

Heron Lakes Women's Golf Club (HLWGC) Standing Rules

1.0 Monthly Newsletter

A monthly newsletter shall be published during the golf season containing a report from the President on the state of the Club, President-Elect on assigned topics, Vice Presidents on day's play results and related activities, Committee Chairs on Handicapping, Rules, and Tournaments, Secretary on membership and Treasurer on finances. Contributors shall meet the newsletter editor's established deadlines.

2.0 Membership

2.1 Our membership web link shall be published and contain information about the following, in language that new members and new players are able to understand:

- List of officers for the current season
- Club Champions
- Tuesday and Saturday Day's Play Schedules
- Club By-Laws
- Standing Rules
- Local Rules
- Tournament Schedule

2.2 Only members who have paid dues for the current season will appear on the monthly HLWGC Roster Report.

2.3 To maintain discipline and social courtesy of the club, when conduct detrimental to the club occurs, encompassing any issue that violates USGA rules of golf, or is an activity that demeans, defames or otherwise affects a member's ability to golf or socialize within the club or an officer's ability to perform their duties, the following procedure applies:

- a. Grievance must be initiated by witnessing member in a timely manner (within 24 hours of occurrence if during tournament play, otherwise within 2 weeks of occurrence), submitted in writing to the President (or President elect if grievance involves the current President), or appropriate VP of Day's Play/ Tournament Chair (if it occurs during play). It must include name, date/time of incident, all parties involved in the incident and facts of the incident.
- b. The receiving officer will investigate grievance and report the findings to the President, if receiving officer is Tournament Chair/VP of Days Play, or the Board, if receiving officer is President/President elect. If the investigation supports the stated grievance, the receiving officer will conduct a verbal conversation with member stating the grievance and findings of the investigation.
- c. If a second occurrence of any misconduct by the same member, the above procedure will be followed and a notice in the form of a verbal and written warning shall be delivered by the VP of Day's Play, or the President, stating that her membership will be withdrawn from the HLWGC if there is one more complaint/infraction received from any member.
- d. If another complaint/infraction is referred to the VP of Day's Play and/or Tournament Chair, and with subsequent two thirds majority vote by the Board, the member in question

will be notified verbally and in writing that her membership has now been terminated immediately.

3.0 Hole-in-One Award

The Hole-in-One Award shall be \$100.00 to be awarded to a member scoring a hole-in-one during a complete 18-hole competition on a regular play day and/or Club Tournaments with the HLWGC on the Greenback or Great Blue Golf Course. The award will not be considered valid on a temporary green. Award to be paid by check or cash as soon as possible after the event.

4.0 Most Improved Golfer

4.1 There will be a Most Improved Golfer and Runner Up named each year.

4.2 The Most Improved Golfer and Runner Up shall be determined by the Handicap Committee for improvement from March each year (or date of active membership if after March 1) through September each year.

4.3 Eligibility for the Most Improved Golfer requires a member to have a current established Handicap Index with a least 20 scores posted and to have played 6 complete 18-hole rounds with the HLWGC in the current season.

5.0 Special Events

5.1 Memorial Best Ball Event

The Memorial Best Ball Event is an event designed to bring all Club members (Tuesday and Saturday) together to meet new friends and have fun. The Tournament chair shall share responsibility for planning and conducting this annual event on a Saturday play day.

5.2 Women's Interclub Play (WIP)

The HLWGC participates in the Oregon Golf Association (OGA) Women's Interclub Play (WIP) program. This program is an interclub four-ball match play competition played against other women's golf clubs within the OGA geographic region. The OGA promotes WIP as part of its mission to develop and promote the game of golf for women.

HLWGC has chosen to participate in the competition to provide additional golf format opportunities for its members. The HLWGC President designates a Team Captain for WIP. The Team Captain is responsible for informing members about the competition, educating and training members to compete, preparing and maintaining the team roster, and completing all other responsibilities as outlined by the OGA for WIP.

HLWGC considers WIP to be an opportunity to present the club to the Oregon/Southwest Washington community of golfers as a team prepared to play the match play format with a competitive approach.

6.0 Annual Tournaments

6.1 The Spring Handicap Tournament is a two-day tournament to be ideally held on two consecutive Tuesdays and two consecutive Saturdays. Participants must sign up in advance for chosen days. Players can choose any two out of the four days to play that work best for their schedule.

- a. Eligibility for the Spring Handicap Tournament requires a member to have a current established handicap index.
 - b. All players will play from the same (yellow) tees unless the player designated use of the orange tees at the beginning of the season.
 - c. In the event of a tie for the Champion of the Spring Handicap Tournament, the winner shall be decided by the score of the last nine holes, if still tied, then the last six holes, the last three holes, and finally, the last hole. One-half, one-third, one-sixth, one-eighteenth handicaps shall be used.
- 6.2 The Club Championship Tournament is a two-day tournament.
- a. Eligibility for the Club Championship Tournament requires a member to have a current established handicap index and to have played 6 complete 18-hole rounds with the HLWGC in the current season, which may include tournaments. Tournament Chair will verify eligibility through Golf Genius.
 - b. All players will play from the same (yellow) tees.
 - c. In the event of a tie for the Club Champion, there will be a three-hole play-off immediately following completion of play. After 3 holes, if there is still a tie, a hole-by-hole play-off will determine the winner. The winner of the Club Championship will be invited to play in the following two years' OGA Tournament of Champions.
- 6.3 The Fall Handicap Tournament is a two-day tournament to be ideally held on two consecutive Tuesdays and two consecutive Saturdays. Participants must sign up in advance for chosen days. Players can choose any two out of the four days to play that work best for their schedule.
- a. Eligibility for the Fall Handicap Tournament requires a member to have a current established handicap index.
 - b. All players will play from the same (yellow) tees unless the player designated use of the orange tees at the beginning of the season.
 - c. In the event of a tie for the Champion of the Fall Handicap Tournament, the winner shall be decided by the score of the last nine holes, if still tied, then the last six holes, the last three holes, and finally, the last hole. One-half, one-third, one-sixth, one-eighteenth handicaps shall be used.
- 6.4 The Ringer Tournament is a multi-round eclectic competition and includes play on the Greenback Course on Tuesdays and Saturdays (excluding Match Play rounds) with HLWGC beginning on the first play day of March and continuing through the last play day of September.
- a. Eligibility for the Ringer Tournament requires a member to have a current established handicap index.
 - b. This tournament will be flighted by handicap and tees (yellow or orange).
- 6.5 The annual Tournament Awards will be determined by the Golf Committee and adhered to by the Tournament Chairs. Tournament awards will be presented at the Annual Meeting/Banquet.

7.0 Handicap Policy and Procedures

The Handicap Committee of the golf club is responsible for ensuring compliance with the obligations under the World Handicap System in accordance with the Rules of Handicapping and the USGA. As a committee, we will verify that acceptable scores are posted for handicap purposes and made available for peer review. The committee will perform random score audits and review members scoring records at least annually.

In addition, the Handicap Committee provides guidance to club officials and other club committees to ensure players can consistently use their Handicap Index to compete, or play a casual round, with anyone else on a fair and equal basis. Key committees include the Vice President - Tuesday Team, Vice President - Saturday Team and the Tournament Committee.

The Handicap Committee consults with the Tournament Committee to establish the Terms of the Competition for all applicable events at the club.

The Handicap Committee chairs are appointed by the Vice Presidents. One chair for Tuesday and one chair for Saturday.

The Handicap Committee has set forth the following policies and procedures for all members wishing to establish and maintain a Handicap Index with our club.

- Maintain an active membership of the club.
- Post all acceptable rounds, including 9-hole rounds.
- Scores are to be posted within the same day as the round being played.
- Where applicable, proper adjustments must be applied to all scores for posting purposes, including net par, net double bogey, most likely score or maximum hole score.
- Each player will try to make the best score at every hole in every round, regardless of where the round is played.

What is an Acceptable Score?

- If 10 or more holes are played in an 18-hole round
- If 9 holes are played on a rated 9-holes
- Scores made in match play, stroke play and team competitions
- Scores made under Rule 3.2 when a hole is not played
- Scores made under Rule 3.3 when a player does not hole out
- Scores made if a player is disqualified from a competition but has an acceptable score
- Scores made when played by the Rules of Golf
- Scores made when played on a course during its active season
- Scores made in the company of at least one other person, who can also act as a marker

All acceptable scores are to be posted within the same day of play using one of the following methods:

- Score posting kiosk at the golf course
- Mobile app
- GHIN website
- Returned to the VP Tuesday, VP Saturday, Handicap Committee or Tournament Committee for posting.

Disciplinary Actions for failure to post or player manipulating their Handicap Index:

- First failure to post or potential manipulation of your score will result in a verbal warning.
- Second failure will result in a written warning.
- Third failure will result in the appropriate penalty round issued for scores not posted.
- After your fourth failure to post your score or continued manipulation of the score file, further disciplinary action will be taken as the Handicap Chair and Committee deems fair and equitable.

A player must earn a Handicap Index. No player has an inherent right to a Handicap Index without demonstrating ability to our golf club's Handicap Committee. The Handicap Committee has the authority and obligation to adjust a Handicap Index if it feels necessary to do so.

8.0 Guests

Guests can play with HLWGC for three (3) days before becoming a member.

9.0 Day's Play

Members in good standing are required to participate in the Day's Play game when they sign up to play that day.

- a. It is assumed all players will play from yellow tees.
- b. If a player wants to play from the orange tees due to the length of their drives and for pace of play, the player must designate their use of the orange tees with the VP of Day's Play, at the beginning of the season. This will apply all season and their handicap will be adjusted accordingly.

10.0 Oregon Golf Association Director

The OGA Director shall be appointed by the President at the first board meeting of the year. The OGA Director will maintain communication between the OGA and the Club and will attend all OGA meetings.

11.0 Appointments for 2026

11.1 OGA Director – Janet Elliot

11.2 Publicity/Newsletter – Laurel Bjornstat

11.3 OGA Women's Interclub Play – Janet Elliot

2026 Tournament/Event Schedule and Information

Spring Handicap Tournament

Any 2 of the following dates: June 06, 9, 13 and 16

Individual format full handicaps and flighted

Estimated Payout = \$400.00

Club Championship Tournament

Tuesday August 4 and Saturday August 11

Individual format, gross scores only, flighted by handicaps

Estimated Payout* = \$300.00

* Note: Payout for club champion will be greater than the winner of the spring or fall handicap.

Fall Handicap Tournament

Any 2 of the following dates: September 5, 8, 12, 15

Individual format full handicaps and flighted

Estimated Payout = \$350.00

Memorial Best Ball Event

July 11

There is an entry fee of \$3.00 per person – this event is not included in the membership fee.

Awards and payouts are made on the day of the tournament.

Ringer/Eclectic Tournament

March 1 – October 1

The field will be flighted, and the October 1st handicap index will be used to determine each player's flight.

Estimated Payout = \$300.00

Notes:

- Payouts for each tournament will be at least 1/3 of the field
- Total payouts are estimates based on membership projections
- Final payouts for each tournament will be determined by the number of participants.
- Tournament awards/payouts will be announced and distributed at the General Membership Meeting and Luncheon at the end of the season.

Last Updated: August 2026