



## GOLF GROUP/LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PO Box 970, Uxbridge ON L9P 1N3  
Tel: 905-852-1101 Fax: 905-852-8893  
[www.gao.ca](http://www.gao.ca) / [admin@gao.ca](mailto:admin@gao.ca)



### GOLF ONTARIO MEMBERSHIP POLICY:

#### Membership Categories & Definitions:

Golf Group Member - a group that pays a membership fee to the Association and has been formed by at least 25 individuals who are not members of a Golf Facility

#### Admission of Member:

No individual or facility will be admitted as a Member of Golf Ontario unless they have made an application for membership in the following manner, and in accordance with the Amended and Restated Bylaw April 2018, Section 2, completing the following requirements:

Golf Facility Member or Golf Group Member:

- Complete a membership application and pay a membership fee.
- Complete for the current season all required fields noted as required on the Membership Application Form.
- Submit the Individual Member count for the Golf Facility or Golf Group (if applicable)
- Agree to Conditions & Responsibilities of Membership

## GOLF ONTARIO MISSION STATEMENT

We shape lives by leading, creating and promoting positive golf experiences.

## GOLF ONTARIO – GOLF GROUP/LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### Conditions & Responsibilities of Golf Group Member

- Golf Group Members are encouraged to pay for **all golfing members**. 'Golfing Members' are — individuals, who purchase a season pass, pay a fee to your group: shareholders, corporate members, full members, members of the men/women or senior's sections.
- Golf Group Members are to inform Golf Ontario of any changes at the Golf Group throughout the year and re-apply for a change of membership status if/when necessary.
- Golf Group Members, if requested, are required to provide Golf Ontario with a complete listing of members including contact information.
- Golf Group Members will submit a signed Handicap License Agreement that acknowledges that your group complies with the requirements of the Golf Canada Score Centre.
- Golf Group Members must conform to the National and Provincial by-laws of Golf Canada and Golf Ontario.
- In addition to these stated terms and conditions, Golf Ontario may specify other terms and conditions, which will be contained in subsequent correspondence from Golf Ontario. The applicant/group will be asked to agree to those terms and conditions by signing and returning that correspondence to Golf Ontario. Once the applicant/group signs that correspondence and returns it to Golf Ontario, the terms and conditions contained in that correspondence will form part of the applicant/group's agreement with Golf Ontario. Services will not be available to the applicant/group until the applicant/group signs and submits to Golf Ontario both the application and any subsequent correspondence containing any additional terms and conditions.

### Golf Group Member Payment Policy & Agreement

- Payment of dues implies agreement with all membership terms.
- Golf Group Members invoiced 30 days prior to their roster expiration based on current membership information.
- \*\*\*NOTE: Failure to receive payment by the deadline will result in the suspension of the member services including golfer access to the Score Centre (handicap system). A Golf Group Member, who has not paid its annual dues by the deadline, will be deemed a non-member and will no longer receive Golf Ontario services until payment is received in full. Membership in Golf Ontario for the following year will require payment of the outstanding invoice from the previous year.
- Actual membership numbers will continue to be monitored throughout the season and the group invoiced accordingly.
- Golf Group Member is responsible to ensure that the group's golfing member names, which appear in the Score Centre, are complete and accurate.
- Interest of 15% per annum charged on fees outstanding after payment deadline.
- Golf Group Members in good standing are permitted to use the Golf Canada Handicap System and Golf Canada Course Rating System and related trademarks and service marks. Upon leaving membership, the group forfeits use of any course and slope rating data provided during their membership and their golfing members will no longer have access to an official handicap. These trademarks include: the GOLF CANADA HANDICAP SYSTEM; the proprietary mathematical handicap formula; and, iii) the trademarks "RCGA", "GOLF CANADA", "GOLF CANADA HANDICAP SYSTEM", "GOLF CANADA HANDICAP FACTOR", "HANDICAP FACTOR", "HANDICAP", "FACTOR", "HANDICAP SYSTEM", "SLOPE", "SLOPE SYSTEM", "SLOPE RATING", "HANDICAP DIFFERENTIAL", "COURSE RATING", "SLOPE RATING", "COURSE HANDICAP", "HOME COURSE HANDICAP", "BOGEY RATING", "ESC", "SHORT COURSE HANDICAP", "SHORT COURSE RATING", "COURSE RATING SYSTEM", "SLOPE SYSTEM", "HANDICAP DIFFERENTIAL", "GOLF CANADA COURSE RATING", "GOLF CANADA CERTIFIED HANDICAP SOFTWARE", "SCORE CENTRE", "GOLF CANADA SCORE CENTRE". With the exception of the term "Golf Canada", some of these trademarks and services marks are the property of the United States Golf Association, which has generously given Golf Canada permission to use the system.

### OFFICIAL DECLARATION

"I declare that the information submitted on this Golf Ontario Golf Group Membership Application is correct. I have read and understood all policies and responsibilities of a Golf Ontario Golf Group Member. I further understand that only Golf Ontario/Golf Canada Golf Group Members in good standing have the right to use the Golf Canada Score Centre, Course Rating Systems and related trademarks; such rights terminate should the Group cease to be a Member of Golf Ontario/Golf Canada. By providing my signature below, I further consent to allow the use of said information for the purposes as outlined in the Golf Ontario Privacy Policy." Please visit our website ([www.gao.ca/about-us/gao-policies-yearbooks/](http://www.gao.ca/about-us/gao-policies-yearbooks/)) for full disclosure of the Golf Ontario Privacy Policy.

Certified By \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**GOLF ONTARIO  
GOLF GROUP MEMBER FACT SHEET**

**GROUP INFORMATION:**

Registered Name of Golf Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Courier Address: *(if different)* \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ General Email \_\_\_\_\_

Type:      Group ☐      League ☐

Membership Count (minimum 15):    Adult \_\_\_\_\_    JR (18 or younger) \_\_\_\_\_

**GROUP CONTACTS:**

TITLE	NAME	Email	Contact Telephone
Primary Contact:			
Secondary Contact:			
Handicap Chair:			
Accounting Contact:			
Other Contact:			

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

Year Group/League Established \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your support of amateur golf in Ontario!**



## Member Group Handicap License Agreement



By virtue of this Letter of Agreement, the \_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter, "Member Club/Group") is hereby authorized by the Royal Canadian Golf Association – Association Royale De Golf Du Canada, operating as Golf Canada™ (hereinafter "Golf Canada" and Golf Ontario ("the authorized provincial golf association") to use the World Handicap System™ and issue Handicap Indexes® in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Rules of Handicapping™, a copy of which is available at [www.golfcanada.ca/handicapping](http://www.golfcanada.ca/handicapping). Member Club/Group is also hereby authorized to use and promote the official Golf Canada Course and Slope Ratings™ as issued to Member Clubs by the authorized provincial golf association.

For purposes of this Agreement, the Member Club/Group certifies that it is a "golf club" defined as follows: an organization of at least 15 individual members that operates under bylaws with a Handicap Committee and other committees as required to supervise golf activities, provide peer review, and maintain the integrity of the World Handicap System™. Further, members of a golf club/group must have a reasonable and regular opportunity to play golf with each other. They must be able to return scores personally, and these scores must be readily available for inspection by others, including but not limited to fellow members and members of the golf club's Handicap Committee.

In consideration of these mutual rights and obligations the parties agree as follows:

1. This Agreement shall commence when executed by Golf Canada™ (the "Effective Date") and shall be effective through 4 years after signage (the "Term") provided the Member Club remains a member in good standing of the authorized provincial golf association and Golf Canada™ during the Term. Thereafter, this Agreement may be renewed only upon written agreement of the parties hereto.
2. Upon the Effective Date of this Agreement and throughout the Term, Member Club shall comply with all provisions of the Rules of Handicapping™ including, but not limited to, those items in Rule 1.3, Rule 7 and Appendix A.
3. Member Club shall ensure that all Handicap Indexes® issued under the terms of this Agreement are issued pursuant to the requirements established by the World Handicap System™, as set forth in the current Rules of Handicapping™, including any amendments thereto that may be from time to time adopted.
4. Within the Term of this Agreement, Member Club must have a minimum of one representative to complete a Handicap Certification seminar (conducted by the authorized provincial golf association or Golf Canada™) and pass a test exhibiting knowledge of World Handicap System™ and its policies. Certification can be achieved online or in person.
5. Member Club acknowledges that, with the exception of the terms "Golf Canada" and "Golf Canada Score Centre", the trademarks and service marks used in the Rules of Handicapping™ are the property of the World Handicap Authority ("WHA") and are used in Canada by Golf Canada™ under a head license between Golf Canada and the WHA (hereinafter referred to as the "Marks"). As the owner of the Golf Canada Trademarks and as head licensee in Canada of the Marks and of the World Handicap System (hereinafter referred to collectively as the "World Handicap System" or "WHS" and individually as the "Rules of Handicapping" and the "Course Rating System"), Golf Canada™ has the sole right to authorize the use of the Golf Canada Trademarks, the Marks, and the World Handicap System to Member Club within Canada, and has the corresponding duty to ensure that those who are authorized by it to use the WHS do so in a manner which preserves the integrity and reliability which the public associates with Golf Canada™, the WHA and the WHS. Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement, Golf Canada™ grants Member Club the non-exclusive, non-transferable right to use the Golf Canada Trademarks, the Marks and the World Handicap System during the Term of this Agreement. Member Club agrees that:
  - a. Nothing herein shall give Member Club any right, title, or interest in the Golf Canada Trademarks, the Marks or the World Handicap System (except the limited rights granted to Member Club pursuant to and in accordance with this Agreement);
  - b. It will use the Marks and the WHS, including any Course Rating™ obtained under the Course Rating System, only in the manner prescribed from time to time by Golf Canada and only during the Term of this Agreement; and
  - c. It will permit Golf Canada™, or the authorized provincial golf association, upon reasonable notice, to inspect Member Club and its operations for the purpose of controlling the quality of the Member Club's use of the World Handicap System, the Golf Canada Trademarks and the Marks.
6. The Member Club shall refer to any and all handicaps issued by it as the "Handicap Index", "Index" or "Indexes." In addition, during the Term of this Agreement, only, all references by Member Club to the World Handicap System shall use the term "World Handicap System" and all references by Member Club to course ratings and/or the Course Rating System shall use the terms "Course Rating," "Slope Rating", and "Course Rating System", as appropriate.

7. With respect to World Handicap System-related functions which Member Club may not perform itself, including but not limited to the posting of scores, (e.g. third party software service; postings by an individual member), Member Club agrees to meet the responsibilities of the club as set out in the Rules of Handicapping, including supervision of members in meeting the golfer responsibilities, including any amendments thereto that may be from time to time adopted.
8. Without an official Handicap Index, players are ineligible to enter national or provincial amateur competitions. A Handicap Index is only "official" when it has been issued in accordance with the authorized handicapping body holding jurisdiction where primary membership is held.
9. Golf Canada™ or the authorized provincial golf association may terminate this Agreement upon written notice, effective immediately, if: a) Member Club ceases to be a Member Club in good standing of Golf Canada™ and the authorized provincial golf association; b) Golf Canada™ determines in its discretion that the requirements of the World Handicap System are not being followed by Member Club; or c) Golf Canada™ determines in its discretion that Member Club is in breach of any term or condition of this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this agreement shall terminate automatically upon notice by Golf Canada that its agreement with the World Handicap Authority has terminated.
10. All information requested under this Agreement should be sent to the authorized provincial golf association.
11. This Agreement supersedes all previous agreements and authorizations to use of the World Handicap System (including the Rules of Handicapping and Course Rating System), the Golf Canada Trademarks and the Marks.

If these conditions are acceptable to Member Club, please have the Handicap Committee Chairman or delegate indicate agreement by signing this Letter of Agreement and returning it to the authorized provincial golf association.

**ACKNOWLEDGED AND AGREED TO:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Handicap Committee Chairman                      Signature of Handicap Committee Chair

(Name of) Golf Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Authorized Golf Association                      Signature of Authorized Golf Association Representative

Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Golf Canada Representative                      Signature of Golf Canada Representative

Date Authorized: \_\_\_\_\_