

ELBOW SPRINGS GOLF CLUB - CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP POLICY

Adopted 2026 – Effective 2026 Season

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS: April 8, 2026

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 8, 2026

This Policy supersedes and replaces all prior Championship guidelines, policies, and resolutions relating to the ESGC Club Championship.

1. PURPOSE

The ESGC Championship is the Club's competitive event. The Championship determines overall and divisional champions while promoting sportsmanship, competitive integrity, participation growth, and operational excellence.

Beginning in the 2026 season, all Championship divisions shall be conducted within a unified Championship weekend structure.

2. EVENT DATES (2026)

The ESGC Club Championship is scheduled annually through coordination between the Board of Directors and Club Management.

The Championship is typically held in early August, generally aligning with the first weekend of August, subject to course availability, maintenance requirements, and operational considerations.

The Championship will be conducted over a three-day period (Friday through Sunday), with:

- Men's Club Championship (54 holes) conducted over three days
- All other flights and divisions (36 holes) conducted over two days (Saturday and Sunday)

Club Management, as Tournament Organizer, will be responsible for the administration and operational execution of the Championship, including scheduling, course preparation, and event logistics, in coordination with the Board.

The specific dates and registration timelines for each Championship will be communicated to members in advance.

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3. CHAMPIONSHIP STRUCTURE

3.1 Men's Club Championship (Championship Flight - Age 18 and over)

- 54 holes stroke play
- Friday, Saturday, Sunday
- Black Tees
- Championship Flight only
- Target Handicap Index typically ≤ 7 (subject to organizer discretion)
- Determines the Men's Club Champion

Men's Flights (A, B, C, etc. - Age 18 and over)

- 36 holes stroke play
- Conducted Saturday and Sunday.
- Blue or White Tees based on handicap
- Low Gross and Low Net prizes awarded

Players who prefer not to compete from the Black Tees may participate in these flights.

Players competing in these flights are not eligible for the Men's Club Champion title.

3.2 All Other Divisions (36 Holes Stroke Play)

Conducted Saturday and Sunday.

Senior Men (Age 50–64)

- White Tees
- Low Gross Senior Champion Trophy awarded

Super Senior Men (Age 65+)

- White Tees
- Low Gross Super Senior Champion Trophy awarded

Ladies Club Championship (All Flights – Age 18 and over)

- Red Tees
- Low Gross Ladies Club Champion Trophy awarded

Senior Ladies (Age 50–64)

- Red Tees
- Senior Ladies Champion Trophy awarded

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Super Senior Ladies (Age 65+)

- Red Tees
- Super Senior Ladies Champion Trophy awarded

Junior Championship (Less than 18 years of age)

- Championship Flight only – Blue Tees
 - Other flights (A, B, etc.) – White or Red Tees as assigned
 - Structure consistent with existing junior eligibility and tee assignments.
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3.3 Future Structural Flexibility

The Board and its organizers reserve the right to modify division structures, tee assignments, or scheduling in future seasons based on participation levels, course conditions, or competitive considerations.

4. FLIGHT STRUCTURE

Flights are determined by a combination of age, gender, and Handicap Index.

- Minimum of three (3) players per flight
- Target flight size: 4–6 players
- Typical maximum flight size: 7–8 players; however, Tournament Organizers may exceed this where necessary based on participation level.

Organizers retain authority to adjust spreads based on participation.

If insufficient participation prevents formation of a competitive flight, Tournament Organizers may adjust or cancel flights.

Tournament Organizers reserve the right to move a player between flights when necessary to preserve competitive integrity.

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5. HANDICAP REQUIREMENTS

To compete in any Championship division, players must:

- Maintain a valid Handicap Index
- Have a minimum of twenty (20) posted scores **or**
- Have posted at least ninety percent (90%) of all rounds played within the preceding twelve (12) months

Scores should be posted on the date played and before midnight to ensure index accuracy.

Tournament Organizers may audit handicap records and may re-flight a player or disqualify a player from net winnings where anomalies exist.

6. PARTICIPATION & REGISTRATION POLICY

All eligible members in good standing who are eighteen (18) years of age and over may participate in applicable divisions subject to division eligibility requirements.

6.1 Complimentary Entry (First-Time Participants)

Complimentary entry applies to any eligible member who has not previously competed in a Club Championship event.

This incentive may be used once per member.

The Board will maintain a roster of participating players for administrative and governance purposes, including eligibility tracking, first-time participant incentives, and overall Championship administration.

6.2 No-Show Policy for Complimentary Entry Players

Withdrawals within seventy-two (72) hours of event start, without valid medical or emergency cause, will result in a fifty-dollar (\$50) no-show fee.

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7. PACE OF PLAY & MARSHALING

Target pace of play is four (4) hours and fifteen (15) minutes.

Ready golf is required at all times during Championship play to maintain pace and flow of competition.

- Ready golf applies on tee boxes, fairways, and greens.

The Board will seek volunteers from the membership to assist with marshaling during Championship play.

- Board-appointed marshals may monitor pace of play.
- Marshals may assist with rulings and pace guidance.
- Maintaining pace integrity is a Championship priority.

8. COURSES UTILIZED

Championship play will typically utilize Mountain View and Elbow courses.

The Springs 9 is generally excluded due to preparation costs and pace-of-play considerations, unless exceptional circumstances dictate otherwise.

9. PRIZES & PAYOUTS

The payout structure remains consistent with prior guidelines.

Payout Targets

- Minimum: 25% of competitors per flight receive payout
- Maximum: 50% of competitors per flight
- Maximum of three (3) prizes per flight

Flight Allocations

- Up to eight (8) players → Two (2) prizes (Low Gross and Low Net)
- Over eight (8) players → Three (3) prizes (1st Low Gross, 2nd Low Gross, Low Net).

In cases where flight sizes exceed typical limits due to participation levels, prize allocations will be adjusted accordingly at the discretion of Tournament Organizers.

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Championship Prize Values

Men's Club Champion – A Flight

- 1st Low Gross: \$200
- 2nd Low Gross: \$150
- 3rd Low Gross: \$75

Ladies Club Champion – A Flight

- Same structure as Men's

Senior & Super Senior Championships

- 1st Low Gross: \$150
- 2nd Low Gross: \$75
- Low Net: \$75
- Overall Age Group Champion: \$50 bump for combined total of \$200 (i.e. Low Gross \$150+\$50)

Junior Championship

- 1st Gross: \$75
- 2nd Gross: \$50
- Net: \$50

All prize structures are subject to minimum participation rules.

9.1 Award Eligibility & Stacking

A player eligible for multiple Championship or Age Division titles may win and receive awards for each applicable division.

Within the same flight, Gross awards take precedence over Net awards.

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10. RULES & CHAMPIONSHIP EDUCATION

The Board will organize and offer early-season optional Championship Rules Sessions.

Sessions may include:

- 3–4 holes of guided on-course instruction
- Simplified rules handouts
- Emphasis on competition procedures

Registration for sessions opens in early spring.

11. POST-TOURNAMENT SOCIAL

The Championship social event shall consist of light appetizers and beverages unless otherwise approved by the Board.

The social will be held Sunday afternoon.

Championship trophies will be presented at that time.

12. AUTHORITY

The Board of Directors retains final authority over Championship structure, divisions, tee assignments, flight composition, scheduling adjustments, and policy interpretation as necessary to maintain competitive integrity and operational effectiveness.