

# GSWPGA STANDING RULES

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Revision 1/14/2010 REV Final

## STANDING RULES FOR GSWPGA

All competition shall be played in accordance with the USGA Rules of Golf and the USGA Handicap System. All decisions of the Tournament and Rules Committees will be final.

GSWPGA Competition shall consist of:

9 Team Matches	Pro/Am Ladies
President's Charity Cup	City Championship
3 General "Sweeps"	2 Lady Best Ball
Champion of Champions (Played in conjunction with July Summer Sweeps)	

### A. ELIGIBILITY

1. Any individual belonging, in good standing, to a GSWPGA member golf club may enter GSWPGA competitions.
2. Any individual holding more than one membership shall declare a GSWPGA course as her home club at the beginning of the year. Any one also belonging to and competing at a private course, at the club level, will be eligible for all GSWPGA events, however, if she competes at the Private City level, then she cannot compete in our City Championship.
3. For GSWPGA competitions, handicap indexes higher than 40.4 will play at the maximum hosting course handicap.

### B. RULES

1. The GSWPGA ardently suggests that every member of the Association have and become familiar with the current USGA Rule Book.
2. The GSWPGA will recognize "preferred lies" or "winter rules" for all Association play, except the City Championship will play summer rules.
3. Caddies will not be permitted for any GSWPGA event, except the City Championship tournament, Junior Golf members only.
4. Raffles must be sanctioned by the GSWPGA Board in advance. Raffles may only be held at the President's Cup in May and the City Championship in August.
5. Disqualifications:
  - The player failing to play according to USGA rules should be warned of the infraction by one or more of her foursome and if the infractions continue, the scorer should not sign the scorecard. This is a DQ.
  - If a player understates her score on any hole she is disqualified. If a player overstates her score on any hole she is not disqualified but the overstated score stands.
  - If a player turns in a scorecard that is added wrong, but scored correctly hole by hole, there is no penalty. The Committee is responsible for the scores.

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## C. HANDICAPS

1. Handicaps used for all ASSOCIATION PLAY will be that USGA/GHIN handicaps in current use on the ENTRY DATE for each function.
2. Handicaps for TEAM PLAY will be that handicap in current use on TUESDAY preceding the match.
3. There are not “temporary” handicaps. Once you have 5 scores recorded in the GHIN System, you have a handicap which will be available following the next GHIN Revision.

Players entering competition and/or playing on a club team, with a handicap based on fewer than 20 scores, must have their handicaps adjusted on the computer (#4) to make them current on the ENTRY DATE for competition or for use on the day of team match play.

## D. DRESS CODE

Suitable attire must be worn at all times which does NOT include cutoffs, short shorts, strapless tops, halter tops or bare midriff tops. Shoes must be worn at all times.

## E. AWARDS

1. If possible, all activities and “sweeps” will be self-supporting.
2. Awards shall be distributed as decided by the Tournament Committee.
3. There will be only one prize per person awarded in any event.

## F. TOURNAMENTS

1. GSWPGA Championship Tournament:
  - a. Any member 18-hole course with a rating of 67 or above will hold the championship on an established rotating basis.
  - b. No one with a handicap based on fewer than twenty (20) scores will be eligible to play in this tournament.
  - c. To be eligible, a member must be in good standing, having played 5 regular, 18-hole, weekly competitions at their home course, and participated in at least one GSWPGA competition during the year from championship to championship.
  - d. Rules and format for the Tournament will be sent to the individual clubs previous to the sign-up date.
  - e. Hosting Clubs – Following is the schedule for 18-hole member clubs to host the GSWPGA Championship Tournaments:

2009 Jefferson Park	2014 Riverbend	2019 Snoqualmie Falls
2010 Lake Wilderness	2015 Twin Rivers	2020 West Seattle
2011 Mt. Si	2016 Willows Run	2021 Maplewood
2012 Auburn	2017 Cascade/Wayne	2022 Jackson Jills
2013 Bellevue	2018 Foster	

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- f. The GSWPGA Championship Perpetual Trophy is awarded to the Champion's Club at the November Awards Luncheon. An individual trophy is awarded to the Champion during the closing ceremony of the City Championship Tournament.
- g. \$4.00 per participant will be given to the Championship Tournament's hosting club to help in defraying costs of the tea.
- h. \$10.00 of each participant's entry fee will fund the Championship crystal trophy awards.

## 2. President's Charity Cup

- a. An additional \$1.00 is added to the entry fee to be donated to the President's chosen charity.
- b. Traditionally held on the President's home course.
- c. Points competition has traditionally been used.
- d. Trophies – President's Charity Cup winner receives an individual trophy. The Carmen Johnson\* Trophy is awarded to low gross of the field.

\*Carmen was very active in GSWPGA and served as President. In 1974 she was diagnosed with cancer and passed away. Kathy McAfee (Jackson Hills) donated a trophy for the low gross of the field in the President's Cup event to honor Carmen for her years of hard work for the GSWPGA.

## 3. Champion of Champions Tournament

- a. Any member in good standing and holding a Championship title (won in Match Play, or Scratch, played according to USGA Rules, in a Club, City, County or State Tournament, anywhere or at any time) is entitled to be called a Champion and shall be allowed to play.
- b. The Tournament will be held on a course chosen at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. The engraving of the Perpetual Trophy and the mailing of the Tournament notices will be paid by the GSWPGA. The Association will pay any advance application fees. The Association may also pay advance reservation fees with reimbursement to the Association to be made from the Tournament entry fees. In all other respects, this tournament will be self-sustaining.
- c. Trophy – A perpetual trophy (donated by the 1956 President, Mrs. Martin Bosch) and an individual award are given to the winner of the Champion of Champions Tournament.
- d. This tournament will be run in conjunction with the July Summer Sweeps tournament held at Mt Si.\* Each qualified member will pay an additional fee in order to play in the "Champions of Champions" tournament.

\*Note: The Summer Sweeps will be held at a different course the years Mt. Si Women's Club is responsible to hold the GSWPGA City Championship Tournament.

4. Pro Am Tournament
  - a. A "Pro" is a professional golfer who holds a USGA card and has given up his/her amateur status. Most Pros will play to a zero handicap; never more than a 5. It is suggested that the Head Pro be asked for a list of Professionals at the home course when assembling a team. The Pro is exempt from green fees. Pros have their own pool, with cash awards, and are therefore not included in the prizes awarded to their teams.
  - b. A Non-Pro can be any player serving in the position of the Pro in the Pro-Am. It is desirable for the Non-Pro to have a GHIN handicap. If not, he/she must play to no more than a 5 handicap. If the Non-Pro does not have a GHIN handicap, a 0 must be used.
  - c. Green fees must be paid for a Non-Pro. Teams often pay for their own Non-Pros, who receive the same amount of placement earnings as the three other players.
  - d. Women Pros will play from the white tees, men from the blue.

## G. TEAM PLAY

1. Team Play Eligibility
  - a. An individual playing team for the first time (initial) must have (4) home club competition cards during the 2 months prior to team play. For each subsequent team match, players must have (1) home club competition card within 30 days prior to each team match.
  - b. Players eligible for team competition and who have competed the previous year in team competition must have (1) home club competition card within 30 days prior to each team match.
  - c. For a team participating in team competition the first time each player must have (1) home club competition card within 30 days prior to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd team matches, and thereafter new players will adhere to the requirements of 1.a..
  - d. Any player transferring to another home club (eligible under 1.a. above) must establish eligibility under her new home club.
  - e. Team player handicaps are limited to 40, played at 100% of handicap, the lowest handicap player in each bracket playing scratch.

## 2. Team Play Rules

- a. Any club applying or resigning from GSWPGA Team Play must notify the Association in writing before November 1.
- b. To make team play self-sustaining, a fee is charged member clubs participating. The fee is due at the February meeting. No refunds will be allowed after the meeting.
- c. Teams shall be composed of six (6) players. A team is composed of the six lowest handicap players available in each club. Under no circumstances should a "team" be "set" at the beginning of the season. Players should be rotated according to handicap changes, and as many members of the club used as possible. The team captain makes the final decision on placing her players in the brackets, according to handicaps, but not necessarily by differentials.

Teams shall be set up in brackets as follows:

FIRST BRACKET: Two lowest handicap players available.

SECOND BRACKET: The next two lowest handicap players available.

THIRD BRACKET: The next two lowest handicap players available.

Disqualification if this rule is violated.

- d. Four Ball Match Play Rules Govern. First and second ball matches will be played – three points for scoring – one for each nine and one for overall eighteen.
- e. When a putt is conceded, record the score you most likely would have made as long as it does not exceed your ESC limit. (USGA Golf Handicapping System – Section 4-1).
- f. All brackets must be on time. Team captain will have the final decision whether to move up a player to fill a bracket if some of her team is late or start team play with missing players. (In anticipation of players arrival) who must lose points on each hole they have missed. Players may move up one bracket at the start of play. Team captain decision must be made by her team's tee off time. In the event that a full team of 6 players is not fielded (ie: 4 or 5 players or less), team captain has the option to put the 2 lowest handicap players in the first bracket, next 2 lowest handicap players in the second bracket (and the third bracket may or may not have any players) or a combination the captain feels will be competitive for her team. (Meaning the captain may elect to put 2 players in the second and third brackets). Clubs missing a player shall be responsible for paying the green fees for said player. Day of play emergency will be settled under guidelines adopted at the City Team Captains meeting.

- g. **DEFAULTS:** If a complete team (6 players) does not show, the teams' previous points will be forfeited and the club committing the infraction will not be eligible for team play for the remainder of the year. Points won by opposing teams from the default team shall also be forfeited. The default of an entire team at any time is inexcusable, although a team may have no chance of winning, the forfeiting of all the points may unfairly affect the standing of the other teams. Repeat of a default may result in an extension of ineligibility to the defaulting team.
  - h. In the unlikely event that a team does default and is deemed ineligible to play the remainder of the year, the defaulting team shall be liable for the green fees at the courses remaining to be played in team competition for which they are ineligible.
  - i. All disputes must be settled before the points sheets are signed by the Captain.
  - j. Decisions of the Rules Committee will be final.
3. **Team Playoffs**
- a. In case of ties for awards in team play, there will be an eighteen-hole match playoff for First Place only. Team members in a playoff match must be the same as the final day of team play or emergency changes must be approved by Team and Rules Committees. Selection of final match day and course to be determined by city Team Captain and Team Captains of the clubs involved in the playoff. In case of another tie, the playoff will be played in sets of three (3) holes until the tie is broken.
  - b. In case of a three-way first place tie, the 18-hole playoff will be a three-ball best ball (one tie, all tie). Each team will contribute one player to each bracket. Total points for the 18 holes will decide the winner. In case they are still tied, the first bracket only will play to sudden death.
4. **Trophies**
- a. 12 first place awards will be given to the winning handicap team.
  - b. Six second place awards will be given to the second place handicap team.
  - c. Any additional awards may be purchased by each club.
  - d. A perpetual Plaque will be given to the winning team.
  - e. A Scratch Plaque will be presented to the team winning the most points on scratch. A pin will also be awarded to 12 members of the winning Scratch team

## **NOMINATIONS FOR VICE-PRESIDENT:**

Each club will be responsible for nominating a Vice President who, after one year as Vice President, will assume the role of President the next year, followed by two years as a trustee on the Executive Committee.

It is the responsibility of each club to nominate a Vice President candidate when it is their turn per the following rotation, but their nominee can come from **any** club.

2009 Foster	2014 Jackson Jills	2019 Riverbend
2010 Twin Rivers	2015 Mt. Si	2020 Maplewood
2011 Jefferson	2016 Snoqualmie Falls	2021 Wayne
2012 West Seattle	2017 Bellevue	2022 Cascade
2013 Auburn	2018 Willows Run	2023 Lake Wilderness

**APPENDIX A – GSWPGA POLICIES**

**This document is the result of a historical GSWPGA meeting minute review accomplished by Carol Johnson during her term as GSWPGA President.**

**Note: 1983 and 1985 Minutes were not available for review at that time.**

**When a new decision replaces an existing one the old decision should be lined out but maintained in this document for historical purposes.**

**Golf Course Management mandating scheduling of tournaments**

GSWPGA activities should not and will not be dictated by outside parties.

*(Board of Directors 12/10/82)*

**Team Dues**

Team Dues reduced from \$60 to \$45 for the year 2000.

*(Board of Directors 2/15/2000)*

~~Team Dues increased from \$55.00 to \$60.00.~~

~~*(Awards Luncheon 11/16/95)*~~

**United States Team Championship**

~~Budget Item: Stipend of \$150.00 awarded every odd year toward expenses for Washington State Representative to the United States Team Championship.~~

~~*(Executive Board 7/30/97) (Executive Board 11/13/2008)*~~

**July Tournament Qualifying Flight – Grandmothers/Silver-Gold Tournaments**

Grandmother/Senior Tournament discontinued due to low member participation. July Tournament to be called the “Summer Sweeps”.

*(Executive Board 1/29/2003)*

~~Qualifying Flight added to the Grandmothers and Silver & Gold Tournaments for those for those members who are non-grandmothers and those who are under 50 years old who wish to participate in these tournaments and also for those who need to qualify for the City Championship.~~

~~*(Captains 7/6/98) (Awards Luncheon 11/12/98)*~~

**Pre-Tournament Play and Green Fees for Rules Committee**

The GSWPGA will pay for 2 rounds of golf for the Rules Committee when complimentary green fees are not available and if a pre-tournament round is deemed necessary.

A pre-tournament round by the Rules Committee will always be required for the Championship Tournament.

*(Executive Committee 5/3/2004)*

## **Board Member Entry Fees**

The GSWPGA will pay total green fees for Tournament Director, Association Team Captain, Secretary and Treasurer only.

*(Executive Committee 1/14/2010)*

~~The GSWPGA will pay total green fees for Tournament Director, Association Team Captain and Treasurer only.~~

*(Executive Committee 1/22/2008)*

~~The GSWPGA will continue to pay total green fees for Tournament Director and Association Team Captain. Green Fees will not be paid for President, Treasurer and Secretary.~~

*(Executive Committee 1/17/2006)*

~~Approval to pay total green fees for President and Treasurer.~~

*(Board of Directors 2/10/04)*

~~Budget item “Fees for Board” includes green fees (not entry fees) paid in full for the Tournament Director and 50% green fees paid for the President, Secretary, Association Team Captain and Treasurer.~~

~~It was subsequently approved that the Association Team Captain shall receive green fees paid in full noting that her responsibilities for Team Play are similar to the Tournament Director.~~

*(Executive Board 1/29/2003)*

~~GSWPGA will pay all tournament entry fees for both the Tournament Chairman and the Treasurer.~~

*(Captains 7/6/98) (Awards Luncheon 11/12/98)*

## **Scorecards**

Use of computer-generated scorecards approved and implemented.

*(Executive Board 1/29/2003)*

## **How to Decide Ties in Competition Play**

USGA Rule 33.6 empowers the committee to determine how and when a halved match or a stroke play shall be decided. The decision should be published in advance.

*(Board of Directors 7/14/05)*

## **Global Positioning System (GPS) Devices**

GPS devices approved to be used in GSWPGA Tournaments for distance only but may not be used for determining wind velocity.

*(Board of Directors 7/13/2006)*

## **Sweeps Payouts**

A proposal to change payouts at GSWPGA Sweeps Tournaments and the City Championship (cash & trophy awards) was submitted to the Executive Board in October 2007. The Board reviewed the proposals and made the following decisions for Sweeps Tournaments at the November Executive Board Meeting. *(Note: A sub-committee was formed to address the proposed changes to the City Championship Payouts/Trophies. They were directed to submit a proposal to the Executive Board at the January 2008 meeting.)*

### **Sweeps Tournament Payouts:**

#### **Flight Money:**

Divide the total amount of money available equally between the flights. This guarantees each flight gets a fair portion of the money.

Calculate the amount per flight, how many places in each flight, and then calculate prizes per place.

#### **OR**

For sweeps tournaments that have an **OVERALL** winner, set the prize amount for the overall winner, subtract that amount from the prize fund, then divide the result by the number of flights.

#### **Place Payouts Within Flights:**

Payout ties will be done as in any other typical tournaments, i.e. a two-person tie for 1st would split the total money for 1st and 2nd place. Add the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place prize money and divide by two. The next place paid would be 3rd place, etc.

A two-way tie for 2nd place, where \$16 is paid for 2nd and \$14 is paid for 3rd. Add \$16 and \$14 together for \$30, then divide by 2 to pay out \$15 to both players. The next place to be paid would then be 4th.

A three way tie for 2nd place would add the prize money for 2nd, 3rd, and 4<sup>th</sup> place together and divide by 3. The next place to be paid would be 5th.

Amounts calculated for the ties will be rounded to .50 or 1.00 for simplicity.

Last place paid to within Flights will be determined by size of prize fund per Flight.

## **City Championship Payouts/Trophies**

*A subcommittee was formed at the November 2008 Executive Board Meeting to review changes proposed by a GSWPGA member to the City Championship cash and trophy award method. That subcommittee made a proposal to the Executive Board at the 1/22/2008 meeting. The Executive Board voted to implement the proposal at that meeting.*

### **Lap Money**

- 1) Total lap money for the tournament will be divided equally between the three days, then by the number of flights, by gross and net.
- 2) Three places will be paid in each flight for gross and net.
- 3) Monies will be combined for ties.
- 4) Lap money will be awarded the last day to any player that qualifies for a low gross or low net award, including those players in contention for trophy awards.

### **Monetary Award to the Champion and Runner-Up**

The Champion and Runner-up will each receive a monetary award. Instead of purchasing the Low Gross and Low Net trophies for the last day of the tournament, those monies will be used toward a monetary award for the Champion and Runner-up and will be distributed on a percentage basis (60% to the Champion, 40% to the Runner-up).

### **Trophies (at the Championship)**

- 1) Trophies will be awarded to the Champion, Runner-up, and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place Flight winners.
- 2) A Low Net Champion of the Field will be awarded to the participant with the lowest net score (for entire Championship). *(Executive Board 11/13/2008)*  
The Low Net Champion of the Field may not win a Flight Award. *(Executive Board 1/14/2010)*
- 3) No trophies will be awarded for Low Gross or Low Net for the Last Day of the tournament.

### **Trophy (at the November Luncheon)**

Only the perpetual trophy will be presented to the Champion/Champion's Club at the November luncheon.

**No trophy (nut dish) will be presented to the Champion at the November luncheon.**

### **General Fund:**      [see last page for change to this provision](#)

Increase the General Fund fee from \$.50 **per tournament player to \$.55** per tournament player. This fee is deducted from the entry fee of each player for each tournament. The additional fee will increase our income and help offset the GSWPGA expenses.

*(Board of Directors 11/12/09)*

### **Reserve Fund Earmarks:**

Amend Standing Rules to include expenses for the following items that will come out of the Reserve Fund:

- a) competition reservation fees
- b) perpetual trophies fees for repair/replacement
- e) ~~—\$320 towards green fees for the Tournament Director and Treasurer~~

These items will be reviewed every year by the Executive Committee and continuation will depend on the financial status of the GSWPGA.

*(Item c) Executive Board 1/14/2010)*

*(Board of Directors 2/15/2000)*

**Amendments to Standing Rules**

Executive Board shall be allowed to make changes it deems necessary to the Standing Rules at any scheduled Executive Board Meeting. The Board will notify the membership of any changes.  
*(Board of Directors 2/13/2001)*

**Board Member Identification**

Board members to wear name badges at each tournament they attend.  
*(Executive Board 1/28/2003)*

**Captains' Meetings**

Captains' Meetings\* reinstated and will be held immediately following the July Summer Sweeps.  
*(Board of Directors Meeting 2/11/2003)*

\***Note:** Captains' Meeting includes the Board of Directors. Accordingly, it is a Board of Directors Meeting.

**Committee Meeting Schedule**

With implementation of computerized tournament program, traditional prep meetings no longer indicated. To provide for appropriate communication, additional Executive Committee meetings to be held in May and November were approved. Accordingly the yearly Executive and Board of Directors meeting schedule is approved as follows:

Executive Committee Meetings will be scheduled for January, May and November  
Board of Directors Meetings will be scheduled for February and July.

*(Executive Committee 11/13/2003)*

**Junior Golf and Evans Scholarship**

The GSWPGA will provide financial support to the Junior Golf and Evans Scholarship Programs as follows:

For 2003, reserve monies of \$150 each will go to the Junior Golf and Evans Scholarship Programs.

For 2004 and year following, a raffle will be held at the Annual Awards Luncheon with proceeds equally distributed to the Junior Golf and Evans Scholarship Programs. It is expected that individual clubs will provide raffle gifts.

*(Executive Committee 11/13/2003)*

**Junior Golf and Evans Scholarship**

~~At the end of the year, the Executive Board will review income and expenses and if there is excess, those excess funds will be equally donated to the Junior Golf and Evans Scholarship.~~

~~*(Board of Directors 2/15/2000)*~~

**Junior Golf**

~~Budget to include a \$25.00 membership into the Washington Junior Golf Association.~~

~~*(Captains 8/4/77)*~~

**Computer Acquisition**

Laptop computer acquisition approved for Tournament program management.  
*(Executive Committee 1/13/2004)*

**Tape Recorder Acquisition**

Tape Recorder acquisition approved for Secretary to record meeting minutes.  
*(Executive Committee 5/3/2004)*

**Nominations for Vice-President**

**See Standing Rules Vice President Nominations for current rotation**

~~Each Club will be responsible for nominating a Vice President as follows:~~

<del>2009 Foster</del>	<del>2014 Jackson Jills</del>	<del>2019 Riverbend</del>
<del>2010 Twin Rivers</del>	<del>2015 Mt. Si</del>	<del>2020 Maplewood</del>
<del>2011 Jefferson</del>	<del>2016 Snoqualmie Falls</del>	<del>2021 Wayne</del>
<del>2012 West Seattle</del>	<del>2017 Bellevue</del>	<del>2022 Cascade</del>
<del>2013 Auburn</del>	<del>2018 Willows Run</del>	<del>2023 Lake Wilderness</del>

~~(Captains Meeting 7/8/2004)(Executive Board 11/13/08)~~

**Failure to Nominate Vice-President Candidate**

**See Standing Rules Vice President Nominations.**

~~Any Club failing to nominate a candidate when it is their turn will be dropped from the GSWPGA.~~

~~(Executive Committee 1/29/05)(Executive Board 11/13/08)~~

**GSWPGA Website**

Website developed and approved for operation.

*(Board of Directors 2/13/06)*

The following text was received by the webmaster on 12/30/2010: The Standing Rules (page 11 of 13, General Fund) need to be updated to reflect the new General Fund fee. It was \$.55 (Board of Directors, 11/12/09), and we voted to increase it a \$1.00 at the November meeting, so the the new rate should be \$1.55.