



## **Tour & Member Handbook**

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## What is the Mitten Golf Tour?

The Mitten Golf Tour hosts two-person, amateur golf tournaments in fun formats, such as Scramble and Best Ball, at highly rated public golf courses across the state of Michigan.

The Mitten Golf Tour has some of the highest payouts in amateur golf, with the winnings distributed across multiple flights to give players of all ability levels a chance to win!

The Mitten Golf Tour uses state-of-the-art live scoring and live leaderboards, so you know where you're at on the leaderboard throughout each tournament!

## Who is eligible to compete in Mitten Golf Tour Events?

Mitten Golf Tournaments are open to all amateur golfers – see below for Membership Information. Golfers do not need a handicap for any of our events, as we use flights instead of handicaps.

The Mitten Golf Tour allows Men 55+ to play from a “one-up” tee and women to play from the women's tees. Please see the last section of the document for more tee/yardage information.



# Mitten Golf Tour – Annual Membership

## **Membership Information**

A Mitten Golf Membership allows players to compete in our Order of Merit Competition, which is an annual Team of the Year Competition with prizes for the Top 10 Teams, totaling \$1000s in prize value!

Additionally, Members receive a \$10 discount/team at every event and free entry into several Majors Fantasy Golf Contests that we host throughout the year!

Please see below for 2023 Order of Merit Prizes:

## **Order of Merit Prizes for West Michigan Members**

1. \$500 Arcadia Bluffs Gift Card
2. \$400 Club Champion Gift Card
3. \$300 Forest Dunes Gift Card
4. \$300 American Dunes Gift Card
5. \$200 Maple Hill Gift Card
6. Free Foursome: The Meadows GVSU
7. Free Foursome: Katke GC
8. Free Foursome: Moss Ridge GC
9. Free Foursome: Links at Bowen Lake GC
10. Free Membership: 2024 Mitten Golf Tour

## **Order of Merit Prizes for Metro Detroit Members**

1. \$500 Arcadia Bluffs Gift Card
2. \$400 Club Champion Gift Card
3. \$300 Forest Dunes Gift Card
4. \$300 American Dunes Gift Card
5. \$200 Maple Hill Gift Card
6. Free Foursome: WestWynd GC
7. Free Foursome: Calderone GC
8. Free Foursome: Calderone GC
9. Free Foursome: Sugarbush GC
10. Free Membership: 2024 Mitten Golf Tour

## Mitten Golf Tour – Tournament Prizes

A portion of each entry fee is allocated toward that tournament's team prize pool. The amount in the prize pool differs for each tournament and is based on the number of teams that play in each event and the event category (18 holes, 27 holes, Major, Tour Championship). Prize pools may vary on the day of the tournament from announced prizes due to late entries or withdrawals.

The Mitten Golf Tour adheres to the USGA Rules of Amateur Status, so no single prize shall exceed \$750.00 in value per player.

A "typical" 18 Hole Event with 60 Teams (5 Flights of 12), has the following prize value schedule.

1st Flight	2nd Flight	3rd Flight	4th Flight	5th Flight
1st Place \$500	1st Place \$300	1st Place \$300	1st Place \$250	1st Place \$250
2nd Place \$300	2nd Place \$200	2nd Place \$150	2nd Place \$150	2nd Place \$150
3rd Place \$200	3rd Place \$100	3rd Place \$100	3rd Place \$100	3rd Place \$100
4th Place \$100	4th Place \$100	4th Place \$50	4th Place \$50	4th Place \$50
Total Prizes Awarded \$3,500				
Expected Skins Pot \$1,000				
Total Prizes + Skins \$4,500				

In addition to the Prize Pool, Mitten Golf Tournaments offer an optional skins game, which is typically \$10-\$20 per player to enter. Skins Pots are typically \$1,000 - \$2,000, depending on the field size and entry fee.

## How do the events and flights work?

Mitten Golf Tournaments are all two-person events – scrambles, best balls, etc. We use flights based on “day of” scoring instead of handicaps.

### Mitten Golf Tour – Flighting System

At our 18 Hole Events, we randomly select either the Front 9 or Back 9 to use for flighting *after the round*. Once flights are determined by the Front or Back 9 Score, the rankings *within each flight* are determined by the **Total 18 Hole Score**.

#### Example Event (18 Holes)

As an example, an event with 48 Teams will have 4 flights, with 12 teams in each flight. The 48 Teams would play all 18 holes, then after the round, a Mitten Golf Representative will randomly select either the Front 9 or Back 9 to use for flighting. If the Front 9 is randomly selected, the Teams will be ranked from 1-48, based on their **Front 9 Score**, and the teams will be divided into 4 Flights of 12 Teams each, using a scorecard playoff to break any ties.

- **Championship Flight:** Teams ranked 1-12 based on Front 9 Score
- **Second Flight:** Teams ranked 13-24 based on Front 9 Score
- **Third Flight:** Teams ranked 25-36 based on Front 9 Score
- **Fourth Flight:** Teams ranked 37-48 based on Front 9 Score

Within your flight of 12 Teams, the Mitten Golf Tour pays out the Top 4 Teams, as determined by the **Total 18 Hole Score**, once again using a scorecard playoff to break any ties.

### 36 Hole Events

At our 36 Hole Events, we use the 1<sup>st</sup> 18 Holes to break teams into flights. The rankings *within each flight* are determined by the **Total 36 Hole Score**.

#### Example Event (36 Holes)

As an example, an event with 48 Teams will have 4 flights, with 12 teams in each flight. The 48 Teams would play the 1<sup>st</sup> 18 holes, then after the 1<sup>st</sup> round, the teams will be ranked 1-48 and sorted into 4 flights of 12, using a scorecard playoff to break any ties.

- **Championship Flight:** Teams ranked 1-12 based on 1<sup>st</sup> 18 Hole Score
- **Second Flight:** Teams ranked 13-24 based on 1<sup>st</sup> 18 Hole Score
- **Third Flight:** Teams ranked 25-36 based on 1<sup>st</sup> 18 Hole Score
- **Fourth Flight:** Teams ranked 37-48 based on 1<sup>st</sup> 18 Hole Score

Within your flight of 12 Teams, the Mitten Golf Tour pays out the Top 4 Teams, as determined by the **Total 36 Hole Score**, once again using a scorecard playoff (2<sup>nd</sup> 18) to break any ties.

# Order of Merit Race – Mitten Golf Members Only

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Below are the details for our Order of Merit Race (Team of the Year).

## Order of Merit Summary

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- Only Mitten Golf Members are eligible (both partners must be 2023 members)
- Earn Order of Merit Points by:
  - Performing well in events, AND
  - [Signing Up Early for events \(20 bonus pts for registering 14+ days early\)](#)

## Order of Merit Rules

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1. **Membership:** Both partners must be 2023 Mitten Golf Members to earn points.
2. **# of Events:** The Mitten Golf Tour has seven (7) tournaments in West MI and six (6) in Metro Detroit in 2023. The Order of Merit counts your best 6 outcomes in West MI and best 5 outcomes in Metro Detroit.
3. **Subs:** You are allowed a “sub” for up to 2 tournaments. If you or your partner cannot make a tournament, you’re allowed to bring a sub up to twice and the points will accrue to your team.
4. **Tiebreaker (within a Tournament):** When teams tie within their flight at a tournament, all teams that are tied get the points for the spot in which they placed. As an example, if 3 teams tie for 1<sup>st</sup> Place in a flight, all 3 teams earn the 100 points for 1<sup>st</sup> Place – we do not use a scorecard playoff for Order of Merit Points.
5. **Tiebreaker (Final Standings):** In the event that multiple teams tie in the Final Standings, the following are the tiebreakers (in order):
  - a. **1<sup>st</sup> Tiebreaker:** # of Tournaments Played (more is better)
  - b. **2<sup>nd</sup> Tiebreaker:** Compare teams’ finishes in the Tour Championship (higher finish is better)
  - c. **3<sup>rd</sup> Tiebreaker:** Coin Flip/Random Draw
6. **Point Values:** In addition to the below point values, [Teams receive 20 bonus points for every tournament in which they register 14 or more days prior to the tournament date.](#)

18 Hole Events		36 Hole Events (MAJORS)	
Place Within Flight	Points Awarded	Place Within Flight	Points Awarded
1st	100	1st	150
2nd	80	2nd	120
3rd	70	3rd	110
4th	60	4th	100
5th	50	5th	90
6th & Below	40	6th & Below	60



## What Tees do I play from?

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The Mitten Golf Tour has several categories of players. The tees played for each event is determined by the sole discretion of the Mitten Golf Tour. Some courses have tees for each category, while other courses only have 2-3 sets of tees. The “Target” yardage range is listed below:

1. Men 54 & Under (6,300 – 6,600 yards)
2. Men 55 & Above (6,000 – 6,300 yards)
3. Men 70 & Above (5,600 – 5,800 yards)
4. Women (Ladies Tees)\*\*

*\*\*If competed at the D1 College Level, women must play from the Men 55 & Above tees for the event*

## Dress Code and Player Conduct

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All players competing in Mitten Golf Tour Events must adhere to the dress code requirements of the host course. Typically, this means that collared shirts and soft spikes are required (mocks are considered collared). Jeans, denim, and sweatpants are not permitted.

Players competing in Mitten Golf Tour Events must be respectful of each other, the course, and of Mitten Golf Tour representatives. Swearing, club throwing, alcohol abuse, improper use of or damage to golf carts and other behavior that is deemed disrespectful may result in disqualification from an event and/or suspension or expulsion from the Mitten Golf Tour, both of which are at the sole discretion of the Mitten Golf Tour.

## Caddies and Spectators

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Caddies are not permitted at Mitten Golf Tour Events, unless specifically stated. Spectators are not permitted at Mitten Golf Tour Events, unless specifically allowed by a Mitten Golf Tour representative. If you would like to bring a spectator, please contact a Mitten Golf Tour representative.

## Weather Guidelines

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If the golf course allows us to play on the course, we play. Bad weather (rain, wind, etc.) is not a reason that we will discontinue play, unless it is dangerous, or the course does not allow us to play.

Any delays or cancellation of an event will be determined by the golf course and their staff in conjunction with a Mitten Golf Tour representative.



If a tournament is cancelled, a makeup date will be announced as soon as one is determined. Refunds will not be issued, but rather will be applied to the scheduled makeup date or the next available tournament.

If a course becomes unplayable during a tournament, the tournament may be declared “official” if all players have played at least nine holes no matter the combination. In this circumstance (tournament has to be cancelled after play has started), the following will *likely occur*:

1. No Order of Merit Points will be awarded for the tournament (other than early registration pts).
2. No Skins Money will be paid out (all teams will be issued a refund for skins money)
3. No Prizes will be paid out (all teams will be issued a refund for the prize money)
4. **Note:** *The Mitten Golf Tour has full and total discretion to determine what is fair in the event of a mid-round cancellation. As an example, if most groups have finished 15+ holes at the time of the cancellation, the Mitten Golf Tour may elect to give the teams that did not finish a “Par” for all holes not completed and calculate Order of Merit Points, flights, payouts, and skins games based on the resulting 18 hole scores.*

## Scorecard Playoff

The Mitten Golf Tour uses a scorecard playoff to break ties – both to make the flights and within your flight. In the event that the hole handicaps on the Official Mitten Golf Scorecards/App are different than the Course Scorecards, the [hole handicaps on the Official Mitten Golf Scorecards will be used](#).

## Questions

If you have any questions about our Membership, Tournaments, or anything else, please email [david@mittengolftour.com](mailto:david@mittengolftour.com).