



New Prague
GOLF CLUB

NPGC –Men’s Club 2022

**Handbook with History, Club Rules, Policies, Guidelines
& Weekend Event Descriptions**



**New Prague Golf Club
Men’s Club Handbook – 2022**

Now at New Prague Golf Club – A History of Perseverance

Written with the assistance of Harold Freeman – he has the most history!

The current edition of the NPGC Men's Club started back in the early 1980s at Edenvale Golf Course in Eden Prairie. Our "Vision" then was to form a Men's Club with players of differing skills who could compete in various events throughout the golf season and socialize.

We looked at the club as a great way to get to know one another and to develop camaraderie within the club. Eventually, a Men's Club membership fee was established to simplify player entry and to provide for payout of event/tournament prizes.

When Edenvale transitioned into a private course (now Bent Creek), many of the Men's Club members moved to Deer Run Golf Club in Victoria. In 1992, the Deer Run club pro asked several former Edenvale Men's Club players to form a Men's Golf Club. As a result, the Deer Run Men's Golf Club was formed and began operations that year.

First year Men's Club membership, at Deer Run, was a surprising 156 members. With a great concept and active membership, the popularity of the Club grew. After several years, the club numbered over 425 members at its peak. Unfortunately, the sheer size of the Men's Club was viewed as a negative by the Deer Run management. They asked the club to relocate, which caused the Club to disband in the fall of 2003.

In late 2003, several Men's Club members, who had been very involved at both Edenvale and Deer Run, approached the Valley View Golf Club management with the idea of starting a new Men's Club at their facility in Belle Plaine. This offer was enthusiastically received, and a new version of the Men's Club was formed with the help of the Club Pro and the golf course staff. As of 2013, we numbered 68 members.

Alas, changes were made at Valley View, causing the Men's Club membership to determine that we needed to look for a new "home" course. Our search brought us to the New Prague Golf Club in 2014, and the start of a new opportunity to thrive. The Management of NPGC welcomed us with great enthusiasm, and we continue to work with them to provide a great golf experience for all our members. We want to grow the club more in 2021. Our NPGC Men's Club gladly welcomes the current members of NPGC to join our men's club and enjoy the competition and good times we will experience together.

In the 30+ years that the Men's Club has been organized, we have strived to continue fostering and building on this "Vision": promoting a love and respect for the game of golf; playing in competitive golf events with our friends and family; and encouraging our members to socialize and support one another in golf and in life.

The NPGC Men's Club Board of Directors asks for your assistance in growing the membership of the Men's Club. Our members are encouraged to invite a friend or family member to join the club. The more members we have, the more we can spread the enjoyment of playing cordial and competitive golf. So, please bring a friend or family member to try us out and help make the NPGC Men's Club the best golf experience in Minnesota.

We look forward to a Great 2022 Season of Golf at the New Prague Golf Club and with our Men's Club members! Thank you for all of your valuable and continuing support!

"It is, nevertheless, a game of considerable passion, either of the explosive type, or that which burns inwardly and sears the soul."
-- Bobby Jones

NPGC Men's Club Code of Conduct

The goal of the NPGC Men's Club is to make our events continue to be enjoyable experience for all participants. Accordingly, we ask that event participants show respect for their fellow players. Coaching, unless requested, should be avoided. Keep in mind that every player is trying his best to help the team.

Slow play is not fun for any golfer. We believe that everyone should try to complete their round in 4 hours 15 minutes or less. Some helpful tips:

If your group is falling behind – gently encourage everyone to speed up their pace of play.

If you think your ball may be lost or out of bounds – play a provisional from the point of the original shot so you don't have to go back and re-hit.

Line up your putts while others are doing the same – putt when ready please.

Mark scores on the next tee box – not on the green.

Conduct Review Team

The NPGC Men's Club is dedicated to creating a positive and collegial golfing environment for all its members. When someone's conduct detracts from or affects that positive environment, that member may be warned, disciplined, or asked to leave the club.

A three-member Conduct Review team comprised of members of the NPGC Men's Club Board of Directors will make all decisions concerning the consequences of questionable conduct of individual members, as well as any resulting disciplinary actions. These rules are to protect all members of the NPGC Men's Club and to ensure the continued enjoyment for every golfer in the "Club".

Conduct that may lead to action on the part of the Conduct Review team includes but is not limited to:

- Excessive use of offensive language, such that it makes other members uncomfortable and compromises the enjoyment of an event.
- Repetitive club throwing or other equipment issues that not only demonstrate poor sportsmanship but pose a risk to playing partners.
- Loud and excessive talking while other partners are engaged in the act of play.
- Disregard for good sportsmanship and rules of the game that compromise the enjoyment of a member's playing partners.
- Rude and belligerent behavior.

Any member who feels that a playing partner is compromising the enjoyment of an event for the reasons above, or for any other incident or circumstance, may speak to a board member about his concerns.

The Conduct Review team will be brought in when necessary to review the incident(s) or behavior and will work out a solution beneficial to all members and the NPGC Men's Club.

Handicap Review Committee – Continuing in 2022. This committee will be reviewing scores posting and handicap recording to make sure everyone is playing to their correct handicap.

"The NPGC Men's Golf Club has helped me become a better golfer and better teammate, someone who respects the opponent and the game more."
-- A valued member

New Prague Men's Club Guidelines for Participation

Weekend Event Registration - Important

Each participant **must register for the event no later than 5 PM the Tuesday/Wednesday prior to the event or date noted on the event signup sheet. Sometimes plans change and we understand this.** Signup sheets will be posted in the Pro Shop several weeks prior to each event. This will insure proper registration and timely formation of groups and tee times. An alternate player sheet will also be posted (if applicable) when the regular signup sheets are taken down. Should you register for an event and then need to withdraw, you must notify the **Golf Shop at least 24 hours** prior to the event **if at all possible**. Failure to do so may result in a suspension from Men's Club events according to the following schedule:

- Your first "**No Show**" may result in suspension from the **next event**.
- Your second "**No Show**" may result in suspension from the **next two events**.
- Your third "**No Show**" may result in a suspension from participating in the **remainder of the Men's Club 2022 events golf season**.
 - If you sign up for an event, you should attempt to participate in and complete the event.
 - If you must leave in the middle of an event, your score to that point will be counted, if applicable. Your team will need to continue shorthanded.

World Handicap System Rules

To maintain a valid World System handicap and be able to play in Men's Club and MGA events, you must comply with the following:

- 1) Accurately post all 9-hole rounds – home and away scores.
- 2) Accurately post all 18-hole rounds – home and away scores.

** Failure to follow the established handicap recording rules may result in a handicap adjustment or suspension of play from Men's Club events.

Non-Conforming Golf Equipment

It is illegal to use any golf equipment, clubs or balls not approved by the USGA in any Men's Club event. Range finders are allowed. Range finders that also measure slope are prohibited. Violator's will be disqualified from the event. Repeat violations may result in disqualification from all future events.

NPGC Men's Club Rules and Directives

- **Putt everything out** – NO *GIMMIES*. (Unless specified in the event rules)
- **Summer rules** apply unless notified the day of an event.
- **Repair all ball marks and replace or repair divots. This is important.** Our course will appreciate it.
- **Obey the Freeman / Mead Rule** – Please wait until everyone in your group has hit their tee shots or fairway shots. Do not climb in your cart and race off forgetting your cart partner. Also, please show courtesy by not racing to the green 100+ yards ahead of your group.
- **Show courtesy to those who choose to walk.** Remember that NPGC is not a cart-only golf course. Players have every right to walk their rounds. Walkers have the same rights as those who ride in golf carts. *Please remember that walkers do not cause slow play – slow golfers cause slow play.*
- Regarding inclement weather – we know we run into cold or wet weather. Determination regarding play of an event will be made as soon as possible the morning of the event. (Rain Drop Ricky rule in play).

2022 Men's Club Events Schedule

Juggernaut Scramble (Saturday 4/30)

This is a 4-person Team Event in an ABCD scramble format. The first 6 holes the A & B players and the C & D players play a 2-man scramble. Their scores are totaled together. The next 6 holes, the A & C players and the B & D players play a scramble, and the scores are totaled. The last 6 holes, the A & D players and the B & C players play the scramble format and the scores are totaled.

All scores are then added for the total of the team over 18 holes.

Blind 3 of 4 Net Event (Saturday 5/7)

NEW - A, B, C & D Players play together in separate groups. Blind Draws from each group of players to determine teams and scores to be added up after play concludes.

A 4-person team event with individual handicaps. Each member plays his own ball from tee to green. All 4 scores will be recorded but only 3 of 4 net scores will be used for scoring.

**If/ Only Event (Saturday 5/21)

This will be an Individual Event, with handicaps. After playing 18 Holes, you will throw out your two highest scores to arrive at a 16 hole total score. This event will be flighted – 3 to 4 flights. "A" Flight Players to play from the Blue Tees.

**Scramble-Descramble 2 Person (Saturday 6/04)

Similar to a scramble however, the **WORST TEE SHOT** has to be selected to play from on each hole. Before you leave the tee, on each hole, the other team has to pick the ball your team plays the rest of the scramble from. Then it is a standard scramble from there.

**The Lee Cup - Two Day Team Event (Saturday 6/11 & Sunday 6/12)

Our 2nd most popular event. Team Golf Event. The NPGC version of the Ryder Cup Event is made up of four 9-hole events, two events are played on Saturday afternoon and two events are played on Sunday morning. Each foursome will be made up of two partners from opposing teams, by handicap, so no handicap is used. Each event will be an individual or pairs game between opposing players or partners. On Day Two, foursomes will be rearranged for that day's play.

This is match play tournament, so "gimmies" are expected as a sign of good sportsmanship and will help with speed of play. The Lee Cup is routinely rated the most fun event of the year. (we will hope there is no rain like 2014 – luckily no one was lost in the deluge)

Saturday Format (shotgun start at approximately 8AM with a catered lunch to follow)

Best-ball (9 holes)

Scramble (9 holes) same playing partners (cont'd)

Sunday Format

Alternate Shot (9 holes)

Singles (9 holes)

At the completion of play, stay and have fun socializing and rooting for your team as they finish play on Hole 18! Then let's all gather at the 19th hole and toast our good play, good health and good fortunes being able to have 2 days of fun playing golf.

Chicago Points - ABCD Event (Saturday. 6/26)

This is a 4 person ABCD event. Points are earned for the NET scores each player scores on each hole. Points accrued are added up to determine order of finish.

During the round, golfers earn positive points on this basis:

- Bogeys are worth one point
 - Pars are worth two points
 - Birdies are worth four points
 - Eagles are worth eight points
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**** "O S%%% Sorry"- 2 Man No Scotch Format (Sunday 7/24)**

This is a 2 Man Team scramble format. The teams will be flighted. 3-4 flights.

The 2 team members hit a drive. They then switch balls to play their second strokes (each hitting the other players drive). They then select the best position that resulted from each of the second shots. Beginning with the 3rd stroke, they play a scramble format to the hole from that spot.

****The Championship Warmup Event (Saturday 8/6)**

This is an Individual stroke-play event within flights. 3-4 flights will be formed. "A" Players to play from the Blue Tees. All other play is from the white tees (and gold tees for QUALIFYING players) with difficult pin positions. This event is planned as a good test for all players and serves as a warm-up to the NPGC Club Championship Tournament 1 week later.

****2-3-4 ABCD Event (Sunday 8/28)**

This is a 4 person ABCD event where scores count as follows:

Par 3 holes - 4 scores count:

Par 4 holes - 3 scores count:

Par 5 holes - 2 scores count

Handicaps will be used for the ABCD individual players. This is a fun version of the original "shipwreck" event.

Shipwreck (Saturday 9/10)

This is a 4 player ABCD event. Teams will be made by the Golf Shop. Holes **#1-6** are played with 2 Net scores being recorded. Holes **#7-12** are played with 3 Net scores recorded. Holes **#13-18** are played 4 Net scores being recorded.

****The Memorial Derby (Saturday 9/24)**

We play this event while remembering the family and friend members who are no longer with us to enjoy our great game together.

This is a 27-hole, 3-man team event.

The morning 18 holes will be played in a traditional scramble format. At the end of play, depending on the number of players in the field, a cut will be established to include the low 10 teams. If necessary, a chip off, to determine participating teams for PM Derby play, will be at the 18th hole.

After a tasty catered lunch, the 10 teams making the “cut” begin the Derby at about 1:30 PM. The Derby consists of 9 holes played in an alternate shot format starting on hole #10. Each team declares a hitting rotation prior to the first tee shot. That rotation remains constant throughout play in the afternoon Derby.

The team with the highest score on each hole is eliminated from the event. If two or more teams tie with the highest score, those teams play a chip-off to determine which team is eliminated. For the chip-off, each team designates one member to chip or putt against the other team’s member(s). The individual whose ball is farthest from the hole, is eliminated along with his team. The last team “standing”, after completing the 9 holes, is the Derby Winner. If there is a tie score at the last hole, a sudden-death playoff will take place. The 18th hole will be played again to determine the winner.

Some Basic Guidelines on the Rules of Golf

On the tee, in the fairway, and in the rough:

- 1). A player can only carry fourteen (14) or fewer clubs, including your putter.
- 2). Announce your golf ball’s brand name and number before you tee off. It is a good idea to mark your golf ball, so it won’t be confused with another golfer’s ball.
- 3). Tee off between the tee markers and up to two (2) club-lengths behind them. (Never in front of the tee marker as that is subject to a stroke penalty.) Note: a golf ball knocked off the tee while you are preparing to swing is not a penalty.

Play the Ball as it Lies (Except)

- 1) If your ball is **lost** outside a water penalty area or **out of bounds**, you must play another ball from the spot where the last shot was played, under penalty of one stroke, i.e. stroke and distance. You are allowed 5 minutes to search for a ball, after which, if it is not found or identified, it is **lost**.
- 2) If, after playing a shot, you think your ball may be lost outside a water penalty area or out of bounds you should play a provisional ball. You must state that it is a “provisional” ball and play it before you go forward to search for the original ball. If it happens that the original ball is lost or out of bounds, you must continue with the provisional ball, under penalty of one stroke. If the original ball is not lost or out of bounds, you must continue play of the hole with it and the provisional ball must be abandoned.

2) If your ball is in a **water penalty area** follow these rules:

- Ball in a DIRECT water penalty area (marked by yellow stakes)

(a) Play the ball as it lies or, under penalty of one stroke, (b) drop any distance behind the water hazard keeping a straight line between the hole, the point where the ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard and spot on which the ball is dropped, or (c) play again from where you hit the ball into the penalty area.

- Ball in LATERAL water penalty area (marked by red stakes)

In addition to the options for a ball in the direct water penalty area (see above), under penalty of one stroke, you may drop within two club-lengths of (a) the point where the ball last crossed the margin of the penalty area, or (b) a point on the opposite side of the penalty area, at an equal distance from the hole.

Note: When hitting into either type of water penalty area, it is NOT permissible to play a provisional ball. If you do, it will be considered your ball in play.

3) If your ball is in **temporary water** (any temporary accumulation of water on the course that is not in a water hazard and is visible before or after you take your stance), **ground under repair** or **a hole or cast made by a burrowing animal**, you may drop without penalty within one club-length of the nearest point of relief not nearer the hole.

4) If you believe your ball has an **unplayable lie** outside a water penalty area (you are the sole judge), you may under penalty of one stroke (a) drop within two club-lengths of where the ball lies not nearer the hole, (b) drop any distance behind the point where the ball lies keeping a straight line between the hole, the point where the ball lies and the spot on which the ball is dropped, or (c) replay the shot. If your ball is in a bunker you may proceed under (a), (b) or (c). However, if you elect to proceed under (a) or (b) you must drop in the bunker.

On The Green.

1) If any part of the ball touches the green, it is considered “on the green.”

2) You can now repair ball marks and old hole marks as well as spike marks. You can putt with the pin in the hole

3) Mark your ball with a coin or marker **before** moving it and clean it if necessary. If your marker obstructs the putting line of another player, it is common etiquette to move it out of the way. If you forget to put it back in the original spot, it is a **one-stroke penalty**.

4) You may remove loose impediments such as leaves, sand, or loose earth by picking them up or brushing them aside with your club or hand, without pressing anything down, from your line of putt to the hole.

5) Do not brush the green in any way to test the direction of the grain. Also, never wipe your ball on the green, which is a **one-stroke penalty**.

When In Doubt

When you are in an unfamiliar situation and do not know the proper ruling, take the most conservative interpretation of the rules and play within the spirit of the game. You always have the option of playing a second ball and seeking an opinion when returning to the clubhouse and consulting with the event committee or the Golf Professional. The “USGA Rules of Golf” book is a good reference. Carry a copy in your bag.

Rules regarding the “play” in events:

- All Men’s Club events are to be played under the Rules of Golf established by the USGA unless noted deviations are allowed for a specific event. (such as the Scramble, Derby, Shamble etc where a ball can be placed for play or fall leaves come into play – an exception can be made before the start of play for certain events.) If any doubts on the rules of play that day, ask a question.
- Gold Tee Rule: Upon reaching the age of 70 **and** if the player also has an **WHS handicap index of at least 18.0** or above the day of the event – they are permitted to play from the Gold Tee **in certain** Men’s Club events. The player is in charge of tracking his WHS index, for this option, in **each** event.
- If during an event, there is a rule of golf question or violation, noted by players playing in the event, or in the groups playing in that event, the violation should be brought to light and discussed within the playing group.

If no resolution to the violation can be made in the group, then the golf course Pro Shop Senior official should be consulted for a ruling determination/penalty to be applied. This rule was made so all players, in each Men’s Club event, are competing on an even and uniform basis – everyone follows the same rules of golf for each event.



New Prague Men’s Club – Board of Directors and Auxiliary Positions for 2021

President: Doug Snyder

Vice President: Steve Wortman

Treasurer: Pat Ollhoff

Past President: Steve Stromberg

Directors at Large:

Scott Sides, Wayne Koepf

Chris Stier, TJ Wallin

Handicap Committee: Bob Dilly and Chris Stier

New Prague Golf Club Representative: Kurt Ruehling, GM/PGA Professional

Tournament Director: Steve Smith

“The greatest thing about tomorrow is, I will be better than I am today. And that’s how I look at my life. I will be a better golfer, I will be a better person, I will be a better father, I will be a better husband, I will be a better friend. That’s the beauty of tomorrow.” – *Tiger Woods*

“True sportsmanship is excellence in motion!” – *Lorú Myers*

“Golf is a puzzle without an answer. I’ve played the game for 50 years and I still haven’t the slightest idea of how to play.” – *Gary Player*

“As you walk down the fairway of life, you must stop to smell the roses, for you only get to play one round.” – *Ben Hogan*

