

SOUTHERN GOLF ASSOCIATION

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TO: 117th Southern Amateur Championship Participants
FROM: Andy Priest/Adam Powell, Southern Golf Association
DATE: **Updated: June 26, 2023**
TOPIC: Southern Amateur Championship Player Information

The Southern Golf Association looks forward to the 117th playing of the Southern Amateur Championship at The Honors Course in Ooltewah, TN from July 19-22, 2023. We are the fifth of seven events that comprise the Elite Amateur Golf Series this summer.

Please carefully review the following championship information. Remember that we are guests of the club, need to conduct ourselves in a proper manner, adhere to all host club policies and the SGA Code of Conduct. Also, make sure to be at your assigned tee ready to play at least five minutes before your starting time. Contact us at the SGA office (205-979-4653) or email: Andy Priest (andy@southerngolf.org) and Adam Powell (adam@southerngolf.org) if you have any questions. We hope you have a great championship experience competing against one of the strongest fields in amateur golf!

Championship Website Portal: <https://www.golfgenius.com/pages/9190347131943148241>

Championship History

This year marks the 117th playing of the Southern Amateur Championship and the fourth time that The Honors Course has hosted the Southern Amateur Championship. David Ford of Peachtree Corners, GA won the title in 2022 at Sea Island Golf Club in St. Simons Island, GA with a score of 264 (-20).

The Championship was first played in 1902 at Nashville Golf & Country Club in Nashville, TN. A.F. Schwartz of New Orleans, LA defeated Percy Whiting 4 and 2 to win the inaugural event. The Championship was not played in 1918 due to World War I and 1942-1945 due to World War II. The format was changed from match play to stroke play in 1964. [Southern Amateur Past Champions](#)

Championship Registration

There will be a formal registration for all competitors on the back patio of the clubhouse on Monday, July 17th from 12:00pm-6:00pm & Tuesday, July 18th from 7:00am-3:00pm. Register to sign the host plaque, receive your player gift package, and have your photo taken for website and live scoring. If you are not able to register on July 17th or 18th, please notify the SGA in advance so your spot is not given to an alternate. Player Gift Package includes: Holderness & Bourne online gift card, Holderness & Bourne golf shirt, 1 pair of FootJoy shoes, Personalized Caddie Bib (to keep), championship hat, championship towel, and two (2) yardage books.

The Honors Course Information

Director of Golf: Henrik Simonsen
Director of Agronomy: Will Misenhimer
Physical Address: 9603 Lee Hwy., Ooltewah, TN 37363
Club Website: <https://www.honorscourse.net>
Golf Professional Shop Phone: 423-238-9123
Golf Shop Hours: 6:30am-7:30pm
Practice Facility Hours: 6:30am-7:00pm (Closes at 6:00pm on Monday, July 17)
Food & Beverage Hours: 6:00am-9:00am (Breakfast); 11:00am-3:00pm (Lunch)
Championship Yardage: 7527 yards (Par 36-36—72). Rating: 77.3/154
Course Architect: Pete Dye
Course Turfgrass: Tees/Fairways (Zeon Zoysia); Putting Greens (TifEagle Ultradwarf Bermuda); Rough (Native)

Hosted Player Breakfast and Lunch

The SGA will provide breakfast for players from 6:00am-9:00am (Wednesday thru Saturday) and lunch for players from 11:00am-3:00pm (Tuesday thru Saturday) in the Dining Room. Hosted meals are for players only.

Food and Beverage Service for Caddies and Spectators

Caddies and spectators may purchase food and beverage items in the Dining Room and Snack Bar near #7 green and #15 tee using credit card only. Note that bottled water is complimentary for everyone and available throughout the golf course.

Area Lodging

There are several hotels located within a mile of The Honors Course. Below are the hotels in the area that are offering SGA discounted group rates.

[Hampton Inn Chattanooga-North/Ooltewah: 6145 Weir Way, Ooltewah, TN 37363](#)

- Use Group Code: SAC
- Rate: \$104 per night

[Holiday Inn Express & Suites Ooltewah Springs-Chattanooga: 6274 Artesian Circle, Ooltewah, TN 37363](#)

- Use Group Code: SAC
- Rate: \$104 per night

[SpringHill Suites Chattanooga North/Ooltewah: 8876 Old Lee Highway, Ooltewah, TN 37363](#)

- Rate: \$169 per night

*Please note that players are responsible for their own accommodation and transportation.

Championship Schedule

Monday, July 17

7:30am-9:40am (#1 & #10 tees): On-Site Qualifier for 4 Qualifying Spots.
12:00pm-6:00pm: Practice Facilities open to championship participants.
Player Registration on Clubhouse Back Patio.

Tuesday, July 18

6:30am-7:00pm: Practice Facilities open. TrackMan representative on-site.
7:00am-3:00pm: Player Registration on Clubhouse Back Patio
7:30am-3:01pm: Practice rounds.
11:00am-3:00pm: Hosted Player Lunch - Dining Room

Wednesday, July 19

6:00am-9:00am: Hosted Player Breakfast – Dining Room
6:30am-7:00pm: Practice Facilities open.
Round 1: Tee times begin at 7:30am & 12:30pm off #1 & #10 tees. 18 holes of Stroke Play.
11:00am-3:00pm: Hosted Player Lunch - Dining Room

Thursday, July 20

6:00am-9:00am: Hosted Player Breakfast – Dining Room
6:30am-7:00pm: Practice Facilities open.
Round 2: Tee times begin at 7:30am & 12:30pm off #1 & #10 tees. 18 holes of Stroke Play.
11:00am-3:00pm: Hosted Player Lunch - Dining Room
Field cut to low 66 scores and ties after 36 holes.

Friday, July 21

6:00am-9:00am: Hosted Player Breakfast – Dining Room
6:30am-7:00pm: Practice Facilities open.
Round 3: Tee times begin at 7:30am off #1 & #10 tees. 18 holes of Stroke Play.
11:00am- 3:00pm: Hosted Player Lunch – Dining Room
Field re-grouped according to score.

Saturday, July 22

6:00am-9:00am: Hosted Player Breakfast – Dining Room
6:30am: Practice Facilities open.
Round 4: Tee times begin at 7:30am off #1 & #10 tees. 18 holes of Stroke Play.
11:00am-3:00pm: Hosted Player Lunch – Dining Room
Awards ceremony immediately following play at scoreboard (weather permitting).

The Honors Course Club Policies

Social Media Policy: The Honors Course requests that guests do not post photos of the clubhouse facilities, including inside or outside the buildings to social media. Photos taken on the golf course are permitted.

Cell Phone Policy: Cell phones may only be used on the golf course in case of an emergency, entering scores into live scoring, 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) should be conducted outside buildings.

Parking: Parking will be available on-site at The Honors Course. However, we request players, caddies, and family members to carpool as much as possible. Players will be provided with a parking pass to access the player parking lot. Spectators must park in the volunteer/spectator lot using the designated entrance and will be shuttled to/from the clubhouse.

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, always tucked in. Non-metal spikes only. Dress code applies to caddies and spectators. Please remove hats while inside the clubhouse.

Coolers: A small backpack cooler is permitted. Spectators may carry food and drinks for players. Reminder that outside food and beverages are prohibited. All food and beverages must be purchased from The Honors Course. Complimentary bottled water will be available throughout the course for players and spectators. Otherwise, traditional 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.

Accepted Forms of Payment: Club accepts Credit Card only for Food & Beverage. Golf Shop accepts Credit Card and Cash payments.

Locker Room – Players Only

Each player will have a personal locker assigned to them in the Player Locker Room. Due to the limited space in the Locker Room, we ask that only players utilize this area. Showers, restroom facilities and a locker room attendant will be available.

Caddies

- Personal and club caddies are permitted for practice and championship rounds. Caddies and players must always walk during the round.
- The Honors Course has a long-standing caddie program servicing the membership over the past 40 years. Many of these caddies have been full-time caddies for many years with extensive knowledge of the golf course and extensive green reading capabilities, while other caddies have some knowledge, and other caddies are new to the caddie program. Club caddies will be available at The Honors Course on a first come, first serve basis, and ranked by experience: Entry Level Caddie - \$100 per round; Experienced Caddie - \$125 per round; Expert Caddie - \$150 per round. The appropriate fee is paid in cash directly to the caddie and tip is included. *Note: The Honors Course does not have an ATM on-site.
- To request a caddie, contact the Golf Shop at 423-238-9123 or email: golfshop@honorscourse.net with subject "Southern Amateur Caddie Request" by Monday, July 10.
- Caddies are required to wear an SGA issued caddie bib during championship rounds. Bibs will be provided to each player at registration as part of the player gift package.
- Personal push carts are permitted. The Honors Course does not have push carts available.

Practice Rounds and Practice Facility

- Practice facilities will be open on Monday, July 17 from 12:00pm-6:00pm to championship participants.
- One official practice round is on Tuesday, July 18. You will schedule a practice round tee time through the link below that opens on July 5 at 8:00am CT for registration. Practice round tee times will run from 7:30am-3:01pm in 11-minute intervals off #1 tee. Please do not show up at the course and expect to be accommodated for a practice round.
- [Practice Round Tee Time Registration Link](#)
- Players are limited to playing one ball except from the teeing ground. Players are welcome to use the practice range, chipping and putting greens throughout the championship.
- *Note that the practice facilities will close at 6:00pm on Monday and at 7:00pm from Tuesday-Friday for maintenance. Also, the back-end short game area will be closed during the championship due to a renovation project.

Course Set-Up/Yardage (*Maximum Yardage Per Hole)

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Yards	427	580	221	438	477	601	463	207	370	3784	460	593	377	409	175	500	205	546	478	3743	7527
Par	4	5	3	4	4	5	4	3	4	36	4	5	4	4	3	4	3	5	4	36	72

- All yardage is subject to change based upon wind direction and weather conditions.
- Alternate tees: One teeing area forward from above yardages and all Par 3 tee platforms may be utilized.

Starting Times

Starting times for July 19-20 will be available on Monday, July 17th by 8:00pm ET. Players will be notified via text message and email with times publicly available online at [117th Southern Amateur Championship portal](#).

Championship Format

- The field will be cut to the low 66 players and ties after 36 holes.
- The lowest score for 72 holes will be the Champion.
- In the event of a tie for the Championship, a "sudden death" hole-by-hole play-off will be held immediately following play. The play-off holes and their order of play will be determined by the Committee.
- Initial groupings will be for the first two rounds; the field will be cut and re-grouped by score after the second round for the third round; field re-grouped by score for the fourth round.

Prizes

- The champion will have his name engraved on the *George W. Adair Trophy*, which is housed in the Atlanta Athletic Club clubhouse, receives a silver medal and the Calamity Jane Putter.
- Second and third place finishers receive a silver medal. Scorecard playoff to break a tie for a 2nd or 3rd place medal.

Exemptions Earned

- Champion receives a five-year exemption into the Southern Amateur Championship (2024-2028).

Live Scoring

- Rounds 1 & 2 - a scoring volunteer will be stationed on each hole to capture each player's scores to be entered into Live Scoring.
- Rounds 3 & 4 - a walking scoring volunteer will accompany each group.

Championship Policies

- This is a soft-spike facility. The penalty for non-compliance is disqualification.
- All championship fees are paid by the SGA.

Spectators

- SGA welcomes spectators at our championships. For your safety, we request that spectators always walk near the cart path. Spectator carts are not available for any reason at this championship.
- The Honors Course and SGA will set-up two disabled spectator viewing areas on the 9th green and on the back patio of the golf shop overlooking the 18th green.
- Reminder that spectators must not give a player Advice but can assist in ball searches and permitted to carry food/beverages/umbrella/rain suit, etc. for a player.

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.
- Be ready to play when it is your turn or request to play out of turn if it is safe to do so.
- Keep practice strokes and time taken to read putts to a minimum.
- Play a provisional ball if your original ball may be lost outside a penalty area or out of bounds.
- Keep time taken between nines to a minimum.
- Your SGA issued scorecard will have the maximum 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. A third violation will result in a two-stroke penalty, 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.
- The policy may provide that at any time, if a player is observed by a referee to take longer than a specified time to play a shot (i.e., 120 seconds), they will be notified of the excessive shot time and be timed, even though the group is in position.

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.

Withdrawals

Exempt Player Withdrawal: If an exempt player withdraws for any reason before **11:59pm CST on the stated invitation deadline**, entry fee will be refunded minus \$50.00 administrative fee. Withdrawals after close of registration, 50% of the entry fee will be refunded. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after **Friday, July 7, 2023**.

Successful Qualifier Withdrawal: If a successful qualifier withdraws for any reason after paying his remaining championship balance of \$175.00 and before **11:59pm CST on Sunday, July 16, 2023**, 50% of the remaining championship balance will be refunded. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after **Sunday, July 16, 2023**.

To withdraw from the event before the close of registration, follow these steps:

- 1) Navigate to the Championship Website Portal.
- 2) Sign into your SGA Tournament Registration Account.
- 3) Click "Edit Registration" from left side of page.
- 4) Choose "Cancel Registration" under dropdown menu on right side of page.

To withdraw from the event after the close of registration, complete the [Online Tournament Withdrawal Form](#).

*Note: SGA will process your withdrawal and applicable refund within 72 hours.

No Shows

Players that fail to notify the SGA of their withdrawal and "No Show" their starting time will not receive a refund for any reason. "No Show" players may be subject to suspension from future SGA events.

Tournament Delays and Updates

The SGA will text players with any tournament delays or schedule changes. Notices will also be posted our Twitter account. Follow @sgagolf.

Elite Amateur Golf Series

- [Website and Elite Amateur Cup Standings](#)

Phone Numbers

Southern Golf Association: 205-979-4653

The Honors Course: 423-238-9123