



ALABAMA GOLF ASSOCIATION

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TO: 52nd Alabama Women's State Senior Amateur Championship Contestants
FROM: JD Venosdel, Alabama Golf Association
DATE: January 1, 2025
TOPIC: Women's State Senior Championship Player Information

The Alabama Golf Association looks forward to seeing you at the 52nd playing of the Women's State Senior Amateur Championship at RTJ Golf Trail at Grand National (Lake Course) in Auburn, AL from June 17-19, 2025. Please review the following championship information. Remember that we are guests of the club, need to conduct ourselves in a proper manner and adhere to all host club policies. Also, make sure to be at your assigned tee ready to play at least five minutes before your starting time. Call me at the AGA office if you have any questions or e-mail me at jd@alabamagolf.org. We hope you have a great championship!

Championship Website

Championship History

This year marks the 52nd playing of the Alabama Women's State Senior Amateur Championship and the first time that RTJ Golf Trail at Grand National has hosted the Women's State Senior Championship. Theresa Mahlik of Madison won the title in 2024 at Anniston Country Club claiming her first AGA Women's Senior Amateur Championship title. The Championship was first played in 1973 with Ceil Watkins winning the inaugural event at Montgomery Country Club. Mary Isbell holds the record with 8 victories (1995-1999, 2001-2003).

Championship Registration

Players should sign the host plaque outside of the Golf Shop on Monday, June 16th from 8:00am-3:00pm.

RTJ Golf Trail at Grand National Information

Director of Golf: Joseph McNally, PGA
Physical Address: 3000 Robert Trent Jones Trail, Opelika, AL 36801
Club Website: <https://www.rtjgolf.com/grandnational/>
Golf Shop Phone: 334-749-9042
Golf Shop Hours: 6:00am-7:00pm
Practice Facility Hours: 6:00am-7:00pm
Food & Beverage Hours: 6:00am-7:00pm
Championship Division Yardage/Course Rating/Slope: 5432 yards/71.8/126
Tournament Division Yardage/Course Rating/Slope: 4910 yards/68.9/121

Food and Beverage

All food and beverage consumed on club grounds must be purchased at the Host Club.

Directions to RTJ Grand National

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/RTJGrandNational>

Area Lodging

There are several hotels located within a few miles of Blessings Golf Club. Below are the hotels in the area that are offering SGA discounted group rates.

Auburn Marriott Opelika Resort & Spa at Grand National

- Rate: \$182+ per night + \$30/night resort fee
- Cut-Off Date: May 27th
- Booking Link: [Click Here](#)

Home2 Suites By Hilton

- Rate: \$139+ per night
- Cut-Off Date: June 10th
- Booking Link: [Click Here](#)

*Please note that players are responsible for their own accommodation and transportation.

Host Club Policies

- *Cell Phone Policy:* Use of cellular phones is prohibited on the golf course except for emergencies, a ruling, entering hole-by-hole scores, viewing tournament or weather forecasts or using as a distance measuring device. We ask that phones are set to silent while on club grounds. Silent communication (text, email) may be used inside buildings. Verbal communication (phone calls) must be outside buildings.

- *Parking:* There is a limited amount of parking available at the host club and we ask that players, caddies and family members carpool as much as possible.
- *Dress Code:* Appropriate golf attire must be worn. Slacks or Bermuda shorts. No cut-offs, no denim, no cargo pants or cargo shorts. Men must wear shirts with collars and sleeves, tucked in at all times. Non-metal spikes only. The dress code applies to caddies and spectators.
- *Coolers:* Personal coolers are not allowed.
- *Personal Items:* Make sure not to leave any valuable personal items unattended such as jewelry, wallets, etc. even if they are tucked away inside your golf bag. It is best to leave your valuables locked in your automobile. Neither the AGA nor the host club will be held responsible for any lost or stolen personal items.
- *Accepted Forms of Payment:* Club accepts **Cash and Credit Card**.

Practice Rounds and Practice Facility

Official practice rounds will be on June 16th or the week prior. You may call the golf shop to reserve a practice round tee time. Make sure to identify yourself as an Alabama Women's State Senior Amateur Championship participant. It would be helpful if you made your own group before calling. Do not just show up at the course and expect to be accommodated for a practice round.

There is a **mandatory** \$55.00+tax fee for each practice round whether you walk or ride. Players are limited to playing one ball except from the teeing ground. Players are welcome to use the practice range and putting green throughout the championship.

Starting Time

Pairings and Starting Times for round one on June 17th will be available by June 13th by 5:00pm. Check the AGA website at www.alabamagolf.org or call the AGA office.

Championship Format and Schedule

Championship is conducted at 54 holes of stroke play. There will be two divisions as described in the [entry form](#) with the Champion being the player who posts the lowest 54-hole score in the Championship division. Tournament Division will be flighted after 36 holes by score (if necessary). Initial groupings will be for round one; field will be re-paired by score after the first round. In the event of a tie for the Overall Champion only, there will be a hole by hole play-off commencing immediately following play (the holes involved to be determined by the AGA). After the Champion has been determined, all other ties not yet settled, including those involving individuals participating in the playoff for the Championship, and ties for Tournament division winners will be resolved by matching scorecards.

Monday, June 16	Registration & Practice Rounds
Tuesday, June 17	Round 1: Tee times at 7:30am
Wednesday, June 18	Round 2: Tee times at 7:30am
Thursday, June 19	Round 3: Tee times at 7:30am Awards Ceremony immediately after play.

Pace of Play

The AGA wants all players to enjoy competing in our events. Pace of play may differ depending upon the venue, weather and course conditions. Every player is accountable for playing at an acceptable pace, therefore we need your help. Please observe the following guidelines to help ensure a pleasant tournament experience for all:

- Make sure to keep pace with the group in FRONT of you. The group behind should keep pace with your group and so forth.
- Go directly to your ball. If sharing a golf cart, drop-off the player farthest from the hole then proceed to the other ball.
- Be ready to play when it is your turn.
- Keep practice strokes and time taken to read putts to a minimum.
- Play a provisional ball if your original ball may be lost or out of bounds.
- Keep time taken at the snack bar or between nines to a minimum.

If everyone does their part, then 4½ hours should be the maximum time taken to play a round of golf at an AGA tournament. Following the lead of the USGA, the AGA has developed a pace of play policy, based on Rule 5.6b and Model Local Rule 8K that is fair to every competitor.

*Note: a group may receive a "friendly reminder" of their position regardless of pace of play guidelines.

Maximum Allowable Time

The maximum allowable time is the maximum time considered necessary by the Committee for a group to complete its round. This is expressed in a per-hole and aggregate time format and includes all time associated with playing the game, e.g., for rulings and walking times between holes.

Both the specific maximum time allotted per hole and for the completion of 18 holes at AGA championships will be denoted on each player's AGA issued scorecard.

See the complete [AGA Pace of Play Policy](#) for the procedure if a group is "out of position" and penalty for breach of Pace of Play Policy.

Cart/Range Fees; Push Carts

- *Practice Rounds:* Cart/range fees are not included in the entry fee. Cart rental is mandatory for practice rounds payable at the host club.
- *Championship Rounds:* Championship site cart/range fees are paid by the AGA and included in the entry fee. Competitors have the option to either walk or use a golf cart during championship rounds. Personal push carts are allowed.

Caddies

- *Caddies:* Caddies are allowed for championship rounds. Caddies will not be available at host club.

Spectators

- *Spectator Golf Cart Policy:* Due to the limited number of available golf carts, spectator carts may not be available during the championship.
- *Disability Golf Cart Policy:* In consistency with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), AGA will grant an individual with a bona fide disability a golf cart if the following conditions are met:
 - Requesting individual completes and submits a [Disabled Golf Cart Request Form](#) by the close of entries date;
 - Host club has a golf cart available;
 - Requesting individual pays host club the appropriate fee;
 - Requesting individual presents to the AGA staff or AGA representative a disability card issued by a government agency.
- Spectator carts must remain on the cart path at all times and spectators must adhere to the club's dress code policy.
- Spectators are not allowed to ride in a player's golf cart at any time. Non-club owned spectator carts are not allowed except as provided in the [AGA Tournament Manual](#).

Prizes

Awards will be presented to the top scores in Championship and Tournament Divisions. In addition, the overall Champion will have her name engraved on the, Jeannette Sell, permanent trophy housed at the AGA office.

Course Set-Up/Yardage (*All yardage is subject to change based upon wind direction and weather conditions)

Championship Division

Course Rating: 71.8/126

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Yards	290	314	133	427	335	343	462	139	329	2772	341	298	418	348	390	103	285	131	346	2660	5432
Par	4	4	3	5	4	4	5	3	4	36	4	4	5	4	5	3	4	3	4	36	72

Tournament Division

Course Rating: 68.9/121

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Yards	285	308	92	399	308	295	418	103	276	2484	276	239	391	343	384	86	247	126	327	2426	4910
Par	4	4	3	5	4	4	5	3	4	36	4	4	5	4	5	3	4	3	4	36	72

Championship Policies

- [AGA Code of Conduct](#)
- [AGA Tournament Manual](#)
- This is a soft-spike facility. The penalty for non-compliance is disqualification.

Withdrawals

If an accepted player withdraws for any reason before the close of registration at 11:59pm on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, the entry fee will be refunded, subject to a \$30.00 service fee. If an accepted player withdraws for any reason after the close of registration and before 11:59pm on Sunday, June 16, 2024, 75% of the entry fee will be refunded. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after that time.

To withdraw from the event before the close of registration, follow these steps:

- 1) Navigate to the [Championship Website Portal](#).
- 2) Sign In to your AGA Tournament Registration Account.
- 3) Click "Edit Registration" from left side of the page.
- 4) Choose "Cancel Registration" under dropdown menu on right side of page.

To withdraw from the event after the close of registration, complete the [Online Tournament Withdrawal Form](#).

*Note: AGA will process your withdrawal and applicable refund within 72 hours.

Tournament Delays and Updates

The AGA will text players with any tournament delays or schedule changes. Notices will also be posted on our Twitter account. Follow @bamagolf.

Phone Numbers

Alabama Golf Association: 205-979-1234

RTJ Golf Trail at Grand National Golf Shop: 334-749-9042