

## **ARTICLE VIII. RULES & PROCEDURES**

### **Section 8.01 General**

The following rules, policies, and procedures of the Philadelphia Section PGA shall be carried out in all Section tournaments. All details relating to entries, pairings, starting, scoring, and the play of the game shall be handled by the Tournament Committee with the aid of the Philadelphia Section PGA office and host professional.

### **Section 8.02 Rules of Play**

All tournaments conducted by the Philadelphia Section PGA shall be played under the Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association (USGA).

- (a) All supplemental/local rules or modifications to the USGA Rules of Golf shall be approved by the Tournament Committee and such supplemental/local rules and/or modifications shall be posted in a conspicuous location at the tournament site. In addition, it shall be mandatory that a rules sheet is printed for each tournament and at least one copy of this rules sheet is given to each pairing of contestants

### **Section 8.03 Conduct of Event**

- (a) The Tournament Director shall oversee all aspects of each tournament and shall be in charge of all personnel who assist in the conduct of the tournament.
- (b) The Tournament Director shall be responsible to see that the pairings and times published on the official pairing sheet are strictly followed in the starting of contestants. The Tournament Director shall carry out, to the letter, the rules of the Tournament Committee governing lateness.

### **Section 8.04 Size of Tournament Field**

- (a) The Tournament Committee reserves the right to alter tee time and/or pairing configurations if the size of the field is sufficiently large enough and the Tournament Committee deems that it is in the best interest of the event to do so. These may include tee time interval changes, pairings in foursomes, two-tee starts, etc. These changes will be made only in events where the size of the field will not conveniently accommodate threesomes or prescribed tee time intervals.
- (b) It is the intent of the Tournament Committee to accommodate every player who enters an event by the entry deadline (in events where the field size is not limited). Such a contingency plan will allow the Tournament Committee to accommodate more players without sacrificing the integrity of the event.

### **Section 8.05 Tournament Pairings**

Pairings and starting times shall be made at the Philadelphia Section PGA office. The pairings and starting times published on the official pairing sheet shall be final. There will be no substitution, no exchanges, and no deviations from this official list, other than as deemed necessary by the Committee.

- (a) In the event that two (2) contestants are absent from a group in a three's pairing, the Starter shall break the next following pairing, and shall start the four (4) players as two (2) groups in couples as close as possible to the original starting times.
- (b) Except for the situation named above, under no circumstances shall a contestant be granted a time different from that originally assigned on the official pairing sheet.
- (c) When pairings are done on-site for multi-day events, players will be paired according to score (high to low). Pairings will be determined on a first-in, last-out basis.

### **Section 8.06 Lateness For Starting Time (Rule 6-3)**

USGA Rule 6-3a (Time of Starting) shall apply in all Philadelphia Section PGA events. It is the player's responsibility to be at the tee, ready to play, at the designated starting time. The Philadelphia Section PGA

Tournament field staff will not be responsible for seeking out players in order to ensure that they are ready to play at their designated tee times.

- (a) In Section Pro-Am events with both individual professional and team competitions, if a professional is disqualified under this Rule, the penalty applies to the individual professional event only. For the team competition, the professional may join the team between holes, but not during play of a hole. A professional will be eligible for any team prize money in the event.
- (b) In Section Pro-Am events with more than one Amateur per team: If one member of the team is on the tee, ready to play, at their assigned tee time, there is no penalty to the amateur members of the team. Team members arriving after five minutes from their designated tee time may join the team between holes, but not during the play of a hole. If no member of the team is on the tee at the scheduled tee time, each player will incur a two- stroke penalty on the first hole. If the team does not have proper representation, (at least one member for each ball counted) within five minutes of their assigned tee time, the team is disqualified. If the team shows up after the five minutes, the team will be allowed to play but will not be eligible for any prizes

### **Section 8.07 Discontinuation of Play**

- (a) A competitor shall not discontinue play, except in those cases where he suffers a sudden illness or if the Rules of Golf permit discontinuing play.
- (b) The Tournament Committee may authorize the suspension of play because of a dangerous situation and/or unplayable conditions. Such suspension of play shall be signaled by one prolonged blast of the siren/horn. Resumption of play will be signaled by three (3) short blasts of the siren/horn repeated.
- (c) In a one (1) day event, if weather conditions cause discontinuation of play before the complete field has finished, the following policy will apply:
- (d) If seventy-five percent (75%) of the starting field has completed play and it will be unfeasible for the others to do so on that day, the tournament pay out shall be re-calculated on the basis of the number completing play. Those participants unable to complete play shall be deemed non-competitors and will be refunded their entry fee. If less than seventy-five (75%) of the starting field completed play, the event will be postponed and canceled. A "No Card" and "Disqualification" are considered part of the starting field while a "Withdraw" is not.
- (e) In all points events, 100% of the field MUST complete play of the event in order for points to be awarded and for scores to count toward the DeBaufre Trophy (scoring average). The Tournament Committee will attempt to reschedule another date for the point's event. If another point's event date cannot be rescheduled, the number of rounds required to be eligible for the DeBaufre Trophy will be adjusted with a reduction of one (1) round for each two (2) rounds that have been eliminated due to rain-out, cancellation, etc. During multi-day events, if the entire field cannot complete the event, the tournament will be reduced to the last completed round that the entire field has completed.
- (f) In Section Pro-Am events, on a single course, where a rain delay makes the completion of 18 holes an impossibility, winners in both the Pro-Am and professional divisions will be determined by the Tournament Staff. Because the format of our events and the manner in which we start our events varies the determination of the completion of the event may vary as well. The staff will also need to take into account the needs of the host facility and any sponsors involved in the event.

### **Section 8.08 Pace of Play**

The Philadelphia Section PGA stresses the importance of promoting awareness among its members, and amateur golfers, of the need to maintain an acceptable pace of play in its competitive events. The following procedures will apply to all Philadelphia Section PGA events:

- (a) The USGA Rules of Golf require that a player shall at all times play without undue delay. The Rules Committee will handle the administration of pace of play.

- (b) The Tournament Staff will gather and record all times for completion of competitive rounds (the starting time and time of completion of round). If any player's name is recorded in an analysis ledger more than three (3) times it may necessitate the player appearing before the Tournament Committee.
- (c) A group out of position will be notified that it is out of position and will be subject to individual timing. Any following group will be considered out of position if it (a) is taking more than the allotted time to play and (b) reaches the tee on a par 3 and the preceding group has cleared the next tee, or fails to clear the tee of a par 4 hole before the preceding group clears the putting green, or arrives at the tee of a par 5 hole when the preceding group is on the putting green. Both (a) and (b) must apply for a group to be out of position. The first group to start will be considered out of position if, at any place during the round, the group is behind the allotted time to play.
- (d) Note- the average time per hole allotments will be as follows:
  - (i) 14 minutes per hole for groups of four (4 hrs. 12 mins.)
  - (ii) 13 <sup>1/2</sup> minutes per hole for groups of three (4 hrs. 3 mins.)
  - (iii) 12 <sup>1/2</sup> minutes per hole for groups of two (3 hrs. 45 mins.)
- (e) Other than on the putting green, the timing of a player's stroke will begin when the player and caddy (if applicable) have had a reasonable opportunity to reach the ball for the next shot and it is the players' turn to play and the player can play without interference or distraction. Time spent walking backward or forward for determining yardage will count as part of the time taken for that stroke.
- (f) On the putting green, timing will begin after a player has been allowed a reasonable amount of time to lift, clean, and replace the ball. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball will count as part of the time being taken for that stroke.
- (g) A player will be allowed a maximum of 40 seconds to complete a stroke.
 

NOTE: An additional 10 seconds will be allowed for a) the first to play from the teeing ground on a par 3 hole; b) the first to play a second stroke on a par 4 or par 5 hole; c) the first to play a third stroke on a par 5 hole; or d) the first to play on or around the putting green
- (h) If a player exceeds the time limit:
  - (i) First Offense                      Warning
  - (ii) Second Offense One (1) Stroke Penalty and a \$100 Fine
  - (iii) Third Offense                      One (1) Stroke Penalty and a \$100 Fine
  - (iv) Fourth Offense    Disqualification

Note: Timing will discontinue when the group has regained its position. Times previously recorded that may have exceeded the limit, however, will be held over for further occurrence.

- (i) Any player who is penalized shall be immediately informed after playing from the teeing ground of the next hole or, in the event of a penalty during play of the last hole of the round, at the scoring table. All fines are due and payable within ten (10) days of notification. Players with delinquent fines will be ineligible for tournament participation until the fines have been paid.

### **Section 8.09 Playoffs**

Unless otherwise specified, in Section Pro-Am events, ties for first place shall be declared co-champions and all purse money split equally, both individual professional and team professional. Before the start of play the Rules Sheet shall state the playoff procedures for each event. Playoff plans may be altered at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.

Professionals are responsible for being present at the designated time for any playoff. The Section staff is

not responsible for getting players to the designated tee for a playoff. In cases when two or more professionals are involved in a playoff, any professional(s) not showing at the designated tee at the appointed time lose the right to compete for first place, and all such individuals will split second place money (even though one or more professionals did show but did not win the playoff).

#### **Section 8.10 Carts & Caddies**

During all Section events use of a caddie or a motorized golf cart is mandatory. No player will be permitted to carry his own golf bag unless approved by the Director of Tournaments.

#### **Section 8.11 Amateur Handicaps**

- (a) In all Section Pro-Am events, each professional shall be held individually responsible for the handicaps of their amateur partner(s). Except when noted on the event entry form, professionals are required to provide verification of amateurs' handicaps via a computerized USGA or other certified handicap card from their respective clubs or courses, or a copy of a current computerized USGA handicap sheet indicating the amateur's current handicaps. Amateurs may participate in Pro-Am events only if their clubs or courses utilized the USGA handicap system with a computerized printout. Professionals failing to provide substantiation of one or more amateurs' handicaps will be required to do so within seven (7) days of the completion of the tournament or forfeit any money won in that event. Substantiation shall be provided to the Section office. A professional's amateur(s) shall not redeem any prize money/gift certificates at an event's host facility until handicap/club verification has been provided to the Section office for the applicable event.
- (b) If a breach of this policy occurs and prize money is forfeited, the professional prize money shall be retained by the Section. The amateur prize money shall be divided, with forty percent (40%) retained by the host professional of the applicable event, and sixty percent (60%) retained by the Section. This is consistent with Section 8.15 of the Philadelphia Section PGA Tournament Rules & Regulations (Gift Certificate Redemption).
- (c) In all Section Pro-Am events (excluding charity events), where applicable, the slope conversion chart for the host club or course will be used to adjust the amateur's USGA index. All players who do not have a USGA sloped index will play to their home course handicaps. In the event of multiple "home" courses, the lowest handicap will be used.
- (d) The maximum allowable handicap for amateurs playing in Section Pro-Am events (unless otherwise specified) will be thirty-six (36) for men and forty (40) for women. The actual handicaps to be used by the amateurs in the event will be computed as follows: in "one better ball" format events, all handicaps will be computed at eighty percent (80%) of the USGA handicaps for men and ninety percent (90%) for women; in "two better ball" format events, all handicaps will be computed at ninety percent (90%) of the USGA handicaps for both men and women.

#### **Section 8.12 Returning Of Scores**

Contestants will return their scorecards immediately upon completion of play. If there is no scoring table at the final green, players should report immediately to the official scorer with their scorecards.

#### **Section 8.13 Tournament Expenses**

Expenses will include fees for field supervisor, field staff and scorekeeper based on duties, responsibility, and experience.

#### **Section 8.14 Duties of the Host Professional**

The Tournament Director will issue guidelines for the host professional prior to each event.

#### **Section 8.15 Gift Certificate Redemption**

Sixty (60) days after a Pro-Am, amateurs may redeem a gift certificate at their own Pro Shop. The amateur's home professional may collect sixty percent (60%) of the face value from the host professional in cash.

**Section 8.16 Women PPGA Professionals**

In all Philadelphia Section PGA tournaments, tees for women professionals will be set up to ninety percent (90%) of the men's tee yardage, and all women professionals shall compete for the same tournament purse.

Note: Ninety (90%) is only a recommendation; there may be golf courses where it is not possible to adhere to the 90% recommendation; in these cases, the golf course will be set up as close as possible to the 90% recommendation.

**Section 8.17 Dress Code**

The following Dress Code applies to all PPGA members and apprentices for all sponsored, co-sponsored and sanctioned events conducted in the PPGA, unless otherwise approved by the PPGA Tournament Committee. This dress code shall be in effect for all stipulated rounds and during the use of all practice facilities at the host course(s), beginning the day before the event and continuing through the completion of the event:

- (a) Appropriate slacks are required for all male professionals (no jeans or shorts or cargo pants are permitted). Female professionals are permitted to wear culottes, walking shorts, or golf skirts.
- (b) All Amateur participants are required to adhere to the Host Facility's dress code at all times..
- (c) Host club approved golf shoes or smooth soled shoes are required.
- (d) Beards and moustaches must be neatly trimmed at all times.
- (e) Hats are to be worn facing forward.
- (f) Hairstyles must be neat and clean in appearance and representative of a professional in style.
- (g) Philadelphia Section PGA members and apprentices in violation of this policy during a stipulated round will be disqualified and may be subject to additional disciplinary action under Section 9.03.(l) of the Tournament Rules & Regulations. PPGA members and apprentices in violation of this policy other than during a stipulated round shall be subject to disciplinary action under Section 9.03.(l) of the Tournament Rules & Regulations