

**RIVER COURSE
AT
THE ALISAL**

**RIVER COURSE
MEN'S CLUB
(RCMC)
HANDBOOK**

CONTENTS

WELCOME	2
ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS, WEBSITES	3
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	4
MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES	4
MEETINGS	4
DUES	5
HANDICAPS AND SCORE POSTING	5
TOURNAMENTS	6
GENERAL	6
CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	7
PRESIDENT'S CUP	7
CHRISTMAS TOURNAMENT	7
TOURNAMENT PRIZES AND RULES	8
HOLE-IN-ONE POLICY	9
RAIN CANCELLATION POLICY	9
ADMINISTRATION	9
BOARD OF DIRECTORS	9
RULES COMMITTEE	10
HANDICAP COMMITTEE	10
HEAD PROFESSIONAL	11
LOCAL RULES FOR PLAY AT THE RIVER COURSE	11
COURTESY AND CONDUCT	12
RIVER COURSE MEN'S CLUB BY-LAWS	14

WELCOME

Congratulations on becoming a member of our fine golf club.

We hope you will enjoy your membership and become an active participant in your club's tournaments, meetings, Board of Directors and other activities. It is only with this participation that the club can grow, not only in numbers, but also in the stature of its tournaments and the social camaraderie of its members!

This booklet is intended to provide you with general information concerning the River Course at The Alisal as well as specific information on your club. Should you have additional questions, do not hesitate to ask you fellow members, Board of Directors or the professional staff.

Your membership in the River Course Men's Club (RCMC) includes;

- Membership in the Southern California Golf Association (SCGA)
- SCGA computed handicaps
- Eligibility to enter all club tournaments with a recognized handicap upon paying the entry fee and meeting any other tournament requirements
- Eligibility to represent RCMC in authorized outside tournaments
- Mailing of *FORE*, the SCGA Golf Magazine

[2]

- Various discounts on green fees and selected merchandise when earned
- Outside tournaments, educational clinics and seminars sponsored by RCMC and the Pro Shop

ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS, WEBSITES

RIVER COURSE AT THE ALISAL

150 ALISAL ROAD

P.O. BOX 1589

SOLVANG, CA 93464

(805) 688-6042

www.rivercourse.com

RIVER COURSE MEN'S CLUB

P.O. BOX 83

SOLVANG, CA 93464

www.rivercoursemensclub.org

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GOLF ASSOCIATION

3740 CAHUENGA BOULEVARD

STUDIO CITY, CA 91604

Phone: (818) 980-3630; FAX: (818) 980-1808

www.scga.org

[3]

POLICY AND PROCEDURES

MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

- To play and conduct themselves in accordance with the Rules of Golf, the USGA Handicap System and policies and procedures issued by the Board of Directors
- To keep their member information current. This includes addresses, postal and email, and phone number
- To accurately record and post all playing scores

MEETINGS

There will be a general membership meeting held each year, usually in mid-October, in conjunction with an RCMC tournament.

This general membership meeting will be held in the River Grill and will be convened an hour following the tournament. The Board of Directors may schedule or reschedule meetings as required.

Any changes will be announced at least one week prior to the regularly scheduled meeting by email.

There will be monthly Board of Director meetings. These meetings are scheduled by the President.

An agenda will be provided for each board meeting. Robert's Rules of Order shall prevail.

DUES

Dues are used to benefit the members at large by the following:

- Membership in the SCGA including handicap maintenance
- Expenses, including additional prize money for all RCMC tournaments, raffle prizes, and food for special event tournaments
- Expenses incurred for administrative purposes (primarily website and email services, etc.)
- Dues are subject to change as approved by the Board of Directors

A discounted rate is offered for those renewing their memberships. First time new members will be responsible for the 'new member' rate. Please refer to the current application available in the Pro shop or go to <https://membership.scga.org/start/join/?cid=248>

HANDICAPS AND SCORE POSTING

All club members become SCGA members. New members will receive an GHIN number shortly after their application has been processed. After posting a minimum of three 18-hole scores, an provisional handicap index will be calculated. As additional scores are posted, they will be used to calculate a 'standard' index, which is based upon the lowest eight scores of the last twenty scores posted. New members with existing handicaps will have their records transferred to the RCMC through the handicap chairman.

All games of seven holes or more, good or bad, at home or away must be posted. Scores should be posted immediately after completion of the round but no later than midnight on the day the round was completed. **Scores not posted or posted after the allowable time period may result in a penalty score being posted. A penalty score is the lowest round scored in the last twenty scores posted.** Scores may be posted in the pro shop or from any computer or on your phone with the GHIN app.

TOURNAMENTS

GENERAL

The RCMC normally schedules two tournaments each month.

Tournaments are usually shotgun starts. All participants MUST complete check-in 30 minutes before tournaments start. i.e. 8:30 tee time means 8:00 sign-in, 11:30 start time means 11:00 sign-in.

You are permitted to have a playing partner to pay for you if you are going to miss the 30 minute check-in rule or you can call the pro shop and let them know. They will mark you down on the list, you will then go into the pro shop to check-in and pay for the tournament.

Failure to check-in on time as described means **you will not be permitted to participate in the tournament.**

In addition, all tournament participants are expected to meet on the putting green 10 minutes prior to tee time for tournament announcements, rules, etc.

The formats for the RCMC tournaments are varied and include scrambles, Stablefords, Best-Balls and individual Net and Gross played from a variety of tee positions, depending on individuals handicap. The objective is to make the tournaments as interesting as possible to provide incentive for maximum participation by our members.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

The club championship is a two-day tournament and is held in October. To be eligible for the Club Championship, a player must be a Member in good standing of the RCMC, hold an SCGA index prior to the tournament, and have played in at least two (2) sanctioned RCMC tournaments in the current year. Players will be placed in flights as determined by their current Index. The Club Champion will be the individual with the lowest two day gross score. Ties for the Championship will be decided by a sudden death playoff, beginning on hole #1. Ties for low gross and net in each flight will be decided by card-off.

PRESIDENT'S CUP

The President's Cup is a match play championship played over the summer. Sign-ups are limited to the first 64 players. Eligibility for this tournament is the same as the Club Championship; you must play in a minimum of two (2) tournaments prior to the beginning of the competition. Individual matches are scheduled by the participants at their mutual convenience.

Christmas Tournament

The Christmas tournament is always a popular finish to the year's event! It is a four man scramble followed by a lavish dinner!!

TOURNAMENT PRIZES AND RULES

Appropriate prizes are awarded for all RCMC tournaments. Each tournament has money budgeted from RCMC funds. If tournaments are flighted, prizes will be awarded to each flight. The number and values of prizes for each flight are determined by the number of participants entered in each flight. All participants must be members in good standing of the RCMC.

No prize money is paid in cash with the exception of the Closest to the Pin and Skins. Winnings are recorded as credit to the winner's personal account in the Pro Shop and may be used to purchase merchandise from the golf shop.

Any player whose name is on the tournament sign-up sheet is responsible to notify the Pro Shop, at the earliest time possible, if they are unable to make their appointed tee time.

A player can play in tournaments as soon as he becomes a member. If the player does not have an established Index, he must play scratch (0) until his Index is established by posting a minimum of three scores.

In all RCMC tournaments, it is required that each player be responsible for his own his own scorecard. That means that the card will be filled out completely and accurately with proper entries for gross, net and adjusted scores and signed by both the scorekeeper and the player (scorecards are exchanged with fellow players- you do not keep your own scorecard). Responsibility for the accuracy of the reported scores lies with the player.

Note: In all tournaments, submitting an incorrect score card with a lower score will lead to disqualification of the player. A card submitted with a higher score will stand as submitted.

HOLE-IN-ONE POLICY

The RCMC hole-in-one policy is as stated: RCMC will reward any player who gets a hole-in-one during a tournament (including the President's Cup) a cash prize in the amount of \$250. Team play matches are not considered eligible.

In addition, in keeping with the tradition of celebrating a fellow competitor's "ace", the RCMC will pay for one (1) drink for players who have competed in the tournament and stayed for the celebration!

- No more than one (1) drink per member
- Only lower shelf alcohol, beer & wine will be offered
- Gratuities will be paid to the staff, based on final bar tab

When the Hole-in-One fund drops below \$1,000, the current board will assess the membership monies, as they deem appropriate to maintain a healthy balance.

RAIN CANCELLATION POLICY

Rain itself will not deter the playing of a scheduled tournament. If the golf course is deemed safe and playable, the tournament will be played as scheduled. The Tournament Committee in conjunction with the Pro Shop will make the determining decision.

ADMINISTRATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A Board of Directors is elected by the membership at large from a group of members solicited by a nominating committee, appointed by the active board.

Board members are elected to one-year terms. Board members will generally serve a term of no more than three consecutive years.

A person can serve on the board again after a one-year hiatus for an additional term of one year if otherwise approved by the membership.

The Board of Directors will implement and administer all duties and events pertaining to the RCMC.

The President, in conjunction with the Head Professional, will have the authority to enforce all policies pertaining to the RCMC.

Any policy change will be in writing and the Membership will be notified. Notification consists of emailing the membership and posting on the Bulletin Board.

As compensation, each board member will receive a credit on the books of \$50 for each month of their tenure on the Board.

RULES COMMITTEE

The Rules Committee is comprised of the Board of Directors of the RCMC and the staff professionals of the River Course.

HANDICAP COMMITTEE

The Handicap Committee includes the Handicap Chairman and selected members in good standing of the membership at large. The Handicap Chairman must maintain a current certification from the SCGA.

HEAD PROFESSIONAL

- Acts as an advisor to the RCMC
- Acts as a liaison between the RCMC and the River Course General Manager and between the RCMC and the River Course staff
- Has authority and discretion under direction of the River Course General Manager to implement any action that pertains to the RCMC and the River Course
- Reserves the right to suspend club privileges at the discretion of the management

LOCAL RULES FOR PLAY

Play Summer Rules. Do not improve the lie of the ball, unless it is in a plainly marked drop area. USGA rules apply, unless posted otherwise or announced.

Out of Bounds is defined by white stakes. The concrete culvert to the right of #7 is out of bounds.

Lateral Water Hazards are defined by red stakes. Proceed under USGA rule #26c

Water Hazards are defined by yellow stakes. In the absence of yellow stakes, the water hazard is defined by the water's edge. Proceed under USGA rule #26. Balls that go into the water over the 17th green shall use the drop area to the left of the green.

BRUSH AREAS These areas are considered to be natural parts of the golf course. The procedure: if the ball is hit into one of these areas, hit a provisional ball before moving forward. If the ball is lost, play the provisional. If the ball is found, there are two options: play it where it lies or declare it unplayable and drop it according to USGA rule #28.

OBSTRUCTIONS Paved roads, paved cart paths and flower beds; these are deemed to be immovable obstructions. If the ball comes to rest on an obstruction and/or interferes with the stance or swing, the ball may be dropped within one club length of the nearest point of relief, no nearer the hole, with no penalty. The gravel road behind #3 is considered a cart path and relief may be taken.

SAND BUNKERS Rocks and pebbles may be removed from sand bunkers

COURTESY AND CONDUCT

“SLOW PLAY” is an irritant to all. Move purposefully on the golf course and be ready to play when it is your turn, both on the fairways and on the greens. Except in match play, it is not necessary to wait for the player who is away to take the first shot. Play “ready golf”. The player reaching his ball first may hit, if in doing so there is no interference with other players.

SPEED OF PLAY: Groups are expected to play in 4 ½ hours or less, 13 minutes per hole, 45 seconds per shot execution per player. Players will be warned, timed, penalized and then asked to pick up to help speed up play. Please cooperate with the course Marshals in this respect. Please allow faster groups to play though at the first opportunity.

DRESS CODE

The dress code requires that proper golf attire be worn at all times when on the course property. Please, collared shirts only and no jeans.

River Course is a “no-metal spike” course. Traditional metal spikes are not permitted.

Post all scores and adhere to sign-up and cancellation deadlines for all RCMC functions.

Proper etiquette includes care of the course by replacing divots and fixing all ball marks.

Appropriate conduct is required both on the premises and wherever a member represents the RCMC and the River Course.

RIVER COURSE MENS CLUB BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I- NAME

Section 1: River Course Men's Club (RCMC)

ARTICLE II- PURPOSE

Section 1: To stimulate interest in golf at The River Course at the Alisal by bringing together a group of men desirous of forming a golfing organization

Section 2: To promote and foster among its members a closer bond and fraternity for their joint and mutual benefit, and to promote and conserve the best interest and true spirit of the game of golf as embodied in its ancient and honorable traditions

Section 3: To provide a convenient and authoritative body to govern the RCMC tournaments held at the River Course

ARTICLE III- MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership shall be available to all men 18 years and older

Section 2: Membership is individual and non-transferable

Section 3: Membership confers no voice in the operation of the golf course, clubhouse, nor any facilities of the course

Section 4: Membership may confer special privileges in connection with the golf course as established by the course management

Section 5: Membership in the RCMC must be renewed yearly

Section 6: The board of Directors may confer honorary memberships upon those who have contributed to the advancement of golf and/or this club. A unanimous affirmative vote of the Board of Directors shall be required to approve such action

Section 7: In the event that any member of this organization shall commit any act which reflects discredit or disrepute thereon, or refuse or neglect to comply with the rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Directors or the duly appointed officers, such member shall be subject to suspension or expulsion after ten days written notice and the right to be heard, by a vote of two-thirds of the Board of Directors at any regular meeting or special meeting called for such purpose

Section 8: A legal quorum at any general membership meeting shall be ten members of the membership present in person or by proxy. Each active member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote

Section 9: All membership fees and dues shall be established by the Board of Directors from time to time in such amounts as they deem to be adequate to operate and maintain the Club

ARTICLE IV- BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: COMPOSITION The board of Directors shall consist of elected members in good standing of this Club and the Head Golf Professional or his/her nominee. They shall exercise all power of management of the Club not specifically excepted by these By-Laws

Section 2: ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS By August 1st, the Board of Directors shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of three (3) members, in good standing, of the club. The August and September newsletters shall contain a request for nominees to the Board of Directors. In addition, the membership shall be emailed, requesting nominees. By September 15, the nominating committee shall submit to the Board of Directors and shall post upon the Club bulletin board a list of nominees. This list shall also be emailed to the membership and ballots will be prepared. Voting shall occur at the October general meeting and those names receiving the greatest number of votes cast by those voting shall be declared to be elected. In the alternative, a panel of nominees may be presented for approval by a voice vote

Section 3: MEETINGS The Board of Directors shall meet at such times and places as they may select and a majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum at any meeting. An agenda will be prepared for each meeting. Minutes will be kept and prepared for Board approval of all meetings with a quorum

Section 4: BOARD VACANCIES In the case of any vacancy on the Board of Directors, the remaining directors, even though less than a quorum, may elect a successor by majority vote to hold office for the unexpired term of the director whose place shall be vacant, and until the election of his successor

ARTICLE V- OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Section 1: ELECTION OF OFFICERS At the December Board of Directors meeting the Board shall meet and elect officers for the coming year. Newly elected members are allowed to participate in Board meetings as incoming members prior to January 1, along with departing members, but shall not assume their positions as officers until January 1

Section2: COMPOSITION The officers shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Handicap Chairman, Tournament Chairman. These tasks may be performed by more than one member or consolidated at the discretion of the Board. Duties of the officers shall be such as their titles would indicate or such duties as might be assigned to them, respectively, from time to time by the President. Departing officers are obligated to complete tasks necessary to train replacement officers and provide an annual accounting, where applicable, prior to leaving the Board

Section 3: AD-HOC COMMITTEES The President can appoint any ad-hoc committee(s) deemed necessary or advisable

ARTICLE VI- ELIGIBILITY FOR RCMC EVENTS

Members planning to participate in specially sponsored events by the RCMC must have played in a minimum of two (2) monthly RCMC sanctioned tournaments. All outside tournaments sponsored by the RCMC shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors

ARTICLE VII- AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

The Board of Directors shall have the power to repeal or amend any of these By-Laws provided that such action shall not be effective until approved by the majority vote of the members of the RCMC at a meeting held in accordance with the provisions contained herein