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2023 Calendar

May 1, 2023	Monday		Season begins
May 30, 2023	Tuesday		Deadline to Register (New members only)
June 12, 2023	Monday	8:00 AM	Par 3 Challenge at Idyl Wyld
July 17, 2023	Monday	8:00 AM	18-hole scramble at Whispering Willows
Aug. 14, 2023	Monday	8:00 AM	9-hole scramble at Fox Creek
Sept 4, 2023	Monday		Regular season ends. Last day to turn in scores. Members will have to declare if they will not participate in the tournament by this date.
Sept 11, 2023	Monday	8:00 AM	Tournament begins at Whispering Willows. 9-hole stroke play round.
Sept 13, 2023	Wed.	8:00 AM	Tournament play continues at Fox Creek. 9-hole stroke play.
Sept 14, 2023	Thur.	8:00 AM	Rain day
Sept 18, 2023	Monday	8:00 AM	Tournament play continues as 9-hole match play round for low eight qualifiers. (Fox Creek)
Sept 19, 2023	Tuesday	8:00 AM	Tournament match play continues for four qualifiers in each flight. (Fox Creek)
Sept 20, 2023	Wed.	8:00 AM	Tournament championship matches for two surviving qualifiers in each flight. (Fox Creek)
Sept 23, 2023	Thur.	8:00 AM	Rain day
Sept 29, 2023	Friday	12:00 PM	Awards Banquet

2023 Tournament

- Members must have at least **TEN** recorded nine-hole rounds to qualify for the tournament. Members must turn in all qualified rounds played. "Qualified" means any round at any of the Livonia courses played from the same tee position that you will use in the tournament. **FAILURE TO TURN IN A QUALIFIED ROUND THAT WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF LOWERING YOUR HANDICAP, COULD RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION FROM TOURNAMENT PLAY.**
- The Tournament will be played at Fox Creek and Whispering Willows during the week of September 11th (Monday & Wednesday) and will continue during the week of September 18th (Monday-Wednesday) at Fox Creek. Tee times will begin at 8:00 AM each day. Foursomes and tee times will be emailed and posted at Fox Creek and Whispering Willows.

3. Monday, September 11th and Wednesday, September 13th will be nine holes of Stroke Play.
4. Thursday, September 14th will be the rain day.
5. Monday, September 18th will be nine holes of Match Play with the lowest eight players from each flight participating.
6. Tuesday, September 19th will be nine holes of Match Play with the remaining four players from each flight participating.
7. Wednesday, September 20th will be nine holes of Match Play with the remaining two players from each flight competing.
8. Thursday, September 21st will be the rain day for match play.
9. In the event of a tie(s) after the Stroke Play rounds, we will use the actual scores shot on randomly selected holes (not par 3's or highest handicap holes) to determine the qualifier(s) for the Match Play rounds.
10. If you advance and your handicap calculation from the two play-in rounds is less than your beginning handicap, then your handicap will be recalculated using your stroke play scores to replace your two highest scores. The final seeding for the Match Play rounds will be as follows: Players ranked 1 to 8 based on stroke play adjusted scores. 1 vs 8, 2 vs 7, 3 vs 6, and 4 vs 5. Winner of 1 vs 8 plays the winner of 4 vs 5. Winner of 2 vs 7 plays the winner of 3 vs 6. Any ties for seeding will use the previous actual scores on randomly selected holes.
11. Please note that in the first two rounds of Stroke Play, the ball must be putted into the hole. In the Match Play rounds, USGA Match Play rules will be followed.
12. **IMPORTANT!** IF YOU QUALIFY FOR TOURNAMENT PLAY, BUT DO NOT INTEND TO PARTICIPATE, PLEASE NOTIFY THE ASSOCIATION SECRETARY NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 4th.

2023 Handicap Calculations

- Minimum of 10 rounds to calculate a handicap.
- LSMGA uses 35.5 strokes as the average for nine holes on the Livonia Courses.
- 10 to 19 rounds, average the lowest 50% of rounds; then subtract 35.5. If odd number of rounds, round down; Example: if 19 rounds, use lowest 9 scores.
- 20 and above, average the lowest 10 of the last 20 rounds played; then subtract 35.5.
- Two play-in round scores used in recalculating handicap for qualifiers in match play rounds, if lower than original season handicap.

LSMGA 2023 RULES OF PLAY

Play will be governed according to U.S.G.A. Rules, except for the following local rules:

1. Winter rules will be used throughout the year. You may improve your lie in the fairway, rough, or natural heather (not marked as a penalty area) with your club head, up to eight inches no closer to the hole. A ball on a mown area of the course may be cleaned (IF NECESSARY). A ball in a sand bunker may be lifted, the area raked, and the ball replaced with no penalty. **NOTE: If ball is in a position (tree, roots, etc) where striking the ball may injure the player or damage equipment, minimum movement (no closer to hole) is allowed to alleviate the condition. Relief must be requested from playing partner(s).**
2. Members, regardless of age, may play from the forward, center or back tees at WW and FC, and the forward or back tees at Idyl Wyld. The selection of tee position must remain constant for Association handicap and tournament play purposes.
3. Ball may be moved two club lengths from any fence, and if impeded by one of the perpendicular split rail fences near several greens, may be moved closer to the pin if your ball is on the green side of the fence, but away from the pin if you are under, or on the tee side of the fence. Out of bounds fence relief is granted under this rule provided the ball is still inbounds. NO PENALTY
4. If a player deems his ball unplayable, he shall drop a ball under penalty of one stroke either (a) within two club lengths of the point where the ball lay, but no closer to the hole, or (b) behind the point where the ball lay, keeping that point between himself and the hole, with no limit to how far behind that point the ball may be dropped, or (c) he may go back, as near as possible to the spot from which the ball was originally played. Exception to this rule: Ball may be moved without penalty two club lengths left or right to avoid hitting newly planted, staked trees in your line of flight. No other relief from young trees or bushes is granted.
5. Ball hit into a water penalty area may be played from the greenside of the penalty area, along the line of the ball flight. Ball drop should be on a playable level lie (not muddy or wet), as close to the penalty area as possible. You may, of course, replay your shot from its original position. PENALTY ONE STROKE. (This rule applies to WW holes 2, 7, 9, 13, 15, FC holes 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 18, and IW holes 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, and 16.)
6. Ball out of bounds: We will treat out of bounds as a lateral penalty area. The next shot may be played two club lengths inside the lateral penalty area line from the point where the ball crossed the penalty area line or on a line from where the shot was originally played to where it crossed the penalty area line. PENALTY ONE STROKE
7. Ball in wooded area: All wooded areas may be played as a lateral penalty area. PENALTY ONE STROKE
8. If you swing at the ball with the intention of hitting it, and you miss, IT COUNTS AS A STROKE. If you are taking practice swings and inadvertently hit and move the ball, replace it and play on without a penalty.
9. Lost ball: Drop another ball along the ball flight line, up to the point you lost sight of it. You can theoretically walk all the way back to where you originally hit the shot, if that affords you the best drop. You can also, in this circumstance, declare and immediately hit a provisional ball, if it appears a good possibility the first ball will not be found. PENALTY ONE STROKE or follow new USGA lost ball option PENALTY TWO STROKES
EXCEPTION: if the playing group agrees that the ball was in the fairway or other mown area of the golf course and should have a reasonable expectation of being found but cannot be found, the player will drop another ball near the spot where it was lost and play on with NO PENALTY.
10. Local Rules for FC: Hole 7—a ball lost in the woods right of the fairway may be dropped anywhere in the fairway behind the 150-yard marker. PENALTY ONE STROKE

11. Hole 18 at FC will be played as a par 5 from the gold tees.

12. The maximum score for any hole is double par. Once you reach double par, pick up and move on to the next hole.

PLEASE be aware of the 2019 USGA rules changes among which are the following:

- You may ground your club in a hazard. This does not include sand bunkers.
- Loose impediments may be moved anywhere on the course.
- The time limit to search for a lost ball is 3 minutes.
- You may leave the flag in when putting on the green.
- Ball drops are from knee height.
- Embedded ball relief is granted anywhere on the course except in a bunker.
- You may take back-on-the-line relief from any bunker. Penalty two strokes.
- You may replace your ball anytime you are taking relief.