

## 2025 Merry-Hill Men's League

---

Welcome to the Men's League at Merry-Hill Golf Club! We're thrilled to kick off another exciting season of friendly competition, camaraderie, and great golf.

Our Men's League has been a part of Merry-Hill's tradition since **2015**, growing steadily each year with more players joining to share in the fun. The league is all about creating a **friendly and welcoming atmosphere**, where players of all ages and skill levels can come together to enjoy regular golf games in a competitive yet supportive environment.

Beyond the love of the game, our league also has a larger purpose—**supporting junior golf programs here at Merry-Hill Golf Club**. Since its inception, the Men's League has raised over **\$46,667** to help young golfers thrive. These funds directly support:

- Subsidized registration fees and free memberships for some programs.
- Snacks and meals during camps, learning programs, and tournaments.
- Wage support for junior supervisors and assistants.
- Swag, prizes, and trophies for junior golfers.

Every league registration, 50/50 ticket, and mulligan purchased throughout the season contributes to this initiative, and we're incredibly proud of the positive impact the Men's League has had on fostering the next generation of golfers.

Thank you for your commitment to the league, and for supporting the game we all love. We look forward to an incredible season of great golf, friendly competition, and maybe even a bit of lighthearted heckling! Let's make this the best season yet!

Now, let's dive into how the league works and what you can expect this season.

### **League Format**

The Men's League is structured around a **FedEx-style points race** that runs throughout the season, fostering fun and friendly competition. Teams compete weekly, accumulating points based on performance, with the ultimate goal of being crowned the **League Champion**.

To accommodate **shortened shoulder seasons** (spring and fall daylight restrictions), only **front-nine scores** are used for point calculations. After your front nine, please submit your scorecard at the Golf Shop counter.

### **How the FedEx Style Points Race Works:**

- Each week, teams compete against each other for points in the FedEx-style race. The low-scoring team wins first place.
- **Team Scoring:** The **six lowest net scores** and the **two lowest gross** scores from each team's front nine are added together to determine the team's total score. By using both net and gross scores, the league ensures fair and competitive play throughout the season.
- **Handicap Adjustments:** to maintain fairness, your handicap will be adjusted throughout the season based on the scores you hand in. This is completed automatically with our league software, SMART Golf.

### **Point Distribution:**

- 1st place: **20 points**
- 2nd place: **18 points**
- 3rd place: **16 points**, and so on.

**Participation Points:** Teams earn additional points for each participating teammate, encouraging consistent attendance. A minimum of **8 players** per team is required to qualify for a weekly score.

**Playoff Mode:**

The final three weeks of the season are dedicated to playoffs. All teams enter a bracket-style competition, and season-long points do not affect playoff outcomes.

Every team has an equal chance to win, and the playoff victors will be crowned Men’s League Champions. This format is designed to ensure that everyone, regardless of skill level, has an opportunity to contribute to their team and enjoy a competitive and rewarding golf season!

**What Are The Duties of Your Team Captain???**

Team captains play a critical role in the success of the Men’s League. Here’s what they do:

**1. Draft a Team**

- The draft takes place before orientation. Captains are provided with a list of all league players, their 2024 statistics (if applicable), and contact information.
- Teams will be made up of 12-24 players, with roughly 6-10 teams (based on registration numbers)
- All players in the same tee time will be drafted to the same team

**2. Ongoing Responsibilities**

- **Encourage Participation and Engagement:** Motivate teammates to attend weekly rounds and participate in games.
- **Heckle for Fun:** Provide lighthearted heckling to keep the atmosphere lively—only when appropriate!
- **Communicate with Teammates:** Share information about upcoming games, clubhouse specials, and any changes to the league.
- **Act as Liaison:** Represent your team and act as a communication link between the Club and Men’s League players.
- **Answer Questions:** Help teammates understand league rules and assist with any questions.

Captains are essential in building team spirit and ensuring everyone has a great time!

**Rules & Expectations**

As a participant, we want you to enjoy your time at Merry-Hill Golf Club, connect with fellow golfers, and embrace the spirit of friendly competition. To ensure everyone has a great experience, we’ve outlined a few key rules and expectations:

---

**Attendance and Replacements**

We encourage all Men’s League participants to play as often as possible and be part of the fun. However, if you’re unable to make your scheduled round, **it’s your responsibility to find a replacement player** to fill your spot. Replacement players pay the same rate as league participants, whether or not they have a Club Card, and will prevent you from being charged a no-show fee. Furthermore, sending a replacement player in your absence will earn your team a **participation point**.

If you cannot find a replacement player, you must cancel your tee time a minimum of 24 hours in advance. Failure to do so will result in a \$20.00 plus HST “no-show” charge that is non-refundable.

---

## Pace of Play

To ensure everyone enjoys their round, the expected pace of play for 18 holes is **3.5 to 4 hours**. Please:

- **Play Ready Golf:** Whoever is ready should hit first.
- **Limit Practice Swings:** One or two practice swings should be enough before each shot.
- **Move Quickly Between Shots:** Walk or drive directly to your ball and prepare while others are hitting.
- **Use Cart Effectively:** If riding, drop one player off at their ball while the other proceeds to theirs.
- **Read Your Putt While Others Putt:** Read your line while others are putting it to save time.
- **Continuous Putting:** If you're close to the hole and won't interfere with others, finish putting out.
- **Be Ready on the Tee:** Have your club and ball ready when it's your turn to hit.
- **Scorekeeping:** Record scores while walking to the next tee or while others are hitting, rather than lingering by the green.
- **Limit Ball Searches:** Spend no more than 3 minutes looking for a lost ball. If you suspect your shot is out of bounds or lost, hit a provisional ball.

A maximum of **two warnings** will be given for slow play. Continued issues may result in your group being moved to **later tee times**.

---

## Season-Long Tee Times

- **Tee Time Assignments:**
    - Offered in two blocks: **7:30–10:30 AM** and **3:30–5:30 PM**.
    - Tee times are assigned using a **lottery system**:
      1. During registration, you'll choose your preferred time range.
      2. Groups will be formed based on playing partner requests.
      3. Groups will be entered into a lottery, and tee times will be assigned at Orientation Night.
      4. Priority goes to groups attending Orientation Night; otherwise, a tee time will be assigned within your preferred range.
  - **Adjustments:**
    - Tee times may be adjusted by +/- **20 minutes** weekly to accommodate changes or optimize league play. Efforts will be made to keep your time consistent.
    - Your tee time will be adjusted throughout the season during the following scenarios:
      1. Spring and Fall as daylight restrictions affect our open/close hours
      2. Scheduled (and unavoidable) course maintenance
      3. If participation in the league is low, we will adjust tee times to try to keep all league players teeing off consecutively
  - **Changes:**
    - Tee times are reserved exclusively for league players until **3 days before play**, after which unbooked times are released to the public.
    - Players may be paired by the Golf Shop to ensure foursomes.
    - Notifications of any changes (due to weather, participation, tee time adjustments, etc.) will be sent via email. **Please check your email regularly** and ensure Merry-Hill is added as a contact to avoid messages going to spam.
    - **Weather Delays:** In the event of inclement weather, the Club will notify participants of delays or cancellations. Always check your email or call the Golf Shop for updates
-

## On-Course Etiquette

To keep the course in great shape and ensure everyone enjoys their round, please:

- **Replace divots** in the fairways.
  - **Fix ball marks** on the greens.
  - **Avoid gimmies:** Every putt must drop in the cup during league play.
  - Respect your fellow players by maintaining a positive and welcoming attitude.
  - Play to the outlined **pace of play** expectations.
- 

## Player Responsibilities

- **Scorecard Submission:** At the end of your front nine, ensure your scorecard is complete and drop it off at the Golf Shop counter. Please ensure the first and last names of each player are written clearly on the scorecard and that all scores are eligible.
- **Replacement Players:** It is your responsibility to find a replacement player if you're unable to attend your tee time. All replacement players will receive team points.
- **Team Engagement:** Captains will encourage attendance, keep teams informed about upcoming games, and foster a sense of camaraderie.
- **Be Proactive:** If you're unsure about a rule or need clarification, ask your team captain or league coordinator.
- **Timeliness:** arrive early for your tee time and be ready to go when the Starter gives you the go-ahead.
- **Stay Positive:** Lighthearted heckling is encouraged, but always keep it respectful and fun!
- **Enjoy Yourself:** The league is about building connections, improving your game, and having fun on the course.

## Weekly Games and Prizes

Our weekly games add an extra layer of excitement and include challenges such as:

- **Closest to the Pin**
- **Longest Drive**
- **Closest to the Keg**
- **Pre-game Challenges** and more!

These games are designed to be lighthearted and engaging, giving every participant a chance to shine. Prizes are awarded to players who excel in these games.

- **Prize Value:** Each weekly prize is valued between **\$150–\$200** and awarded to a single player.
- Prizes vary week-to-week, ensuring there's always something new and exciting to compete for.

Certain games, such as scrambles or other formats, may impact scoring. These games are always **optional** and are best played on your **back nine** to avoid interfering with the competitive team scoring on your front nine.

Participating in these weekly games is a great way to add variety to your rounds, have fun with your fellow league players, and win some fantastic prizes! Don't miss out on the chance to showcase your skills and enjoy the full Men's League experience.

## **League Tools and Resources**

### **Men's League Coordinator – Amber Moran**

Your league coordinator will be the key contact for all communication throughout the league. If you have questions or concerns or need to change/cancel/adjust your tee time, they are the first people you should reach out to! In addition to handling all the paperwork, your league coordinator will manage and arrange all the on-course games, player scoring, handicapping, and prizing! You can easily reach your league coordinator by email at [league@merryhillgolf.com](mailto:league@merryhillgolf.com) or by calling the clubhouse at **519-648-2831**.

### **Men's League Representative - Dave Ferneyhough**

The league representative serves as the key link between league players and the Golf Club. As both a league participant and staff member, Dave will share valuable insights with players and the Club while acting as a liaison to foster communication and collaboration.

The rest of our management team is excited to welcome you to the course! If there is anything we can do to make your experience better at Merry-Hill Golf Club, we encourage you to reach out to us!

- Clubhouse Manager – Abbey Steers | [manager@merryhillgolf.com](mailto:manager@merryhillgolf.com)
- Clubhouse Supervisor - Amber Moran | [info@merryhillgolf.com](mailto:info@merryhillgolf.com)
- Golf Course Superintendent – Kevin Brohman | [kevin@merryhillgolf.com](mailto:kevin@merryhillgolf.com)
- General Manager & Director of Golf – Carly Peister | [carly@merryhillgolf.com](mailto:carly@merryhillgolf.com)

We use **SMART golf league software** to enhance the experience. This system tracks handicaps, calculates team points, displays weekly games, and manages the playoff brackets.

Players are encouraged to visit the league manager website regularly and read weekly emails from the coordinators for updates.

## **Pricing**

**Your league registration fee is \$120.00 plus HST.** This includes the following:

- \$35.00 Club Card Purchase
- \$10.00 junior golf donation
- \$40.00 prize fund contribution
- \$35.00 league organization fee

*Weekly green fees are required in addition to the league registration fee.*

### **Green Fees 2025**

All golfers must check in at the golf shop each week. You may opt to save a credit card to your account for quick and easy check-in procedures.

**Men's League 18-hole green fee rate: ranges from \$35.00 - \$40.00**

**Men's League 18-hole power cart rate: \$17.25 + HST**

**Men's League 9-hole power cart rate: \$13.00 +HST**

### **As a Men's League participant, you will receive the following:**

- Guaranteed tee time for the duration of the league
- Handicap tracking & league organization
- Weekly games & events with great Molson prizes!
- Weekly Molson Monday drink specials in the Bistro
- Optional entry into weekly 50/50 draws and a mulligan purchase (max 1 per round), with proceeds supporting junior golf programs at Merry-Hill Golf Club

### **Your 2025 Club Card provides you with the following benefits:**

- 30% discount on green fees during designated 18-hole league tee times, and a 25% discount on golf outside of league tee times
- 25% discount on power cart rentals
- 10% discount on golf shop merchandise
- 10% discount on non-alcoholic food & beverage purchases
- Optional PrePaid account for fast, contactless purchases anywhere on the golf course

### **League Rain Check Policy**

Green Fees paid during league play are subject to a 30% discount, and therefore, rain checks issued for League Play can only be redeemed during League Play. Your league rain check will have a 2-month expiration date. Please speak with the Clubhouse Manager if you need to extend this due to a holiday absence. Golf Shop staff do not have the authority to extend rain check expiration dates.

### **Important Dates**

League play begins on **Monday, April 28th** through until **September 8th**. Please note that league play will be **suspended** on the following Holiday Mondays: **May 19, August 4 & September 1**. The league season will conclude on Monday, September 15th, with a special closing event. This evening shotgun-style tournament will feature food, games, prizes, and fundraising activities in support of junior golf programs at Merry-Hill Golf Club. Additional fees will apply for participation in this event, and further details will be shared in August.

For those wishing to play on a Holiday Monday when league play is suspended, you are welcome to book a tee time through the golf shop staff up to two weeks in advance. The regular Club Card discount will apply (25% off posted green fees).