

ARTICLE I: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Classes of Membership

Individual

- Any individual may join the Wyoming State Golf Association upon payment of annual dues.
- All individual members must have a USGA Handicap Index with a Member Course/Club or Affiliate Club and must designate their course or club upon joining the WSGA.
- All individual members shall have their handicaps subject to peer review by Handicap Committee of the Member Course/Club and by the Association.
- Individual members do not have voting rights.

Member Courses & Clubs

- A Member Club is any group organized for the purpose of golf activities located at a specific golf course or golf club that is approved by the Board of Directors.
- Each Member Club must comply with the rules and regulations established by the Board of Directors and have an established handicap review committee.
- Member Course/Clubs do not have voting rights.

Associate Members

- This classification includes golf professionals, corporations, architects, manufacturers, sales representatives, and other individuals or groups who are interested in supporting golf through membership in the Association.
- Associate members do not have voting rights

Section 2: Dues

- There shall be dues for the various classifications of memberships which are determined by the Association's Board of Directors

Section 3: Denial and Termination

- The Board of Directors shall have the right to terminate any membership or deny membership to any individual or organization with cause. Prior to the board of directors acting on termination, suspension, or probation of any member there must be a hearing offered to the member. The Executive committee shall hear all the facts, take necessary testimony, and make a final decision.

ARTICLE II: ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Section 1: Meetings

- The board of directors shall meet quarterly or four (4) times per year.
- The board meetings shall be held at such time and place as determined by the president.
- Special board meetings of the board may be called any time by any three (3) board members by giving not less than ten (10) days of notice to other board members.
- Voting may occur either at a regular board meeting, or special board meeting, and, with the prior authorization by the president, voting can be done via e-mail, phone or other electronic means. A majority of the board, meaning at least one half (1/2) of the total members shall be considered a quorum.
- Members of the Executive Committee or any other member may participate in a meeting of the board by electronic means and this shall constitute their presence at such meeting.

Section 2: Notice of Meetings

Thirty days' notice of the time and place of the annual meeting and not less than 10 days' notice of the time and place of any special meeting shall be posted on the Association's website. The notice of a special meeting shall state the objects thereof, and no other business shall be transacted thereat.

Section 3: Quorum

A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

Section 4: Action at Meeting

Voting at meetings of the Associations need not be by written ballot unless a majority of the Board of Directors entitled to vote thereon present in person or by electronic attendance shall so determine.

ARTICLE III: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: Control and Management

The control and management of this association shall be entrusted to the board of directors.

Section 2: Election

The Board of Directors shall consist of the four officers of the Association with at least 5 but not more than 9 others on the Board of Directors. They shall all be Association members that represent different member clubs in the Association. Vacancies will be filled through the following process:

- The Secretary shall post the vacancy(s) on the WSGA website, along with an application form.
- Applications shall be due no later than 12 days prior to the next scheduled board meeting; no late applications shall be accepted
- The Secretary shall distribute all applications to all Board Members no less than 10 days prior to the Board Meeting
- The President may allow applicants to appear at the Board meeting for questions, at his/her discretion, but such appearance is not a requirement of applicants.
- Election shall be held in Executive Session of the full Board of Directors.
- If only one applicant has applied for an open position, they must receive a majority vote to be elected to the Board
 - o If there are multiple applicants for an open position, the person receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to the Board.

Section 3: Powers and Duties

The entire management of the Association, its affairs, its properties, and assets is vested exclusively in the board of directors.

The affairs of the Association shall be managed by its Board of Directors. The directors shall have the power to conduct, control, manage and govern the affairs, business, property and assets of the Association, and to make such rules and regulations in reference thereto as they may deem proper and not inconsistent with the laws of the State of Wyoming or the bylaws of this Association.

The powers of the board shall include, but not limited to, the following:

- Make, alter, amend the by-laws of and for the Association
- Remove for cause any director, officer or employee
- Enter into all types of agreement or contract relating to the care, custody, control and management of the properties and assets of the Association.
- Make decisions on salaries, expenditures, payments and distributions of the Association's properties, assets, and income as may be decided upon by decision of the majority of the board of directors as contained in its minutes and to meet the objectives of the Association.
- The board of directors shall take cognizance of any apparent violation of the Rules of Amateur Status that may come to its attention in any manner whatsoever. It shall exercise absolute discretion in the interpretation and enforcement of such Rules and shall in every way safeguard the best interests of the game of golf.
- Appoint and enter into a contract with an Executive Director to receive, manage, hold, invest and disburse the funds and/or properties or assets of the Association subject to the control and decision of the board of directors. Such contract shall prescribe reasonable compensation and the terms and conditions covering such relationship, including but not

- restricted to the powers and duties of the Executive Director.
- Exercise the powers, prerogatives, duties and responsibilities vested in the board of director, in a strict fiduciary capacity to carry out, perform and accomplish the objectives of the Association.
Their powers are expressly limited as to do nothing nor accomplish any act which would conflict with or negate these objectives.
 - Attend and come prepared to board meetings - if more than two are missed consecutively, the Executive Committee can ask for resignation of said board member.

Section 4: Decisions

Except as may otherwise be provided in the By-Laws, every decision by a majority of the board shall be a valid and binding Association act.

Section 5: Salaries and Compensation

The board shall not pay any salaries or compensation to the directors or officers for personal services, but may reimburse them for reasonable expenses incurred for association activities authorized by the board.

ARTICLE IV: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1: Election, Term of Office, Resignation, Removal and Vacancies

The Executive officers of the Association shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Each Executive Officer shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Association and shall hold office until the annual meeting next succeeding their election and their successor is elected and qualified or until an earlier resignation or removal. Elections of Officers shall take place at the last scheduled meeting of the calendar year, with Officers commencing their term Jan. 1 of the following year. The Executive Committee of the Board shall offer nominations at the year-end meeting. Nominations will also be taken from the floor. Election of members of the Executive Committee shall be by a plurality of the votes cast. Any officer may resign at any time upon written notice to the Executive Committee, the President or the Secretary, provided that any such officer at the same time resigns as a member of the Executive Committee. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specific therein and, unless otherwise specified therein, no acceptance of such resignation shall be necessary to render it effective. The Executive Committee may remove any officer at any time with or without cause. In the absence of a special meeting of the Executive Committee, vacancies occurring between annual meetings will not be filled. Prospective officers may be appointed by the Executive Committee and attend meetings and participate in discussions without voting privileges.

Section 2: Powers and duties

(a) **President:** The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Committee and in general shall perform the duties incident to his office. The president shall appoint such special committees as may be found desirable and necessary for further interest and purposes of the Association.

(b) **Vice-President:** During the absence or inability of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President. The Vice-President shall assume the office of the President if the President resigns or is removed from office prior to their term ending, shall serve for the remainder of the term, and shall be eligible to be elected to the position for the next term.

(c) **Secretary:** The Secretary shall keep the records of all meetings of the Association and the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall give and serve all notices of meetings as well as have charge of all the correspondence and papers of the Association except such as pertain to the office of the Treasurer. The Secretary shall present at each meeting of the Association a full report on all matters relating to the affairs of the Association, including a summary of all action taken during the year by the Executive Committee. In general, the Secretary shall perform the duties incident to his office.

(d) **Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall keep full and accurate accounts of all moneys received, and shall deposit the same in the name and to the credit of the Association in such depositories as may be designated by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall disburse all moneys under the direction of the Executive Committee, shall have authority to receive and give receipt for all Association checks, drafts, notes, warrants and orders and to give full discharge for same. The Treasurer shall have power to sign all checks, drafts, notes, warrants and orders for the payment of money. The Treasurer shall present at each annual meeting of the Association a written report of all the money affairs of the Association, and shall make a full report whenever requested by the Executive Committee. In general, the Treasurer shall perform the duties incident to his office.

Section 3: Other Officers, Agents and Employees

The Executive Committee may from time to time elect or appoint and remove such other officers, agents, or employees, and may delegate to them such powers and duties, as it may deem desirable and may fix their compensation.

ARTICLE V: COMPETITIONS

Section 1: Rules for Competition

All competitions conducted by the Association shall be played under and in accordance with the current USGA Rules of Golf as approved by the Association, with such amendments and interpretations as have been or may hereafter be adopted by the Association. The Committee may adopt such local rules as in their judgment. Any amateur golfer currently a member of the W.S.G.A. (i.e. must have a handicap through the W.S.G.A.) may compete for the amateur championships conducted by the Association, subject to conditions of play as determined pursuant to Section 2 herein below.

Section 2: Conditions of Play in Events Given Under the Auspices and Jurisdiction of the Association

The conditions of play shall be determined from time to time by the Executive Committee and shall be advertised in such manner as such Committee may determine. Such advertisement or notification shall be published as early as possible prior to the date of each event.

Section 3: Entry Fees

In all competitions held under the auspices of the Association, such entrance fee shall be charged as may be determined by the Executive Committee of the Association. Entries must be received by the Executive Director or through the method the Executive Director designates. The Association shall provide information on each annual event and instructions in which entries must be received by the Secretary via the Association website.

Section 4: General Conditions in Respect of Competitions

- All entries for any competition given under the jurisdiction of the Association are subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, and any entry may be rejected by the Committee.
- All disputes shall be settled by the Executive Committee, whose decision shall be final.
- Contestants paying their entrance money shall be considered thereby to have submitted themselves to the Rules of the Association, both as to restrictions enjoined and penalties imposed. On these conditions alone, the contestants shall be entitled to enjoy the advantages and privileges of the competitions given under the jurisdiction of the Association to assist the Committee in every manner.

ARTICLE VI: MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1: Fiscal Year

The fiscal year shall end on December 31 of each year.

Section 2: Indemnification

The Association shall, to the full extent permitted by the Wyoming Corporation law, as amended from time to time, indemnify all persons whom it may indemnify pursuant thereto. The right of indemnification provided by this Section shall not be deemed exclusive of any other right to which those indemnified may be entitled apart from this Section.

Section 3: Amendment

The current By-Laws may be altered or repealed by a vote of two-thirds of the Board of Directors, including proxies, at any quarterly meeting provided that written notice of any proposed amendment shall have been delivered to each board member at least (30) days prior to any such meeting.

Section 4: Course Rating

Purpose: To complete Course Rating and measuring as needed to uphold the integrity and accuracy of the USGA Handicap System.

The Executive Committee will ensure that the course rating committee, as well as the volunteers who participate in course ratings, receive the necessary training on an annual basis to ensure consistency. Each Member Course in good standing is entitled to a Course Rating at no charge once every ten years. Additional ratings inside the ten years shall be done upon request by the appropriate representative of the Member Course, and shall entail a fee which shall be agreed upon on a case by case basis.

ARTICLE VII: CHAMPIONSHIP INFORMATION AND POLICIES

The Wyoming State Golf Association Championship program was created to offer all WSGA members the opportunity to compete in state championships against players of the same ability. Please enjoy the opportunity of competing in WSGA events at the various clubs throughout the State of Wyoming and when possible thank the host clubs for their efforts and generosity in supporting the WSGA.

Player Responsibilities: Rule 6-1 states “The player and his caddie are responsible for knowing the Rules and the conditions under which the competition is to be played.”

Eligibility: WSGA Championships are open to all amateur members of the WSGA in good standing who meet the tournament specific eligibility criteria. All members must hold an active WSGA Handicap card but are not required to live in the state of Wyoming. The WSGA board of governors reserves the right to reject an entry at any time (including during competition).

Tournament Registration: All registrations must be received by the WSGA with payment in full as of midnight on the date of the closing deadline (post marked registrations will not guarantee a player’s spot in the field). Online entries are preferred as the player will be entered in the event or put on the wait list immediately. The wait list will be in the order in which entries are received prior to the entry deadline. Late entries will not be accepted after the deadline.

All WSGA members who played in a **sanctioned** event the previous year will have an opportunity to register for the current year tournaments two weeks prior to open registration. After the early signup period has ended, registration will be open to all eligible members for all events until the tournaments are filled on a first come first serve basis. If a tournament becomes over-subscribed a wait-list will be generated using the registration date.

Refunds and withdrawals: Players must notify the WSGA, not the host course, in the event of a withdrawal. Full refunds will be issued to players who did not get into an event because the field was over-subscribed or were on the wait list and did not get in. If a player withdraws prior to the registration deadline the player will receive a full refund minus a \$25.00 cancellation fee. There is no refund available if withdrawal is given within the two weeks before the start of the tournament. No refunds will be issued if a player withdraws or no shows on the first day of the event or during the event. Players who withdraw from an event and who wish to apply their refund to another WSGA event in the same calendar year, may do so provided it is requested prior to the entry deadline and the entry fee amount is the same. All refunds will be issued to the person named on the entry form. Please allow two weeks from the withdrawal notice to process your refund from the WSGA less all applicable fees.

Age Eligibility: Senior – A player must be 50 years of age or older as of the first day of the tournament. Mid-Amateur – A player must be 25 years of age or older as of the first day of the tournament.

Gender Policy: The WSGA follows the USGA gender policy for its championships. For more information, please go to: www.usga.org/genderpolicy.html

Handicaps: The players USGA Handicap Index as determined through the USGA’s GHIN System will be used in the calculation of the player’s course handicap for all WSGA events. If a player has multiple Handicap Indexes the lowest will be used for course handicap calculations and flight determinations. Handicaps which are calculated using software other than the GHIN System will not be used for WSGA tournaments. The WSGA uses the threshold limitation level for net events in section 9-2b in the USGA Handicap Manual. All scores that are below either a -2 or -3 net differential will be reviewed by the WSGA Rules Committee and be subject for modification for the remaining rounds of any WSGA Championships.

Dress Code: Players and their caddies must abide by the WSGA and host facility dress codes - Collared shirt, blouse w/collar or sleeves, Bermuda length shorts. NO Denim, T-Shirts, Cut-offs or Athletic Shorts. Alternative Spikes in shoes are required. Each player is responsible to know the dress code.

Students: High School or college golf team members should check with their coaches and/or their leagues governing body (UHSAA, NCAA, etc...) regarding participation and the effect, if any, on their eligibility.

Amateur Status: The WSGA abides by all Rules of Amateur Status as set forth by the USGA.

Spectators: Spectators are welcome at all WSGA events but they must abide by the dress code of the host facility and maintain proper golf demeanor. Spectators should remain on cart paths or in the rough and at

least 10 yards away from the players during the play of a hole. There may be no communication between spectators or players that could be deemed advice of any nature (Rule 8-1) during the round. Spectators are not permitted to ride in a player's cart as this privilege is reserved for caddies only. Host courses may charge a cart fee to spectators. If a spectator is riding in a player's cart, the player will be warned and asked to follow the WSGA policy. If the player refuses, his entry may be withdrawn.

Failure to compete: In stroke play, failure by a player to return his scorecard to the scoreboard official, or withdraw during play without notifying an official and surrendering his scorecard to that official, is considered a serious breach of etiquette and unbecoming conduct. This can result in the player being suspended from future WSGA events. This also applies in match play if both players leave the course without notifying the scoreboard official of the match result.

Caddies: Players may bring their own caddie. WSGA dress code and conduct requirements apply to caddies.

Time of Starting: Players are responsible to arrive to the tee 10 minutes before their tee time. Atomic clocks provided by the WSGA will be the only clocks used for the tournament. All other clocks have no bearing for tournament activities.

No Shows: If a player fails to show up for a starting time without contacting the WSGA, he or she will be considered a no show. A player who no shows more than two times in one tournament year, may be suspended from all future WSGA events.

Photos: By submitting a tournament entry, the player agrees to allow the WSGA to use the player's photographic image for any WSGA media related use.

Liability: By submitting an entry form and subsequently playing in a WSGA event, players agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the WSGA and its respective affiliates, directors, officers, employees, agents, 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 this competition. Contingent upon successful entry into this tournament the participant agrees to all conditions, policies, procedures and terms set forth in the WSGA Championship Policies.

Rules of Golf and Conditions of Play: The Rules of Golf govern play. The Local Rules and the Championship Policies of the WSGA and any site specific notice to players will supplement the Rules of Golf. Local host course rules are not applicable unless they are specifically listed on the notice to players. The committee, whose decision is final, shall settle any questions.

Pace of Play policy: Rule 6-7 states, in part: "The player must play without undue delay and in accordance with any pace of play guidelines that the Committee may establish" and thereafter prescribes penalties for slow play.

Electronic Measuring Devices: The WSGA approves the use of distance-measuring devices by Local Rule in all WSGA Championships. *WSGA Local Rule for Distance-Measuring Devices:* A player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of rule 14-3.

WSGA Championship Cart Policy: Carts are permitted in all WSGA Championships, unless otherwise noted on the event's notice to competitors. A limit of 2 golf carts per group will be enforced. Caddies may ride with competitors as long as caddies do not take the seat of another competitor. If a competitor and his/her caddie wish to ride alone, they may do so with permission of the host course as long as they do not exceed the 2 golf carts per group rule. Please note that a fee may be incurred for the additional seat in the cart at the course's discretion. All drivers must have a valid driver's license. All players, both walkers and riders, are required to maintain the pace set for the competition. Spectators are not authorized to ride in a player's cart.

Score Posting: For handicap purposes, the WSGA will post all applicable WSGA tournament scores to the GHIN handicap service. In most match play or four-ball events, players are required to return a scorecard with actual or most likely scores for holes played (when a stroke or hole is conceded, or when a player picks up). Holes not played will be scored at par plus any handicap strokes. The computer will calculate this automatically, allowing the score to be posted.

