

## **Gentlemen of the Admiral Baker Tuesday Blitz League,**

The Blitz is, first and foremost, a team competition. Team performance has always been the primary focus, and the majority of the prize purse has historically been allocated accordingly. While the Blitz also includes several individual competitions, they are intended to complement—not overshadow—the team games. Future adjustments to the prize structure will continue to reflect that philosophy.

As a reminder, players are allowed to change their default weekly tee box every six months (January and July). Changes before the six-month period are permitted only under certain circumstances.

Likewise, every six months the Blitz Tournament Committee, together with the Board of Governors, reviews the games and payouts to determine whether to maintain the current format or make improvements.

Last January we introduced the Canadian Skins format, which combined Gross and Net skins. While the game had some advantages, it also created confusion among players. Over the past several weeks we have evaluated a three-flight Gross Skins game. Although it favored low-index players capable of making birdies, it eliminated any opportunity for Net skins and resulted in many winners receiving relatively small payouts.

After reviewing several years of data and testing various formats—including Gross Only, Gross & Net, and Canadian Skins—the Board of Governors has decided to eliminate Skins from the Tuesday Blitz and redirect the \$80 purse into the team games.

### **Accordingly, the following changes will be implemented:**

1. **Closest-to-the-Flag**
  - White and Gold tee box competitions remain.
  - Payouts will be reduced from \$25 to \$20 per winner.
  - Weekly purse:
    - North Course: \$160
    - South Course: \$120
2. **Stableford Points Competition**
  - Players will be divided into eight flights based on handicap index.
  - The top three players in each flight will be paid.
  - Payouts:
    - 1st Place – \$20
    - 2nd Place – \$15
    - 3rd Place – \$10
    - USGA card-off procedures will determine ties.
    - Players shooting their handicap (36 points, even par) will have a greater opportunity to win.
3. **Team Games**
  - Additional money from the reduced CTF and elimination of Skins will be added to the team purse.
  - First-place teams will receive \$25 per player (\$100 per team).
  - We will strive to maintain a minimum payout of \$10 per player for the last-place team.
  - Total team payouts will vary depending on weekly participation.
4. **Elimination of Nine-Hole Team Games**
  - Nine-hole games require half handicaps, which create inequities.
  - Using all 18 holes produces fairer competitions.
  - It also reduces opportunities for sandbagging on holes that do not count toward the game.

Those interested in the analysis behind these decisions are encouraged to continue reading below.

We hope you recognize the effort put forth by your Tournament Committee and Board of Governors to continually improve the club and provide the greatest value to the membership.

Revised 3 June 2026

Best regards,

**Your Tournament Committee**

**John Bepko  
Bobby Skinner  
Bernie Hoyt  
Steve Koudelka  
Richard Krueger  
Fermin Ancho**

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SUPPORTING DATA AND TEST RESULTS

Goals

- Ensure first-place winners receive meaningful payouts.
- Strive for minimum payouts of \$10 for last-place winners.
- Provide every player an opportunity to win regardless of handicap or tee box.
- Reduce administrative workload.
- Eliminate formats that promote sandbagging.

Membership Statistics

- Approximately 75% of the membership has a GHIN Index above 10.0.
- Weekly average participation: 136 players.
- Average purse: \$1,360.

Skins Test Results

Gross 1 Flight:

- 0–3 winners

Gross 2 Flights:

- 4–8 winners

Gross 3 Flights:

- 16–17 winners with smaller payouts

Net 1 Flight:

- 1–4 winners

Net 2 Flights:

- 8–10 winners with smaller payouts

Canadian Skins:

- 15–20 winners with smaller payouts

Conclusions

- No Gross Skins format is fair to the entire field.
- Net Skins tend to favor higher handicappers receiving multiple strokes.
- Tee-box-based skins create excessive winners and increased administrative work.
- Larger team purses provide more value to the membership.
- Stableford points divided into eight flights provide more equitable opportunities for players of all skill levels.

This version should fit much better as a club-wide email and is easier for members to follow while still preserving the research and rationale behind the changes.

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