

## 2012 DIVISION II DESERT TEAM PLAY

The Regional Team Coordinator, under the direction of the WSCGA Team Committee, has the responsibility for all team play in her region and for assisting with the finals. The WSCGA Team Committee is responsible for regional coordination, finals competition and settling all disputes in conjunction with the WSCGA Rules Director and at least one member of the Rules Committee. Team play will be played in the month(s) determined by each Regional Team Coordinator and approved by the WSCGA Team Committee.

### A. ELIGIBILITY

1. Any WSCGA Club Member who is an amateur in good standing and has an established USGA Handicap Index.
2. The member must be listed on the December 15th Index Report of the Club she represents.
3. A Team Captain shall be a member of the team she represents.
4. A player belonging to more than one WSCGA Division II Desert Club may play team for only one club.
5. If a club fields more than one team, a player shall be designated on one roster only: "A," or "B".

### B. DATES

Primary play will begin on **January 2, 2012** and conclude on **March 23, 2012**. There will be an Awards Luncheon during the week of **March 26-30, 2012**. Arrangements will be made by WSCGA.

### C. TEAM PLAY INDEX

The Handicap Index used during all team play competition shall be determined by the WSCGA Team Committee. For the 2012 season, **the indices on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month will be used for that month's play**. Indices will be updated monthly and posted on the WSCGA web site.

### D. TEAM ROSTER

1. There will be "A" and "B" team designations **based on the December 1, 2011 indices**. The index ranges will be as follows:  
A Teams – 0.0 to 24.4 (or play down to a 24.4)  
B Team – 20.0 to 40.4

2. The "B" team roster may not start with a lower Handicap Index than the highest Handicap Index on the "A" Team Roster; i.e., if your "A" team roster goes to 20.0 you may start the "B" Team Roster with a 20.0, but not lower than a 20.0.
3. The roster shall remain in effect throughout the season including the finals.
4. A club can field as many teams as they are capable of supporting within the stated index parameters, but a club with more than one team cannot borrow and/or shift players between teams.
5. In order to participate in team play, two Member Clubs may, upon approval of the Regional Coordinator, combine to form a team or teams.

## **E. REGULATIONS**

1. A group shall consist of no less than three teams and each team must play a minimum of four (4) matches. These requirements are at the discretion of the WSCGA Team Committee.
2. Under supervision of the WSCGA Team Committee and the Regional Team Coordinator, each group shall choose whether to use a "Home and Home" or a "Round Robin" format.
3. During group play, if a club is unable to field a team of at least four (4) players, they shall forfeit except, in an emergency (illness, accident or death), the match may be rescheduled with the approval of the Regional Coordinator.
4. If a team forfeits (whether "A" or "B") no member on that team's roster shall be eligible to play on any team play team the following year and all points scored by that Team, as well as the points scored by their opponents in matches against the forfeiting team are thereby canceled.
5. The WSCGA Team Committee shall determine the date for Team Captains to submit the team rosters and shall determine the final date for allowing players to be added to the Roster. Once a Roster has been submitted, no team may withdraw from Group play without review by the WSCGA Team Committee.

## **F. HANDICAP**

1. Each team shall be made up at the discretion of the Team Captain after conversion from the USGA Handicap Index to the Course Handicap. Handicaps shall fall in order from the lowest to the highest. Each team shall consist of four (4) pairs of players. Each pair is called a side. The two lowest handicaps of the day's line up will be side #1, the next two lowest will be side #2, etc. Side #1 will play against side #1 of the opposing team, side #2 will play against side #2, etc. Penalty for playing out of handicap order shall be the loss of any points earned by the offending side or sides.
2. If playing short, the team line up shall be made at the discretion of the Team Captain. Any one of the four sides may play short as determined by the Team Captain, but each side must be represented when the Match begins.
3. Handicaps (not indices) shall fall in order. Players with like indices can be placed in any order at the discretion of the Team Captain.
4. The final lineup of players shall be declared one-half hour before play.
5. No changes are permitted once the final lineup is declared. Sides shall play in order (1-2-3-4) or as determined by mutual consent of the Team Captains.

## **G. DUTIES: TEAM CAPTAIN**

1. WSCGA and Regional Team Coordinators will conduct organizational meetings prior to Team play and, at that time, will expect each Team Captain to have a written statement regarding green and cart fees signed by their Club Management.
2. The Team Captains shall have Rules Sheets, a complete list of players and their indices and all pertinent information relating to team play with them at every match.
3. Hosting Team Captains shall provide local rule sheets for each side. (See Section H – Rules, # 6 - regarding Conforming Ball List).
4. The Hosting Club is responsible for transmitting the results of the day's Matches to the WSCGA Office by fax (909-592-7542) immediately after play.
5. WSCGA strongly recommends that a Team Committee be appointed by the Team Captain for each match and that this Committee be in place

prior to the beginning of the team season. It is further recommended that both captains serve on that Committee. (Ideally, the Committee should be represented by someone from Rules and Handicap.) In the event a claim and/or dispute cannot be resolved by this Committee, please call the WSCGA office (909) 592-1281. The WSCGA Team Manager, Rules Director and one other WSCGA Rules Committee member will be notified to resolve the claim or dispute.

## H. FORMAT

1. All group matches will be Four-ball Match Play as defined by USGA Rules of Golf under 30-3. All players are encouraged to carry a current copy of the USGA Rules of Golf.
2. All matches shall be played on the scheduled date with the following exceptions:
  - (a) During heavy rain or extreme weather conditions, Team Captains may, by a majority vote, cancel play prior to tee-off;
  - (b) Cancellation of scheduled play by course management over which a team has no control.
  - (c) The course is considered unavailable if CARTS are unavailable or not permitted to be used. Play shall be rescheduled as soon as possible. (Carts are mandatory during team play).
3. When there is a change of date or hours, the Captains of all participating Teams shall be informed immediately in person or by telephone and the Regional Team Coordinator shall be notified.
4. A player may pick up when she has no chance to win or halve the hole. If a player starts but does not complete a hole, she shall, for posting purposes, record the score she most likely would have made if the hole had been completed. Such score shall not exceed the limit in the Equitable Stroke Control formula.
5. When the opponent's ball is at rest, the player may concede a stroke, a hole or a match at any time prior to the conclusion of the hole or the match. The concession of a stroke, hole or match may not be declined or withdrawn. If a player has conceded a putt, it should be removed by the player, her partner, or either of her opponents. She may pick up and follow the procedure above, OR she, her partner or either of her opponents may mark her ball and, for scoring purposes, she may putt out after the play of the hole is completed by those in contention. If a player putts a conceded putt and her act is of assistance to her partner, the partner is disqualified for that hole.

## I. RULES THAT GOVERN PLAY

1. In the event that matches are scheduled on the same day and time as other tournaments at the course being played (USGA Rule 33-1) team players may not compete in anything except Team play. Breach of this rule will result in disqualification of the offending players for the remainder of Team play.
2. Caddies, coaches, galleries or guests are not permitted on the golf course during any team play event. Non-playing Team Captains and personnel duly authorized by course management or the Women's Southern California Golf Association (WSCGA) are an exception. Please note that if a non-playing Captain is on the course she may not distract players, interfere with play or give advice.
3. USGA Rules of Golf shall prevail except in cases of emergency or the direct order of course management. Local Rules not conforming to the USGA Rules of Golf shall be eliminated. Local Rules, if not printed on the scorecard, must be mailed or faxed to the WSCGA office and also the Regional Team Coordinator prior to the matches. The Local Rules and team roster are distributed to the players on the day of competition.
4. Rule 30-3 Four-Ball Match Play:  
  
Representation of Side: "A side may be represented by one partner for all or any part of a match; all partners need not be present. An absent partner may join a match between holes, but not during play of a hole. No team shall commence play with fewer than four (4) players."
5. Temporary greens must be played as permanent greens.
6. Balls used in Team play must be on the conforming ball list. Clubs used in team play must not be on the non-conforming club list. Lists may be found on the USGA website at [www.usga.org](http://www.usga.org).
7. Team Captains shall make decisions as outlined by these Rules and report such decisions to the Regional Team Coordinator. **NO** outside agencies such as Club Pro, Manager, marshal, etc. shall be consulted.
8. The WSCGA Team Coordinator shall be advised of all problems; she and the WSCGA Rules Director along with at least one member of the WSCGA Rules Committee shall be responsible for the interpretation and application of the Team Rules.
9. Players should be aware of and fully understand how to make a claim, USGA Rules of Golf 2-5. In order for a breach of a rule to be considered

it must be reported to the Rules Committee as soon as possible after a timely claim has been made (USGA Rules of Golf 34-1, *Claims and Penalties*)

10. Any group not holding its place shall allow the following group to play through. (USGA Rules of Golf, Section I / Etiquette-Pace of Play).
11. No cell phones may be used during team play (except in an on-course medical emergency). If taken on the course, they must be turned off. The use of a cell phone may constitute a serious breach of etiquette, resulting in a penalty of disqualification. (Rule 33-7).
12. Use of an artificial device to gauge or measure distance (range finder) will be allowed during the stipulated round in accordance with the WSCGA policy regarding such devices. This is a Local Rule in the Conditions of the Competition for WSCGA team play. (See WSCGA Position Statement regarding GPS devices).
13. If any point in dispute about the WSCGA Division II Desert Team Rules is not covered by these Rules, the decision shall be made in equity.

**J. FINAL COMPETITION - \*NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO FINALS IN 2012**

1. The Finals will be held at a neutral course arranged in advance by the WSCGA.
2. Team play will be Four-Ball Match Play with a gross winner and a net winner in each group. If a team wins both gross and net in their group, that team shall go to the gross Finals. The second place net team then qualifies for the net Finals.
3. During Group Team play, scorecards shall be turned in to your Team Captain. During team Finals there shall be a designated Scorecard Return Area with an assigned WSCGA official attending the box into which scorecards are placed. Once a card is placed in the designated box, it may not be removed other than by a WSCGA Official.
4. In the event of a Stableford Competition in the Finals, penalties shall be applied as follows: From total points scored for the round, there will be a deduction of two (2) points for each hole at which the breach occurred with a maximum deduction of four (4) points.
5. Group and Final Champions will be determined by the scoring system as set forth by the WSCGA Team Committee.

## K. SCORING

1. For group competition, a Four-Ball Match Play format will be used and hole points will be accumulated throughout the season. Total accumulated hole points at the end of group play will determine the overall gross and net winners of each group (beginning with gross). Should the hole point totals between two (or more) teams be tied at the end of group play, hole points from the matches between the tied teams will be compared; the team with highest hole point total will then be declared the winner. Should that method still not produce a winner, hole points from matches between the tied teams will be compared by sides, beginning with side 1, until the tie is broken.
2. The Final Competition will be a Four-Ball Match Play format (USGA Rules of Golf 2 and 30-3) using hole point totals to establish both a gross and net winner. "A" group gross and net winners will compete against each other to determine overall gross and net "A" Champions. "B" group gross and net winners will compete against each other to determine overall gross and net "B" Champions.

The procedure for breaking ties in the Finals is to be determined by the WSCGA Team Committee.

A Stableford Scoring System (USGA Rule 32-1b) will only be used in the event "A" or "B" teams comprise more than two groups. In that event, accumulated Stableford points will determine the winner.

Any player listed on a Team's original roster is eligible to play. No Club may acquire a player for Final Competition who was not previously listed on that Club's Roster. Rosters established at the beginning of the season remain in effect through the Final Competition. In the event a Team chooses not to participate in the Finals the next place team is eligible to take the place of the forfeiting team.

In the Gross Match, all players play at scratch. In the Net Match, full difference in strokes shall be given by the lowest handicap player of the two sides, who plays at scratch. Strokes shall be taken as they fall on the scorecard (i.e., #1 Handicap Hole, #2 Handicap Hole, etc.). Winning Gross score has the honor on the next tee.

## L. POSTING

Team play scores are **NOT** to be posted as Tournament scores.

**EXCEPTION: Final scores are posted as Tournament scores.**