



—THE— SAWGA NEWS

05 April 2026

The President's Page

Spring has arrived with a vengeance. Though it's more like it is masquerading as summer. So don't forget to wear your sunscreen!

I would like to congratulate our two most recent hole-in-one getters. Kirsten Houliston jarred hers on Tamaya and Kathy Colley shocked a work crew at New Mexico Tech. I would also like to thank them both for not getting them in a SAWGA tournament. The pot continues, so keep trying everyone.

We have two members who have left us for greener pastures. The aforementioned Kirsten Houliston is moving to Arizona but promises to play with us when she comes to visit her mother. Longtime member Robin Ferris has spent a few years going back and forth between here and New York. Her stay in NM this year was cut short because her landlord needed to move into the house they were renting. She promises to be back in early 2027. She played her last round here on March 24th and shot 86. This was her best round in a long while and guarantees she will return. Safe travels to both, they will be missed.

I would like to encourage everyone to download the USGA Rules of Golf App. It is free so there are no excuses. Not only should you have the rules handy on your phone, but there are also daily rules questions and rules quizzes. You would be amazed at how much you learn. Mikey tried it and he liked it.

There is a lot of golf going on in April. Come out and enjoy!!

—The— SAWGA NEWS



Community Corner

The Good, The Bad & The Wowzah

(aka “Why tournaments fill up faster than your group chat”)

Good news: our tournaments are *hot*. Bad news: they’re filling up faster than a Saturday morning tee sheet. Wowzah: some of you are basically speed-registering Olympians.

Here’s the behind-the-scenes scoop (minus the boring parts): Every November, we sit down with Pat Murphy and play detective with last year’s stats—how many played, canceled, waitlisted, begged for extra spots, etc. That all determines how many players and tee times are reserved for the upcoming season.

How sign-ups actually work (example: April 6 event):

- ❖ Invite goes out: March 16 (three weeks prior)
- ❖ Registration deadline: March 30 (one week prior)
- ❖ Two weeks prior, the rest of the world can make tee times, and this affects our ability to add times to our tournaments.

Now the fun part...

For April 6, we hit max capacity in **3 days**. Three. Days. (You all need hobbies... oh wait, *this is the hobby*.) But, because you signed up so quickly (thank you), we were able to call the Pro Shop early and grab extra tee times. The earlier we do that, the better—once the two-week booking window opens, it’s basically the Hunger Games out there.

While we are on this topic, the team events fill up REALLY fast. So please take the time to look at the event calendar on SAWGA portal and note upcoming events that you want to play in. If it is a team event, *get your partner lined up early* so ONE of you can register BOTH of you. Signing up both team members at the same time will ensure you can both get in.

Waitlist = Not the End of the World

If you land on the waitlist, don’t panic. It actually helps us (and you):

- ❖ Gauge demand
- ❖ Justify asking for more spots
- ❖ Avoid hoarding extra tee times we don’t need (if we have too many, we release them back right after the registration deadline)

The takeaway:

Your speedy sign-ups = more chances for everyone to play because it is our red alert to request more tee times (fast!).

Your procrastination = staring at the waitlist. But again, don’t panic. Leave your name on the waitlist so you are ‘in line’ to get a spot. So, if you want in click that registration button. If you get a message that you are on the waitlist, sit tight. Things change quickly as we call in for those additional spots, or people cancel.

—The— SAWGA NEWS



Your Season, Simplified: The SAWGA 2026 Portal Guide

We want to make sure every member gets the most out of our association this year! Our SAWGA Member Portal is your "all-access pass" to everything happening on the course. If you've already confirmed your registration, you have everything you need to dive in! If you haven't received an invitation to register or need help with your login, please email us at LadySAWGA@gmail.com.

What's Waiting for You Inside?

The portal is designed to be your personal command center. Here's what you can do with just a few clicks:

- ❖ **Plan & Sign Up:** View the full calendar of tournament events and see exactly which ones are currently open for signups.
- ❖ **Ditch the Doubt:** Never wonder, "Did I actually sign up for that?" again. You can verify or change your playing status instantly.
- ❖ **Know Your Crew:** Check your tee times and pairings as soon as the tee sheet is available.
- ❖ **Get Social:** Want to coordinate outfits, bring cookies, or carpool? Open the tee sheet or roster to find names and phone numbers for your playing partners.
- ❖ **Manage Your Schedule:** If your plans change, you can cancel your registration directly on the portal (as long as it's before the registration deadline). After the deadline, please contact the tournament committee or ladysawga@gmail.com.
- ❖ **Follow the Leaderboard:** View tournament results as soon as they are finalized and official.

How to Log In:

Accessing the portal is easy! Use these steps to get connected:

- ❖ **Visit the Portal:** Enter sawga2026portal.golfgenius.com in your address bar.
- ❖ **Enter Your Credentials:** Use the email address and the permanent password you created when you confirmed your registration.
- ❖ **Stay Signed In:** Check the "Remember Me" box so you don't have to re-enter your info every time you want to check a tee time.
- ❖ **Forgot Your Password?** Simply click the "Forgot your password?" link on the sign-in page to receive a reset email.

SAWGA in Your Pocket

For an on-the-go experience, download the Golf Genius App from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. Log in once with your portal credentials, and you'll have tournament signups and leaderboards right in your pocket all season long!

Login today to get started! Having your portal updated ensures you won't miss a single tee time.

—The— SAWGA NEWS



Individual Stroke Play Results from March 21st

The March individual stroke play was a success! We used the electronic leaderboards, and we hope that you liked them!

Here are the results of the tournament. Nice playing ladies!

Flight 1

1st-Low Gross	Monica Baca
1st-Low Net	Marylou Anderson
2nd-Low Gross	Monique Jeneski
2nd-Low Net	Renae Baca

Flight 2

1st-Low Gross	Mimi Neamen
1st-Low Net	Kahty Janke
2nd-Low Gross	Annie Martin
2nd-Low Net	Jane Childs

Flight 3

1st-Low Gross	Mary Archuleta
1st-Low Net	Karen Blatt
2nd-Low Gross	Gloria Montoya
2nd-Low Net	Melissa Franklin

Flight 4

1st-Low Gross	Mia Toya
1st-Low Net	Annette Turrietta
2nd-Low Gross	Wanda Giles
2nd-Low Net	Tammy Lane

Closest to the Pin

Tamaya #4	Mary Archuleta
Tamaya #6	Madeline Jeneski
Star #4	Becky Luco
Star #8	Mimi Neamen
Cheena #3	Monique Jeneski
Cheena #5	Susan Daniels

—The— SAWGA NEWS



Two-Person Las Vegas Scramble Results from March 11th

The two-person Las Vegas scramble was a great day of golf with beautiful weather! Congrats to the winners, thanks for coming out and spending the day on the course.

Flight 1

1st Place Team	Debbie Saunders & Donna Post
2nd Place Team	Tracy Atkinson & Lenore Hennie
3rd Place Team	Janet Vrudny & Susan Daniels

Closest to the Pin

Tamaya #4	Annette Turrietta
Tamaya #6	Susan Lane
Star #4	Mimi Neamen
Star #8	Chris Tauscher

Flight 2

1st Place Team	Cathy Dahlstedt & Annette Turrietta
2nd Place Team	Susan Lane & Janet St. John
3rd Place Team	Kathy Thomas & Mary Morse

FORE!!! The Shamble is back!

April is jam-packed with SAWGA events! There are 5 events happening, and we don't want you to miss out! The highly anticipated shamble mixer with the men's league is back! If you want to play, register by April 11th by sending an email to the following people saying that you will be playing from the gold tees:

- ❖ Skip Haines: skiphaines@comcast.net
- ❖ Mark Vitael: vitalemp555@gmail.com
- ❖ Paul Hatin: paulhatin@yahoo.com
- ❖ Grace Cummins: Cumminsgra@aol.com

Don't miss this!! It is one of the most fun events of the year. The \$25 entry fee should be placed in the Men's box on the day of the tournament. If you're lucky, you might be able to be in the classic Laura Summers selfie!



—The— SAWGA NEWS



Rules We Live By: Local Rules

We are contemplating holding several rules sessions. If you are interested in participating, please email us at ladysawga@gmail.com and let us know so we can gauge level of interest. It would also be good to know if you have any specific rules you would like to cover in the clinics. Dates to be announced soon.

I would like to take a moment to recognize the passing of Donna Sauve. Donna was a long-time rules official for Sun Country and she was the best. She encouraged MaryAnn Stensrud and Sharon Newell to join the ranks of officials, she mentored them and they became friends for life. Donna never flaunted her knowledge when playing with us, but she was always available for questions and advice. She was playing in a tournament once when she needed to hit a provisional ball. Her cart and cart partner were way across the fairway and she needed a ball. She went up to a marshal and asked to “borrow” a ball. I never knew you could do that. Donna did.

Donna would have wanted all of us to understand whose rules we play by. There are USGA, PGA, LPGA and local rules. Probably other obscure ones not worth discussing. **WE PLAY BY USGA RULES, BUT ALSO USE OUR OWN LOCAL RULES.**

I tell you this because the PGA came out this year with some new rules for their players that we don't use. They measure drops using their scorecards, not club lengths. They allow free relief from divots in the fairway if they have not been repaired. That one would be tempting to use but don't do it.

I learned something new this month. I always thought you couldn't stand in someone's line as they are putting. Turns out if you are putting, neither your team partner nor your caddy can stand in your line. However, your opponent may do so. It is totally rude, but legal. (Don't be that person. Also, don't be a club thrower. Swear only when necessary.)

—The— SAWGA NEWS



Ask Betty Birdie

Dear Betty Birdie,

The morning of the last tournament, I woke up a tad tired from drinking and axe throwing at my favorite saloon the night before. So, I decided to call the Pro Shop, tell them I wasn't going to make it, and roll over so I could sleep until noon. Was I wrong? Did anyone care? Were people mad at me? Did it make a difference in the tournament setup? Can I get my money back? Please let me know.

Sincerely, Sleepy Sally

Dear Sleepy,

In no particular order, the answers to your questions are Yes and No,

While setting up and running our tournaments may seem easy and seamless, that is not the case. There is a lot of work that goes into each phase of the tournament and cancellations wreak havoc with the end product. Pairings, times, flights, teams and payouts are all affected by cancellations. Not to mention hair pulling by the Committee. That is why we set a cancellation deadline for each tournament. It is also why you do not get your money back if you cancel after the deadline and why we insist you make payment if you hadn't already done so. (The payouts are set by the number of participants that are signed up.)

We understand that there are legitimate reasons why sometimes ladies must cancel. We are not monsters! We are actually providing you with a quiz so you can determine what is a legit reason. Spoiler alert--- there is only one correct answer, and they made a Christmas song about it.

Is it OK to cancel if----

1. I'm hungover
2. My golf game sucks
3. It's too cold, hot, cloudy, windy, rainy
4. Grandma got run over by a reindeer
5. My friend cancelled so I am too
6. I'm just not "feeling it"

So Sleepy, take a good hard look before you cancel. Suck it up if you have to.

-Betty Birdie

—The— SAWGA NEWS



19th Hole

- ❖ The Rules We Live by Column will explain a rule every month. If you wish to see a certain rule discussed, email it to us! Please know that we are not using official USGA language in our explanations.
- ❖ Need Betty's advice? Submit questions to LadySAWGA@gmail.com
- ❖ Upcoming events for April
 - Monday 4/6: 2-Person Best Ball
 - Saturday and Sunday 4/11-4/12: Eclectic
 - Wednesday 4/15: Lady Niners
 - Saturday 4/18: Mixer – SAGA/SAWGA
 - Wednesday 4/29: Lady Niners

Happy golfing!

-SAWGA Board