

# SPAWARSYSCEN NORFOLK GOLF LEAGUE

## Rules and Regulations

(Changes for 2025 in RED)

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The SPAWARSYSCEN Golf League (hereafter referred to as the “League”) is formed to promote friendly competition, exercise, relaxation, and fun while improving the skills and understanding of the rules of golf.

### 2. ELIGIBILITY & FEES

The League is open to all current and former personnel (military, civilian, and contractor) of NIWC aka SPAWARSYSCEN ATLANTIC-NORFOLK aka NAVMASSO. New member may join the league if he/she has played at least half a season as a guest and achieves a 2/3 acceptance vote from the voting members of the league. The League membership runs from February 1st through January 31st. League membership fees are set at \$15. After league expenses are paid by the executive committee, the remaining funds will be awarded to the top three League finishers. First place will receive 50% of the remaining funding, 2nd place 30%, and 3rd place 20%. League dues are due prior to any member participating in league play, league season starts on 1 April. All members must have a handicap to participate in League Play. See Section 3, HANDICAPS.

### 3. HANDICAPS

1. The League will maintain member handicaps throughout the year. Handicaps will be calculated following USGA and VSGA Handicapping Guidelines except where modified in this document. Scorecards for **all rounds** played must be turned into the League for calculation and maintenance of handicaps.

The scorecard should be complete with full name, date of play, and tees played. Members may request the return of the scorecard once the round has been registered. Members from the previous year will carry over their last handicap from the previous year. New members (without an established League handicap) should provide as many scores as possible for their last 20 rounds, with a minimum of 5 scores. The rounds should include course name, gross and adjusted scores (see further in this section for calculation of adjusted scores), date played, tees played, and, if not a local course, course and slope ratings. New players (without an established handicap or scores to provide to the League) will have their handicaps calculated when five in-season scores have been submitted. The League maximum course handicap for all competitions is 36. Handicaps will be calculated every week. The only exception is once a new member has logged 5 scores so that an established handicap may be calculated, that individual's handicap will be calculated. All handicaps will be calculated based upon the course and slope ratings for the tees from where the round was played. Scores can be delivered electrically by taking a picture of the scorecard and text it to the league member designated as the "Handicap Keeper", or by reporting the scores via the League website. Additionally, the scorecards can also be delivered manually directly to the Handicap Keeper. Current "Handicap Keeper" is Bob Coppock.

#### 4. LEAGUE PLAY

League season is from 1 April to 30 September. A League outing is defined as a round set up for the League's weekly play – normally on a Wednesday afternoon. In the event of inclement weather (or other circumstances that dictate an alternate day), the League outing may be scheduled for another day. Only one outing per week will be sanctioned as the League outing.

All League outings are counted as League rounds. The League will employ a Low-Net Average system to determine the League Champion. All League round scores will be maintained during the League season. To be League Champion, a player must compete in half or more of the league rounds played. The member with the lowest net average for league rounds will be designated as the League Champion. A player may drop 1 league score if he plays 15 league rounds and 2 league scores if he plays 20 league rounds. Executive and "par 3" courses will not be used for League standings. The League committee reserves the right to refuse a score if they determine it comes from a course not worthy of League play. League rounds will be played from the golf courses designated "club tees". Members and guests aged 65 years and older may play from the next shorter set of tees if they desire. Their course handicap will be adjusted accordingly.

## 5. LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

The end of season tournament (EoS) will be played as a two-day event, and will be organized by the Executive Committee, or a committee designated by the Executive Committee. All league members are eligible for the tournament. The first round will be played on the last day of our regular season, this round will count in the regular season standings and as first round in the EoS tournament standings. Those that desire to play in the EoS tournament will pay \$5.00 fee. The second round will be played on the next day on the same golf course. Players, meeting number of rounds to qualify for championship, will be grouped together in reverse order, last to best and tee off after non qualifying members/guests. Non qualifying members/guests will be grouped based on balls selection. If the last day of the regular season is rained out, the Executive Committee will determine the dates of the tournament. The Tournament Champion will be determined by the lowest total net scores of

the 2 rounds. In the event of a tie for first place, the low net score of the second round will determine the champion. If still tied, the lowest net score of the 18th hole of the second round will be used, then the 17th, and so forth until a champion is determined. Payouts will be 50/30/20% of EoS Tournament funds collected. A league member who is unable to play in the first round of the tournament can still play in the second round and will not be charged a fee nor considered in the tournament standing. Details of the end of season cookout or dining event will be determined by the executive committee. The end of season tournament is only available to paid league members. No guests.

## 6. RULES

Play shall be in accordance with current USGA rules, modified by local rules as shown on the scorecard and/or as follows:

- Maximum strokes per hole for score card entry: For all League play and scoring for handicap submission, the maximum number of strokes allowed per hole is 6 strokes over par.
- In the event a course restricts electric/gas carts to cart-path-only, a player may elect to pick up, clean, and replace his ball so long as the ball is positioned in the fairway of the hole he is playing.
- If it is unknown if a designated "drop area" is provided on par-3's, the member may use the shortest set of tees available on that hole as a "drop area". If it is discovered that a "drop area" is provided, the member must pick up his previously played ball and play from the "drop area". The player always has the option of replaying his tee shot with a one-stroke penalty.
- In case of a lost ball or shot hit out-of-bounds, a player may drop a ball anywhere between the original ball was believed to come to rest (or went out-of-bounds) and just into the edge of the fairway, but no nearer to the hole. The golfer takes a

two-stroke penalty and plays on instead of returning to the tee.

- In the event a sand bunker has standing water, mud, ruts, or the player's ball is in a footprint, the player may lift, clean, rake, and replace the ball. Every effort will be made to position the ball in the bunker. **Ball may not be moved prior to agreement from other participants**
- In the event of a player cheating, said player will be given a warning. For a second occurrence, the players will be prohibited from participating in all bets, plus will be ineligible for either of the 2 championships: League and Tournament.
- If a ball is found resting on or beside a tree root and impossible to hit, the player may (with agreement from other participants) move the ball. This ball movement should be treated as a free drop from a hazard, no closer to the hole and clear of remaining tree roots.
- Winter rules (rolling the ball in the fairway) shall apply immediately following league play in the Fall until the start of league play on 1 April.

7. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. A member can only elect "not to serve" on the Executive Committee if they have served in the last 2 previous seasons or willing to pay a \$10 fee. The Handicap Committee, consisting of 3 League members, will be elected by the membership. The committee will serve as a governing body for and all matters of contention within the League to include overseeing handicap computations. New League rules and new Executive Committee voting shall be completed within 30 days after the completion of the End of Season Tournament. The new Executive Committee will serve until next year's vote. This year's committee is Bob Coppock, Mike Fuller and Rudy Leichnam.

The Executive Committee shall:

- Communicate with the League
- Collect season dues
- Identify requests for new League Rules from Blog submissions
- Put new League Rules up for voting
- Coordinate End of Season and End of Season Tournament Outings locations
- Submit requests for league members to host post End of Season event; if no host identified, coordinate location for post EoS tournament event with league members – Distribute Winner funds

8. VOTING.

All changes to the League Rules must be approved by a vote of the membership. A majority of the voting members is required for any change.

9. CLOSING.

The purpose of this League is to enjoy some exercise, relaxation, fun, and friendly competition. If we keep this in mind, we should have many enjoyable seasons. If anyone has any problems, suggestions, or complaints, please feel free to give any Handicap committee member a call.

Last Modified: **February 27, 2025**