

MEMBER'S HANDBOOK



WAHCONAH COUNTRY CLUB

April 2024

General Rules

The board of Directors welcomes you to Wahconah Country Club, The Pride of the Berkshires. We trust you will enjoy playing golf at our club. Guidelines governing the play of golf and conduct at the Club have

been issued so that all members and their guests may get maximum enjoyment from their time at Wahconah Country Club (WCC).

Rules of Conduct:

The rules of conduct are adopted by the Board of Directors to sustain the high standards demanded by the membership and to abide by local, state, and federal laws. The Club Manager, Course Superintendent and Golf Pro are authorized to apply the rules of conduct. Infractions will be reported to the Board of Directors (BOD) for action.

1. Employees are required to treat members with courtesy. Any deviation from this requirement should be reported to the Club Manager, Golf Pro or BOD.
2. Members or their guests may not reprimand employees. Compliments or complaints regarding Club service or employee behavior should be made in writing to the Club Manager, Golf Pro, or BOD.
3. Each person participating in recreational or social activities on club property does so at their own risk. Each person is responsible for any personal injury or property damage caused, including, without limitation, injury to themselves and damage to other persons own property, and agrees to indemnify the club against all loss, claims or expenses resulting from these activities.
4. All indoor facilities are established as ***NO SMOKING***. Smoking is permitted on the terrace and outdoor patio in designated areas.
5. Automobiles shall be parked in designated spaces. If the club parking lot is full, additional parking can be found next to the driving range on the grass.
6. Dogs, except service dogs, and other animals are not allowed in any Club buildings and when on club property, must be kept on a leash.

Guests:

1. Members may introduce non-members as guests. The member host is responsible for payment of the appropriate guest fees.
2. Guests include all of the following:
 - a. Non-members of any age introduced by a member.
 - b. Relatives, including spouses and children, of members who have a single membership.
 - c. Children of members that do not have a family membership.

Dress Code:

1. Members should be dressed in clothing consistent with the décor and surroundings of the Club.
2. Proper attire is required, both on the course and in the clubhouse.
3. Shirts with collars are required – this includes fashionably acceptable mock turtle neck golf shirts.
4. Tank tops, tee shirts, short shorts, gym shorts, cutoffs, patched, faded, ripped or work-type jeans and bare feet are not permitted:
5. **Between Memorial Day & Labor Day blue jeans (pants and shorts) are not allowed.** Other colors such as black, beige, etc. are acceptable.

Membership

The Club is currently open for membership. Applications may be obtained from the Club Manager or on our website. <https://wahconahcc.com/membership/>

1. An application must be filled out and approved by the Board of Directors.
2. Membership changes and resignations must be made in writing to the BOD.
3. The Club shall not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, age, sex, marital status, national origin, handicap or sexual preference.

House

General Information

1. The WCC web page (<https://www.wahconahcc.com/>) and periodic newsletters will provide information about the caterer, clubhouse schedule, events and hours.
2. No outside Food or Alcoholic Beverages may be brought onto Club property.
3. The club house and the patio are open for food service to the public.

Special Events: (Mother's Day, New Year's Eve, ETC.)

Reservations for Special Events must be cancelled at least seven days in advance of the event. Members who cancel in less than seven days will be charged the full event price. To avoid the charge, the member may obtain a substitute group to take his reservation.

Clubhouse Rentals:

Clubhouse facility rentals must be arranged through the Clubhouse Manager and are subject to the following:

1. The exclusive use of the Clubhouse, in whole or in part must be reserved at least ten days in advance, with the exception of after Funeral/Celebration of Life receptions.
2. A non-refundable deposit is required to book a function at the Club. The charge depends on the purpose of the rental, the time of the year and the portion of the Clubhouse rented. Contact the Clubhouse Manager for Clubhouse availability and information about all your charges.
3. Alcoholic beverages may not be served to minors. Members and non-members renting the Clubhouse accept full responsibility for adherence/conformance to this policy.

Golf

General Rules

1. All members and their guests must register in the Pro Shop before teeing off.
2. Speed/Pace of play - According to the MGA, a round of golf at WCC should be played in (4) hours, regardless of the player's ability level. If this pace is too fast, you should play from shorter tees or at a time when play is light. Always let faster groups play through.
3. All play must start from the first tee. No starting from #10 tee unless the Golf Pro grants special permission.

4. Players stopping for more than (5) minutes “at the turn” following the first 9 holes, must allow the group behind them the courtesy to play through.
5. In the case of adverse weather conditions, it is always the player’s responsibility to remove themselves from the course at their discretion. They will not lose their standing on the course. The Golf Staff will try it’s best to blow a horn when they feel severe weather is imminent. All Players upon hearing a horn must either take shelter or return to the clubhouse.
6. All club tournament prizes will be in the form of credits redeemable for merchandise or for use in the clubhouse. **Tee Times**
 1. Tee times are required for play on weekends, holidays and other days as posted by the Golf Pro.
 2. There is a maximum limit of (4) players in a group, unless permitted by the Golf Pro.
 3. Weekend Tee times before noon, are reserved for threesomes and foursomes or otherwise posted in the Pro Shop. No singles or twosomes before noon on weekends. See starter for openings.
 4. Non members can obtain tee times @ <https://www.chronogolf.com/club/wahconah-country-club>.
 5. Members, if you have provided your email address to the club manager, you should have received an email with your account details. If you haven't received this email: please Check your SPAM in-box or contact the Golf Pro Shop.
 6. In order to maximize course usage and avoid loss of potential revenue due to not cancelling tee times we will charge \$100.00 per tee time if not cancelled 48 hours in advance. This will be in effect June 1, 2024.

Golf Shoes

WCC is a “soft-spike-only” Golf Course. No metal spikes allowed. Shoes must be approved golf shoes or sneaker type shoes. **Lockers:**

1. Lockers and showers are available for members and guests.
2. Lockers are available for annual rental by Members. Rented lockers are not shared facilities and should be rented individually
3. For safety reasons, storage of golf bags and/or hand carts in Lockers is not permitted.
4. WCC provides towels for use by members and guests only. They are not to be removed from the locker rooms. Please place soiled towels in the receptacles provided.

Golf Carts and Pull Carts

1. The superintendent determines cart access to the course and his decision is final.
2. Each player, before renting a cart, must sign a Cart Rental Agreement Form. Members will only need to do this once per year. A golfer who does not observe these rules will receive a warning letter from the Golf and Green Committee Chairs. A second violation, regardless of cause, will result in revocation of cart privileges.
3. A person must have a valid driver’s license to operate a motorized golf cart.
4. Each person using a cart does so at his/her own risk. Each person renting or driving a cart is responsible for any personal injury or property damage caused. This includes, without limitation, injury to him/her and damage to the cart, and agrees to indemnify the Club against all loss, claims or expenses resulting from use of said cart.
5. Golf carts must:
 - a. remain on Club property.

- b. be kept 25 ft. or more from all greens & tees.
 - c. remain on cart paths whenever possible
 - d. exit fairways at designated points as noted by signage or green posts with yellow tops.
6. Hand operated pull or push carts or power carts must be kept off all greens, aprons and fringes of tees and are not allowed in bunkers. Keep these carts on fairways, roughs, cart paths and always (30) feet away from greens and tees.

Grounds

1. Replace/repair all divots properly.
2. Repair ball marks on the green.
3. Rake all holes and footprints made in a bunker.
4. Enter and exit bunkers at their lowest point. Do not climb bunker faces.
5. Playing more than one ball on the course is discouraged.

USGA Handicaps

1. USGA/MGA Handicap System is available and offered at a charge of \$35 to WCC members. There is a charge of \$55 for card members. The Pro Shop can assist in accessing the GHIN system.
2. WCC maintains a computer access to the "GHIN" (Handicap Information Network) of the USGA.
3. Each Member/player will be assigned a Local Club Player ID number and is primarily responsible for his or her own handicap and the proper posting of scores.
4. Please post your score on the day of your round in order for handicaps to be accurate.
5. Starting in 2024, 9-hole scores will count on the day posted instead of waiting to be combined with another 9 hole score as in previous years. The USGA Handicap System defines which golf rounds must be posted, how scores may be adjusted and when you must post scores.
6. All members and guests playing in a Club golf tournament must have an active GHIN number.
7. The WCC's BOD has the responsibility of ensuring that a player's USGA handicap index reflects his/her current playing ability.
8. Tournaments are played at the USGA handicap on the most recent update.
9. GHIN handicap system services are available to non-members for an annual fee.

Tournament Rules

1. USGA Rules of Golf shall govern all play unless modified by local rules. Local rules are established by the Rules Committee and may be changed at any time by the Committee.
2. The USGA/MGA Course Rating is posted in the hallway outside the Pro Shop.
3. Junior Golfers may not play in regular Club tournaments except the junior member that wins the Junior Championship can play in the regular Club Championship.
4. Tees are regulated for tournaments. Please refer to the Club and Allied Tournament Schedule posted in the hallway outside the Golf Pro shop.

5. WCC is a member of the Berkshire County Allied Golf Association which is comprised of all the golf clubs in the Berkshires and a few other affiliates. The association runs a variety of tournaments throughout the golf season and promotes the events of each member club. The allied association also runs a junior program on Mondays throughout the county.
6. Tees are also regulated for sanctioned league play as follows.
 - Tuesday and Thursday
Men's Senior Morning League, 1st tee – 9:30am to 10:00am
Men's Afternoon Leagues, both 1st and 10th tee - 4:00pm to 6:00pm
 - Wednesday
Ladies' Afternoon League, both 1st and 10th tee - 4:00 to 6:00

Green Fees and Charges

Green fees, cart rental, bag storage, handicap and range use charges are posted in the Golf Pro Shop. Also available on the WCC website @ <https://wahconahcc.com/rates/> **Professional Golf Services:**

Our Golf Professional is an asset to WCC and is at every member's disposal. Golf Pro lessons and services along with tournament information are available on our website.

Range

1. The range is available for practice. Hit from designated spaces only.
2. Practice balls are available from the Pro shop.
3. Range Membership for members and non-members are available. See the Pro Shop.
4. When golfers are on the 10th fairway, golfers on the range should be vigilant and exercise caution.
5. Do not practice on the course.

USGA Handicaps:

Golf Course Etiquette

Etiquette and respect for the rules of golf are long-standing elements of the game of golf. Consideration of others is paramount, and violations of Club rules may result in sanctions imposed by the Board of Directors.

Golf Outings:

Golf outings are an important source of revenue for the Club. The BOD will weigh the benefits of an outing and vote on the groups' right to use the course. The Board must balance the needs of the members and the financial well-being of the club. Golf outings may be scheduled through the Golf Pro throughout the season.

Course Closings

Course may be closed on Mondays to allow maintenance projects to be accomplished with the 1st tee opening at noon.

Staff Telephone Directory

2024 Season

Club House: (413)-684-2684 EXT. 4

Club Manager: Eric Jost
Email: manager@wahconahcc.com

Kitchen: (413) 684-2864 EXT. 3

Executive Chef: Matt Mottor
Email: Matt@berkshireculinarygroup.com

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Golf Shop: (413) 684-2864 EXT. 1

Golf Professional Mark Duane
Email: golfshop@wahconahcc.com

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Course Maintenance: (413) 684-0069

Golf Course Superintendent: Hunter Mott
Email: superintendent@wahconahcc.com

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