

NEVADA STATE WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION

**STANDING RULES FOR THE STATE AMATEUR STROKE PLAY
AND SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS**

SECTION 1. GENERAL

- A. The NSWGA Stroke Play and Senior Championship tournaments will be fifty-four hole stroke play competitions.
- B. All participants must be members in NNWGA or WSNGA, except for qualified juniors.
- C. The USGA Rules of Golf shall govern all play, except as modified by local rules made by the NSWGA Rules Committee prior to the first tee time.
- D. The State Amateur Stroke Play Champion shall be the player who scores the lowest 54-hole stroke play total while competing in the Helen Cannon (Championship) flight.
- E. The Stroke Play and Senior Championship Tournaments will be held in the North during even calendar years and in the South during uneven calendar years.
 - 1. The Stroke Play and Senior Championship tournaments will alternate location and schedule with the NSWGA Silver Cup tournament. When the Stroke Play and Senior Championship tournaments are held in the South, they shall be scheduled for October, if possible. In that year, the Silver Cup tournament will be held in the North and scheduled for September, if possible. In the following year, the Silver Cup tournament will be held in the South during October and the Stroke Play and Senior Championship tournaments will be held in the North in September.

SECTION 2. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

- A. The Director of Tournaments will designate a committee to assist in the organization and operation of the tournament.
- B. The NSWGA Director of Tournaments, with the approval of the NSWGA Executive Board, shall set:
 - 1. Location,
 - 2. Date,
 - 3. Entry Fee,
 - 4. Deadlines,
 - 5. Refund Date
- C. At least 60 days prior to the tournament date, the Director of Tournaments will present a budget to the Executive Board for approval.
- D. Expenditures that exceed the original budget in excess of \$100 must be approved by a majority of the Executive Board before they are incurred.
- E. Entries:
 - 1. Entry forms will be sent to member associations at least 45 days in advance of the tournament starting date;
 - 2. The tournament field will be filled on a first received basis;
 - 3. Incomplete entries will be considered void and not acceptable;
 - 4. Entry deadlines will be stated clearly on the entry application; and

5. A date for full refund will be stated on the entry.
- F. Play will be suspended or canceled based on the USGA Rules of Golf.

SECTION 3. ELIGIBILITY

- A. To compete in the NSWGA Stroke Play and Senior Championship tournaments, a player must:
1. Be an individual member of a member club of the NNWGA or WSNGA at least 90 days prior to the first day of the tournament, or a member in good standing of a local Junior Golf Program at least 90 days prior to the first day of the tournament;
 2. Have a verifiable USGA handicap;
 3. Be eighteen years of age prior to the first day of the tournament;
 4. Meet amateur status as specified in the USGA Rules of Golf; and
 5. At date of entry, a player's handicap may not exceed 36 on the competition course or courses.
- B. Junior Girl Eligibility:
1. Junior Girls who will not reach their 18th birthday before the final day of the tournament may be invited to play.
 2. This invitation shall be extended by the NSWGA President at the recommendation of the Northern and Southern junior golf associations.
 3. Junior Girls who are invited:
 - a. May not take the place of a member of the association in the tournament;
 - b. Shall compete in the Stroke play Championship flight only;
 - c. Have been a resident of Nevada for 90 days prior to the invitation being extended; and
 - d. May be the defending champion provided she meets all other requirements.

SECTION 4. GUIDELINES FOR COMPETITION OF THE STROKE PLAY TOURNAMENT

- A. The Champion of the State Amateur Stroke Play tournament, will be any contestant recording the lowest 54 hole total gross score while playing in the Championship Flight, or in the case of a tie after 54 holes, the winner of a sudden death playoff.
- B. A player must choose to play in a flight prior to the start of the tournament:
1. Helen Cannon (Championship) flight, or the
 2. Skippy Pasutti (Directors) flight.
- C. The Championship flight will be conducted from a longer yardage than the Directors flight.
- D. Both gross and net places will be paid in the Directors flight.
1. Course Handicap shall be determined by the most current GHIN revision.
- E. Only gross places will be paid in the Championship flight.
- F. Recommended tournament pairings:
1. Day one - paired by most recent handicap index

NSWGA Standing Rules

Amateur and Senior Championship

As revised 1/05/02, 2/25/05, 8/8/05, 6/03/07, 8/25/07, 09/29/08, 1/17/09(2)

Page 3 of 9

2. Day two - paired by day one gross scores in order of finish.
 3. Day three - paired by combined day one and day two gross scores in order of finish.
- G. At the discretion of the Tournament Director, the first and tenth tees may be used.
- H. It is recommended that on the final day of the tournament, players with the lowest gross totals on days one and two be sent off in the final groups off the first tee.
- I. Ties will be determined as follows:
1. Champion - to be played off by sudden death on holes determined by the tournament committee in conjunction with the golf course.
 2. Runner up – the winner will be determined by matching scorecards as recommended in Appendix I of the Rules of Golf.
 3. Net Champion- A three hole playoff will be conducted with 1/6 of each competitor's handicap being subtracted from her gross score to determine her three hole net score. Fractions of handicaps will be used rather than rounding up or down.
 4. If weather, darkness, or other conditions prevent a playoff, the winner will be determined by matching scorecards as recommended in Appendix 1 of the Rules of Golf. If this method fails to determine a winner, the winner will be decided by drawing lots. All other ties will share prizes.
- J. Should the first low net be tied for runner-up gross, she shall be given the choice of playing off the tie before accepting the low net award. Should she elect to play off and lose, she will forfeit her low net position and become 3rd gross.
- K. Individual scores shall be posted for handicap purposes.
- L. Rules Committee:
1. The NSWGA Director of Rules from the area where the tournament is being held will appoint a Rules Committee.
 2. Any decision needing interpretation of the rules shall be presented to the Rules Committee immediately after any eighteen hole round.
 3. Rules other than disqualification may not be changed or waived once competition has begun.
 4. The enforcement of the NSWGA pace of play policy will be the responsibility of the Rules Chairman from the area in which the tournament is being held. The Rules Chairman will work with the Tournament Director and course personnel to secure personnel necessary to monitor and enforce the pace of play policy.
- M. Each contestant shall have her official score kept by a fellow competitor or appointed marker.
- N. Golf course set-up recommendations:
1. Hole locations: 6 easy, 6 average, 6 hard.
 2. Teeing Grounds: Tee markers should be installed so that the course will be balanced and play about the same length in each round.
 3. There should be a sign of some kind on each hole containing hole number, par, and yardage

NSWGA Standing Rules

Amateur and Senior Championship

As revised 1/05/02, 2/25/05, 8/8/05, 6/03/07, 8/25/07, 09/29/08, 1/17/09(2)

Page 4 of 9

4. Course length: The recommended yardage for the Championship flight is between 5,800 and 6,000 yards. The recommended yardage for the Skippy Pasutti flight is between 5,400 and 5,600 yards.
 5. Daily hole location sheets should be provided
 6. The Tournament and Rules Directors should check the course set-up each morning before play commences.
- O. Caddies:
1. Any player may have a caddie provided the host club permits their use.
 2. The caddie's name must be submitted with the player's entry form.
 3. The player is responsible for the conduct of her caddie.
 4. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to disallow any caddie at any time.
 5. Caddies may be excused from the golf course by the Tournament Committee should they (the caddie) interfere with the rights of other players.
 6. Caddies must conform to the tournament site dress code.
 7. Both the player and the caddie must walk from tee to green. For speed of play, a player and her caddie may accept a ride between holes.
 8. A player may act as their own caddie, walk and carry her own clubs.
 9. A junior player's caddie shall not be the player's parent, guardian, brother or sister.
- P. Trophies and Awards
1. A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the low gross champion in the Helen Cannon (Championship) flight. A memento will be awarded for low gross and runner up in the Championship flight.
 2. A perpetual trophy will be awarded for the low gross in the Skippy Pasutti (Director's) flight. A memento will be given to each individual for the low gross and low net champions in the flight.
 3. A perpetual trophy will be awarded for the low gross in the Senior Championship. A memento will be given to the over the field low gross and low net champions regardless of their age division.
 4. Prize Fund for the Stroke Play Championship:
 - a. Will be distributed equally to gross and net players, although only gross prizes shall be awarded in the Championship flight.
 - b. Will be distributed to at least one-third of the field.
 - c. All ties will be combined and paid equally.
 - d. The prize fund will be set at no more than \$40 per player in each flight. A separate prize fund will be computed based upon the number of players in each flight (Championship and Director's) and distributed to at least one-third of the field in each flight. See Exhibit 1 for an example of the flight payouts.
 5. When there is a Junior Champion, the perpetual trophy will remain in the possession of the hosting association.

SECTION 5. GUIDELINES FOR COMPETITION OF THE SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

- A. In the discretion of the Executive Board, the Senior Championship Tournament may be conducted concurrently with the Stroke Play Tournament.
- B. Any player who has reached the age of 50 years on the first day of the Tournament, who is a participant in the Directors flight of the State Amateur Stroke Play tournament, and who otherwise meets the Eligibility requirements set forth in Section 3. A, may also enter the Senior Championship.
- C. The Executive Board shall set an additional fee for entry into the Senior Championship Tournament to cover the additional prize pool.
- D. The Senior Championship Tournament shall be flighted based upon age: 50-59 years, 60-69 years, and 70+ years.
- E. The Senior Championship shall be conducted from the same yardage as the Directors Flight in the State Amateur.
- F. Both gross and net places will be paid in the Senior Championship tournament.
- G. The Senior Gross Champion will be the lowest gross score Over the Field in the Senior Championship.
- H. The Senior Net Champion will be the lowest net score Over the Field in the Senior Championship.
- I. The Prize Fund for the Senior Championship:
 - 1. Will be distributed equally to gross and net players' will be distributed to at least one-third of the field; and
 - 2. All ties will be combined and paid equally.
 - 3. The prize fund will be set at no more than \$40 per player in each flight of the Senior Championship. A separate prize fund will be computed based upon the number of players in each flight, and distributed to at least one-third of the field in each flight. See Exhibit 1 for an example of the flight payouts.
- J. Except as specifically provided in this Section 5, all other provisions of the Standing Rules for the Stroke Play Championship tournament shall apply to the Senior Championship tournament as long as said tournaments are conducted concurrently. In the event of any conflict between the Rules of Competition for the Senior Championship and the Rules of Competition for the Stroke Play Championship, the Rules of the Stroke Play Championship shall prevail.

SECTION 6. TOURNAMENT CANCELLATION POLICY

- A. A contestant who must withdraw after the posted refund date may be given a full refund in the following circumstances:
 - 1. A medical emergency has occurred in her immediate family (proof of such emergency is required).
 - 2. An injury has occurred to the player that does not allow her to play (proof of such injury is required).
 - 3. The contestant has become ineligible by not meeting a NSWGA requirement.

- B. The tournament committee will recommend to the NSWGA Executive Committee if a partial or full refund may be given based on the following:
 - 1. Time of withdrawal
 - 2. Ability to fill the spot
 - 3. Tournament monetary commitments
- C. The final decision on refunds will be made by a majority vote of the NSWGA Executive Board.

SECTION 7. DRESS CODE

- A. Proper golf attire is required: no blue denim, cut-offs, short shorts, lycra/spandex type of shorts or halter-tops.
- B. The Tournament Committee has the responsibility to inform participants of specific golf club requirements such as soft-spikes.
- C. The Tournament Committee has the authority to disqualify any competitor who does not meet the dress code requirements.

SECTION 8. PLAYER CONDUCT

- A. Poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated.
- B. NSWGA Bylaws and Standing Rules will guide player conduct.
- C. The Rules Committee may disqualify any player whose conduct before, during, or after the tournament is deemed unsportsmanlike.
- D. A player disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct will have the incident reviewed by the NSWGA to determine if further action is warranted.

SECTION 9. ELECTRONIC DEVICES, CELLULAR PHONES, BEEPERS and DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES.

- A. A player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. However, **if during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect her play (e.g., gradient, wind-speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is Disqualification**, regardless of whether any such additional functions are actually used. Any device measuring slope, wind condition or any other condition is disallowed even when those aids are disengaged.
- B. The use of an electronic device (such as a cellular phone, pager, hand-held computer, calculator, TV or radio) on the competition course is not itself a breach of Rule 14-3. However, players should ensure any device taken onto the course does not distract other players.
- C. The following uses for a cellular phone during a stipulated round **are not a breach** of Rule 14-3:
 - 1. Using phone for matters unrelated to golf (e.g., calling home);
 - 2. Accessing information on advice related matters published prior to the start of the player's round (e.g., yardage book, swing tips);
 - 3. Obtaining information related to the competition being played (e.g., leader board, projected cut).

Page 7 of 9

- D. The following uses for cellular phones during a stipulated round **are a breach** of Rule 8-1 and will result in Disqualification:
1. Using phone to ask for or give advice in breach of Rule 8-1 (e.g., calling a swing coach);
 2. Accessing information on advice-related matters not published prior to the start of the round.
- E. If the use of a cellular phone consistently disregards the etiquette guidelines (outlined in the Rules of Golf), the offending player will be issued a warning. If the player repeatedly distracts or offends an opponent or fellow competitor by using a cellular phone the player will be **disqualified** under Rule 33-7.

SECTION 10. PACE OF PLAY

- A. Rule 6-7 states, in part: “The player SHALL play without undue delay and in accordance with any pace of play guidelines which may be laid down by the Committee,” and thereafter prescribes penalties for slow play.
- B. In the interest of all, the pace of play shall be reasonable and shall be set by the Tournament Committee with due regard to the course conditions, length, slope, rating and the number of players in each group.
- C. Definition of “Out of position” guidelines:
1. The first group to start will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, the group is behind the allotted time to play as listed on the Pace of Play Time Chart.
 2. Any following group will be considered out of position if it:
 - a. is taking more than the allotted time to play, **and**
 - b. reaches the teeing ground of a par 3 hole and the preceding group has cleared the teeing ground; reaches the teeing ground of a par 4 hole and the hole is open; or reaches the teeing ground of a par 5 hole when the preceding group is on the putting green. .
 - c. Except for the first group to start, **both** (a) and (b) must apply for a group to be out of position.
- D. Out of position consequences:
1. Groups out of position will be alerted and requested to play at a faster pace.
 2. Such groups will be monitored - the time each competitor takes to play a stroke.
 3. When a group is out of position, each player in the group is expected to play any stroke within 45 seconds after timing of a player’s stroke begins. The timing of a player’s stroke will begin when she has had reasonable opportunity to reach her ball, it is her turn to play, and she can play without interference of distraction.
 4. Other than on the putting green, timing of a player’s stroke will begin when she has had reasonable opportunity to reach her ball, it is her turn to play and she can play without interference or distraction. Time spent

- determining yardage will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.
5. On the putting green, the timing will begin after a player has been allowed a reasonable time to lift, clean and replace her ball, repair her ball mark and other ball marks on her line of putt and remove loose impediments on her line of putt. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.
 6. Timing will only be performed at the direction of the Tournament Director or the Official- in-Charge.
 7. Any player in a group out of position who takes more than 45 seconds to play a stroke on two (2) occasions will be informed as soon as possible that she has been penalized one (1) stroke. If she exceeds 45 seconds on one (1) more occasion (a total of three timings exceeding 45 seconds), she will be informed as soon as practicable the she has been penalized an additional two (2) strokes. Any player who takes more than 45 seconds to play a stroke on one (1) more occasion (a total of four (4) timings exceeding 45 seconds) will be informed as soon as practicable that she has been **disqualified**.
 8. The following are the penalties, in sequence, for any player in a group being timed who takes more than 45 seconds to play a stroke after timing of the player's stroke begins:
 - One bad timing of more than 45 seconds-warning
 - A second bad timing- one (1)-stroke penalty
 - A third bad timing- Additional two (2) stroke penalty
 - A fourth bad timing- Disqualification
 9. If the group in question regains its proper position, any previous timings of more than 45 seconds will be carried over for the remainder of that round in the event the group requires additional monitoring.
 10. If a ruling or some other legitimate delay occurs which causes the group in question to lose its position, that group is expected to regain its position within a reasonable time.

SECTION 11. SPECTATOR POLICY

- A. NSWGA encourages friends and relatives to follow players.
- B. USGA Rule 8-1 states a player may receive advice only from her caddie or partner (two stroke penalty for advice illegally given to player).
- C. Spectators shall stay 25 yards from the players.
- D. Spectators shall not walk in the fairways.
- E. Spectators shall refrain from conversation with a player or her caddie during play.

SECTION 12. PUBLICITY

- A. A detailed list of all winners must be submitted to the NSWGA Secretary no later than ten days after the tournament.

NSWGA Standing Rules

Amateur and Senior Championship

As revised 1/05/02, 2/25/05, 8/8/05, 6/03/07, 8/25/07, 09/29/08, 1/17/09(2)

Page 9 of 9

- B. The Tournament Director and the Director of Publicity of NSWGA will work together to encourage media coverage and publishing of tournament results.

Revised as of 01/05/02, 02/25/05, 08/08/05, 6/03/07, 8/25/07, 9/29/08