

Read further if you want to find out how to get tee times at El Conquistador and take advantage of the MGA.

You can always call the Golf Shop 520-544-1801 up to 16 days prior to the date of play and request a time as a member or you can log in to the El Conquistador website and book a time there. We recommend you book time online; it's easy however you can call or book a tee time as a member one day in advance if there is an opening in the schedule on the non-member course.

A great shortcut to getting a tee time at El Conquistador is to take advantage of the block tee times that are on the schedule each week. For example, each Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday mornings there are one-day mini events which you can join and play which start between 7:30 and 9:00 depending on the time of sunrise.

On Friday, there are several groups which play, each assigned a block of holes for the shotgun start:

1. For those who prefer not to play for money, there is the White tee group, managed by Paul Davis
2. For those who prefer a small wager, Roy Taylor manages a team game on the Green tees with a \$5 entry.
3. For those willing to risk more, Larry Armstrong manages the TPIG (no one remembers what this stands for!) which plays from the Green tees and is a team or individual event for \$10 entry with optional \$5 Net or Gross Skins.

On Saturday, Tom Comi manages the BTG, which allows players to play from any tees. It is an individual event with tee times with \$10 entry and optional \$5 Net and Gross skins.

Sunday has two events with a shotgun start:

1. The Golf Shop manages a Couples game (contact the Pro Shop for details)
2. For more ambitious betters, Ken Martinson manages with \$20 to be in both skins and team side 1 Gross + 1 Net Nassau bets of 5-5-5 for each side and overall.

On Monday, Tom Comi also manages the Monday Skins game. This has a team game plus either Gross, Net or both skins, plus closest to the pin on the par threes and long putts on two holes. Entry fee is \$10 for either Gross or Net and \$15 for both.

Wednesday is Men's day, managed by the Golf Shop. It is a team game with \$10 entry (prize money paid with credit book money for use in the Golf Shop) and optional \$5 cash skins. This is a shotgun start so you know you will be done before noon (at least in the Summer!)

The golf shop can introduce you to how to get into these games. Some of the guys who run these game use online sign up. Call the golf shop and have them setup the automated email registration for your email address. You will get an email a week in advance for each event you simply click on the link of the event you want to play in and you will be signed up and registered to play. If you don't want to play no problem next week you will get another email.

Cost? You don't pay for the round or cart that's covered in your membership. As shown above, most of these games ask for \$10 which each player puts into a pot. At the end of the round, the roughly one third of the players with the best scores share the money based on a set payout. If you would prefer to not put in the pot that's okay you can still play with the group. If you want to play for the pot, you will need a golf handicap. It is easy to get a handicap you can sign up at AZGolf.org or other USGA

[sites](#). After each time you play at an event at El Conquistador your score will be posted automatically to help you maintain a current handicap.

Almost all the events also have a separate pot for skins. For those of you who are new to golf, you play “skins” on a per hole basis. Basically, you are competing against the field for who can get the best score on each individual hole. Some people play for the “gross” score some for the “net” score (adjusted for handicap) usually you put in \$5 for which one you want or play both for \$10 or none at all.

Now are some quick hints. You will probably play with different players each week, when you play it’s by the rules so you don’t drop a second ball and hit it if you don’t like the first one and you putt out on the greens you don’t pick up with a “gimme”. Almost all events play the “green” tees so distance isn’t super important. If you play three times you probably won’t play with the same players, everyone gets mixed up.

Usually the second Saturday of each month is the MGA (Men’s Golf Association) members event with a morning shotgun start. Lunch is included for \$35 with payouts are in Pro Shop credit book, plus optional \$5 Net or Gross cash skins. This event is a great event to team up with other members, and everyone needs to be an MGA member and have a valid handicap. The events are different every month. The club championship is hosted by the MGA, so is the Member/Member where you play with a partner.

You can sign up for the MGA for \$40 by filling out an application in the Pro Shop or downloading it online. Benefits include:

1. The monthly tournaments (which prize monies are subsidized with dues)
2. The Golfer of the Month program which awards \$50 for the best medal round in Gross, Net 0-15 HC and 16+ HC divisions. Sorry, you can only win once per calendar year.
3. The optional \$5 Hole-in-One club which pays over \$500. Unfortunately, it is \$5 for every hole in one scored, probably ~5 per year. But if you get one, you are above water for over 20 years! Plus, it will cover all the drinks you want to buy for your friends!
4. For competitive golfers everyone in the MGA maintains a valid handicap. The events like the Member/Member and Club Championships are fun and a good test of your ability.

Call the Pro Shop at 520-544-1801 to have them set you up to get the automated emails.

Contact Information:

Paul Davis - pvd1369@yahoo.com

Tom Comi - comi.tom75@gmail.com

Larry Armstrong - ljarmstrong09@comcast.net

Ken Martinson - kmart4248@gmail.com

Roy Taylor - mrtmrst@comcast.net

Head Professional Mark Thesing – mthesing@elcongolf.com

Link to the MGA application you can print out is:

<https://igp.brightspotcdn.com/89/c4/abca77844c14ba6f2c171b286167/mens-golf-association-application.pdf>

Additional Benefits

The MGA is part of the Pima Cup a competition between different golf clubs in and around Tucson. We currently are the Pima Cup Champions and the clubs play each other at different courses. Usually you play at a neutral site and the competition goes for months. All different levels of handicaps are used. It has cost about \$100 per event to play with food and green's fees. If this type of competition interests you contact Larry Armstrong.

We use software on smart phones to keep score at El Conquistador. At the end of MGA events you scores are posted for you so you don't have to do it.

As a member we have 45 hole of golf available throughout the season. Pusch Ridge Golf course is a nine hole course in Oro Valley you can play (open November through April) as well as the two 18 hole courses. The two course are named Canada and Conquistador. When both course are in service the Canada course is for the members on even days the Conquistador Course on the odd days of the calendar. Non-member play is allowed on both courses but the Golf Shop organizes the tee sheet to balance out the two courses so no one course gets too much play and so non-members may play both. A big advantage is we have lots of tee times. The Conquistador course is undergoing an irrigation system replacement project (May through October 2022) and the Canada Course will be undergoing an irrigation system replacement project in 2023 (May through October).