play” and cannot be played. If your re-teed shot also goes OB or is lost, pick up and take the maximum score for the hole.
2. Drop the golf ball within two club lengths of where the ball went OB or was lost. No provisional balls! If you hit or think your ball went OB. Drive up to where the group consensus is, of where the ball crossed the OB line or where you think it was lost. Drop the ball within two club lengths, no closer to the hole and take a 1 stroke penalty. Do not drop more than 2 club lengths from where the ball **CROSSED** the line or is thought to be lost.

Example 1:

Your tee shot on #4 goes off to the right into the woods. You know that it is going to be a bad spot. Decide **RIGHT AWAY** that you want to re-tee with a penalty stroke. Re-tee, you are hitting 3 off the tee. If you choose this option, you **MUST** play the re-teed ball.

Example 2:

Your tee shot on #9 goes to the left and over the road and it is Out of Bounds. Determine by group consensus of where the ball **CROSSED** the OB line. Drop a ball within two club lengths of the line and take a 1 stroke penalty.

With the new league rule, there are **NO** provisional balls. The only options are dropping a ball within two club lengths of where the ball crossed the OB line or is thought to be lost or re-tee with a 1 stroke penalty.

9. #3 Drop Area:

In an effort to speed up play and to avoid injury from falls, the Crossgates Senior Men’s League Committee is introducing an option for Senior Men’s League members to use a Drop Area for errant shots on #3.

The Drop Area will be identified by a sign in the rear of #3 hole, between #3 green & #4 tee box. Members can optionally use the Drop Area with a one stroke penalty for any errant shot that may be too difficult or dangerous to complete. The Drop Area can only be used to recover from an

errant tee shot and the ball from the initial tee shot is no longer in play. Drop your ball within 2 club lengths of the Drop Area Sign.

Examples:

1. Your tee shot hits the left bank of the green and rolls to the bottom of the hill. ***Rather than going down the hill to retrieve your ball (see note below)***, you can take a one stroke penalty and play your 3rd shot from the Drop Area.
2. Your tee shot is lost or not playable on the right-side hill near # 7. Take a one stroke penalty and play your 3rd shot from the Drop Area.

This option is being introduced to the Crossgates Senior Men's League to speed up play and to avoid injuries from the steep hills on #3. The option is effective with the 05/05/22 Round.

Note: If a player chooses to walk down the hill to look for his ball, he MUST play from down there. If you choose to use the drop area, don't go down the hill. The drop area is intended to save time and effort to go up and down the hill. It defeats the purpose if players do both!

10. *Slow Play – Measures to minimize slow play:*

- a) Keep pace with the group in front of you.
- b) Clear the green as quickly as possible.
- c) Put clubs away, and tally the score at the next tee.
- d) When at the next tee and green, play "ready golf" and "ready putting". In other words, always play "Ready Golf".
- e) Use "Leaf Rule" when ball is lost in heavy leaves in the field of play. The leaf rule means that if you cannot find your ball due to all the leaves, you may drop a ball with NO penalty stroke. The **"Leaf Rule" only applies if the Pro Shop announces the rule in effect on that week of play, and all in your foursome agree whether or not the Leaf Rule should apply on any given shot.**
- f) On those days we are required to stay on the cart path, determine the club(s) you will need before going to the ball. Do not go to the ball, and determine what club you will need, then return to the cart for a club.

11. In the event of rain or other foul weather (except if Pro Shop stops play), members may decide to stop at any place on the course before the end, but **will forfeit** the monies they put into the prize pot.... Groups that finish will be eligible for prize monies based on *Crossgates Senior Men's League Prize distribution Rules and Weather rule* below.

12. To offer some **guidelines** to the lucky golfer who scores a hole-in-one, the other players in the foursome should buy a drink for the person scoring the hole-in-one. This guideline was recommended by the members responding to the 2015 survey. This is a suggestion only. Members can do as they wish.

13. All disputes will be settled by the League Committee.

Weather:

- In order to be an *official* league round (prize money – including Hole-in-One pool, handicaps, etc.), 50% of those who signed up to play, must play.
- If less than 50% of those who signed up to play, show up to play, no prize money will be disbursed, including Closest to the Pin, Hole-in-One pool, handicaps, etc. The \$5 prize money will be added back to each player's account.
- If the weather conditions change after the round has started but play is not stopped by a Crossgates authorized representative, you must complete the round in order to be eligible for that week's prize money, including Closest to the Pin, Hole-in-One, etc. The exception to this is if the majority of that week's playing members stop playing due to the weather conditions. In that case, no prize money will be disbursed including Closest to the Pin, Hole-in-One, and no handicaps will change. That week's \$5 prize money will be added back to each player's account. No rainchecks will be issued.
- If play is stopped by an authorized Crossgates representative due to unsafe or unplayable conditions, after play has already begun, no prize money for that week will be disbursed, including Closest to the Pin & Hole-in-One, etc. and no handicaps will change. The \$5 prize money will be added back to each player's account. Rainchecks will be issued at the discretion of Crossgates representative.

Season End Social for Crossgates Senior Men's League

Based on the feedback from our 2018 survey, the committee has decided to conduct a season end social. Details of the event will be communicated near the end of the season.

The Crossgates Senior Men's League Committee

Chris Martin - President & General Manager

Jason Przystup - Director of Golf & Treasurer

Tony Mann - Membership, Handicaps, Pairing

Gene Wise - Statistics, Scrambles, Special Events

Email Address: XSML@crossgatesgolf.com

Website: <https://crossgatesgolf.com/>

Contact Information / Sign Up: Crossgates Pro Shop 717-872-4500

1. Jason Przystup, Director of Golf, jprzystup@crossgatesgolf.com
2. League Committee, XSML@crossgatesgolf.com