



**NEW ENGLAND**  
Maine Chapter

**MAINE CHAPTER, NEW ENGLAND SECTION, PGA OF AMERICA  
RULES AND REGULATIONS  
(Amended: February 2026)**

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## **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 "Maine 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 Chapter Boundaries**

Pursuant to the Section, the territory under the jurisdiction of the Chapter shall consist of the area considered the State of Maine, bordered by New Hampshire on the west and south, the Atlantic Ocean on the East, and Canada on the North.

### **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.

### **Section 5 Chapter Membership Eligibility**

PGA members and registered associates employed at facilities within Maine Chapter boundaries are members of the Chapter. Only PGA class "A" members may vote at annual meetings.

## **Article II: Governance**

### **Section 1 Composition**

The Board of Directors shall be composed of one District Director, President, Vice President, Secretary, Past (Honorary) President, and two At Large Directors.

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 Rules & Regulations 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 meetings of the Board of Directors subject to the approval of the New England Section Board of Directors.

### **Section 3 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 spokesperson for the Chapter.
3. The President shall appoint committees or task forces, standing and otherwise, as shall in his or her judgment be necessary, and designate the Chairman thereof (The President shall instruct the Chair of all Committees or Task Forces, as to their respective responsibilities and authority.

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 or her. If the Vice-President is unable to serve and or there are multiple vacancies the Section Board of Directors will have the ability to restructure the Chapter Board of Directors should the Section President see fit to do so.

## **Section 5 Vice President**

The Vice President shall have the following powers and duties:

1. The Vice-President shall preside over Chapter 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 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.
3. The Vice President shall submit a complete written financial report to the Board of Directors and to the membership annually.
4. The Vice President shall review all financial reports of the Chapter.
5. The Vice President shall submit all financial information to the Section on a basis as determined by the Section.

In case of his or her 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 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 Rules and Regulations and report such Amendments or changes to the Chapter membership.

In case of absence or temporary disability of the Secretary, a Director selected by the President shall perform the duties of the Secretary. If the Secretary resigns, moves to another Chapter, dies, or becomes totally incapacitated, the Director of the President's choosing shall succeed him or her.

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

The most recent Past President (Honorary) will remain on the Executive Committee and be a voting member of such. The Honorary President shall serve as Parliamentarian at all Chapter meetings

## **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 10 Director**

The Chapter shall have two Directors who will be on the Executive Committee as a voting member. The Directors will serve a three-year term.

## **Section 11 Voting**

Each Individual voting member will have one (1) vote, regardless of seat (s) held. Such voting members consist of: District Director, President, Vice President, Secretary and Honorary President, and (2) At-Large Directors. In any circumstance that provides a tie (voting), the President will have the deciding (additional) ballot (vote) to break such a deadlock.

## **Section 12 Chapter Awards Process**

Awards nomination communication will be sent out following the Maine Chapter Fall Meeting. Following the deadline of nominations, the results of such will be distributed to Maine Chapter Awards Committee who will then submit the Chapter Award winners to the Board of Directors for approval. Winners will be announced at the Maine Chapter Spring meeting and awarded plaques/trophies at the Maine Chapter Fall Meeting.

## **Section 13 Amendments Procedure**

The Board of Directors on a two-thirds vote may amend any Chapter policy or

procedure contained within these rules and regulations at any time, so long as they are not in direct conflict with the Section By-Laws. Such amendments may be sustained or overturned by a two-thirds vote of the Chapter membership at the next Annual Meeting. Any Amendments to be presented to the Annual Meeting (FALL) by the Chapter Membership must be presented to the Board two weeks in advance of the fall meeting and receive majority approval of the Chapter Board. No amendments may be presented from the floor. All amendments to the policies & procedures shall become effective when adopted or at the time specified in the amendment.

### **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 15 PGA Class "A" members. Said member must be affiliated with the Maine Chapter and must be in good standing with the Association.

The attendance at all such meetings shall be limited to PGA Members and Associates, , and, at the President's discretion, invited guests.

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**

In odd numbered years at the Chapter Fall Meeting, elections will be held for President, Vice-President, Secretary. Officers will serve two-year terms. Directors will be elected as terms expire.

Candidates for the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Director 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 Chapter Fall Meeting, each nominee will be given five minutes to address the meeting. Order of speaking will be drawn at random.

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 Rules and Regulations of the Chapter and the direction of the Section.

The Officers shall be elected at the Fall 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 in the years that their term expires.

## **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 Rules & Regulations**

### **Section 1 Professional’s Responsibilities & Rules**

1. In order to participate in Maine Chapter NEPGA events, professionals must meet one of the following criteria:
  - a. PGA Class A members who are in good standing with the PGA of America.
  - b. Associates who are registered in the PGA Professional Golf Management Program and are in good standing with the PGA of America.
2. Amateurs must have a current verifiable GHIN handicap or equivalent. Both amateur and professional may be disqualified for any violation.
3. In pro-am competitions, all amateurs, regardless of sex, will play at 80% of their handicap with a maximum of 18 strokes.
4. Amateurs will receive their merchandise awards at the facility in which the professional is employed.
5. The host professional may invite a PGA Member outside of the NEPGA Section to participate in his/her pro-am. The professional is responsible for his/her group's conduct, pace of play and adherence to the dress code.
6. NEPGA Professionals and Associates from another Chapter may compete in as many Pro-Ams as they wish in a season. They are not eligible to participate in the team championships or professional only events. The Maine Chapter participates in the reciprocal pro-am agreement with all other NEPGA Chapters.

7. In Pro-Am events men professionals and men amateurs will play the same tee markers. Lady professionals and lady amateurs will play the same tee markers. Unless:
  1. A male amateur qualifies to move forward a tee via the Rule of 70 (Age + Index = 70 or higher. In this instance the amateurs handicap strokes will be calculated off of the forward tee's rating and slope
  2. A male Professional is 65 or more year old and chooses to move forward to the Rule of 70 tee
8. In the four (4) pro-Am championship events (Am, Lady, Senior and Junior) all amateurs must be members of the facility where the professional is employed or attached. These amateurs must have a current U.S.G.A. handicap at that club.
9. In the event a professional is employed at a facility that does not offer memberships, the professional is still eligible to participate in the four Pro-Am championship events so long as he or she follows the outlined procedure.
  - a. Professionals are required to coordinate an agreement with an existing facility seeking permission for amateurs from that facility to play with the professional.
  - b. Both professionals will need to notify the Chapter's Tournament Operations Manager of the agreement. Lastly, the professional is then required to only bring players from that facility for the four (4) pro-am championships (Am, Lady, Senior, Junior). All amateurs participating in these four (4) events need to members from that facility.
10. All scorecards are to be turned in **by the professional** to the Tournament Operations Manager or tournament official when completed. Any group returning their scorecards more than 20 minutes behind the group ahead shall report to the Tournament Operations Manager immediately and may be subject to a penalty.

## **Section 2 Registration Policy**

All tournament registrations must be completed on-line through the Blue Golf tournament software program. A credit card is required to pay all tournament entry fees. Please refer to the Blue Golf Tournament Home Page for all pertinent information regarding each event.

## **Section 3 Cancellation Policies**

1. Professionals must contact the Maine Chapter Tournament Operations Manager to cancel a tee time.
2. Tee times must be cancelled prior to credit cards be processed (5 days prior to event). If this is not the case, then there will be a \$25 processing fee. The Board of Directors will consider unusual circumstances individually. Inclement weather (should the event still be held) or not having a full team is not considered unusual circumstances.

## **Section 4 Handicap Verification**

1. It is the responsibility of the professional to ensure that amateurs have accurate handicaps.
2. Without a current handicap index, the amateur plays at scratch. Any inquiries or discrepancies regarding handicaps will require the professional to provide proof of the handicap. Proof of handicap will be considered as a current official handicap card, a current handicap printout sheet or the ability to verify a handicap index on the GHIN app.

## **Section 5 Rain & Inclement Weather Policy**

1. It is advisable to call the tournament site and /or tournament official for current conditions in case of inclement weather.
2. The combination of the Tournament Operations Manager, host professional and host course superintendent shall determine if play is to be suspended or cancelled.
3. If play is cancelled and more than half the field, but not the entire field, completes their rounds, the event will be considered played with monies being distributed to the teams that finished. Payoffs will be made in accordance with the number of players completing their rounds. Entry fees will be refunded to teams that did not finish.
4. If less than half the field completes their round, the event shall be considered "not held". All entry fees will be refunded. A reasonable effort will be made to reschedule the event.

## **Section 6 Professional Conduct**

1. The professional is reminded that he/she is the GUEST of the facility being used; and that each amateur partner is the responsibility of the playing professional. Amateurs in all Maine Chapter events must follow NEPGA Dress Code.
2. The professional is directed to the P.G.A. Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations; Article II (Code of Ethics); Section 2; Subparagraph (a); where abusing the privileges extended to members of the Association (Maine Chapter) or causing public embarrassment to the golf professional (host) is a violation.
3. Members and Associates shall be deemed to have violated the rules of conduct by: Dispensing or consuming any alcoholic beverages or marijuana products on the golf course during a tournament or official practice round. "On the course" is defined as from the tee time until the scorecard is turned in upon completion of the round. (NEPGA Tournament Rules and Regulations - Article VII - Rules of Conduct).
4. Professionals are subject to appropriate disciplinary action by the Maine Chapter through the New England Section.
5. Entries are subject to rejection at any time (including during an event). The reason for rejection may include unbecoming conduct.
6. The decision of the Executive Committee is final.
7. The Committee has the right to reject, disqualify or suspend any player for rule violations, or for any reason the Committee feels would be detrimental to any of the Maine Chapter tournaments.

## **Section 8 Player of the Year**

The Maine Chapter NEPGA Member accumulating the most points during the current year will be named "Player of The Year". In the event of a tie, "Co-Player of The Year" will be named. Any monies allocated to this award will be distributed at the discretion of the Executive Committee and may change year to year.

One (1) Player of The Year Points (POY) are earned for participating in any Chapter event.

Points will be awarded in the following manner, based on finish, in all Pro-Ams and Championship

events excluding the Pro-Pro Stroke Play Championship for which no points will be awarded based off of finish.

PLACE	POINTS
1 <sup>ST</sup>	25
2 <sup>ND</sup>	20
3 <sup>RD</sup>	17
4 <sup>TH</sup>	15
5 <sup>TH</sup>	12
6 <sup>TH</sup>	11
7 <sup>TH</sup>	10
8 <sup>TH</sup>	9
9 <sup>TH</sup>	8
10 <sup>TH</sup>	7
11 <sup>TH</sup>	6
12 <sup>TH</sup>	5
13 <sup>TH</sup>	4
14 <sup>TH</sup>	3
15 <sup>TH</sup>	2

Points will be doubled in the Maine Chapter Championship and State of Maine Championship, and NEPGA Championship. Single points will be awarded for the Maine Open. For the Section Championship and Maine Open points will be awarded based on finish of Maine Chapter Members only using the scale above. Any player missing the cut will receive (2) points.