

**MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER, NEW ENGLAND SECTION, PGA OF AMERICA  
BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS**

**Article I  
Name, Area, Objectives, and Power**

**Section 1      Name**

By authority of the Board of Directors of the New England Section, PGA of America, hereinafter referred to as the "Section," this Chapter shall be known as "Massachusetts Chapter, New England Section, PGA of America" and shall be referred to hereinafter as "Chapter." The New England Section, PGA of America shall be referred to hereinafter as the "Section" and the Professional Golfers' Association of America shall be referred to hereinafter as the "Association."

**Section 2      Area**

Pursuant to the Section, the territory under the jurisdiction of the Chapter shall consist of the borders of the Eastern Massachusetts District shall be defined on the west by the point where Route 3 intersects with the New Hampshire border, south on Route 3 to where it intersects with Interstate 495, south on I-495 to its intersection with the Massachusetts Turnpike. On the South by the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90).

The borders of the Central Massachusetts District shall be defined on the West by the point where the Connecticut river crosses the northern Massachusetts border on a line to the point where I-84 crosses the southern Massachusetts border. On the North by the border of the state of Massachusetts, east to the intersection with Route 3. South then to the intersection with Interstate 495. On the East by Interstate 495 south to the intersection with Interstate 95. On the south by the Rhode Island Chapter.

The borders of the Southern Massachusetts District shall be defined on the north by the Massachusetts turnpike and extension from the ocean westward to where the Mass. Pike intersects I-495. On the west by the eastern border of Central Massachusetts. On the South by the northern border of the Cape Cod Chapter (Route 106). On the east by the Atlantic Ocean.

**Section 3      Objectives**

The objective of the Chapter shall be to promote the enjoyment and involvement in the game of golf within the Chapter, and to contribute to its growth by providing services to golf professionals and the golf industry within the Chapter.

The Chapter will accomplish this purpose by enhancing the skills of its professionals and the opportunities for amateurs, employers, manufacturers, employees, and the general public within the Chapter.

In doing so, the Chapter will elevate the standards of the professional golfers' vocation, enhance the economic well-being of the individual member, stimulate interest in the game of golf, and promote the overall vitality of the game within the Chapter.

#### **Section 4 Powers**

The Chapter's powers shall be limited specifically to those powers granted by the Section. The Section's Board of Directors shall review and approve all Chapter actions.

The Section shall have complete authority in their discretion and at any time to withdraw the charters of the Chapter.

In the event that the Chapter bylaws, rules, regulations or policies deviate from those of the Section, the Section bylaws, rules, regulations or policies shall control.

### **Article II Governance**

#### **Section 1 Composition**

The Board of Directors shall be composed of three District Directors, President, Vice President, Secretary and Past (Honorary) President.

Chapter members in good standing with the PGA of America are eligible to vote and may vote in the election of any Chapter officer or director.

#### **Section 2 Authority**

The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the management of the Chapter and shall have full authority in all matters including the power to interpret the By-Laws and to give direction in cases not provided for herein. All policies and regulations made by the Board of Directors shall be binding and are subject to approval of the New England Section Board of Directors. All policies and regulations are not to be altered or amended except by specific recommendations to, and approval of such modifications at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors subject to the approval of the New England Section Board of Directors.

#### **Section 3 Officer Terms**

The Officers shall be elected for a term of two years and may not be elected to that office for more than one term consecutively. Their term of office will begin immediately following the administering of the oath of office and will end at the conclusion of the same ceremony two years later.

#### **Section 4 President**

The President of the Chapter shall serve as the Chairperson of the Board of Directors and shall have the following powers and duties:

1. The President shall preside over all meetings.
2. The President shall serve as chief spokesman for the Chapter.
3. The President shall appoint committees or task forces, standing and otherwise, as shall in his judgment be necessary, and designate the Chairman thereof (The President shall instruct the Chairman of all Committees or Task Forces, as to their respective responsibilities and authority. They shall furnish a written report to the Chapter Secretary thirty (30) days prior to the next Annual Meeting).
4. The President shall be authorized to sign contracts which have received the approval of the Section.

In case of absence or temporary disability of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President. If the President resigns, moves to another Chapter, dies, or becomes totally incapacitated, the Vice-President shall succeed him.

#### **Section 5      Vice President**

The Vice President shall have the following powers and duties:

1. The Vice President shall serve as Parliamentarian at all Chapter meetings and shall preside at such meetings in the absence of the President unless the President designates another elected officer to serve in this capacity. In the absence of the Vice President to so serve, the President shall designate another individual to serve in this capacity.
2. The Vice President shall keep or cause to be kept the accounts of the Chapter and shall collect or direct the collection of all monies belonging to or due the Chapter and shall deal with the same under the direction of the Section Board of Directors. The Secretary shall have the authority to sign all checks and withdraw funds of the Chapter, but may delegate this authority to the Vice President or President.
3. The Vice President shall submit a complete written financial report to the Board of Directors and to the membership annually.
3. The Vice President shall review all financial reports of the Chapter.
4. The Vice President shall submit all financial information to the Section on a basis as determined by the Section.

In case of his absence or disability, the Secretary shall perform the duties of the Vice President. If the Vice-President resigns, moves to another Chapter, dies, or becomes totally

incapacitated, the President shall fill the un-expired term of the Vice President until the such time as a new Vice President is elected.

## **Section 6      Secretary**

The Secretary shall have the following powers and duties:

1. The Secretary shall keep or cause to be kept the minutes of all Chapter membership meetings. The Secretary shall issue the notice of such meetings, given at least thirty (30) days notice of any membership meeting.
2. The Secretary shall keep or cause to be kept a roll of all members and Associates, and take care of all correspondence and papers pertaining to the Chapter.
3. The Secretary must record any Amendments to or changes in the Association and Chapter Constitution and Bylaws, and report such Amendments or changes to the Chapter membership.

Due to the unique nature of the Chapter Board of Directors, the following shall apply in reference to officer vacancies prior to the normal end of their respective term.

- A. President - If the President resigns, moves to another Chapter, dies, or becomes totally incapacitated, the Vice-President shall fill the un-expired term of the President. In addition, the Secretary shall fill the un-expired term of the Vice-President. The newly appointed President shall appoint a new Secretary (from the appropriate District) to fill out the unexpired term. At the end of the term in question, each of the officers in place shall be eligible to run for a subsequent full term.
- B. Vice-President - If the Vice-President resigns, moves to another Chapter, dies, or becomes totally incapacitated, the President shall appoint a Vice-President (from the appropriate District) to fill the un-expired term of the Vice-President.
- C. Secretary - If the Secretary resigns, moves to another Chapter, dies, or becomes totally incapacitated, the President shall appoint a Secretary (from the appropriate District) to fill the unexpired term.

## **Section 7      Past President (Honorary)**

The most recent Past President (Honorary) will remain on the Executive Committee and be a voting member of such.

## **Section 8      District Director**

The District Director shall be elected to a three-year term to the Board of Directors of the New England Section. The election of the District Director shall take place at the Annual Meeting of the Chapter. In a year where a District Director is to be elected, said meeting must take place prior to the Annual Meeting of the Section. Only those members of said Chapter may vote for a District Director by a majority election of those present.

If the District Director resigns, moves to another Chapter, dies, or becomes totally incapacitated, the Section Board of Directors may appoint a member from the Chapter.

As per 2020 NEPGA Planning Session, District Directors are considered voting members of the Chapter Board (Executive Committee).

## **Section 9      Voting**

Each Individual voting member will have one (1) vote, regardless of seat (s) held. Such voting members consist of: (3) District Directors, President, Vice President, Secretary and Honorary President. In any circumstance that provides a tie (voting). The President will have the deciding (additional) ballot (vote) to break such a deadlock.

## **Section 10    Chapter Awards Process**

Awards nomination communication will be sent out approximately one month prior to the annual MA Chapter Spring Meeting. Following the deadline of nominations, the results of such will be distributed to the MA Chapter Board of Directors who will then decide the MA Chapter Award winners. Winners will be announced at the MA Chapter Spring meeting and awarded plaques/trophies at the MA Chapter Fall Meeting.

## **Article III Membership**

### **Section 1      General**

All membership issues and matters shall be governed by the Association Bylaws.

## **Article IV Meetings of Membership**

### **Section 1      General**

#### **MEETINGS**

Two membership meetings shall be held annually, one in the spring and one in the fall.

**Quorum**

At a spring or fall meeting a quorum shall be defined as no less than 25 PGA Class "A" members. Said member must be affiliated with the Massachusetts Chapter and must be in good standing with the Association.

The attendance at all such meetings shall be limited to Chapter members, affiliated Associates, and, at the Presidents discretion, members of the press and invited guest.

A: Special Meetings - Special meetings of the Chapter membership may be called by the Executive Committee when considered warranted by a situation which may affect the status of the Chapter or the welfare of its members adversely.

**Article V**  
**Election of Chapter Officers**

**Section 1      General**

At the 2012 Massachusetts Chapter Annual Meeting, elections will be held for the three officer positions. Officers will serve two-year terms. Candidates for the office of President, Vice-President and Secretary may file a nomination form with the Section Office no later than 30 days prior to the Chapter Annual Meeting. If there are less than two nominees for an office, nominations will be accepted from the floor; otherwise, no floor nominations will be allowed. Prior to the election at the Annual Meeting, each nominee will be given five minutes to address the meeting. Order of speaking will be drawn by lot and candidates will leave the room while each nominee speaks.

The Chapter shall elect Chapter Officers, to comprise the Executive Committee, who shall be Master Professionals, Class "A" Members or Life Members whose duty it shall be to carry out the decisions of the Chapter, Section and Association and to govern and direct the affairs of their respective Chapter in accordance with the Bylaws of the Chapter and the direction of the Section.

The Chapter Officers shall be elected to a term of two years and may not be elected to that office for more than one term consecutively. The Officers shall be elected at the Annual Chapter Meeting by a majority of those voting. The term of office will begin immediately following the administering the oath of office and will end at the conclusion of the same ceremony two years later.

Candidates for the Officers may be proposed by the membership at least 60 days in advance of the Annual Meeting. The Chapter shall forward to the membership the names of all candidates to all members at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting. If there are fewer than two nominees for any office at the time of election, oral nominations for such office may be made from the floor of the Annual Meeting.

**Article VI  
Miscellaneous**

**Section 1      Section Approval**

Any and all policies, rules and regulations are subject to review and approval by the Section Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE VII  
Tournament Regulations**

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(The Chapter's current and approved *Tournament Rules and Regulations* (TR&R) are to be considered a corporate part of the Chapter's Bylaws, and for convenience may be printed separately.)

The MA Chapter shall conduct all of its tournaments in accordance with the Section Tournament Rules and Regulations with the following modifications:

**ELIBILITY & RECIPROCITY:**

All classifications of NEPGA MEMBERS or ASSOCIATES (Associates) are invited to play in Chapter tournaments, except the MA Chapter Championship. Class F and/or suspended golf professionals are not eligible. All Chapter Pro-Ams are open to non-chapter entrants with no additional fees. Credit cards for entry fees will be processed 5 days in advance (entries within 5 days will be processed at time of registration)

**BLUEGOLF INFO:**

Each Professional must create their own direct deposit for processing winnings. Each must keep valid credit card on file. Changing or deleting partners may be done prior to the 3-day live window, but, afterwards, please contact Tournament Manager via email or text who will record changes.

**CHAPTER EVENT FIELD REQUIREMENTS:**

- Professional Only Events – Minimum of 12 players
- Pro-Am Events – Minimum of 8 teams

**AWARDS:**

The MA Chapter will have the following awards:

Golf Professional of the Year  
Teacher of the Year

Youth Player Development Award  
Merchandiser of the Year  
Assistant Golf Professional of the Year  
Player of the Year

### **PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD:**

The MA chapter Professional who gathers the most points at the close of the tournament season shall win the MA Chapter Player of the Year honor.

You can only earn tournament POY points as an Associate or Member that is employed within the MA Chapter at the time of that tournament.

For example, if you moved into the MA Chapter mid-year from another NEPGA Chapter, you couldn't retro-act points that would've been earned had you been a MA Chapter member at the time of that event.

- Stroke Play events will base points on an inverse scale awarding 1 point to last place.
  - Individual Stroke Play Events & Stablefords: Total number (#) of Professionals in the Field will be the number (#) of points awarded to 1<sup>st</sup> place.
  - Chapter Championship: Double the Points of an Individual Stroke Play
  - Pro-Pro's: Total number (#) of Teams in the Field will be the number of points awarded to first place. Players on the team will each receive ½ of the team points.
    - Last place in a Pro-Pro means each player receives ½ point
    - 1<sup>st</sup> place, 24 teams, means 12 points for each player
  - Points are only awarded to Overall tournament finish
    - Winning a 6-hole segment of the 6-6-6- will not receive points

-Point averaging shall be taken into account for all ties (similar to purse splits)

- Match play:
  - Players who qualify for Match Play will receive ¼ of the number (#) of qualifying spots with each win worth 4 points assuming single elimination brackets
    - Win sweet 16 match, elite 8, semi-final and finals match → earn 20 total points
  - No qualifier -> No qualifying points.

\*NOTE: If there is a tie for Player of the Year, any monies will be split and the award will be shared.