



# 2018 SCGA SCRATCH LEAGUE RULES OF PLAY

## 1. CLUB ELIGIBILITY

Each club submitting an entry application must be identified as the "club of record" at its facility and must maintain at least one 18-hole (5,000 yards or more in length) golf course. Each club must have a certified Handicap Chair. Certification can be obtained by completing a SCGA Handicap Certification Class. Additionally, all clubs must be in compliance with the USGA License Agreement. Without a certified Handicap Chair and updated license, your club will not be eligible to participate in the 2018 SCGA Scratch League.

## 2. DEFINITION OF TEAM

Each team will consist of seven players (one club professional and six amateurs). A permanent roster is not required for each team. There is no limit as to the number of players who may be used during the season. Club professionals will play against each other.

Note: A club professional, or member of the club's staff who is not an amateur, must participate in each match.

## 3. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- A. Amateur players must be in good standing with the SCGA and have a current Handicap Index issued through the club they represent.
- B. All players must be listed on the club's membership roster for the team that he/she wishes to compete for as of August 15, 2018.
- C. Each player may only represent one club during the 2018 SCGA Scratch League season.
- D. Players must be 21 years of age or older as of the date of the match they participate in.

**Penalty for playing an ineligible player:** The ineligible player will be considered to have made the highest score on each hole, thus receiving one point toward the team's total.

**Penalty for an absent player:** The absent player will be considered to have made the highest score on each hole from which he/she is absent, thus receiving the least points possible on those holes. The same principle applies for a player that is absent for all 18-holes; the player receives the least points possible for his/her round.

## 4. FORMAT

Teams are paired into groups of three, four or five depending on the number of entries received. The teams within the group will play one match at each of the courses within the group. All play is without handicaps except for seeding the pairing order from low to high current Handicap Index.

**Penalty for playing a player in the wrong sequence:** The player will be considered to have made the highest score on each hole, thus receiving one point toward the team's total.

**GROUPS OF FIVE:** The format of each match for the groups of five is a 25-point game within each pairing group of five players. The possible combinations for points scored on each hole are:

FIVE TIED FOR HIGH SCORE	FOUR TIED FOR HIGH SCORE	THREE TIED FOR HIGH SCORE	TWO TIED FOR HIGH SCORE	ONE HIGH SCORE
5-5-5-5-5	6-6-6-6-1	7-7-7-2-2	8-8-3-3-3	9-4-4-4-4
		7-7-7-3-1	8-8-4-4-1	9-5-5-5-1
			8-8-5-2-2	9-5-5-3-3
			8-8-5-3-1	9-5-5-4-2
				9-7-3-3-3
				9-7-5-2-2
				9-7-5-3-1

These points are calculated after each hole and tallied for a point total at the end of the round.

The point winner within each pairing group at the end of the round receives 9 points for the team; 2nd place receives 7 points; 3rd place receives 5 points; 4th place receives 3 points; 5th place receives 1 point. Total point ties will be calculated with the same structure as a point total tie for each hole.

**GROUPS OF FOUR:** The format of each match for the groups of four is a 16-point game within each pairing group of four players. The possible combinations for points scored on each hole are:

FOUR TIED FOR HIGH SCORE	THREE TIED FOR HIGH SCORE	TWO TIED FOR HIGH SCORE	ONE HIGH SCORE
4-4-4-4	5-5-5-1	6-6-2-2	7-3-3-3
		6-6-3-1	7-4-4-1
			7-5-2-2
			7-5-3-1

These points are calculated after each hole and tallied for a point total at the end of the round.

The point winner within each pairing group at the end of the round receives 7 points for the team; 2nd place receives 5 points; 3rd place receives 3 points; 4th place receives 1 point. Total point ties will be calculated with the same structure as a point total tie for each hole.

**GROUPS OF THREE:** The format of each match for the groups of three is a 9-point game within each pairing group of three players. The possible combinations for points scored on each hole are:

THREE TIED FOR HIGH SCORE	TWO TIED FOR HIGH SCORE	ONE HIGH SCORE
3-3-3	4-4-1	5-2-2
		5-3-1

These points are calculated after each hole and tallied for a point total at the end of the round.

The point winner within each pairing group at the end of the round receives 5 points for the team; 2nd place receives 3 points; 3rd place receives 1 point. Total point ties will be calculated with the same structure as a point total tie for each hole.

**GROUP WINNERS:** Points are accumulated throughout the regular season matches. Group winners advance either to the Wild Card Playoff or directly to the Southern California Scratch League Playoff.

**TIEBREAKERS:** In case of a tie between **two teams** at the end of the final group match, the teams tied will select two players to play a sudden-death aggregate playoff immediately following the conclusion of play. Play will be in one group of four using the 16-point game format. After completion of the first playoff hole, the highest point total of both teammates will determine who moves on. If still tied, all players will continue on to an additional sudden-death playoff hole(s).

In case of a tie between **three teams** at the end of the final group match, the teams tied will select three players to play a sudden-death aggregate playoff immediately following the conclusion of play. Play will be in three groups of three using the 9-point game format. After completion of the first playoff hole, the highest point total of all three teammates will determine who moves on. If all teams are still tied after the first playoff hole, all players from those teams will continue on to an additional sudden-death playoff hole(s). If two teams are still tied after the first playoff hole (or additional playoff holes), the teams tied will select two players to play the next playoff hole(s) using the 16-point game format.

In case of a tie between **four teams** at the end of the final group match, the teams tied will select two players to play a sudden-death aggregate playoff immediately following the conclusion of play. Play will be in two groups of four using the 16-point game format. After completion of the first playoff hole, the highest point total of both teammates will determine who moves on. If all teams are still tied after the first playoff hole, all players from those teams will continue on to an additional sudden-death playoff hole(s). If three teams are still tied after the first playoff hole (or additional playoff holes), the teams tied will select three players to play the next playoff hole(s) in three groups using the 9-point game format. If two teams are still tied after the first playoff hole (or additional playoff holes), the teams tied will select two players to play the next playoff hole(s) using the 16-point game format.



## 5. COURSE USAGE POLICY AND HOME TEAM ARRANGEMENTS

Each club will host one match for their group. Matches may be played on any day of the week. All arrangements (including the potential of practice rounds) are to be made by the host club and communicated with the other teams in the group in advance of the season. It is the responsibility of the host club to determine whether a match should be canceled due to weather or other circumstances.

## 6. TEES AND YARDAGES

Matches are played from the tees decided by each home club. Female participants will play from one tee ahead of the men.

## 7. TEAM CAPTAIN DUTIES

Captains will be the point of contact for SCGA Staff and will be responsible submitting his/her team roster to SCGA staff in advance of each match. The SCGA will ensure the eligibility of each player and create the pairings in proper Handicap Index order within USGA Tournament Management powered by Golf Genius. In utilizing live-scoring via the USGA TM app, captains are also responsible for ensuring

that all submitted results are accurate. If a group elects not to use live-scoring, Captains are responsible for submitting all score cards to the SCGA immediately following each match.

## 8. PLAYOFFS

- The field for the Southern California Playoff will be restricted to 8 teams. Depending on the total number of Groups in SCGA Scratch League in 2018, the SCGA will conduct a Wild Card Playoff to determine the final team(s) that will advance to the Regional Playoff at Industry Hills. Priority for exemption from the Wild Card Playoff will be administered based upon group size and season-long point totals. The Southern California Wild Card Playoff will be held at Los Serranos CC (South) on November 9, 2018.
- A. 8 SCGA Scratch League group winners will participate in the Southern California Scratch League Playoff, which will be held on Friday, November 16, at Industry Hills Golf Club (Ike Course).
- B. The top two teams from the NCGA and SCGA Scratch League Playoffs will advance to the California Scratch League Championship on Thursday, December 6, at Monarch Dunes Golf Course.



## 9. RULES OF PLAY

Stroke play rules apply with the following exceptions:

- 1) When agreed upon in each group, players may concede putts as outlined within the parameters of D 33-6/3.
- 2) Absent players may join groups between the play of holes, taking the highest score possible for all holes that were not completed, as outlined within the parameters of D 31-2/1.

## 10. SPIRIT OF THE GAME

Unlike many sports, golf is played for the most part without the supervision of a referee. The game relies on the integrity of the individual to show consideration for other players and to abide by the Rules. All players should conduct themselves in a disciplined manner, demonstrating courtesy and sportsmanship at all times, irrespective of how competitive they may be. This is the spirit of the game of golf and SCGA-administered competitions.

## 11. DISPUTES

Groups are encouraged to resolve disputes and disagreements by consensus. If a dispute arises during a match, the team captains or professionals of the group are the Committee within the meaning of the Rules of Golf.

Any questions regarding the SCGA Scratch League may be submitted to the SCGA at [rules@scga.org](mailto:rules@scga.org).