2019 PVGA Bylaws, Local Rules

Annual Dues will be $20 CASH for the PVGA and $30 (check, cash or credit card) for GHIN system. The $30 GHIN fee is waived if you have a USGA verifiable handicap service alternative. Please have your dues paid prior to your first tournament played. Checks should be payable to Pecan Valley Golf Course. Sign up for events by close of business on the Wednesday before each tournament.

USGA rules apply to all PVGA tournaments except as noted below:

FLIGHTS & TEES

Flights and Tees for all PVGA shall be defined in the PVGA Bylaws. Placement of the ball on the teeing aground shall be in accordance with USGA rules.

IMPROVING LIES

This rule only applies to tournaments from Thanksgiving thru Easter. A player may move or improve his/her lie by one (1) grip length (approximately 12 inches), no closer to the hole, by rolling the ball with a golf club, provided the ball is not in a penalty area (i.e. water, bunker, or lateral hazard). The ball may not be cleaned except when permitted by USGA rules. The penalty for violation of this rule is the general penalty of two (2) strokes.

ARTICIAL DEVICES

An artificial device to measure distance is allowed in all PVGA tournaments provided it only measures distance and does not gauge other conditions such as slope or wind.

THE BALL

Players must hole out with the ball that they began the hole with, unless the ball is lost or becomes unfit for play during the hole per USGA rules. Players are not permitted to drive with one ball and putt with another. The penalty for violation of this rule is one (1) stroke.

DRAINAGE DITCHES

Drainage ditches, such as the area protected by the pipe-fence between holes 15 and 18 on the River course, and drainage covers/grates at various location on both courses are considered immovable obstructions. A free drop can be taken provided the drop is within one (1) club length of the nearest point of relief no closer to the hole.

IRRIGATION CONTROL BOXES

Irrigation control boxes (i.e. the green metal boxes that extend up from the ground approximately 3 feet) at various locations on both course are considered immovable obstructions. A free drop can be taken provided the drop is within one (1) club length of the nearest point of relief no closer to the hole.

POWER LINES

If a ball strikes an overhead power line, such as on hole 8 of the Hills course, it may be played as it lies or a second ball may be played without penalty. If a second ball is played, then it becomes the ball in play.

OUT OF BOUNDS

Unless otherwise defined on the course with white stakes or lines, the following boundaries constitute out of bounds:

River- Left of the fence on holes 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 17, and 18. Outside the last fence on hole 9. Inside the chain-link fence (maintenance area) on holes 8 and 9.

Hills- Left of the fence on hole 3. Right of fence on hole 16. Inside driving range on holes 17 and 18.

Penalty for a ball hit out of bounds is one (1) stroke and distance.

QUESTIONABLE GROUND UNDER REPAIR

In the event a player's ball comes to rest in an area of the course that the player feels should be marked as "ground under repair", the player is eligible for free relief if the remaining player in his/her group agree that the area should be considered as "ground under repair". The nearest point of relief shall be determined by all players within the group. Common locations where such conditions may exist include the following:

Drainage area between holes 4 and 7 on the River course, if a player's ball comes to rest in a dirt area containing loose and/or embedded rocks.

Left of the cart path beneath the tress about 175 yards out on hole 5 of the River course, if a player's ball comes to rest in a dirt area containing lose and/or embedded rocks.

Right and left of the cart path and before the river on hole 15 of the River course, if a player's ball comes to rest in a dirt area containing loose and/or embedded rocks.

NOTE: Bare ground without evidence of rocks, un-repaired divots and "bad lies" do not constitute "ground under repair". The intent of this local rule is to permit relief from those areas of the course where playing the ball as it lies would likely result in damage to the player's club or possible player injury due to loose and/or embedded rocks.

CASUAL WATER (UNMARKED)

In the event a tournament is played after or during rain, and you encounter a ball to be played that has ended up in a dich or the like where water has collected **AND** is not marked as a hazard, the player is entitled to take relief from casual water. Example locations would be the ditch between holes 4 and 7 on the River, the ditch that runs between the tees and the start of the fairway on hole 5 on the River.

CHARTER

The Pecan Valley Golf Association (PVGA) provides a structure under which organized, tournament golf events can be conducted. The PVGA is open to anyone. For information on joining the PVGA, contact the Pecan Valley Pro Shop.

ORGANIZATION

PVGA Officers consist of a President, a Vice-President, and a Secretary/Treasurer. Each officer is responsible for specific duties as defined below.

President- Responsible for overall implementation of the PVGA season. Responsible for developing the PVGA Tournament Schedule, including establishing tournament dates, times, and formats. Responsible for conducting spring and fall PVGA member meetings. Responsible for interfacing with the Pecan Valley Pro Shop regarding PVGA matters.

Vice-President- Responsible for maintaining the PVGA Bylaws and Local Rules documents. Responsible for assisting the PVGA President in developing the PVGA tournament schedule. Acts on behalf of the PVGA President in the event the PVGA President is not available.

Secretary/Treasurer- Responsible for maintaining the financial transactions associated with the PVGA. Responsible for developing a contact list of all current (active) PVGA members. Responsible for maintaining the PVGA bulletin board.

In order to maintain consistency from year to year, PVGA officers advance on an annual basis from Secretary/Treasurer, to Vice-President, and finally to President. Once a PVGA Officer serves as President, his/her term of service is complete. A new Secretary/Treasurer occurs during the Fall General Member Meeting.

MEMBERSHIP FEE

The annual fee to join the PVGA is $20, plus an active GHIN or equivalent handicap, and covers the period from January 1st to December 31st. The annual fee is due **prior** to playing in your first PVGA event. To join the PVGA, see any member of the Pecan Valley Pro Shop for information. The annual $30 GHIN fee is waived if you have previously paid for this service through joining any of the other city golf associations, such as the MGA or the Pecan Valley Seniors Golf Association. Please note that the PVGA dues are payable by cash only, and the GHIN dues are payable by cash, check or credit card to the pro shop.

GENERAL MEMBER MEETINGS
Spring and Fall General Member meetings are held each season to discuss recommendations and/or changes to the PVGA. Officer elections take place during the Fall General Member Meeting.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE
A tournament schedule will be developed and posted prior to, on, or about January 1st each year. Each season will consist of approximately 20 PVGA events, including a 2-day Club Championship.

TOURNAMENT FORMATS
Tournament formats will be as defined by the tournament schedule. Tournament formats will include a mixture of individual events and multi-player events.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP REQUIREMENTS
A player must have participated in three (3) PVGA events in order to be eligible to play in the PVGA Club Championship.

TOURNAMENT SCORING
The scoring format for each tournament will be established by the Pecan Valley Pro Shop and will be announced prior to the start of each tournament.
Ties will be broken in accordance with USGA rules, Appendix 1, Section 11 (c), which uses a scorecard playoff for the last 9 holes (total score), followed by last 6 holes (total score), then last 3 holes (total score), and finally the 18th hole score. If the tournament is a handicapped stroke-play competition, then one-half, one-third, one-sixth, and one-eighteenth of the handicaps will be deducted, including fractions (see Table 1.0- Handicap Fractions for Tie Breakers).
If this method does not produce a winner, then the tournament shall end in a tie. Any exceptions to this tie breaker method shall be announced prior to start of tournament play (i.e. the Club Championship which will be determined by playoff for first place).

TOURNAMENT FEES AND PAYOUTS

Unless stated otherwise, the Tournament Fee for entering a PVGA event is $15 (all $15 to be paid in cash) plus green and cart fees, as applicable. All fees must be paid prior to event play. $12 goes towards Tournament prizes, $2 for the "Closest to the Pin" pot, and $1 towards the Club Championship prizes.

Unless stated otherwise, the Skins Fee is $5 (all $5 to be paid in cash) and is optional. The Skins Fee must be paid prior to event play. Skins will be paid by flight. Skins for all flights will be based on gross scores (no handicap applied)

Tournament payout will generally be made for the top 30% in each flight, i.e. for a 10-player flight, 3 places would be paid. The "A" flight will pay at least one Gross place and the remaining places Net. All other flights will pay on Net scores only. Tournament payout is subject to increase or decrease depending on the number of players in each flight.

TOURNAMENT PRIZES

Prize payouts for Tournament Placing will be awarded to the player's "Credit Book" stored on that player's account with the Pecan Valley Pro Shop. The "Credit Book" can be used for greens and cart fees, range balls, and merchandise with the Pecan Valley Pro Shop. Skins and "Closest to the Pin" prizes will be paid as cash and kept by PVGA Treasurer for pickup.

Cash prize winnings from "Closest to the Pin" prizes, and Skins money must be claimed at a PVGA event. Cash winnings will have a grace period for pickup which will extend to the end of the following years season. After this time they will be forfeited to the PVGA General Fund to be used toward the next season's Club Championship. Example: A player wins an amount in a tournament in 2019. That prize will be held for pickup until the conclusion of the final event of the 2020 season ending tournament. At this point the unclaimed amount will become part of the PVGA General Fund.

TOURNAMENT SIGN-UP

Players must register for tournaments by Wednesday @ 5pm (Close of Business) to guarantee a spot in the event. Players registering after the deadline will be considered as alternates and may or may not have a spot in the event depending on spot availability.

CANCELLING OUT OF TOURNAMENTS

Players who have registered for a specific tournament and need to withdraw from the event must contact the pro shop prior to the day of the tournament. Players who withdraw the day of the event, or do not show for an event, in which they are registered, will be designated as having a "no-show" status for that event. After two (2) "no-shows" said player forfeits any money paid to the PVGA and will not be allowed to play in future events that season without PVGA Officer approval.

HANDICAPS

All tournament scores will be entered into the player's handicap service. Only certain tournaments, designated by a "T" will be entered as a tournament score. The Club Championship will always be entered as a tournament score.

TEES

Players (male) with a handicap index of 9.9 or less shall player from the blue tees. The handicap index cutoff of 9.9 or less shall apply to all PVGA tournaments throughout the 2019 season, and it will not be adjusted regardless of the turnout for any given tournament.

Players (male) with a handicap index of 10.0 or higher shall play from the white tees.

Players (female) shall play from the red tees.

Players (male) 60 years and older may choose to play the white tees even if they are in the Championship flight.

MOVING FORWARD A TEE BOX

With the exception of the championship flight, any player who wishes to move up and play a different forward tee may do so, this must be communicated to pro shop at the time of sign-up only if choosing to play a different tee. However, said player will be accessed the stroke difference between the respective **course rating** associated with the tees. Example: a 15 handicap, who has established their handicap index from the white tees, decides to play from the red tees on the Hills course. That player's **course handicap** will be lowered from 15 to 12. See USGA Handicap Rule 3-5.

CLOSEST TO THE PIN HOLE

Each PVGA Tournament, one of the par 3 holes will be designated as the "Closest to the Pin" hole. The player who hits his/her ball closest to the pin on that hole will win the CTP pot. The pot will be funded by $2 of the tournament entry fee collected from each player prior to each tournament. If no player hits his/her ball on the CTP green then the pot will carry over to the next PVGA event.

Table 1.0

HANDICAP FRACTIONS FOR TIE BREAKERS	½ HANDICAP	1/3 HANDICAP	1/6 HANDICAP	1/18 HANDICAP
HANDICAP				
1	0.50	0.33	0.17	0.06
2	1.00	0.67	0.33	0.17
3	1.50	1.00	0.50	0.17
4	2.00	1.33	0.67	0.22
5	2.50	1.67	0.83	0.28
6	3.00	2.00	1.00	0.33
7	3.50	2.33	1.17	0.39
8	4.00	2.67	1.33	0.44
9	4.50	3.00	1.50	0.50
10	5.00	3.33	1.67	0.56
11	5.50	3.67	1.83	0.61
12	6.00	4.00	2.00	0.67
13	6.50	4.33	2.17	0.72
14	7.00	4.67	2.33	0.78

15	7.50	5.00	2.50	0.83
16	8.00	5.33	2.67	0.89
17	8.50	5.67	2.83	0.94
18	9.00	6.00	3.00	1.00
19	9.50	6.33	3.17	1.06
20	10.00	6.67	3.33	1.11
21	10.50	7.00	3.50	1.17
22	11.00	7.33	3.67	1.22
23	11.50	7.67	3.83	1.28
24	12.00	8.00	4.00	1.33
25	12.50	8.33	4.17	1.39
26	13.00	8.67	4.33	1.44
27	13.50	9.00	4.50	1.50
28	14.00	9.33	4.67	1.56
29	14.50	9.67	4.83	1.61
30	15.00	10.00	5.00	1.67
31	15.50	10.33	5.17	1.72
32	16.00	10.67	5.33	1.78
33	16.50	11.00	5.50	1.83
34	17.00	11.33	5.67	1.89
35	17.50	11.67	5.83	1.94
36	18.00	12.00	6.00	2.00