

SOUTHERN GOLF ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 660149
Birmingham, AL 35266
205.979.4653
www.southerngolf.org



120th Southern Amateur Championship Sectional Qualifying Player Information Buckhorn Springs Golf & Country Club, Valrico, FL June 8, 2026

Please review the following information for the **Southern Amateur Championship Sectional Qualifier** at Buckhorn Springs Golf & Country Club in Valrico, FL on Monday, June 8, 2026. Remember that we are guests of the club and we need to conduct ourselves in a proper manner. Good luck and we look forward to seeing you soon.

SGA Official-in-Charge: Kevin Dutkowski; E-mail: kmdut@yahoo.com

Withdraw Contact: Hall Upshaw, hall@southerngolf.org

[Sectional Qualifier Website](#)

Sectional Qualifying and Championship Fees: Your sectional qualifying round cart/range fee is included in the entry fee and paid by the SGA. For players who successfully qualify, the SGA will charge the credit card used to register for sectional qualifying the remaining championship balance of \$180.00. Range fees for championship rounds at the Championship site will be paid by the SGA. Players and caddies are required to walk at the championship. Mandatory Carts for Sectional Qualifier.

Max Field Size of 78 Players

Practice Rounds: You are entitled to one practice round between June 7th when tee times are available, call Golf Shop for availability. Cart rental is mandatory for practice rounds payable at the host club at \$45. You may begin calling for practice tee times on May 25th. Make sure to identify yourself as a Southern Amateur participant when calling. It will be helpful if you contact other qualifier participants and form your own group before calling. Par is 36-36—72. The approximate yardage is 7004 yards. Yardage is subject to change.

Starting Times: Qualifying round starting times will be available beginning Friday, June 5th before 5:00pm on the SGA website <https://www.southerngolf.org/sectionalqualifying>. Be at your assigned tee ready to play a few minutes before your tee time.

Qualifying Spots and Medalist: The number of qualifying spots will be determined after the close of entries based upon the size of the field. Ties for the final qualifying position will be determined by sudden death playoff immediately following the conclusion of play. Unless otherwise determined in a sudden death playoff, alternates will be ordered by the scores at each qualifying site using the USGA recommended score card playoff procedure to break ties (last 9 (Holes 10-18), last 6 (Holes 13-18), last 3 (Holes 16-18), 18th hole, 1st hole, 2nd hole, etc. until the tie is broken). The number of qualifying spots will be posted when starting times and groupings are released. The medalist and anyone tying for medalist each receive a medal.

Changing Qualifying Sites: A player may change his qualifying site until the close of entries on May 18th. Site changes are not allowed after entries are closed. Exception: Waitlisted players as of May 18 may transfer to another sectional qualifying site up until three days prior to a qualifier date that has open spots in the field but may not transfer to another waitlist or the On-Site Qualifier.

Host Club Information:

Head Golf Professional: Derek Povich
Golf Shop Phone: 813-689-7766
Club Address: 2721 S. Miller Road, Valrico, FL 33596
Club Website: www.buckhornsprings.com
Map to Club: www.google.com/maps/place/BuckhornSprings

Host Club Policies

Cell Phone Policy: Cell phones may only be used on the golf course in case of an emergency, to call the golf shop in need of a ruling, view tournament leaderboard or as a distance measuring device. We ask that phones are set to silent while on club grounds. Silent communications (text, email) may be used inside buildings. Verbal communication (phone calls) must be outside buildings.

Dress Code: Appropriate golf attire must be worn. Slacks or Bermuda shorts. No cut-offs, no denim, no cargo pants or cargo shorts. Men must wear shirts with collars and sleeves, tucked in at all times. Non-metal spikes only. Dress code applies to caddies and spectators.

Coolers: Personal coolers are not allowed.

Personal Items: Make sure not to leave any valuable personal items unattended such as jewelry, wallets, etc. even if they are tucked away inside your golf bag. It is best to leave your valuables locked in your automobile. Neither the SGA nor the host club will be held responsible for any lost or stolen personal items.

Food & Beverage: Limited food & beverage will be available at the club.

Accepted Forms of Payment: Club accepts credit cards & cash.

Caddies; Spectators; Cart Requests

- *Caddies:* Caddies are allowed for sectional qualifying and championship rounds. Caddies will not be available at host club.
- *Sectional Qualifying Caddie/Spectator Cart Policy:* During the play of a hole, either the player or his caddie may ride in a golf cart but not both at the same time. Spectators are not allowed to ride in a player's golf cart at any time.
- *Spectators:* SGA welcomes spectators at our championships. For your safety, we request that spectators walk near the cart path at all times. Spectator carts are generally not available.

Pace of Play: The SGA wants all players to enjoy competing in our events. Pace of play may differ depending upon the venue, weather and course conditions. Every player is accountable for playing at an acceptable pace, therefore we need your help. Please observe the following guidelines to help ensure a pleasant tournament experience for all:

- Make sure to keep pace with the group in FRONT of you. The group behind should keep pace with your group and so forth.
- Go directly to your ball. If sharing a golf cart, drop-off the player farthest from the hole then proceed to the other ball.
- Be ready to play when it is your turn.
- Keep practice strokes and time taken to read putts to a minimum.
- Play a provisional ball if your original ball may be lost or out of bounds.
- Keep time taken at the snack bar or between nines to a minimum.

If everyone does their part, then 4½ hours should be the maximum time taken to play a round of golf at an SGA tournament. Your SGA issued score card will have the acceptable pace of play per hole printed on it.

Pace of Play Policy

A group that is out of position will be advised of the situation and the individuals may be timed.

- Any competitor who is discovered taking more than 40 seconds to play a stroke is subject to a warning for slow play and will be advised of the fact.
- The competitor will be notified that exceeding 40 seconds on one more occasion will result in a penalty of one stroke in stroke play or loss of hole in match play. A third violation will result in a two-stroke penalty in stroke play or loss of hole in match play, followed by disqualification for a fourth violation.
- A warning is any notice given to a competitor regarding pace of play.
- A competitor's time to play begins when the competitor has had a reasonable opportunity to reach his or her ball and when it is the competitor's turn to play and can do so without interference or distraction. Penalties are applied individually, but more than one competitor in a group may be penalized.
- In general, competitors in a group are subject to being timed at any time but specifically when the group is deemed to be out of position and over the allotted pace of play guidelines.

Note that a group that is out of position at any time may be asked to close the gap regardless of pace of play guidelines. A group is out of position if they are over their maximum acceptable pace of play and more than 15 minutes behind the group ahead of them. The first group off either side is out of position if they are over their maximum acceptable pace of play.