

4 March 2024

Palm Valley Senior Men's Golf Association Goodyear, Arizona 85395

Welcome to the Palm Valley Senior Men's Golf Association. Here are some basic facts about the Association

Background - PVSMGA was founded in March 2006. We play on Tuesday mornings. Members can choose which tee box most suits their game. Tee boxes available to member are the regular men's tees, the combo tees, and the forward tees. The tournament director assigns these tees for each course played. Most of our events are individual net tournaments at the US Golf Associations standard handicap. We have two seasons, April - September and October - March. Points are awarded for participation in events and for top 10 finishes. At the end of each season, we have a social event where awards and trophies are presented.

Organization - The members, through the Board of Directors, run the Association. The Palm Valley Golf Club has been very helpful and supportive, but it has nothing to do with managing our organization. The Board consists of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and three Directors, all elected by the membership.

Membership - Members must be at least 45 years old. Membership is from January 1st to December 31st. Membership dues are \$40 per year.

Entry fee - Each event costs ten dollars. Of that, nine dollars is paid out as prize money. The remaining dollar goes to the treasury to pay for the social functions, awards, trophies and supplies. The nine dollars is split as follows:

\$4 - event prizes (top 25% of finishers win cash)
\$2 - net skins
\$2 - gross skins
\$1 - closest to pin on par threes

Our intent is to reward good play by both high and low handicap golfers, and to make cash prizes meaningful but modest.

Handicaps - We use our own handicap system which is similar to the USGA system. Our handicap system uses the last 5 of 10 scores to calculate a USGA handicap rather than 8 of the last 20. New members establish a handicap after posting 3 individual 18-hole scores.

Events - You may sign up for future events through our website www.pvsmga.com or by sending an email to the Tournament Director at fourpeternow@yahoo.com Members without email or Internet access should call the Tournament Director or any of the Board Members. You may cancel in the same way. Contact phone numbers are:

Jim Best – President	(816) 309-8575
Harold Matz – Vice President	(623) 521-8239
Pete Carvo – Tournament director	(206) 595-9955
Ron Roy - Treasurer	(508) 353-0369
Don Morrison - Secretary	(623) 533-1962
Jim Dee – Director at Large	(623) 396-1002
Alan Kornbluth - Director at Large	(848) 250-2182
Lonnie Reams – Director at Large	(623) 385-9004
Tony Prencipe – Director at Large	(623) 694-8776
Harold Matz – Immediate Past President	(623) 521-8239

Purpose - The purpose of the Association is to promote honesty, integrity, camaraderie, and love of the game. To that end, we believe that all members should have an equal opportunity to play with every other member. Most of our events are designated as individual net contests. In those events, our policy will be to assign players to groups and starting hole assignments through random selection, so that everyone has an equal chance. Members are permitted to bring eligible guests to events. Guests do not participate in the tournaments and are not eligible to win prize money. Any guest who wishes to play more than three times in a year must join the Association.

Some of our events, especially during the winter months, have limits on the number of participants. To make sure that everyone has an opportunity to play, we have a policy on late arrivals and no-shows: (1) anyone showing up less than 30 minutes before the tee time must pay a \$5.00 late fee; (2) any no-show who fails to notify either the Association or the Golf Club at least 30 minutes before tee time must pay a \$10.00 fine at his next **event**.

Web Site - Our web address is www.pvsmga.com. On it you will find: our by-laws, schedule of events, recent results, current point leaders, handicaps, rules, Board member contacts, member phone numbers and email addresses.

The PVSMGA adheres to the rules of the United States Golf Association with a few modifications as listed in Section B below. Basically, there are eleven "Golden Rules" of golf and observing them will help you to get the best out of your round. Remember, golf is essentially a fair and honest game guided by rules.

SECTION A - THE GOLDEN RULES

1. CLUBS: 2 penalty strokes to a maximum of 4
 - 1.1. The player must not start a stipulated round with more than 14 clubs. A ball retriever tool does not count against the 14 club limit.
 - 1.2. REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF EXCESS CLUBS CARRIED: Stroke Play - Two strokes for each hole at which any breach occurred; maximum penalty per round 4 strokes
 - 1.3. Excess Club Declared Out of Play – Any club or clubs carried in breach of Rule 4-4 must be declared out of play by the player to his fellow-competitor in stroke play immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred. The player must not use the club or clubs for the remainder of the stipulated round. Rule 4-4

2. PLAYING THE BALL AS IT LIES: 2 penalty strokes Rule 13-1
 - 2.1. You are not permitted to move, bend, or break off anything growing or fixed, before making a stroke in order to improve the lie of the ball, the area of stance or swing, or the line of play.
 - 2.2. You also are not permitted to bend or break off anything while making a practice swing, if this will be of advantage to your shot. (Don't press anything down.)
3. LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS MAY BE MOVED: No Penalty – Loose Impediments are natural objects not fixed or growing; stone, leaves, twigs, and branches (except in a water hazard or bunker). Rule 23 & Definitions page 11
4. MOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS: No penalty - Bottles, cans, signs, stakes (yellow, red, blue) or other artificial objects can be removed without penalty. Stones in a bunker are considered movable obstructions. Rule 24-1 & Appendix I page 101 & 110
5. IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS: No Penalty - Man made roads, paths with an artificial surface or other fixed, artificial objects entitle you to free relief if they interfere with the lie, your stance or your swing (not if they only interfere with the line of play). If they are immovable, you may drop within one club-length of the nearest point of relief, no nearer the hole. In a hazard, you must drop in the hazard. Rule 24-2
6. ABNORMAL GROUND CONDITIONS: No penalty - You get relief without penalty from casual water, ground under repair, burrowing animal holes or casts, grass or other material piled up to be removed as well as holes made by a green keepers. Drop within one club-length of the nearest point of relief, no nearer the hole. Rule 25-2
7. EMBEDDED BALL: No penalty - If your ball has become embedded in its own pitch-mark in the ground in a **closely-mown area** (fairway, fringe, green but not semi-rough or rough) you are allowed to pick it up, clean it and let it drop right next to the original spot. Rule 25-2
8. WATER HAZARD: 1 penalty stroke Rule 26
 - 8.1. Play a ball from where the original ball was last played.
 - 8.2. Drop a ball within two club lengths from the point of entry in the water hazard.
 - 8.3. Drop a ball behind the water hazard, keeping the point, which the ball last crossed the margin, directly between the hole and the spot where the ball is dropped, with no limit on how far back behind the water the ball is dropped.
9. LOST BALL or OUT OF BOUNDS – Rule 27
 - 9.1. To save time, before searching for the first ball, play a provisional ball. IDENTIFY TO THE OTHER PLAYERS THAT YOU ARE PLAYING A PROVISIONAL BALL, if there is a possibility of the ball being lost or out of bounds.

- 9.2. If your ball is lost or out of bounds: After indemnifying the area where ball was lost a new ball can be dropped in the fairway closest to the lost ball and take a 2-stroke penalty. If your ball has gone out of bounds, you may drop the ball in the closest fairway at a point where the ball entered out of bounds for a 2-stroke penalty.

10. PROVISIONAL BALL BECOMES BALL IN PLAY: Rule 27-2b

- 10.1. The player may play the provisional ball until he reaches the place where the original ball is likely to be. If he makes a stroke with the provisional ball, from the place where the original ball is likely to be or a point nearer the hole, the original ball is considered lost, and the provisional ball becomes the ball in play. At this point if the original ball is found put it in your bag.

11. UNPLAYABLE LIE: 1 penalty stroke Rule 28

- 11.1. Proceed under the stroke and distance provision of Rule 27-1 by playing a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was last played (see Rule 20-5); or
- 11.2. Drop a ball behind the point where the ball lay, keeping that point directly between the *hole* and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind that point the ball may be dropped; or
- 11.3. Drop a ball within two club-lengths of the spot where the ball lay, but not nearer the *hole*.
- 11.4. If the unplayable ball is in a *bunker*, the player may proceed under Clause 11.1, 11.2 or 11.3. If he elects to proceed under Clause 11.1, 11.2 or 11.3 a ball must be dropped in the *bunker*. When proceeding under this Rule, the player may lift and clean his ball or *substitute* a ball.
- 11.5. In order to keep the pace of play moving, if a player has played a provisional ball and finds his first ball unplayable, he may use his provisional ball with a one stroke and distance penalty rather than return to the original position last played as described in section 11.1.

SECTION B – PVSMGA'S LOCAL RULES OF PLAY

1. There are no gimmies. All putts are holed out, except when conceded in match play. Each player's ball will be played one stroke at a time, until it is in the hole. Once you tee off, you must play the hole in its entirety. If you choose not to play out the hole, a score of 9 will be assessed for that hole.
2. Play Ready Golf. If you are ready to play your shot, do so, provided it does not interfere with another player.
3. Record the scores for all competitors on both cards. Compare the scores at the end of 9 holes and again after 18 holes and clear up any discrepancies. Turn in one scorecard, signed and attested, to the handicap committee chairman for posting. The posted score is the official score. If a scorecard for the group is not totaled, signed, and turned in upon completion of the round, the players affected are disqualified.
4. You may use visual devices to assist in locating the green and determining approximate distances, including binocular "rangefinders," Sky Caddie devices, or similar. The

player having this device is permitted to share the distance readings with his playing companions. We do have visually impaired golfers amongst us.

5. All players should keep an eye on their playing partner's shots and help locate any ball that has been hit. All players should help spot where a shot lands in order to speed up play. Assisting in the reading of greens, except by team members, is not permitted.
6. You may take relief without penalty from trenches and cuts in the desert caused by water runoff in the same manner as relief from ground underrepair.
7. Try to resolve rules questions within your foursome. If a rules question cannot be resolved during a round, play a second, provisional ball for that hole, record the score for both balls, and then bring the question to the Rules Committee after the round.
8. Aeration Holes: On a case-by-case basis the ***Tournament Director will determine*** whether this will apply.
 - a. "Through the green", a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be lifted without penalty, cleaned and dropped as near as possible to the spot where it lay but not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must first strike a part of the course through the green.
 - b. On the putting green, a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be placed at the nearest spot not nearer the hole that avoids the situation.
9. Out of bounds on south number 5. If a player who while playing his ball from the hole South number 5, hits his ball into the number 6 fairway, it is deemed to be out of bounds. The boundary line is the north edge of 6 fairway. Any ball played from South 5 hole, coming to rest south of this line is out of bounds.

Through the Green:

"*Through the green*" is the whole area of the *course* except:

- (1) The *teeing ground* and *putting green* of the hole being played; and
- (2) All *hazards* on the *course*

All decisions of the Rules Committee shall be final. The Rules Committee reserves the right to adjust rules depending on conditions of course, weather or other conditions which may affect the play of all players. A player can address a question to the Rules Committee for their consideration. The Rules Committee can advise the Board on action to take where a violation or repeated violation occurs.