

BUFFALO GOLF CLUB

The Oldest Municipal Golf Club in Western New York
Organized: 1912



Home Course @ Grover Cleveland Golf Course
Celebrating over 100 Years of Golf

New Member Information Packet

The **Buffalo Golf Club** plays at the **Grover Cleveland Golf Course**. Our members enjoy weekly tournaments throughout the golf season, four major tournaments, and several social events. We also issue USGA handicaps to our members. See the information on the following pages and on our membership application for more details. We welcome new members!

General Information

- Arrive at Grover **at least 30 minutes** before your tee time.
- Check in with cashier to get your ticket **no later than 15 minutes** before your tee time.
- Sign the tournament registration book in the clubhouse before you play a tournament round. *Remember to check the Club's bulletin board for announcements and for important information about the current week's tournament(s).*
- Give your "**Starter**" ticket to Starter on duty and be ready to tee off 10 minutes before your tee time.

Handicaps

- Members **must** have a handicap to play in weekly tournaments and sweeps.
- Members must record at least three (3) rounds to establish a handicap. Scorecards from other golf courses are permitted. You may also transfer your handicap from another organization if that handicap is sanctioned by the USGA.
- Post your 18-hole and 9-hole scores for all eligible rounds, whether at Grover or away. (Playing alone is not eligible for handicap consideration.) Do so immediately after completing play if possible. Use the Handicap Score Book in the clubhouse, GHIN Mobile, and/or GHIN.com. If you post your score online with the GHIN Mobile app or on GHIN.com, put a check mark next to your score in the handicap book so the handicap chairman knows he does not need to enter your score for you. Scores should be posted after **EVERY** round you play. **ONE EXCEPTION: USGA does not allow scores to be used for handicaps when you play alone.**
- There are 3 flights of competition that are based on handicap:
 - 0-9 = A
 - 10-16=B
 - 17 & Up = C
- Maximum score per hole: For handicap purposes the maximum score you can record on any hole is “Net Double Bogey”. Net Double Bogey is calculated as Double Bogey for the hole plus the number of handicap strokes you are allowed on the hole. For example, a player with a handicap of 10 can post a maximum score of Double Bogey Plus 1 on holes rated 1 through 10 and Double Bogey on holes rated 11 through 18. Likewise, a player with a handicap of 22 can post a maximum score of Double Bogey Plus 2 on holes rated 1 through 4 and Double Bogey Plus 1 on holes rated 5 through 18. **If you enter hole-by-hole scores in GHIN, it will automatically apply the “Net Double Bogey” maximum for you!**

Hole-In-One

- It costs only **\$5** to participate. Just pay your **\$5** before the start of every year's new season so you don't miss out on a single round. If not already paid, place **\$5** in the small **manila** envelope (located on the side of the **blue** Sweeps box). Write your name, the date, and "Hole-In-One" on the envelope and drop it in the Sweeps box. You won't be awarded a prize if you paid your \$5 **after** you shot a hole-in-one earlier that same day.
- You must play with a member to be eligible. The hole-in-one needs to be confirmed by another paid-up club member who is in good standing in the Club, and who is also playing in the same group you are playing in. **You cannot have your hole-in-one witnessed by someone who is not playing in the same group you are in.**
- Member(s) who score a hole-in-one during the NYSGA handicap posting season* will share the total amount in the pot. (For example: \$750 in the pot, we have 2 holes-in-one, each member receives \$375). If by chance a member scores an ace **twice**, he will receive **two** shares. (For example: member A does it twice, member B once. $\$750/3 = \250 , member A receives \$500, member B receives \$250.)
- * **The NYSGA handicap season normally runs from April 15 through October 31.** You can win a prize if you ace a hole on *any day* of the week, not just on tournament days.
- If no one scores a hole-in-one during the season, the pot carries over to the following year and all members who wish to participate ante up another \$5.00.

Deposit your hole-in-one scorecard in the Tournament box for verification by the club. The card will be returned to you. Winner(s) will receive their prize as soon as possible after the end of the NYSGA handicap season. Members traditionally buy beverages for the club with the winnings to celebrate their achievement.

Tournaments

- *There are tournaments for all members to play in every week. Some weeks may have two tournaments. (See your *program book* for dates, formats and sponsors.)
- *You may only participate in each tournament once. The 36-hole tournaments must be played on 2 different days.
- *Weekly tournaments run from **Wednesday morning through 4:00 pm Sunday**. There are some holiday extensions.
- *Almost every tournament is a handicapped event. Be certain to understand the format being played by referring to the Club's bulletin board before playing your round.
- *Members participating in tournaments **must** sign the tournament book **before** each round to be eligible to win.
- *Any single player or 2-man team playing in a tournament must play with at least one other BGC Member who will attest the player's or team's scorecard. Members of the same 2-man team are not allowed to attest their own card. 4-man teams are permitted to attest their own card but all four team members must attest the scorecard by signing it.
- *A sample scorecard of the week's tournament(s) is located on the bulletin board. **Fill out your card carefully. Mistakes could cause disqualification and the loss of possible prizes.**
- *A tournament scorecard (they will vary in color) **must** be completed, attested, and put in the **locked mailbox on the patio outside the clubhouse** to be eligible to win.
- *Winners are posted each week on the web site and the bulletin board.
- *Prizes (gift certificates) will either be hand-delivered or mailed to the winners.
- ..*See the BGC tournament rules and local playing rules for more information.

Sweeps

- Sweeps run weekly from Wednesday to Sunday (see book for special holiday extensions). You can play Sweeps and your tournament round at the same time if the scoring formats allow it.
- All members are eligible to play as many times as they want during a tournament week. The cost is \$1 per round. A and B players will compete against each other. C players compete against all other C players.
- All players **must** sign the Sweeps book **before** they tee off. In addition, \$1 must be placed into the supplied envelopes found on the side of the BLUE Sweeps Box. Write the word “Sweeps” on the envelope along with your Name, Date of play, your Class (A, B, or C flight), and put the envelope into the Sweeps Box **before** you play your round.
- After the round, you must correctly fill out a **GREEN Sweeps Scorecard** (refer to the sweeps sample card on the Club’s bulletin board) and have that card attested by the BGC member that also played the whole round with you in your group.
- You will be disqualified if your scorecard is not completed properly, or the “Sweeps Book” was not signed, or your money was not in the Sweeps Box **BEFORE** you played.
- The number of winners each week will be determined by the number of entries in each class. In most cases there will be two winners in the A-B grouping as well as two winners in C.
- Winners are posted each week on the bulletin board. Winnings are distributed directly to the golfer. They are not mailed!
- **SPECIAL SUPER SWEEPERS** will be played on most holiday weekends. These **SWEEPERS** will group all classes (A-B-C) into one **SWEEPER**. The **ENTRY FEE** will be **\$2.00 for everyone**. Other special sweeps may be added.

Special Qualifier Events

- Special qualifiers are held periodically. The Buffalo Golf Club has 4 major qualifier events. They are listed in the program book. BGC majors are:
 1. President's Cup – Top 16 with handicap qualify to play individual match play. Seed #16 plays seed #1 and so on. See complete rules posted.
 2. Club Championship – Top 15 in each class plus **Seniors*** (60 players total) **without** handicap qualify to play in the 36-hole two day tournament. The club championship is normally held the **first weekend in August**.
***Senior Division (70 and over)** is played only on **Sunday only with handicap**.
 3. Harvest Cup – Top 16 2-man teams with handicap qualify to play team match play. Seed #16 plays seed #1 and so on. See complete rules posted.
 4. Match Play Championship - a scratch, in-class match-play event to take place in June and July.

Other special events **may** include

- WNYPLGA Class A, B and C Individual Championship
- WNYPLGA Class A and B Team Championship

Note: Any member can play in the Western New York Public Links Golf Association events by paying their own entry fee. Applications will be available on or near the Club bulletin board.

Program books are available for download from the BGC website.

<http://www.bgcgolfclub.com>

Erie County Parks Department Golf Permits/Tee Time Reservations

For information go to <http://www.erie.gov/parks> and click on "Golf"

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask any member of the Buffalo Golf Club. **WELCOME ABOARD and ENJOY!!!**

Membership Committee Chair:

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