

I apologize up front for the length of the email but there is a lot to cover as we kick off the 2024 season.

First off is the kickoff of the Monday 9-hole league at Sunset. We play in 2 person teams and have a team and individual stableford competition. If you are interested in participating or substituting on a periodic basis, reply back and let me know. Preference will be given to those that have participated in the past as well as those that are current with their 2024 dues. I'm shooting to kick off the season on April 1st and will need to finalize teams in the next couple of weeks.

Second, I would like to highlight a new consolidated schedule for 2024 put together by Linda Brooks (thanks Linda). There is a link to it from the news section of our web page, begainc.org. The Tuesday league kicks off on March 12th. Our first monthly tournament is on March 23rd and the Saturday league kicks off on March 30th. We also have a spring trip to Fairfield Glade first week of May (signup is currently closed). The save the date for the fall trip is October 28th – November 3rd.

Third, we have implemented a new local rule regarding tees players use. Players can now choose which tees they want to play for a given event. The World Handicap System accounts for this by using the tee ratings so your course handicap will change based on your index and course tee ratings. This allows players to pick the tees that are commensurate with their abilities. The only exception applies to multi-day events. The player can choose their tees for the first day but then must maintain that tee selection through the end of the multi-day event.

You can see all of our local rules on the handicap page of our web site.

Finally is a new development regarding the use of GHIN for handicap management. If you use BEGA software to manage your handicap index, this change does not affect you. The USGA updated the rules around recording rounds that are less than 18 holes. Our BEGA software currently does not comply and is now prevented from uploading scores to GHIN as we have done in the past. As such, GHIN users will be required to enter their BEGA event scores manually into GHIN for the foreseeable future. League presidents are responsible to audit this process periodically to verify members are recording their scores. Those that use BEGA for handicap management will continue to have their scores posted automatically and will see no change.

Look for more information to come out soon on our first monthly tournament. If you have any questions or concerns, reach out to me or any of our board members.

Lance Morris