



2023 One-Day Four-Ball Tournaments

Conducted by the Carolinas Golf Association

Terms of Competition

Eligibility

Entry is open to any amateur golfer who has reached his or her 13th birthday by the tournament date, is a member of a club which is a member of the Carolinas Golf Association, and has an active Handicap Index® at CGA member club. Entries are subject to rejection at any time including during the event, by the CGA or by the club hosting the tournament. The reason for rejection may include unbecoming conduct.

Format and Rules

USGA® *Rules of Golf* govern play. Any local rules will be announced the day of play. Tournament format is 18 holes of four-ball stroke play, both gross and net. Player's Handicap Index calculated as of the close of entries. In accordance with the *Rules of Handicapping*, 85 percent of a player's Course Handicap™ is used to determine net scores. A Playing Handicap™ is limited to 30 strokes. Further Playing Handicap reductions are applied based upon the *CGA Four-Ball Handicap Reduction Policy*.

The CGA monitors handicap score posting and reserves the right to adjust a Playing Handicap and/or withhold prizes for competitors whose handicaps are considered unrealistic or who have participated in a disproportionate share of CGA prize distributions. CGA will automatically post tournament scores to the player's scoring record in the World Handicap System™. Players or teams failing to list all individual hole-by-hole scores for both players may face suspension from future CGA one-day tournaments.

Links to: [World Handicap System™](#) | [CGA Code of Conduct](#) | [CGA Tournament Manual](#) | [Rules Sheet](#) | [Pace of Play Policy](#)

Divisions

Teams may choose to compete in any division in which they are eligible. Division options and yardage*: Men Long (6300-6900 yards), Men Regular (5800-6400 yards), Men Short (5400-6000 yards), Mixed (one male (5400-6000 yards)/one female (4600-5200 yards)), Women (4600-5200 yards). Flights are created in divisions with more than 16 entries. A division with less than 4 entries will either compete based on net only or be combined with another division. Division changes are not allowed after entries close. Teams are pre-flighted within their division based on the low **Handicap Index** of the two teammates. In the case of a tie to split flights, the combined **Handicap Index**® of the two teammates is used.

*Yardage may vary outside of range based upon tournament site and tees available at the host site.

Partner substitutions made within five days of the tournament date must be approved in advance by the CGA office. Any on-site partner substitutions are subject to eligibility requirement verification and may result in the side competing with just one player. Competitors must subscribe to all host club restrictions concerning dress, coolers, etc. Cart use is recommended for tournament rounds and caddies are not allowed. Availability of spectator carts is at the discretion of the host club. Practice round availability and rate is at the host club's discretion.

Entry Information *(new in 2023)*

Entries are accepted online only. Entry fee is \$180/team, which includes all golf fees and prizes. One-Day Four-Balls have two forms of registration: First-Come Registration (FCR) and Lottery Registration (LR). Each are defined below.

Regardless of the type of registration, entries open at 8:00 p.m. on the entry open date. Teams who are a "No Show" (DNS) or "No Card" (NC) are subject to suspension from future one-days. Tee time and pairings requests are not accepted. Entries will not be accepted before or after the open and close date.

First-Come Registration (FCR)

For most events, entries are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis (FCR). In FCR, alternates are ranked in the order which entries are received and placed on the waitlist. Division selection has no bearing on entry or alternate order. Entries close when the allotment of accepted and alternate teams is filled or at 11:59 p.m. on the entry close date.

Lottery Registration (LR)

For select events clearly identified on the online schedule, a lottery will be used to determine entries (LR). LR will open at 8:00 p.m. on the open date and teams will have a 24-hour window to register. If the event is over capacity after the 24-hour window, all entries will be placed into a randomized lottery. The max capacity (usually 52 teams) will receive entry to the event based on lottery order and the



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remaining teams will be placed on the waitlist based on lottery order. Division selection has no bearing on lottery selection.

If the event does NOT meet max capacity in the 24-hour LR window, all registered teams will receive entry into the event. The event will then revert to FCR and teams who register after the window will receive entry based on a first-come, first-served basis. In this scenario, entries will close when the allotment of accepted and alternate teams is filled or at 11:59 p.m. on the adjusted entry close date.

There is no advantage to signing up earlier or later in the 24-hour LR window. All entries, regardless of registration time in the 24-hour LR window, are equal and will be placed in the randomized lottery. Teams will be notified of their status (registered or waitlisted) within 48 hours after the event opens. For example, if the event opens on Tuesday at 8:00 p.m., LR closes at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday. The CGA will conduct the lottery and notify players of their status by 8:00 p.m. on Thursday.

All events are treated as separate events and no preference is given to any team for back-to-back events. LR does not affect or change any withdrawal or refund procedures (see below).

Refund Policy

Any withdrawal the day prior to or the day of the tournament will not receive a refund. All other withdrawals are subject to a \$30 admin fee. An entry on the wait list may withdraw at any time for no administrative fee.

Wait List

A waitlist entry does not pay the entry fee until being added to the tournament field and as such, an entry may be removed from the wait list at any time without being subject to the Refund Policy. Once an entry is moved from the wait list to the field, the entry is subject to the Refund Policy. A wait listed entry will receive an email notification when moved to the field. This can occur at any time up to and including the day prior to the tournament. To avoid the possibility of being subject to an admin fee once added to the field, an entry should be removed from the wait list as soon as there is no desire or ability to play in the tournament if that entry was later added to the field.

Prizes and Merchandise

Merchandise certificates are awarded for low gross and net scores in all divisions. As a general guide, merchandise certificates are awarded to 1/3 of the entries in each division/flight with a bias of more net prizes than gross. Merchandise certificates are redeemable only at the host club's golf shop. Ties for 1st place or last place will be broken using the following method; matching scorecards using the back nine (holes #10-#18), last 6 holes (holes #13-#18), last 3 holes (holes #16-#18), 18th hole, then 18th hole going backwards. 1st place winners from each division/flight are eligible for the One-Day Four-Ball Tournament of Champions. Eligibility does not guarantee an entry in the TOC field.

The CGA and the Host Facility is not responsible for any unclaimed or unredeemed merchandise certificates after a tournament play date. It is the player's responsibility to claim or redeem a certificate or golf shop credit prior to leaving a tournament site. The CGA and the Host Facility will not replace any lost or unclaimed merchandise certificates/gift cards after a tournament is played.

CGA Four-Ball Handicap Reduction Policy

Individuals or teams who record a Lowest Net Scores (LNS) in two or more tournaments within the 12-month period prior to the tournament will be subject to reduced playing handicaps. The reduction may be reduced for an individual if that player's ratio of LNS to the number of Four-Ball competitions is less than 1 in 5. The Lowest Net Score (LNS) is defined as being a member of a team with the lowest net team score (includes ties) in a division in a CGA four-ball tournament with net scoring. This rule is in effect for CGA One-Day Four-Ball tournaments, CGA One-Day Senior Four-Ball tournaments, and Ladies Four-Ball Play Days or in a combination of these programs. **New in 2023:** Competitors who qualify for this reduction will be subject to the following playing handicap reduction for any CGA Four-Ball tournament using net scoring: 2 LNS = 10% reduction of Playing Handicap; 3 LNS = 20% reduction of Playing Handicap; 4 LNS = 30% reduction of Playing Handicap (minimum of 1 stroke); 5 LNS = 40% reduction of Playing Handicap (minimum of 1 stroke), and so forth.