

# Notice to Players

## 2023 MVMC Club Championship Match Play

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### Match Scheduling:

The MVMC Tournament Committee administers and facilitates the scheduling of all matches.

Rick Bryant (contact information below) is the lead administrator for the MVMC Club Championship. You will contact him to report the results of your matches and he will notify you of each of your opponents as you progress through the competition.

[rndbryant9@gmail.com](mailto:rndbryant9@gmail.com)

360-430-4795

### Championship Procedure:

Competitors are seeded within their Division (see below for Division details) based on USGA Handicap Index.

Brackets and contact information for all competitors will be emailed to each player.

A hard copy of the brackets will be posted in the Mint Valley Golf Course Pro Shop. Some players may get a "Bye" the first round depending on the number of players in each Division.

**NOTE: Members of the Tournament Committee are the only people authorized to write on the brackets in the Pro Shop.**

The initial release of the brackets serves as your notification of your first opponent. Contact your opponent to schedule your first match. Notify Rick Bryant when you will play your match.

For each subsequent match, Rick Bryant will notify you of your opponent. At that point, it is your responsibility to contact your opponent to schedule the match. Once the match is scheduled, notify Mr. Bryant. In the event you and your opponent are unable to schedule a match within a reasonable amount of time (~2 weeks), the Tournament Committee will schedule the match for you. If you are unable to make your scheduled match, you will be disqualified.

Report the results of each match within 24 hours of completion. Failure to report your results within 24 hours may result in disqualification.

The final match of the Championship Division is decided by a 36-hole match. The final round in the other divisions is decided by an 18-hole match

The Final Match for each division must be completed by Labor Day, September 4, 2023.

**Eligibility:** Entries are open to members of the Mint Valley Men's Club who have an up-to-date USGA Handicap Index.

**Winnings:** 1<sup>st</sup> place \$100 and 2023 MVMC Membership dues paid; 2<sup>nd</sup> place 2023 Membership dues paid for each division.

Championship Division winner is eligible to play in the 2023 Washington Golf Men's Champion of Champions tournament – a tournament open to Club Champions from around the state of Washington. [Champion of Champions - Washington Golf \(WA Golf\)](#)

**Format:** Single elimination match play. Players compete directly against their opponent in a head-to-head match. You win a hole by completing it in the fewest number of strokes, and you win a match when you are winning by more holes than remain to be played.

**Handicap:** For Open and Senior Divisions, 100% of Course Handicap. Handicap Indexes on the day of each match will be in effect. Competitors must agree on handicaps prior to playing the match. Players can use the GHIN app to locate current handicaps for each player. Maximum USGA Handicap Index is set at 36.4 for males and 40.4 for females. Handicaps are not in effect for the Championship Division.

**How to Determine Handicap Strokes:** Use the USGA GHIN app to determine strokes given.

1. Open the USGA GHIN App
2. Click "Handicap Calculator"
3. Enter "Mint Valley Golf Course"
4. Add each golfer to the handicap calculator
  - a. Click "Add Golfers"
  - b. Enter the last name of one of the golfers
  - c. Click the "+" sign next to the correct name
  - d. Click "Add Golfer" at the bottom of the screen
  - e. Repeat steps 4a thru 4d to add the second golfer
5. Click the "Select Tees" next to each golfer's name and select the appropriate tees
6. Look at the S.O. value for each golfer. The S.O. or "Shots Off" is the number of strokes each player gets. The lower handicap player will have 0 strokes, the higher handicap player will have the difference in Course Handicap between the two players.

For example: Player A has a Course Handicap of 10, player B has a Course Handicap of 7. The GHIN App Handicap Calculator will give player B an S.O = 0 and player A an S.O.= 3 (10 minus 7 equals 3). Player A gets 3 strokes in the match. **Player A gets one stroke each on the 3 hardest holes (#1, #18, and #9 at MVGC).** The hardest handicapped hole is listed as the number 1 hole on our scorecard.

If a tied match is extended, handicap strokes are given by hole in the same way as in the round.

## **Rules of Match Play (Rule 3.2)**

[Match Play \(usga.org\)](https://www.usga.org)

### **Result of Hole and Match**

In match play the result of the hole or match is decided as follows:

- You win a hole when you complete the hole in fewer strokes than your opponent, your opponent concedes the hole, or your opponent gets the general penalty (loss of hole).
- You tie a hole (also known as “halved”) when you and your opponent complete the hole in the same number of strokes.
- You win a match when you lead your opponent by more holes than remain to be played, your opponent concedes the match, or your opponent is disqualified.
- If your match is tied after the final hole and you need to establish a winner, the match is extended one hole at a time until there is a winner.

### **Concessions**

- You may concede your opponent’s next stroke, a hole or the match, but a concession is only made when it is clearly communicated.
- A concession is final – you cannot withdraw it once made and your opponent cannot decline the concession.

### **Applying Handicaps in Handicap Match**

- You and your opponent should tell each other your handicaps before the match.

If you declare a wrong handicap and don’t correct the mistake before your opponent makes a stroke:

- If the declared handicap is too high and this affects the number of strokes you get or give, you are disqualified.
- If the declared handicap is too low, there is no penalty and you must play off the lower handicap.
- Handicap strokes are given by hole as stated on the previous page under the section entitled “How to Determine Handicap Strokes”. ***If a tied match is extended, handicap strokes are given by hole in the same way as in the round.***
- Each player is responsible for knowing the holes where he or she gives or gets handicap strokes. It is good practice to agree to the number of strokes given to each player before playing the hole.

### **Your Responsibilities in Match Play**

You have a responsibility to:

- Tell your opponent the right number of strokes you have taken when asked,
- Make your opponent aware as soon as reasonably possible after you get a penalty, and
- Know the match score.

In a match, you should protect your own rights and interests under the Rules:

- If you know or believe that your opponent has breached a Rule that has a penalty, you may act on the breach or choose to ignore it.
- But if you and your opponent deliberately agree to ignore a breach or penalty you both know applies, you are both disqualified.
- If you and your opponent disagree whether one of you has breached a Rule, you may protect your rights by asking for a ruling.

#### **Rules Issues in Match Play (Rule 20.1b)**

- You cannot play two balls when there is a rules disagreement. This is only allowed in stroke play.

Deciding Issues by Agreement.

- During a round without a referee assigned to your match, you and your opponent may agree how to decide a Rules issue. The agreed outcome stands provided you and your opponent did not deliberately agree to ignore any Rule or penalty you both knew applied.

Ruling Request Made Before Result of Match Is Final.

- When you want a referee or the Committee to decide how to apply the Rules but neither is available in a reasonable time, you may make the request for a ruling by notifying your opponent that a later ruling will be sought when a referee or the Committee becomes available.

#### **Playing Rules**

Play is governed by the USGA 2023 Rules of Golf. Here we declare local rules and remind players of certain rules they may encounter during play.

**Racquet & Fitness Club Building Relief:** The area on the right side of hole #18 where the view of the green is obstructed by the Racquet Club building is designated as Ground Under Repair and will be marked with a white line. If your ball lies within marked area you may take free relief as stated under Rule 16 – Relief from Abnormal Course Conditions as follows:

- 1) Locate the nearest point of complete relief (the nearest point where your ball and stance are on the other side of the white line) and mark the location. This is the reference point.
- 2) Drop the original ball or another ball within one club length of the reference point, no closer to the hole.

**Penalty Areas:** Rule 17. There are only Red Penalty areas on the course. Penalty areas may not be marked; however, they include all permanent water features, all tall grass areas around the

course, and hillsides on #3, #5 and #6. It also includes the forced carry on #17. A drop zone is also available on #17.

**Out of Bounds:** Fences, including the fence around the driving range, are boundary edges. Areas outside the boundary edges are out of bounds. You do not get relief from boundary fences. Your options are to play it as it lies or take an unplayable ball relief (Rule 19) for a 1+ stroke penalty. The fence behind #14 green is OB. If your ball goes OB, you need to re-hit from where the previous stroke was made you get a one stroke penalty, see Rule 18.2.

**Ground under repair:** May not be marked; however, all bare ground areas, including area behind #1 green, and depressed irrigation lines. Free drop, see Rule 16.1.

**QUESTIONS:** Questions should be directed to the Tournament Committee.

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