**Golf Rules (6/22/22)**

**\*See League Policies for more details\***

**Course:**

* We have selected multiple courses throughout the Charleston region that gives our participants a variety, while also delivering on value.

**Roster Policy:**

* You Must Pay to Play.
* All players must be at least 21 years old at the start of the season.
* All players must sign the Holy City Sports League Waiver to play.
* This is an individual sport (No Teams)

**Players:**

* This is an individual Co-Ed sport.
* Both Men and Women could be competing against each other at times.
* Men Play from White or Equivalent Tees
* Women Play from Red Tees
* 9 Hole Match is to be played.
* Triple Bogey Max per Hole.
* HANDICAPS WILL BE USED. Handicaps will NOT be used in Week 1 (Everyone Plays Straight Up). Week 2 Handicap is based off of Week 1 Score. (I.E. If you shoot a +8 in Week 1, then you are an 8 Handicap Week 2.) Week 3 – End of Regular Season Handicap is averaged each week. (I.E. If you shoot a +8 (Wk1), +10 (Wk2) then you are an 9 Handicap Week 3.) 18 Handicap is the Max allowed (I.E. if you shoot a +20 in any week, you can only claim a +18).
* SCORING: Handicap Score will be taken off the 9 hole score. (I.E. Ryan (10 handicap for 9 holes) vs Taylor (8 Handicap for 9 holes): Ryan 50 and Taylor 45 (Unadjusted Score) ends up being Ryan 40 and Taylor 37 (Handicapped Score)
* Review Scoring Section for Playoffs details.
* **IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PLAYERS SCHEDULED AGAINST EACH OTHER TO COMMUNICATE A TIME TO COMPLETE THEIR MATCH FOR THAT WEEK. HCSL will assist in Coordination.**

**Forfeits:**

* If you need to forfeit a game (for whatever reason), please make sure to let us know ASAP.
* If you forfeit a game during the season, the following rules apply:

**First Offense**: Loss of game and warning issued

**Second Offense**: Loss of game and HCSL reserves the right to remove team from league.

**Rules:**

All rules are to be followed by those set forth by the [USGA](http://www.usga.org/)

**Equipment:**

* Holy City Sports League will provide each individual with Polo Shirts at its first match for their own personal use.
* All players must wear appropriate golf attire in accordance to the course policy.
* Players who do not wear appropriate golf attire will not be allowed to play.
* Each Individual must provide their own equipment (Golf Clubs, Golf Balls, Etc.)
* Players may wear glasses or contact lenses, braces, and safety protection at their own risk.

**Gameplay:**

* Unless otherwise stated, USGA Rules are in effect.
* **Objective of the game**:

One stroke is counted each time the ball is hit (or attempted to be hit) and when a penalty is incurred. The goal is to play each hole in the fewest strokes possible. The player with the lowest total strokes for the entire course wins. **9 HOLE MATCH IS TO BE PLAYED.**

* Must follow standard golf etiquette at all times
* You may not improve your lie (i.e. moving the ball from rough to fairway, fairway to fringe, or fringe to green).
* Hit when ready!
* Lost ball rule: If the ball is hit in a hazard, or can't be found, the player must drop another ball in the approximate position the lost ball was thought to be in. A one stroke penalty will be assessed for the lost ball.
* Provisional Shot: For speed of play, please hit a provisional shot if you think your ball went out of bounds. If your ball is in bounds you can pick up your provisional shot, with no penalty, and play your original ball. The penalty is both stroke and distance.
* If no provisional shot is played and you realize your ball did go out of bounds, please play your next shot from the approximate spot the ball went out of bounds. A two-stroke penalty will be assessed for the lost ball. For speed of play reasons, do not return to the tee to hit another ball after searching for a lost ball.
* Women will use the red tees; men will use the White Tees or Equivalent.
* For safety concerns: On holes where women's tee blocks are significantly in front of the men's, men will tee off first, regardless of honors.
* Triple Bogey is the maximum score allowed on a given hole. (On a par three, six is the maximum score. On a par four, seven is the maximum. On a par five, eight is the maximum.) You may pick your ball up and move on to the next hole after the Triple Bogey stroke maximum is reached.
* Only 2 minutes are allowed when searching for a lost ball. Keep pace with the group in front of you.
* No club maximum.
* Any discrepancies not covered by league rules you can email holycitysportsleague@gmail.com. All decisions made by the HCSL representative are final.
* Follow all course rules
* HANDICAPS WILL BE USED. Handicaps will NOT be used in Week 1 (Everyone Plays Straight Up). Week 2 Handicap is based off of Week 1 Score. (I.E. If you shoot a +8 in Week 1, then you are an 8 Handicap Week 2.) Week 3 – End of Regular Season is averaged each week. (I.E. If you shoot a +8 (Wk1), +10 (Wk2) then you are an 9 Handicap Week 3.) 18 Handicap is the Max allowed (I.E. if you shoot a +20 in any week, you can only claim a +18).
* SCORING: Handicap Score will be taken off the 9 hole score. (I.E. Ryan (10 handicap for 9 holes) vs Taylor (8 Handicap for 9 holes): Ryan 50 and Taylor 45 (Unadjusted Score) ends up being Ryan 40 and Taylor 37 (Handicapped Score)

**Schedules/Standings/Playoffs:**

* Schedules will be released no later than a week before the first game of the season.
* **IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PLAYERS SCHEDULED AGAINST EACH OTHER TO COMMUNICATE A TIME TO COMPLETE THEIR MATCH FOR THAT WEEK. HCSL will assist in Coordination.**
* IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE WINNER TO EMAIL THE RESULTS TO holycitysportsleague@gmail.com
* The updated standings will be posted weekly.
* Playoff eligible individuals is determined on a league by league basis.
* Players that have violated the forfeit policy during the regular season may not be eligible for the playoffs. This will be determined by HCSL.
* Following the regular season: Rd. 1 of Playoffs will be Top 8 then Championship foursome after that to determine a champion.
* Playoff seeding is based off of Handicapped total score from the regular season (The lower the score, the better the seed).
* Playoffs will consists of a 1st Round (Top 8 Lowest Handicapped Scores, golfer vs golfer pairing like regular season) followed by a Championship Foursome of the Top 4 Lowest Handicapped Scores from the 1st Round).
* Playoff for 1st Round (Top 8: Handicaps are based on Average of Best 4 Scores to Date. Your Non-Handicapped (Non-Adjusted) Total Score divided by 4 weeks. (I.E. Ryan has a total of 186 for lowest 4 Total Score divided by 4 Weeks= 46.5= 46 (+10)).
* In The Event of a Tie for 8th (And Final) spot in the Top 8 (Playoff-1st Round): Tiebreaker 1: Head to head matchup from regular season will be used (Handicaps Apply).
* Tiebreaker 2: Best Score against the top seed both players have played against (Handicaps Apply).
* IN THE EVENT OF A TIE FOR 4TH (And Final) SPOT INTO CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND: Tiebreaker 1: The best score in quarterfinals starting with hardest handicap hole and continuing until winner determined (Handicaps Apply).
* Championship Round Handicaps are based on Average of Best 4 Scores to date.
* IN THE EVENT OF A TIE CHAMPIONSHIP WEEK AFTER HANDICAPS ARE USED: THEN BEST SCORE STARTING WITH HARDEST HANDICAP HOLE (Handicaps Apply).
* It is all player’s responsibility to check the league site for scheduled regular season and playoff game times and locations.

**Officials:**All games will be self-officiated.

 **Sportsmanship:**

Unsportsmanlike conduct includes the following:

* Arguing with an official, other players, or HCSL representative.
* Abusive or insulting language to a player, official, or HCSL representative.
* Throwing equipment at another player in an unsportsmanlike manner.
* Harassing others
* Acting inappropriately when challenging a refs call
* Not maintaining an attitude that is consistent with Holy City Sports League core values
* Fighting

**In the event of unsportsmanlike conduct the following penalties will be sequentially enforced:**

**1st Offense**-HCSL representative will talk with the individual and issue a warning

**2nd Offense**-HCSL representative will remove individual from the facility and issue a suspension for the next game.

**3rd Offense**-HCSL representative will remove individual from the league entirely.

**Game Cancellation Policy:**

* Games may be cancelled due to existing weather conditions, dangerous or unplayable field conditions, facility constraints, etc. HCSL will make every effort to play all scheduled games, thus we will not cancel games until absolutely necessary. HCSL will send out communication to all captains letting them know if a game is cancelled. It is still the captain’s responsibility to inform all teammates of the cancellation. If a game is cancelled on site, HCSL will attempt to contact those teams still scheduled to play the remainder of the day/night. If we do cancel, check with the league site for the following week’s schedule. In extreme circumstances, HCSL reserves the right to run a shortened season without a refund. HCSL also reserves the right to schedule games on days other than your regularly scheduled leagues day/night if necessary in conjunction with the teams.

**Alcohol/Substance Policy:**

* Illegal substance is PROHIBITED at all facilities and during play of all Holy City Sports League events. Alcohol is permitted per course policy.

**Waivers:**

* In order to participate in Holy City Sports League, each participant must sign and submit to a HCSL representative the player waiver & release form no later than the first night of play. Players not present the first week of pay will still be required to submit a waiver before participating.