

## Silver Oak Senior Men's Club (SOSMC) – 2021 Season

Welcome to the web portal of the Silver Oak Senior Men's Club (2021sosmc.golfgenius.com). SOSMC offers players 55 and older, of varying abilities, an environment of friendly competition and comradery. The 2021 season runs from April 6th to October 26th. Benefits of membership include:

- Reduced greens fees
- GHIN service and NNGA membership for 2021 (\$30 fee, which is included with membership)
- Tournament games (mandatory) and optional gross and net skins
- Range balls on tournament day
- Hole-in-one insurance
- Web portal access to tournament scores and schedules
- Awards banquet

We thank our returning players for their continued support. New members may download the membership application by visiting Silver Oak golf website (<http://www.silveroakgolf.com>) under Tuesday's Senior Men's Club. Perspective members are welcomed to browse the web portal and contact us for any information you may need. Annual club dues are \$80 (\$50 if you have paid GHIN membership through the Silver Oak Men's Club).

### 2021 SOSMC Board

President – Wes Camp	(775) 230-2441	<a href="mailto:wescamp2000@yahoo.com">wescamp2000@yahoo.com</a>
Vice-President – Terry Thomas	(775) 265-4783	<a href="mailto:tgttbird@aol.com">tgttbird@aol.com</a>
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Treasurer – Micky Gross	(916) 501-8840	<a href="mailto:iangross2002@yahoo.com">iangross2002@yahoo.com</a>
Handicap Chairman - Eric Fujita	(775) 544-5938	<a href="mailto:ericmfujita@gmail.com">ericmfujita@gmail.com</a>

Tournament and Handicap Committee: David Knighton (Tournament Chairman and Lead Scorer), Wes Camp (Backup Scorer and Assistant) Eric Fujita (Handicap Chairman and Software Support), Micky Gross (Assistant), Terry Thomas (Assistant).

### Congratulations to our 2020 Champions

Club Championship: Wes Camp – 75, 70 (low gross); Terry Thomas – 65, 76 (low net)

## 1. General Information and Summary of Club Rules and Policies

### Tournament Schedule, Format and Awards

Club tournaments are scheduled each Tuesday from April 6 to October 26. Click on Calendar under the Home Page tab in the club web portal (2021sosmc.golfgenius.com) for the tournament schedule. “More Info” specifies the tournament format for the day and handicap allowance. See Section 2 for description of tournament formats and annual awards.

## **Tournament Signups**

Signup will open two weeks prior to each scheduled tournament. Place your name on the signup sheets, which are inside a binder on the pro shop check-in counter. You can also request to be placed on the signup sheet by calling the Silver Oak pro shop (775-841-7000, ext 2). You may sign up as a group of two to four players or place yourself on the list of single players. Circle the set of tees you that intend to play (W or Y). Signups will close each Sunday at 2:00 PM. If your plans change, please call the pro shop and cancel your signup by this deadline.

## **Guest Policy**

Members may invite guests to play in any of our club tournaments except the President's Cup and the Club Championship. Guest invitations are intended for prospective new members to evaluate membership in SOSMC and will be extended once per guest. Guests may not enter in tournament games or skins.

## **Tee Time and Pairing Assignments**

Once the online signups close each Sunday, the Tournament Committee will assign pairings and tee times (starting holes for shotguns) for the players on the signup sheet. The tee sheets will be posted weekly on the club web portal by 6:00 pm Monday. Pairings are assigned by the player's handicap index for round 1 of the President's Cup and Club Championship and gross score in round 1 for round 2. Pairings for all other tournaments are based upon the players' preferences on the signup sheet. Singles will be grouped in pairings by similar handicap indexes and by the tees that they have selected to play. Please inform the Tournament Committee if there are other preferences you wish to have considered in assigning your pairing.

The starting hole assignments will be ordered by the total handicap index of the players in the group. However, we recognize that pace-of-play may not necessarily correlate with handicap. Therefore, a group may appeal to the Tournament Committee for a position in the field that is more suited to their pace of play. A group's relative position in the field may change if the group fails to comply with the Club's pace-of-play policy (see Section 5).

## **Tournament Entry Fees**

There is a mandatory entry fee of \$10 for the game associated with the weekly tournaments (except \$20 prior to first round of the President's Cup and Club Championship). New members with insufficient number of posted scores to establish a GHIN handicap index may not enter in tournament games or net skins but can voluntarily enter in gross skins. Players will need to have played in a minimum of three club events to qualify for entry into the President's Cup, and five events for the Club Championship.

The club retains 10% of the game entry fees to cover costs for year-end awards/banquet, other club events throughout the season and hole-in-one insurance (up to \$100 toward bar tab following the round). Separate entry fees of \$5 each for gross and net skins are optional. Place your entry fees in an envelope when you check in and drop it in the fee/scorecard bin. Make sure you have written your name on the envelope and checked off the games you are entering and the set of tees that you intend to play.

## **Tournament Flights and Playing Forward (Yellow) Tees**

Tournament games will consist of three flights with approximately equal numbers of players unless specified otherwise by the format or Tournament Committee. Flights are assigned according to handicap index (not playing handicap) irrespective of the set of tees played (i.e., no separate yellow tee flight).

Players who are 65 years of age or older and have a handicap index of 20 or greater may elect to play from the forward (yellow) tees during any tournament except for the President's Cup and the Club Championship. Players are not required to commit to playing one set of tees for the entire season, but we ask that players select one for most of their rounds. In any case, please indicate the selected tee for each round on the signup sheet, buy-in envelop and scorecard. All players must play from the white tees during major championships.

Players who do not meet the above criteria for playing yellow tees may appeal to the Tournament Committee. Keep in mind that for the same handicap index, the corresponding playing handicap for the yellow tees will about four strokes lower than for white tees (e.g., 12 vs. 16 for index of 20 and 22 vs 26 for index of 30). So, the difference in playing handicaps between the two sets of tees should offset the advantage from playing the shorter tees over an 18-hole round. This would not be the case on a hole-by-hole basis. Therefore, skins will have separate games for white and yellow tees.

## **Handicap Policy**

The SOSMC Board has adopted the following tournament and handicap policy for the 2021 season.

1. An active GHIN handicap index is required for entry into SOMC tournaments and net skins games. Players who have yet to establish a valid index may enter gross skins at their option.
2. The handicap index used to determine a player's playing handicap depends on the type of tournament.
  - a. Qualified current GHIN handicap index for regular tournaments. A "qualified" handicap index requires at least half of the revision scores be from SOSMC or Silver Oak Men's Club (SOMC) events. Your 3-month low index will be used during regular tournaments if you do not have the required number of qualifying revision scores.
  - b. 6-month low index for majors (President's Cup and Club Championships).
3. The maximum allowable handicap index is 36.4 for all tournament games and the maximum playing handicap is 18 for net skins.

See Section 3 for information on how to calculate your handicaps and the key features of the new World Handicap System.

## **Code of Conduct and Playing by the Rules**

The club's primary goal is to promote an environment of friendly competition that is based upon sportsmanship, integrity, courtesy, and respect for fellow players. It is the player's responsibility to know and play by the rules of golf. Play the ball as it lies at all times, unless otherwise allowed by the rules of golf or specified by the Tournament Committee, and putt out on every hole. **The more commonly applied USGA and local rules are summarized in Section 4.** Please be aware that the SOSMC Board has

adopted the local alternative to stroke and distance (see Section 4 for rule covering out of bounds and lost balls). Players are also expected to adhere to the etiquettes of the game and to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner.

### **Pace of Play**

All groups are expected to complete their rounds in less than 4 hours and 30 minutes. Note that this is the maximum and all groups should finish well within the allowable time if everyone plays ready golf.

**The scoring team will enforce the guidelines that are described in the Pace-of-Play Policy in Section 5.**

In addition, the times that groups leave the cart parking area during shotgun starts will be staggered according to the distances to their assigned starting holes. All players are to be at their carts at least five minutes prior to the scheduled start time.

### **Score Cards and Posting Scores**

1. **First and last name** (legible)
2. The **set of tees** (white or yellow) played by each player in the group.
3. Write down the **start and finish times**: 1) start time when the group is ready to tee off at the first assigned hole; 2) finish time when the group walks off the green on the last hole.
4. All scores must be dated, signed and attested.
5. For holes that are unfinished, post your “most likely score,” which is the actual number of strokes taken plus the number of strokes, in the player’s best judgment, which would be needed to finish the hole from that position more than half of the time. The score for those holes should be preceded by an X on the scorecard. **Be aware that players who submit scorecards with an X on any hole will be disqualified from the game without refund of the mandatory entry fee (but will be eligible for skins).** Exceptions to this disqualification rule include the following formats: Stableford, team best balls, and Eclectic (President’s Cup).
6. Incomplete or unreadable cards will be disqualified.
7. Scorecards are exchanged prior to play for President’s Cup and Club Championship.

The Tournament Committee will post scores to GHIN for SOSMC events. Members are expected to post all other 9-hole (7 to 12 holes completed) or 18-hole (13 holes or more completed) scores of stroke play during the active season (3/15 to 11/30 in our area) as governed by USGA posting procedures. Score holes that are not played as par plus the number of strokes that you are entitled to according to your handicap. The maximum score on any hole for handicapping purposes is net double bogey under the World Handicap System.

### **Tournament Payouts and Results**

Tournament game winnings are paid out to the lowest net scores for a quarter of the field in each flight plus \$10 each on three KTP (closest to the pin) holes. All payouts are in cash. Championship winnings are paid to low gross and net over field and to the lowest net scores for a quarter of the remaining field in each flight. All ties remain ties except for the Club Championship and President’s Cup winners who will be determined in a same-day playoff following lunch (no shows will be deemed a forfeit).

The Tournament Committee will post the preliminary tournament results for review on the web portal (2021sosmc.golfgenius.com) after conclusion of play (usually within hours). Click on the results tab and select a date. Results for tournament and skins games are shown on separate pages. Reveal individual

score cards by clicking on a player's name and click on expand all in the skins sections for details for each winning skin. Contact the Scoring Team by noon Wednesday if you suspect an error in the scoring. Challenges to a posted score will be rejected if it matches the score on the signed and attested score card. Payout envelopes for the previous week's tournament will be available for pickup at the scorer's table after each tournament round.

## 2. Tournament Format and Annual Awards

Handicap Individual Stroke Play (ISP) - The total strokes taken for 18 holes minus handicap strokes.

Modified Stableford - Point values are given based on the net score for each hole: Double Eagle (8 pts); Eagle (5 pts); Birdie (3 pts); Par (1 pt); Bogie (-1 pt); and Dbl Bogie or worse (-3 pts). Handicap allowance is 80%

2-Man Net Best Ball - Each player, on the 2-man team, plays his own golf ball the entire round. Each team should have two 18-hole scores on the scorecard. The lowest net score, or best balls, from each hole serves as the teams' score for each hole. Handicap allowance is 90% for each player.

Presidents Cup - An eclectic format is a two-round golf tournament that results in one 18-hole score per player. The lowest score made on each hole between the two rounds is recorded as their score producing an 18-hole score. Example: a golfer makes a 6 on hole No. 1 in Round 1 and a 4 on the same hole in Round 2. That golfer's final score for the first hole is 4. In the event of a tie, a playoff will occur immediately after lunch (forfeit if no show). Rounds will not be posted to GHIN. **In order to play in the President's Cup, you must have played in at least three (3) SOMC scheduled events.**

Club Championship - A 36-hole cumulative handicapped stroke play event played two consecutive Tuesdays. In the event of a tie, a playoff will occur immediately after lunch (forfeit if no show). Rounds are posted as "C-scores" in GHIN. **In order to play in the Club Championship, you must have played in at least five (5) SOMC scheduled events.** The two Club Champions (low gross and net) will earn entry into NNGA's annual Tournament of Champions at Grissly Ranch on October 3, 2021.

## 3. Handicap Policy

An active handicap index from the Golf Handicap and Information Network (GHIN) is required for entry into SOSMC tournament games and net skins. GHIN is provided by the United States Golf Association (USGA) to participating golf associations and clubs. GHIN is administered in our region by the Northern Nevada Golf Association (NNGA) and access to GHIN is through Silver Oak. The annual service fee for GHIN is \$30, which is included with your SOSMC membership. GHIN handicaps will remain active for returning members until April 21, 2021 and will be deactivated thereafter if membership is not renewed. Players who are also members of the Silver Oak Men's Club (SOMC) will need to choose to have their GHIN service through either SOMC (USGA Club Number 53351) or SOSMC (USGA Club Number 18941), **but not both**. A secondary club membership is available for players who have an active GHIN handicap through SOMC.

A player's handicap index in GHIN is calculated according to the World Handicap System (WHS), which replaced the USGA Handicap System in January 1, 2020. Major features of the WHS are as follows.

- Handicap index updates daily provided that a score is submitted the day before.
- Number of scores required to obtain a handicap index is three 18-hole scores.
- **Handicap index** is calculated using 8 best score differentials out of most recent 20.  
Score Differential = (Adjusted Gross Score – Course Rating) x (113/slope rating)
- Playing condition calculation (PCC) is used to adjust score differentials when abnormal course or weather conditions cause scores to be unusually high or low on a given day.
- Maximum score on any hole for handicapping purposes is net double bogey.
- Upward movement of a handicap index is limited to 50% if a 3.0 stroke increase takes place within 12 months (“soft cap”) and to 5 strokes if a 5.0 stroke increase takes place within 12 months (“hard cap”).
- Exceptional score reduction (ESR) – of 1.0 stroke is applied to a player’s handicap index if a score differential is 7.0 to 9.9 stroke below the current index and reduction of 2.0 strokes is applied if the net differential is 10.0 strokes or more.
- Maximum handicap index is 54.0 rather than previous 36.4 for men. Committee in charge of competition may set lower maximum limit for use in competitions. This limit is 36.4 in SOSMC.
- **Course handicap** calculation now includes a course rating minus par adjustment: Course Handicap = Handicap Index x (Slope Rating /113) + (Course Rating – Par). The benchmark for a good round is now par rather than course rating. Your course handicaps are 4.5 and 6.8 strokes lower compared to pre-WHS when playing from white and yellow tees, respectively. **Playing handicaps** also include the handicap allowances that are applicable to the tournament format.

The SOMC Board has adopted the following tournament and handicap policy for the 2021 season.

1. An active GHIN handicap index is required for entry into SOMC tournament and net skins games.
2. The handicap index used to determine a player’s playing handicap depends on the type of tournament.
  - a. Qualified current GHIN handicap index for regular tournaments. A “qualified” handicap index requires at least half of the revision scores be from SOMC or Silver Oak Senior Men’s Club (SOSMC) events. Your 3-month low index will be used during regular tournaments if you do not have the required number of qualifying revision scores.
  - b. 6-month low index for the President’s Cup and Club Championships.
3. The maximum allowable handicap index is capped at 36.4 for all SOMC tournament games and the maximum allowable playing handicap is 18 for net skins.

#### 4. Common USGA Rules of Golf and Local Rules

Members are expected to know and play by the USGA rules of golf. Please keep in mind that several changes to rules took effect on January 1, 2019. See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=chPOTfLUHC0> for explanations of the most important changes. Commonly applied rules are summarized below.

1. Summer Rules – Play the ball down unless otherwise directed by the Tournament Committee.

2. Ball lost or out of bounds – Rule 27. If you hit a shot out of bounds or if the ball is lost, you must play your next shot from the original spot with 1 stroke penalty (i.e., stroke and distance penalty). Hit a provisional ball if you suspect your original ball might be lost or OB. You must announce your intention to play a provisional and do so before leaving the tee box or spot of the original shot. If you search and find your ball in play, you MUST play the ball. Consider your options on a hole like #14, #15 and #16 where a ball hit in the sage-brush area may not be playable and a legal drop after a penalty stroke may result in yet another unplayable lie. It may be more prudent to abandon the ball after a “cursory” search and take your chances with a playable provisional ball. The following areas are OB:
  - a. OB defined by white stakes including decorative white rock area on #2 (behind green), #5 (right and left of green) and #6.
  - b. All boundary fences. There is no free relief if your ball lies close to a boundary fence.
  - c. Left of split rail fence along cart path on #15 is OB.

*Alternative to Stroke and Distance.* A new optional local rule provides an alternative to stroke-and-distance relief for a ball that is out of bounds or lost outside a penalty area. This option allows the player, with a two stroke penalty, to drop in a large area between the point where the ball is estimated to have come to rest or gone out of bounds and the edge of the fairway that is not nearest to the hole. **The SOSMC Board has elected to adopt this local rule for 2021.**

3. Water Hazards (yellow stakes) - Rule 26-1: holes #4. You have 3 options if you hit a ball in a water hazard. (1) Play the ball as it lies in the hazard (no penalty). (2) Go back to the spot where you last hit from and drop a ball (1 stroke penalty). (3) Take a point where the ball last crossed the margin of the hazard, in line with the flagstick, and drop on the line as far back as you want (1 stroke penalty). Any ball that hits on the green side, but rolls back into the water, must be played from the fairway side under option 2 or 3.
4. Lateral Water Hazards (red stakes) – Rule 26-1: #2 (including unplayable wet area left of fairway), #6 #9 and #10. You have 5 options if you hit a ball in a lateral water hazard:
  - 1) Play the ball as it lies in the hazard (no penalty).
  - 2) Go back to the tee and tee up the ball or to the spot where you last hit from and drop a ball (1 stroke penalty).
  - 3) Take a point where the ball last crossed the margin of the hazard, in line with the flagstick, and drop on the line as far back as you want (1 stroke penalty).
  - 4) Take the point where it last crossed the margin of the hazard and drop within two club lengths and no closer to the hole (1 stroke penalty).
  - 5) Go to the opposite side of the hazard, equal distance from the hole, and drop within two club lengths (1 stroke penalty) [This option is not always feasible].
5. Embedded ball – Rule 25-2. Ball embedded in its own pitch mark anywhere in the general area (except sand bunkers or penalty area) may be lifted, cleaned and dropped within one club length without penalty, no nearer to the hole.
6. Sage brush area left of the green on hole #15 at Silver Oak has been designated in 2020 as a “Penalty Area”. Penalty areas include both (1) all areas currently define in the Rules as a water hazard or lateral water hazard and (2) any other area the Committee chooses to define as a penalty area (e.g., desert, rock fields, native vegetation etc.). New rule provides the same basic options for

relief that exist under current rules for water hazards. Hit your 3<sup>rd</sup> shot from the designated drop area if you hit your ball on hole #15 in the sage brush area between the green and the cart path.

7. Free drop areas include: roads and cart paths; marked ground under repair; drainage areas on left side of fairway on #4 (left of fairway and behind green) and #6 (left of fairway beyond the pond); ball in hole caused by burrowing animals; sprinklers and other man-made obstructions (excluding boundary fences). No penalty. Drop ball one club length with no penalty, nearest the point of relief and no nearer the hole.
8. Drop from unplayable lie – One stroke penalty. Drop ball within two club lengths, nearest the point of relief and no nearer to the hole.

#### *Additional rule changes in 2019*

- *Height of ball drop changed from shoulder height to knee height.*
- *No penalty for a double-chip. Count double hit as one stroke.*
- *No penalty for accidentally moving a ball on the green unless it is “virtually certain” you caused it to move on purpose.*
- *Can putt with the flagstick in.*
- *Can repair spike marks or other damage on the green.*
- *No penalty for touching the line of the putt.*
- *No penalty for moving or touching loose impediment. There is no penalty for incidentally touching sand in bunker, but you may not ground the club or take a practice swing.*
- *No longer required to announce when lifting a ball to identify or see if it's damaged.*
- *Allowed **three minutes** to look for a lost ball instead of the previous five minutes*

## 5. Pace of Play

All groups are expected to complete their rounds in less than 4 hours and 30 minutes. Note that this is the maximum and all groups should finish well within the allowable time if everyone **plays ready golf**. Goals for foursomes playing in the front, middle and back of the field should be to play in less than 4 hrs, 4 hrs and 10 min, and 4 hrs and 20 min, respectively. Commit to the following guidelines for playing ready golf and make it a habit.

1. **On the Tee.** Tee-off as soon as the group ahead is clear. Player with the honors should be ready to hit first. If this player is not ready, someone else who is ready should hit. Watch your partners' balls so you may assist in search. Declare and play a provision ball if there is a chance that the ball is out of bounds.
2. **On the Fairway.** Drop your partner at his ball, then continue to yours. Take appropriate clubs to your ball and be ready to hit when it's your turn. Limit search for lost balls to **3 minutes**.
3. **On and Around the Greens.** Take extra club(s) if you're not sure about club selection. Leave extra clubs between the cup and cart. Repair ball marks and read your putts while other players are reading their putts. Be ready when it's your turn. Record scores upon reaching the next tee box.
4. **Pre-shot Routine.** Consider ways to shorten your pre-shot routine if you consistently take longer than 30 seconds to hit your shot from the time it's your turn to play.

In addition, the times that groups leave the cart parking area will be staggered according to the distances to their assigned starting holes as follows: holes 15 and 16 (4 minutes prior to scheduled start time), holes 12, 13, 14 and 17 (3 minutes prior), holes 11 and 18 (2 minutes prior), holes 1 and 10 (1 minute prior). All players are to be at their carts at least five minutes prior to the scheduled start time.

The Tournament Committee will enforce the following guidelines for monitoring and penalizing slow groups:

1. Write on the scorecard the time your group is ready to tee off on the first assigned hole and the time your group leaves the green on the last hole. Noted times for shotgun starts should reasonably account for the distance between starting hole and the clubhouse and the order that your group teed off (i.e., A or B group on the first assigned hole).
2. Groups may be penalized under the following situation.
  - a. If a group plays in more than 4 ½ hours and finishes their last hole in more than 14 minutes behind the group in front of them (9-minute starting times plus a 5-minute grace period).
  - b. If a group finishes more than 20 minutes behind the group in front of them even if the group plays within 4 ½ hours.
3. A group in violation of the above guidelines will be notified in writing at the time the preliminary tournament results are posted for review on Tuesday. In the interest of fairness, the Tournament Committee will consider differences in pace-of-play among individuals for pairings with one or more single player. Each player in the group may appeal to the Tournament Committee in writing no later than Wednesday at 5:00 PM.
4. Multiple penalties will result in the following action.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> offense – warning.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> offense – The group or individual single player will be assigned to pairings at or near the end of the field.
  - Continued repeat offenses – Players who do not show an effort to comply with the club's pace-of-play policy will be disqualified from the day's tournament game without refund of their entry fee.