



## RULES & HANDBOOK



## **Membership**

TheGrint Tour is owned and operated by Sandy Birdie LLC and is headquartered in Coral Gables FL. Membership to the TheGrint Tour is open to any amateur golfer with a verifiable handicap index. In order to compete in our events, you must have entered a minimum of six (6) completed scorecards into your TheGrint App account, or have a verifiable USGA Handicap Index, or have received approval by the Tour Director(s). Any amateur golfer can sign up for TheGrint Tour on the official website: [www.TheGrintTour.com](http://www.TheGrintTour.com).

## **Membership Fees**

The cost of an annual membership into the TheGrint Tour is as follows:

- \$150.00 w/o an active “Pro Membership” on TheGrint App
- \$125.00 w/ an active “Pro Membership” on TheGrint App

Tour member benefits include, but are not limited to the following:

- Discounted entry fees & unlimited referral credits
- Tour Welcome Kit w/ logo'd promotional items (received at your next event)
- Participation in TheGrint Tour Cup Season Long Race and its prizes
- Any special discounts offered by sponsors for their products/services
- Eligibility to participate in any regional TheGrint Tour tournament

## **Assumption of Risk and Release from Liability:**

By becoming a member of TheGrint Tour or entering and playing in a TheGrint Tour events, the participant understands and agrees that there are certain dangers involved with the participation in a golf tournament, including but not limited to being struck by lightning, getting hit by a golf club or golf ball, suffering from heat exhaustion, heart attack or injury from uneven terrain, for all such risks the participant assumes, solely accepts, and waives all claims of injury to body or property against TheGrint Tour. Furthermore, the participant agrees that while on the premises of a TheGrint Tour tournament, the participant, and any guest, relative or anyone else affiliated with participant, shall be present at their own risk and that Sandy Birdie LLC shall not be liable for any claims for injuries or damages whatsoever to person or property of the participant or related person arising out of or in connection with the participation in the tournament or presence at the tournament. Participant agrees to indemnify and hold harmless TheGrint Tour and Sandy Birdie LLC from all claims by or liability to participant or affiliated person.

## **Tournament Registration**

Tour players can register online for all events at [www.TheGrintTour.com](http://www.TheGrintTour.com). Events may have a limited number of entries and discounts available. Therefore, each event will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Tour players are encouraged to register early, as any event may sell-out in advance of the entry deadline.

## Payment Policy

It is the responsibility of the TheGrint Tour player to submit the required entry fee for each tournament prior to the entry deadline, as payment will be the only means by which to secure a position in the tournament field. Entry fee payments should be made via the TheGrint Tour website using a credit card, but may be paid by other means (i.e. Venmo, Paypal, Zelle, etc.) with the permission of the Tour Director(s). When your payment is received and registration is complete, an email confirmation along with a receipt will be sent to you.

Registration fees will be as follows for each event and type:

<b><u>Registration</u></b>	<b><u>Regular</u></b>	<b><u>Playoff</u></b>	<b><u>Major</u></b>
Non-Member	\$165*	\$165*	\$295-\$360*
Member	\$150*	\$150*	\$250-\$325*
Member Early Bird	\$130*	\$130*	\$195-\$240*

*\*Registration fees for events are subject to change based on venue selection, pricing, and availability. The above pricing is meant to serve as guide only and not a committed price. Event pricing will be posted on the event's registration page, along with any promotions/special offers.*

*\*\*Late event registrations will be subject to added fees.*

TheGrint Tour Members will qualify for discounted registration fees (Member & Member Early Bird) as shown above. Early Bird registration is limited and subject to entry gift restrictions. Refer to each event's Registration page for details. The additional Tour Member Early Bird discount will be available to any Member completing their registration to an event 21 days prior to the originally scheduled date of the event for which they are registering until the designated number of spots are available. If a Tour Member is not able to complete registration before the cutoff date of the Early Bird discount, the Member discount will apply up to the date of the event.

By registering for any event, you are agreeing to these Rules and Guidelines.

## Referral Credits

All current season active/registered TheGrint Tour members are eligible for a referral credit of \$25 for each referral's completed Tour Membership registration. The credit is good for any future Tour event(s) beyond the current event in which the referral was validated. The referral must not have been a prior Tour Member, or have played in any previous Tour events. A referral credit will only be given when the new Tour Member enters the referring member's email at the time of their new Membership registration. Be sure to know and enter the proper email your referring Member has on file with TheGrint in the search box when prompted during your registration. If the referring member's name or email is not found in the search box, please seek assistance by emailing Tour Director(s) via the "Contact Us" link on our website's Home page. All referrals will be reviewed and verified by Tour Director(s).

## Credit Redemption

Any online credit to your TheGrint Tour account is redeemed automatically when you register for a tournament. Credits will not be eligible to be applied to an Early Bird tournament registration fee. Credits can be applied ONLY to a regular Member Price. Non-members will not be eligible for credits. Credits can be redeemed when they become a member. Referral and Tournament Credits will expire 120 days or 4 events after being awarded. Credits can only be used on the Local Tour where the member earned them.

## Credit Redemption

If a player requests to withdraw from an event of the current season, the balance will be refunded to the player's method of payment less all applicable withdrawal and processing fees. Credits as a result of Refund (when a player withdraws from an event) will also be subject to expiration and processing fees. Any unused credit by refund issued prior to the final event of the current season will expire if not used.

## Tour Flights

The following table depicts how players are assigned to their respective Tour flights based on their USGA Handicap Index. Final decisions on assigning Tour Players' flights are solely at the discretion of TheGrint Tour Director(s) after a full review of the players and their scores.

<u><b>Flight Name</b></u>	<u><b>HCP</b></u>
Champion	<= 3.9
Albatross	4.0 – 7.9
Eagle	8.0 – 11.9
Birdie	12.0 – 15.9
Par	16.0 +

## Player Flight Assignment & Re-Assignment

TheGrint Tour wants to ensure a competitive atmosphere at our events yet ensure fairness to all players. In order to achieve this, sometimes it is necessary to evaluate new players and those who compete throughout the season. If warranted, the Tour Director(s) will exercise discretion on player reassignments to flights for competition. The following are some common examples:

**Bouncing Handicaps** – At any time during the season a player improves their handicap index that qualifies them to move into the next flight, they will remain in that flight for the remainder of the season.

**Consecutive Wins** – If a player wins two consecutive events that they play in for the same flight to which they are assigned, that player will be reviewed and possibly moved up to the next flight for the remainder of the season or their handicap improves to move up yet another flight. Seniors may be moved to regular tees for the flight. Handicap and performance

relative to the field will be taken into consideration.

**New Grinters** – Members not having the minimum six (6) rounds entered into TheGrint App will be flagged as not having a valid handicap index. All such members will be contacted and reviewed by the Tour Director(s) to determine flight assignment and/or inclusion into the competition. The following are possible scenarios:

- The new Grinter has an established handicap index thru GHIN or another service. The Grinter will be asked to enter past scores into TheGrint App in order to become Tour compliant.
- The new Grinter is a novice to the game with less than 6 rounds entered. TheGrint Tour welcomes and encourages new players to the game and our Tour. The Tour Director(s) will contact and discuss the players golf game. After review, inclusion to competition and winnings may be allowed. However, any points awarded will be retained only if the player has entered six (6) scores by their next event participation.

### **Cancellations and No Shows**

If a Tour player who has registered for a tournament withdraws more than 7 days before the date of that Tour event, they will receive a credit for use in future TheGrint Tour events. Withdrawal from any tournament must be done no later than 3 days before the date of the event. If a Tour player withdraws, they are subject to a cancellation fee plus any additional fees or green fees from the hosting golf course. Any Tour player that has registered for an event and does not show or make contact with the Tour Supervisor on the day of the event will forfeit their registration fee and may have their player privileges revoked for future events. All withdrawals must be communicated to the Tour Director(s) by email or text. The timestamp of the communication of intent to withdraw will be used in consideration of any fees or credits depicted in the policy stated previously.

## Tournament Payouts:

### **By Flights**

Each flight will have a champion declared. For Champ, Albatross, Eagle, and Birdie flights a champion of each will be determined based on "Gross Score". In the Par flight, the champion will be determined by "Low Net". In addition, an Overall Low Net may also be recognized from the entire field of players. A Low Gross winner of a flight cannot also win the Overall Low Net. In that case we proceed to next Low Net. Depending on the number of players per flight for each event we will also recognize/award 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 5th place finishes in each flight accordingly with gift cards and/or other prizes at the Tournament Director(s) discretion. Tour Director(s) may at their discretion change the number of prizes and/or their values should a flight's number of players vary.

<b><u>Number of Players (per flight)</u></b>	<b><u>Number of Places Paid</u></b>	<b><u>Regular/Playoff Event Payout (per flight)</u></b>	<b><u>Major Event Payout (per flight)</u></b>
2 - 9	1 <sup>st</sup>	Credits/Prizes & Trophy 100%, 75%, 65%, 60% of Pot (~\$20/ player)	Credits/Prizes & Trophy 100%, 75%, 65%, 60% of Pot (~\$40/ player)
10 - 14	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Credits/Prizes: 25% of Pot (~\$20/ player)	Credits/Prizes: 25% of Pot (~\$40/ player)
15 – 19	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Credits/Prizes: 10% of Pot (~\$20/ player)	Credits/Prizes: 10% of Pot (~\$40/ player)
20+	4 <sup>th</sup>	Credits/Prizes: 5% of Pot (~\$20/ player)	Credits/Prizes: 5% of Pot (~\$40/ player)

\* As the Tour grows locally, winner payout amounts will be reviewed and may be increased as the season progresses based on increased field of players. The Tour reserves the right to award winners a combination of sponsor gifts, gift cards and/or credits towards future event registrations that are of values depicted above.

**\*\* Par Flight winner and payout positions will now be determined by Low NET (only).**

### Skins Game

An optional cash buy-in skins game will be offered for each flight plus an overall super skins. The games' entry fees are cash only in addition to the event registration fee and will only be taken at the Check-In table on the day of the event. The lowest Gross Score per hole with a birdie (-1 to par) or better will qualify and be used to determine a winning skin for each flight. A winning player's payout per skin will simply be the Flight's pot value divided by number of Flight skins won in the event. If there are no winners, the pot(s) will carry over to the next event and continue to grow until a winner occurs or the Tour year ends. Any unclaimed prize money at year end will either be donated to a local charity or raffled in the form of gift cards and/or golf items to those who participated during the unclaimed period.

### Hole-In-One Contest

A tournament may have a sponsored Hole-in-One Contest. A single Par-3 hole will be designated for the contest with required minimum tee distances. The prize value for each event will be determined by the sponsor and will be open to all players participating in the tournament. There is no additional fee to participate in this contest when sponsored. Details for each event's contest will be posted on the event's detail and registration page.

### Scoring

TheGrint Tour will use Gross Scores to determine the winners of the Champ, Albatross, Eagle, and Birdie flights. The one flight exception will be PAR, where flight winners and payout positions will be determined by Low Net. Each Regular/Playoff (1 day) event will consist of 18 holes, while Major (2 day) events will be comprised of 36 holes. Gross score is defined to be the total amount of shots taken to finish the 18 holes per round.

Ties for first place in each flight will be decided by sudden death playoff (unless the course or weather does not allow Tour players back on the course). All players in a sudden death playoff MUST be present in order to participate, else they forfeit their tie. In the event of a tie for second place and other places, the winner will be decided by scorecards in the following order:

For Gross Prizes:

- Best (gross) back nine (9)
- Best (gross) last six holes (6)
- Best (gross) last three holes (3)
- Handicap hole #1 score, followed by handicap #2 score, and so on
- If a tie remains, a coin flip will decide

For Net Prizes: Net Score Over Par - See below

Note: If the golf course or weather does not permit us to determine a Flight winner, TheGrint Tour and the Tour Director(s)/Supervisor(s) can use the above method to determine the Flight Champion.

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### What is "Net Score Over Par"?

A player's Net Score Over Par is a unique formula that TheGrint Tour has developed to level the field regardless of handicap and tee box played and is used to assign players' points for each event towards the season long race for TheGrint Cup. The formula considers both the Course and Slope ratings. The calculation is defined as follows:

"Net Score Over Par = GROSS - (HCP\_INDEX \* COURSE\_SLOPE)/113) - COURSE\_RATING"

### Tees:

TheGrint Tour will have 4 sets of our own tournament tees from which players will play from.

TheGrint Tour GOLD : Champion and Albatross Flight

TheGrint Tour BLUE : Eagle, Birdie, and Par Flights (plus Senior Champion/Albatross)

TheGrint Tour WHITE : Senior (Eagle, Birdie, or Par) & Females <= 7.9 HCP Index

TheGrint Tour RED : Females w/ >=8.0 HCP Index

Each flight will play an average distance during the season, the breakdown will be as follows:

Flight	Open
Champion	6400 - 7200
Albatross	6400 - 7000
Eagle	6000 - 6500
Birdie	6000 - 6500
Par	5800 - 6500

### Seniors:

Seniors who are of age 55 or older will be allowed the option to play ahead one set of tournament tees from their assigned handicap flight's tees. Any NET scoring will be calculated according to the Course HCP from the tees being played. At no time will the most forward set of golf course tee boxes be allowed into tournament play for seniors. Age will be validated by a valid driver's license.

### Females:

Female players having a USGA HCP Index >=8.0 will be allowed the option to play from TheGrint Tour's RED tee markers, while those with a USGA HCP Index <=7.9 will play from TheGrint Tour's WHITE tee markers. Any NET scoring will be calculated according to the Course HCP from the tees being played.



## FORMAT

### League/TheGrint Cup Race

Each season (year) registered Tour Members will compete in two Leagues, each having their own points and Race for TheGrint Cup. There will be a minimum of 8 events for points toward the Race. The two Leagues will be called “AUGUSTA” and “PEBBLE” after the famous golf courses. The AUGUSTA League will be comprised of the Championship and Albatross flights, while the PEBBLE League will be comprised of the Eagle, Birdie, and Par flights.

- Points awarded based on participation and performance in each Tour event
- A Tour Player’s Top event performances will accumulate towards TheGrint Cup
  - All events will be considered for the Race!
  - The maximum number of “best” performance events can only be the number of Regular/Playoff/Major events held in your “Home” Tour!
  - Events played in “Away” Tours will be counted but will fall under the Player’s “Home” Tour Rules & Guidelines and maximum number of events to be counted.
- A minimum of one Playoff event will finish the season worth double (2x) points

### Point Distribution:

Tour event flight winners are based on Gross Score. TheGrint Cup Race will be based on your "Net Score Over Par" (See previously under “Scoring” to see what Net Score Over Par is). A playing member will accumulate points based on their position against their League’s respective field in each Tour event. Point distributions for each League are assigned as follows:

#### Regular Events:

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
150	125	115	105	95	85	75	65	55	45	35	25

- Each player finishing in 13th position and below will receive 20 points for participating
- Each Flight Winner & Overall Low Net will also receive a 25-point (bonus) no matter their net score.

#### Major (1-Day) and Playoff Events:

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
300	250	230	210	190	170	150	130	110	90	70	50

- Each player finishing in 13th position and below will receive 40 points for participating
- Each flight winner & Overall Low Net will also receive a 50-point (bonus) no matter their net score.

### Major (2-Day) and Playoff Events:

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
450	375	345	315	285	255	225	195	165	135	105	75

- Each player finishing in 13th position and below will receive 60 points for participating
- Each flight winner & Overall Low Net will also receive a 50-point (bonus) no matter their net score.

### End of Year Prizes

Each League's TheGrint Cup Race Champion receives the following:

- Name engraved on TheGrint Cup/Plaque
- TheGrint Tour Championship Trophy (that they can keep)
- TheGrint App PRO membership (One Year: \$40)
- Sponsored prizes (To Be Determined)
- Event entry credits towards the upcoming Tour Season

The top 3 players in each League's TheGrint Cup Race will receive the following:

- TheGrint Tour Membership for upcoming Tour Season
- Event entry fee credits towards the upcoming Tour season

The top 5 players in each League's TheGrint Cup Race will receive the following:

- TheGrint Tour Membership for upcoming Tour Season

## Event Information

During all Tour events the USGA Rules and Regulations will be adhered to, with the following exceptions:

1. TheGrint GPS Rangefinder and Laser Rangefinder will be allowed
2. GPS with Slope editions will be permitted as long as the slope function is turned off.
3. One ball rule does not apply
4. Course's Local Rules apply.

You will receive a Scorecard from one of your playing partners. You will keep their score and your score. At the end of your round, you must sign and turn in the score of your playing partner. Any changes must be made before turning in the Scorecard. So please make sure you review your scorecard before its turned in. Scorecards must be turned in at the same time.

### Live Leaderboard

There will be a leaderboard on TheGrint App for every event. **It is mandatory to keep score on the Live Leaderboard during play!** If a player does not adhere, they will be warned and may be disqualified from winning their flight for the event. There needs to be at least one playing group member that will enter the scores after each hole is completed. Accuracy is paramount. The entered score on the Leaderboard will be validated with the official attested paper scorecard for each player after the round is completed.

### Pace of Play

Being off pace (based on local rules) and having more than one (1) hole difference with the tournament playing group ahead of you (at any point during the round) may result in a 1 stroke penalty to each player in the group. After one (1) warning is issued, the following notice will result in the penalty. Warnings will be issued only during the groups' first 9 holes. If a group is playing their last 9 holes, a warning may not be issued and the penalty can incur directly. To report slow play of a tournament group, email/text/phone the Tour Supervisor/Director(s).

### Event Check-In

All registered Tour players MUST check in (in person) on premises of each event. There will be a Check-In table with visible signage to clearly identify the check in area. Players are encouraged to arrive at least 45 minutes before their tee time and report to their designated tee off hole at least 10 minutes before their assigned tee time.

### Late Arrivals

If a registered Tour player reports to their first hole's tee box after their player grouping has completed their hole #1, the player will be disqualified from the event and not allowed to play.

If a registered Tour player reports to their first hole's tee box after their player grouping has teed off of their hole #1 (but not completed the hole), **the player will be assessed a 2-stroke penalty but will be allowed to play.**

### **Starting Times/Assigned Holes**

Tournaments will typically utilize assigned starting times (either straight or split tees), but there may be occasional shotgun starts (depending on the course and number of players). Pairings will be available on the TheGrint Tour website prior to the event, as well as emailed to all registered tournament players. Pairings are subject to change at any time prior to the event. If an individual starting time has been changed, the Tournament Director(s) and/or Supervisor will notify that individual of the change via email, text, or phone.

### **Disagreements/Decisions**

If there is a disagreement during course of play, a provisional ball must be played. Following the end of the round, the situation should be discussed with one of TheGrint Tour Director(s) or the Tour Supervisor of the event. The Tour officials will make the final decision and reserve the right to confer with the golf course's Head Professional. We ask that players accept the committee's final decision. Tour Director(s) may revisit the decision after the event is over at their own discretion. However, the change will only affect TheGrint Cup standings, and not individual event results.

### **Shortened/Cancelled Events**

If a tournament is unable to be completed due to circumstances beyond the Tour committee's control, a decision will be made according to how many holes the last group of the given flight finished and base the results on those holes played.

In the event of inclement weather during a round, every effort will be made by the tournament committee to get in the full number of prescribed holes. If play is delayed, all players should remain on the property at the host facility and await official announcements from the tournament committee. If the delay comes during play, clearly mark their ball's position on the course, return to safety at the clubhouse, and remain on premise for further instruction from the Tournament committee.

### **Media**

By entering any TheGrint Tour event, you are agreeing to be photographed or filmed while practicing, playing, or participating in any stage of the event. TheGrint Tour reserves the right to use these materials for media content creation. i.e., Social Media, informational purposes, marketing, and such.

### **Additional Event Info**

Any additional event specific information will be published on the official event registration page of the Tour's website.