

STANDING RULES OF THE WMGA

The Tournament Schedule Book is governed by the WMGA's Constitution and Bylaws, located on WMGA website (www.wmga.com).

I. MEMBERSHIP

Regular Membership

An amateur woman golfer who, under the rules of her Member Club (see Section 1 Club Membership) is entitled to the privileges of the Member Club's golf course for a minimum of four days per week for a minimum of three months during the season, can apply for Membership in the WMGA. A woman who is entitled to the privileges of the course solely by virtue of her employment at that Member Club will be deemed not to be a member of a Member Club. She must have an active USGA Handicap Index of 25.0 or less.

New Regular Membership

- 1) A member of a Member Club with a maximum USGA Handicap Index of 25.0 may apply for Membership at any time during the year; however, to participate in the 2022 Team Matches, she must have joined by December 1, 2021, at the discretion of the WMGA Board.
- 2) Annual dues for new Regular Membership in 2022 are \$100 and should be remitted to the WMGA Met Rep (each Member Club appoints a Met Rep to represent the WMGA members of that club) at the member's club. Dues will not be refunded for any reason after April 1st of the current year.

Renewing Regular Membership

- 1) An existing membership must be renewed for the next year no later than December 1st, at the discretion of the WMGA Board. If the December 1, 2021 deadline is not met, the member must apply for and meet all the requirements for New Membership. Failure to renew or become an Inactive Member forfeits the member's ability to rejoin if her future USGA Handicap Index exceeds 25.0.

- 2) Annual dues for Renewing Membership in 2022 are \$100 and should be remitted to the WMGA Met Rep at the member's club. Dues will not be refunded for any reason after April 1st of the current year.

Inactive Membership

- 1) A Regular Member, currently in good standing, may apply for Inactive Membership only under the following circumstances:
 - a) No longer a member of a Member Club or taken a leave of absence from a Member Club; or
 - b) Change in membership status at a Member Club which results in a membership status that does not meet the requirements for Regular Membership; or
 - c) Resignation is submitted to the member's club, and the member does not join another Member Club.
- 2) Annual dues for Inactive Membership in 2022 are \$10. An Inactive Membership request, together with the annual dues, must be submitted directly to the WMGA office no later than December 1, 2021. If the December 1, 2021 deadline is not met, the WMGA will presume the Inactive Member has resigned.
- 3) In the event an Inactive Membership is granted by the WMGA, the member may NO LONGER PLAY OR COMPETE in any WMGA event.
- 4) An Inactive Member may be reinstated as a Regular Member upon joining a Member Club and applying for Regular Membership at any time during the year; however, to participate in the 2022 Team Matches, she must join by April 1, 2022, at the discretion of the WMGA Board. Reinstatement may be requested through a WMGA Met Rep. Resignation from the WMGA must be made directly to the WMGA office.
- 5) An Inactive Member may be eligible for Independent Membership.

Junior Membership

- 1) An amateur junior girl golfer who has not reached her 19th birthday (by January 1, 2022) and who through her parent(s), guardian, or herself is a member of a Member

Club may become a Junior Member for that year. She can apply for Junior Membership at any time during that year.

- 2) A Junior Member does not need a USGA Handicap Index to join the WMGA.
- 3) There are no annual dues for a Junior Membership.
- 4) A Junior Member must be registered by December 1, 2021 if she would like to participate in Team Matches, at the discretion of the WMGA Board.

Independent Membership

- 1) An amateur woman golfer who is not a member of a Member Club with a maximum USGA Handicap Index of 25.0 may apply for Independent Membership at any time during the year.
- 2) Membership is valid for one season and must be renewed annually.
- 3) An Independent Member must meet the requirements set forth in the WMGA's Constitution and Bylaws.
- 4) An Independent Member must meet two of the following criteria:
 - a) Resident address must be within WMGA territory.
 - b) Hold a USGA Handicap Index serviced by a local organization (MGA, NJSGA, CSGA).
 - c) Majority of rounds of golf posted over the previous year, in season, must be within the WMGA territory.
- 5) Annual dues for Independent Membership in 2022 are \$200 and should be remitted to the WMGA Office. Dues will not be refunded for any reason after April 1st of the current year.
- 6) Independent Members are ineligible to play in Team Matches, vote, or serve on the Executive Committee.
- 7) The Independent Membership Committee retains the final decision to approve applicants and reserves the right to modify any of the rules in this book governing Independent Membership.

Junior Independent Membership

- 1) An amateur junior girl golfer who has not reached her 19th birthday (by January 1, 2022) and is not a member of a Member Club with a maximum USGA Handicap Index of

- 25.0 may apply for Junior Independent Membership at any time during the year.
- 2) Membership is valid for one season and must be renewed annually.
 - 3) A Junior Independent Member must meet the requirements set forth in the WMGA's Constitution and Bylaws.
 - 4) A Junior Independent Member must meet two of the following criteria:
 - a) Resident address must be within WMGA territory.
 - b) Hold a USGA Handicap Index serviced by a local organization (MGA, NJSGA, CSGA).
 - c) Majority of rounds of golf posted over the previous year, in season, must be within the WMGA territory.
 - 5) There are no annual dues for a Junior Independent Membership.
 - 6) Junior Independent Members are ineligible to play in Team Matches, vote, or hold office.
 - 7) The Independent Membership Committee retains the final decision to approve applicants and reserves the right to modify any of the rules in this book governing Junior Independent Membership.
 - 8) A Junior Independent Member may be eligible for the WMGA Foundation Fellowship Program after applying for, and being accepted as, a Junior Independent Member by the Independent Membership Committee. The application for Fellowship can be found within the Junior Independent Membership Application located on wmga.com.

Club Membership

- 1) To apply for Club Membership, a club must meet the requirements set forth in the WMGA's Constitution and Bylaws and must offer its course every three years for a WMGA tournament in addition to Team Matches.
- 2) Annual Dues for Club Membership for 2022 are \$200 and are payable by January 1st. Failure to pay the dues prior to April 1st will be deemed to be the club's resignation from the WMGA membership and its members will be ineligible to play in WMGA events until the club makes payment.

- 3) A Member Club that refuses three requests to host a tournament, other than Team Matches, may be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension of its members from all WMGA events (Team Matches included) at the discretion of the WMGA Board.

II. HANDICAPS

- 1) Handicaps must be computed in accordance with the current USGA Handicap System.
- 2) A player's USGA Handicap Index will be adjusted in accordance with the Handicap Conversion Table into the appropriate handicap for the host club.
- 3) The official Handicap Season and final revision date will be determined by each handicap provider. Eligible winter scores with Course Ratings and Slope Ratings should be posted at time of play.
- 4) All scores from WMGA tournaments, including Team Matches, **must** be posted into USGA Handicap Index System. Scores from some WMGA stroke play tournaments will be posted as "C" scores by the Committee as noted in the Posting Scores Memo found on wmga.com.

III. COMPETITIONS

Tournament Entries

- 1) Online registration for all tournament entries, unless otherwise noted, will be accepted starting at 8:00 AM, April 11th, and will close at 11:59 PM on the final entry date indicated for each tournament. **The field for each tournament is selected on the basis of the order in which the entries are submitted (i.e. first come, first served basis).** A player must submit only one entry per tournament. Tournament registration must be completed online at wmga.com.
- 2) The tournament entry fee typically includes continental breakfast, when applicable, lunch, the golf competition, prizes, tipping, and access to the range and practice area.

- Fees for cart rental and/or caddie will be paid for by the player at the tournament site.
- 3) After entries close, the tournament information will be posted on the WMGA website and starting times will be emailed to players. If the field is not full by the final entry date, late entries may be considered. Call the WMGA office (914-592-7888) for availability.
 - 4) A waiting list for player/team will be maintained for each oversubscribed tournament. If a player/team cancels prior to the tournament, the first player/team on the waiting list will be accepted into the tournament.
 - a) If one or more players of a team is unable to participate, **the team has a one-time exemption to replace partner(s) for the partnered tournament.**
 - b) **NOTE:** In many cases, being placed on the waiting list does NOT mean a player is excluded from tournament participation. Positions in the tournament often become available as the date approaches. The WMGA recommends a waitlisted player keeps her schedule open.
 - 5) Pairings for the tournaments will be made by the Committee unless otherwise noted.
 - 6) Practice rounds are not provided unless otherwise noted.

Tournament Cancellation & Refund Policies

- 1) There will be no cancellation of play unless the course is deemed unplayable by the host club. If the host club is agreeable, play may be delayed until later in the day.
- 2) Entry fee, less a \$15 service and processing fee, will be refunded regardless of cancellation reason if the WMGA is notified by phone (914-592-7888) or email the tournament manager (tournamentmanager@wmga.com) prior to the final entry date. Requests for refunds after the final entry date and prior to release of pairings will only be accepted in writing (via email) and the amount of the refund, if any, may be reduced by any tournament costs including caddie and/or cart fees. There will be no refunds after pairings are released.

- 3) If a player/team needs to cancel on the day of play, please email the tournament manager directly as soon as possible at tournamentmanager@wmga.com.
- 4) The WMGA reserves the right to cancel any tournament for lack of sufficient participation.

Handicap Eligibility

- 1) Handicap limits will be calculated one week prior to the first day of competition as follows:
 - a) Class A Tournaments – USGA Handicap Index maximum of 14.0.
 - b) Class B Tournaments – USGA Handicap Index minimum of 14.1.
- 2) A player may only enter a tournament for which her USGA Handicap Index makes her eligible. EXCEPTION: Players in the Myra D. Paterson must fulfill USGA Handicap Index requirements as of November 15th of the previous year.
- 3) If a subsequent handicap revision would make her ineligible for an event other than those noted in the preceding EXCEPTION, the player will not be required to withdraw. In any Championship, the player will be required to use the maximum allowable Index or her current Index, whichever is lower. If the player's Index is lower than the minimum allowed for entry, she will not be eligible for a gross prize.

Tournament Rules

- 1) All play will be governed by USGA Rules, any Local Rules posted, and any Conditions of the Competition established.
- 2) Except in the Match Play Championship and Stroke Play Championship for Class A players, a player may use a golf cart. The rules regarding the use of caddies will be determined by the host club and will be posted in the Notice to Players. A player will be responsible for any cart and/or caddie fees which may be incurred. A player **MAY NOT** bring her own caddie or carry her own golf bag. Pull cart may be used at the discretion of the host club. Caddies will be assigned by the caddie manager. A player may not have the same caddie twice or request a specific caddie except for the finalists on the final day of the Match Play Championships.

- 3) A player or team who has been assigned a starting time must be present at that time and fully intend to complete the round. Withdrawal for reasons other than personal illness or family emergency within 24 hours of that assigned time, failure to submit a tournament score, or failure to play the second day of a two-day tournament may result in disciplinary action, including suspension of the player or team from all WMGA events (Team Matches included) at the discretion of the Competitions Committee. Further, regardless of the reason for withdrawal, the player or team may be responsible for all fees, including caddie fees, incurred by the WMGA.
- 4) All competitors and spectators must abide by the WMGA Dress Code, Code of Conduct, and Electronic Communication Devices policies.
- 5) Proper golf attire must be worn at all WMGA events. Players must adhere to the **dress code regulations** of the host club. Players should review the Notice to Players or host club website for guest information. Members whose dress is deemed inappropriate by the host club or WMGA may be denied participation in the tournament.
- 6) All penalties will be assessed in accordance with the USGA 2019 Rules of Golf.
- 7) Electronic communication devices **MUST** be turned off. They may not be used anywhere on club grounds, except in a player's car. If the club policy is more restrictive, all players and spectators **MUST** comply.

EXCEPTION: When electronic communication devices are permitted on the golf course, players may use electronic communication devices in the case of an emergency or in accordance with Rule 4.3. Violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action.
- 8) Competitions Committee reserves the right to modify any of the rules in this book governing tournaments.
- 9) Competitions Committee will post all Stroke Play scores to USGA Handicap Index. All players must return their score card after each round even if reported as DNF or No Card.

Match Play Championship

- 1) The defending champion will be exempt from qualifying. If she elects to exercise this exemption, she must notify the office prior to the final entry date for the Championship. If, however, she elects to compete for the medalist prize, she must forfeit her automatic qualification and qualify on the same basis as all other competitors.
- 2) If the defending champion exercises her exemption described in #1, the fifteen lowest scores in the qualifying round will comprise the balance of the Championship Flight; otherwise the players posting the sixteen lowest scores will comprise the Championship Flight.
- 3) Duplicate prizes will be awarded in the event of a tie for medalist. Only the medalist may be awarded more than one prize.
- 4) All matches will be eighteen holes, except the final of the Championship Flight, which will be thirty-six holes. All ties will be decided by an immediate hole-by-hole playoff. The first and second rounds of the Championship Flight will be played on the first day of match play.
- 5) Unless otherwise permitted by the Committee, players may not use motorized transportation during a round. For 2022, there may be restrictions from the host club that players are required to use motorized transportation.
- 6) Caddies, if available, will be assigned by the caddie manager. A player may not have the same caddie twice or request a specific caddie except for the finalists on the final day.
- 7) Competition Committee reserves the right to modify these rules and/or format.

“B” Match Play Championship

- 1) The defending champion will be exempt from qualifying. If she elects to exercise this exemption, she must notify the office prior to the final entry date for the Championship. If, however, she elects to compete for the medalist prize, she must forfeit her automatic qualification and qualify on the same basis as all other competitors.

- 2) If the defending champion exercises her exemption described in #1, the fifteen lowest scores in the qualifying round will comprise the balance of the Championship; otherwise the players posting the sixteen lowest scores will comprise the Championship Flight.
- 3) Duplicate prizes will be awarded in the event of a tie for medalist. Only the medalist may be awarded more than one prize.
- 4) All matches will be eighteen holes. All ties will be decided by an immediate hole-by-hole playoff. The first and second rounds of the Championship will be played on the first day of match play.
- 5) Players may utilize motorized transportation during a round.
- 6) If the host club requires caddies in addition to carts, caddies will be assigned by the caddie manager. A player may not have the same caddie twice or request a specific caddie except for the finalists on the final day.

Stroke Play Championships

- 1) Class A and B tournaments are an aggregate of two rounds of eighteen holes played on consecutive days.
- 2) A tie for the Championship trophy will be resolved by an immediate 3-hole playoff on the host course followed, if necessary, by a sudden-death playoff. A tie for the net trophy will be decided by a match of cards.
- 3) Unless otherwise permitted by the Compliance Committee, Class A players are prohibited from using any type of motorized transportation during a round. For 2022, there may be restrictions from the host club that players are required to use motorized transportation.
- 4) A player may not have the same caddie twice or request a specific caddie.

Family Championships

- 1) All players/teams, including those who are not members of the WMGA, must provide a current GHIN number or play from scratch.
- 2) The family member who is not a member of the WMGA does not have to be the same handicap "class" as the member.

- 3) All competitions for Family Championships will be Pinehurst format.

Junior Tournaments

- 1) Junior Tournaments are open to any girl who has not reached her 19th birthday by midnight of the last day of the event.
- 2) All entry fees for Junior Tournaments include continental breakfast when applicable, lunch, prizes, tipping, and range balls for the competitor only. A Junior must carry her own clubs or use a non-motorized pull cart. If a host golf club does not allow the use of non-motorized pull carts, the WMGA will abide by that rule and the junior must carry her own clubs. The WMGA will not provide pull carts; the use of one comes at a player's own expense.
- 3) A Junior Member or Junior Independent Member may be permitted to play in other WMGA events provided she meets the USGA Handicap Index requirement of the tournament and complies with the caddie or cart requirement prescribed for that tournament. All Junior Member entries to non-Junior Tournaments are subject to review by the WMGA Junior Girls' Chair, or Tournament Manager, who will take into consideration the Junior Member's pace of play, playing capability, knowledge of the USGA 2019 Rules of Golf and awareness of golf etiquette.
- 4) The WMGA Junior Girls' Open Championship and the Maureen Orcutt Trophy Tournament are open to a non-WMGA member who meets the following criteria:
 - a) Must not have reached her 19th birthday by midnight of the last day of the event.
 - b) Must be a resident of the Metropolitan area (Connecticut, New Jersey, or New York, within a 60-mile of New York City limits, or anywhere on Long Island).
- 5) All competitors and spectators must abide by the WMGA Dress Code, Code of Conduct and Electronic Communication Devices policies.

IV. INTERDISTRICT TEAM COMPETITIONS

- 1) The Golf Illustrated and the Myra D. Paterson competitions will be matches among teams of ten players and one alternate from each of the three WMGA districts. The Golf Illustrated team will be chosen by the Team Captains from among the members with USGA Handicap Index maximum of 14.0 from within their districts. The Myra D. Paterson team will be chosen by the Team Captains from among the members with USGA Handicap Index minimum of 14.1 from within their districts. Handicap is determined two weeks prior to day of the competitions.
- 2) Team Captains are selected by the Team Competitions Chair and voted on by the Board for a three-year term with an option to be appointed for a second term after at least a one year absence as Team Captain.
- 3) In assembling a team, Captains are limited to the selection of one (1) Independent Member and one (1) Junior Independent Member. The Independent Member's district is determined by her established residence. For players residing in Manhattan, her district is selected during the membership application process.
- 4) The tournament site will rotate annually among the districts.
- 5) The Team Captains will select the teams and determine the positions of the players.
- 6) A player belonging to two Member Clubs may only represent the district in which she played during Interclub Team Matches.
- 7) The Team Captains will submit their line-up one half hour before the start of play to the Tournament Manager, who will then post the line-up.
- 8) The format will be a Three-Ball Match Play competition with Nassau scoring. Matches will be eighteen holes, scoring one point for the first nine holes, one point for the second nine holes and one point for the eighteen holes. In the event of a tie for any point, each player will receive one half point.

- 9) The team winning the most points will be declared the winner and will have its name and the date of competition engraved on the trophy. The Captain of the winning team is responsible for the engraving and safekeeping of the trophy until the matches are played the following year.
- 10) In case of a tie for either competition, the tied teams will have their names engraved on the trophy and each Team Captain is responsible for the trophy for a proportionate part of the year.

V. INTERCITY TEAM MATCHES

- 1) The Griscom Cup and Junior Intercity competitions will be Three-Ball Match Play competitions among teams of nine players (six for Junior Intercity) from Mass Golf, Women's Metropolitan Golf Association and the Women's Golf Association of Philadelphia.
- 2) The three Associations jointly will prescribe the rules for the competitions.
- 3) The Team Competitions Chair is responsible for assembling the Griscom Cup Team. The top one (1) player from the immediately preceding year's Player of the Year standings will be extended an invitation to join the team. The Team Competitions Chair will select the final eight (8) players to complete the 9 player roster. Those spots will be filled at the discretion of the Team Competitions Chair, including consideration of the previous year's POY standings. The team will be presented to the WMGA Board for approval.
- 4) For the Griscom Cup competition, Independent Members are eligible for consideration. There is no restriction as to the number of Independent or Junior Independent Members who may be invited to join the Griscom Cup team.
- 5) The Junior Chairman will recommend the six players for the Junior Intercity team, subject to approval by the WMGA Board.