

Section 1. Association Rules:

1. A member may invite a guest to play in his foursome no more than twice a month. A guest playing twice under this rule may not play as a guest with another member.
2. A fivesome is not allowed during scheduled play, except when the playing roster for that day will not accommodate another player.
3. Tee shots may be played from either the gold or red markers at both courses. Members must declare at the beginning of the season which tees they intend to play from and then play from those tees each time they play. This insures consistent calculation of handicaps.
4. All, legible, regular play scorecards showing players and their scores are to be deposited in the in the box provided in the pro shop. Tournament scorecards are to be given to the Tournament Directors and/or deposited in the in the box provided in the pro shop.
5. New members must play 5 rounds in order to establish a handicap and have an established handicap to participate in and tournament or event.
6. For handicap purposes, members may play either before or after the scheduled tee times, on the same course and on the same day. Such play must include at least two members and score cards signed and turned in to the pro shop.
7. Members must have an Association handicap to be eligible to play in a tournament.
8. Members must have an established handicap prior to October 1 to be eligible for the Club Championship held in September and October.
9. The Monthly SIGN-UP DRAWING for tee times, for the upcoming month, is held at 8:30 on the 3rd Thursday each month in the LaFortune Park meeting room. The dates and time for the sign-up appear in the play schedule. Exceptions will be announced by email from the Head Starter. During the Monthly Sign-up Drawing a member may sign up for any group of 2, 3 or 4 players, no more. After the Monthly sign-up drawing the Starters Book is available at the courses during each scheduled play day. A member may also call the Starter to obtain a tee time.

Handicap System

The handicaps are calculated and maintained by the Lafortune Golf Course personnel. Scores are entered into an online system which tracks the course, course rating, etc. Handicaps are based on the best 10 of the last 20 rounds of golf at each course. LaFortune and South Lakes will enter the scores immediately after the score card is received.

Section 2. Golf Rules: LSSGA Members shall play golf according to the USGA “Rules of Golf” with the following exceptions:

1. The ball’s lie may be improved in the fairway or in the rough, with the club head, no more than 6” from the original lie, no nearer the hole. Due to winter kill or casual water the ball may be moved to the nearest grass spot but not nearer the hole. This exception does not apply if the ball is in a hazard, is impaired by tree roots or a tree, or is in an unplayable lie.

2. Relief from a fence or other structure may be taken two club lengths from the structure, not nearer the hole.

3. A ball, imbedded by its own trajectory in a bunker, must be played as it lies. If the ball lies in a depression not made by the ball, it may be lifted in order to rake the spot and then replaced in its original position without a penalty.

4. A ball that is hit out-of-bounds may be played from the nearest spot where the ball crossed the out-of-bounds line with a penalty of one stroke.

5. If a ball comes to rest, in the fairway or rough, in leaves or tall grass, and cannot be found quickly, another ball may be dropped without penalty. This does not apply to a ball landing out-of-bounds, in a hazard, trees, bushes or shrubs. In those instances, take the penalty and move on.

6. All putts “in the leather” are “GIMMEES”. “In the leather” shall mean: **a.** When the head of the putter is placed in the cup, the ball lies within the distance from the cup to just touching the grip. **b.** If using a “long putter” a mark must be placed on the shaft 23 inches from the head of the putter. **c.** This rule applies to all play including tournaments.

SLOW PLAY: All members are encouraged to play within the specified time allotted.

Members and/or Groups falling behind more than 2 holes shall pick-up their balls and proceed to the T Box immediately behind the group ahead.

To combat slow play, the “USGA Equitable Stroke Control” will be used. When the stroke limit is reached the player shall pick up his ball.

Note: This limit does not apply in tournament play, where all strokes are to be counted.

USGA Equitable Stroke Control Chart

Note: Beginning on January 1, 2020, with the introduction of the World Handicap System, a maximum hole score of Net Double Bogey has replaced Equitable Stroke Control for handicapping purposes and applies to all golfers. What follows below is the Equitable Stroke Control prior to January 1, 2020.

The USGA's Equitable Stroke Control is part of their Handicap System. You cannot calculate a valid USGA Index and course handicap without using Equitable Stroke Control or ESC.

"Equitable Stroke Control" (ESC) is the downward adjustment of individual hole scores for handicap purposes in order to make handicaps more representative of a player's potential ability. ESC sets a maximum number that a player can post on any hole depending on the player's Course Handicap. ESC is used only when a player's actual or most likely score exceeds the player's maximum number based on the table in Section 4-3.

Section 4-3 in the USGA Handicap Manual says in part...

ESC is used when a player's actual or most likely score exceeds a maximum number, based on the table below, for the player's Course Handicap from the tees played. (For nine-hole Equitable Stroke Control table, See Section 10-5c.)

18-Hole Equitable Stroke Control

Course Handicap	Maximum Number on Any Hole
9 or less	Double Bogey
10 through 19	7
20 through 29	8
30 through 39	9
40 or more	10