



The STROH's Almanac

Every competition, every page, in one document

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A season-long net points race across Texas's best municipal courses.

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A season-long match-play points race — play anyone, anywhere, and climb the board.

Texas Cup

Three days, two teams, Ryder Cup rules — STROH's vs. Big Plex for Texas supremacy.

General Competition Notes

The rules every STROH's competition shares — tees, handicaps, and which rulebook wins.

COMMUNITY

Community

Getting Started

A golf club for No Laying Up Refuge members and their friends across Austin, Houston, and San Antonio. Show up, meet people, play golf — competition is fourth on the list, on purpose.

New Here? Start in Three Steps

[Check out our Introduction to STROH's](#)

- 1. **Join the Discord** — [hop in our Discord](#). It can look busy at first, but head straight to `#new-people-start-here`.
- 2. **Post that you're looking to play** — introduce yourself and grab an open spot.
- 3. **Come play golf**. That's it. The competitions will make sense once you're out there.

Nobody expects you to read the rules first. It's a rare weekend where someone doesn't have an open spot somewhere nearby, and anyone is free to jump in.

The Competitions at a Glance

Four events run through the season. Every one of them is net, so a high handicap is not a reason to sit one out.

Competition	When	What it is	What it earns you
Texas Two-Step	A Friday–Saturday, Jan or Feb 2027	Two-day net “ringer” — your best net score per hole across the two days	A Regional team seat, plus our NIT spot
All-STROHs Open	Late Oct / early Nov 2026	One-day net quota event, no weekend of travel required	A Regional team seat
Muni Tour	September – May	Season-long net points race across Texas munis, played at your own pace	A playoff berth, then a Regional team seat
Opn Szn	Sept 2026 – Apr 2027	Season-long match play — pick your own opponents, collect points	A bracket spot, then a Regional team seat

The [Texas Cup](#) runs alongside these — a three-day Ryder Cup against Big Plex. It's the biggest weekend on the calendar, but no Regional seat rides on it.

Play one, play all four, or play none and just come out for the hang. All of it counts as showing up.

The Path to the Team

Those four events feed a **four-golfer team** that represents STROH's at **Roost Regionals** against Big Plex (DFW) and Supercell (OK). Win there, and the team plays the **Roost Club Championship** at Sweetens Cove in Tennessee.

The full version is on [The Path to Nationals](#).

Who to Ask

Stuck, or not sure where to start? **@jdonelson** and **@omarmjhdpr** are the people to ping — in the Discord, or on the Refuge. Neither of them minds the question.

More on where we hang out is over on [Community](#).

Roll of Honour

Every STROH's champion since 2021 — current competitions and the ones we no longer run.

SEASONS RECORDED

2021 – present

TEXAS CUP

5 of 6 to Team AUS/SA

SOMETHING MISSING?

Tell us in the Discord

Live boards sit on each competition's own page — the [Muni Tour](#) and [Opn Szn](#) ones are running now. This page is the record of who won.

2025–26

Competition	Champion
Texas Two-Step	Jason Sandoval — +3, played as a one-day “Half Step” on 23 January
All-STROHs Open	Zach Sewill — +7, on the 2nd playoff hole over Josh Donelson
Muni Tour	Jonny Perkins — won the first post-season playoff
Opn Szn Match Play	John T Carney
Texas Cup	Team AUS/SA — last running of the three-team format

2024–25

Competition	Champion
Texas Two-Step	Jonathan Greer
All-STROHs Open	Robert McCall
Muni Tour — season	Stefan Icenogle
Opn Szn Match Play	Jack Peters
Texas Cup	Team HOU

2023–24

Competition	Champion
Muni Tour — season	Stefan Icenogle
Muni Tour Championship (the All-STROHs Open under its old name)	Omar Mujahid-Pair
Open Season Match Play	Omar Mujahid-Pair
Sixers on Ice	Austin Baccus

Competition	Champion
Texas Cup	Team AUS/SA

2022–23

Competition	Champion
Muni Tour — season	Stefan Icenogle
Muni Tour Championship (<i>the All-STROHs Open under its old name</i>)	Austin Alaniz — 41 quota points
Sixers on Ice	Tim Brooks
Texas Match Play Massacre	Josh Donelson
Texas Cup	Team AUS/SA

2022

Competition	Champion
Muni Tour	Omar Mujahid-Pair
All-STROHs Open	Heath Gardenhire
Texas Match Play Massacre	Stefan Icenogle
Texas Cup	Team AUS/SA

2021

Competition	Champion
Texas Cup	Team AUS/SA

How the competitions have changed

The line-up hasn't always looked like it does now.

- **The All-STROHs Open was called the Muni Tour Championship** for 2022–23 and 2023–24, before returning to its own name. Despite the name it was a standalone event, not a Muni Tour play-off — worth knowing when reading those two seasons back.
- **The Muni Tour gained a real post-season play-off in 2025–26.** Before that the season-long points race decided it outright; now the top 4 from each city meet in a 12-player final.
- **The Texas Match Play Massacre** became [Opn Szn Match Play](#).
- **The Texas Cup ran with three teams** — AUS/SA, HOU and DAL — for its first six years. After the 2026 event it moved to two teams: STROH's against [Big Plex](#) (DFW).
- **Sixers on Ice** ran in 2022–23 and 2023–24: six 6-hole matches for points, played on a full-length course.
- Seasons ran on a single calendar year until 2022, and September-to-May from 2022–23 onward.

About STROH's

What a Roost is, why we exist, and how it all fits together.

REGION

Texahoma — with Big Plex (DFW) & Supercell (OK)

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Roost Club Championship — Sweetens Cove, TN

OUR MAJOR

Texas Two-Step (winner earns the NIT spot)

GET AN INVITE

Hop in our Discord

Welcome. Whether you found us through No Laying Up, a friend, or a lucky Discord invite, this is the short version of who we are and how everything fits together.

What Is a Roost?

A Roost is a group of golfers — usually organized by geography — that grew out of the No Laying Up (NLU) message-board community. NLU's board is known as "The Nest," and as members started organizing golf events on their own, "Roost" became a natural, tongue-in-cheek riff on the Nest theme.

Who We Are

We're the **South Texas Roost of Hospitality** — STROH's — with members spread across Austin, Houston, and San Antonio.

The name is half a joke:

- It's a friendly jab at Dallas.
- The old Stroh's beer logo looks fantastic once you tweak the lion to hold a golf club.

Honestly? It's very possible the whole "Roost" idea got reverse-engineered just so STROH's would work as an acronym.

As for *why* we exist: the Roost fields a four-golfer team chasing a spot in the Roost Club Championship. [The Path to Nationals](#) walks through how that works.

Governing Principles

STROH's offers a friendly and easily-accessible way for members of the No Laying Up Refuge, and their friends, from South Texas and beyond to **#getinvolved**. We are guided by the following core principles:

1. **Keep the Main Thing the Main Thing** The hang, meeting new friends, and the charity matter every bit as much as the golf.
2. **All Are Welcome** Come out and play — and bring friends.
3. **Don't Be a Jerk** Assume good intent.
4. **Competition Matters (This Is 4th on Purpose)** We know the rules, keep score, and win and lose with grace.

Our motto says it best: **Count shots, hit cups.**

The Executive Committee

Winning a qualifier earns you a seat on the Roost Regional team. Life, unfortunately, does not check the golf calendar first — so the Executive Committee exists to fill the seats that come open without turning it into a scramble.

Alternates for Regionals and Nationals

If the winner of a qualifying event can't attend the Roost Regional or the Roost Club Championship, the **runner-up from that event is the first alternate**. Beyond that, the Executive Committee reserves the right to hand-pick alternates so we can always field a team without undue thrash.

The Committee makes every effort to involve high finishers across the four qualifying events in that decision. There is usually enough time to ask the runners-up from *other* events to fill in when both the winner and runner-up from a given event are out.

We used to run a fixed alternates list instead, and it didn't work. Being bound by the list structure meant it took entirely too long to fill out a team — the next name down was often the one person who couldn't go, and there was no way to skip past them. The current approach trades that rigidity for judgement.

The goal behind that judgement is simple: the players who have played the best over the course of the year should get their chance to represent STROH's at the national events — balanced against the fact that everyone has a day job.

Naming the NIT qualifier

The NIT alternate situation is out of our hands, and the deadline is tight.

- Once our Major finishes — currently the [Texas Two-Step](#) — we have **seven days** to name our NIT qualifier.
- We **do not have to name the winner**. If the champion already knows they can't make a November tournament, we can name someone else.
- Once we name a qualifier, **we cannot change it**. The pick is irrevocable, so the Committee makes it deliberately.

To give everyone a fair shot at planning, the Committee works to communicate the NIT dates as early as possible in the competition year.

Charity

Each season the Roost runs a donation drive, and members get creative with how they give. [Charity](#) has the details, including who we've supported.

The Almanac

Everything on this website, compiled into a single document — what a Roost is, the governing principles, how the season works, and the full rules for every competition. [Download the STROH's Almanac](#) if you'd rather read it in one go, or keep a copy to hand. It is rebuilt from these pages, so it never falls out of step with them.

If you're after the competitive side of things — the qualifiers, Regionals, and the road to Sweetens Cove — start with [The Path to Nationals](#).

Brand new? [Getting Started](#) is the two-minute version.

Charity

A season-long donation drive, and the creative ways members chip in.

Every season, the Roost sponsors **at least one charity** for a season-long donation drive. It sits alongside the golf rather than behind it — raising money for a good cause is written into [our first governing principle](#), not bolted on at the end.

How members give

Roost members are encouraged to find creative ways to maximize what we hand over at the end of the year. The classic version is a season-long birdie or eagle challenge you set for yourself:

“I’ll donate \$1 for every net birdie I make.”

Tie it to something you’d be doing anyway — muni rounds, match-play wins, a Two-Step ringer card — and the total takes care of itself. We’re always open to creative ideas, and we’d rather have ten people running small, silly challenges than one large cheque.

This season

Our charity is **Wonders and Worries**, which provides free professional support to children and teenagers during a parent’s serious illness.

Who we’ve supported

Past seasons have gone to:

- The **Austin Firefighters Relief and Outreach Fund**
- **Wonders and Worries**

Our charity doesn’t change every year — carrying the same cause across seasons is normal and deliberate — but we’re open to new suggestions at any time. If there’s an organization that matters to you, bring it to the Discord.

The Path to Nationals

Four qualifiers, one Regional, and a four-golfer team headed for Sweetens Cove.

OUR REGION

Texahoma — STROH's, Big Plex (DFW), Supercell (OK)

REGIONALS

Late July / early August

NATIONALS

Roost Club Championship — Sweetens Cove, TN, late October

TEAM SIZE

4 golfers

OUR MAJOR

Texas Two-Step — its winner is our NIT qualifier

Strip everything else away and the Roost exists for one reason: to field a **four-golfer team** to compete for a spot in the **Roost Club Championship**, hosted by No Laying Up at Sweetens Cove Golf Club in Tennessee.

Everything on this site — the qualifiers, the points races, the alternates process — is machinery pointed at that one outcome.

Where the structure came from

The Roost system isn't something STROH's invented. It's NLU's, and this is how they described it when they sent the original doc round in 2022:

This event will be modeled on the Little League World Series. In 2022, there will be 10 Regions across the US, Canada, and the UK/Continental Europe plus a No Laying Up team. Each Region may have numerous clubs (though we may limit the number in year 1 as we figure out our #process). Each region will host a regional tournament to decide the club that represents that region in the championship, and that club will send a team of 4 to the Championship. Regional representatives must be Nest Members to play in the Championship, but local clubs will not be exclusive to Nest members. Regions will be determined by NLU, geography, AND where Nest Members are located. The Championship will be held in Late August or September of 2022 to give each region time to hold their regional tournaments and figure out their club representatives for the Championship.

That's the founding text, so the dates in it are 2022's. Two things in it still govern how we operate, though: a Roost sends a **team of four**, and the four people on it have to be **Nest members**. The Roost itself is not Nest-only — you are welcome at STROH's events regardless — but the Championship team is.

Texahoma

STROH's is grouped with **Big Plex** (DFW) and **Supercell** (Oklahoma) in the **Texahoma Region**. Our team plays both of them at **Roost Regionals** in **late July or early August**, and the winner carries the region to the Roost Club Championship in **late October**.

Playing in STROH's events means committing to the qualifiers to the best of your ability — and, if you earn it, to the national tournament later in the year.

The four qualifiers

Four events feed our Roost Regional team, one seat each:

1. [Texas Two-Step](#) — a two-day net “ringer” tournament. Our Major.
2. [All-STROHs Open](#) — a one-day quota tournament.
3. [Muni Tour](#) — a season-long net stroke-play points race, decided by a playoff.
4. [Opn Szn](#) — a season-long match-play tournament, decided by a playoff bracket.

The [Texas Cup](#) sits outside this list. It’s our marquee team event against Big Plex, but it isn’t a Roost Regional qualifier — no seat rides on it.

The NIT

Separately — but all sort of related — NLU hosts the **Nest Invitational Tournament (NIT)** every **November**. Each Roost designates one of its events as its “**Major**,” and the winner of that event is the Roost’s NIT qualifier.

Our Major is the [Texas Two-Step](#). Unlike the Regional team seats, the NIT spot is open to any Refuge member who plays the event — you don’t have to be a STROH to take it. The naming rules and the seven-day deadline are on the [Executive Committee](#) page.

When someone can’t go

If a qualifier’s winner can’t travel, the runner-up from that event is first alternate, and the Executive Committee hand-picks from there. See [The Executive Committee](#) for how and why.

A note on how we compete

Any of us could open a city golf association schedule and find a one-day or two-day stroke-play tournament this weekend. That isn’t what this is. STROH’s is more about getting involved and enjoying the game, and less about grinding on two-footers for double bogey — so we **prioritize fun courses, fun formats, and fun side games over pure stroke-play competition.**

Texas Two-Step

STROH's Major — a two-day net ringer for the NIT spot and a Roost Regional seat.

FORMAT

Two-day net stroke-play ringer (best net per hole)

WHEN

A Friday–Saturday in January or February 2027 (exact dates TBD)

WHERE

TBD

THE PRIZE

Winner's Belt + NIT spot + Roost Regional team seat

The Texas Two-Step is STROH's Major: a two-day net stroke-play "ringer" on a Friday–Saturday in January or February 2027 (exact dates TBD). Play the same course both days, and for each hole your best net score of the two days counts toward a single 18-hole ringer card. The champion is STROH's NIT qualifier and a Roost Regional team qualifier.

Overview

The **Texas Two-Step** is STROH's **Major** — the biggest title on the calendar. It's a two-day net stroke-play event played on the same course back-to-back, and the champion earns more than a trophy:

- The **NIT spot** — an invitation to the **Nest Invitational Tournament**.
- A **Roost Regional team** qualification for STROH.
- The **Winner's Belt**.

The Ringer Format

Over two days you play the same 18 holes twice. Instead of adding up two full rounds, you build a single **ringer card**: for each hole, you take your **best net score of the two days**.

For example, if you make a net **5** on the 1st hole Friday and a net **4** on Saturday, your ringer score for hole 1 is a **4**. Do that across all 18 holes and the total is your Two-Step score. Lowest ringer total wins.

Because every hole gives you two cracks at it, a blow-up on day one isn't fatal — a clean second look can erase it.

And since only your **better** net score counts, once a hole on **Day 2 can no longer beat your Day 1 score, you may pick up your ball** and move on.

When & Where

The Two-Step is run on a **Friday–Saturday in January or February 2027 (exact dates TBD)**. Playing on the weekend's front end keeps **Sunday free for family**, and a mid-winter slot is a draw for members escaping colder climates — with the understanding that **rough winter weather is part of the deal**.

- **When:** A Friday–Saturday in January or February 2027 (exact dates TBD).
- **Where:** TBD.

Who Can Play

Refuges from **other Roosts** are welcome to enter — this isn't a STROH-only field. A couple of eligibility notes on what's at stake:

- **Any Refuge member** in the field can claim the **NIT spot**.
- **Only STROH members** can qualify for the **Roost Regional team**.

The Rules

The Two-Step is a **net** event played under the [General Competition Notes](#) — teeboxes, committee-set handicaps, the 9-shot maximum, and the USGA-first rule hierarchy all apply as written there.

One Two-Step-specific wrinkle — the **Day 2 pick-up**: because it's a ringer, once a hole can no longer improve on your Day 1 score, you may **pick up your ball** on that hole.

Tie-Breaker

Ties are broken with the **USGA 9-6-3-1** method. Note that the ringer format produces a **single composite scorecard**, so the tie-breaker runs off your **composite last 9, then 6, then 3, then the final hole**.

How to Enter

- **Field cap**: 40 players.
- **Sign-up**: via a Google Form. Sign-up link and entry deadline: details to follow.
- **Entry fee**: TBD.

COMPETITIONS

All-STROHs Open

One day, one round, the whole Roost together — a handicap-friendly quota shootout.

FORMAT

One-day stroke-play quota event

WHEN

Late October / early November 2026 (target — exact date TBD)

ENTRY

Estimated \$125 — \$20 of it to Side Games

PRIZE

Winner's Jacket + Roost Regional berth

QUOTA TARGET

36 – course handicap (min 9)

The All-STROHs Open (ASO) is a one-day, stroke-play quota event and a Roost Regional qualifier. It's built to be easy to show up for: no weekend of travel, a straightforward handicap-friendly format, and a chance to get the whole Roost together to break bread. Every entry includes automatic entry into the Side Games. Beat your quota and the winner earns the Winner's Jacket and a spot at Regionals.

Overview

The **All-STROHs Open (ASO)** is STROH's one-day get-together — a single round of **stroke-play quota** golf and a **Roost Regional qualifier**. The goal is simple: get as much of the Roost in one place as possible, play a fun and forgiving format, and break bread together afterward.

Unlike the season-long competitions, the ASO doesn't ask for a whole weekend of travel. It's **one day, one round**, with a **handicap-friendly** format designed so players of every level have a real shot — and so the day is welcoming to newer and higher-handicap golfers.

Moving to the Fall

For **2026-27 the ASO moves to the fall**. The spring calendar is crowded with the run-up to Regionals, the Championship, and the NIT, so shifting the Open to the fall gives it room to breathe and gives everyone one more reason to get out early in the season.

When & where: The ASO is targeting **late October or early November 2026** — the exact date and venue are TBD, with details to follow.

How Quota Scoring Works

Quota is a running-points format: you earn points hole by hole based on your score relative to par, and your goal is to **beat your quota** for the day.

Points are awarded per hole as follows:

DOUBLE EAGLE / HOLE-IN-ONE
10 pts

EAGLE
8 pts

BIRDIE
4 pts

PAR
2 pts

BOGEY
1 pt

DOUBLE BOGEY OR WORSE
0 pts

Add up your points across all 18 holes, then compare that total to your quota. The player who finishes **furthest above their quota** wins.

Your Quota Target

Every player plays against a personal **quota target**.

Quota = 36 – your course handicap.

If 36 – course handicap comes out below 9, your quota is simply set to **9**.

The ASO applies a **minimum quota of 9 points as a floor**. That floor keeps the event welcoming to higher handicaps and avoids requiring negative points for doubles, which would slow down pace of play.

Beat your quota to go positive for the day; the player **furthest above their quota** wins.

Rules & Handicaps

Play is **net** and handicap-friendly, so every level has a fair shot. Everything else — teeboxes, when stroke-play handicaps are set, the 9-shot maximum, and the USGA-first rule hierarchy — is covered in the [General Competition Notes](#).

Tie-Breaker

If the top of the board is tied and a playoff is necessary, the format used depends on what the course allows, in this order:

1. **Extra Holes** — net stroke play, sudden death.
2. **Chipping Contest** — the Organizing Committee selects the pins, and players each chip to the selected pin **blind to the other competitors' results**. If more than two players are tied, all tied players start together and the **furthest from the hole is eliminated each round**; once two players remain, it becomes **best of three**.
3. **Scorecard Playoff** — used only if extra holes aren't possible and a chip-off isn't possible. A net scorecard playoff based on **playing handicap, wheeling off the low handicap** in the playoff, starting at the **#1 handicap hole** and continuing down, **removing the highest-scoring player each hole** until a champion is declared.

Prizes & Qualifying

The **winner of the ASO** earns a spot at the Roost Regional.

The winner also takes home the **Winner's Jacket**.

Side Games

Side Games are **built into every entry** — no separate sign-up. Every entry is automatically in the Side Games at **\$20/player**, allocated as:

- **\$1.50/player to each of the 4 proxy games** — 2 Long Drives and 2 Closest-to-the-Pins.
- **\$14/player to Canadian Skins**, where **gross scores can beat net scores**.

How to Enter

Registration is via **Google Form** — the link and entry deadline are **details to follow**.

Entry is **estimated at \$125 (general), \$20 of which goes to the Side Games**. There's no separate Side Games charge on top — it's built into the entry fee. The final figure will be confirmed before sign-up opens.

Muni Tour

A season-long net points race across Texas's best municipal courses.

FORMAT

Season-long net points race — 9 munis, 3 cities

SEASON

Sept 1, 2026 – May 31, 2027

HOW TO QUALIFY

Top 4 per city → 12-player single-day playoff

THE PRIZE

Muni Tour title + a Roost Regional Team spot

Play the 9 STROH's munis across Austin, Houston, and San Antonio whenever you want, with whoever you want. Top-10 net scores at each course earn points; your city's three courses add up to your City Score. The top 4 in each city make the 12-player, single-day playoff.

How Scoring Works

- **Net score** = gross – your course handicap. Everyone competes on a level field.
- Each course has its own leaderboard ranked by net. The **top 10 net scores earn points**: 10 for 1st, 9 for 2nd, ... down to 1 for 10th. Outside the top 10 earns 0.
- **Ties split the points** between the tied positions (a T2 pair each get 8.5). A tie that runs past 10th splits across the zero-point places too — three players tied for 9th share 2 + 1 + 0 and take **1 point each**.
- **One counting score per course** — your most recent *declared* round there.

Your **City Score** is the sum of your points at that city's three courses. Play more courses and you have more chances to score — playing more can only help.

You score in every city you play in. Post a round in Houston and you rank on the Houston board, even if you live in Austin — that is exactly how a player ends up top-4 in two cities. There is no home-city restriction.

The season runs **September 1, 2026 through May 31, 2027**. Rounds played outside that window do not count, and the playoff is a single day in June 2027.

The Courses

AUSTIN

Jimmy Clay

Morris Williams

Riverside (ATX)

HOUSTON

Gus Wortham

Memorial Park

Sharpstown

SAN ANTONIO

Brackenridge Park

Cedar Creek

Riverside (SA)

Making the Playoff

- The **top 4 on each city leaderboard** qualify → a **12-player playoff**.

- No overall board and no wildcards — your path in is through the city leaderboards.
- **Top-4 in two cities?** You keep the seat in the city where you finished **higher**; the other city slides everyone up one.

Posting an Official Round

1. **Declare your intent to post before your first tee shot.**
2. **Play with at least one other STROH** to attest, under the [General Competition Notes](#) — and note that the Muni Tour is stroke play, so there are **no gimmes**.
3. **Submit your gross score + course handicap within 24 hours**, and note who you played with.

Declare in the **Discord thread**, naming who you're playing with and everyone's course handicap, and submit through the **scoring form**.

Mulligan Rounds

You can replay any course as many times as you like — but it's a commitment: the moment you declare a round, it **replaces** your previous score there, better or worse. Weather or a genuine emergency voids the round and your prior score stands.

Walk off under your own power and it posts as a **net 150** — the same penalty for everyone, with no handicap applied. That penalty only bites if you were holding a score at that course: **walk off somewhere you have never posted and nothing is recorded at all**. The 150 exists to stop you abandoning a bad round to protect a good one, so with nothing to protect there is nothing to punish.

Declare a round and then never submit it and the competition committee decides: they either let your prior score stand or post the walk-off 150. Declarations live in the Discord thread, so an unsubmitted one is visible there — a round you would rather forget is not a round you can quietly abandon.

Tie-Breakers

For a cut line (e.g. two players tied for a city's 4th seat), in order:

1. **Head-to-head** — compare the two players' counting scores at each of *that city's* three courses. Whoever wins more of those courses takes the seat. Only the city being decided is considered; a Houston round has no bearing on an Austin seat.
2. **Countback** — best single net round in that city, then the next best, and so on.
3. **Most recent** — the player whose latest counting round in that city was **played** more recently takes the seat. It is the date you played, not the date you submitted, so sitting on a card gains you nothing.

Still level after all three? The seat is **held for the competition committee to rule on** rather than being settled by an accident of alphabetical order. Ties everywhere else on the board are ordered by the same ladder.

Opn Szn Match Play

A season-long match-play points race — play anyone, anywhere, and climb the board.

FORMAT

Net match play — season-long points race

SEASON

Sept 1, 2026 – Apr 11, 2027

PLAYOFFS

Top 12 make the bracket • Top 4 earn a Quarterfinal bye

HOW TO ENTER

Any registered STROH — schedule a match and post your result

Opn Szn ("Open Season") is net-scoring match play run as a season-long points race. Any registered STROH can play whoever they want, wherever they want, and bank points across three match formats. The top 12 points scorers advance to a playoff bracket, and the top 4 earn a bye straight into the Quarterfinals.

Overview

Opn Szn — short for **Open Season** — is STROH's match-play competition, run as a season-long race for points. There's no fixed schedule and no assigned opponents: **any registered STROH can play against whoever they want, wherever they want**, and collect points every time they tee it up. All matches are played on a **net basis**, so handicaps keep things fair across the whole field.

Rack up points over the season and you're playing your way into the playoffs — and toward a spot representing STROH at the Roost Regional.

How It Works

- The player pool is **wide open**. Line up a match with any other STROH, at any course, whenever it suits you both.
- Every completed match earns **points** based on the format you played and the result (see the scoring below).
- Points accumulate across the whole **regular season**.
- When the regular season closes, the **top 12 points scorers advance to the Playoff Bracket**.
- The **top 4 scorers earn a bye straight into the Quarterfinals** — a reward for a strong season.

The more you play, the more chances you have to bank points, so get out there and line up matches early and often.

Match Types & Scoring

There are three ways to earn points. Mix and match them across the season however you like.

Singles

Traditional head-to-head match play, one player versus one player, **handicapped off the low player** in the match.

- **Win:** 2 points
- **Draw:** 1 point
- **Loss:** 0 points

Fourball (Best Ball)

Two-player teams, each player playing their own ball with the better score counting, against another two-player team. The group is **handicapped off the low player in the group**.

- **Win:** 2 points (each player)
- **Draw:** 1 point (each player)
- **Loss:** 0 points (each player)

A Fourball can be played **alongside** Singles matches in the same round — teammates just can't play a Singles match against each other. For example, if A and B take on C and D in a Fourball, A can also play a Singles match against C and against D that round, but not against teammate B. That gives four Singles from a foursome, not six.

Alt-Shot

Two-player teams playing **alternate shot**, handicapped at **50% of each player's handicap**. For example, a 10 and an 8 combine to $(10 \times 0.5) + (8 \times 0.5) = 9$.

Alt-Shot is a blast, so it comes with an **Incentive Bonus**: on top of the base result, **every participant earns a flat 2-point kicker regardless of outcome**. That works out to:

- **Win:** 7 points (5 base + 2 bonus)
- **Draw:** 5 points (3 base + 2 bonus)
- **Loss:** 2 points (0 base + 2 bonus)

Play it **Ryder-Cup style** — before the match, decide who tees off on the **odd** holes and who takes the **even** holes, then keep that order fixed for the round.

Unlike a Fourball, an Alt-Shot **cannot** be played alongside Singles in the same round: with one ball per team, nobody is playing their own ball, so there is no Singles to be had.

Season & Playoffs

Regular Season: September 1, 2026 → Sunday, April 11, 2027.

Level on points? Seeding ties — including the ones that decide the 12th bracket spot and the 4th bye — break in this order:

1. **Head-to-head** between the tied players, if they played each other.
2. **Fewer matches played** — the same points from fewer matches seeds higher.
3. **Most recent match**.
4. **Committee ruling**, if somehow still level.

Once the regular season ends, the top 12 head to the Playoff Bracket. The bracket runs on the guideline deadlines below, with exact dates and pairings announced in Discord:

- **First-round matches:** by Sun, May 2, 2027
- **Quarterfinals:** by Sun, May 16, 2027
- **Semifinals:** by Sun, June 13, 2027
- **Final & Consolation:** by Sun, June 27, 2027

Remember: the **top 4 seeds skip the first round** and start in the Quarterfinals.

How to Enter & Post a Score

1. **Schedule your match** directly with your opponent(s) — pick the course, date, and format.
2. **Play it out** under the [General Competition Notes](#) — match play is the one place gimmes are allowed, and where all players agreeing settles a rules question.
3. **Fill out the scoring form** in the Discord to log your result and points.

That's it — no sign-up gate. If you're a registered STROH, you're in.

Muni Tour Crossover

Playing a match-play round? It can **double as a Muni Tour score** — one round, two competitions. Just remember the Muni Tour rules are stricter: **there are no gimmes on the Muni Tour**, so putt everything out and keep an accurate count if you want the round to count on both boards.

Two things follow from that. **An Alt-Shot round can never be a crossover** — with one ball per team nobody played their own ball, so there is no individual gross to post. And if only some of the group holed everything out, only those players post a Muni score; the rest still played the match.

Nobody checks whether you took a gimme. It is on you.

COMPETITIONS

Texas Cup

Three days, two teams, Ryder Cup rules — STROH's vs. Big Plex for Texas supremacy.

FORMAT

3-round Ryder Cup — Best Ball, Scotch Foursomes & Singles

WHEN

Late March 2027 (dates TBD)

WHERE

The Hideout — Brownwood, TX (year two)

TEAMS

Two 18-player teams — STROH's vs. Big Plex

HANDICAPS

Best Ball 90% · Foursomes 60/40 of the pair · Singles 100%

COST

TBD

Our marquee team event: a three-round, Ryder Cup–style battle between an 18-player STROH's squad and an 18-player Big Plex (DFW) squad — Best Ball, Scotch Foursomes, and Singles across a full weekend. Now in its sixth year, heading to The Hideout in Brownwood, TX in late March 2027.

Overview

The Texas Cup is our marquee team event — a three-round, Ryder Cup–style throwdown for Texas bragging rights, and a **new format this year**: an **18-player STROH's team against an 18-player Big Plex (DFW) team** across a full weekend of match play.

For its first six years the Cup was a **three-team** affair — Austin/San Antonio, Houston and Dallas. After the 2026 event we moved to two teams, with the Dallas contingent now playing as Big Plex. Past winners are on the [Roll of Honour](#).

The event enters its **second year at [The Hideout in Brownwood, TX](#)**, after four years at Pine Dunes.

Format

Three days, Ryder Cup style — every match is worth points, and the team with the most points lifts the Cup. Across the weekend we play all three classic team formats:

- **Best Ball** — two-player teams, each plays their own ball, and the better score counts.
- **Scotch Foursomes** — alternate shot, with a twist: partners must each hit **a minimum of 3 drives per nine**.
- **Singles** — head-to-head match play.

(Exact session lineup and points are finalized closer to the event.)

Handicap Allowances

Each format plays off a different allowance. **Know your number before you tee off** — these decide who gets shots and where.

Format	Allowance	How the shots fall
Best Ball	90% of course handicap	Shots come off the lowest handicap player in the group . The low player gets 0 shots ; everyone else gets the difference between their handicap and his.
Scotch Foursomes	40% of the higher partner's handicap plus 60% of the lower , added together	That single number is the pair's handicap, per USGA guidelines . Shots then come off the lower pair.
Singles	100% — full handicaps	Standard 1:1 match play: the difference between the two players.

Worked examples.

- **Best Ball** — a group of 10, 20, 14 and scratch play off 9, 18, 13 and 0. The scratch player gives nothing away and receives nothing; the 20 receives **18** shots.
- **Scotch Foursomes** — a 10 and a 20 play off **14** (60% of 10 is 6, plus 40% of 20 is 8). A 3 and an 11 play off **6**.
- **Singles** — an 18 against a 4 receives **14** shots.

Shots fall on the stroke index of the tees each player is on, so **split tees are fine** — the count is still the plain difference in course handicaps.

The Teams

Two **18-player** squads go to war: **STROH's vs. Big Plex**. Rosters and captains come together in the run-up to the weekend.

When & Where

- **Dates:** Late March 2027 — a Friday-through-Sunday weekend (exact dates TBD).
- **Venue:** [The Hideout](#), Brownwood, TX.

Cost

TBD. Cabin-style pricing (lodging plus green fees with carts and unlimited golf) will be announced as the event approaches — along with food and side games.

Who Can Play & Sign-Ups

You just need a **tie to one of the three Texas metros** — Austin/San Antonio, Houston, or Dallas. You do **not** have to be a STROH's or Big Plex member to play.

Sign-ups run through the **STROH's / Big Plex Discord** — DM [@jdonelson](#) (STROH's) or [@Insulin_And_Bogeys](#) (Big Plex) for an invite and registration details.

General Competition Notes

The rules every STROH's competition shares — tees, handicaps, and which rulebook wins.

The shared rules behind every STROH's event: teebox guidance, how and when handicaps are set, the match-play allowance for each format, the 9-shot maximum, and the order in which USGA, local course, and STROH's rules apply. Each competition page covers only what is specific to that event; everything general lives here.

Why We Run Events This Way

Any of us can pull up a city golf tournament schedule and find a one-day or two-day stroke-play event. STROH's is more about **#getinvolved** and enjoying the game, and less about grinding on two-footers for double bogey. So we **prioritize fun courses, fun formats, and fun side games over pure stroke-play competition.**

Teeboxes

- **Men** play from teeboxes measuring **6100–6700 yards**.
- **Women and players aged 60+** play from tees targeting **5500–6200 yards**.

Net Scoring & Handicaps

Most — if not all — STROH's events are **net** events.

- **Match play:** handicaps are calculated **the day of the match** unless otherwise communicated, based on the tees the players select. **Split tees are fine.**
- **Match-play allowances** depend on the format, and are not always 100%:
 - **Fourballs / Best Ball** — 90% of course handicap, with shots off the **lowest handicap player in the group**: he plays off scratch and everyone else receives the difference.
 - **Foursomes / alternate shot** — 40% of the higher partner's handicap plus 60% of the lower, added together, **as per USGA guidelines**. That gives the pair one handicap, and shots then come off the **lower pair**: they play off scratch and the other pair receives the difference.
 - **Singles** — standard 1:1 match play at 100% handicaps, the lower player off scratch and the higher receiving the difference.

In every format the figure is **rounded to the nearest whole shot** — a half rounds up — and those shots are allocated by the **stroke index of the tee that player is actually playing**, which is why split tees are fine. Worked through:

Format	Handicaps	Play off	Shots received
Best Ball	4, 15 vs 2, 15	4, 14, 2, 14	2, 12, 0, 12
Foursomes	6 & 12 vs 4 & 6	8 vs 5	3 vs 0
Singles	7 vs 19	7 vs 19	0 vs 12

These apply wherever we play those formats, including the [Texas Cup](#). Where a competition publishes its own figure, that figure wins — [Opn Szn](#) plays Alt-Shot at 50%. A committee may also vary an allowance for a particular session, but it is announced before play rather than assumed.

- **Scheduled stroke play:** handicaps are calculated **24 hours before the event** by the **competition committee**, based on the assigned tees.
- **The [Muni Tour](#) is the exception.** There is no scheduled round for a committee to work back from and no assigned tees — you play when you like, with whoever you like. You **declare your own course handicap in the Discord thread before your first tee shot**, off the tees you are playing, and that is the figure you submit with your score.

Playing the Round

Hit cups and count all shots. No mulligans, and no gimmes except in match play.

The 9-Shot Maximum

All stroke-play events carry a **9-shot maximum score** on a hole, modeled after the **Texas UIL golf rules**.

Which Rules Govern

Three tiers, each overruling the one before it:

1. **USGA Rules of Golf** govern play.
2. **Local course rules** overrule the USGA rules.
3. **Tournament-specific STROH's rules** overrule local course rules.

In **match play**, one more rule sits on top of all three: **decisions made by agreement of all players in the match override any rule**. Even if you get a rule wrong, if all competitors agree, the score is valid.

Past champions

Every STROH's champion since 2021, including the events we no longer run, is on the [Roll of Honour](#).

Community

The Discord, where to introduce yourself, and where to find us the rest of the week.

DISCORD

discord.gg/frNSUn5ZmC

START IN

[#new-people-start-here](#)

ASK FOR AN INVITE

[@jdonelson](#) or [@omarmjhdpr](#)

INSTAGRAM

[@strohs_roost](#)

Wrapped around the competitions is the part that actually keeps the Roost going: a community of golfers from all walks of life, and a place to find people to play with, talk about architecture and life, and stay connected.

Discord

We maintain an active Discord community, and it's where everything happens — scheduling, scoring, arguing about tee boxes, all of it. [Hop in our Discord](#), or ask [@jdonelson](#), [@omarmjhdpr](#), or any other STROH on the Refuge for an invite link.

The Discord can be overwhelming at first, but it gets easier — promise.

Start in [#new-people-start-here](#)

Here's the cheat code. Go straight to the [#new-people-start-here](#) channel and say hello — that's where we get newcomers pointed in the right direction.

From there, [#find-a-game](#) is where rounds get posted. It's a rare weekend where someone doesn't have an open spot or two somewhere nearby, and anyone is free to jump in. Ask if the spot is still available, introduce yourself, and come play golf. That's really all it takes.

This website

We keep a group website at strohs.club. It's primarily here to keep track of the results from our events, but it also carries a copy of the manifesto and, now and then, writeups of things we've done. It's worth a bookmark.

Elsewhere

We're on Instagram at [@strohs_roost](#).

Omitted as Unratified

Material on the website with no Almanac source, held back from this document until it is ruled on. Each ID is described in *docs/RECONCILIATION.md*.

Nothing was withheld from this edition.