

SIENA MEN'S GOLF CLUB

Membership information, Rules and Requirements

- The Siena Community Association created the Siena Men's Golf Club for the benefit of Siena residents.
- Neither the Siena Men's Golf Club nor the Siena community Association has any ownership interest in the Siena Golf Course and neither has any control over the courses management, design, operation or maintenance.
- Membership is open to all male residents of Siena age 55 and older. Only Members may vote on issues and for Club Officers. Guest Players are permitted. Guests wishing to compete in Club events must be 55 and over. Guests are not members and may not hold any Club office.
- Membership dues are \$40. annually. Guests who compete in Club events must pay a competition fee of \$40. annually.
- . Members and Guests Players must be paid in full AND sign a liability waiver form to play in any event.
- Most event entry fees are \$13.00; other entry amounts shall be announced.
- Members should wear the official Siena Men's Club blue shirt during all events.
- The Tournament Chair shall determine all events subject to board approval.
- All players shall have a valid USGA/GHIN handicap.
- All play will be governed by USGA rules except as modified by Siena Men's Club Rules, to be found on the following pages of this document.
- All events will be played from the tee box selected by the player for the season, and tee selection will be noted and recorded by the Membership Chairman.

Some designated events may require a specific tee marker to be used, such as Gross Club Championship.

- If a player has a Hole in One during a Club Event, the Men's Golf Club will pay up to \$100.00 for drinks at the golf course following that days tournament. The Club Treasurer will reimburse the player upon submission of proper receipts for bar expenses.
- Gross and Net Players of the Month will be determined and announced. This will designate the lowest Gross and Net score posted during each month in Men's Club events. You can only win once per year. Each winner will receive \$25 for being named Player of the Month at the Year-end luncheon.
- Players must sign up to play in a weekly club event by Friday prior. Players can respond to the Pro Shop email, or sign up through the Golf Genius web portal.
- To be eligible to play in the Men's Club Championship AND the Year-end Scramble, a member must have participated in at least 15 events in the current season. A player joining or competing in the Men's Club on/after May 1 can qualify with 10 events. A player has to participate in at least 6 events to be eligible to compete in the following season.
- The new golfing season will start the day after the year-end annual meeting.
- Tie-breaking Rule (Scorecard Playoff) – When a tie exists, the winner shall be determined by a scorecard playoff using the following criteria.
 - Handicap Hole #1: The player with the lowest net score (gross score minus handicap strokes) on the hole designated as the #1 Handicap hole shall be declared the winner.

- Handicap Hole #2 and Subsequent holes: If the players remain tied after applying the first step, the tie-breaker procedure will continue to the hole designated as the #2 Handicap Hole, then the #3 Handicap Hole, and so on, until a player's lower score breaks the tie.
- Final Tie: If players are still tied after comparing the next scores on all 18 holes using the handicap ranking order, the tie shall be broken by matching cards on the last 9 holes (10-18), then the last 6 holes (13-18) and then the last 3 holes (16-18).

Note: For net competitions, a player's full handicap strokes are applied to the relevant holes according to the scorecards stroke index (handicap ranking).

The SMGC Slow Play Rule

To achieve a **consistent pace of play** it is necessary to both recognize it and provide incentives to avoid slow play in the future. Therefore, effective immediately, the Siena Men's Golf Club Officers implement the following rule:

A group of players will all be given a one stroke penalty if they:

- a. Finish the round with more than one hole open in front of them, and
- b. Fail to complete their round in less than 4 hours 20 minutes.

Furthermore, for the remainder of the Siena Men's Golf Club current scheduled season, any penalized player who is a member of another penalized group will receive a two-stroke penalty. If said player is part of a group and receives a third penalty during this current season, he shall receive a three shot penalty.

In addition, a player penalized a third time will have his Men's Club play suspended and must appear before the Board of Officers at the next scheduled meeting to discuss solutions before any further play is allowed. The SMGC Vice-President will administer this program, issue all penalties, monitor compliance, track all penalties and report to the SMGC Board of Officers at each monthly meeting. The Pro Shop Staff scorer at the direction of the Vice-President will add all penalty strokes to scores. Final overall scores and placing will incorporate all issued penalties. Crystal Cup points will be awarded using finalized placing after penalties. A player's score to be entered in the USGA/GHIN system SHOULD NOT contain any penalty stroke(s).

Should a player wish to appeal any slow play penalty, he may do so in writing to the SMGC President.

Approved by the Siena Men's Club Board of Officers January 10, 2025

SMGC Rules for Golf

A. IF YOU CANNOT FIND YOUR BALL:

a. You can go back to last point it crossed grass. Drop ball on grass TWO-club lengths from point it last crossed grass. (One-stroke penalty)

b. If ball never crossed grass, must go back to original point ball was hit from. (One-stroke penalty)

c. If you find the ball on homeowners' personal property or a street, you cannot hit it. You must follow option B above.

d. Balls hit into driving range will be treated the same way as ball found on homeowner's property. Area to the right of OB stakes to the right of # 10 and # 18 is defined as the driving range.

e. Balls hit behind hole #18 that go beyond the two white dots at end of cart path or go beyond the curb in back of the green, are considered OB.

Apply same options as B above.

KEEP IN MIND THAT YOU ARE ALLOWED ONLY THREE MINUTES TO FIND YOUR BALL.

B. DESERT RULES

1. **Desert** is defined as any area that does not have grass. This includes the rocky arroyo on number 11. In various spots along the edge of the rough, grass sporadically grows and it may be difficult to determine if your ball is in the desert or grass. It is recommended to call your playing partners and advise them of your ruling Prior to rolling your ball on grass. Tee boxes are considered desert areas.

2. **If a ball lands in any part of the desert area and it is found:**

The new rule, effective Jan. 1, 2025 allows for the player to clean and place the ball within one club length, no closer to the hole, and remain in the desert.

Example: if a player can measure one club length from the ball and become clear of vegetation, min runoffs and Ms, and man-made objects, then he benefits. The player is not ever granted more than one club length no closer to the hole, from where the ball lies. If the player needs more than one club length to play a shot, he must invoke an unplayable ball rule, or use the last-crossed-grass option, and accept the penalty.

a. Holes # 1, 6, 12, 15

1. If a ball is hit from the tee box or any other area and it goes into water, player may take a drop on grass (if it crossed grass) within two-club lengths from edge of grass. (One-Stroke penalty).

2. The final determination where and if the ball crossed grass will be left to the player who hit the ball. He can ask for help from other players if he is not sure.

3. If however, the ball never crossed grass, the player will be allowed to take a drop (One-stroke penalty) within three-club length from the water's edge where ball entered. The ball may be on dirt after the drop.

4. A final option would be to go back to the last point where ball was hit with penalty.

b. Hole # 5

1. Any ball going into water, regardless if land was first hit, or regardless if the shot was taken from tee box or drop area or from anywhere else, player has two options:

a. Re-hit from original area (One-Stroke penalty). If tee box, you can tee it up again.

b. Hit from drop area (One-Stroke penalty)

2. Tee shot hit into desert area for which the player decides to take an unplayable, player must use drop area for the next shot. (One-Stroke penalty)

3. All other shots (besides tee shot) that go in the desert area, the player must use our desert area options

c. Holes # 9 and 18

1. Ball hit into water from tee or fairway, player may take a drop THREE-club length from water's edge except from around the green (See 3 below).

2. Player can draw a line from the point of entry to the flag, and go as far back as he wishes on that line to take the drop. (One-Stroke penalty)

3. AROUND THE GREEN: There is a red/orange drop zone near the green. If a ball enters the water anywhere beyond the drop zone, the player must take a drop at Drop zone. This is for the safety of players. Area around the green is very steep.

C. BALL HIT INTO DESERT AREAS TO THE SIDE AND IN BACK OF ALL GREENS:

Apply our desert rule — see **B** above. Player should make every effort to take the drop in direction away from the hole.

D. BUNKER RULES:

Players will be allowed to rake the area where the ball lies in the trap.

a. You must place ball in the SAME EXACT SPOT where the ball was before you raked.

b. The USGA allows you to drop the ball in the bunker (if you elect) with a one-stroke penalty. You may drop outside the bunker, no closer to the hole, with a two-stroke penalty.

E. BALL NOT FOUND IN FAIRWAY OR ROUGH:

1. If a player hits a shot that he knows is on grass and not in the desert, but cannot find it (after 3 minutes searching time) the player can drop/place a ball (One-stroke penalty) in the general vicinity where he thinks his ball should be found.

2. Keep in mind that once the second ball is dropped/placed, the first ball is no longer in play, regardless if you or someone else finds it.

3. This is different from a ball that crosses grass and goes into the desert or out of bounds (Desert Rules apply in that situation).

F. NOT MARKING BALL ON GREEN:

1. If you pick up a ball on the green without marking it (Regardless of the reason) you must assess yourself a One-Stroke penalty (No Exception).

2. You must put the ball back to the spot it was originally on.

G. BALL GOING INTO TUNNELS:

1. If you find your ball in a tunnel, you can:

a. Drop/place the ball within two-club lengths on grass or dirt where it last crossed cart path no closer to the hole. (One-Stroke Penalty)

b. You can hit it where it lies.

H. MAXIMUM SCORE PER HOLE:

The maximum score allowed per hole will be 10 strokes. If you pick up early on a hole, your score will be 10. Once you reach nine strokes on a hole, pick up and move along

with your 10. The Player **MUST NOT** use his one club length to gain interference from another object, can path, control box, etc., to then claim the right to another free drop.

Penalty: one shot, and must replay from original spot.

I. PROVISIONAL BALL RULE

1. The only time you can play a provisional ball is:

- a. Your shot (tee shot or non-tee shot) does not cross grass. Forward tee boxes are not considered grass.
- b. If the original ball is found the provisional ball is dead and **CANNOT** be played.
- c. To save time, whenever your ball does not cross grass and there is a possibility of a lost ball, a provisional ball is recommended

2. Remember — only three minutes is allowed to look for a ball that has gone astray.

J. CART PATH RULE

1. Cart Path is defined as the entire cement track inclusive of any side curbs.

2. If the ball is found on or near the Cart Path impacting your stance:

- a. Hit it as it lies.
- b. Take a free drop to the side, grass or desert (even if closer to hole); the ball is nearest to within one club length. Include the curb as part of the cart path to determine which side is closer.
- c. If there is no open relief to drop the ball within one club length on the side where you must drop, go to where the ball last crossed grass or to the desert where you have a shot with no interference (One-stroke penalty). (No closer to hole)

REMEMBER: If you take relief, it must be full relief. You cannot stand on or touch the cart path.

Expectations of members of the SMGC - Effective January 1, 2025

It is expected that all members of the Siena Men's Golf Club will:

- Play the game with integrity.
- Each group must turn in TWO identical scorecards. If the cards display a different score on a hole for a player, the higher score will be used.
- Players are responsible to correct any erroneous scores or rule decisions their fellow players make. This should be done immediately, prior to leaving for the next hole.
- In Medal Play, you MUST putt everything out. We expect players to penalize their fellow players who do not putt everything out.
- Carts should keep adequate distance from the greens. Park on the cart path unless clearance is provided by Siena Golf Course management..
- It should be understood that a player ALWAYS has the option of re-hitting (One-Stroke penalty) from the original spot whether it be the tee box or any other area on the course.
- Take care to play your ball from the correct tee box — and within the tee markers. Two stroke penalty and move your ball to correct tee, re-hit.
- When playing on days outside the Men's Club, post your score immediately after your round. All scores matter!
- If you are unsure about a rule, ask your fellow players. Print out these rules and carry in your bag.
- Current maximum handicap is 36 strokes.

RULES FOR THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. The SMGC Board of Officers consists of eight members, all of who are to be elected to two-year terms.
2. So that there will be continuity of current members, 4 officers shall be elected in odd numbered years, and 4 officers in even years
3. All election of officers shall be deemed to be "at large". Candidates will not be running against any other candidates, but rather the top 4 vote tallies will determine the 4 elected officers.
4. All elections shall be conducted at the end of the Golf season, at the Siena Men's Club Annual Meeting.
5. Candidates can declare their intention to run for the Board of Officers at any time, up to and including at the annual Meeting.
6. All Resident Members of the club in good standing are eligible to run.
7. Immediately after election, the 4 new Officers will meet with the 4 incumbents and choose by majority vote who will hold each of the 8 designated officer positions.

THE SIENA MEN'S GOLF CLUB HANDICAP RULE

This rule has been suspended by the current SMGC Board of Directors

A player who has a demonstrated and measurable exceptional performance in Tuesday Men's Club play is subject to examination by the Handicap Chairman, and by the Board of Directors. The measure is as follows:

The players last 10 Tuesday Men's Club scores will be examined, and the 4 (four) best stroke differentials will be utilized. If the average of these low four differentials is MORE than 2.0 lower than his overall handicap index, the player will be notified, and he must play using the average of these low four differentials for the next 4 Tuesday Men's Club events that he enters. The minutes of meetings will not reveal the name of said player(s). The Pro Shop Staff will be notified to use the newly calculated Tuesday Handicap for four events.

The SMGC Board of Officers has charged the Handicap Chairman with monitoring the Top 4 members in the Crystal Cup standings for every regular monthly meeting. Monitoring should generally start after 2 months and/or after 10 events have been conducted.

The Handicap chairman and SMGC BOO may also investigate any member whose performance on Tuesdays is above expectation. Any Siena Men's Golf Club member has the right to ask the SMGC BOD and/or Handicap Chairman to, at the very least, examines a player's exceptional performance.



SIENA
MEN'S GOLF CLUB

Competition Fee: \$40.00

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Cell # _____ **Home #** _____

Email Address: _____

Ghin # _____ **USGA Index:** _____

Non-Resident

Liability Waiver and Release Form

I, _____, wish to compete as a guest in the Siena **Men's Golf Club (SMGC)**. In playing golf, I acknowledge that there are risks known to me, risks that should be open and obvious to me and risks hidden from me. As part of my consideration for competing of **SMGC**, I agree that in participating in any event sponsored by **SMGC** at any golf course I sustain because of these risks and accept full responsibility, financially and otherwise, for any injury or damage I sustain because of any of these risks. I specifically agree to hold **SMGC** officers and its volunteers harmless.

Additionally, I, individually and on behalf of my assigns, heirs, successors and estates, do hereby release and forever discharge **SMGC** Officers and volunteers from all claims, demands, causes of action or suits, now or hereafter acquired, for damages of any kind, arising from a Club sponsored event.

As a guess of the **SMGC**, I understand that Golf is an ancient and honorable game predicated upon the principles of honesty, good conduct and good sportsmanship. I acknowledge that I am bound by these principles and should I violate any of them, my privilege as a guess of **SMGC** may be terminated.

Signed: _____



SIENNA
MEN'S GOLF CLUB

Membership Fee: \$40.00

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Cell # _____ **Home #** _____

Email Address: _____

Ghin # _____ **USGA Index:** _____

Sienna Resident

Liability Waiver and Release Form

I, _____, wish to join the **Sienna Men's Golf Club (SMGC)**. In playing golf, I acknowledge that there are risks known to me, risks that should be open and obvious to me and risks hidden from me. As part of my consideration for membership of **SMGC**, I agree that in participating in any event sponsored by **SMGC** at any golf course I sustain because of these risks and accept full responsibility, financially and otherwise, for any injury or damage I sustain because of any of these risks. I specifically agree to hold **SMGC** officers and its volunteers harmless.

Additionally, I, individually and on behalf of my assigns, heirs, successors and estates, do hereby release and forever discharge **SMGC** Officers and volunteers from all claims, demands, causes of action or suits, now or hereafter acquired, for damages of any kind, arising from a Club sponsored event.

As a member of the **SMGC**, I understand that Golf is an ancient and honorable game predicated upon the principles of honesty, good conduct and good sportsmanship. I acknowledge that I am bound by these principles and should I violate any of them, my privilege as a member of **SMGC** may be terminated.

Signed: _____