**2024 Cardinal League Charter**

**Overview & Objectives**

The Cardinals are a group of likeminded golf members of Laguna National Golf Resort who play weekly for the Cardinal League and end of year Cardinal Cup. The objective of the Cardinals is to play golf and HAVE FUN doing it.

**Cardinal Membership Terms & Conditions:**

* Member of Laguna National Golf & Country Club or a Cardinal alumnus paying applicable green fees and willing to play whenever they can, on Saturday with all other Cardinals. Attendance is expected but not enforced, however if you decide to play on Saturday outside the Cardinals, it is expected you let the group know out of courtesy.
* **Gamebook and Teamer:** Profiles created and maintained in the Gamebook & Teamer apps by each member.
* **Handicaps:** Handicaps are to be maintained in CHS using the World Handicap System (WHS). Cardinals that play golf at locations other that Laguna National CC, in Singapore, or internationally, are required to input all scores (on a hole-by-hole basis) into the SGA CHS Handicap system. If not a member of a golf club in Singapore, then into a golf handicap system approved by the Golf Rules/R&A Organising Sub Committee members. If this has not been done upon return, the Organising Sub Committee appointees responsible for R&A / Rules of Golf shall allocate a Gamebook handicap.
* **Booking Participation:** Attendance is mandatory on booking calls with good faith attempts to secure bookings. Ideally, bookings will correlate with the amount of golf played. Failure to register attendance three (3) times could result in the Cardinal being disqualified from playing in the next weekly game to the extent there is a shortage of tee times (and such Cardinal shall earn no points for that week). Otherwise, a Cardinal who fails their respective booking attendance three (3) times shall be allowed to play in the next weekly game but will earn no Cardinal points for that game (*for the avoidance of doubt, the Cardinal shall be charged a S$20 attendance fee regardless*).
* **Cardinal Puff:** Bravely attempt to achieve ‘Cardinal Puff’ status each year. A successful and completed “Cardinal” will be rewarded with 100 points. In addition, from the first Saturday in October those Cardinals that have not bravely attempted to achieve ‘Cardinal Puff’ status will receive zero points available until a brave attempt is completed. Alternatively, a Cardinal may pay $100 to achieve ‘Cardinal Puff’ status.
* **Alumni Play:** Cardinal Alumni are welcome to play with the group if visiting Laguna, subject to tee time availability and paying requisite green fees.

**New Membership Terms & Conditions**:

* New entrants may be nominated by existing Cardinals from time to time. Nominations must be made to the Chief Cardinal by email only and shall contain a description of why the nominee is being nominated and why nominee will make a good addition to the Cardinals.
* New entrants should, at a minimum, exhibit the following characteristics of a Cardinal:
	+ Diligently assists with bookings;
	+ Plays Cardinal golf on a regular basis;
	+ Socialises with the Cardinals on a regular basis; and,
	+ Does their part to assist the league with special events, tours, etc.
* **Nomination:** An existing Cardinal is allowed to nominate one (1) new member at a time, during the authorised periodic voting dates;
* **Voting & Admission Dates**: Voting for new Cardinal nominees will be held by confidential online poll among all Cardinals (surveymonkey.com or similar acceptable provider) and shall take place on the following dates
	+ January 10th
	+ April 2nd; and
	+ August 2nd
	+ A nominee must receive a minimum 2/3 vote by all active Cardinals (Cardinal Alumni cannot vote) in order to be confirmed as a new Cardinal member. New Cardinal membership shall start immediately, and a pro-rated League Entry Fee shall be due and payable and other Fiscal Obligations shall apply thereafter.
* Cardinal Membership is limited to 32 people.
* A change to the cap of 32 members requires a 2/3 vote by the Cardinal league membership.

**Tee Time Booking System:**

* The Cardinal booking system divides all members into two groups: Masters Bookers and Classic Bookers.
* Each group will be required to attempt to book flights each week to guarantee a playing opportunity. The Booking Tzars will communicate the pod requirements each week.
* Tee times will be booked on Saturday evenings at 9pm the week prior to the Saturday game (1 week prior).
* Players must accept/decline on Teamer by 8:00 PM Wed the week prior to the Saturday 9PM tee time booking efforts (i.e., 3 days) to ensure we book the correct number of flights.
* If you forget to accept on Teamer and don’t receive a spot, it is your responsibility to try to book a tee time.
* Any cancellations must be confirmed by Tuesday 12:00 PM prior (4 days prior) to the respective Saturday game. The Cardinal canceling may be subject to cancellation fees.
* Guests allowed upon availability on the Wednesday prior at 12:00 PM on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Charter Non-Conformity:**

* In the unlikely and unfortunate event of a dispute between Cardinals or non-conformity with the Cardinal League Charter, the Organising Committee will outline a clear process for resolution which, if necessary, will include a majority decision from the Cardinal League membership.
* In all cases the Organising Committee’s decision will be final.

**Cardinal Local Rules:**

* Play “ready golf”: In effect at all times, including on the tee box, in the fairway and on the green.
* Adhering to the rules of golf and exemplifying golf etiquette at all times.
* Any putts conceded (‘Gimmies’) are subject to the Cardinal Gimmie Rule (within 24”) and any competition rules.
* Players are encouraged to pick up once they cannot score a Stableford point on any given hole.
* In the event of course closure due to an unforeseen event such as extended rain delay, all Cardinal flights MUST have the opportunity to finish 1 hole or the league points for that week will be void.

**Rain Delay**

* In the event of course closure due to lightening or rain the following shall apply:
* Upon the announcement of the 3rd delay of play, a Cardinal may elect to stop play at his/her discretion. He/She is not required to finish their round. Their current score in Gamebook shall apply, no matter how many holes have been played.
* If a rain delay extends up to or past 5:31pm, a Cardinal may elect to stop play at his/her discretion. He/She is not required to finish their round. Their current score in Gamebook shall apply, no matter how many holes have been played.
* If at 6pm, a Cardinal has not been able to finish their game, a Cardinal may elect to stop play at his/her discretion. He/She is not required to finish their round. Their current score in Gamebook shall apply, no matter how many holes have been played.
* In the case of all other unforeseen circumstances, the Organising Committee will make an executive decision, which will be final.

**Fiscal Obligations :**

* League Entry Fee: $300 if paid by January 31st; $400 thereafter.
* No league points are accrued until entry fee is paid; league points are not grandfathered. You must be eligible to earn points, in order to earn points.
* $10 weekly registration fee during playing weeks - Must be paid on day of play otherwise Late Subs fine applies, and no points are accrued for the week.
* Double fines and double prizes for medals - hence we are able to keep the weekly fee at $10 and $20 for medals.
* Infractions and fine amounts for the 2024 Cardinal season:

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| **Infraction** | **Fine (S$)** |
| **Cancellation / No Show (after Wed Noon prior to game)** | $100 + any Club fee |
| **Turning up late, after playing partners tee off** | $50 |
| **Hitting someone with golf ball** | $50 |
| **Failure to update handicap on GB** | $50 |
| **Throwing up on-course** | $50 |
| **Bandit Fine (≥40 pts)**  | $30 |
| **Amateur Fine (<25 pts)**  | $30 |
| **Late Subs** | $20 |
| **“Fashion Fine” - Failure to wear correct attire on medal & tour events** | $10 |
| **Unable to reach Ladies tees** | $10 |
| **Air Shot** | $10 |
| **The ‘Gordo’ (Ladies + Air Shot)** | $20 |
| **Golf Etiquette Abuse** | $20 |
| **Course, Equipment, or Club Abuse** | $10 |
| **Booking Participation Absentee Fine** | $25 |
| **WhatsApp message board abuse (e.g. deleted messages, inappropriate Notice Board chat posting, etc.)** | $10 |
| **Gimme Fine – both ‘the gimme’ & ‘the gimmer’** | $10 |
| **Failing to notify playing outside Cardinal group on Saturday** | $20 |

**Election of the Leader of the Cardinals and Selection of the Organising Committee (**“**OC”)**

Each year, the Cardinals will have the opportunity to elect a new leader, who will serve a maximum one-year term. The leader has full authority to select and establish the OC for his term. No term limits exist for OC members.

Election procedure:

1. The leader will open call for volunteers around mid-November.
2. Volunteers will be placed into an online voting system for the group to vote for their choice of leader. The polls will be open for a 7-day window.
3. In the event of a tie, a run-off poll will be conducted between the tied parties.
4. After the results of the election are finalised, the new leader will select and organise the OC.
5. In the event of a tied runoff, the OC make a final determination.

**Organising Committee for the 2024 Cardinal Season:**

|  |  |  |
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| **Role** | **Primary** | **Backup** |
| **C4** | Gary Brookes | Nico |
| **Gamebook Czars** | Andrew Kemp  | Kim Wittrog |
| **Teamer Czars** | Nick Caldwell | Jimmy Evans |
| **Booking Czars** | Jimmy Evans  | Tommy R |
| **Treasurer & Penalty Master** | Chris Brankin |  |
| **Score Keeper & Leader Board** | Steve Eastman | Tournament Committee (TC) |
| **Website Master** | Keith Boone | None |
| **Subcommittees** |   |   |
| **Tournament Committee** | Jonathan Woodward, Brian Cook, Chris Brankin |  |
| **Match Play Events** | Nico | TC |
| **Overseas Tour** | Shadid | Gary Brookes |
| **Golf Rules / R&A** | TC |  |
| **Year End Planners** | Mark Rhodes | Gary Brookes |

**Competitions for 2024:**

* There are expected to be five unique Cardinal competitions during the 2024 season:
1. The Cardinal League Cup:
	1. Regular Season will be played over 41 rounds[[1]](#footnote-2) from 13th Jan to 2nd November which will define the Cardinal Champion of 2024
	2. The Play-offs will consist of 4 rounds played over 4 weeks from 9th November to 30th November
	3. The Grand Final (round 46) will be held on 6th December, which will crown the Division Champions
2. The Pairs Match Play Tournament will run in the first half of the year
3. The Individual Match Play Tournament will run in the second half of the year
4. The Overseas Tour, currently anticipated to be in August to September
5. The Cardinal/Sultan Cup, anticipated to take place in November/December
6. The Cardinal Challenge Cup will take place on 28th September (No Cardinal League points will be awarded)3

As Laguna is seeing more golfing groups (some more organised than others), it is well within reason to assume that “Inter-Club or Inter-group” challenges and tournaments can become norm. As such the Cardinals will be open to such challenges, provided such events and format are run by, as well as approved by the OC, before such challenge is accepted.

**Competition 1: Cardinal League Cup**

* Year-long contest to determine the Cardinal Champion.
* Each weekly event in the Cardinal League, the Play-offs and the Grand Final consists of an individual Stableford game and a side game in a format as determined by the Gamebook Czar's. The Gamebook Czar's have the flexibility to decide the best week to play a pairs match play given the number of participants.
* Points are awarded in accordance with the Cardinal League Points table in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.
* During LNGCC monthly medals, Cardinal League Points will be awarded according to stableford points on Gamebook as well as points for the side game.
* Players will be deemed to have ‘signed an incorrect scorecard’ if their Gamebook handicap is not updated according to their SGA official handicap. A player will be disqualified, and points will be forfeited.

**The Playoffs and Final Round**

* At the conclusion of the 2nd November game, players will be split into the following groups:
	+ Division A will include the top 10 ranked players
	+ Division B will include the 11th – 20th ranked players
	+ Division C will include all remaining players
* The rules of weekly play will continue through the November playoffs; however, you will only be competing within your division.
* **The Playoffs**: all four matches from the 9th November to the 30th November will be considered the playoffs. The points for these 4 weeks shall be as stipulated in the Cardinal League Points table on page 5. Following the game on the 30th November, a ranking of the top players in each league will be provided for the purposes of the Final Round.
* **The Final Round**: Final round will be stableford and be played on the course and tees as determined by the OC and will be worth double points. Cardinals will be allocated bonus points based on their final position in each division as per Appendix 1.
* All Cardinals will be competing for the honour of holding the Cardinal Cup for the year.
* Winners and Runners-Up in each division will win a trophy and prizes at the conclusion of the event.

**Competition 2: Pairs Matchplay Tournament**

* Date and Format: 17th February to 30th November, 4-Ball Better Ball Handicap differential is based on 90% of the course handicap difference between players rounded to the nearest full stroke (with 0.5 rounded up).
* Pairs will be drawn from two pots based on handicap rankings as at Jan 1st. The first pot will contain the lowest handicap rankings and the second pot the higher handicap rankings. If there is an uneven number of entrants, the first name drawn will be given a bye in the first round and his partner will be drawn from all the first-round losers in the opposite group.
* The winners of the previous year can compete as a pair to defend their title for the following season only. If they retain their title, they cannot defend it the following season.
* The lowest handicap player plays off 0, and each other player gets the respective difference in course handicap.
* Handicaps as of the date the match is played.
* Matches can be played on either course as agreed by both teams. If there is disagreement toss a coin.
* Blue tees for men, white tees for ladies. Hybrids may be used on Classic If agreed between the teams. If there is disagreement toss a coin.
* Tied games after 18 holes go back down the 1st hole that was played and carry on till one team wins a hole.
* It is the responsibility of the first named team in each draw to arrange the match before the deadline.
* Matches must be completed by the Play-by date stated on the draw sheet. If all 4 players can’t find a common date, then the partner of the player who can’t make the last date where 3 of the 4 players can play should play as a single against their two opponents Normal USGA match play rules unless otherwise stated – please see the following pages for key points – ***it is each player’s responsibility to know the rules***. Committees’ decision will be final.

**Competition 3: Individual Matchplay Tournament**

Date & Format: 17th February to 30th November, Individual Match Play

* Handicap differential is based on 100% of the course handicap difference between players rounded to the nearest full stroke (with 0.5 rounded up).
* For the avoidance of doubt the player with the lower handicap plays off 0, and the other player gets the number of shots calculated above.
* If there is an uneven number of entrants, the defending champion will be given the first bye, any remaining byes will be given to the next name(s) drawn out of the hat.
* Handicaps are as of the date the match is played.
* Matches can be played on either course as agreed by both players. If there is disagreement toss a coin.
* Blue tees for men, white tees for ladies. Hybrids may be used on Classic If agreed. If there is disagreement toss a coin.
* Tied games after 18 holes go back to the 1st hole that was played and carry on till someone wins a hole.
* It is the responsibility of the first named player in each draw to arrange the match before the deadline.
* Matches must be completed by the Play-by date stated on the draw sheet. Normal USGA match play rules unless otherwise stated – please see the following pages for key points – ***it is each player’s responsibility to know the rules***. Committees’ decision will be final.

**For both Pairs Matchplay and Individual Matchplay tournaments, if by the Play By date a definitive result has not been achieved the following will be used to determine the winner:**

1. If an attempted match has completed at least 14 holes before being abandoned, then the score at that point becomes the final result.
2. If (1) above has not been achieved, scores in the last completed Cardinal round played by each of the players should be used – in singles a ‘blind’ match can be worked out from the Gamebook scores for the round. For the Pairs event, the higher combined stableford scores for each pairing to be used to determine the winner.
3. If neither of the above is possible and the contestants can’t agree an alternative (eg putt off or chip off on the practice green) the winner should be determined by coin toss.

**Competition 4: The Cardinal Challenge Cup 2024**

Date & Format: 28th September, Team Competition

* This year, the Challenge Cup will follow the Ryder Cup format and will be played on 28th September.
* This will be a 36-hole competition between a European Cardinal and a ‘Rest of the World’ Cardinal team.
* First Round Format – 4-ball match play (5 matches).
* Second Round Format – Singles match play (10 matches).
* Each match is worth one point, with matches ending in a draw worth ½ point to each side. The first team to reach 8.0 points wins the Cup. If the competition ends in a 7.5-7.5 draw, the team holding the Cup retains it.

**Eligibility & Teams**

* All Cardinals participating in the Cardinal League will be eligible to make the teams.
* Cardinal players will be distributed to respective teams by 4th February according to passport country.
* Captains will be announced on 11th February.
* The EU Team will be made up from the top 8 players from the Cardinal EU ranking after 21st September and completed by 2 Captain’s picks.
* The ROW Team will be made up from the top 8 players from the Cardinal ROW ranking after 21st September and completed by 2 Captain’s picks.

Winners & Losers

* The losing team will host and pay for the dinner of the winning team on 28th September.
* Those not playing in the Cardinal Challenge Cup 2023 will be responsible for their own account.

**Competition 5: The Annual Tour**

Date and Format: TBD, anticipated to be late October (maybe Phuket), Team Competition

* Three rounds of golf or more at a location yet to be confirmed. Note that scores for each round to be input into CHS or WHS as per the Handicap rule stipulated above.
* All Cardinals are encouraged to participate, and every effort will be made to schedule accordingly.
* The Saturday game of the Tour will be an official Cardinal event and will be awarded points as laid out in Appendix 1.
* Participating Cardinals will be divided into two teams and an inter-tour competition will be created.

**Appendix 1**

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| --- | --- |
| **Points System** |  |
|  **1st** | **200** |
| **2nd** | **140** |
| **3rd** | **100** |
| **4th** | **80** |
| **5th** | **70** |
| **6th** | **60** |
| **7th** | **50** |
| **8th** | **40** |
| **9th** | **30** |
| **10th** | **20** |
| **11th** | **20** |
| **12th** | **20** |
| **13th** | **20** |
| **14th** | **20** |
| **15th** | **20** |
| **16th** | **20** |
| **17th** | **20** |
| **18th** | **20** |
| **19th** | **20** |
| **20th** | **20** |
| **21st** | **10** |
| **22nd** | **10** |
| **23rd** | **10** |
| **24th** | **10** |
| **25th** | **10** |
| **26th** | **10** |
| **27th** | **10** |
| **28th** | **10** |
| **29th** | **10** |
| **30th** | **10** |
| **31st** | **10** |
| **32nd** | **10** |

* **Monthly Medal is Double Weekly Points**
* **Tour points are Double the Home Game points on the same weekend**
* **Points as per count-back position in GameBook**
* **Divisional Playoffs will have scores reset, and a staggered points start based on initial position in Division at time of split (Based on Weekly points)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Points System |   |
| 1st | 200 |
| 2nd | 140 |
| 3rd | 100 |
| 4th | 80 |
| 5th | 70 |
| 6th | 60 |
| 7th | 50 |
| 8th | 40 |
| 9th | 30 |
| 10th | 20 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Weekly Match Play Points** |  |
| **Individual Winner** | 50 |
| **Pairs Team Winner (ea)** | 25 |
| **Individual Loser** | 0 |
| **Pairs Losing Team (ea)** | 0 |
| **Winning Team (Blue/Red)** | 25 |

**Weekly team games will be allocated as follows (Based on Weekly Table)**

**Members of team that comes first, gets 200 points divided by number of players e.g. if team of 4, they get 50 each. If team of 3, 66.6 each, team of 2, 100 each**

**Second team 140 divided by number of players etc.**

**Third team 100 divided by number of players etc.**



1. 40 weeks excludes the two rounds reserved for the Cardinal Challenge Cup for which no points are available to earn [↑](#footnote-ref-2)