



# **2023 Tournament and Player Regulations**

**Arizona Golf Association**

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## **ARIZONA GOLF ASSOCIATION 2023 TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS**

### **PREAMBLE**

The following are designated as the Tournament and Player Regulations (the “Regulations”) of the Arizona Golf Association (“AGA”).

The Executive Director may, at his sole discretion, waive or modify a Regulation in the best interest of the Association.

It is each player's responsibility to know the Regulations concerning participation in Association events. By submitting an entry for an AGA event, a player accepts responsibility for knowing and understanding the Policies and Procedures of the AGA and agrees to abide by them. It is also an acknowledgement that there are certain risks inherent in the game of golf and acceptance of personal liability for all such risks.

The Arizona Golf Association’s Tournament program is a member program and thus open to any member of the AGA except for events denoted as ‘amateur’ or requiring a USGA handicap, in which case those restrictions govern all entries.

The Arizona Golf Association reserves the right to decline or withdraw any entry at any time in its sole discretion and may alter any of the schedules, dates and/or facilities. AGA Staff in its sole discretion will decide issues not otherwise covered in these Regulations and Policies.

### **LIABILITY**

By submitting an entry form and subsequently playing in an AGA event, players and their caddies (if applicable) agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the AGA and its respective affiliates, directors, officers, employees, volunteers and assigns from and against any and all claims, damages, liabilities and losses, including without limitation reasonable attorney’s fees and costs and expenses of litigation, arising out of any act of God, negligent act or omission of the indemnifying party in connection with any competition.

## AGA AGE CATEGORIES / DIVISIONS

### AGA EVENTS

Men's and Women's Championships and Tournaments are conducted in the following age Divisions as designated:

**Open** – No age distinction.

**Mid-Amateur** – (Ages 25+)

**Seniors** (Ages 55 – 64)

**Legends** (Ages 65+) - Course set-up up at 5,800 to 6,400 yards OR a course rating of 68.0 to 71.0;

**Women's** – Championship course set-up of 5,700 to 6,200 yards.

**Women's Seniors** (Ages 50 and above) – Course set-up of 5,300 to 5,700 yards.

Any of the Divisions above may be combined to accommodate course design and conditioning. Events having Senior and Legends flights are classified as Divisional Events. Tournament results are determined within each age Division. Any event classified as an Open event does not make a distinction for age in determining tournament results even though there are Open divisions for some age-events.

The course set-up lengths for each Division represent approximate ranges and will vary due to individual course characteristics.

### Course Set-Up Distances by Division:

Open and Mid-Amateur – Championship course set-up of maximum distances and hole placements.

Senior Division – Course set-up at 6,300 to 6,800 yards.

Legends Division – Course set-up at 5,800 to 6,400 yards (or rating from 68.0 to 71.0)

Women's Division – Championship course set-up of 5,700 to 6,200 yards.

Senior Women's Division – Course set-up of 5,200 to 5,600 yards.

## CHAMPIONSHIPS

### Men

AGA Championship  
Arizona Stroke Play Championship  
Arizona Mid-Amateur Championship  
Arizona Amateur Championship  
Senior Amateur Championship

### Women

Women's Four-Ball Championship  
Women's Match Play Championship  
Women's Mid-Amateur Championship  
Women's Amateur Championship  
Senior Women's Amateur Championship

## TOURNAMENTS

### Men

Short Course  
San Tan Amateur (Divisional)  
West Valley Amateur (Divisional)  
Southern Amateur (Divisional)  
Arizona Match Play (Divisional)  
Arizona Four-Ball (Divisional)  
Northern Amateur (Divisional)

### Women

Women's State Medallion  
Women's Season Opener  
Women's Short Course  
Mixed Stix\*  
*\*Team event with one male and one female*  
Scotch Play  
Partners

## EVENT TYPES AND DESCRIPTIONS

### FATHER-SON TOURNAMENT

The annual Father/Son tournament is held the first weekend in June at Antelope Hills Golf Course. To be eligible, one member of the family must be an AGA member. A father can play with up to three sons and all are playing on different teams. Family members can be any combination including fathers, sons, grandfathers, grandsons, stepfathers and stepsons. Uncles or nephews do not qualify.

The format is a modified Chapman - all players play from the tee, then each team chooses the best drive and alternates shots from there. If a father's ball is selected, each of the sons play from that spot.

The tournament is open to all golfers (age 9 and older.) There are three different Divisions: Professionals, Handicap and Callaway. (Callaway is a scoring format that allows those without a handicap to compete and enjoy the experience.)

### MIXED STIX

The Mixed Stix is an event offered for men and women to play on the same team, with teams consisting of one man and one woman (one teammate must be a member of the AGA.) The event format is a Four-Ball event, with teams flighted based on the handicap of the lowest person on the team.

### ONE-DAY SERIES

The AGA One-Day Series provides a competitive opportunity for players of all skill levels with a handicap index (offering both gross and net payouts.) The One-Day Series includes one-day events from May through September and will culminate with a year-end invitational championship. Players will earn points based on participation and performance throughout the year, with the top point-winners being invited to compete in the season ending championship.

### SENIOR CUP SERIES

The Senior Cup Series is a series of one-day partner events for any AGA members age 50 and older with a handicap index. These are Four-Ball stroke play events in four flights, played at net with a gross winner recognized in each flight.

Teams earn points for their net finish in each event. However, the points are applied individually so participants may play with different partners in different events. Courses are set up at 6,000 to 6,500 yards (Ages 70+ are permitted to play from 6,000 yards when available.) Women will play from 5,000 to 5,200 yards.

Senior Series Points accumulate throughout the season and the top point winners are invited to participate in the season-ending championship. The more events played, increases the chances of qualifying for the finals.

### CLUB TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

The Club Team Championship is an annual tournament that challenges clubs to submit a team or teams to compete against other clubs throughout the state. The format is a two-person scramble with team members from the same club. Teams may be two men, two women or one man and one woman. Teams are flighted based on combined handicap. The championship flight competes at gross only and the rest of the field plays at both gross and net. Clubs may use any method they like to determine their teams. A series of qualifiers are held at various sites throughout the state. Two individuals from the same club may compete regardless of any club-selected team. The top 52 teams are invited to

participate in the 18-hole championship. The defending champions and host site also receive a spot in the finals. Tee placements recognize the different abilities of the entrants.

### **WOMEN'S STATE MEDALLION TOURNAMENT**

The Women's State Medallion Tournament is held for the winners of the low gross and low net prizes in their local club's Medallion Qualifying Tournament. The format for the State Medallion is a two-person individual stroke play event (both 18-hole and 9-hole competitions) with the team score being the total of the gross player's gross score and the net player's net score. Teams are flighted based on the handicap of the gross player. Maximum handicap index limit of 54.0 per person shall be used for the competitions.

### **MEMBER AND JUST 4 FUN DAYS**

Member days are an opportunity for our members to play golf at a variety of facilities throughout the year. Public, Resort and Private courses are used. These are open to all Arizona golfers on a first-come basis. There may or may not be an organized tournament structure depending on the players and the venue.

## **2023 TEAM EVENTS**

### **TEAM COMPETITIONS**

The AGA supports several Team Competitions and selects players for certain Invitational events. (See below for additional descriptions).

The deadline date to qualify for the Goldwater Cup and Arizona vs. Utah Shootout Teams is August 21, 2023. Additional qualifying criteria are outlined for each team event. Participation is governed by the Tournament Committee or, in the case of the Pacific Coast Amateur, the AGA's designated Trustees. See each event listing for the 2023 qualifying criteria.

The following is the Team Schedule for 2023:

Pacific Coast Amateur Championship	July	TBD
62 <sup>nd</sup> Bob Goldwater Cup Matches	September 25	Phoenix Country Club
Arizona vs. Utah Shootout	October 1 - 3	Flagstaff Ranch Golf Club
Heather Farr Cup Matches	TBD	TBD

### **PACIFIC COAST AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP**

July 2023

Course TBD

The AGA will host three players selected by the Pacific Coast Trustees from Arizona Association members. The Pacific Coast Amateur Management Committee has directed that each Association field a team of their best players using the WAGR and/or Scratch Players list. The selected players will receive uniforms and the entry fee paid by the AGA. In addition, each player may receive a travel stipend determined by the Trustees.

### **62<sup>nd</sup> BOB GOLDWATER CUP**

Monday, September 25, 2023

Phoenix Country Club

Two Teams of twelve players each, Open and Senior, will be filled according to the following criteria:

Eligibility: TPA membership and ranking on the respective Player of the Year points lists as of August 17, 2023.

**Open Team** Automatic Selection – the top-11 TPA players based on point total from the Open Player of the Year points list will receive automatic team berths. (The final player comes from the captains pick.)

**Senior Team** Automatic Selection – the top-9 TPA players, age 50 and over from the Senior Player of the Year points list and the top two TPA players from the Legends Player of the Year points list. (The final player comes from the captains pick.)

If any automatic selection declines the invitation to play, that position will be returned to the AGA Tournament Staff and Tournament Committee to complete the team(s). The Tournament Staff and Tournament Committee will do so at its discretion from the AGA members with the intent of fielding the best team possible.

**Team Captains:** The Players with the highest total on the respective Player of the Year points lists will be the captain for that team. Each captain may appoint one AGA member at his sole discretion to the team. Eligible captain's picks must be an AGA member in good standing who has played in a minimum of one AGA event in the calendar year. (If an Open or Senior player is unable to play, a replacement will be made from the same age group).

Team uniforms and meals during the event are included in the invitation. A coat and tie dinner honoring Bob Goldwater is mandatory on Sunday evening prior to the event.

### **ARIZONA VS. UTAH SHOOTOUT**

October 1 – 3, 2023

Flagstaff Ranch Golf Club – Flagstaff, Arizona

The Arizona team is comprised of eight at-large TPA members, two senior TPA members (50 years and older) and two women.

Eligibility: Automatic Selection - The top eight TPA members based on Open Player of the Year points lists and top two on Senior Player of the Year points lists. Any remaining places will be filled choosing the best players interested from the respective Player of the Year points list by the AGA Tournament staff.

Two women will be selected by AGA Tournament staff based on top two in Player of the Year points lists (not restricted by age) as of August 17, 2023 and on past performance in individual competitions. (Players on an active college golf team roster are not eligible.)

### **HEATHER FARR TROPHY MATCHES (Women)**

Date to be determined

Course to be determined

One teams of twelve players, six Open and six Senior, will be filled according to the following criteria:  
Eligibility: TPA membership and placement on the respective Points Lists as of August 1, 2023.

Team Captains: The Player with the highest total on the respective Player of the Year points lists will be the captain for that team. Team uniforms and meals during the event are included in the invitation.

## ARIZONA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

The Arizona Amateur Championship is the AGAs most prestigious event of the year. To participate, a player may either be exempt from qualifying or qualify locally at one of the five Arizona Amateur Qualifying sites. The following list shows the first level of Arizona Amateur Exemptions:

1. All Past Champions and Player of Year from prior year
2. All those making Match Play at AZ Am the prior year
3. Past AZ Amateur Champions (Last 20 years)
4. Top 20 from current year AGA Championship
5. Top 20 finishers from current years AGA Stroke Play Championship
6. Top 20 finishers from current year Mid-Amateur Championship
7. Top 25 in Open Points from current year by July 24, 2023
8. Top 15 in Senior Points from current year by July 24, 2023
9. Top Legends Point leader (1) for current year by July 24, 2023
10. State HS Champions from all three classes
11. JGAA - 2 exemptions
12. The First Tee - 2 exemptions
13. Host course - 3 exemptions
14. AGA Staff - 4 exemptions
15. Local Arizona Amateur Qualifiers (5 sites)

### QUALIFYING ROUNDS – FOR THE ARIZONA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

One-Day qualifiers for the Arizona Amateur are open to all AGA members. The number of places available in a qualifier will be posted on the Notice to Players provided at the starting tee.

All players not qualifying at individual sites will be placed on an Alternates List based on their finishing place in that qualifier.

There is no limit how many times a player may attempt to qualify for the Arizona Amateur, provided a separate entry fee is paid for each attempt.

If conditions prohibit the completion of the local qualifying round, the qualifying round may be cancelled. At the discretion of the AGA, a reduced number of qualifying positions determined pro rata based on those allocated may be granted to finished scores. Players not completing play will have the option of (a) a return of entry fees; or (b) priority position in another qualifying round if one is available.

### USGA QUALIFYING

The Arizona Golf Association hosts 14 USGA Qualifying events in support of the USGA. To enter USGA Qualifying events, players must register on the USGA website during the specified registration window from February through April at [usga.org](https://www.usga.org).

**NOTE: USGA U.S. Amateur Qualifiers:** There is a cut after the first day of the **U.S. Amateur** (multi-day USGA Qualifying event) to the low 30 percent and ties. Only those making the cut will play the second day.



## SANCTIONED EVENTS

The AGA has no role in Sanctioned events other than to allocate points to players participating in the tournaments. The distribution, receipt and confirmation of entries, conditions of competition, entry fees, eligibility, pairings, start times, course setup, tournament policies, prize fund and submission of results to the media and the AGA are the responsibility of the organizing tournament Committee or host club. If an event wishes AGA sanctioning, it must provide a two-year history and meet the following criteria:

1. Tournament must adhere to The Rules of Golf.
2. Tournament must be open to all AGA members.
3. Names and scores of top 10 places plus ties must be forwarded to the AGA by email to Logan Rasmussen at [logan@azgolf.org](mailto:logan@azgolf.org) within 10 days of the event. Age Division events must include players' age designations to be included. No retroactive postings will be made. It is the obligation of players earning these awards to notify the AGA as noted if the Event does not do so on its own.
4. Points are only awarded to the gross score championship category. (Only in the Championship Flight, not age divisional flights since some events flights do not match up with AGA Divisional age flights. i.e. Phoenix City Senior age flights do not match AGA ages.)
5. Tournament must strictly adhere to the USGA Rules of Amateur Status and the value of awards may not exceed \$1,000 per person. If excess prizes are provided the event becomes ineligible for inclusion.

An event's tournament Committee or organization must submit their request for Sanctioned Event status certifying the above criteria has/will be met to the AGA Tournament Committee for final approval. The AGA will review sanctioned events from year to year to ensure that AGA tournament players are participating in the events and the integrity of the Players of the Year points are being maintained.

### Type I Sanctioned Events:

Southwestern Amateur  
Pacific Coast Amateur  
Arizona Open

British Senior Amateur  
Augusta National Women's Amateur  
Ladies National Golf Association Mid-Amateur/Senior Amateur

### Type II Sanctioned Events (Individual):

Arizona Senior Open  
Chandler City  
Gilbert City  
Mesa City  
Phoenix City  
Tucson City

Mesa Senior  
Phoenix Senior  
Tucson Senior  
Phoenix Women's  
Tucson Women's

### Type II Sanctioned Events (Team):

Rich Stokes Divisional (Divisional Team Classic)  
General Jack Blair Four-Ball  
Mesa Best Ball  
Phoenix City Team  
Roy Tatum Best Ball  
Phoenix City Women's Team

**Note:** Other Arizona events not listed may be assigned Type II points if the scratch portion of the field is 20 or more players. Points will be allocated on a percentage of field against 40 players.

## 2023 TOURNAMENT PLAYERS ASSOCIATION (\*TPA)

The Tournament Players Association (TPA) is a USGA Member Club, providing value and benefits to the most committed amateur players in the state of Arizona.



**\$300+  
VALUE**

<b>Membership to the TPA is \$175 and includes the following: (a \$300 value)</b>
<b>\$25 discount on entry fees to ALL AGA Men's and Women's Tournaments in 2023</b>
<b>Priority Registration (before registration opens to non-TPA members) <b>NEW FOR 2023</b></b>
<b>Ability to withdraw from an event before registration deadline and get 100% refund (non-TPA members get 75% refund of entry fee) <b>NEW FOR 2023</b></b>
<b>Official AGA Membership and USGA Handicap Index through the TPA Club</b>
<b>Eligibility for special Invitations to National or Regional Amateur events</b>
<b>First eligibility for Goldwater Cup Matches, Arizona vs. Utah Shootout, Heather Farr Trophy Cup Matches Team selection</b>
<b>Ability to request placement in a time segment <u>during first round</u> of AGA events (<i>will be accommodated if it can be done without a negative impact on event pairing criteria.</i>)</b>
<b>Wait List Priority status</b>
<b>Exclusive TPA Member Gifts and discounts on orders placed with AGA partners</b>
<b>Option to enter AGA Players Cup/Tournament of Champions event before non-TPA members</b>

### EXPLANATION OF TPA BENEFITS:

#### Discounts on Entry Fees

- TPA Members receive discounts on all AGA Tournament entry fees when registering for events.

#### Priority Registration **NEW FOR 2023**

- Priority Registration starting December 5, 2022 for First Quarter 2023 events and January 3, 2023 for remainder of 2023 events. (Registration for AGA Members will open December 12, 2022 and January 9, 2023.)

#### Enhanced Withdraw/Refund Policy **NEW FOR 2023**

- Ability to withdraw from an event prior to registration deadline and get a 100% refund.

#### AGA Team Eligibility

- Only TPA Members are eligible for automatic selection to Arizona vs. Utah Shootout, Goldwater Cup Matches and Heather Farr Cup Matches.

#### Starting Time Consideration

- TPA member may request preferred starting times Day 1 (early, late) by contacting the AGA Tournament Department prior to the tournament entry deadline. (Requests made after entry deadline will NOT be honored.) TPA members requesting preferred starting times should know they may be paired with players of different skill levels and requests may not be able to be accommodated.

## PLAYER OF THE YEAR – INFORMATION AND POINTS

1. Players of the Year Points are accumulated during the calendar year.
2. A player's Division for the given year is determined by his/her age as of the first day of January.
3. If a player's birthdate creates eligibility for another Division, the player may compete for a trophy in any event for which his/her age makes them eligible but may gain points only through the Division in effect as of January 1 for the year. Points accumulated cannot be transferred from one Division to another within the same year.
4. Any player competing in an Open Event will earn points in the appropriate Age Division determined by the score returned in the event. In Divisional events, players will be asked to select the playing division and will earn points only in that division.
  - Championships – Players earn both Open and Age Division points.
  - Divisional Events – Players earn points **only** in the division in which they participated.
5. Open Division play does not displace Age Division points assignments.
6. Points are available for players in USGA Championships and International events with AGA Invitations.
7. Players Qualifying for USGA events receive points according to the published criteria. AGA is responsible for charting points gained in Arizona qualifiers. Players qualifying in other locations are responsible to notify the AGA within 30 days of qualifying to receive points. Points are awarded in the year of the Championship. (Note: USGA Four-Ball points for qualifying are awarded in the year of the Championship, not the year of the qualifying round.)
8. In the Arizona Open, points are determined by the order of finish of the amateurs entered. (All who make the cut in the Arizona Open earn points.)

## PLAYER OF THE YEAR POINTS CHARTS

Points for participation in the following events will accumulate from January 1 to December 15, to determine the Player of the Year title and within each age division.

### Points for AGA Stroke Play Events

*(\* Points for partner events are split between the two players.)*

Rank	AZ Stroke Play, Women's Amateur, AZ Mid- Amateur, Women's Mid- Amateur and AGA Championship	Senior Amateur, Women's Senior Amateur, Women's Four- Ball Championship (per team)	AGA Divisional Events, Women's Two-Day Partner Events (Partner/team events are per team)
Place	Points	Points	Points
1	750	600	400
2	650	500	312
3	600	450	275
4	550	400	243
5	500	350	215
6	475	325	189
7	450	300	167
8	425	275	148
9	400	255	130
10	375	235	115
11	350	215	102
12	325	200	90
13	300	185	79
14	280	170	70
15	260	160	62
16	240	150	55
17	220	140	48
18	200	135	43
19	180	130	38
20	170	125	33
21	160	120	29
22	150	115	26
23	145	110	23

24	140	105	20
25	135	100	18
26	130	95	16
27	125	90	14
28	120	85	13
29	115	80	11
30	110	75	10
31	105	72	9
32	100	69	8
33	95	66	7
34	90	63	6
35	85	60	6
36	80	57	5
37	75	54	5
38	70	51	5
39	65	48	5
40	60	45	5
41	55	42	5
42	50	39	5
43	45	36	5
44	40	33	5
45	35	30	5
46	30	27	5
47	30	25	5
48	30	25	5
49	30	25	5
50	30	25	5
51	30	25	--
52	30	25	--
53	30	25	--
54	30	25	--
55	30	25	--
56	30	25	--
57	30	25	--
58	30	25	--
59	30	25	--
60/Cut Made	30	25	--

### Points for AGA Match Play Events

	AZ Amateur	Arizona Match Play and Women's Match Play
Place	Points	Points
Champion	750	500
Runner-Up	600	400
Semi-Finalist	450	300
Quarter-Finalist	350	200
Round of 16	250	100
Round of 32	150	--
Round of 64	75	--
Medalist	200	100

### Points for USGA Qualifying / Championships and International Invitationals with AGA Participation\*

USGA Qualifying Rounds and International Invitational with AGA Participation <i>(highest point value, not cumulative)</i>	
	Points
Qualifiers (for local or regional qualifying)	300
Exempt from Qualifying	300
US Open Sectional qualifying	450
Making Cut/Match Play in USGA Championships	600
Top Ten Finish Stroke Play/Quarter Finalist Match Play (total)	850
Champion	1000
Participation in International Invitationals	100

\*USGA Four-Ball qualifying points are awarded in the calendar year the Championship is played (not the year of the qualifier)

## Points for Sanctioned Events

*(Points for team events are split between the players.)*

Sanctioned Events		
Place	Type I	Type II
1	400	200
2	350	175
3	300	150
4	275	125
5	250	115
6	225	105
7	200	100
8	175	95
9	150	90
10	125	85
11	100	X
12	75	X
All Others	50	X

## ADDITIONAL PLAYER OF THE YEAR CRITERIA

### Player of the Year

The AGA Player of the Year Awards were established in 1986 to recognize the player who, during a current AGA Tournament season, has the most consistent and outstanding record. Awards are given in each Division.

Minimum participation to qualify for consideration for Men's Player of the Year: Five total events or three AGA Championships to be eligible.

1. **Men's Player of the Year:** The top three (3) positions on the Player of the Year Points List will qualify as candidates. The winner will be determined by the following criteria in order:
  - 1) Year-end points system
    - First Place = 20 points
    - Second Place = 17 points
    - Third Place = 15 points
  - 2) Championship Ranking
    - Arizona Amateur (16 spots) = 20-16-12-12-10-10-10-10-8-8-8-8-8-8
    - Arizona Stroke Play (10 spots) = 16-13-11-10-9-8-7-6-5-4
    - Arizona Mid-Amateur (10 spots) = 16-13-11-10-9-8-7-6-5-4
    - AGA Championship (10 spots) = 16-13-11-10-9-8-7-6-5-4
  - 3) AGA Tournaments
    - First Place = 8 points
    - Second through Fifth Place = 4 points
  - 4) Sanctioned events
    - First Place = 4 points
  - 5) Mayfair award winner = 10 points
  - 6) USGA Qualifier / Championships
    - Qualify for USGA National Event = 5 points
    - Make the Match Play Field = 7 points
    - Reach Round of 16 or better = 10 points
  - 7) In the event of a tie, total year-end points will break the tie.
2. **Divisional Player of the Year:** The Player of the Year within each Division will be determined by the year-long points list in each Division, to include Open, Seniors and Legends. Points for year-end total for each Division will be an aggregate of ALL points earned from ANY event played, including OPEN events. To be eligible, a player must compete in their Division in a minimum of two Divisional events.



3. **Women's Player of the Year:** The Women's Player of the Year will be determined by the Player of the Year points list. To be eligible, a player must compete in a minimum of three AGA women's events, including one AGA Women's Championship.
4. **Women's Senior Player of the Year:** The Senior Player of the Year for women age 50 and older will be determined by the Player of the Year points list. To be eligible, a player must compete in a minimum of three AGA events, including one AGA Women's Championship.

### **Mayfair Award**

The Mayfair Award was created in 1988 to honor the male AGA tournament player with the lowest weighted scoring average at the end of each year. To be eligible, a player must complete in at least:

- 1) One USGA Qualifying round in Arizona and at least two AGA Championships; or
- 2) Compete in at least one USGA Qualifying round in Arizona, at least one AGA Championship and a collegiate championship in Arizona.

\*Withdrawal for any reason after beginning play in a qualifying event voids eligibility.

Events for inclusion: AGA Championships, AGA Divisional Tournaments (Open Division only), USGA Qualifiers hosted in Arizona, USGA Championships (if applicable, stroke play rounds only), Collegiate Championships of Arizona Schools: ASU, U of A, and GCU; Southwestern Amateur; Pacific Coast Amateur; Arizona Open.

### **Women's Mayfair Award**

The Women's Mayfair Award was created in 2023 to honor the female AGA tournament player with the lowest weighted scoring average at the end of each year. To be eligible, a player must complete in at least:

- 1) One USGA Qualifying round in Arizona and at least two AGA Championships; or
- 2) Compete in at least one USGA Qualifying round in Arizona, at least one AGA Championship and a collegiate championship in Arizona.

\*Withdrawal for any reason after beginning play in a qualifying event voids eligibility.

Events for inclusion: AGA Championships, USGA Qualifiers hosted in Arizona, USGA Championships (if applicable, stroke play rounds only), Collegiate Championships of Arizona Schools: ASU, U of A, and GCU; Southwestern Amateur; Ladies National Golf Association; Augusta National Women's Amateur.

# PLAYER ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY PROCEDURES

## ELIGIBILITY FOR PLAY

### Eligible Players

1. Members in good standing of the Arizona Golf Association. (If the field is not full, non-member golfers may enter a tournament for an additional \$50 entry fee.)
2. Active USGA Handicaps are required for any Net competition.
3. Members of the Junior Golf Association, The First Tee, or by invitation by the AGA Tournament Staff.
4. Members of Arizona collegiate teams if enrolled in the Arizona Collegiate Club or another AGA club.
5. Otherwise as may be specified for an individual event (AGA Championship, AGA Father-Son.)

## HANDICAPS AND TOURNAMENT SCORES

### USGA Handicap Index

The current USGA Handicap Index, as of the daily revision date stated for the event, will be used to determine the contestant's handicap. At the discretion of the AGA Staff, the lowest handicap of the past 12 months or another determination may be used. Players who have not posted enough scores to establish a USGA Handicap Index or who have not posted recent scores will play to a Course Handicap of zero or lower at the discretion of the AGA.

### Posting Tournament/Competition Scores

The AGA posts scores for all AGA Members for individual and team events, including USGA Qualifying Rounds and AGA and USGA Four-Ball events.

## EXEMPTIONS

1. Exemptions for men's AGA Tournaments will be at the discretion of the AGA Tournament Staff upon receipt of a request in writing detailing the reason(s) for the request. Exemptions will be granted for past champions of events for three (3) years.
2. Additional exemption provisions for specific events will be posted on the AGA website at [azgolf.org](http://azgolf.org).

### Special Exemptions for Arizona Amateur

1. The AGA may grant up to four (4) exemptions. To be eligible for an exemption, a player must submit an Exemption Request form (available on the Tournament Information website) 30 days prior to the entry deadline and have a legitimate conflict that prevents a player from participating in a qualifier. To be eligible, a player must have:
  - a. made the cut in their last participation in the event or
  - b. a proven skill level that would indicate a strong likelihood of making the cut and
  - c. has not already played in one of the qualifying rounds.

The Tournament Staff will review applications received and in their sole determination, issue up to four (4) exemptions.

## **ENTRY AND WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES**

### **Entering a Tournament**

Players wishing to enter an AGA Tournament must either enter on-line via the Golf Genius registration portal prior to 4:00 p.m. MST on the deadline date specified.

### **Divisional Events**

The total field size will be published. The order of the waitlist will complete the final field.

### **Withdrawing from a Tournament**

Members may withdraw from Tournaments by:

1. Calling the AGA office during normal business hours; or,
2. Calling the Withdrawal Line (602) 944-3035 (ext. 210).

### **Refunds for Withdrawing prior to the Entry Deadline**

1. Withdrawals made prior to the entry deadline will receive a 75% refund of entry fee.
2. Withdrawals made by TPA members prior to the entry deadline will receive 100% refund of entry fee.

### **Refunds for Withdrawing after the Entry Deadline**

1. Withdrawals made after the entry deadline but three days prior to the event will receive 50% refund of entry fee.
2. No refunds will be given for a withdrawal three days prior to the first day of the event.
3. AGA Tournament staff may review refunds on a case-by-case basis.

### **Refunds for Withdrawing on Day of Event**

1. Once a player's starting time has passed prior to the withdrawal, no refund of fees will be made.
2. A player may withdraw after the beginning play by speaking directly with an AZRC Rules Official or AGA tournament staff member. Withdrawals without notice may result in suspension from one or more future events. See Failure to Return a Scorecard/No Card below.
3. Repeated late withdrawals will subject a player to disciplinary action under the AGA Code of Conduct policy.

### **FAILURE TO RETURN A SCORECARD/NO CARD**

If a player fails to start when paired in an event without first notifying the AGA Staff, he/she will be suspended for one event for which he/she is eligible unless there are unusual circumstances at the judgment of the Staff.

If a player leaves the course during a round without first notifying Staff and signing the scorecard assigned, he/she will be suspended for the next eligible event.

Multiple occurrences will result in a significant suspension.

### **WAITLIST/ALTERNATES**

If an event is over-subscribed prior to the entry deadline, those wishing to enter when the field is filled will be placed on a Waitlist. Players who have withdrawn from a tournament will be replaced in the tournament field by the next available player on the tournament's Waitlist. The AGA will attempt to contact alternates for the field, but it remains the alternate's responsibility to be available or check with the AGA in order to remain in consideration. If an attempt to contact an alternate is unsuccessful, AGA

at its sole discretion may move to the next player on the Waitlist. **Note that TPA members receive priority on the Waitlist.**

It is the Players' responsibility to be aware of their waitlist status. There is no penalty for removing a name from the Waitlist at any time, provided the player has not already gained access into the tournament field.

In some cases, there may be playing opportunities created by players who no-show the day of the tournament. The AGA will attempt to fill open places in an event up to the available starting time. Non-confirmed players at a site must check in with the AGA tournament staff on arrival and to be added to the same day waitlist into the field and notified onsite, should an opening become available. If multiple non-confirmed players are present, the order of the same day waitlist governs.

## **TOURNAMENT ADMINISTRATION AND CONDUCT**

### **PAIRINGS, STARTING TIMES AND TIES**

#### **Pairings**

Pairings are done at the discretion of Staff based on the event being played and quality of field. Pairings by TPA membership, handicap Index and/or past performance may be used to separate the field into pairings groups. Assignments of players within groups are done randomly to offer each player an opportunity to play with a variety of other players of similar ability. **No specific pairing preference requests will be honored to protect the integrity of the competition.**

#### **Match Play Brackets**

The number of players in match-play brackets is determined by the size of the field attempting to qualify for a given event or Division. When match play is preceded by stroke-play qualifying, the bracket size will never be larger than the number of players attempting to qualify and will be the largest of 4, 8, 16, 32, 64 the qualifying field allows. When players are seeded in advance of play or in lieu of qualifying, the lowest seeds will receive byes in the first match play round if the size of the field is less than the bracket size. Specific events may provide an alternate means of qualifying players or determining byes and will be stated in the event information.

#### **Starting Times**

Starting times for AGA-administered events will be available approximately three days prior to the first round. Players may visit the Golf Genius website. Expected starting time ranges that are known in advance are listed on entry forms (but are subject to change). TPA members may request placement in a time segment and will be accommodated if it can be done without a negative impact on event pairing criteria.

#### **Official Time**

The official time is determined by the National Institute of Standards and Technology's WWVB Radio Signal from the USA Atomic Clock. The official time is the time on the clock at your starting tee. Clocks located on the driving range, clubhouse, or elsewhere are unofficial. Official time is also available from the Bureau of Standards (303) 499-7111.

#### **Play-Off or Ties**

In the event of a tie for first place in a Tournament, the winner shall be determined by a hole-by-hole play-off if possible. The play-off will begin as soon as practicable once the participants are officially

determined. Should darkness, weather or other conditions prevent completion of a playoff on the final day of the tournament, one of the following options will be employed at the sole discretion of AGA staff:

1. Conduct a playoff on the following morning, or at a time agreeable to all participants.
2. USGA Rules of Golf method of settling ties, (See Committee Procedures in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf; Section 5A(6), How Ties Will Be Decided.)
3. Conduct a chip-off or similar method if acceptable to all participants.
4. Declare Co-Champions.

## **RULES APPLICATION, AGA HARD CARD, CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **Rules of Play and Enforcement**

The Rules of Golf as established by the USGA and R&A, except as modified herein together with any supplementary Rules published at the event site as drafted by the AGA/AZRC Rules Committee, shall be applicable. All interpretations of such Rules shall be made and the penalties for violation imposed by the AGA Rules Committee. The AGA Rules Committee will be responsible for determining hole locations, placement of tee markers and all course markings. Course Rules, whether printed on scorecards or posted, are not in force unless contained on the AGA's published documents.

### **Rules Applications**

The AGA and the AZRC strive to provide correct application of the Rules of Golf in all situations, from course markings (Appendix B) to on-course rulings. Local Rules employed will be provided on the first tee or at registration for all events. The "AZRC Hard Card" with year-long local Rules and Conditions is published in this document's Index and is available at the starting tee for all events.

Appeals of any ruling may be made to the Rules Committee prior to signing a scorecard in stroke play events. Rules of Golf 3.2 (Match Play) shall determine whether an appeal may be heard.

Under the Rules of Golf, no review of rules infractions can be addressed after the results have been announced unless an incorrect scorecard was returned in stroke play or the player had prior knowledge of a violation that was not included in his/her score.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT (Note – Violations are now subject to penalty during events.)**

### **General**

Players shall not take advantage of club and tournament facilities by bringing friends, guests or family into the locker room or Host Site hospitality area at any time during the tournament, unless the area is designated for such guests.

### **Club Member Relations and Volunteers**

Please take the opportunity to thank the volunteers. The AGA is allowed to conduct the number and quality of tournaments that it does, due to the help and support of its volunteers. It is important to understand that our volunteers, whether acting as Rules Officials, starters, scorers, spotters or timers are giving their time and services for no compensation other than the satisfaction of supporting the game of golf and the opportunity to interact with other golfers. Under no circumstances will abuse of volunteers be tolerated. Players who abuse volunteers are subject to disciplinary action.

### **Code of Conduct**

By submitting an entry for any AGA event, the player understands that his/her participation is at the sole discretion of the AGA. The AGA conducts events at the highest level. As such, the AGA requires players

to always conduct themselves professionally at events. Drinking alcoholic beverages should be kept to a minimum. Smoking is limited to cigarettes, cigars and pipes – no other substances are allowed.

The following is the Conduct Code for 2023:

1. Players must act with integrity and show respect for the course and others nearby.
2. Penalty assessments which may be imposed by the OIC.
  - a. Warnings may be given for minor or incidental violations
  - b. One-stroke penalty
    - i. Inappropriate language or actions heard or seen by others
    - ii. Minor physical damage to the course or course equipment
    - iii. Inappropriate attire
    - iv. Club throwing in anger (as opposed to tossing)
  - c. Two-stroke penalty
    - i. Verbal abuse of other players, officials or spectators
    - ii. Criticism of the course or its management
    - iii. Any inappropriate language or behavior which may reflect negatively on the Club or the AGA
    - iv. Repeated minor violations
  - d. Disqualification
    - i. Purposeful interference with another player's play
    - ii. Throwing a club toward another person
    - iii. Repeated major violations
    - iv. Verbal threats or physical aggression
  - e. Suspensions may also be imposed for serious violations.

Note: A player will be entitled to appeal any penalty to the event OIC. A suspension may be appealed to the AGA Tournament Staff.
  - f. A person acting as a Caddie for a player is subject to the same Code of Conduct as a Player, with the same warnings, penalties, or disqualification applied for Caddie Conduct.

## **PRACTICE ROUNDS**

Practice rounds are not included in any AGA entry fees and are at the sole discretion of the Host Site.

1. Additional fees may be charged and should be expected.
2. Cart use may be required.
3. When practice rounds are permitted at by a Host Site, a player is not entitled to bring a guest without advance approval of the Host Site.
4. When playing a practice round, no more than one ball per player may be played onto each green during the round exclusive of chipping. No excessive practice from bunkers or putting is permitted. Penalty for a violation is withdrawal from the event without reimbursement of fees.
5. Players are required to keep pace with the group in front. Delaying play of following groups may subject a player to withdrawal.

## **ON-COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Apparel**

The AGA complies with the apparel policy at each host facility. The AGA policy may be more restrictive than the apparel policy of the Host Site. The clothing items are considered inappropriate at AGA events:  
Men

1. Denim/chambray pants or shorts of any color or style.

2. Sweatpants or workout clothes.
3. Non-collared shirts except turtlenecks and mock turtlenecks with a collar at least one inch.
4. Shorts of less than mid-thigh length.
5. Cargo pants/shorts must be neat in appearance.

#### Women

1. Denim/chambray pants or shorts of any color or style.
2. Sweatpants or workout/yoga clothes.
3. Tank tops, halter tops or yoga tops.
4. Shorts or skorts that do not completely cover undergarments.

This apparel policy is in conjunction with any additional dress code restrictions adopted or accepted at each host facility. The apparel policy is in effect at all times while by players, while on the property of the host course. Players not complying with this policy may be asked to change into appropriate attire or may be withdrawn from the event.

#### **Caddie Assignments**

The AGA reserves the right to determine eligibility for employment as a caddie. Caddies are permitted in all events where a stipulation prohibiting caddies has not been posted in advance. The right to have a caddie does not extend to separate cart use for the player and caddie. **The AGA Cart Policy limits each group to two carts per group and will be enforced on the starting tee.** Such rights are subject to the discretion of the AGA tournament staff.

Caddies must agree to wear the AGA provided Caddie bib to easily identify caddies from spectators. Caddie bibs are required to be returned following every round. Failure to return a caddie bib results in a \$50 replacement fine payable before the next AGA event.

Caddies must adhere to all host facility dress codes and shall wear smooth, rubber-soled, preferably tennis or basketball shoes. Golf spikes, flip-flops, sandals or open-toed shoes are not permitted. Caddies shall not walk on greens when checking hole positions on the day of a tournament round; such activity will make a caddie ineligible to participate without penalty to the player. Use of a cell phone is not permitted while caddying.

#### **Drinking Water on Course**

The AGA generally does not provide the drinking water on the golf course. Players should plan to have an adequate amount of water. Drinking water provided on the course is the responsibility of the host course. When made aware of empty water coolers, the AGA staff will attempt to notify the course to have the water coolers re-filled.

#### **Electronic Devices Policy**

Usage of electronic devices that disrupt play is not permitted by players or caddies. If a player or caddie uses such a device, the player may be asked to discontinue its use. Failure to comply may result in the player being withdrawn from the event. Note that use of headphones during play except for occasional short intervals has been judged to be a violation of the Rules by the USGA.

#### **Spectator Policy**

While spectators are welcome at AGA events, it is important that spectators do not jeopardize the play of any player on the course. Spectators must have minimal verbal or physical contact with players to avoid the possibility of a breach of a Rule. Spectators may follow groups but should remain on or near cart paths or in the rough as a courtesy. While following groups, spectators are asked to always maintain a distance from the players and their caddies. **Spectator carts are NOT allowed.**

Spectators should stay out of the playing areas and avoid interfering with the play of the group(s) they are following, adjacent to, or behind the spectator. Spectators that are interfering with play or are judged to be having too much contact with players will be asked to discontinue or leave the course. Usage of electronic devices by spectators that disrupt play are not permitted.

## **OTHER CONDITIONS**

### **Use of Carts, ADA Accommodation and Guidelines for Qualification**

#### **General**

1. Cart use during play is permitted unless specifically addressed in the Tournament Entry Information, with the following stipulations: Carts are assigned only to contestants. A caddie may use a cart only if a contestant is not displaced by such use.
2. Restrictions on cart use for players are at the discretion of the Host Site, and all players are bound by those requirements, subject to withdrawal for violations of that policy. Any such restrictions will be posted at the tournament site.
3. Two persons per cart only.
4. Carts must be kept on paths if available near greens and tees.
5. Any non-player riding with a player is considered a caddie and subject to any potential Rules violations.
6. Pull carts are permitted if allowed by the Host Club Rules.

#### **ADA Accessibility Rules – See *Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, Rule 25 – Modifications for Players with Disabilities***

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) affords individuals with a permanent disability the right to access public accommodations with advance notice. Accessibility arrangements are within the discretion of the AGA and will be determined by the person's qualification under ADA Regulations. The AGA does not have the right by virtue of hosting a tournament to dictate to a host facility, only the opportunity to ask for an accommodation. Anyone has the right to ask for ADA consideration as follows:

#### **Qualifications for ADA ACCESS - See *Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, Rule 25 – Modifications for Players with Disabilities***

To qualify for ADA consideration, a player must request accommodation at least one week in advance of the first tournament round scheduled.

Upon the timely receipt of the required information, the AGA will evaluate a request to use a cart in tournament competition due to a disability condition on a case-by-case basis. For the AGA to evaluate an accommodation request, players must submit the following:

1. A letter requesting accommodation for the specific event;
2. Current medical documentation (prepared within one year of the request), setting forth the exact nature of the disability and evidence it qualifies under ADA Regulations as a permanent disability.
3. Sufficient information to enable the AGA to determine that providing a cart would not provide a player with an advantage over other players.

Later applications may not receive consideration, depending on the individual circumstances. A final determination will be provided for requests 48 hours in advance of the event.

Please note that requests from spectators will be evaluated separately, and that the AGA does not grant spectators rights at any tournaments. As the events are for AGA members, they do not fall under the



ADA Guidelines for “public accommodation.” On the other hand, as ADA Regulations give access to any person providing a single-rider cart, the AGA will support any such request for access.

Examples of Devices regularly used as a mobility aid by an individual with mobility impairment include a single rider cart (or scooter), which is a four-wheeled, stabilized, battery-powered personal transportation device operated in a fully-seated position, or a single rider device that is operated in a standing or semi-standing position. ***A full-size golf cart is not considered a form of transport regularly used off the golf course in the day to day life of individuals with mobility impairments, so such use is prohibited.***

## **ACCOMMODATION GUIDELINES FOR MOBILITY IMPAIRED SPECTATORS**

Spectators at AGA events are expected to move through the spectator areas of the course as they would in other public venues. This means that spectators are expected to walk the course. To accommodate spectators with disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the AGA offers some accommodations to allow guests with mobility impairments the opportunity to watch our events. The following guidelines have been developed for Officials in Charge (“OIC”). For the purposes of these guidelines, an “individual with a mobility impairment” means any person who is subject to any physical impairment or condition regardless of its cause, nature or extent that makes it difficult or impossible for a person to move about without the aid of crutches, a wheelchair or any other form of support, or that limits the person’s functional ability to ambulate, climb, descend, sit, or rise, or to perform any related function. It is not permissible to make any inquiry about a spectator’s disability, or to require proof of the disability.

For those individuals with mobility impairments that require some form of motorized transport, they will generally be permitted to move through the course on whatever form of transport they regularly use if they have brought their motorized transportation device with them as noted above, unless it has been determined by the OIC that a particular Device would present a penalty area to other spectators, players, caddies, or course officials or would damage the golf course.

These guidelines do not apply to the use of motorcycles, mopeds, tricycles, bicycles (whether motor-driven), skateboards, or other similar devices not otherwise permitted to be operated on or within a golf course.

1. An individual with a mobility impairment, upon registering with the Official in Charge, is permitted to use his or her own Device within the tournament site in any areas open to pedestrian use, unless otherwise advised in advance that topography or course conditions in certain areas are not conducive to the use of Devices.
2. Individuals without a mobility impairment are not permitted to operate Devices in any areas within the site, unless they have been authorized to do so to transport a mobility impaired individual.
3. For those spectators with a mobility impairment who did not bring his or her own Device, reasonable accommodations will be made to assist the spectator. For example, to the extent there is sufficient staff at events, the mobility impaired spectator can be brought to a viewing area on the course at the discretion of the Official in Charge. The number of viewing areas available will depend on the course set up, availability of transport, course topography and other conditions, all of which shall be determined at the discretion of the Official in Charge. It is not the intention of these guidelines to provide hole by hole viewing of any individual player or players under these circumstances.
4. Full sized golf carts may not be offered to spectators due to insurance considerations.

5. Players are encouraged to communicate with the AGA in advance of an event if they are aware of a spectator (usually a family member) intending to watch the player and contact the AGA no later than five business days before the event to discuss available options for mobility impaired spectators. Available options may vary from site to site and the option requested by the spectator may not necessarily be one of the recommended or available options offered at the site (such as a full-sized golf cart or driving the individual from hole to hole to watch a specific player or group)
6. The Device, whether brought by the spectator or provided on the course, must be operated in a manner that does not compromise the safety of the user, other attendees, spectators, players, caddies, or course officials or damage the golf course.
7. Individuals operating Devices must maintain control of the Device and may not leave the Device unattended.
8. Spectators using Devices must operate the device at the speed in which pedestrians are moving in the immediate area of the motorized transportation.
9. Devices may not be used outside defined pedestrian areas. It is the responsibility of users of Devices to determine that the areas in which they choose to operate are safe for such operation. The AGA and the golf course property owner shall not be responsible or liable for the actions of any individuals, including spectators, or for any individual's failure to properly use a Device, or to maintain his or her use on safe topography. In choosing to bring a Device or using one provided at the Qualifying site, the user assumes all risks.
10. Individuals using Devices must yield to pedestrian traffic, should refrain from using the Device in a crowded or densely populated area and must exercise caution when turning corners, approaching an incline and approaching other course conditions.
11. In the event the Official in Charge or others charged with administering the event observe the unsafe operation of a Device, or interference, interruption or undue delay of play as a result of using the Device, a warning will be issued. Should an individual using a Device continue to operate the Device in an unsafe manner or at an excessive speed after being advised of the speed restrictions, or otherwise interfere with, interrupt or unduly delay play, the Device user shall be required to remove the Device from the site, but may be allowed to return without the assistance of the Device. At all times, the AGA, Officials in Charge, and golf course property owners reserve the right to temporarily prohibit the use of Devices for safety or other legitimate reasons.

Please note that requests made in advance from spectators will be evaluated separately. Individual ADA-qualifying requests may be granted on occasion by the AGA Staff, pending a determination of liability, cooperation of the facility, and the availability of suitable transportation. If a spectator is granted an accommodation, any cart used must remain on paved paths where available.

#### **INCLEMENT WEATHER DELAYS**

For delays due to inclement weather, the main priority will always be the competition of all scheduled rounds. Every reasonable effort will be made to achieve this objective by the last scheduled day of play, which may include playing more than 18 holes. If this cannot be accomplished, play may be extended at the discretion of the AGA staff and the Host Site.

If play is suspended, every effort will be made to resume play the same day, even when that round cannot be completed before dark. If it is impossible for at least half of the field to finish a scheduled round, generally the suspended round will be finished when conditions permit. If less than fifty percent (50%) of the starting field completes play on the first scheduled day of competition, the round may be canceled. Following rounds will be completed when possible without consideration of the percentage of the field playing on any one day.

The decision whether to cancel a round will be at the discretion of the Committee. If conditions demand playing a double round to complete play, a secondary cut may be implemented to permit completion of play on the day desired. Should points or awards be applicable to players in the secondary cut, the status at the cut shall determine allocations.

#### **Cancellation of Tournament Due to Weather or Weather-related Course Conditions**

The AGA may cancel an event if, in the judgment of the Committee, it is unreasonable for a fair competition to be completed in the time available. If an event is cancelled, every attempt will be made to reschedule as soon as practicable. If the tournament is cancelled prior to start, a portion of the entry fees may be refunded at the discretion of the AGA. Once an event has begun, if cancelled, any refund will be based on costs absorbed by the AGA in attempting to play the event.

#### **Suspension of Play**

Play may be suspended by AGA staff or Rules personnel at their discretion. In cases where completion of the event is not possible, a previous round's leader may be declared the Champion. Where one or more rounds have not been completed, a revised payout may also be published based on expenses experienced.

#### **Suspension of Play due to Dangerous Situations**

Note: Suspension of play for a dangerous situation will be signaled by one air horn blast; and for a non-dangerous situation, three air horn blasts.

When Play is suspended for a dangerous situation, players must discontinue play immediately and not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If a player fails to discontinue play immediately, he is disqualified unless circumstances warrant waiving the penalty as provided in the Rules.

All practice areas shall be closed during suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open for use. Penalty for violation is disqualification from the event.

#### **NO FINANCIAL INTEREST OF ONE PLAYER IN ANOTHER**

Players may not enter into any agreement with any other Player to share any part of a prize that he may win in conjunction with any Official Tournament, unless it is an event with a partner-type format. A Player who violates this provision shall be suspended from participating in AGA events for a minimum of one year.

#### **Broadcast and Film Rights**

All media rights, including without limitation television, radio, photo, motion picture and internet rights and quotes, of Players participating in Tournaments or any other golf event conducted in conjunction with such tournament, shall be granted and assigned to the AGA by virtue of the entry of any such Player into any such event. All such rights relating to Sanctioned tournaments shall similarly be assigned and granted to the AGA to the extent not conflicting with the rights of the Host Site.

All such rights granted and assigned to the AGA are thereafter the property of and reserved by the AGA. Any use thereof without its express and written consent is prohibited. Players further agree, by virtue of entering in any such tournament, to refrain from any action which would interfere with the AGA ownership of its authorized use of the specified rights.

## 2023 PACE OF PLAY POLICY

The purpose of the AGA Pace of Play Policy is to provide timely play for the entire field. This policy and its guidelines have been established in accordance with Rules of Golf which state, "The player must not unreasonably delay in play of a stroke or play of the group, either when playing a hole or between two holes" and "**It is recommended that the player make the stroke in no more than 40 seconds...and should usually be able to play more quickly than that...**" These philosophical statements govern pace of play enforcement.

AGA will host competitions under the following guidelines: If a group is out of position, any player taking in excess of one minute to play a stroke is liable for a one-stroke penalty, without warning. All groups are encouraged to keep pace with the group in front of them.

### **Time Par**

In AGA Championship, Tour Events and USGA Qualifiers, the Committee will establish and make available to all players an allotted time (Time Par) for each hole of the round. This Time Par system will be used as a baseline for the Pace of Play Policy but will not limit any player's responsibility to play in accordance with the Rules of Golf.

Time Par is set for the first three groups. After the third group, proper pace is based on remaining "in position" which means within 14 minutes of the group in front. If a group falls behind, they have one timing increment (# holes between checkpoints) to recover before becoming liable to a penalty. Individuals immediately become liable for a penalty for any action outside Rules compliance which prevents a group from regaining position (see specific actions covered below). For following groups, no penalty would be applied IF it maintains Time Par from the time notified or the first checkpoint is missed.

### **Exceptions where penalties may be avoided**

1. The group is delayed by a ruling, interference from an outside agency, or otherwise by a situation unrelated to the playing of the game;
2. Sudden illness or injury (up to ten minutes of delay);
3. After falling out of position because of the actions of a group in front (running to regain position), a group meets Time Par until it regains position for the remainder of the round.

### **Events without checkpoints**

Time Par will still govern play when there are no checkpoints. Officials will issue a warning to groups behind Time Par and out of position with the group in front of them. Groups will have three holes to either: a) regain position; or, b) play under Time Par for those and subsequent holes. If they fail to meet either criteria, individuals become liable for a one-stroke penalty. If the group does not improve as stated within the following three holes, players become liable for a second one-stroke penalty. Repeated failures to improve position may result in a disqualification of one or more players. Any individual timed at over one minute for a stroke while out of position will receive a warning; a second bad time will result in an immediate one stroke penalty.

### **Timing of Individuals When Group is Out of Position**

Under any of the above Rules, when a group is out of position, any player observed taking more than 60 seconds to play a stroke will receive a warning. Any second occurrence or two more stroke times over 40 seconds will subject the player to a one-stroke penalty. Appeals to this Rule will normally not be available.

## Shotgun Events

A Pace Chart may be published. If any group fails to meet Time Par and return a scorecard within 15 minutes of the group in front of them, they are subject to a one stroke penalty; within 20 minutes, a minimum of a one stroke penalty will be applied; more than 25 minutes, a two-stroke penalty will be imposed.

If the group fails to regain its position on the course after being notified that it is out of position, each player in the group taking more than one minute for a stroke will be liable to a one-stroke penalty, and the group will be expected to regain its position within a few holes. Additional penalties may be applied by the Committee for excessive delays.

## Senior Series, Member Days, Club Team

In AGA Senior Series, Club Team and Member Day events, groups are expected to be within one hole of the group in front. Groups not maintaining this position will be asked to move forward taking net par or 0 Stableford points, whichever is applicable.

## Penalties

There are two types of delay violations: those for group delays under the policies stated above and those immediately applicable to individuals on the course. In any case, efforts will be made to determine individual culpability to avoid indiscriminate applications against an entire group.

Penalties unrelated to group position:

1. *Returning to some prior place to retrieve forgotten items if so doing delays play for more than five minutes.* In such case, the player has an obligation to play more quickly to aid the group in maintaining position.
2. *Going forward to gather information while out of position (more than to identify the location of a target); or, while in position, if such an action delays either the player's own play or that of a fellow competitor more than an additional one minute.*
3. *Taking in excess of two minutes to play any stroke at any time.*
4. *Searching for a ball after the three minutes permitted.*
5. *Delaying a fellow competitor's or opponent's play by interfering with them unnecessarily.*
6. *Any actions which cause a group to lose position that are unrelated to the playing of the game.*

## Timing Strokes

Timing of a stroke begins when the player has had a reasonable time to reach the teeing area or position of the ball, and there is no physical interference with the stroke to be made, plus a few seconds. When out of position, times in excess of 60 seconds may result in a warning to the individual. A second excess timing will result in a penalty.

## Appeals

A player or group may appeal a penalty to the Committee prior to signing the scorecard. No appeal will be heard unless circumstances responsible for delay existed which were previously unknown to the Committee and unrelated to the playing of the game.

## Avoiding Penalties

If a player or group is in jeopardy of being assessed a penalty, there are several ways to improve pace. They include, but are not limited to, making a stroke in 30 seconds or less, playing "ready golf," letting groups through while in search and moving promptly between holes. If a Rules Official or the Committee witness an effort by one or more players, this information may become a basis for exemption from a penalty.