



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

TOURNAMENT ACTIVITY RULES & REGULATIONS

November 1, 2024

I. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

A. The Tournament Committee is regulated under the operating Bylaws of the NCPGA and is a part of The PGA of America Constitution. Amendments to Tournament Rules and Regulations may be proposed by the Tournament Committee and/or the Section Board of Directors. The Section Board of Directors shall ratify such amendments.

B. PHILOSOPHY

1. The tournament program shall be a vehicle for maintaining and promoting the highest standards of competition, sportsmanship, and public goodwill. To accomplish this goal, the committee shall develop a consistent, organized and coordinated effort between the Tournament Committee, Section Office, Board of Directors and Host Professional to ensure professionally run golf tournaments.

2. The Tournament Committee shall formulate an annual tournament schedule of events in conjunction with the NCPGA Board of Directors and Staff, which will promote active participation by the entire membership through sponsored low-cost, zero-balance tournaments.

C. CHAIRMAN

The Chairman of the Tournament Committee is appointed by the President of the NCPGA Section and ratified by the Section Board of Directors. The committee shall consist of a minimum of five people.

D. POLICY

No event will be held at a golf facility that does not employ a Class A Professional or a Professional who meets the eligibility requirements of the section.

E. DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS

1. Excluding pro-ams, the Tournament Committee and/or a designated NCPGA Employee shall conduct the following tournaments and be responsible for the enforcement of the NCPGA Rules and Regulations:

- a) Match Play Championship
- b) Stroke Play Championship
- c) Northern California Open
- d) All Pro-Pros (Referred to as Pro Series Events)
- e) All Cup Matches
- f) All Tour and Other Qualifying Events
- g) Other Designated Events

2. The Tournament Committee or Designated Representative shall coordinate all schedules and approve requests for tournament dates and sites.

- a) Priority in scheduling will be in the following order:
 - (1) Section Championships (See Section VIII)
 - (2) Section Pro-Pro Events
 - (3) Multi-Day Pro-Amateur Events
 - (4) Pro-Amateur Events
 - (5) Special Interest Events (Senior and Assistant Associate Divisions and Chapter Events)
 - (6) Other Pro Only Events

- b) Priority in scheduling pro-amateur events will be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee and under the following guidelines:
 - (1) Past History
 - (2) Purse Size
 - (3) Date Request Received
 - (4) Geographical Limitation (60 miles unless agreed upon by the Host Professionals involved)
- 3. Tournament postponement, cancellation or suspension of a Section Event: The final decision to cancel a section tournament event will rest with the NCPGA Tournament Director, after consultation with the designated PGA and/or NCGA Rules Officials assigned to the event.
- 4. The Tournament Committee is responsible for the interpretation and enforcement of the USGA Rules of Golf and the NCPGA Rules of Play Card, which govern all NCPGA Sanctioned or Section Events. The Rules Committee for a particular tournament shall consist of the Tournament Chairperson, a Rules Committee Member(s), the Host Professional or his Designated Representative and the NCPGA Tournament Director.
- 5. The Tournament Committee has the responsibility and authority to levy fines. (See section V, C, 9 for structure of fines).
- 6. Obligations and responsibilities of the NCPGA Tournament Director and Staff
 - a) Preparation of tournament entry in accordance with the Section Tournament policies and Procedures.
 - b) Priority in scheduling will be in the following order:
 - (1) Section Championships (See Section VII)
 - (2) Section Pro – Pro Events
 - (3) Multi – Day Pro Amateur Events
 - (4) Pro – Amateur Events
 - (5) Special Interest Events (Senior and Assistants Associate Divisions and Chapter Events)
 - (6) Other Pro Only Events
 - c) Priority in scheduling of pro – amateur events will be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee and under the following guidelines:
 - (1) Past History
 - (2) Purse Size
 - (3) Data Request Received
 - (4) Geographical Limitation (60 miles unless agreed upon by the Host Professionals involved)

II. DIVISIONS AND CHAPTERS

A. SENIOR DIVISION

The Senior Division Tournament Rules & Regulations shall be considered part of these By-Laws and for convenience are printed separately. The Senior Division Tournament Rules & Regulations may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

III. SANCTIONED EVENT

- A. A Sanctioned Event is defined as any 18 hole (or more) pro-amateur competition open to all NCPGA Members, played within the geographical boundaries of the Northern California Section, in which 10 or more golf professionals are scheduled to participate, charging an entry fee and offering a purse as prize money.
- B. A pro-amateur event must be sanctioned by the NCPGA Section in order for the NCPGA Members to participate as competitors.
- C. Tournaments are sanctioned with a \$35 non-refundable deposit. A \$5 player fee will be charged for every player who participates in a Sanctioned Event.
- D. Any NCPGA Member or Associate competing in an un-Sanctioned Event that conflicts with an NCPGA competition, within the boundaries of the NCPGA Section, shall be subject to suspension from tournament activity for three months and fined \$100 unless approved in advance by either the NCPGA Tournament Director or the Tournament Committee Chairperson. A second offense will result in a six-month suspension and a \$200 fine. Such suspensions shall be imposed by the NCPGA Section Board of Directors.
- E. Each Member of the NCPGA is personally responsible for knowing if an event has been sanctioned.
- F. Any pro-amateur event held within the boundaries of a chapter and at a chapter member's club will be considered a chapter event and is subject to the chapter and section sanctioning and player fees.

IV. SECTION EVENT

- A. A Section Event is defined as any professional golf competition played within the geographical boundaries of our Section not required by the Board of Directors to pay sanctioning or player fees.
- B. Each one of these events will be considered individually on its own merits.
- C. Any NCPGA Member or Associate competing in a non-Section Event that conflicts with an NCPGA competition within the boundaries of the NCPGA Section shall be subject to suspension from tournament activity for three months and fined \$100 unless approved in writing in advance by either the Tournament Director or the Tournament Committee Chairperson. A second offense will result in a six-month suspension and a \$200 fine. The NCPGA Section Board of Control shall impose such suspensions based on facts and recommendations from the Tournament Chair or his designee.
- D. Each Member of the NCPGA is personally responsible for knowing if an event has been deemed a Section Event.
- E. Examples of Section Events:
 - 1. NCPGA Pro-Pros, including the NCPGA 4-Pro Scramble
 - 2. All Section Championships (See Section VIII)
 - 3. Pro-President Championship

V. TOURNAMENT CONTESTANT ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility for Northern California PGA Sanctioned or Section events is limited to PGA Members who meet all of the following criteria:

A. Members

1. Must be eligibly employed in and classified in one of the following membership classifications as of the respective tournament deadline. The PGA of America Headquarters membership records must reflect this status. . The Northern California PGA reserves the absolute right to deny any entry at any time in the event that the PGA of America determines that an individual is not in a classification as required herein. An entrant's status is subject to change based upon information which would adversely affect an entrant's eligibility, obtained after official acceptance of the entry.

*MP Master Professional

A-1 Head Professional at a PGA recognized golf course

A-2 Head Professional at a PGA recognized golf range

A-4 Golf Directors at a PGA recognized golf course

*A-5 Past PGA Presidents

A-6 Self-employed teaching professionals

A-7 Director of Golf or Head Professional at a PGA recognized golf facility under construction

A-8 Assistant Professional

A-9 Executives or managers of golf properties

A-10 Golf Clinicians

A-11 Employees of Golf Associations

A-12 College Golf Coaches

A-13 General Managers/Directors of Club Operations

A-14 Directors of Instruction at a PGA recognized facility

A-15 Retail

A-16 Golf Course Architect/Builder

A-17 Golf Course Superintendents

A-18 Golf Media

A-19 Golf Manufacturer Management

A-20 Golf Manufacturer Sales Representatives

A-21 Tournament Director

A-22 Rules Official

A-23 Golf Club Fitting/Golf Club Repair

A-24 PGA members primarily employed within the golf industry that are not eligible for another Active classification

LMA Life Member Active

LMR Life Member Retired

LMMA Life Member Master Professional Active

- B. Associates:
1. Associates must be enrolled in Level 2 or great in order to compete in NCPGA Pro-Series tournaments.
- C. A PGA member or associate will not be eligible to participate in Section or Sanctioned events if the member/associate is serving a suspension from membership, OR the member is suspended from tournament participation for National or Section tournaments.
- D. A PGA member or associate will not be eligible to participate in Section or Sanctioned events if the member/associate is classified as Class F, LMC, RM, or Honorary.
- E. PGA Members of other Sections in good standing, as defined in (A), (B) & (C) above are eligible to participate in NCPGA sanctioned pro-ams.
- F. A PGA member who is classified as A-3 is:
1. Ineligible to participate in:
 - a) All NCPGA point events
 - b) All Section Championships except the Northern California Open & Senior Northern California Open where they are eligible to compete.
 2. Eligible to participate in Sanctioned pro-ams.
- G. Inactive and Unemployed Members are:
1. Eligible to participate in all Section tournaments but are not eligible for Player of the Year points
 2. Ineligible to participate in all Section Championships except the Northern California Open & Senior Northern California open where they are eligible to compete.
- H. A Host Professional of a pro-am tournament may extend invitations to Non-PGA Member Professionals. Participating Non-PGA Member Professionals must pay an additional fee of \$150 per competition. LPGA teaching and club professionals (excluding LPGA Tour players) are exempt from paying the Non-PGA Member Professional Fees in NCPGA sanctioned pro-am events. These fees will go into the NCPGA Section Funds as defined in II.C above. A Non-PGA Member Professional can only participate in four (4) pro-amateur events in a calendar year.

VI. DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF PARTICIPATING PROFESSIONALS

A. ENTRIES

1. No post entries are permitted in NCPGA Section Events unless authorized by NCPGA Tournament Director. In such a case, a \$25 late fee will be added to the entry.
2. By entering an NCPGA event, the Professional agrees to abide by the prescribed rules of conduct.

B. WITHDRAWAL

1. In the event any contestant entered in an NCPGA Tournament must withdraw:
 - a) The Player must notify the Section Office of their withdrawal during regular business hours of 8:00 a.m. Monday through 4:00 p.m. Friday, the week prior to the event. A \$20 administration fee will apply.
 - b) After Friday at 4:00 p.m., the player must leave a message with the NCPGA Tournament Director (707) 449-4742 ext.105 or the Host Facility for a refund (minus course fees) to be considered by the NCPGA.
 - c) If notification is not received prior to 3:00 p.m. the day prior to the first scheduled starting time, the competitor forfeits his/her entry fee. (See V.2)
 - d) If it is between days of a multi-day event and is for a reason other than illness or injury, withdrawal must be done at the completion of the player's last round.
2. Participants may petition the Tournament Director in the case of illness or emergency if they believe a refund is in order. If a refund is issued, a \$20 administrative fee will be deducted.

C. VIOLATIONS AND CONDUCT DURING AN NCPGA SANCTIONED OR SECTION EVENT CONSTITUTING CONSIDERATION OF A FINE

1. The PGA of America Section Tournament Policy in the Code of Ethics By Laws and Regulations governs our policy on Discipline, Penalties and Appeals. Details are included in the Section Tournament and Procedures

D. Dress Code for NCPGA Sanctioned and Section Events

1. Professional contestants are required to dress in a manner which is in keeping with the traditions of the game of golf.
2. Jeans of any make or design, shorts and shirts without collars are improper dress for all NCPGA Sanctioned or Section Events.
3. All contestants who appear on the starting tee with improper dress as defined in (2) above will not be allowed to play, and their entry fee will not be refunded.

VII. HOST PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

A. PRO-AMATEUR EVENTS

1. Professionals requesting a tournament date must return the tournament request form, with an alternative date included, the sanctioning deposit and an anticipated budget to the Section Office.
2. The Host Professional shall send and receive entry forms (a copy of the entry form shall be sent to the Section Office for informational purposes), collect entry fees and distribute prizes and moneys to the tournament winners.
3. Additional responsibilities may be included in the NCPGA Tournament Policies and Procedures

VIII. NCPGA PLAYER POINT SYSTEM

1. The Tournament Committee shall develop and administer a comprehensive point system for the purpose of identifying the Section Player of the Year. The point system may also be used as a basis for eligibility in any Special Events the Section may develop or participate in. The Point System shall be described in detail in the NCPGA Tournament Policies and Procedures.

IX. SECTION CHAMPIONSHIPS

A. STROKE PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP

1. The Stroke Play Championship will be used for the qualifying for the PGA Professional National Championship, using the total score of the event. Entries for the PGA Professional National Championship must be done on-line or call the 800 number at the National Office. Ties will be broken by a sudden victory playoff.
2. Deadline dates will be established in accordance with the requirements of the PGA Professional National Championship deadline.
3. Eligibility shall be consistent with the PGA Professional National Championship qualifying.

B. MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP

1. The Match Play field will be determined by the Top 31 players from the previous year's Player of the Year (POY) list. The defending champion will be the #1 seed. The Top 31 players from the previous year's POY list will be seeded in order from 2-32.

C. NORTHERN CALIFORNIA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. The championship will consist of two competitions, each with two titles:
 - a) Northern California Open Championship
 - (1) NCO Champion
 - (2) NCO Amateur Champion
 - b) Senior Northern California Open Championship
 - (1) Senior NCO Champion
 - (2) Senior NCO Amateur Champion

2. The following classifications will be exempt from qualifying, should qualifying be necessary:
 - a) Northern California Open Championship
 - (a) All PGA Members and Associates in good standing (Except A-3's)
 - (b) NCGA/SCGA Amateur Members with a 3.4 index or less
 - b) Senior Northern California Open Championship
 - (a) All PGA Members and Associates in good standing (Except A-3's) 50 years or older
 - (b) NCGA/SCGA Amateur Members 50 years or older with a 3.4 index or less
 - c) There may be open qualifying for Non-Exempt players for a limited number of spots. This will be determined annually by the NCPGA Tournament Director and Committee.

- D. CLUB TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP
 1. Eligibility: Team members must be employed at the same facility. Employment is defined as the employer reflected in the PGA of America membership record. A facility may have more than one team in the field.
 2. The format of the tournament will be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.

- E. PRO-SCOTCH CHAMPIONSHIP
 1. Any NCPGA Member or associate may choose a fellow NCPGA Member or associate as his/her partner.
 2. 18-hole competition consisting of a Scotch format.

- F. SENIOR-JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP
 1. Format: 36 holes: Four-ball AM, Scramble PM.
 2. Any NCPGA Member or associate may choose a fellow NCPGA Member or associate as his/her partner.
 3. Three age groups-under 50, 50-64, 65 and up.
Tees to match age group, three sets total.
 4. Teams must consist of two players from different age groups e.g. a 55 year old could Team up with a 66-year-old.
with a 66-year-old.
 5. One purse, one skin game.

X. OTHER EVENTS

The following are other events not deemed as Section events. Other events can be scheduled on the dates of these events.

- A. HANNA-WEHRMAN and STAEDLER-JETTER CUP MATCHES
 1. NCPGA vs. NCGA - The Hanna-Wehrman Cup Team shall consist of the top 10 Players available from the points list at the time of the event. The Staedler-Jetter Cup Team shall consist of the top 10 Players available from the Senior Division points list plus the top 4 Super Senior Players. The Teams shall be joined by the President of our Section who will either (a) choose to be a Team Captain, (b) choose to be a Team Captain and appoint a Co-Captain, or (c) appoint both a Captain and Co-Captain. The Captain or Co-Captain can either be playing or non-playing; playing Captain/Co-Captain must qualify as a player via the points list for their division. If there is a cancellation from the Team prior to the day of the event, the next Player(s) on the points list shall be contacted to participate.
 2. If a uniform has been purchased for a Team Member and he/she cancels from the competition, then he/she must reimburse the Section Office for the cost of the uniform.

- B. NCPGA CALIFORNIA STATE PRO-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

XI. TOUR EXEMPTIONS – SUBSTITUTIONS

- A. ALLOCATION – The Section Board of Directors shall determine how to allocate any Tournament Exemptions awarded to the Section