

12 Great Ideas *for* Golf Tournaments



American Golf

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TIP

1

Golf Relay

This is a team event where members of the team switch off after each shot, like a relay running event. One person drives the ball, then the next hits the ball onto the green, then the next puts it in, and so forth and so on. The idea is just to switch out in a set rotation after each hit to make the course more challenging. The team that completes the tournament quickest and the team with the lowest score are both given prizes.



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Golfathon

There is a limited field of individual golfers (15-30) who play as many holes as they can in a day. The golfers acquire pledges from sponsors for their rounds and it's basically like any race where the golfer then tries to get in as many holes as possible to maximize pledges. The money then goes to the designated charity.



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Porcupine Hole

There are three pins on a par three. One is the main pin and two others have different colors. The main pin should be in a harder location on the green and the golfer/teams would then have the option to pay a fee to try for the easier pin placements. The different color pins makes this look interesting too.



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Lone Ranger

The idea for this one is simple, but interesting. Players form into teams, but only one person plays each hole and the goal is for the team as a whole to rack up a good score. The Lone Ranger rotates out each hole and the team who had the best Lone Ranger wins a prize at the end of the tournament.



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Bingo Bango Bongo

This is supposed to be one of the most popular tournament formats in golf leagues. On each hole for each group the first person to get on the green, the person who is closest to the hole when all members are on the green, and the person who is the first to complete the round are all rewarded and given a prize. The format is popular because you have three chances to win a reward on each hole.



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Beat the Pro

This is an old standard if you have a willing professional golfer. Simply set up a station at a Par 3 or Par 4 hole, and go head to head with a real pro to see who can land their drive closer to the hole. Making it a challenge with money involved will often draw a crowd of people to try throughout the day.



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Night Golf

This is an interesting but challenging idea that is hard to pull off. Hold a night golf competition for a challenge or for fun.

If it's for fun, glow in the dark balls and equipment would be a fairly big draw for less serious players and children while a serious competition without glow in the dark equipment would attract a more ambitious group of players. Either one can work, you just have to know how to play to your audience.



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Marshmallow Drive

Golfers pay for a marshmallow and then will drive the marshmallow from the tee box and just like a Long Drive Competition, the golfer who drives their marshmallow the farthest gets a prize or half of the pot.



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Celebrity Appearances and Pairs

We already talked about this somewhat in Beat the Pro, but if you have celebrities or professional at your tournament, it can be a huge draw. If you can talk them into playing paired golf with your attendees it's an even bigger draw, though usually the best way to do that is to have your tournament be for a charitable cause.



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TIP 10

Themes

One of the best ways to improve a tournament is by simply adding a theme. Adding something like a pirate theme would allow for pirate costumes and props that could be placed around the course as obstacles that would shape the theme. Themes have a certain charm to them and lend themselves well to more interesting experiences. Though you should be aware that not everyone likes dealing with themes and no-nonsense types will be certain to try and avoid them.



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Par 3 Challenge

Make all holes par 3's – this will make for a very fast round, as well as something different. This would be a great challenge for a tournament that is sponsored by a car dealership. You could do a hole-in-one opportunity at every hole with a car on every hole. Could be a great way to get some media attention for your tournament!



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TIP 12

Dudes in Dresses

Golfers/Teams pay a fee and are required to wear a dress. Any women's dress will work, but you could even have the men wear their wives' wedding dresses! The Golfers are then able to hit from the Ladies tee markers. If you have your event photographer at this hole, it makes for some awesome team photos.





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For more information about planning your event contact:



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