

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA SINGLES GOLF

CELEBRATING 34 YEARS OF SINGLES GOLF® IN AMERICA

SW Florida Chapter - American Singles Golf Association - May 2026

JUNE 10TH HAPPY HOUR AT BOULEVARD TAVERN

Message From Membership

Thanks to everyone who attended the happy hour at the Center Bar in May. We have another one planned for June 10th at Boulevard Tavern in Fort Myers.

During the summer months, please remind all your single friends that we play at some great courses and it's a great time to join the ASGA.

~Nikki Rineer, Membership Chair

Message from Socials

Save the Date! Our Christmas Party is planned for December 9th at Stoneybrook Community. Put on your dancing shoes and be ready for dinks, dinner and dancing!! More details and pricing to follow.

~Mark Schranz, Socials Chair

What Do We Get for Our Dues?

Here's a Reminder:

SinglesGolf.com/benefits

About Our Members

(THIS REPORT RAN 05/27/2026)

Happy Birthday to these members:

Mary Fuller - 06/12
Cynthia Hero - 06/13
Thomas Kinniry - 05/20
Joan McDermitt - 06/12
Will Mckiddie - 05/12
Josephine McNiff - 05/24
Patricia Sims - 06/06
Sandy Szakach - 06/03

These members are up for renewal:

(date shown is last day of membership)
Linda Brown - 05/31/2026
Ellen Hallett - 05/31/2026
Rachel Raker - 05/31/2026

Welcome newest members:

Michael Ryan - Joined 03/24/2026

These members recently renewed:

Lola Arena
Cynthia Hero
Joan McDermitt
Will Mckiddie
Nikki Rineer

Muriel Sasia
Sandy Szakach

These members did not renew their membership:

(date shown is date membership expired)
Constantin Marioni - 04/30/2026
Susan Peltier - 03/31/2026
Jean Prior - 03/31/2026

To renew your dues today, go to SinglesGolf.com/renew If you wish to renew over the phone, call 980-833-6450, M-F, 9-2 Eastern Time.

Our chapter currently has 70 members.



Happy
Fathers
Day!

NATIONAL EVENT INFORMATION

Events Open to All Members Nationwide

ASGA's
Going to
Canada
Quebec to Boston!
June 24 - July 6, 2026

+ Up to 4 rounds of optional golf!

~ 3 Nights at the Fairmont Le Chateau Frontenac (above)
~ 7 Nights on the St. Lawrence River on Holland America's Zuiderdam
~ 2 Nights in Boston at the Fairmont Copley Plaza

CLICK TO ENTER

LOCAL CHAPTER INFORMATION

Regular Meeting Date

We meet directly after our golf events at a restaurant to be named weekly

Our Chapter Website

www.southwestfl.singlesgolf.com

(See next page for list of officers and board members.)

National Office

Office Hours: 9:00am to 2:00pm, Tues, Wed, Thurs. (Eastern)

National Office: 980-833-6450 or 1-888-GOLFMATE

Go to www.SinglesGolf.com/MyAccount to make changes to your address, phone, etc. To join or renew your dues, go to

www.SinglesGolf.com/join

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Southwest Florida
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of the
American Singles
Golf Association



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San Carlos Park



Rules of Golf Review: Understanding 'backstopping' and when it's a penalty

By Ron Kaspriske, *GolfDigest.com*

Back in 2019, the LPGA Tour found itself in the spotlight for a curious ruling involving two tour players and a practice called "backstopping." If you've never heard the term, tour pros commonly use it to describe purposely leaving a ball in place on the putting green instead of marking it. The thought is that it can potentially help another player who is hitting an approach shot onto the green. If the player off the green hits a shot that is too hot, the ball on the green might stop it from getting into real trouble.

[Rule 15.3](#) covers this practice and, as you might guess, it's a penalty (two strokes). Getting back to the incident on the LPGA Tour, [Ariya Jutanugarn and Amy Olson were paired in the same group at the Honda LPGA Thailand](#) and reached the final hole of the second round with Jutanugarn's ball on the green and Olson's just off. Jutanugarn did not mark her ball and Olson's ensuing chip struck it. The incident got a lot of attention and scrutiny from LPGA officials because the two players fist-bumped on the green, suggesting there might have been some collusion.

The LPGA found in its investigation that the two players did not agree to leave the ball in place and they weren't penalized.

Setting aside your opinion on whether they did or did not collude to backstop, there was a bunch of talk on the pro tours about the practice in the following months, with major championship winner Jimmy Walker saying [he left his ball on the green from time to time to help other players](#).

What you need to know about [Rule 15.3](#) is that in stroke play, regardless of whether you knew the rule or not, you can't agree to leave your ball to help another player—or vice versa. Ignorance is not going to get either of you out of a two-stroke penalty. Worse, if you both know it's illegal and backstop anyway, you both would be DQ'd under [Rule 1.3b\(1\)](#) for deliberately ignoring a rule.

Interestingly, however, in match play there is no penalty if you do it for your opponent. That's because "the outcome of any benefit that may come from the agreement affects only their match," a clarification ([15.3a/2](#)) to the rule states.

The smart move under [Rule 15.3](#) is to mark and lift your ball if you think it might help another player who is about to chip. Keep in mind that in stroke play, you also can elect to hit the putt before the player chips, because there is no penalty for playing out of order.

Returning to the example of what happened in the LPGA tournament, procedurally if there was no intent to backstop and the ball on the green was struck, that ball must be replaced at its original spot. Meanwhile, the ball that hit the resting ball on the putting surface is played as it lies.

Your chapter newsletter follows after the following pages . . .

ASGA Annual Dues are \$99.00. Do you want LOWER DUES?

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE ONE YEAR OF FREE DUES?

You likely joined the American Singles Golf Association because you wanted to meet more singles and play more golf. We can't help you with your golf swing, however, we're on a mission to grow your chapter's membership. ***Golf season is upon us . . . are you onboard to grow your chapter or are you satisfied with your current membership level?***

Here's the plan:

- 1) on the following page, you'll see a revised ***"Single? Play Golf?"*** sign. It now has five (5) tear-off tabs instead of eight (8).
- 2) You write-in your identification (either your member number or first initial + last name) on each of the tabs. Use scissors to cut the tabs apart.
- 3) You print as many signs as you wish, keep them in the front seat of your car along with some push pins and post them ***anywhere you're permitted*** to post, e.g. golf shop bulletin boards, golf shop restrooms, driving ranges, stores, etc. ***If you would like ASGA National to print five (5) yellow signs for you, please let us know by emailing Irene@SinglesGolf.com or calling 980-833-6450 from 9am-1:45pm, M-F, Eastern.***
- 4) For every three (3) people who join using your name or ID on the yellow sign, you'll receive 12-months of ASGA membership. Note: your name or member number, as the referrer, must be submitted **with** the new member's application. No exceptions. No retroactivity. Please do not add your own name to an application form. It must be completed only the by the member currently joining and completing the application.
- 5) New members can join over the phone, at our website (SinglesGolf.com/join), fax, etc., however, **they MUST use your member number or name at the time of joining as the person who referred the new member. Again, no exceptions to this policy.**
- 6) ASGA National will keep track of how many new members you get credit for and will automatically add 12-months to your membership. Please, no slanting of these rules

**Be a Hero in Your Chapter.
Get the signs printed and get them hanging!
*(and remind others to participate)***

IN ADDITION, WE CAN SEND YOU FREE BUSINESS CARDS!

As you have seen from the previous two (2) pages of this newsletter, ASGA National is committed to seeing your chapter grow. We believe by asking each individual member for help, your chapter will grow its membership.

Besides using the yellow signs to gain more members in your local chapter, **upon request** we will also provide you with ASGA business cards. More can be sent to you if needed, but we'll start out by sending you half a dozen business cards that you can give to anyone you believe might be a potential member. Are you out and about and see someone wearing a golf shirt or hat? ***Start a conversation:*** tell them you're a part of a local club for singles who play golf and simply ask "***are you single?***" Even if they aren't, chances are they know a golfer who is. Give them a card that's pre-filled with you name (or member #) and contact info.

Remember, you get free dues for referring 3 new folks who join!

They don't come to you automatically, you'll have to order them. E-mail **Irene@SinglesGolf** or call 980-833-6450 (9am—1:30pm, Eastern Tues-Thurs) for your free cards.

***- - Tom Alsop President
and Founder
American Singles Golf Association***

25 Business Cards Will Be Mailed to You Upon Request!



GET READY TO TEE OFF

FOR MORE FUN - FELLOWSHIP - FAIRWAYS!

4 WAYS TO JOIN / PAY

- ◆ Call / Zelle: 1-980-833-6450
- ◆ Fax This Form to Us
- ◆ Email/Mail This Form To Us
- ◆ Online (SinglesGolf.com/join)

APPLICATION TO JOIN ASGA RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP

Note: Meeting locations may vary. Upon joining, you will receive a monthly newsletter telling you about monthly meetings, outings, etc. If you have any questions, contact your local chapter leader or call 1-888-GOLFMATE or 980-833-6450. **Please complete information box at right.** _____

MONTH & DAY BORN _____
YOUR USGA HANDICAP® _____ or
AVERAGE GOLF SCORE _____

Dues are **\$99.00** for 12 months) or **\$198.00 for 24 months** (includes free ASGA logo'd shirt when joining for two years!). Best rate per year is **\$297** with our "buy 3 years, get 4th free + shirt" plan. Credit card users: JOIN BY PHONE: **980-833-6450** or FAX COMPLETED FORM to **980-225-0231**. Your membership kit will be mailed upon receipt of payment. **Free shipping if ASGA shirt is ordered with this application.**

PRINT CLEARLY - THE INFO BELOW SHOWS HOW IT WILL APPEAR ON YOUR CHAPTER'S ROSTER. (SEE OPT-OUT CLAUSE BELOW)**

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT US? _____ CHAPTER YOU ARE JOINING OR RENEWING IN: _____

NAME _____ E-MAIL ADDR: _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

HOME (_____) _____ WORK/CELL (_____) _____ EMPL. BY _____

POSITION _____ () AVAILABLE FOR WEEKDAY GOLF () WILLING TO VOLUNTEER FOR CHAPTER

NOTE: ASGA DOES NOT CONDUCT BACKGROUND CHECKS ON APPLICANTS FOR MEMBERSHIP NOR MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION. Golf can be a dangerous sport. Accidents can occur by you or another party striking a golf ball, by a golf cart turning over, or simply falling down steps. PLEASE TAKE ADEQUATE PRECAUTION when playing in ASGA events. Chapters and individuals running golf tournaments are not professionals but are volunteers, and therefore, you must assume additional responsibility for your own safety. Please abide by the safety rules posted inside your golf cart, at the golf course, as well as the official website of the United States Golf Association (www.USGA.org). If you have a safety concern, you must immediately bring it to the attention of the person(s) running an event, your chapter president or golf course management personnel.

NOTICE - View these terms online at www.SinglesGolf.com/Legal-Stuff

ASGA does not conduct background checks on applicants for membership or current members.

Golf Safety Warning: Golf can be a hazardous sport. Accidents may occur, including being struck by a golf ball, golf cart accidents, or falls. Please exercise caution when participating in ASGA events. Chapters and individuals organizing events are volunteers, not professionals. You are responsible for your own safety. Follow all posted safety rules, including those on the golf cart, at the golf course, and as outlined by the United States Golf Association (www.USGA.org). If you have a safety concern, promptly inform event organizers, your chapter president, or golf course management personnel.

RELEASE FROM LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK - By participating in activities organized or sponsored by ASGA, Inc. (d/b/a American Singles Golf Association), its chapters, or affiliates in the United States and Canada, you agree to the following:

- **Release of Liability:** You, the undersigned ("Releasor"), on behalf of yourself, heirs, distributees, guardians, and legal representatives, release and indemnify ASGA, its directors, officers, employees, agents, affiliates ("Releasees"), from all claims, including those related to personal injury, death, property loss, or damage. This release applies to both known and unknown claims, except in cases of gross or willful negligence.
- **Assumption of Risk:** You acknowledge that golf and related activities inherently involve risks, including health-related risks. By participating, you voluntarily accept these risks, including potential injury, death, and property damage.
- **Legal Consequences:** You confirm you have read this release, understand its implications, and agree that it will be enforced to the fullest extent permitted by your state of residence. If any portion of this release is deemed invalid, the remainder will remain in effect.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS - Membership in ASGA is effective upon receipt of dues and remains valid for the selected membership period, subject to these terms:

- **Eligibility:** You must be 21 or older and single (defined as never married, divorced, legally separated, or widowed); and by joining, you accept the terms of the Release from Liability and Assumption of Risk above.
- **Non-Refundable Dues:** Membership dues are non-refundable and subject to change.
- **Use of Information:** Membership lists, emails, and other provided data are ASGA property and are for ASGA purposes only. Your information may be shared with other members and on www.SinglesGolf.com, unless you request otherwise.
- **Opt-Out Clause:** You may opt out of sharing specific personal information by emailing to info@SinglesGolf.com the information you wish to have excluded from your chapter roster. ASGA is not liable for inadvertent publication of opt-out information.

PRIVACY POLICY - See www.SinglesGolf.com/privacy for details.

DISPUTES - All disputes concerning membership terms or conditions are governed by the laws of North Carolina. Legal proceedings must be filed in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

AGREEMENT TO POLICIES - By submitting this application and payment, you agree to abide by ASGA's national and local chapter policies and bylaws, as outlined at: www.SinglesGolf.com/policy and www.SinglesGolf.com/bylaws, as well as at local chapter websites or newsletters.

JOIN FOR 2 YEARS - GET A FREE GOLF SHIRT!

JOIN FOR 3 YEARS - GET 4TH YEAR + SHIRT FREE!

* **Note:** Credit/Debit cards carry a 3% processing fee. Zelle now accepted, no fee.

DUES - 24 Months - \$198 (includes free ASGA logo'd shirt - Most Popular!)

DUES (Join for 3 years, 4th year free - \$297 (incl. free shirt - best value)

DUES - 12 Months + ASGA logo'd golf shirt - \$129 (includes shipping)

DUES - 12 Months - \$99

If a shirt is included, indicate () Male () Female Size: _____

REFERRED BY: _____

Check Paid To "ASGA, Inc." Enclosed** **TOTAL \$** _____

* **Please charge my major credit/debit card indicated below:**

No. _____ Exp. _____ 3/4 digit _____

SIGNATURE REQUIRED! By signing below, I agree to the Terms, Condition and Release ("Legal Stuff") as set forth at left and, if appropriate, authorize payment by my credit/debit card shown above.

Signature **X** _____ Date _____

Pay by Credit Card: Call 980-833-6450 9-2 Eastern Time, M-F

To Pay by ZELLE (no fee), use Zelle ID: 980-833-6450

Or Fax App Form to: 980-225-0231 or Scan & Email to Info@SinglesGolf.com

Or mail application to ASGA, P. O. Box 848, Pineville, NC 28134

** There is a \$25 charge for any check returned from your bank.

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