

## INFORMATION FOR A FIRST TIME PLAYER IN WOMEN'S MET TEAM MATCHES

### *What to expect, How to be prepared and a Few Helpful Pointers*

Welcome to the WMGA Team Matches. We hope this will be the first of many great days of competition. Here are some tips from the WMGA to help you navigate this new experience:

1. Your captain is your best source of information. She works very hard to put a team together and commitment is the key to success. There are 5 players on a team and each and every member of the team is important; especially the fifth player. The #5 player has won many a match for a team. Never underestimate your worth to the team. You will play in the order of your handicap index **as of the final revision from the previous fall**, the November 1<sup>st</sup> revision. It is a good idea to know the line up from your captain in advance so you know the position that you will be playing.
2. Tee times *usually* start at 8:30. The host team will play in the first match. The players tee off in **7** minute intervals. The second group of teams tees off at 9:05 and the last group of teams tees off at 9:40. Be sure to arrive *at least* a half hour to an hour before your team tees off. By arriving early, you have time to find your way at the club in case of traffic and your team will not be worried about you. You should be at the tee 5 or 10 minutes prior to your individual tee time.
3. Driving directions from the MGA/WMGA booklet are much preferred over GPS directions. Sometimes GPS sends you to a maintenance facility and not to the clubhouse. The booklets are for sale from the WMGA office or your Series Captain. Having the phone numbers of the clubs, which are listed in the booklets, is a huge help.
4. There is always a continental breakfast provided. Ask the locker room attendant where the breakfast is located. Your captain will ask you for tip money for the attendant. Remember to pay her because she has paid the tips in advance. Oftentimes, the attendant will clean your shoes after play. You are expected to stay for lunch, which is charged to your club account. It is customary to sit with your opponent and the other players at lunch.
5. Your captain should know if you will be using carts and/or caddies. You will need cash to pay for a caddie. Plan on \$60 - \$80 caddie fees depending on the club.
6. There will be a bulletin board near the first tee or pro shop that has the players listed in the order of play with their tee time. The team listed on the left has the honor on the first tee based on the final team results from the previous season. There will be a Notice to Players posted with the caddie fee, the tees being played, and any local rules such as preferred lies, stones in bunkers, ground under repair, etc. The team matches are played under USGA rules.
7. The match consists of one point for the front 9, one point for the back 9 and one point for the overall match with a maximum of 3 points. If there is a tie, then each player receives 1/2 pt.
8. Players must abide by USGA match play rules so you should familiarize yourself with USGA Rules of Golf for match play. The player winning the hole has the honor on the next hole.
9. There are no handicap strokes used in the WMGA Team Matches.
10. Remember to check the weather forecast since matches are played in all conditions. Bad weather is not of itself a good reason for discontinuing play. Your captain should contact you if the match is cancelled.