

2026 6th Annual VCGA Invitational Information and Rules

May 1, 2, 3, 2026: \$600 entry fee per team. **ENTRY DEADLINE April 26, 2026.**

ENTRY ELIGIBILITY: Team must be invited by a VCGA member. Players must have a current valid handicap. Those without a current verifiable handicap will play at scratch. All players must be 25 years of age; no college affiliations.

FORMAT: 2-player teams. Teams will be flighted based on the lower handicap. No more than 10 strokes difference in handicap. May 2: Shamble, 50% handicap. May 3: Best Ball, 80% handicap.

USGA GHIN handicap will be adjusted to the course and the tees that will be played by the individual player. All men with a GHIN handicap of 5 or less will play the gold tees; handicap 6 to 18 will play the blue tees. 18+ handicap will play the white tees. All men 60 and over can elect to play up one tee (gold to blue, blue to white only) based on GHIN handicap of original tee. Any male with age and GHIN handicap totaling 90 or over will have the option of playing the forward (red) tees. Tee choice must be declared at the time of entry. Women handicap 9 or less will play the white tees, 10+ will play the red tees.

WEEKEND SCHEDULE:

FRIDAY, May 1, 2026:

- **PRACTICE ROUND** at any time you choose. You need to schedule a tee time with the pro shop. You are responsible for cost of green fees and cart fee. Vaaler Creek is very popular and tee times fill up fast so schedule early.
- **CHECK IN:** Friday 6:00 p.m. Pick up tee prize bag and rules. Register for the Player's Discussion. There will be a catered meal and drink for **participants only** starting at 6:00 p.m. **Guest meal \$20 purchased in advance.**
- **PLAYER'S DISCUSSION** - 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Pavilion. We will auction off teams for the tournament. All teams are guaranteed the option to buy half of their team after the bidding is complete. The cost is half of what the winning bid is and is to be paid to the winning bidder prior to play on Saturday. Cash or checks only for payment for the Player's Discussion. We will pay day money 4 places each flight amounting to 1/3 of the total pot to daily winners on Saturday and Sunday and then the overall winners. Player's Discussion payout will be mailed within 10 days to the successful bidders. Settlement of the buy backs will be between those opting to.

SATURDAY, May 2, 2026:

Shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Shamble. Players will receive 50% of their handicap. Each player tees off, select best shot and play your own ball in from there. Write the team's Gross score on scorecard. Closest to the pin sponsored by **Janet Harper of Keller Williams Realty.**

SUNDAY, May 3, 2026:

Shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Best Ball. Write down your team best ball gross and net. Players will receive 80% of their handicap. Winners/payout will be announced at the pavilion after the round.

In the event of a tie for first place for the overall tournament, there will be a sudden death playoff in which tied teams will play alternate shot on Hole #1 until a winner is determined.

PLAYING THE COURSE:

- All putts must be holed.
- **PENALTY AREAS:** Areas around the golf course not clearly marked and lots not currently occupied by a house or under construction will be played as lateral penalty areas. Lots occupied or under construction are deemed out of bounds.
Options for your ball in a PENALTY AREA. If you are certain or virtually certain the ball is within the penalty area: USGA Rule 17.

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- Play ball as it lies in penalty area.
 - Take stroke-and-distance by taking drop within 2 club lengths of where the ball crossed into the penalty zone.
 - Take back-on-the-line relief keeping point where the ball crossed into the penalty area between you and the hole.
 - Hit from the previous position or as close to it as possible.
- If you are in doubt, you can always play 2 balls and get a ruling following play.
- There is no drop area on Holes #2 or #17.
 - Ball must be played as it lies in the sand traps unless it is in an animal print (not human). Please rake the sand traps after you are done. You may declare an unplayable lie in the sand trap and take a drop with a penalty stroke. Ball must be dropped in the sand trap.
 - There will be a drop area on Hole #18 if you hit your second shot into the water. Balls entering the water on the tee shot will be played as a lateral hazard. Drop area can only be used if your second or subsequent shot goes in the water.
 - Reminder: On Holes #3 and #8, the lateral hazard runs the entire length of the hole, starting at the tee boxes. If you fly into the hazard off the tee, your point of entry is where it crosses into the hazard, not where it ends up. There will be a drop zone near the red tee box on #3 and at the corner tree on #8 to use if you are in the hazard off the tee.
 - Ground under repair will be marked with white circle. Otherwise, ball is played as it lies.

Rules Committee: Gaston Gamboa and Sue Antonelli.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: If there is inclement weather during play, players should listen for the horn to come into the pavilion. It will be determined at that point when play will resume. If a player leaves and does not return for the resumption of play, player will be disqualified. If inclement weather only allows completion of 18 holes that will be deemed the completion of the tournament and payout will be based on the 18-hole scores.

PAYOUT: The tournament payout percentages are based on the number of teams entered. The tournament money will be paid out against the final total score with cash. 25% of the field in each flight will be paid. In the event of a 1st place tie only, a playoff starting on Hole #1 will determine the winner. Players will be playing alternate shot. Teams can only win one time. (Overall winner paid first and then daily winners paid.) Prize money for teams will be determined once field size/flights are determined.

Actual Player's Discussion payout dollar amounts will be posted the morning of the first day of the tournament after the results of the auction are determined. The Player's Discussion pot will be paid out by flight total purse 1/3 each day x 4 places and 1/3 total x 4 places. Teams can win more than once in the Player's Discussion payout.

Gross skins will be available on both days. \$20 per team each day. Please pay with your entry.
Good luck!

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REGISTRATION MEMBER INVITATIONAL

PLAYER #1:

NAME: _____ **AGE** _____ **GHIN #** _____

TEE: _____ **E-MAIL** _____

ADDRESS: _____

PLAYER #2:

NAME: _____ **AGE** _____ **GHIN #** _____

TEE: _____ **E-MAIL** _____

ADDRESS: _____

\$600 PAID TO VAALER CREEK GOLF ASSOCIATION (VCGA) BY CASH/CHECK #
/VENMO @renee-golf-account2 (9703) Note: Invite

SKINS \$40: _____ **GUEST MEAL \$22 EACH** _____