

# **2010 TOUR MANUAL**

## **NORTHEAST GEORGIA TOUR**



**TOUR CONTACT**

**JIMMY TURNER**

**(864) 425-2175**

**[JTURNER@AMATEURGOLFTOUR.NET](mailto:JTURNER@AMATEURGOLFTOUR.NET)**

## Tour Policies

### Tour Membership

Membership to the Egolf Amateur Tour is open to all amateur golfers.

### Membership Fees

The cost of an annual membership in the Egolf Amateur Tour is \$70.00. EAT Member benefits include, but is not limited to, a logo'd hat, bag tag, divot tool, ball marker and tees. Membership gives you the ability to play in any Tour Event across the country.

### Assumption of Risk and Release From Liability

By signing or electronically submitting a member application and entering and playing in a Egolf Amateur Tour Event, the participant understands and agrees that there are certain dangers involved with the participation in a golf event, including but not limited to being struck by lightning, getting hit by a golf club, suffering from heat exhaustion, heart attack or injury from uneven terrain, all of which the participant assumes and solely accepts, and waives all claims of injury to body or property against Upstate Golf Services, the Egolf Amateur Tour and/or the local Tour Director. Furthermore, the participant agrees that while on the premises of a Amateur Golf Tour Event ("Event"), as well as all other presenting sponsors, co-sponsors and representatives affiliated with the tournament, the participant, and any guest, relative or anyone else affiliated with participant, shall be present at their own risk and that Upstate Golf Services, the Egolf Amateur Tour and/or the local Tour Director shall not be liable for any claims for injuries or damages whatsoever to person or property of the participant or related person arising out of or in connection with the participation in the Event or presence at the Event. Participant agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Upstate Golf Services, the Egolf Amateur Tour and/or the local Tour Director from all claims by or liability to participant or affiliated person.

### Tournament Registrations

Only Tour members, guests of members and guests of Egolf Amateur Tour officials may participate in Egolf Amateur Tour events. **All entries must be received prior to the entry deadline. The entry deadline is Wednesdays before the selected tournament. All entries after Wednesday will be charged a \$10 late fee. The \$10 late fee will be donated to the Stand Up For Cancer Charity.** Players can register for a respective event by emailing, by calling the local Tour Director or by registering on the tour website. Events may have a limitation on the number of entries, and therefore will be filled on a first-come first-serve basis. If the event is full and guests are signed up for that event, and a member wants to play we will contact that guest to let him know he is being bumped for a member. As a member of the Tour, players can participate in any Egolf Amateur Tour event in the US. All Tour schedules are available on the Tour Web site.

### Guest Policy

**Guests of members are always welcome to play in any Egolf Amateur Tour tournament except for the majors or post-season events. A limited number of tee times may reduce or exclude play by guests at certain events. Members should provide the Tournament Director with as much notice as possible if a guest is being invited. Every effort will be made to accommodate a guest wherever possible. There will be a \$10 guest fee that will be put towards their membership if they decide to join. Players can only play as a guest in one tournament. After that they will be required to pay a membership fee to play. Guests are also subject to a battlefield promotion (if a guest shoots way better than the flight's handicap range-they could be moved up a flight at the tournament). This helps protect the tournament field.**

Scores will be posted for all guests for informational purposes only. Guests will be eligible for gift certificates, closest-to-the-pin or skins games. Guests will be awarded points but will not be added to point standings.

### Tournament Entry Fees

All tournament entry fees include green and cart fees, range balls and the prize pool. Payments can be submitted in cash, money order or check. **Credit card payments are accepted on the website only! We cannot do credit cards at the tournaments.** Any returned check will be charged a \$25 handling fee.

### Tee Times

Tee times will be posted on the website on Tuesday and Thursday nights. Pairings are subject to change anytime prior to the event.

### Tournament Check In

All tour players must personally check in at least 15 minutes prior to the assigned tee times and be at the starting point at least 5 minutes prior to the assigned tee time. Failure to do so may result in a player forfeiting his tee time and entry fee.

### **No Show Policy**

All players that sign up to play in an event are required to show up at that event. The player will be responsible for paying the entry fee if he does not show up for the event. If the player has not prepaid his fee then he will not be allowed to play on tour until he pays the entry fee for the event he missed. We understand that some things happen and we will review these on a case by case basis. We will be using the following chart as a guide to determine how much a player will owe if he misses an event he signed up for.

- **A player will receive a full refund if they contact the Tour Director no later than the Wednesday before the scheduled tournament.**
- **A player will receive half of their entry fee if they contact the Tour Director no later than the Thursday before the scheduled tournament.**
- **A player will receive no refund if they contact the Tour Director on the day of the tournament.**

### **Tournament Format**

All of the events on the EAT will be stroke play, gross competition within the assigned flight. Tour play will be governed by the current Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association (USGA), and modified by the Rules and Information Board at the check in table.

### **Golf Carts, Range Balls, Caddies and Spectators**

All Egolf Amateur Tour event fees will include the use of golf cart and range balls only if the course has a range. Players must follow cart rules established by the golf course and make arrangements directly with the course if an additional cart is required or desired for spectators, based on availability. All spectators are required to ride in a separate cart than the player. **The tour does not allow caddies.**

### **Tournament Play (Rules)**

All play will be governed by the current Rules of Golf as set forth by the USGA. We will have a Rules Board located at the sign-in table that will explain the rules for the tournament. **The one-ball rule will not be in effect during play and there will be a triple bogey limit. The Embedded ball rule is in effect at all our events.** If there is any confusion of a particular ruling during play, and a Tour Official is not accessible, the player is to enter a second ball into play. The player then plays both balls throughout the hole, keeping separate scores and then brings the situation to the Tour Director at the end of the round for a ruling.

### **Dress Code and Player Conduct**

The Egolf Amateur Tour will strictly enforce a tournament dress code with no exceptions. Collared shirts are required (Short Sleeve Mocks are considered Collared Shirts), and no jeans, denims, jogging outfits, or sweat pants are permitted. Shorts may be worn. **The Egolf Amateur Tour will not tolerate swearing, vulgar language, club throwing, alcohol abuse, lack of golfing etiquette, or other such behavior. Such conduct may result in tournament disqualification and suspension or expulsion from the Tour.**

### **Prizes**

A portion of each player's entry fee is used to generate each flight prize pool. The prize certificates value at each event will be established prior to such event based on participation. The prize pool may vary slightly the day of the event due to late entries or withdrawals. In order to abide by the guidelines for amateur status put forth by the USGA, no single prize awarded will exceed \$750 in value.

### **Skins & Close To The Pin Side Games**

At each Tour event, there will be an "optional" Skins game and Close To the Pin pot to be entered **in by cash payment only**. Skins competition may vary from Tour to Tour but is generally gross within each flight and/or 'giant' skins across a combination of flights. **If there are 50 or less players in a tournament, Champ, "A" & "B" will be in one pot for skins and "C" & "D" will be in another pot.** Close to the Pin pots are also within each flight. Once all scorecards are in, skin winners will be determined and payouts dispersed according to the local Tour policy. If no skins are awarded for a particular flight, the pool will roll over to the next event. The skins game is optional and thereby does not conflict with amateur status rules.

### **Scorecards**

Each golfer is responsible for the correctness of his/her scorecard even though a fellow competitor will be marking the scores on each hole. Each scorecard must be signed by the marker and attested by the player. In attesting the scorecard, the player is stating that the score for each individual hole during the round is correct. Players are not responsible for the calculation of the total round score.

### Inclement Weather

The delaying or canceling of an event due to inclement weather will be determined by the host facility. In the event of a cancellation the Tour will try and re-schedule the event date within the seasonal timeframe. Any partial cancellation refunds or credits will be determined based on the policies of the host facility where players may then apply the credit towards a future scheduled event or request a full refund to be received by mail. If the course becomes unplayable during the play of a single day, two-day or Tour Championship event, the event may be shortened to a nine-hole (single day), 18 to 27-hole (two-day), or 72 to 63-hole tournament if a flight has completed nine holes. In most cases, cash refunds are unavailable due to course policies. **Please count on the tournament being held. If the tournament is played and you do not show, you will forfeit your entry fee.**

### Pace of Play

We will use a (17) minute scorecard rule to enforce slow play penalties. Your group has (17) minutes from the time the group in front of you turned their scorecard in to turn in your scorecard. If you are not able to do this then a (1) stroke penalty will be assessed to each player in the group. Please check the rules on the day of the tournament because Pace of Play rules will change based on type of start at the tournament.

Should a group have trouble maintaining an acceptable pace of play, the following procedure will be followed: 1) Group shall play ready golf, foregoing honors. 2) Group shall use continuous putting while on the green. 3) Each player shall hole out prior to the next player starting to putt (if possible). To avoid undue delay in returning to the tee in the event a ball is thought lost or out of bounds, play a provisional ball before proceeding to the determined location of the first ball. **WHEN IN DOUBT, PLAY A PROVISIONAL!** This will dramatically increase the pace of play and eliminate the need to drive back to the tee and re-play a lost ball.

### Miscellaneous Rules & Policies

1. Practice balls and X-Out balls are not allowed in tournament play
2. Triple Bogey Max on each hole
3. You must circle all birdies and eagles on your scorecard for them to count in the skins pool



## Tournament Guidelines

### Flight Placement

The Egolf Amateur Tour is divided into (5) flights. All players will be placed into a flight based on either their AGT index from previous years, USGA handicap or their average score. It is very important to provide an honest initial assessment. If a player is deemed to have 'sandbagged', that person could lose all points earned to that point, and then moved to the proper flight. **Sandbagging will NOT be tolerated and could result in loss of membership privileges.** The following table shows the flight handicap ranges.

Flight	Handicap Index
Championship	0 - 3.9
"A"	4.0 - 8.9
"B"	9.0 - 13.9
"C"	14.0 - 18.9
"D"	19.0 and over

### Flight Movement

All Egolf Amateur Tours will have a AGT Index. This will be displayed on the website after each tournament. Players will be moved based on this index. Flight movements are normally done after the player has played in (2) events but the tour director has the opportunity to give out "Battlefield Promotions" at the tournaments if so warranted. The formula used to calculate the AGT index will not be published or provided to the players. This is another way to keep the flights competitive and fair.

**If a player is moved from one flight to another, the player will not be allowed to move any higher than a tie for 3rd place in that next flight. Points will be adjusted to reflect the move. If you are moved up a flight then you will stay in that flight the rest of the current tour season. Flight movements can occur at anytime during the season.**

Example: If a player is moved from the "A" flight where they had 200 points, up to The "Champ" flight where 3rd place has only 150 points, then the player's point total will be reduced to 150 and will then be placed in a tie for 3rd.

The Tour does not want to penalize players for getting better, but this will help keep players from taking too many points from an easier flight and moving past everyone in the tougher flight. **Rather than stay in an easy flight and eventually lose your points, it would be to the player's advantage to move up if playing in the wrong flight.**

**In order for a player to move down a flight, the player has to request the move. After the player requests the move, the tour director will examine the player's index and scoring history and move the player accordingly.**

### Tournament Tees

The Tournament Director, prior to each event will determine flight tee placement and course length. The yardage will vary depending on the course teeing grounds, slope and rating. The Egolf Amateur Tour will attempt to provide every golfer with an opportunity to participate under the most competitive tournament set-ups possible. Ladies yardage will be set up per USGA Rules (~80% of the Men's Tee).

### Tournament Scorekeeping

Each player and Marker must sign the scorecard in the designated area on the card attesting that each hole score is correct. **You must circle all birdies and eagles. If they are not circled, they will not count in the skins game.**

If, during the course of play, a situation arises that requires a ruling and an official is not available, the player shall confer with the others in the group. The members should attempt to make a reasonable ruling at that time. If a consensus cannot be reached, the player shall play two balls through the hole and keep score for both balls. The situation in question must be submitted to the Tournament Committee for an official (final) ruling prior to the signing of the scorecard.

**If a player submits a scorecard that has not been signed or submits a signed card with a lower score on a particular hole than the actual score, the player will be disqualified from that event.** If a player submits a signed card with a higher score on a particular hole than the actual score, the higher score will be posted. Players are only responsible for the score on *each hole* and not the total score (math).

### **Tournament Results and Point Standings**

Points are awarded at each tournament using the following formula. All ties will be treated like they do the money on the PGA tour. Here is how your Points will be calculated and other rules about the points that you need to know.

#### **Points Formula**

<b>Place</b>	<b>Regular</b>	<b>Major</b>
1	450	900
2	275	550
3	225	450
4	175	350
5	165	330
6	155	310
7	145	290
8	135	270
9	125	250
10	115	230
11	100	200
12	90	180
13	85	170
14	80	160
15	75	150
16	70	140
17	65	130
18	60	120
19	55	110
20	50	100
21	48	96
22	46	94
23	44	92
24	42	90
25	40	88
26	38	86
27	36	84
28	34	82
29	32	80
30	30	78
31	28	76
32	26	74
33	24	72
34	22	70
35	20	68
36	18	66
37	16	64
38	14	62
39	12	60
40	10	58
41	8	56
42	6	54
43	4	52
44	2	50

### **Make-Up Tournaments**

Any Egolf Amateur Tour player will be allowed to make up (3) events with only one being a major at any tour city. The players can play and bring the points back to their home tours to replace a missed tournament. We have some stipulations that must be followed for the points to count:

- The player must contact the tour director at least (1) week prior to playing in the make-up tournament.
- If the flight has > 5 players, the player will receive 80% of the points
- If the flight has > 2 players and < 5 players, the player will receive 60% of the points
- If a player is the sole competitor in the flight, the player will receive 30% of the points

### **Combo Events**

When multiple tours play in the same tournament, it is called a combo tournament. In these events, the prize money will be grouped together but the points will be awarded by each tour.

### **Determination of Tied Scores**

Ties for 1<sup>st</sup> place will be played off on the course if time and course permits. If one of the players that has tied for first has left the course and unable to participate in the playoff then that player forfeits first place. If we are unable to do an on course playoff then first place will be determined using the #1 handicap hole and on down until a winner is determined. All other ties will be handled using the Handicap Hole method.

### **2010 Tour Championship**

The 2010 National Tour Championship, held during the annual "Championship Week", is a 36-hole event. It is will be held at Hilton Head on October 23-24. To qualify for the 2010 Tour Championship, you must finish in the top ten points in your flight.



## 2010 Player Bonuses

### 2010 Flight Champions

*If the Tour Has 100 Members then each Flight Champion will receive:*

- (1) Free Tour Championship Entry Fee
- (1) Free Tour Championship Skins Game Entry Fee

*If the Tour has 50 Members then each Flight Champion will receive:*

- (1) Half Entry Fee To The Tour Championship
- (1) Free Tour Championship Skins Game Entry Fee

### Early Tournament Registration & Payment

All players who register for a tournament and pay their entry fee before Sunday Night at midnight ( 6 Days in Advance) will be entered into a drawing. At the end of the year, we will draw one name from each tour and the winner will receive:

- (1) Free Tour Championship Entry Fee
- (1) Free Tour Championship Skins Game Entry Fee

