

On Course

Paradise Canyon Golf Resort

Lethbridge, AB



Host:

Canadian Men's Amateur Championship

Date:

August 9-14

Yardage/Par:

6810 yards / par 71

About:

Protected by the hills and cliffs of the Old Man River, Paradise Canyon Golf Resort exists as an oasis amidst the harsh landscape of Southern Alberta. This championship golf course is complete with clubhouse, driving range and on-site accommodations. Golfers of all levels will be both thrilled and challenged. It has been named one of Canada's top 60 courses and is Southern Alberta's number-one rated golf course.

The Course:

Famed for its long, rolling fairways, Paradise Canyon offers golfers a unique and challenging course. Tree-lined water hazards and strategically placed bunkers will challenge golfers while showcasing the best of Alberta's natural landscape.

Fun Fact:

Lethbridge is Alberta's fourth-largest city by population.

Website:

www.playinparadise.com

"We have a player..."

By Matt MacKay,
RCGA Manager,
Member Services



Each year the RCGA, in cooperation with provincial golf associations, conducts over 30 handicap seminars across the country. The goal of the seminars is to teach club members (most of whom are on their club's handicap committee) how to administer handicapping at their club. The three-hour seminars cover all aspects of the RCGA Handicap Manual, the 'bible' of handicapping. Every golf club and keen golfer should have a copy of the manual, which is available for download or order at www.rcga.org

Funnily enough, the questions most frequently asked at the seminars aren't about 'nuts and bolts' aspects of handicapping such as the calculation of a Handicap Factor, or how to convert a Handicap Factor to a Course Handicap. The most common questions begin with "we have a player..." and refer to situations that take place at every club, every day. You've probably asked them yourself at some point:

Q: If a player plays alone, should the score be posted to his handicap scoring record?

A: Golf is a game of honesty and honour, so of course the score should be posted. Provided the player plays by the Rules of Golf there is no reason a round played alone should not be posted to a handicap scoring record.

Q: If a player plays two balls throughout the round should she post the score made with each ball to her handicap scoring record?

A: No. The player cannot return the score made with either ball. For this reason, club handicap committees should discourage the practice of playing two balls throughout the round, as it means the player's Handicap Factor will reflect only a portion of the golf the player is actually playing.

Q: Can a player determine beforehand that his round is merely a 'practice' round and not post that score to his handicap scoring record?

A: No, the handicap system does not contemplate the notion of a 'practice' round. All acceptable scores must be posted to the player's

handicap scoring record. Subjectivity in determining which scores get posted completely undermines the handicap system.

Q: How soon after playing a round should a player be expected to post the score to her handicap scoring record?

A: Ideally, the score is posted the same day as the round was played, particularly since the RCGA Network allows for scores to be posted via internet. At the very least, the score should be posted prior to the player's next round, thus ensuring she is playing with an up-to-date Handicap Factor. If the club handicap committee notices members waiting weeks or months to post scores they should set a limit within which scores must be posted, taking into account extenuating circumstances.

If you have any other common handicap situations at your club please visit www.rcga.org, give us a call at 1-800-263-0009 x209 or email mmackay@rcga.org and we'll be happy to answer your "we have a player..." questions.