



# **River Landing Men's Golf Association**

## **Member Handbook**

Dear Member:

Welcome to the River Landing Men's Golf Association (RLMGA). The purpose of the RLMGA is to promote fellowship, encourage interest and confidence in golf, and familiarize members with USGA golf rules and etiquette. Our events are designed for members to meet their neighbors and enjoy a fun golf experience, irrespective of skill or handicap levels. This handbook includes general information that will help you enjoy the upcoming season.

By vote, members pay annual dues to cover the costs of running the organization which also pays for entry into Saturday RLMGA tournaments, food and beverages. We play in RLMGA-sponsored tournaments and weekly Play Days throughout the year. We co-sponsor events that are conducted jointly with the River Landing Golf Association of Ladies (RLGALS).

Our Saturday tournaments provide formats where all RLMGA members, irrespective of skill or handicap, can meet new playing partners and enjoy a fun, competitive experience. Prizes are awarded to winning teams and individuals. Tournaments include a social meal and a chance to relive the fun of the day with your group and your fellow RLMGA competitors.

We sponsor weekly Play Days on Tuesday and Thursday for RLMGA members in which there is a competitive game – either team or individual –for a nominal fee charged to the members account. All winnings are awarded in the form of Pro Shop credits.

Additional information on the RLMGA can be found on the [www.rlmga.info](http://www.rlmga.info) web site and at the Pro Shop, where you can pick up a membership application. For answers to your questions, contact any RLMGA Board member.

We look forward to meeting you and helping you enjoy the fun of River Landing golf.

RLMGA Board of Directors

# Executive Summary

The RLMGA is a non-profit entity. Our By-Laws are available through the Board Secretary.

The By-Laws are written to be inclusive for all River Landing golf members.

The By-Laws guide the administration of the RLMGA. They were approved at the second annual meeting, and may be amended by the Executive Board as appropriate and upon approval by the general membership.

The Executive Board is the governing body of the RLMGA. It consists of eight members with specific terms and job descriptions/responsibilities. ALL Executive Board members have 1 vote for all Executive board motions. They are:

- President
- Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Tournament Director
- Assistant Tournament Director
- Two Members-at-large

The Executive Board may designate other MGA members to perform specific tasks, e.g. the Tournament Committee, Nomination Committee Chair, etc.

The purpose of the By-Laws is to ensure an orderly and directed focus on creating an enhanced golf experience for all RLMGA members at River Landing.

## Membership Composition

Reference: By laws Section I: All men who are members in good standing in the River Landing Sports Club will be permitted membership in the RLMGA.

To become a member, a completed application and dues payment must be provided to one of the Executive Board members (preferably the Treasurer) prior to participation in any RLMGA-sponsored event.

Non-RL members may play in RLMGA sponsored events (tournaments and Play days) as guests of RLMGA members for a nominal fee as (detailed later in this document).

# Play Days

All RLMGA members are eligible to participate in our Play Days. The RLMGA Play Days are Tuesdays and Thursdays from the first Tuesday after the Opening Tournament in March through the last Thursday in November before the last Saturday Tournament. Information about Play Days will be kept current on the RLMGA website.

A \$5.00 charge is made to the golf membership account of each player electing to play a competitive round on Play Days. Payouts are made for the top team or individual scores in the form of “chits” (pro-shop credits) which can be redeemed through River Landing Pro Shop purchases. The number of payouts depends on the number of players that day.

Throughout the season, some Play Days will be designated as “Fun Day,” for special format events, e.g., 3 clubs and a putter, red-white-blue, Captain’s Choice, etc. These competitive events also incur a Play Day charge.

In addition to scheduled events the RLMGA will organize golf outings and overnight golf trips. Details of these and other RLMGA events can be found by checking our website.

Any dues paying RLMGA member who is unable to play in RLMGA sponsored events (Play Days or tournaments) will have access to the social aspects of the events (food, beverages, camaraderie, Hot Dog and Beer events, etc.).

If a non-RL member – i.e. friend of a member from out of town, - wants to participate in Play Days, they ( or their sponsoring member) should contact the tournament director prior to the deadline for the event. These “guests” will have their entry fee charged to their sponsoring MGA member’s account and if the guest wins a prize, the prize money will also be credited to the sponsoring member’s account.

## RLMGA Play Day “Pot of Gold”

This mid-season and end of year tournaments are scheduled each year to distribute excess Play Day monies not already distributed (Normally 10-15% collected on normal play days is kept in reserve for the Pot of Gold Tournaments). **To participate in the mid-season tournament any RLMGA member must have played in at least 8 of the available play days prior to the mid-season Pot of Gold Tournament.** If a player decides to participate in the mid-season “Pot of Gold” but doesn’t have the required number of play days he will be charged an additional \$5 for each play day short of the required 8 days. **To participate in the end-of-year tournament members must have participated in at least eight play days following the first half Pot of Gold Tournament and prior to the end-of-year Pot of Gold Tournament.** If a member signs up for the end-of-year Pot of Gold without meeting the “8 play day” requirement, he will be charged an additional \$5 for each day short of the required 8 days. NOTE – As with regular play days, there is the normal \$5 charge to participants of a Pot of Gold tournament.

## RLMGA Saturday Tournaments

The RLMGA will sponsor a number of Saturday Tournaments. Each of these events includes a meal either before or after the tournament.

Members who wish to bring a non-RL member as a guest will be charged a \$25.00 participation fee for their guest. Just as with the Tuesday and Thursday Play Days, guests who win prizes will have their winnings credited to the sponsoring member's account. The schedule of this year's Saturday Tournaments can be found on the RLMGA website.

During Saturday RLMGA tournaments, the RLMGA Board of Directors may sell 50/50 tickets to enhance member excitement and to help supplement organization costs.

## Sign-Ups, Check-In and Cancellations

Sign-up for RLMGA events is typically done on-line on the GHIN system (see description later in this document). In addition, for Saturday tournaments, the pro shop will maintain a manual sign-up sheet at the main desk. The cutoff for sign up for these events is typically at **12:00 pm the day before the event** in order to give the tournament directors and the pro shop the opportunity to prepare for the next day's event. PLEASE MAKE SURE TO SIGN UP IN ADVANCE OF THIS DEADLINE TO INSURE YOU ARE INCLUDED IN THE EVENT.

For Play Day events, all players MUST check in with the pro shop before they tee off. This is to ensure that players are properly charged for the event or for cart fees. For Saturday tournaments, check-in with the representatives of the RLMGA board at the check-in table either inside the clubhouse or on the patio.

In the event that a player needs to cancel his participation for an event, it is important that he contact the tournament director. This will allow the tournament directors to re-arrange teams to ensure all competitors are properly placed in the event.

## Handicaps and Scoring

RLMGA golfers play competitive golf using their handicaps as established by the USGA. Handicaps are important to ensure that golfers of various skill levels can compete against each other. Each RLMGA member is responsible for selecting a tee box (blue, white, yellow) on which his handicap is based. This must be communicated to the pro shop at the start of the year.

Handicaps are based on the best 8 scores out of the last 20 posted and are updated daily. An RLMGA member must have an established handicap to participate in events. For information on handicaps, refer to the USGA website [www.usga.org](http://www.usga.org). Information is listed for how handicap rules apply to various types of competition. We will be using USGA Guidelines for handicaps: 4-man teams at 80%; 3-man teams at 90%; and individuals at 100%. After each round where an individual score is available from an established tee box with a slope and course rating, the RLMGA member is responsible for posting his score. This score should be posted on the same day of the round played.

During RLMGA events, an 'official' scorecard will be supplied by the tournament directors or pro shop for each

group or individual. Each group should also keep a back up scorecard so that individual scores can be verified for accuracy. It is the player's responsibility to ensure the accuracy of the score they are posting.

## Course Etiquette

**Dress Code** – Appropriate length Bermuda shorts, golf shirts (tucked in) with a collar (mock turtle necks are the exception), and cotton and synthetic blend slacks are appropriate. Denim shorts (or jeans), tank tops, and tee shirts are not. Appropriate golf shoes (soft spikes) are also required. This list is not exhaustive, so if you have any questions regarding golf apparel, see one of the golf professionals at the clubhouse.

**Pace of Play** – The club has a target pace of play of 4 hours and 10 minutes. Ordinarily, a foursome not being held up can complete a round in under 4 hours. It is your responsibility to keep up with the group you follow. If your group falls behind, please do everything possible to pick up the pace to catch up to the group in front of you. A round lasting 4½ or more hours is unacceptable for almost any reason.

As a rule, players should be ready to hit (i.e. “ready golf”) at all times during their round.

- In the fairway, especially on “cart path only” days, take a few clubs to your ball if you are unsure of the yardage.
- On the green, quickly fix your ball mark, and mark your ball if you are in someone's line. Check your putting line while others are putting; don't wait until it is your turn to do so.
- After completing a hole, players should return the flag to the cup properly (i.e. squarely in the center and not leaning against the lip), and immediately leave the green. (As a courtesy, the first player who holes his putt is responsible for returning the flag to the hole.)
- Scores should not be posted on the card while sitting in the cart next to the green just exited. Move away from the green quickly and do the posting on the next tee.
- If there are walkers and cart riders in the same group, the walkers should hole out first and start to move to the next hole in order to expedite play.

## Communication

**Events** - Every event sponsored or co-sponsored by the RLMGA is widely promoted through one or several of the following:

- The RLMGA Website: [www.rlmga.info](http://www.rlmga.info)
- Membership e-mail “Blast” announcements and reminders.
- Sign-up sheet at the Pro Shop front desk.

**Website** – [www.rlmga.info](http://www.rlmga.info) - Members can use the site to see the results of daily matches as well as events year-to-date. It is a useful site for potential members to find out about us – rosters, news, upcoming events, board minutes, etc.

**Golf Handicap and Information Network (GHIN)** – [www.ghin.com](http://www.ghin.com) – The Carolinas Golf Association (CGA) participates in this valuable website that provides a variety of services for River Landing members. You can post your scores, verify handicaps, and register for RLMGA tournaments and play days. For information on how to use the GHIN system see one of our golf professionals.

**River Landing Electronic Publications** – The River Landing administration provides numerous announcements on Club activities. You may receive ‘blast’ emails that describe upcoming events and contacts. The Landings e-Newsletter comes out once a month, and an email announces its availability. It can be accessed either through the River Landing website: [www.riverlanding.com](http://www.riverlanding.com) or you can get a printed copy (limited availability) at the Pro Shop and Fitness Center.

**Inclement Weather** – In the event of inclement weather, call the Pro Shop (910-285-6693) to find out if RLMGA events have been cancelled or postponed, (i.e. frost delays are not uncommon in the winter months). *Do not call the Tournament Director or another member of the Board of Directors*

## By-Laws

A copy of the RLMGA By-Laws may be obtained by contacting the RLMGA Secretary, and are also posted on the website.

Pro Shop (910-285-6693)

Larry George, Head Golf Professional