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## WELCOME

Congratulations on becoming a member of our fine golf club.

We hope you will enjoy your membership and become an active participant in your club's tournaments, meetings, Board of Directors, and other activities. It is only with this participation that the club can grow, not only in numbers, but in the stature of its tournaments and the social camaraderie of its members.

This booklet is intended to provide you with general information concerning River Course at The Alisal as well as specific information on your club. Should you have additional questions, do not hesitate to ask your fellow members, Board of Directors, or the professional golf staff.

Your membership in River Course Men's Golf Club includes:

- Membership in the Southern California Golf Association (SCGA)
- SCGA computed handicaps, update and posted monthly.
- Eligibility to enter all club tournaments with a recognized handicap, upon paying the entry fee, and upon meeting any other tournament requirements.
- Eligibility to represent River Course Men's Golf Club in authorized outside tournaments.
- Mailings of FORE, the SCGA Golf Magazine.
- Various discounts on green fees and selected merchandise when earned.

- Outside tournaments, educational clinics, and seminars sponsored by The River Course Men's Club and Pro Shop.

## ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS, WEBSITES

RIVER COURSE AT THE ALISAL  
150 ALISAL ROAD  
P.O. BOX 1589  
SOLVANG, CA. 93464  
805-688-6042  
[www.rivercourse.com](http://www.rivercourse.com)

RIVER COURSE  
MEN'S GOLF CLUB  
P.O. BOX 1589  
SOLVANG CA 93464  
[www.rcamensclub.org](http://www.rcamensclub.org)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GOLF ASSOCIATION  
3740 CAHUENGA BOULEVARD  
STUDIO CITY, CA. 91604  
Phone: (818) 980-3630; FAX: (818) 980-1808  
[www.scga.org](http://www.scga.org)



## **POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

### **MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

- To play and conduct themselves in accordance with the Rules of Golf, the USGA Handicap System, and policies and procedures issued by the Board of Directors.
- To keep their member information current. This includes address, postal and email, and phone number.
- To accurately record and post all playing scores.

### **MEETINGS**

There will be a minimum of two general membership meetings held each year, usually in mid-April and mid-October, in conjunction with a Men's Club tournament.

These general membership meetings will be held in the River Grill and will be convened an hour following the tournament. The Board of Directors may schedule or reschedule meetings as required.

Any changes will be announced at least one week prior to the regularly scheduled meeting. Posting on the Club bulletin board will be considered sufficient notification.

There will be monthly Board of Directors meetings. These meetings are scheduled by the President.

An agenda will be provided for each board meeting.

Robert's Rules of Order shall prevail.

## **DUES**

Dues are used to benefit the members at large by the following:

Membership in the SCGA including handicap maintenance.

Expenses, including additional prize money for all Men's Golf Club tournaments, raffle prizes, and food for special event tournaments.

Expenses incurred for administrative purposes (newsletters, computer supplies, etc.)

Dues are subject to change as approved by the Board of Directors.

A discounted renewal rate will be offered if paid before December 1<sup>st</sup>. All other renewals, reinstatements and new members will be at the regular full rate. Please refer to the current application available in the pro-shop for the current rates.

## **HANDICAPS AND SCORE POSTING**

All club members become SCGA (USGA) members. New members will receive an SCGA number shortly after their application has been processed. After posting a minimum of five scores, an initial handicap index will be calculated. As additional scores are posted, they will be used to calculate a "standard" index, which is based upon the lowest ten scores of the last twenty scores posted. New members with existing handicaps will have their records transferred to the men's club through the Handicap Chairman. Handicaps are updated monthly and posted at the River Course.

All games of seven holes or more, good or bad, at home or away, must be posted. Scores should be posted immediately after completion of the game, but no later than midnight of the day following the day the round was played. **Scores not posted or posted after the allowable time period will result in a penalty score being posted. A penalty score is the lowest round scored in the last twenty scores posted.** Scores can be posted at the pro-shop or from any computer terminal connected to the internet.

## TOURNAMENTS

### GENERAL

The Men's Club normally schedules two tournaments a month, one weekday at 12:00 noon, and one weekend at 8:00 A.M.

Tournaments are usually shotgun starts. All participants are required to be checked-in with all fees paid no later than 30 minutes prior to tee-off time. Failure to check in and pay all fees at least 30 minutes prior to tee time will result in the player forfeiting his spot in the tournament.



The format of the Men's Golf Club tournaments is varied and includes Scrambles, Stablefords, Best-Balls, and Individual Net and Gross played from a variety of tee positions. The objective is to make the tournaments as interesting as possible to provide incentive for maximum participation by our members.

### **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP**

The Club Championship is a two-day tournament and is held in October. To be eligible for the Club Championship, a player must be a Member in good standing of the River Course Men's Golf Club, hold and SCGA Index prior to the tournament, and have played in at least two (2) sanctioned River Course Men's Golf Club tournaments in the current year.

Players will be placed in flights as determined by their current Index. The Club Champion will be the individual with the lowest two-day gross score. Ties for the Championship will be decided by a play-off. Ties for low gross or net in each flight will be decided by card-off.

### **PRESIDENT'S CUP**

The President's Cup is a match play Championship played over the summer. Individual matches are scheduled by the participants at their mutual convenience.

### **CHRISTMAS TOURNAMENT**

The Christmas Tournament and Dinner held in conjunction with the River Course Women's Golf Club is always a popular finish to the year's events. The tournament format is a four person scramble, with teams made up of both men's and women's club members.

### **TOURNAMENT PRIZES AND RULES**

Appropriate prizes are awarded for all Men's Golf Club tournaments.

Each tournament has money budgeted from Men's Golf Club funds. If tournaments are flighted, prizes will be awarded to each flight. The number and amounts of prizes for each flight are determined by the number of participants entered

in each flight. All participants must be members in good standing of the Men's Golf Club.

No prize money is paid in cash. Winnings are recorded as credit to the winner's personal account in the Pro Shop, and may be used to purchase merchandise from the golf shop.

Any player whose name is on the tournament sign-up sheet is responsible to notify the Pro Shop, at the earliest time possible, if they are unable to make their appointed tee time.

A player can play in tournaments as soon as he becomes a member. If the player does not have an established Index, he must play scratch until his Index is established by posting a minimum of five scores.

In all Men's Golf Club tournaments, *it is required that each player be responsible for his own scorecard.* That means the card will be filled out completely and correctly, with proper entries for gross, net, and adjusted scores and signed by both the scorekeeper and the player. Responsibility for final correctness will be with the player.

Note: In all tournaments, submitting an incorrect score card or failing to sign it will lead to disqualification of the player.

### **HOLE IN ONE POLICY**

The men's Club's hole in one policy is as stated: The Men's Club will reward any player who gets a hole in one during a tournament a cash prize in the amount of \$250.00.

In addition, in keeping with the tradition of celebrating a fellow competitor's "ace" with a drink, the men's club will open a tab in the bar and issue a ticket good for one drink to all players who have competed in the tournament and stayed for the celebration.

When the Hole-in-One fund drops below \$1000.00, the current board will assess the membership monies as they deem appropriate to maintain a healthy balance.

### **RAIN CANCELLATION POLICY**

Rain itself will not deter the playing of a scheduled tournament. If the golf course is deemed safe and playable, the tournament will be played as scheduled. The Tournament Committee in conjunction with the pro-shop will make the determining decision.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

A Board of Directors is elected by the membership at large from a group of members solicited by a nominating committee, which is appointed by the active board.

Board members are elected to one-year terms. Board members will generally serve a term of no more than three consecutive years.

A person can serve on the board again after a one-year hiatus or for an additional term of one year if otherwise approved by the Membership.

The Board of Directors will implement and administer all duties and events pertaining to the Men's Golf Club.

The President, in conjunction with the Head Professional, will have the authority to enforce all policies pertaining to the River Course Men's Golf Club.

Any policy change will be in writing and the Membership will be notified. Notification consists of emailing the Membership and posting on the Bulletin Board.

As compensation, each board member will receive a credit on the books of \$50.00 for each month of their tenure on the Board. This credit may be used only for payment of green fees of the board member. This incentive compensation is not transferable; it is for the board member's use only.

### **RULES COMMITTEE**

The Rules Committee is comprised of the Board of Directors of the Men's Golf Club and the staff professionals of the River Course.

### **HANDICAP COMMITTEE**

The Handicap Committee includes the Handicap Chairman and selected members in good standing of the membership at large. The Handicap Chairman must maintain a current certification from the SCGA.

### **HEAD PROFESSIONAL**

- Acts as an advisor to the Men's Golf Club.
- Acts as a liaison between the Men's Golf Club and the River Course General Manager, and between the Golf Club and the River Course staff.
- Has authority and discretion under direction of the River Course General Manager to implement any action that pertains to the Men's Golf Club and the River Course.
- Reserves the right to suspend club privileges at the discretion of management.

## LOCAL RULES FOR PLAY AT THE RIVER COURSE

**Play summer rules.** Do not improve the lie of the ball, unless it is in a plainly marked drop area. USGA rules apply, unless otherwise posted or announced

**Out of bounds is defined by white stakes.**

**Lateral water hazards** are defined by red stakes. Proceed under USGA rule #26c.

**Water hazards** are defined by yellow stakes. In the absence of yellow stakes, the water hazard is defined by the water's edge. Proceed under USGA rule #26.

**Brush areas:** These areas are considered to be natural parts of the golf course. The procedure: If the ball is hit into one of these areas, hit a provisional ball before moving forward. If the ball is lost, then play the provisional. If the ball is found, there are two options: play it where it lies or declare it unplayable and drop it according to USGA rule #28.

**Obstructions:** Paved roads, paved cart paths, and flower beds: These are deemed to be immovable obstructions. If the ball comes to rest on an obstruction and/or interferes with the stance or swing, the ball may be dropped with one club length of the nearest point of relief, no nearer the hole, with no penalty.

## COURTESY AND CONDUCT

“**Slow play**” is an irritant to all. Move purposefully on the golf course **and be ready to play when it is your turn**, both on the fairways and on the greens. Except in match play, it is not necessary to wait for the player who is away to take the first shot. Play “ready golf.” The player reaching his ball first may hit, if in doing so there is no interference with other players.

**Speed of play:** Groups are expected to play in 4 ½ hours or less, 13 minutes per hole, 45 seconds per shot execution per player. Players will be warned, timed, penalized, and then asked to pick up to help speed up play. Please cooperate with the course Marshals in this respect. Please allow faster groups to play through at the first opportunity.

The **dress code** requires that proper golf attire be worn at all times while on the course property.

River Course is a “non-metal spike” course. Traditional metal spikes are not permitted.

Post all scores and adhere to sign-up and cancellation deadlines for all club functions.

Proper etiquette includes care of the course by replacing divots and repairing all ball marks.

Appropriate conduct is required both on the premises and wherever a member represents the River Course.

**RIVER COURSE AT THE ALISAL  
MEN'S GOLF CLUB BY-LAWS**

**ARTICLE I--NAME**

**Section 1:** River Course Men's Golf Club.

**ARTICLE II-- PURPOSE**

**Section 1:** To stimulate interest in golf at The River course at the Alisal by bringing together a group of men desirous of forming a golfing organization.

**Section 2:** To promote and foster among its members a closer bond and fraternity for their joint and mutual benefit, and to promote and conserve the best interest and true spirit of the game of golf as embodied in its ancient and honorable traditions.

**Section 3:** To provide a convenient and authoritative body to govern The Men's Golf Club tournaments held at the River Course.

**ARTICLE III—MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1:** Membership shall be available to all men 18 years or older.

**Section 2:** Membership is individual and non-transferable.

**Section 3:** Membership confers no voice in the operation of the golf course, clubhouse, nor any facilities of the course.

**Section 4:** Membership may confer special privileges in connection with the golf course as established by the course management.

**Section 5:** Membership in the Club shall run through the calendar year only, with all memberships expiring on December 31.

**Section 6:** The calendar year for the Club will be January 1 through December 31.

**Section 7:** The Board of Directors may confer honorary memberships upon those who have contributed to the advancement of golf and/or this club. A unanimous affirmative vote of the Board of Directors shall be required to approve such action.

**Section 8:** In the event that any member of this organization shall commit any act which reflects discredit or disrepute thereon, or refuse or neglect to comply with the rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Directors or the duly appointed officers, such member shall be subject to suspension or expulsion after ten days written notice and the right to be heard, by a vote of two-thirds of the Board of Directors at any regular meeting or special meeting called for such purpose.

**Section 9:** A legal quorum at any general membership meeting shall be ten members of the membership present in person or by proxy. Each active member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote.

**Section 10:** All membership fees and dues shall be established by the Board of Directors from time to time in such amounts as they deem to be adequate to operate and maintain the Club.

#### **ARTICLE IV—BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1: COMPOSITION:**

The Board of Directors shall consist of seven elected members in good standing of this Club and the Head Golf Professional or his/her, nominee. They shall exercise all power of management of the Club not specifically excepted by these By-Laws.

**Section 2: ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

By August 15, the Board of Directors shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of five (5) members, in good standing, of the club. The August newsletter shall contain a request for nominees to the Board of Directors.

By September 30, the nominating committee shall submit to the Board of Directors and shall post upon the Club bulletin board a list of nominees. This list shall also appear in the September newsletter. Voting shall occur at the October general meeting and those names receiving the greatest number of votes cast by those voting shall be declared to be elected. In the alternative, a panel of nominees may be presented for approval by a voice vote.

**Section 3: MEETINGS**

The Board of Directors shall meet at such times and places as they may select and a majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum at any meeting. An agenda will be prepared for each meeting. Minutes will be kept and prepared for Board approval of all meeting with a quorum.

**Section 4: BOARD VACANCIES**

In the case of any vacancy on the Board of Directors, the remaining directors, even though less than a quorum, may elect a successor by majority vote to hold office for the unexpired term of the director whose place shall be vacant, and until the election of his successor.

#### **ARTICLE V—OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

## **Section 1: ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Prior to January 1, the Board shall meet and elect officers for the coming year. Newly elected members are allowed to participate in Board meetings as incoming members prior to January 1, along with departing members, but shall not assume their positions as officers until January 1.

## **Section 2: COMPOSITION**

The officers shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Handicap Chairman, Tournament Chairman, Publicity Chairman and Member Services Chairman. These tasks may be performed by more than one member or consolidated at the discretion of the Board. Duties of the officers shall be such as their titles would indicate or such duties as might be assigned to them, respectively, from time to time by the President. Departing officers are obligated to complete tasks necessary to train replacement officers and provide an annual accounting, where applicable, prior to leaving the Board.

## **Section 3: AD- HOC COMMITTEES**

The President can appoint any ad-hoc committee(s) deemed necessary or advisable.

## **ARTICLE VI—ELIGIBILITY FOR MEN'S GOLF CLUB EVENTS**

Members planning to participate in specially sponsored events by the Club must have played in a minimum of two (2) monthly Men's Golf Club sanctioned tournaments. All outside tournaments sponsored by the Men's Golf Club shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE VII—AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS**

The Board of Directors shall have the power to repeal or amend any of these By-Laws provided that such action shall not be effective until approved by the majority vote of the members of the Club at a meeting held in accordance with the provisions contained herein.

