

**ROUSSE FAMILY GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP  
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

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Background:

The Rousse Family Golf Championship began in 1963 as a match play tourney between several of the descendants of Arthur E. Rousse (and those related by marriage). The first event was held in Northfield, VT with Ed Rousse, Sr, Joe Rousse, Jim Toler, Gardner Walker, Leon Rousse, and Phil Rousse participating. Ed Rousse went on to win the inaugural tournament, an event that has since gone on annually around Labor Day weekend. (The only exception being 1971).

As the years passed the tourney changed both in size and shape. The baby boom has provided us with lots of Rousses (et. al.). But in 1979 perhaps the biggest thing to change the tournament occurred. Prior to 1976 the tourney had been won by a select few (Phillip Rousse 1964, 1967, 1969, 1970, 1972, and 1973; Gardner Walker 1965, 1966, and 1974; Joe Rousse 1968 and 1975). In 1976 Dave Rousse became the first of a new generation (so to speak), college trained, of executive stock, and won in 1976, 1977, and 1978, retiring a perfectly good trophy. The following year a new system was instituted, the Calloway System. This scoring system would allow an equalizing of everyone's score to make everyone a competitor. This has done two things to the tournament: 1) provided many different winners 2) Increased the field of competitors (6 in 1978 to 16 in 1990)

As these changes have evolved, the Board of Rulers ("Board") has made many changes in the rules, thus this revision of the Rules and Regulations for the Rousse Family Golf Championship.

RULES:

1. DETERMINING THE CHAMPION

The Tournament will consist of two 18 hole rounds of golf with USGA and local course rules in effect. The Family Champion will be determined by obtaining the lowest net score in one of two systems, the Calloway System or USGA handicaps. The system of choice must be determined by the Board at least one day prior to the tournament.

A. Calloway System

The Calloway System is a handicapping system that assesses a handicap based on the following table:

SCORE					DEDUCT
		70	71	72	scratch - no adjustment
73	74	75			1/2 worst hole(s) +adj
76	77	78	79	80	1 " " + "
81	82	83	84	85	1-1/2 " " + "
86	87	88	89	90	2 " " + "
91	92	93	94	95	2-1/2 " " + "
96	97	98	99	100	3 " " + "
101	102	103	104	105	3-1/2 " " + "
106	107	108	109	110	4 " " + "
111	112	113	114	115	4-1/2 " " + "
116	117	118	119	120	5 " " + "
121	122	123	124	125	5-1/2 " " + "
126	127	128	129	130	6 " " + "
-2	-1	0	+1	+2	ADJUSTMENT (add or deduct to HDCP)

- NOTES:
1. No hole may be scored at more than twice its par
  2. Half strokes count as a whole (round upward)
  3. The 17th and 18th holes are never deducted
  4. In cases of ties the lowest HDCP takes preference

B. USGA Handicaps

If a player has a currently recognized USGA handicap this may be used. For those without a USGA handicap a handicap will be determined by the Board prior to the tournament based on their majority judgment of the most appropriate of the following methods:

- a. 80% of the average difference between their actual score and par on three scorecards of recent play.
- b. 85% of the average difference between their actual score and par in the last two Rouse Family Tournament.
- c. An ad hoc assessment by the board based on interviews and discussions with the players in question and relevant golfing associates.

## 2. THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE

The Championship will be played on a neutral course with the date, tee off times, and location to be determined by the Champion of the previous year. This must be announced at least 30 days prior to the playing date. Failure of the Champion to do so will result in the Board of Directors selecting the date, tee off times, and location. Notification should be in writing to all previous year participants.

a. A neutral course is any course other than the current champion's home course or any course he has played in the last 30 days prior to the first day of the championship.

b. No eligible player shall play on the championship course within 30 days of the first day of the Championship.

c. If a course is selected which is not neutral to the champion or an eligible player has violated the 30 day rule that individual will be assessed one stroke per day to both his gross and net score.

## 3. ELIGIBILITY

Only eligible players can be crowned champion and/or win the low net trophy. Invited guests are eligible for all other prizes.

Eligible players must fit one of the following criteria:

- a. Direct descendant of Arthur E. Rousse
- b. Currently married to a direct descendant of Arthur E. Rousse
- c. Deemed eligible by unanimous consent of the board based on family relationship considerations.

## 4. ENTRY FEE

The board will determine the entry fee for each tournament year at least one day prior to the tournament. Currently, this is \$40 for players 18 and over, \$25 for players under 18, payable to an assigned member of the Board. The fee is to be divided as follows:

- 20% to the Champion
- 15% to the Low Gross Winner
- 25% to the host of the barbecue
- 40% for prizes with any remainder to the fund.

The fund will be used to purchase new trophies as one becomes retired, either by being filled with winners names, at the discretion of the board, or by winning the Championship three consecutive years in a row. Monies will be released from the fund only by unanimous vote by the Board of Rulers. The fund shall be kept in a Barre bank account held jointly by two eligible players.

## 5. CHAMPION'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Rousse Family Champion will keep the Championship Trophy for one year from the close of the championship. He must also maintain and store all relevant records, notify all eligible players of the time, place, and date of the next championship, and organize the next years championship including:

- a. securing a location for the family barbecue and making sure arrangements have been made for food and drink.
- b. securing tee off times and greens fees
- c. setting up prize categories and purchasing prizes
- d. have the Champion's (low net) trophy properly engraved
- e. low gross winner to have plaque engraved

## 6. PRIZE CATEGORIES

Along with the Championship Trophy (low net) and the Low Gross Trophy there are to be the following prize categories:

- a. Longest Drive 1st Day & 2nd Day
- b. Closest to the Pin 1st Day and 2nd Day
- c. Most Improved 2nd Day
- d. Most Improved from the Previous Year

## 7. THE BOARD OF RULERS

The Board consists of three eligible players elected to a three year term by a majority vote from the championship contestants. Only one seat on the board comes up for election per year. There are also emeritus members of the board, those who have played in the Rousse Family Championship for 25 consecutive years and are elected to the Board as permanent members for life.

The Board approves all changes to the rules as outlined herein. Any suggested rule changes should be written and mailed to the Board early enough to allow the board to act prior to the tournament. Rule changes require a majority vote, with the permanent Board member(s) having the power of veto (ie: permanent board members must agree for a rule change to pass).