



# UGA Team Play League Manual Public Women Division

The UGA Team Play Leagues are under the direction of the Utah Golf Association. All play shall be governed by the Rules of Golf and the current UGA Hard Card.

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# UGA Team Play League Manual

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### Overall Format

1. **Overview** – UGA Team Play consists of players competing in groups of four with both a net four-ball match and two concurrent singles matches being played in each group. Points won by all groups throughout the match are tallied to determine which team wins the match.
2. **Entry Procedure** – Each team regardless of division must fill out the online entry form and submit the entry fee of \$60. Each team must designate a team captain and co-captain who will be responsible for all communications with their team and the UGA. **Entry forms and payment are due April 1.**
3. **Matches** – Each group will play matches for 2 total points per hole in a modified four-ball format:

One point will be awarded for the better (low) score comparison between teams. One point will be awarded for the better (high) score between teams. In the event of a tie, each team receives a half a point.
4. **Teams** – Each team will submit a lineup for each of the matches and is expected to compete as scheduled in accordance with the guidelines established in the Team Play Manual.
  - a. There is no permanent roster required for each team and no limit as to the number of players who may be used during the season. All players that may potentially play in a Team Play match should be added to the online roster prior to the first match of the season.
5. **Forfeitures** – Forfeitures shall be scored as follows:
  - a. Forfeiting team receives a loss and 0 points for the match.
  - b. Other team receives a win and their average points per match (calculated at the end of the season).
  - c. Any circumstances causing forfeiture shall be subject to review by the UGA. Forfeitures should be avoided at all costs.

### Eligibility

1. **Player Eligibility** – The UGA Public Women’s League is open to all female active UGA members with no age restrictions. UGA members that are currently on a college golf roster are not eligible.
  - i. All team players must hold their UGA membership at the club they are representing. The entire team is subject to disqualification if all players are not current paid members of the UGA with their working club at the club they are representing.
    1. UGA members holding multiple memberships may only participate on one team in any year.
    2. All team members must belong to the women’s association being represented.
      1. Each captain may decide how many rounds, if any, a player must play with their women’s association league before she can play on the team.



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3. All team members must have an active handicap at least two days before a match begins.
4. Before a new team joins the league, the Captain is responsible to verify with the club that team play is permitted with their women's league.
- ii. A player may not play on more than one UGA Team Play team during any season.
  1. Private At-Large, Private Senior, Private Super-Senior, Public At-Large, and Public Senior are all UGA sanctioned leagues.
  2. If a player sells or buys an equity membership at a private club, they may switch teams.
2. **Club Eligibility** – A club may enter more than one team into the league, but the rosters cannot be interchangeable.
  - i. Once a player, including the club professional, plays for one of their club's teams, they cannot play for any of their club's other teams.
  - ii. If multiple clubs would like to combine their rosters into one team, that is allowed with these limitations:
    1. They must designate which course they plan to use as their home course.
3. **Penalty For Playing an Ineligible Player**
  - i. It is the responsibility of the captains involved to ensure that lineups are set in accordance with UGA Team Play eligibility criteria. When it is suspected or known that an ineligible player has participated, it is the responsibility of the opposing team to request a ruling.
    1. If a player is determined to be ineligible, the team in violation shall forfeit points won during the match(es) by the side(s) to the opponent(s). There is no time limit on enforcing this penalty.

### Scheduling

1. **Regular Season** – The UGA will divide teams into divisions with all teams playing home-and-away schedules.
  - a. If a team withdraws from the league after the UGA has sent the season schedule to all captains, that team may be suspended from the league the following season.
  - b. The UGA will provide a regular season schedule to all teams. **All regular season matches must be completed by August 22.**
2. **Schedule Changes** – The UGA will send out a tentative schedule before the season with all matchups.
  - a. Captains are encouraged to use this as a reference to schedule each match with their opponents. Once captains have confirmed all matchup dates with their opponents, captains will send the UGA an updated schedule of all their *home* matches. The UGA will then update the website to reflect this.
    - i. Captains must send the UGA their confirmed matchup dates before **May 1.**
  - b. Team Captains can mutually agree to postpone a match in advance of the start of play or during the match. One captain **cannot** make a unilateral decision to suspend or postpone a match.



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- c. In the event Team Captains agree to postpone an entire match before it begins, captains can reschedule the match if they notify the UGA of the schedule change.
  - d. In the event a team cannot field a team, their opposing team has no obligation to reschedule the match. The team that cannot field a team will be issued a *forfeit*.
  - e. In the event the course condition is unplayable due to extenuating circumstances, a team may designate another site to host its home matches. The site and extenuating circumstances must be approved by the UGA.
  - f. Where possible, teams must not play matches on a day that conflicts with any of the following UGA Championships:
    - i. Women's Spring Open
    - ii. Utah Women's Four-Ball
    - iii. Mary Lou Baker Open
    - iv. Utah Women's Stroke Play
    - v. Utah Women's State Amateur Championship
    - vi. Utah Senior Women's State Amateur Championship – September 20-23
3. **Suspensions** – In the event Team Captains mutually agree to suspend play after matches have begun, the provisions of Rule 5.7 under the Rules of Golf apply.
- a. If all matches *have* completed at least nine holes, Team Captains will verify the status of each match through the number of holes completed and those statuses will be considered final.
    - i. Any points scored will not be reflected in either team's season-long average.
  - b. If all matches *have not* completed at least nine holes, the entire match must be replayed. It is *not* required that the same players participate in the make-up match.

### Playing the Match

1. **Team Order** – Teams will consist of eight players; the team captain will decide who is on the team.
  - a. Playing positions will be determined by course handicap.
  - b. In the event a team has less than 8 players for a match, the match should still be played. However, they will forfeit the points for the matches that go unplayed.
    - i. Teams that have less than 7 players for a match should put their players in an order that allows for all of their opponents to be able to play at least a four-ball match.
      1. Example: If a team has 6 players, they should play their 5<sup>th</sup> player in the 5<sup>th</sup> position and their 6<sup>th</sup> player in the 7<sup>th</sup> position.
2. **Match Procedures:**
  - a. The visiting team captain is responsible for contacting the home team captain two days before the match to confirm the schedule and roster.
  - b. Home teams are responsible for printing scorecards.
  - c. The Team Captains must simultaneously exchange lineups prior to the start of the match. Once lineups have been exchanged on-site, they must not be altered.



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- i. Teams should not make substitutions on the day of the match except in case of emergency. In that case, team captains are expected to be accommodating and understanding of those emergencies.
  - d. All players should write their scores on their scorecard for handicapping purposes. On any hole that a player starts, but does not finish, she should record the score she most likely would have made or her ESC score, whichever is LOWER. If a player does not start the play of a hole, her score should be recorded as par plus any handicap strokes.
  - e. Each player is responsible for their own green fees and cart fee.
  - f. The home team will determine the yardage/tee to be played when they host a match.
  - g. The order of play will be determined by the four-ball match, not the individual matches.
  - h. The home team has the *honour* on the first hole.
  - i. The matches should tee off in the following order:
    - i. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> players from both teams.
    - ii. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> players from both teams.
    - iii. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> players from both teams.
    - iv. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> players from both teams.
  - j. Local Rules must conform with the Rules of Golf. Any Local Rules which are to be in effect during Team Play must be published and distributed to all players in advance of the start of the match.
    - i. For all Women's Team Play matches, Model Local Rule E-5 (Alternative to Stroke and Distance for Lost Ball or Ball Out of Bounds) will be in effect. For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).
  - k. The host club is encouraged to host a brief social after each match. Players should be responsible for the cost of any food or drinks that they consume.
  - l. If a team member is unable to continue play due to illness or an emergency prior to the completion of the first nine holes (and the match hasn't been decided), she will lose the front nine, back nine, and total of her individual match. If she falls ill or needs to leave due to an emergency during the second nine holes (and the match hasn't been decided), she will keep all points earned in the first nine, but she will forfeit the back nine and total of her individual match. Her partner will still represent their team and compete against their opponents in the four-ball match.
  - m. A match is considered final when both captains agree on the match results, and they are posted online.
  - n. The UGA will be the arbitrator of any disagreements about the Rules.

### Playoffs

1. **Determining Playoff Participants & Seeding:**
  - a. Winning percentage will determine the division champions. If multiple teams have the same winning percentage, the tiebreaker will be the team that has played more matches. If there is still a tie, the tiebreaker method will be as follows:
    - i. Head-to-head win-loss record
    - ii. Total points earned in head-to-head matches.



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- iii. Scoring average for the season (excluding forfeits and 9-hole matches)
  - b. The playoff bracket will consist of four teams competing in a single elimination playoff. The winner from each division will advance to the playoffs and seeded 1-2 with the remaining playoff spots being selected and seeded 3-4 by the committee based upon the following in the order they appear:
    - i. Winning percentage (minimum of three matches played and recorded)
    - ii. Average points per match (excluding forfeits and 9-hole matches)
    - iii. Lot
  - c. Teams must play a minimum of 5 matches to be eligible for the playoffs.
2. **Playoff Scheduling** –
  - a. The playoff match will be played at a neutral site so that captains have the ability to schedule the match ahead of time and avoid conflict. The UGA will provide a window in which the teams should play. Teams should book their match in this window after consulting the visiting team on an acceptable date.
    - i. The UGA must be notified of this date as soon as possible.
    - ii. Once a playoff date has been set, it can only be changed through mutual agreement and notification of the UGA.
    - iii. If the date/site of a match has been changed through mutual agreement and the UGA has been notified, there must be an additional mutual agreement and notification to the UGA of any further changes.
  - b. The final matches will be scheduled and paid for by the UGA at a neutral site. The UGA will also provide a post-match meal for the participating teams.
3. **Playoff Player Eligibility:**
  - a. For a player to be eligible to play for his team in the playoffs, they must meet the following criteria:
    - i. Current member of the UGA
    - ii. Current member of the club's women's association
    - iii. Played in a minimum of one regular season match.
    - iv. Played in a minimum of two women's league events before the conclusion of the regular season.
  - b. The UGA will contact the clubs of each playoff team to verify if their playoff roster meets these requirements.
  - c. If any players do not meet the requirements, they will not be eligible for the playoffs; if it is discovered that a player has played in a playoff match and does not meet the eligibility criteria, the team will be disqualified from the playoffs and the player and team may not be eligible to participate in the following season.
  - d. Captains are responsible for knowing the playoff eligibility of their players.
4. **Playoff Tiebreakers:**
  - a. In case of ties for all playoff matches, the UGA will use the following method to declare a winner:
    - i. All individual matches will be tallied and the team that wins the most individual match points will be declared the winner.



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- ii. If there is still a tie, the back 9 of all individual matches will be tallied and the team that wins the most individual match points will be declared the winner.
  - iii. If there is still a tie, all four-ball matches will be tallied and the team that wins the most four-ball match points will be declared the winner.
  - iv. If there is still a tie, the back 9 of all four-ball matches will be tallied and the team that wins the most four-ball match points will be declared the winner.
  - v. If there is still a tie, the points from the individual matches of players in positions 1-4 will be tallied and the team that wins the most individual match points will be declared the winner.
  - vi. If there is still a tie, a hole-by-hole sudden death playoff will take place immediately. Each team will select one player to represent the team in the playoff. The starting hole will be selected by the UGA or in their absence, golf course staff.
  - vii. If a course is unable to accommodate a hole-by-hole playoff or daylight does not permit a playoff, the match will be decided by lot.
- b. If there is a tie at the conclusion of the league championship match, a hole-by-hole sudden death playoff will take place immediately following play. Each team will select one player to represent the team in the playoff. The starting hole will be determined by UGA or in their absence, golf course staff. If a course is unable to accommodate a hole-by-hole playoff or daylight does not permit a playoff, the tie-breaker method for other playoff matches will apply.

### Team Captain Duties

1. **Arrangements:**
  - a. A Captain's Directory has been provided on the UGA Team Play Website to help with communication.
  - b. In addition to other responsibilities mentioned previously, Team Captains should communicate to confirm with each other well in advance of any match to be played at their club the following:
    - i. How to schedule practice rounds (dates, fees, and times)
    - ii. Tee times for matches
    - iii. Tees/yardages to be played
    - iv. Carts and caddies – whether or not they will be hosted/allowed
    - v. Dress code
    - vi. Club policies
    - vii. Acceptable forms of payment for carts, food, and beverage, etc.
    - viii. Health and safety guidelines
2. **Posting Lineups, Match Results, and Scores:**
  - a. Prior to every match, the Team Captain must submit a lineup in GolfGenius.
  - b. However, the roster and order are not finalized until the captains exchange rosters at the match site.



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- c. All match results must be entered within seven calendar days by the *Home Team Captain*.
    - i. Lineups posted in GolfGenius must reflect the players who participated in that match.
  - d. Each team captain is responsible for posting their teams scores to GHIN as soon as possible.
  - e. Any breach of this rule will result in:
    - i. First infraction: warning
    - ii. Second infraction: team issued 0 points for the match (but does not forfeit)
    - iii. Third infraction: team issued a loss and 0 points for the match
3. **Player & Team Code of Conduct:**
- a. The Utah Golf Association's conduct policy as found [HERE](#) states that it is in force before, during and after a competition conducted by the Utah Golf Association.
4. **Disputes & Decisions:**
- a. If a dispute arises before, during, or after a match, the Team Captains of the teams involved are the Committee within the meaning of the Rules of Golf, along with any UGA Staff, if present.
    - i. If those two captains cannot reach an agreement, the dispute at this point can be referred to the UGA in writing.
    - ii. The UGA will conduct a thorough review of the dispute. After the review is completed, the Committee will issue a decision. The decision of the Committee is final and will be communicated to the team captains involved in the dispute.