

## LOUISIANA GOLF ASSOCIATION CLUB MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS AND SERVICES LISTING/2017

1. Championship Administration.
  - a. Conducts nine (9) LGA Championship events, including two (2) Net events.
  - b. Conducts 16 LGA Qualifying events.
  - c. Conducts USGA Qualifying Events for US Open, US Amateur, US Mid-Amateur, US Senior Amateur, and US (Men's & Women's) Four-Ball Championships.
  - d. Sponsors, Selects, and Organizes team representing Louisiana in the Junior River Cup Matches (annual junior team competition between Louisiana and Mississippi).
  
2. Travel Discounts and Trips.
  - a. *Affinity Travel Benefits* - LGA Members through their GHIN Number can gain access to "Member Only" pricing on over half a million hotels worldwide.
  
  - b. *Sullivan Golf Travel* - Through a partnership between the LGA and *Sullivan Golf Travel*, in August 2018, LGA Members can register for a "Trip of a Lifetime" to Southwest Ireland for 6 days of golf on some of the finest courses SW Ireland has to offer. Additionally, as a part of your membership, you can book your own European golf trip at a discounted rate through *Sullivan Golf Travel*.
  
3. Free Annual Subscription to *Golf Digest*.
  - a. By providing a valid email address and signing up annually, LGA Members may choose a free subscription to *Golf Digest*.
  
4. Audubon Golf Trail Discount Card.
  - a. Through partnership with the Audubon Golf Trail, LGA Member Club members are entitled to one complimentary cart fee at 10 Audubon Golf Trail facilities on an annual basis. A total value of approximately \$250 annually per member. The AGT Discount Card is now a digital downloadable card you can have on your mobile device, for ease of access.
  
5. Course Rating and Measuring Services.
  - a. Licensed by the USGA to provide USGA approved course and slope rating services to golf courses (only organization in Louisiana licensed by the USGA to perform this service).
    - i. Provides course and slope rating services to LGA Member Clubs **at no charge** (a minimum \$3,500 value) as benefit of membership.
    - ii. Provides course specific Course and Slope Rating Certificate and Course Handicap Conversion Tables.
    - iii. Provides tee-to-green measuring services for golf courses **at no charge** as a part of course rating services.
  - b. Publishes and distributes annual LGA Course Rating Poster to LGA Member Clubs, listing up-to-date rating information on all LGA rated courses.
  - c. Maintains database for course and slope ratings for all Louisiana courses.
  - d. Provides information to USGA on Louisiana clubs that have outdated course and slope ratings.
  
6. Handicapping Administration and Services.
  - a. Licensed by the USGA to oversee the USGA Handicap System in Louisiana and provide handicapping services to its Member Clubs. Clearinghouse for questions and issues relative to the USGA Handicap System.
  - b. Resource for information on the proper application of the USGA Handicap System relative to club events, etc.

7. Clearinghouse for USGA Club Licensing Program.
  - a. LGA Member Clubs covered under the LGA's license agreement. LGA will consult with Member Clubs to ensure all obligations are met.
  - b. LGA will consult with and help prepare Clubs in the event a LGA Member Club is selected for a licensing audit by the USGA.
  - c. LGA is required to forward licensing requests/applications from non-LGA member clubs to the USGA, however; general consultation services will not be provided to non-LGA member clubs, nor will they be provided in the event of a licensing audit by the USGA.
  - d. Conducts USGA approved LGA Handicap Certification Seminars, enabling Member Clubs to satisfy USGA requirements for issuing approved Handicap Indexes.
  
8. *The Rules of Golf* and the Rules of Amateur Status.
  - a. Answers questions and provides interpretations on *The Rules of Golf* and *Decisions on the Rules of Golf* for LGA Member Clubs and individual members.
  - b. Available for *Rules of Golf* consultation during LGA Member Club events.
  - c. LGA will administer the reimbursement of expenses for tournaments played by qualifying amateurs based upon USGA guidelines.
  - d. Resource for information and available for consultation with LGA Member Clubs on the proper marking of the golf course.
  - e. Clearinghouse for information on the Rules of Amateur Status. Processes applications from individuals applying for a reinstatement of their amateur status.
  
9. Liaison with Allied Golf Associations on Behalf of LGA Member Clubs and Individual Members.
  - a. Audubon Golf Trail (member organization of original task force creating Trail).
  - b. The First Tee.
  - c. GCSAA (Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America).
  - d. Golf 20/20.
  - e. Gulf States Section (GSS) of the PGA of America.
  - f. IAGA (International Association of Golf Administrators).
  - g. LWGA (Louisiana Women's Golf Association).
  - h. NCA (National Club Association).
  - i. NGF (National Golf Foundation).
  - j. PGA of America (Professional Golfers' Association of America).
  - k. USGA (United States Golf Association).
  - l. World Golf Foundation.
  
10. Maintains and Manages Website ([www.LGAgolf.org](http://www.LGAgolf.org)).
  - a. Provides information on LGA Championships and Qualifiers, USGA Championships and Qualifiers, and access to other Louisiana golf-related information.
  - b. Provides on-line entry for LGA Championships.
  - c. Provides real-time scoring updates for LGA Championship events.
  - d. Provides LGA results archive.
  - e. Provides LGA Member Club course directory, allowing for promotion of and access to information on LGA Member Clubs and Courses.
  - f. Provides links to other golf related websites.
  - g. Provides access for LGA Handicap Network participants to review both their own USGA Handicap Index scoring records and the records of other members that belong to the association.
  - h. Provides internet score posting availability for members of LGA Handicap Network Member Clubs (password protected).

11. Provides Educational Opportunities for LGA Member Clubs and Individual Members.
  - a. Conducts educational seminars on the following topics:
    - i. USGA Handicap System.
    - ii. *The Rules of Golf* and *Decisions on the Rules of Golf*
    - iii. Golf Etiquette.
    - iv. USGA Course and Slope Rating System.
  - b. Clearinghouse for seminars conducted by USGA and PGA of America.
12. Lobbies on Behalf of the Golf Industry and '*For the Good of the Game.*'
13. Maintains an Office to Meet the Needs of its Constituency with three (3) Full-time Employees, one (1) Part-time Employee, and one (1) USGA Boatwright Intern.

**For LGA Member Clubs that also wish to have the LGA administer its in-house handicapping program; the LGA, in partnership with GHIN, makes available the LGA Handicap Network (LHN). In 2016, 100% of LGA Member Clubs participated as LGA Handicap Network clubs. The LGA strongly encourages its Member Clubs to participate in the LHN for the added consistency and integrity that it brings to handicapping statewide.**

14. Administers LGA Handicap Network (LHN) for LGA Member Clubs.
  - a. Provides a CPU and flat-screen monitor for establishment of golfer entry score posting station at participant clubs.
  - b. Provides a label printer, networked with score posting station, for printing of members' handicap labels on demand.
  - c. Provides handicapping software to participant clubs, allowing club members to post scores at club's golfer entry station, any of the other participant clubs' golfer entry stations, or at LGA website via the LGA's internet score posting option.
  - d. Provides access to the LGA/GHIN mobile app for use in posting scores
  - e. In addition to handicapping services, software includes a tournament management system, USGA Tournament Management Powered by *Golf Genius*, allowing participant clubs the ability to seamlessly integrate handicapping and tournament management.