

RULES GOVERNING TOURNAMENTS

A. The following are **Major Events**:

Division I

- 36-Hole Stroke Tournament
- Mid-Winter
- Senior Championship
- Southern Championship
- State Championship
- Tournament of Champions

Division II

- Senior Championship
- Jane Fortmiller Net Championship

B. The following are **Association Day Events**:

- 4-Person Event
- Desert Event
- Executive Club
- Husband and Wife
- Jack & Jill
- Safari
- Scotch Championship

C. Rules for both **Major** and **Association Day Events**:

1. Entry Fee is listed by tournament in this book. The tournament fee for all two-day events is \$150, with the exception of the Executive Club Tournament, which is \$85. All one-day events are \$85. The tournament fees include an entry fee and club charges. **DO NOT SEND CASH.** There must be **one** check for each person entered. Send checks, payable to "WSCGA," with a properly completed WSCGA Entry Form to: ***WSCGA, 402 W. Arrow Hwy., Suite 10, San Dimas, CA, 91773.*** Online entry using American Express, MC and Visa is also available (nominal processing fee).
2. Entry Forms:
 - a. **Major Events and Association Days:** Entry Forms are available at your club and also can be printed from the WSCGA web site, www.womensgolf.org/wscga/tourney. Generic entry forms are also available in the WSCGA Directory.
 - b. For an Association Day Tournament involving a **single entry**, fill out only the top portion. **Partners Events:** Complete **BOTH** sections of the entry form.

Two checks must be included with entry (exception: Husband & Wife and Jack & Jill Tournaments.)

In a **Partners Event** there is an eight-stroke handicap limitation spread on the course being played at the time of play. If the handicap spread on the course being played exceeds the maximum eight-stroke spread, the higher handicapped partner **MUST PLAY DOWN**. Full refunds will be given to those players who do not meet the entry criteria.

Rules Governing Tournaments (Continued)

3. Entries must not be received in the WSCGA office before the first day of entry. Late entries will not be accepted. Entries must be received in the WSCGA office no later than 4:00 p.m. on the last day of entry.
4. Competitors are notified by mail of starting times and other pertinent information approximately 3 weeks prior to an event. The Southern and Mid-Winter participants receive tee times via the website or by calling into the WSCGA office. Play lists will also be posted on the website.
5. Cancellations:
 - a. If you have to cancel, notify the the WSCGA office at (909) 592-1281, extension 310 (cancellation line) or the Director-in-Charge. **Entry fees of \$20 (for one-day tournament) and \$40 (for two-day tournament) are nonrefundable after acceptance into tournament. NO REFUND OF ANY PORTION OF THE TOURNAMENT FEE WILL BE MADE AFTER THE CUT-OFF DATE LISTED IN THE TOURNAMENT INFORMATION.**
 - b. **Partners Events:** If one partner cancels after the entries have been accepted, a substitution may be made by the remaining partner with no additional fee by notifying the WSCGA office. The substitute player's handicap must stay as close as possible to the handicap of the original partner. Should the handicaps between partners be greater than 8 strokes, the higher handicap player must play down. If the remaining original partner must cancel, a team from the waiting list will be substituted. One of the original partners accepted into the event must remain as a participant in order for the team to remain as players. **No change in partners will be allowed after 3:00 p.m. on the Friday before the tournament. If your partner cancels after 3:00 p.m. on the Friday before the event, you will need to withdraw from the tournament, and a team from the Waiting List will be moved to the Playing List.**
 - c. **IF A TOURNAMENT IS CANCELLED BY WSCGA, YOUR CHECK WILL BE DESTROYED OR YOUR CREDIT CARD WILL BE REFUNDED.**
 - d. If a tournament site must be changed due to circumstances beyond the control of WSCGA, there will be no refund.
 - e. **DESERT EVENT ONLY -- No refund of any portion of the tournament fee after May 1.**

Rules Governing Tournaments (Continued)

6. A player who does not arrive to play, or who withdraws during a tournament for what is considered an unacceptable reason by the Tournament Committee, will forfeit any prize(s) and points earned during that tournament toward the State Team Competition. She will not be allowed to play in that tournament the following year. A player must report to the Director-in-Charge when withdrawing from a tournament.
7. Prizes: In all WSCGA-sponsored events, equal gross and net prizes are awarded. All ties are paid.
8. Priority: Gross and Net over-the-field, and 1st Gross and 1st Net flight winners qualify for automatic entry in that tournament the following year, provided they meet the index/handicap requirements. The following players qualify:

1st GROSS and 1st NET FLIGHT WINNERS:

Desert Event, Grandmothers and Scotch (MUST PLAY WITH SAME PARTNER)

LOW GROSS and LOW NET OVER-THE-FIELD WINNERS:

Division I

36-Hole Stroke Tournament
Executive Club Tournament*
Safari*
Senior Championship

Division II

Gross Championship
Jane Fortmiller Net Championship
Senior Championship

*MUST PLAY WITH SAME PARTNER

It is the entrant's responsibility to indicate, with a note on her entry form, that she is the previous year's winner.

9. Eligibility: A member must be listed on the Member Club's handicap sheet prior to the entry dates and have a valid *USGA* Handicap Index, based on 20 rounds of golf.
 - a. **Major Events:** if oversubscribed, entries will be selected in lowest index order.

Rules Governing Tournaments (Continued)

- b. **Association Days (Division I & Division II):** *USGA* Handicap Index limit designated for each event. (**Indexes of 40.4+ are NOT eligible.**)

10. Red Flag Policy: WSCGA is in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and has set forth a procedure for the request of use of a medical flag in WSCGA competitions for anyone qualifying under the ADA (http://www.womensgolf.org/wscga/bulletins/pdf/08admin_06.pdf).
11. Caddies and Galleries: Caddies (unless required by the host club) or galleries are not allowed at any Association Day or Major Tournaments with the following exceptions: Caddies and galleries are permitted during the match play portion of the Mid-Winter, State Championship and Southern Championship. Neither caddies nor galleries are allowed in the stroke play qualifying round. Caddies must register at the check-in table each day. Caddies are required to walk and are prohibited from driving or riding in the player's cart at any time during the round. Spectators are required to stay on cart paths, where available, and are prohibited from walking on fairways and on or near putting greens.
12. All participants are required to use carts. The exception is that players may walk during the match play portion of the Mid-Winter, State and Southern, but must pay for the cart they do not use.
13. Only those players who are scheduled to play in the tournament, or who are notified by the WSCGA office or the Director-in-Charge, will be allowed to play. **No one arriving at the course on the day of an event will be allowed to play unless she has been previously notified.**

D. Additional Rules for **Major Tournaments:**

1. The field (either 80 or 120 players) for each major tournament is selected from the lowest indices of entries received.
2. Mid-Winter and Southern Qualifier: Player eligible to play on home course.

E. Additional Rules for **Association Days:**

1. Desert Event: Eligibility is based on entry month index. April handicap index will be used for flighting and pairing.

Rules Governing Tournaments (Continued)

2. Priority for Association Days will be given to a member who has entered two or more Association Day events during the past 12 months for which she was eligible but was not accepted. **The competitor must identify those events in which she was not accepted by attaching a note to the entry form.**
3. Host Club: A member is eligible to play her own Club. This is a new WSCGA tournament policy as of 2007.
4. Association Day: The selection of the field is determined by random draw.
5. Eligibility for Husband and Wife or Jack and Jill Tournaments: If oversubscribed, preference will be given to those who did not participate in the previous year's event. Preference will be given to unmarried couples in the Jack and Jill Tournament; married couples may play if event is undersubscribed. Preference will be given to married couples in the Husband and Wife Tournament; unmarried couples may play if event is undersubscribed. Men in both events must be members of WSCGA member clubs.

LOCAL RULES CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION

WSCGA Tournament Play is governed by the *USGA Rules of Golf and its Decisions* and, where applicable, the following rules and conditions, along with additional local rules as may be supplied at the tournament site. Unless otherwise specified, the penalty for breach of a local rule or condition is two strokes in Stroke Play and loss of hole in Match Play.

1. **TIME OF STARTING.** The player shall start at the time laid down by the committee (**Rule 6-3**). The **Note to 6-3** is in effect.
2. **DRESS CODE. No abbreviated attire.** Shorts and skirts are to be no shorter than five (5) inches above the center of the back of the knee, no halter tops, tank tops, denim, etc. Tailored slacks are acceptable at many of the clubs. **A club's stricter dress code will take precedence.** Players must adhere to WSCGA/Host Club Dress Code. A player violating this Dress Code will not be permitted to start the competition. A player violating this Dress Code during the round will be **disqualified** from the competition.
3. **PACE OF PLAY.** A player shall be subject to penalty if she unduly delays play in accordance with any pace of play guidelines set down by the Committee. (**Rule 6-7**) If a group is out of position, the players in the group may be monitored and timed.

Definition of "Out of Position." A group will be considered out of position if it reaches the tee of a par-3 hole and the preceding group has cleared the next tee; reaches the tee of a par-4 hole and the putting green is clear; or reaches the teeing ground of a par-5 hole when the preceding group is on the putting green.

When a group or match is out of position, each player in the group or match is expected to play any stroke within 40 seconds after timing of the player's stroke begins. Other than on the putting green, timing of a player's stroke will begin when she has had reasonable opportunity to reach her ball, it is her turn to play and she can play without interference or distraction.

Pace of Play Penalties. The following are the penalties, in sequence, for any player in a group being timed who takes more than 40 seconds to play a stroke after timing of the player's stroke begins:

- One timing of more than 40 seconds -- warning
- A second timing -- 1-stroke penalty
- A third timing -- additional 2-stroke penalty for stroke play or loss of hole for match play
- A fourth timing -- Disqualification

Local Rules (continued)

4. **DOUBT AS TO PROCEDURE.** In STROKE PLAY ONLY, when a player is in doubt as to her procedure, she may play a “Second Ball” (**Rule 3-3**). The competitor must report the facts to the Committee before returning her scorecard; if she fails to do so, she will be disqualified.
5. **PERMANENT ELEVATED POWER LINES AND CABLES.** If a ball strikes a permanent elevated power line or cable on the course, it must be replayed, without penalty (**see Rule 20-5**). If the ball is not immediately recoverable, another ball may be substituted.
6. **EMBEDDED BALL THROUGH THE GREEN.** Local Rule as prescribed in the *USGA Rules of Golf, Appendix I*, shall be in effect.
7. **FLOWER BEDS** shall be treated as Ground under Repair (**Rule 25**) from which relief is mandatory.
8. **TREE BASINS.** There is no relief under the Rules from tree basins, which are not made of artificial materials (**Decision 33-2a/10.5**).
9. **SCORECARDS.** Scorecards must be returned to the Tournament Committee immediately upon completion of play.
10. **TIES.** In stroke play competition, unless stated otherwise, ties will be decided by matching scorecards over the back nine, back six, back three and 18th hole using the WSCGA Back Nine method. In the case of a two-day competition, ties will be decided by matching second-day scorecards, using the above format.
11. **CELL PHONES AND AUDIBLE PAGERS.** The use of cell phones to give or receive advice is not allowed during the stipulated round of any WSCGA tournament. Additionally, repeated use of a cell phone on the golf course for any reason may constitute a serious breach of etiquette, which would result in a penalty of disqualification (**Rule 33-7**).
12. **APPROVED DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES.** The WSCGA allows approved distance-measuring devices (those that measure distance only) at WSCGA tournaments. See **USGA Rules of Golf 14-3**.

QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO RULES PROBLEMS

Refer to: RULES DIRECTOR or WSCGA Office.