

**NEW ENGLAND PGA CONSTITUTION  
NEPGA Tournament Rules and Regulations**

**ARTICLE I**

**Purpose**

Section 1.

The NEPGA Tournament Committee shall list, in detail through the use of this document, the conditions for playing specific types of events for the sole purpose of preventing any misunderstandings as to how each event is to be conducted. NEPGA Tournaments allow our members to compete and develop camaraderie with fellow professionals and encourage goodwill through our Pro-Am Events.

**ARTICLE II**

**Tournament Committee: Definition and Duties**

Section 1. Definition Of

(a) The New England Section Tournament Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Honorary President, Tournament Chairman(s), all members of the Executive Committee of the New England Section PGA, and all Tournament Committee Members as appointed by the Tournament Chairman(s).

(b) The Chairman of the Tournament Committee shall be appointed by the President on the approval of the Executive Committee. Additional Tournament Committee members shall be selected by the Tournament Chairman(s).

Section 2. Duties and Responsibilities

(a) It is the responsibility of the Tournament Committee to adopt specific Rules and Regulations and to conduct the Association's Tournaments in a most practical and professional manner. The Rules and Regulations are subject to revision or amendment by the Tournament Committee whenever, in the judgment of said Committee, such actions are necessary.

(b) Once conditions of play are accepted by the NEPGA Tournament Committee, the Tournament must be conducted according to the Section's Regulations set forth for the playing of that specific event.

(c) The Tournament Committee shall distribute a schedule of events. Article X contains the conditions of play, for the purpose of preventing any misunderstandings as to how each event is to be conducted. Thereafter, any member of the New England Section who willfully, or through negligence, violates any of the Tournament Regulations shall be subject to disciplinary action by the Officers of the New England PGA, after recommendation by the Code of Ethics Committee. The member will have the right to appeal the decision of the Officers to the Executive Committee, less the Officers who will not be allowed to vote at the appeal or discuss the matter with the Executive Committee. The appeal decision may be further appealed to the PGA of America's Board of Directors, whose decision will be final. Such disciplinary action may include one or more of the following:

1. Imposition of fines not to exceed \$1,000.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **Tournament Committee: Definition and Duties (cont.)**

2. Revocation of privileges to participate in certain National or Section activities for a limited period of time.
  3. Suspension or expulsion from Membership or Registration in the Associate Program.
  4. Such other reasonable actions as may be determined by the Tournament Committee.
- (d) The Tournament Committee, or their official representative, acting on behalf of the Executive Committee, shall have complete control over each tournament conducted by the Section.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **Schedule**

#### Section 1.

The Tournament Committee shall formulate an annual tournament schedule of events which will permit full participation by eligible members, and which must be approved by the Board of Directors. Non-NEPGA tournaments that would like to be listed on the current NEPGA Tournament Schedule should pay a minimum \$500 tournament schedule fee. This fee assures that the NEPGA will not schedule a championship event opposite said tournament.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Sanctioned Events**

#### Section 1.

- (a) Any golf competition played within the geographical territory embracing the New England Section, in which more than eight NEPGA Member golf professionals participate, charging an entry fee and/or offering a purse as prize money, must be sanctioned by the Tournament Committee or the Executive Director in order for New England Section members to participate as competitors. This includes, but is not limited to, any pro-amateur, pro-lady, pro-junior, pro-member, or similar event, or any stroke play competition. Requests for sanction shall be made in writing and should be received by the Executive Director at least 45 days prior to the event. Each sanctioned event may have a stipulated fee. Sanctioned events included on the NEPGA tournament schedule will require a \$500 sanction fee.
- (b) The individual Chapters within the New England Section PGA shall be required to submit, to the Executive Director, their tournament schedule for approval prior to February 1 of the current year.
- (c) For an event to be scheduled and sanctioned by the NEPGA, the club serving as the host site must have a PGA Member or Associate Head Professional serving as the resident professional.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Sanctioned Events (cont.)**

- (d) The New England PGA section tournaments are held for the benefit of the section and its Members. Members are expected not to compete or assist in the conducting of an unsanctioned event; each member of the Section is personally responsible for knowing if an event has Section approval.
- (e) All Section Tournament Policies apply to these events.
- (f) When the NEPGA hosts a championship event in the geographical area of a chapter, that chapter may not host a chapter event for NEPGA members that day.
- (g) NEPGA members may not play in or host any other event within the geographic area of the NEPGA during the three days of the NEPGA Championship. (Fine for playing = \$50; fine for hosting = \$500).

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Site Selection**

#### Section 1.

Selection of the Tournament sites and dates will be allotted on the following basis:

- (a) Club must not have exclusionary membership policies which discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin or gender.
- (b) A Request to host a Tournament must be made to the Executive Director. The Director, in turn, shall notify the applicant whether conditions are acceptable to the NEPGA Tournament Committee. They may include but are not limited to:
  - (i) Professional's and Club's cooperation and attitude in allowing the use of their Club for conducting NEPGA sponsored tournaments in the past.
  - (ii) Success of previous NEPGA Tournaments at a specific site.
  - (iii) Accessibility of location.
  - (iv) Host professional must be a NEPGA member at the time the event was scheduled

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Eligible Professionals**

#### Section 1. Tournament Playing Agreement

It is important that every member of the New England PGA Section who has intentions of playing in any NEPGA sanctioned event be familiar with the rules and regulations detailed by the Tournament Rules and Regulations adopted by the Tournament Committee. Filing a tournament entry will signify knowledge of these rules as well as those in the Constitution.

The Rules Committee, has the right to reject, disqualify, or prohibit, any player for a rules violation, or for any reason that it feels would be detrimental to a NEPGA Tournament. The Rules Committee shall report, in writing to the Executive Director, all infractions of the Tournament Rules and Regulations which has caused any player or team to be rejected, disqualified, or prohibited from the competition.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**Eligible Professionals (cont.)**

Section 2 - Classifications

The privilege of participating in the New England Section Tournament Program will be extended to any New England PGA Member who is in good standing, and otherwise eligible and primarily employed in the area required by their classification, at a club or golf facility in the New England Section and who meet the requirements listed in Article V, Section 1, of the PGA of America Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations.

Additionally, any New England PGA Associate who has successfully completed the Level I Checkpoint, who is in good standing, and otherwise eligible and primarily employed in the area required by their classification at a club or golf facility in the New England Section, would be eligible to participate in specified events on the New England Section Tournament schedule as follows:

Events Open to Eligible Associates: NEPGA Section Pro-Am events (except for Cape Week Pro-Ams and the Pro-Am Championship), NEPGA Stroke Play Series, Pro-Lady Invitational, Pro-Junior Invitational, Pro-Senior Invitational, Pro-Superintendent Invitational and Pro-Officer Invitational.

Note: Associates at any Level may participate in the NEPGA Pro-Assistant, NEPGA Assistants Championship and Assistants Association events.

Events NOT Open to Associates: NEPGA Pro-Pro Match Play Championship, NEPGA Pro-Pro Stroke Play Championship, NEPGA Pro-Am Championship, Cape Week Pro-Ams, NEPGA Senior-Junior Professional Championship, NEPGA Section Professional Championship, NEPGA Section Senior Professional Championship and New England PGA Member Qualifiers for PGA TOUR events held within the New England Section.

Note: NEPGA Chapters may choose to adopt this Section policy or continue operating under their own Chapter Tournament Rules and Regulations.

Eligible classifications are as follows:

(Note: Inactive and Class F members will not be eligible under any circumstances).

MP Master Professionals

A-1 Head Professional at a PGA Recognized golf course

A-2 Head Professional at a PGA Recognized golf range

A-4 Director of Golf at PGA Recognized Golf Facilities

A-5 Past Presidents of the Association

A-6 Golf Instructor at a PGA recognized facility

A-7 Head Professional at a PGA Recognized facility under construction

A-8 Assistant Golf Professional at a PGA Recognized Facility

A-9 Employed in Professional Positions in Management, Development, Ownership Operation and/or Financing of Facilities

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Eligible Professionals (cont.)**

A-10 Golf Clinician

A-11 Golf Administrator

A-12 College or University Golf Coach

A-13 General Manager

A-14 Director of Instruction at a PGA Recognized Facility

A-15 Ownership or Management of a Retail Golf Facility

A-17 Golf Course Superintendent

A-20 Golf Manufacturer Sales Representative

A-21 Tournament Coordinator/Director for Organizations, Businesses or Associations

A-22 Rules Official

A-23 Club Fitting/Club Repair

LM/LMM Not eligible for classification as Active Member and who have held a minimum of 20 years in an Active Classification (whether continuous or not)

LMA/LMMA Not eligible for classification as Active Member and who have held a minimum of 20 years in an Active Classification (whether continuous or not)

Classifications listed below are eligible ONLY for "NEPGA Stroke Play Series, Invitational Pro-Ams and Pro-Members" at the section level.

These classifications are eligible for national events (PGA of America) according to the current entry requirements for those events.

RM Members who are fully retired (cannot be working in either a golf or non-golf position) and who have achieved a combined 65 years of age and Active membership and who are not eligible for Life Member.

### Section 3. Exceptions

- (a) New Applicants for membership, who have been passed on to the national office by the NEPGA, are extended the privilege of playing in Sectional Events during their waiting period while their application is on file with the National Office, Championships excluded.
- (b) A NEPGA Member is not eligible to participate in Section Events if he has entered more than twelve PGA Tour, European Tour, LPGA Tour, Champions Tour, Korn Ferry Tour, Asian Tour, Japan Tour, PGA Tour LatinoAmerica, Ladies European Tour, Symetra Tour, LPGA of Japan, LPGA of Korea, Sunshine Tour, European Senior Tour, ALPG, NGA Pro Golf Tour, eGolf Tour, PGA Tour of Australia, European Challenge Tour, All Pro Tour, PGA EuroPro Tour, Jamega Pro Golf Tour and ECCO Tour in the previous calendar year, and those events were conducted during the NEPGA tournament season.

If a player attempts to qualify for an event during the NEPGA tournament season on any of the above tours, that attempt will be included in the 12-tournament count.

The following events are not included in the 12-tournament count: U.S. Open (including qualifiers), U.S. Senior Open (including qualifiers), PGA Championship, Senior PGA

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Eligible Professionals (cont.)**

Championship, PGA Tour, Champions Tour and Korn Ferry Tour Qualifiers and events conducted within the Section boundaries.

Note: An NEPGA Member who has exceeded these limits may compete in Pro-Am Events upon invitation of the Tournament Committee Chair.

- (c) A PGA Member of a section other than the New England Section may be invited by the host professional, with the approval by the Tournament Committee Chairman, to participate in a pro-am event at his club.
- (d) Any NEPGA Associate or non-affiliated Professional are bound by the rules set forth.

### Section 4. Limiting the Field

- (a) In any sectional tournament, where it is necessary to limit the field to a certain number of players registration will generally be first-come, first-served.
- (b) Exception: Cape Week Pro-Ams. In the event that Cape Week Pro-Am registration exceeds capacity, the Section will conduct a lottery for entry, in which players will be selected by lot. This lottery will be weighted, so that if a player gains access into one of the Pro-Ams, their odds of being selected for subsequent events will be slightly diminished. One spot will be reserved for the Host Club at each event.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **New England Section Rules of Conduct**

#### Section 1. Policy

NEPGA Members and Associates should be aware at all times to conduct themselves

#### ARTICLE VII

### New England Section Rules of Conduct (cont.)

in a manner befitting professionals and to influence amateur partners to abide by the same standards. The PGA member will be held responsible for the actions and conduct of his or her amateur partners. All comments or complaints concerning the tournament program shall be made in writing to the Tournament Committee.

#### Section 2. Violations

Members and Associates shall be deemed to have violated the Rules of Conduct by:

- (a) Displaying disrespect for the Tournament Committee;
- (b) Displaying disrespect for the NEPGA Staff;
- (c) Displaying disrespect for the traditional etiquette of golf;
- (d) Displaying conduct unbecoming a professional;
- (e) Making public complaints or criticisms involving the Association, Sponsors, Club, Players, the NEPGA Staff, the Tournament Committee, or the

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **New England Section Rules of Conduct**

Tournament Format;

- (f) Using loud, profane and/or abusive language in public;
- (g) Dispensing or consuming any alcoholic beverages on the golf course during a tournament or official practice round. On the course is defined as from tee time until the scorecard is turned in upon the completion of the round;
- (h) Throwing or breaking a club in anger or disgust;
- (i) Maliciously damaging the course in any way;
- (j) Dressing in a manner not in keeping with the game and/or dressing in a manner which is in violation of the Host Site Policy;
  - 1. No Shorts, cut-offs, or jeans permitted.
  - 2. Shirts must have collars.
  - 3. Female professionals dress code will follow the current dress code of the LPGA Tour.

NOTE: Pro-Amateur Events: Male amateurs are permitted to wear Bermuda length shorts. Female amateurs should dress according to current standards of the LPGA. The dress code applies to all tournament rounds and official practice rounds. The Rules Committee shall prohibit a competitor from playing should the competitor be deemed dressed inappropriately.

- (k) Competing in or assisting in the conduct of an unsanctioned event; each member of the Section is personally responsible for knowing if an event has Section Sanction approval.
- (l) Failing to return a scorecard for himself, or in a team competition, for the team, even if the scorecard is marked "No Card". Player who fails to return a scorecard will receive a written warning for the first violation, and a \$50 fine on the second violation.
- (m) Verifying and/or submitting any incorrect information concerning an amateur partner.
- (n) Failing to adhere to the Code of Conduct of the host club. (cart rules, etc.)
- (o) Card playing is prohibited on site unless approval is granted by the host professional.

### **Section 3. New England Section & PGA of America Discipline, Penalties, and Appeals**

Each PGA of America Member or Associate Participant ("Participant") in a Section golf tournament acknowledges the right and authority of the Section to:

- (i) fine and suspend from tournament play; and/or to
- (ii) fine and permanently bar the Participant from Section tournaments. Any Participant in a Section event hereby releases the PGA of America Section, the PGA of America, the PGA Tournament Corporation, Inc., rules officials, each director, officer, member, employee, agent or representative of any of the foregoing jointly and severally, individually and in their official capacity,

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **New England Section Code of Conduct (cont.)**

of and from any and all claims, demands, damages and causes of action whatsoever, in law or equity, arising out of or in connection with any such decision or action by the Section, PGA of America or any appellate body.

Fines are due and payable within thirty (30) days unless the Participant has made a written appeal. Should the appeal be denied, the fine will be due and payable within thirty (30) days of such denial of appeal; and the Participant will be ineligible to participate in any Section tournament and any other PGA of America tournaments and the tournaments of any other PGA Section until said fine is paid in full.

#### **A. Advance Notification of Proposed Disciplinary Action**

Except for penalties under the Rules of Golf and for “Minor Penalties” (as hereafter defined), any Participant subject to disciplinary action or penalty defined as a “Major Penalty” shall first be notified of such proposed action in writing. Such notice may be presented to the Participant by a tournament official. Within thirty (30) days from the receipt of the notice, the Participant shall submit to the Section Director of Operations, Section Tournament Director or the Section Executive Director such facts or evidence of mitigating circumstances as may apply. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of such information from the Participant, the Section Director of Operations, Section Tournament Director or the Section Executive Director shall notify the Participant in writing of the imposition of the proposed disciplinary action or penalty, or that the proposed action has been dismissed. After the imposition of any penalty hereunder, the Participant shall have the right to appeal to the Section Board of Inquiry as set forth in Section E herein.

#### **B. Rules of Golf**

Any Participant in a Section tournament who breaches the Rules of Golf of the United States Golf Association or Local Rules/Conditions of the Competition in effect for the conduct of such event shall be subject to the penalties provided in such Rules as well as any other penalties imposed by the Section consistent with this policy. The decision of the Section Rules Officials and/or the Section Tournament Committee with respect to such Rules breach shall be final and conclusive.

#### **C. Conduct Unbecoming a Professional**

Any Participant deemed guilty of conduct unbecoming a professional while participating in a Section tournament or in activities related thereto (e.g. practice rounds, hospitality events, etc.) shall be subject to fine, suspension and/or permanent disbarment from Section tournament play as provided in this policy. A fine of \$100 shall be levied for the first offense. A fine of \$150 shall be levied for the second offense, and a prohibition from participating in Section events for one year shall be levied for the third offense. Any Participant that is found guilty of more than three offenses for conduct unbecoming a professional charge may, at the sole



## **ARTICLE VII**

### **New England Section Rules of Conduct (cont.)**

discretion of the Section, be permanently prohibited from participating in all Section and PGA of America tournaments and also may be subject to PGA of America Code of Ethics charges. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Section reserves the right to pursue Code of Ethics charges against any PGA Member/Associate for conduct charges related to the conduct of any Participant at Section golf tournaments and related events at the sole discretion of the Section in compliance with the procedures for Code of Ethics hearings as set forth in this Article II of the Bylaws.

#### **D. Classes of Penalties for Section Tournament Offenses**

##### **1. MINOR PENALTIES.**

A Minor Penalty is a fine of not more than \$150 and/or suspension from tournament play for two or fewer tournaments. A Minor Penalty may be imposed by the Section tournament officials responsible for the conduct of the tournament.

##### **2. MAJOR PENALTIES.**

A Major Penalty is a fine in excess of \$150, suspension from tournament play for 3 or more tournaments, and/or permanent disbarment from Section tournament play.

#### **E. Appeals**

##### **1. MINOR PENALTIES.**

Appeals from Minor Penalties shall be to the Tournament Committee Chairperson (or his/her designee). Such appeal may be in writing or oral. Such appeal shall be received by the Tournament Committee Chair no later than thirty (30) days subsequent to the infraction.

The Tournament Committee Chair shall render the decision on appeal in writing within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the appeal and submit a final report to the Section Executive Director. The Section Executive Director shall submit this final report to the

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **New England Section Rules of Conduct (cont.)**

Association General Counsel. Such decision shall be final. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that the Section determines that it would prefer that a Minor Penalty shall be submitted to the Board of Control for a hearing in lieu of action by the Section, then the Section Board of Inquiry will follow the same procedures set forth herein for all matters submitted to the Board of Control for Code of Ethics procedures.

##### **2. MAJOR PENALTIES.**

Within thirty days from the date of notification of a Major Penalty, the Participant may submit a written appeal to the Section Board of Inquiry. Failure to file such an appeal shall be deemed conclusively to be an admission of the charges specified in the notification.

Thereafter, the Section Board of Inquiry will prepare a report of the matter to the Board of Control and the matter will be set for a hearing before the Board of Control in accordance with all applicable procedures set forth herein for ethics appeals heard by the

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **New England Section Rules of Conduct (cont.)**

Board of Control. The Board of Control shall hear the appeal either at the next regularly scheduled Board of Control hearing or at an expedited meeting that may be held in person or via conference call at the discretion of the Chair of the Board of Control. The decision of the Board of Control shall be final.

An appeal shall operate to stay the effective date of any penalty, except suspension from a Section tournament then in progress or scheduled for the calendar week in which the alleged violation occurred, until after a final decision on the appeal.

All fines must be paid within thirty (30) days from the imposition of the fine, or in the event of an appeal, within (30) days from the decision rendered by the Board of Control in the event the Board of Control upholds the findings of the Tournament Committee Chair.

### Section Tournament Policy

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### Rules For Entries

#### Section 1. Regulations

- (a) All entry applications will be distributed through the NEPGA.
- (b) By submitting an entry application, competitors agree to abide by the Tournament Rules and Regulations of the NEPGA.
- (c) A contestant shall not enter the same tournament more than once unless special permission is granted by the Section Tournament Chairman, Section Director of Rules & Competitions, Section Tournament Director or his official representative.
- (d) No Professional shall be permitted to participate in any Sectional Tournament if he or she is delinquent in any dues or assessments due to the NEPGA.
- (e) All entry fees must accompany submitted applications. Entry fees will include Tournament entry, Cart & Range Fees (if applicable).

#### Section 2. Cancellation by a Player

If any player chooses to cancel from an event, the player must contact the NEPGA Office prior to 72 hours of the beginning of the event. According to the time of cancellation, the following policy will be followed:

- (a) Prior to 72 hours before the event: The entry fee, less \$25 administration costs, shall be refunded to the Professional.
- (b) Prior to the start of the event, but after the 72 hour deadline: No refunds.
- (c) Cancellation after the event has started or failure to show for the assigned tee time: No refunds will be allowed, and the Professional shall be subject to disciplinary action.
- (d) In a case where the event has no entry fee and a player cancels from the event after the 72 hour deadline, or fails to show at his or her designated tee time, the player will automatically be subject to a fine of \$50.

**ARTICLE VIII****Rules For Entries (cont.)**

## Section 3. Cancellation of event by the NEPGA

If an event has to be canceled due to weather, or other adverse conditions, the following refund policy will be in effect.

- (i) Any player on the course at the time the tournament is canceled shall be refunded entry fee only. The Player will be responsible for Range Fees. Cart fees and Food & Beverage costs will be refunded based on host club policy.
- (ii) If at least half the field has completed the round, the competition will be considered complete and the prize distribution shall be computed based on the number of participants who have posted scores. In this situation, any players who are unable to complete their round will receive a full refund, less any expenses owed to the club on their behalf (food & beverage costs, cart fees, etc.).

**ARTICLE IX****Local Rules and Conditions of Competition**

The Rules of the United States Golf Association govern play, as modified by the NEPGA. The following Conditions of the Competition apply and may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf's Model Local Rules. See the applicable competition's "Notice to Competitors (Players)" for additional Definitions, Local Rules and Conditions of the Competition.

**NEW ENGLAND PGA 2020 HARD CARD**

Play is governed by the Rules of Golf effective January 2019, and where applicable, by the following Local Rules and Terms of the Competition. Committee Procedures refers to the Committee Procedures section in the current *Official Guide to the Rules of Golf*. The *Committee* refers to the New England PGA Rules Committee. **Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty.**

1. **Out of Bounds and Course Boundaries:** *Out of bounds* is defined by the line between the *course*-side points at ground level of white stakes and fence posts, off club property, and in any other manner as described in the applicable event's "Notice to Players."  
**Note:** A ball coming to rest on or beyond a public road is out of bounds, even if it comes to rest on another part of the course that is in bounds for other holes.
2. **Dropping Zones:** When the use of a dropping zone is permitted on the applicable "Notice to Players" for a particular competition round, the provisions in Model Local Rule E-1 apply. The ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the dropping zone.
3. **Penalty Areas:** Red penalty areas with an opposite side relief option will be indicated on the applicable "Notice to Competitors." Model Local Rule B-2.1.

**ARTICLE IX**  
**Local Rules and Conditions of Competition (cont.)**

**Note:** When the edge of a red penalty area coincides with the boundary of the course, Model Local Rule B-2.2 is in effect and modifies the first paragraph of Model Local Rule B-2.1.

**4. Abnormal Course Conditions and Integral Objects**

**a. Ground Under Repair:**

- i) Any area **encircled by a white line**, including gallery crosswalks (except dropping zones or *out of bounds*).
- ii) **Newly trenched areas**, including grass-covered cables.
- iii) **French drains**, which are trenches filled with rocks or stones.
- iv) **Aeration holes** in General Area or on Putting Green, **but** interference does not exist if the aeration hole only interferes with the player's stance or, on the putting green, on the player's line of play – Model Local Rule E-4.
- v) **A hole made by a movable obstruction** (stakes, signs, chairs or the like) may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee. **But** interference does not exist if the hole only interferes with the player's stance.
- vi) If a player's ball lies in or touches a **seam of cut turf** or a seam interferes with the player's area of intended swing in the *general area*, the player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. **But** interference does not exist if the seam **only** interferes with the player's *stance*.

**Note:** All seams within the area of cut turf are treated as the same seam in taking relief. This means that if a player has interference from any seam after *dropping* the ball, the player must proceed as required under Rule 14.3c(2) even when the ball is within one club-length of the reference point.

**b. Immovable Obstructions:**

- i) **All roads and paths on the course**, even if not artificially surfaced, are treated as *immovable obstructions* from which free relief is allowed under Rule 16.1.
- ii) **White lined areas of ground under repair tying into immovable obstructions** are treated as a single *abnormal course condition* when taking relief under Rule 16.1.
- iii) **Roads or paths surfaced with shells, wood chips or mulch** are immovable obstructions. The individual pieces of shells, wood chips or mulch are loose impediments.

**ARTICLE IX****Local Rules and Conditions of Competition (cont.)**

- iv) **Landscaped or garden areas (flower beds, shrubbery or the like) completely encircled by an immovable obstruction** are part of the obstruction.
  - v) **Railroad ties, curbing** or other similar artificial edges adjoining cart paths are part of the same *obstruction*.
  - vi) **Where the non-course side edge of a road or path defines out of bounds**, the road or path is an obstruction.
  - vii) **Stakes, ropes, wires, or other objects** supporting trees or tree limbs, provided they are not closely attached, are immovable obstructions. The tree or tree limb is not part of the obstruction.
  - viii) **Secured mats and plastic cable ramps** covering cables.
- c. **Integral Objects**
- i) **Bunker Liners:** The Committee may treat an exposed liner as ground under repair under Rule 16.1. But interference does not exist if the liner only interferes with the player's stance.
  - ii) **Artificial retaining walls** and/or pilings when located in *penalty areas*.
  - iii) **Wires, cables, wrappings, signs and lightning rods** closely attached to trees or objects defining *out of bounds*.
- d. **Temporary Immovable Obstructions:** Model Local Rule F-23 in Committee Procedures is in effect and includes any Temporary Immovable Obstruction installed for the competition.
5. **Permanent Elevated Power Lines or Cables**  
If it is known or virtually certain that that a player's ball hit a permanent elevated power line **in bounds**, the stroke does not count. The player must play a ball without penalty from where the previous stroke was made in accordance with Rule 14.6.
6. **Ball Played from Outside Relief Area when Taking Back on the Line Relief:** Model Local Rule E-12 is in effect.
7. **Restrictions on Use of Specific Equipment**
- a. **List of Conforming Driver Heads:** Any driver the player uses to make a *stroke* must have a clubhead, identified by model and loft, which is on the current List of Conforming Driver Heads issued by the USGA.  
**Penalty for Making a Stroke with Club in Breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.**

There is no penalty under this Local Rule for carrying, but not making a *stroke* with a driver that is not on the List of Conforming Driver Heads (See Model Local Rule G-1 in Committee Procedures).

## ARTICLE IX

### Local Rules and Conditions of Competition (cont.)

- b. **Groove and Punch Mark Specifications:** In making a *stroke*, the player must use clubs that conform to the groove and punch mark specifications in the *Equipment Rules* that took effect on 1 January 2010. Ping Eye 2 irons manufactured before 31 March 1990 with a groove spacing to groove width ratio of 2.3 to 1 are allowed for play under the Rules of Golf, even when this Local Rule is in effect (See Model Local Rule G-2 in Committee Procedures).

**Penalty for making a *Stroke* with Club in Breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.**

There is no penalty under this Local Rule for carrying, but not making a *stroke* with a club which does not conform to these groove and punch mark specifications.

- c. **List of Conforming Golf Balls:** Any ball used in making a *stroke* must be on the current List of Conforming Golf Balls issued by the USGA. This list is regularly updated and can be found at [www.usga.org](http://www.usga.org). **Penalty for Making a *Stroke* at a Ball Not on Current List in Breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.**

- d. **Replacing Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged:** Rule 4.1b(3) is modified in this way: if a player's club is "broken or significantly damaged" during the *round* by the player or *caddie*, except in cases of abuse, the player may replace the club with any club under Rule 4.1b(4). When replacing a club, the player must immediately take the broken or significantly damaged club out of play, using the procedure in Rule 4.1c(1).

For a description of when a club is "broken or significantly damaged" for the purposes of applying this Local Rule, see Model Local Rule G-9 in the Committee Procedures.

**Penalty for Breach of this Local Rule: See Rule 4.1b.**

### 8. Restrictions on Practice

- a. **Before or Between Rounds in Stroke Play:**

Rule 5.2b is modified in this way: A player must not practice on the competition *course* before or between *rounds*.

**Penalty for Breach of this Local Rule:**

**Penalty for first breach: *General Penalty*** (applied to the player's first hole).

**Penalty for second breach: Disqualification.**

**ARTICLE IX**  
**Local Rules and Conditions of Competition (cont.)**

**9. Procedures for Bad Weather and Suspensions of Play**

**a. Methods for Stopping and Resuming Play:**

A suspension of play for a dangerous situation will be signaled by one prolonged note of a siren or horn. All other suspensions will be signaled by three consecutive notes of a siren or horn. In either case, resumption of play will be signaled by two short notes of a siren or horn. See Rule 5.7b.

**Note:** All practice areas are closed during an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation until the *Committee* has declared them open.

**b. Removal of Temporary Water on the Putting Green:**

If a player's ball lies on the *putting green* and there is interference by *temporary water* on the *putting green* the committee may:

- Require the player to take free relief under Rule 16-1d **or**
- Squeegee the line of play

Such squeegeeing should be done across the *line of play* and extend a reasonable distance beyond the *hole* (that is at least one roller length) and must only be carried out by individuals designated by the *Committee*.

**Note:** The *Committee* may squeegee the *putting green* at any time.

**10. Committee Pace of Play Policy:** See Rule 5.6b(3). See posted NEPGA pace of play guidelines for pace of play policy and penalties.

**11. Scoring Area, Returning of Scorecard:**

- a. **Scoring Area** may include but is not limited to tents or rooms. A player's scorecard has been returned to the Committee when the player has exited the defined scoring area with both feet, unless the player, prior to leaving, verbally informs the Scoring Official, and it is acknowledged, of their intention to leave the scoring area and immediately return.
- b. **Returning Scorecard:** For the purpose of applying Rule 3.3b(2), a player's *scorecard* is treated as returned when the player has first left the scoring area with both feet.
- c. **Application of the Exception to Rule 3.3b(3) Following the Cut:** The cut for any New England PGA Championship is official when the following round's pairings have been approved and published by the NEPGA Rules Committee. Once the field has been reduced, and the pairings have been approved and published, no additions to the field will be made. If a player's breach of Rule 3.3b(3) is discovered after the cut is official and the addition of penalty strokes, from a round prior to the cut, results in the player's score being higher than

**ARTICLE IX**  
**Local Rules and Conditions of Competition (cont.)**

the cut score, the player will be withdrawn from the field and will be considered to have missed the cut. Any such player is ineligible for any “made the cut” prize money, points, or other benefits.

- d. **Pro-Am Competition – Scorecard:** The professional player is the marker and scoring is according to Rule 23.2. The scorecard must be signed by the professional player and attested by one of the amateur partners. Penalties apply only to the professional player.

12. **Measuring Condition of Putting Greens:** Before or between *rounds* on any day of the competition or play-off, a player or *caddie* must not use any device that measures the condition (slope, texture, firmness, or moisture level) of any *putting green* on the *course*. The use of such a device is only permitted on practice days.

13. **When the Result of the Competition is Final:** The result of the competition is final when all scores have been approved by the Committee. In the event of a play-off, the competition is final when the play-off scores have been approved by the Committee.

**ARTICLE X**  
**Regulations and Requirements for Championships, Invitationals and Other Events**

Section 1. PGA of America Championship Events

**PGA PROFESSIONAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

Eligible members will receive information on entry process from PGA of America.

Entry is available through PGA of America office ONLY for this event.

See also Section 2. Championship Events

New England Section PGA Professional Championship

**SENIOR PGA PROFESSIONAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

Eligible members will receive information on entry process from PGA of America.

Entry is available through PGA of America office ONLY for this event.

See also Section 2. Championship Events

New England Section Senior PGA Professional Championship



## **ARTICLE X**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Championships, Invitationals and Other Events**

#### **PGA ASSISTANTS CHAMPIONSHIP**

Eligible members will receive information on entry process from PGA of America.

Entry is available through PGA of America office ONLY for this event.

See also Section 2. Championship Events

New England Section PGA Assistants Championship

#### **Section 2. New England Section Championship Events**

#### **NEW ENGLAND SECTION PGA PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

54-Hole Stroke Play Competition. The field will be cut after 36 Holes to the low 60 scorers plus ties.

All players who make the cut will receive a check.

Eligible members will receive information on entry process from PGA of America.

Entry is available through PGA of America office ONLY for this event. Late entries will be accepted (through the Section office) until one week before the start of the championship, however those entering past the National Office's deadline will not be eligible to qualify for the national event (but will be eligible to collect any prize money earned).

See also Section 1. PGA of America Championship Events

PGA Professional National Championship

For the following tournaments, ALL CLASSES listed in ARTICLE VI, Section 2. are eligible. (Note: Inactive and Class F members will not be eligible under any circumstances).

#### **PRO-PRO STROKE PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP**

36-Hole, Four-Ball Stroke Play Competition.

The field is limited to the first 52 teams to file an entry.

In the event of a tie, there will be Co-Champions.

#### **PRO-PRO MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP**

18-hole, Four-Ball Stroke Play qualifying round to determine 8 team Match Play bracket.

Seeding in the brackets will be determined by qualifying score in the order of cards returned, unless for last spot, which will be decided by a sudden death playoff.

The field is limited to the first 52 teams to file an entry.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Championships, Invitationals and Other Events (cont.)**

#### **NEW ENGLAND SECTION SENIOR PGA PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

Open to all Eligible NEPGA Members who have reached their 50th Birthday prior to the Championship.

36-Hole, Stroke Play Competition.

In the event of a tie, there will be a playoff to determine the Overall Champion.

This event will also be contested in age divisions, with added moneys to each division. In the event of a tie within an age division there will be Co-Champions.

See also Section 1. PGA of America Championship Events  
Senior PGA Professional National Championship

#### **SENIOR-JUNIOR PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

18-Hole, Four-Ball Stroke Play Competition.

The Junior Professional member must be under the age of 50, the Senior Professional member must be aged 50 or over on the day of the competition.

In the event of a tie, there will be Co-Champions.

For the following tournaments, the Classes eligible are: MP, A-1, A-4, A-6, A-7, A-8, A-13, and A-14.

**PARTICIPATION LIMITED:** One team per club, unless event is not full by date specified on entry blank.

#### **PRO-AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP**

36-Hole, Four-Ball Stroke Play Competition.

Limit of one team per club, unless the tournament is under subscribed.

The Professional must play with a dues-paying Member, or Honorary Member of his Club and that Amateur must have been a dues paying member and must have had an established handicap at the Professional's Club for at least 90 days prior to the Championship. In the case of a public access facility the Amateur must have had an established handicap at the Professional's facility for at least 90 days prior to the Championship.

If a professional's facility does not have a membership, that professional may align with another club, and bring that club's members to Invitational events. In order to do so, the professional will need to obtain written consent from the highest-ranking professional from the club with which they wish to align. Such an alignment will remain in place for the remainder of the calendar year, and the professional may only invite members of that club to all Invitationals for the remainder of the year.

In the event of a tie, there will be Co-Champions.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Championships, Invationals and Other Events (cont.)**

For the following tournament, the Classes eligible are: MP, A-1, A-2, A-4, A-6, A-13 and A-14 .

#### **PRO-ASSISTANT CHAMPIONSHIP**

18-Hole, Four-Ball Stroke Play Competition.

The highest ranking PGA Professional at a facility may bring any Professionals under their supervision to play in the Pro-Assistant, with the following restrictions:

- Maximum of 4 Professionals from one club per group.
- Professional must bring A8 or Apprentices from the facility first.
- If a facility does not have any A8 or Apprentice classifications, highest ranking PGA Professional (A13, A4 or A1) may bring Professionals under their supervision (A4, A1, A14, A6).

The following classifications and team scenarios are eligible to play in the Pro-Assistant:

- A-1 Head Professional
- A-2 Driving Range Head Professional
- A-4 Director of Golf
- A-6 Teaching Professional
- A-13 General Manager
- A-14 Director of Instruction

- An A-1 may bring one, two or three A-8's/Apprentices.
  - An A-1 may bring an A-6, so long as there are no A-8's or apprentices at facility.
  - An A-4 may bring one, two or three A-8's/Apprentices.
  - An A-4 may bring an A-1 and one or two A-8's, so long as there are no A-8's or apprentices left behind.
  - An A-4 may bring an A-1, so long as there are no A-8's or apprentices at their facility.
  - An A-13 may bring an A-4 and/or an A-1, so long as there are no A-8's or apprentices at facility.
  - An A-13 may bring an A-1 and one or two A-8's or apprentices, so long as there are no A8's or apprentices left behind.
  - An A-14 may bring an A-6, so long as there are no A-13, A-4, A-1, A-8's or Apprentices at their facility.
  - An A-2 may bring an A-8 or apprentice.
  - An A-2 may bring an A-6, so long as there are no A-8's or apprentices at their facility.
- In the event of a tie, there will a playoff to determine the Overall Champion.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Championships, Invitationals and Other Events (cont.)**

For the following tournament, the Classes eligible are: As stated in entry from PGA of America

#### **NEW ENGLAND SECTION PGA ASSISTANTS CHAMPIONSHIP**

36-Hole, Stroke Play Event.

Eligible members will receive information on entry process from PGA of America.

Entry is available through PGA of America office ONLY for this event. Late entries will be accepted through the National Office, however any participant who misses the deadline will not be eligible to qualify for the national Assistant PGA Professional Championship.

See also Section 1. PGA of America Championship Events  
PGA Assistants Championship

#### **Section 3. Invitational and Other Events**

For the following tournaments, the Classes eligible are: All Classes except A-3 and Associates who have successfully completed the Level 1 Checkpoint.

#### **STROKE PLAY SERIES**

18-Hole Individual Stroke Play.

Concurrent Four-Ball Stroke Play Competition

(Partners determined by Blind Draw)

#### **SECTION PRO-AMS**

18-Hole Stroke Play, Two Best Balls of Four, unless otherwise noted in individual tournament descriptions. Amateurs must play at 80% of their handicap as of the GHIN revision 3 days prior to the start of the tournament, unless otherwise noted.

In tournaments in which forward tees are offered for senior amateurs, eligibility to play from the forward tees is determined by the Rule of 70: if the player's age (minimum age of 60) plus handicap index equals 70 or above, they will be eligible to play from the forward tee markers noted on the Notice to Competitors.

For the following tournaments, the Classes eligible are: All Classes except A-3 and Associates who have successfully completed the Level 1 Checkpoint.

For competitions that require an amateur partner to be a member of the Professional's Club/Facility, immediate family members who have a USGA Handicap/GHIN number are considered to be eligible partners. Honorary Members are also considered to be eligible partners. If a professional's facility

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Championships, Invitationals and Other Events (cont.)**

does not have a membership, that professional may align with another club, and bring that club's members to Invitational events. In order to do so, the professional will need to obtain written consent from the highest-ranking professional from the club with which they wish to align. Such an alignment will remain in place for the remainder of the calendar year, and the professional may only invite members of that club to all Invitationals for the remainder of the year.

**FIELD LIMITED:** One team per club, unless event is not full by date specified in entry.

#### **PRO-SENIOR CLUB MEMBER INVITATIONAL**

18-Hole, Stroke Play, Best-Ball of Four Competition.  
The low Gross team score will determine the winner.  
In the event of a tie there will be multiple winners.

This competition will also be contested in Gross and Net Divisions, teams are only eligible for prizes in one division.

The Professional must play with (3) three dues paying Members of his Club who are at least 50 years of age on the day of the competition.  
Amateurs must have had an established handicap at the Professional's Club for at least 90 days prior to the event. In the case of a public access facility the Amateur must have had an established handicap at the Professional's facility for at least 90 days prior to the event.

If a professional's facility does not have a membership, that professional may align with another club, and bring that club's members to Invitational events. In order to do so, the professional will need to obtain written consent from the highest-ranking professional from the club with which they wish to align. Such an alignment will remain in place for the remainder of the calendar year, and the professional may only invite members of that club to all Invitationals for the remainder of the year.

#### **PRO-LADY INVITATIONAL**

18-Hole, Stroke Play, Select Drive - Alternate Shot Competition.  
The Low Gross team score will determine the winner.  
In the event of a tie there will be multiple winners.

This competition will also be contested in Gross and Net Divisions, teams are only eligible for prizes in one division.

The Amateur partner will use 40% of her Tournament Site Handicap to calculate the team handicap.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Championships, Invitationals and Other Events (cont.)**

The Professional must play with a female Member who has been a dues paying member of the Professional's Club and must have had an established handicap at the Professional's Club for at least 90 days prior to the event. In the case of a public access facility the Amateur must have had an established handicap at the Professional's facility for at least 90 days prior to the event.

If a professional's facility does not have a membership, that professional may align with another club, and bring that club's members to Invitational events. In order to do so, the professional will need to obtain written consent from the highest-ranking professional from the club with which they wish to align. Such an alignment will remain in place for the remainder of the calendar year, and the professional may only invite members of that club to all Invitationals for the remainder of the year.

For the following tournament, the Classes eligible are: all classes except A-3, and Associates who have successfully completed the Level 1 Checkpoint.

#### **PRO-OFFICER INVITATIONAL**

18-Hole, Four-Ball Stroke Play Competition.

The Low Gross team score will determine the winner.

In the event of a tie there will be multiple winners.

This competition will also be contested in Gross and Net Divisions, teams are only eligible for prizes in one division.

Amateur must be a club officer or equivalent to be eligible to compete in the event; call New England Section office if you have any questions as to eligibility.

For the following tournament, the Classes eligible are: all classes except A-3, and Associates who have successfully completed the Level 1 Checkpoint.

#### **PRO-SUPERINTENDENT INVITATIONAL**

18-Hole, Stroke Play, Select Drive - Alternate Shot Competition.

The Low Gross team score will determine the winner.

In the event of a tie there will be multiple winners.

This competition will also be contested in Gross and Net Divisions, teams are only eligible for prizes in one division.

The Amateur partner will use 40% of their Tournament Site Handicap to calculate the team handicap.

The Professional must be a PGA Member or eligible Associate and the Superintendent must be a member of GCSANE or another association, and they must be employed at the same facility.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Championships, Invitationals and Other Events (cont.)**

#### Section 4. Entry Requirements

(a) All entries must be received by the stated deadline date. Incomplete entries will result in the entry being rejected.

(b) All competitors must file an official entry form to be eligible to participate. By submitting the entry form, competitors agree to abide by the Rules and Regulations of the New England PGA, the USGA Rules of Golf and NEPGA Rules of Conduct.

(c) All entries are subject to approval by the NEPGA Tournament Committee. Competitors must be eligible at the time of entry deadline and at the date of the tournament.

(d) Members of the Professional's immediate family who have a USGA Handicap and GHIN

Number are eligible partners in the Pro-Lady Championship, Pro-Am Championship, and Pro-Senior Club Member Championship.

#### Section 5. Arrangements of Pairings

(a) Starting times and pairings will be made by the Rules Committee, any special requests must be made through the NEPGA Section Office.

(b) In all Competitions greater than 18 Holes, the competitors may be re-paired at the completion of 18 or 36 holes, with the highest score off first and the lowest scores off last. The Rules Committee, after consultation with the Executive Director and/or the Tournament Committee Chairman, reserves the right to alter the pairings format as deemed necessary.

(c) Tee time confirmations will be available to each accepted entrant after the entry deadline; however, each entrant is responsible for obtaining his or her own tee time.

#### Section 6. Scoring

(a) In Professional only events: The Professional will keep the scorecard of a fellow competitor.

(b) In all other Championships, the Professional will keep the team scorecard. The player whose score for the hole is to count must be readily identifiable. The team card must be signed by the Professional and at least one team member.

(c) Scorecards that are incomplete or illegible shall not be accepted and will result in the disqualification of the players involved.

(d) All scorecards must be turned in immediately at the completion of the round to a NEPGA official in the scoring area.

**ARTICLE X****Regulations and Requirements for Championships, Invitationals and Other Events (cont.)**

## Section 7. Pace of Play

The NEPGA Local Rule for Pace of Play is in effect for all tournaments.

The administration of pace of play will be handled by the NEPGA Rules Committee.

Any appeal of a penalty must be referred to the Rules Committee immediately upon the completion of the round and its decision shall be final.

## (i) Definitions:

(a) Out of Position: A group is deemed out of position when starting play of any par three or par four hole that is clear, or any par five hole in which all of the preceding group of players are on the green, and the elapsed time for the round exceeds the allotted "time par" per hole pace in which all groups are expected to play.

(b) Undue Delay: A group that is out of position and over the time allotted on a per hole basis will be warned by an official. Unless there are recent mitigating circumstances such as rulings or situations where a player had to go back to his previous position to play; such as for a lost ball, unplayable ball, wrong ball, out of bounds or water hazard relief. The entire group will be warned and each player will be subject to being timed.

## (ii) Procedures for timing and imposition of penalties:

(a) Notification to a group out of position will be given after all players have left the teeing ground and prior to playing any subsequent strokes.

(b) The timing of a player will not begin until it is clearly his time to play without interference or distraction.

(c) The time allotted per shot will be forty (40) seconds. Fifteen (15) seconds extra will be permitted for the first player to hit on a par three hole, the first to hit a second shot on par 4's and par 5's, and the first to play from on or near the green.

(d) A player will be subject to a fine if he has two or more excessive times. A player will be warned if has one excessive time.

(e) Any player who is fined or penalized shall immediately be 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, in the scoring area.

## (iii) Fines and Penalties

## (a) First Out of Position Sequence

One bad time: Player warned. If group gets back in position, one bad time is removed.

Two bad times: Player will receive a \$50 fine.

Three bad times: Player will receive an additional \$100 fine and a one stroke penalty.

Four bad times: Player will receive an additional \$150 fine and a two stroke penalty.

Five bad times: Player will be Disqualified.



## ARTICLE X

### Regulations and Requirements for Championships, Invitationals and Other Events (cont.)

#### (b) Subsequent Out of Position Sequences

The group will again be warned they are out of position. The procedure described in (a) will again be carried out. If a player should again have "Two Bad Times", the penalty will be progressive (i.e., if a player was fined/penalized the first time his group was out of position, he is now subject to a \$100 fine as well as a penalty stroke).

The NEPGA Rules Committee, in administering pace of play procedures is acting in response to a clear mandate of the majority of the NEPGA Members, the direction of the Executive Director and the Tournament Committee. In performance of these duties, the official should not be subject to any abuse, oral or otherwise. Such abuse by a player may constitute conduct unbecoming a professional.

#### Section 8. Discontinuance of Play

(a) The policy for discontinuance of play shall be consistent with Rule 5.7 in the USGA Rules of Golf. The Rules Committee has the authority to order discontinuance of play due to weather conditions. The decision to resume play, postpone any part of it or cancel play entirely rests with the official in charge.

Suspension of play will be designated by:

Dangerous Situation: One prolonged siren/horn note. When play is suspended for a dangerous situation, if the players in a group are between the play of two holes, they shall not resume play until the official in charge has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they shall discontinue play immediately and shall not thereafter resume play until the official in charge has ordered a resumption of play. All practice areas shall be closed during suspension for a dangerous situation until the official in charge has declared them open for use.

All Other Situations: Three consecutive siren/horn notes, repeated.

Resumption of Play: Two short siren/horn notes, repeated.

NOTE: Players should be aware of their right to stop play at any time if they reasonably believe there is danger from lightning, even though no signal for discontinuance has been given or heard. In such a case, the player must report to the Committee as soon as possible.

(b) The following Rain-Out procedures will apply for all Championships:

1. One Day, 18-Hole Competitions: The event may be rescheduled at a later date

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Championships, Invitationals and Other Events (cont.)**

2. One Day, 36-Hole Competitions:
  - (i) One round rained out: Tournament reverts to an 18-hole event with final results being based on the results of the round completed.
  - (ii) Both rounds rained out: The event may be rescheduled at a later date.
  
3. Two Day, 36-Hole Competitions (Same Course):
  - (i) First day rained out: Tournament reverts to an 18-hole event, the second round to be played as scheduled.
  - (ii) Second day rained out: Tournament reverts to an 18-hole event, final results being based on the results from the first round.
  - (iii) Both Days Rained Out: Tournament may be rescheduled at a later date.
  
4. Two Day, 36-Hole Competitions (Different Courses):
  - (i) First day rained out: Tournament reverts to an 18-hole event with the second round to be played as scheduled.
  - (ii) Second day rained out: Tournament reverts to an 18-hole event with the final results being based on the results of the first round.  
NOTE: In either case above, the Tournament will award Co-Champions for the low scorer at each site.
  - (iii) One of the two courses becomes unplayable on day one: All play will continue as scheduled for the one course. Tournament reverts to an 18-Hole competition.
  - (iv) One of the two courses becomes unplayable day two: Tournament reverts to an 18 Hole event with the final results being based on the results from the first round.  
NOTE: The Tournament will award Co-Champions for the low scorer(s) at each site.
  - (v) Both Days, Both Courses Rained Out:  
Tournament may be rescheduled for 36 Holes at a later date.
  
5. Three Day, 54 Hole Competition (Same or Two Courses on different days):
  - (i) One Day Rained Out or Unplayable: Tournament reverts to a 36 Hole Event with the remaining round(s) to be played as scheduled. In the event that the Final Round is rained out, the results will be based on the results of the two rounds completed.
  - (ii) Any Two Days Rained Out or Unplayable:  
Tournament reverts to an 18-hole event.

## ARTICLE X

### Regulations and Requirements for Championships, Invitationals and Other Events (cont.)

6. Three Day, 54 Hole Event (Different Courses played concurrently):
- (i) Day 1 Rained Out or Unplayable: Tournament reverts to a 36 Hole Event with the remaining two rounds to be played as scheduled for rounds 1 & 2.
  - (ii) Day 2 Rained Out or Unplayable: Tournament reverts to a 36 Hole Event with the Final Round to be played as scheduled for Day 2.
  - (iii) Day 3 Rained Out or Unplayable: Tournament reverts to a 36 Hole Event with the Final Results being based on the standings after the Second Round.
  - (iv) Any Two Days Rained Out or Unplayable: Tournament reverts to an 18-Hole Event with the only round being played as scheduled for the First Day. In this case, a winner will be declared at each site and each shall share equally in the purse.  
A playoff, between the winners, will then be scheduled to determine the winner of the title.  
NOTE: The New England Section Tournament Committee in conjunction with the New England Section Executive Director reserves the right to alter any of the above procedures in order to conform to PGA of America regulations in regard to determining the qualifiers for the PGA Professional National Championship.

- (c) The following guidelines are for use by the Rules Committee in case of bad weather:
- 1. When unplayable conditions occur, play shall be suspended.  
When conditions become playable, play will then be resumed, even when that round cannot be completed that day. Play may be resumed the following day to include completion of the next scheduled round.
  - 2. Every effort shall be made to finish each round as scheduled.
  - 3. In the event of a suspension during the final round, the round shall be canceled if more than half the field is unable to complete the round. If more than half the field completes the round, play should be temporarily suspended and completed when conditions permit. Consideration of this procedure would depend upon availability of the golf course. If the round cannot be completed, scores will revert back to the previous round.

#### Section 9. Policy Regarding Ties

In all Championships, should two or more Professionals tie for first position (except as noted in specific events in Article X; Section 2) the tie will be resolved by a hole by hole playoff. If more than two competitors tie, all competitors other than the winner will be declared joint winners of second place and share equally in the purse to be distributed. Professionals tying for other positions will share equally with others posting the same score.

If Professionals are tied for a position resulting in equal distribution of prize money that would result in a payout of less than \$50.00, positions of those tied

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Championships, Invitationals and Other Events (Cont.)**

would be resolved by a match of cards, based on the current recommended USGA method i.e.;

Best total score for the last nine holes (10-18), if still tied last six holes (13-18), if still tied last 3 holes (16-18) and finally if still tied the 18<sup>th</sup> hole, at the designated Host Course, of the final round, until the results are so determined to bring the payout to \$50.00 or greater per competitor.

In Championship events that involve amateurs in a gross and net team format, pooling of prize money may be applied to provide equity for a team that is tied for both the same gross or net position.

#### **Section 10. Prize Fund Distribution**

The prize fund for distribution shall be the total of entry fees, plus the guaranteed added money, less any expenses as determined by the NEPGA Tournament Committee. These expenses will include an NEPGA deduction. The Tournament Committee, Executive Director and the NEPGA Tournament Director will jointly finalize the Prize Fund Distribution and post said distribution at the event.

#### **Section 11. Awards**

Awards for Championship events will be presented to the winners at the NEPGA Awards banquet.

#### **Section 12. Course Preparation**

Male competitors will play from the tee markers designated by the Rules Committee.

Female competitors will compete from tee markers set at 80-85% of Men's yardage or as close to 80-85% as possible.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Pro-Amateur Events**

#### **Section 1. Host Professional's Responsibilities**

(a) Arrange to have the use of the course reserved for the tournament players only during the competition.

(b) Agree to follow guidelines for Course Preparation stated in Article X, Section 12. The NEPGA Tournament Director will contact the host professional to discuss his responsibilities prior the event.

(c) Provide a copy of the courses Local Rules Sheet available for NEPGA staff reference.

(d) Define all boundaries, water hazards, lateral hazards, and ground under repair.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Pro-Amateur Events (cont.)**

(e) Communicate with the Course Superintendent to insure that hole locations are fairly placed and the recommended course yardage is adhered to. No major course

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Pro-Amateur Events (cont.)**

maintenance should be planned prior to or during an NEPGA tournament if possible.

(f) The Host Professional must communicate with the Club Manager to assure that the course snack bar, clubhouse bar and food service will be open at the appropriate hours to serve competitors.

(g) Provide a Registration Desk for the NEPGA Staff.

(h) Provide an Official Scoring Area for the NEPGA Staff

(i) Provide the necessary number of golf carts to accommodate the field.

(j) Neglect of, or non-compliance with any responsibilities listed in Article XI, Section 1 are punishable by a fine to be determined by the Tournament Committee.

#### **Section 2. Course Preparation Recommendations**

(a) NEPGA Tournament Director should contact the professional and/or the superintendent prior to the event to ensure proper set-up of the event.

(b) Hole locations are to be "Fairly Placed".

(i) Holes should be cut on a flat area, well away from any severe slopes or mounds.

(c) Course Yardage:

(i) Male Professionals and Amateurs under 65 years of age: 6,400-6,600 yards maximum.

(ii) Senior Male Amateurs, Rule of 70: if a male amateur's age plus handicap index equals 70 or more, and the player's age is 60 or above, the player may play from a forward tee at approximately 90% of Male Professionals & Amateurs yardages if possible.

(iii) Female Professionals: 80-85% of Men's yardage or as close to 80-85% as possible.

(iv) Female Amateurs: Play should be from a forward teeing area.

(d) The Rules Committee will make final decisions regarding any special Local Rules. (i.e. Preferred Lies, etc.) based on recommendations from Host Professional and Superintendent.

#### **Section 3. Entry Requirements**

(a) All Pro-Am entries must be received by the entry deadline.

(b) By submitting the entry form, all competitors agree to abide by the

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Pro-Amateur Events (cont.)**

Rules and Regulations of the NEPGA, the USGA Rules of Golf and NEPGA Rules of Conduct.

(c) All entries are subject to approval by the NEPGA Tournament Committee. Competitors must be eligible at the time of entry deadline and at the date of the tournament.

#### **Section 4. Arrangements of Starting Times**

(a) Starting times and pairings will be made by the NEPGA Tournament Director, any special requests must be made through the NEPGA Section office.

(b) Tee time information will be available on the NEPGA website after the entry deadline; each entrant is responsible for obtaining his or her own tee time.

#### **Section 5. Amateur Handicap Requirements**

(a) Amateur handicap verification must be provided by the Professional prior to or at the time of registration at the tournament site.

(b) All amateurs' handicaps will be calculated based on the GHIN revision from 3 days prior to the start of the tournament. If any amateur belongs to a club which is not on the USGA System, verification must be presented on site by way of the club's handicap printouts or handicap card.

A team will not be eligible for prizes if ALL handicaps are not verifiable and current.

Note: If a club is not on the USGA GHIN System, or if the club does its own handicapping, it must be in accordance to the USGA GHIN System.

(c) Any amateur with a PLUS INDEX must play at scratch.

(d) All amateurs will play at 80% of the Tournament Course handicap. The maximum handicap allowance will be 18 strokes, unless a specific format change applies to that event.

(f) Any amateur who is a member of more than one club must play from his or her lowest USGA index.

Note: The USGA mandates that amateurs with memberships at one or more clubs, establish a single USGA Handicap and GHIN Number.

(g) The Professional is solely responsible for the accuracy of player and handicap information. Violation is subject to Professional and Team disqualification and/or disciplinary action for the Professional.

(h) Honorary Life Members, Area Sales Representatives, Press Persons, NEPGA Staff Members, and Members of the eligible Professional's Family who have a USGA Handicap and GHIN Number are eligible partners in Pro-Amateur Events.

#### **Section 6. Scoring**

(a) In Pro-Amateur Events, the Professional will keep the team scorecard. The player(s) whose score for the hole is to count must be readily identifiable. The team card must be signed by the Professional and at least one team member.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Pro-Amateur Events (cont.)**

(b) Scorecards which are incomplete or illegible shall not be accepted and will result in the disqualification of the Players involved.

(c) All scorecards must be turned in immediately at the completion of the round.

#### Section 7. Pace of Play

The NEPGA Local Rule for Pace of Play is in effect for all tournaments.

#### Section 8. Policy Regarding Ties

All ties will share equally with others posting the same score. If there is a tie for the final money position in the Individual Pro Pool the tie will be resolved by a match of cards with the minimum payout being \$50.

If teams are tied for the final position(s) so that the equal distribution would result in a payout of less than \$20.00 per person, the positions of those tied would be resolved by a match of cards, until position placings are so determined to bring the payout to \$20.00 or greater.

In Pro-Am events with gross and net divisions, if a team wins both a gross and net position, that team automatically wins gross, unless it is a net event.

In the event that a team is tied for both the same gross or net position, pooling of prize money may be applied to provide equity.

#### Section 9. Prize Fund Distribution

(a) The prize fund for distribution shall be the total of entry fees, plus any added moneys, less any expenses as determined by the NEPGA Tournament Committee.

These expenses will include an NEPGA deduction, a staff deduction, and an NEPGA scholarship deduction.

(b) The Tournament Committee and the Rules Committee will post an estimated prize breakdown based on the expected size of the field.

(c) Winning Professionals will be paid by the PGA of America. Amateurs will be awarded gift certificates, redeemable for merchandise.

## **ARTICLE XII**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Pro-Member Events**

#### Section 1. Host Professional's Responsibilities

(a) The Host Professional is responsible for inviting the Professionals. A complete list of Professionals who have indicated they are willing to play in Section Pro-Members shall be on file with the section office.

(b) Professionals playing in a Pro-Member Event do not pay any entry fee, cart fees, or range fees.

(c) Only NEPGA Members or eligible Associates shall be invited unless permission is otherwise given by the Tournament Committee.

(d) All invitations shall be completed at least 14 days prior to the event. A

**ARTICLE XII****Regulations and Requirements for Pro-Member Events (cont.)**

complete list of Professionals who have been invited and indicated they are willing to play should be on file with the section office.

(e) The Host Professional must verbally confirm the participation of all Professionals expected to play. Players should be advised of the exact time they need to be at the Host Site and be informed of any special activities they are expected to participate in prior to or after play.

(f) The Host Professional should provide scorecards with both the first and last names of all players. The proper handicaps with stroke allocations should also be noted on the scorecard.

(g) Completed scorecards and Local Rules Sheets are to be made available to the Rules Committee, or their representative for distribution at the Professional's registration.

(h) The Rules Committee, or their official representative, will be responsible for the starting, scoring, and any Rules decisions in conjunction with the Host Professional.

(i) The NEPGA Section Office will be available to assist with any last minute substitutions in the event of a Professional's cancellation.

(j) The Host Professional is responsible for registration of his own members, ensuring that everyone is present. It is recommended that alternates be available to fill any vacancies.

(k) A payment in the full amount to cover professional prizes only; should be transferred to the NEPGA Tournament Account, prior to the event.

Note: Amateur prizes are not included in the payment submitted to the Section.

(l) The Host Professional is expected to follow the guidelines as outlined in Article XI:

Section 1. Host Professional's Responsibilities for Pro-Amateur Events

Section 2. Course Preparation Recommendations

Section 6. Scoring

Section 7. Pace of Play

### Section 2. Cancellation by a Player

After confirming and accepting the invitation to play in the Pro-member Event, any Professional who fails to cancel prior to 72 Hours from the start of the event, or fails to show for his or her designated time, will automatically be subject to a fine.

### Section 3. Discontinuance of Play

See Discontinuance of Play under Article X, Regulations and Requirements for Championship Events.

### Section 7. Policy Regarding Ties

If the Host professional will not be following the NEPGA tie breaking procedure outlined in ARTICLE XI, Section 9 he should have a tie breaking procedure in



## **ARTICLE XII**

### **Regulations and Requirements for Pro-Member Events (cont.)**

writing which he must present to the NEPGA Rules Committee prior to any teams starting play.

#### Section 8. Prize Fund Distribution

(a) The prize fund for distribution shall be the total of entry fees, plus any added moneys, less any expenses as determined by the NEPGA Tournament Committee.

Standard deduction is as follows: Current NEPGA percentage plus Staff expenses. Remainder is divided into two parts: (i) 50% to Professional Gross and Net team prizes (ii) 50% to Individual Professional Prizes. Team prize distribution will follow the guidelines of the NEPGA Pro-Am Prize Distribution formula.

(b) The Host Professional and the Rules Committee will jointly finalize the Prize Fund Distribution and post said distribution prior to the start of the event.

(c) Winning Professionals will be paid ACH Direct Deposit upon verification of event results. Please note that all professional players must be enrolled in direct deposit to participate in tournaments.

## **ARTICLE XIII**

### **PGA Tour Event Qualifying and Exemptions**

#### Section 1. Section Qualifying

(a) The Section will conduct qualifying to determine New England PGA positions in PGA TOUR events. The number of positions shall be determined by the current PGA TOUR policy.

(b) For Section PGA TOUR events, section qualifying will be open to NEPGA Members who are otherwise eligible under Article VI, Sections 1 & 2, NEPGA Tournament Rules and Regulations.

#### Section 2. Exemptions

Exemptions granted the New England Section PGA Members for PGA TOUR events, held within the Section will be guided by the policy in effect at the time of the event.

## **ARTICLE XIV**

### **Annual Eugene "Skip" Wogan/ Player of the Year Award**

Only current members of the New England Section in good standing are eligible to be considered for Player of the Year.

The following events are used to determine the Wogan/POY:

- (a) PGA Professional National Championship
- (b) New England PGA Championship
- (c) New England PGA Stroke Play Series
- (d) Massachusetts, New Hampshire & Rhode Island Opens

## **ARTICLE XIV**

### **Annual Eugene "Skip" Wogan/ Player of the Year Award (cont.)**

- (e) Vermont and Maine Opens
- (f) U.S. Open
- (g) PGA Championship
- (h) British Open
- (i) PGA Tour Events
- (j) Korn Ferry Tour Events

NOTE: The current point distribution table for these events is available on the New England PGA website.

## **ARTICLE XV**

### **Annual Avidia Cup Stroke Play Championship**

The following events are used to determine the Avidia Cup points standings:

- (a) All Stroke Play Series Events
- (b) All Chapter Championships. Note: if a Chapter Championship is unable to be conducted at least 10 days prior to the date of the Avidia Cup Finals, the Chapter Player of the Year standings as of 10 days before the finals will be used to award Chapter points.

The Top 54 point earners will be invited to compete in the Avidia Cup Finals.

If any player(s) in the top 54 is unable to play, invitations will be extended down the points list (starting with #55, in order), until the entire 54 player field is filled.

Avidia Cup Points Reset: Upon completion of the regular season (Stroke Play Series and Chapter Championships), the points list will be reset based upon the points breakdown established by the Tournament Committee. Reset points will be assigned based upon regular-season standing (e.g. if the #55 ranked player makes it into the 54<sup>th</sup> slot in the finals, they will receive 55<sup>th</sup> place points, not 54<sup>th</sup>).

The Avidia Cup Champion and final standings will be determined by reset points added to any points earned in the Avidia Finals.

## **ARTICLE XVI**

### **Annual Senior Player of the Year Award**

An annual Senior Player of the Year will be named based upon season-long performance in individual stroke play events in the Section tournament schedule. In order to be eligible for Senior Player of the Year Points, the player must be at least 50 years of age on the date of the event. Points will be awarded according to finishing position at the Senior Championship, Section Championship, and Stroke Play Series events.

## **ARTICLE XVII**

### **Code of Ethics**

Please refer to the NEPGA Constitution.