



# 2024 RLGA Handbook

**First, let's introduce you to the 2024 RLGA Board Members, including Standing Committee Chairpersons and Members Assigned to a Committee.** We are all here to help make your experience rewarding and fun and to answer any questions you may have.

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Next, let's go over some important information to help you move forward with your RLGA membership.

## How do I sign up for tee times?

We have dedicated Ladies Club tee times on most Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday mornings throughout the year. The process to sign up depends on when you want to play.

**Saturday and Sunday Tee Times:** Call the Pro Shop at 253-854-3673, option 2 by Thursday at noon to sign up. Just indicate that you are with the Ladies Club and which day you would like to play and you will be placed into a grouping.

#### Wednesday Tee Times:

*During the winter months (roughly November-March), call the Pro Shop to sign up.*

*From April through November (watch for an email for exact start and stop dates), follow this process:*

1. Add your name to the sign-up sheets located on the back counter in the Pro Shop. There is one sheet per date and you can place your name by any available tee time.
2. The deadline to sign up is by 3pm on the prior Sunday. If you are unable to get to the course to sign up, email Kris Immordino ([kimmor1@comcast.net](mailto:kimmor1@comcast.net)) and she will add you to the list.
3. Kris will email a final list of players and tee times by Tuesday afternoon.
4. Once the line-up has been sent, it is the member's responsibility to contact other members if you need to swap your tee time with someone else. Please do not call Kris.

*IMPORTANT: If you are unable to play, please call the Riverbend Pro Shop at 253-854-3673, Option 2, to cancel. This courtesy helps us rearrange groupings, if needed.*

### **What is a GHIN number and why do I need one?**

A GHIN (Golf Handicap Information Network) number is issued by the USGA and is necessary in order to establish and maintain a handicap index. The USGA maintains the handicap system and it is designed to make the game of golf equitable and fun regardless of skill level, especially when playing in competitions or tournaments. To participate in RLGGA competitions, tournaments, and the player recognition program, you need a handicap.

### **How do I find out what my handicap is?**

First, download the USGA GHIN app and create an account. Then, after each round, post your score into the app (except for tournaments - it will be done for you) and the system does the rest! *We highly recommend using the "post hole-by-hole" option as it automatically adjusts your gross score per hole, whenever applicable.*

If you are new to posting scores, your handicap index will be established after you have posted a minimum of 54 holes. When posting scores, it is assumed that you followed the rules of golf and that your score was attested by another player. Our handicap chair, Lori Deglow, can help you with any questions.

### **What is a "course handicap" and when do I use it?**

Based on your handicap index, the USGA GHIN app can calculate what your handicap is at any given course, depending on its course rating, slope rating, par and which tees you play from. Women most commonly play from the green tees at Riverbend. *You will need to know your course handicap at Riverbend while participating in our bi-monthly competitions and our player recognition program.*

Members' course handicaps will be posted on a clipboard in the back of the Pro Shop for your reference, or can find it in the USGA GHIN app. Your course handicap will change as your handicap index changes so it's best to confirm your course handicap on a regular basis. *When recording your handicap on your scorecard to obtain your net score, use your course handicap.*

## **How do I access the benefits of my RLGA membership?**

Your “Benefits Card” will be ready for pick-up at the Riverbend Pro Shop after your membership application has been processed. Please ask for it at the Pro Shop. The “Benefits Card” will entitle you to:

- 1 Free 18-hole round of golf at Riverbend Golf Course
- 1 Pay for 9 holes get 18 holes
- 1 Free 18-hole Power Cart
- 5 Free small buckets of range balls at the Driving Range
- 10% Discount at the Merchandise Center

In addition to these benefits, your membership entitles you to:

- Membership in WA Golf which includes GHIN (Golf Handicap and Information Network”)
- Membership in Pacific Northwest Golf Association (PNGA)
- A subscription to Pacific Northwest Golfer Magazine
- Twice-monthly competitions with pay-outs to placing winners (at no additional cost to participate).
- The opportunity to play competitive golf in a friendly, non-threatening environment in our monthly tournaments.
- The opportunity to play in Greater Seattle Women’s Public Golf Association (GSWPGA), Washington State Women’s Public Links Association (WSWPLA) and Tacoma Women’s Golf Association (TWGA) monthly tournaments at member courses throughout the Greater Puget Sound area and Washington State.
- The opportunity to play in our premier event of the year, the RLGA Club Championship, which includes a great tee prize, hosted lunch and prizes to the winners.

## **What is a “Riverbend Account?”**

Any competition or tournament winnings will be deposited under your name in an account at the Riverbend Pro Shop. These funds are referred to as “book money.” You may use book money towards greens fees, tournament fees, next year’s membership fee, or merchandise.

## **Why do I need to designate which tees I will play from? What if I don’t know?**

Recently the RLGA membership adopted a resolution allowing players to play from their tee box of choice for competitions. This accommodates folks who prefer to play from shorter or longer tees than the standard Green tees for ladies’ play. We need to keep a record of your tee box choice in order to score competitions accurately. The vast majority of members play from the Green tees, so if you are not sure which to choose, indicate Green tees for now. The bylaws allow for one change of tee designation during the competition season. If you do not make a selection, we will default you to the Green tees.

## **When are competitions and how do I participate?**

In conjunction with any round you play with another RLGA member, you may optionally participate in our bi-weekly competitions that run from March 1st through September 30th. It’s a fun and friendly competition with payouts for gross and net score winners and places. (That means you could win regardless of your skill level!) All payouts are deposited to your account at the Pro Shop. There is no additional cost to participate.

Competitions change on the 1st and 16th of each month. Examples of a competition are “Long and Lovely” (add scores for the 9 longest holes) and “Blind 9” (committee draws 9 holes after the competition ends and adds scores for those holes). With some exceptions, the Committee Chair does all the math, so you just need to record your score and submit a valid scorecard.

To participate:

- Prior to your tee time, sign-up on the Competition sheet on the back counter of the Pro Shop and indicate your tee designation.
- Read the description of the Competition to know whether you need to keep track of anything other than your gross score per hole
- Determine among your grouping who is participating and who will record the official scorecard
- The official scorecard must:
  - Legibly list each player’s first and last name
  - Record the correct date and course handicap for each player
  - Have Scorer and Attestor signatures
- Place the official scorecard in the RLGA slot in the Pro Shop
- You may enter a competition up to two times during a 2-week cycle

Competition results are announced by email every two weeks and posted to our website. Please contact our Competitions Chair, Jeannie Dailey, with any questions.

### **When are tournaments and how do I participate?**

Tournaments are scheduled about once a month from February through October and they are open to all RLGA members with a handicap. The entry fee is \$25.00 + plus green fees for all tournaments except our Club Championship - a two-day event held in August. You may not sign up for competition when playing in a tournament. All entrants play from the same tees as designated by the Tournament Chair.

### **The 2024 Tournament Schedule is:**

Saturday, February 24, 2024	3 Clubs and a putter
Saturday, March 16, 2024	Purple Tees
Saturday, April 13, 2024	6/6/6 (Partner event)
Saturday, May 11th, 2024	Mix it Up
Saturday, June 15th, 2024	Member Social - 4 person scramble
Wednesday, June 26, 2024	Welcome Friends
Saturday, July 20th, 2024	July Jam -Stableford
<b>Sat.-Sun., August 3rd-4th, 2024</b>	<b>Club Championship</b>
Saturday, September 21st, 2024	Chapman
Saturday, October 12th, 2024	Blind Draw

Club Championship: To qualify for the Club Championship you must play in at least four (4) RLGA events between the end of last year’s Club Championship and this year’s Championship (competitions, tournaments or a combination of both).

If you are nervous about competing in a tournament, don’t be! We have players new to the game, and players with handicaps ranging from 40+ to single digits. Tournament play is for everyone and a lot of fun!

The schedule and entry forms are on the Ladies Club page at [www.riverbendgolfcomplex.com](http://www.riverbendgolfcomplex.com). Feel free to contact our Tournament Chair, Stephanie Ticknor, with any questions.

### What is “TEAM Competition?”

The Riverbend Ladies Club is part of the Greater Seattle Women’s Public Golf Association, (GSWPGA). The association consists of ten clubs, eight of which compete in match play team competitions throughout the season. Each club is represented by six players. *This is a fun way to play in friendly competition, meet other ladies, build camaraderie and play other courses in the area.*

If you are interested in playing on TEAM please contact the Team Captain, Sheila Locke.

### Tell me about your Player Recognition Program

To recognize members’ achievements throughout the season, we strongly encourage everyone to participate in our Player Recognition Program. The achievements recognized and their awards are:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Award</b>
First time broke 100, 90, 80, 70	Pin
Personal Best Score	Noted in Player Recognition Monthly Report
Lowest Avg. Net Score for the year	Prize money into Riverbend account
Most Chip-Ins for the year	Prize money into Riverbend account
Most Birdies for the year	Prize money into Riverbend account
Most Improved Golfer	Prize money into Riverbend account and name engraved on RLGA perpetual plaque
Most Rounds Played for the year	Prize money into Riverbend account
Birdie, Eagle, or Chip-in	One pin per year, if requested
Hole-in-One	Receive a pin for each HIO at Riverbend

To participate, pick up a Pink Card at the back counter of the Pro Shop before each round played with at least one other eligible RLGA member and complete one card per grouping. Please record each player’s first and last name, their gross score, their course handicap, net score, and note any other achievements. One scorer and one attester signature are required. You don’t have to shoot a birdie, eagle, or chip-in to participate! Results are distributed by email monthly and awards are presented at the end-of-year party.