

**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 ensures consistent calculation of handicaps.
4. All, legible, regular play scorecards showing players first and last names 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 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 a tournament or event or club championship.
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 into the pro shop.

**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 tournaments and the club championship.
7. 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 ball and proceed to the next 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 Handicap System

**Note:** Beginning on January 1, 2020, with the introduction of the World Handicap System, thereby replacing Equitable Stroke Control for handicapping purposes and applies to all golfers. **With the exception that a maximum score on any hole will be triple bogey. After reaching a score of triple bogey the player will pick up his ball and proceed to the next tee with his group.** This exception does not include the club championship rounds which will record actual strokes taken on each hole.

8. If bunkers/sand traps are unplayable because of occasional water or lack of maintenance the ball will be removed and placed behind the bunker no closer to the hole.