

Carolinas Golf Association Tournament Manual



Championship and Tournament Regulations

Effective January 1, 2017

Carolinas Golf Association (CGA)
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CGA Championship Regulations

These regulations apply to CGA championships and supplements any rules or policies stated on an official CGA championship entry form or championship player information sheet.

2016-17 USGA Rules of Golf govern play.

Automotive Transportation

The CGA may require rental of (or rental and use of) automotive transportation at a championship or qualifying event. (Such a requirement does not imply that caddies are prohibited.) Such a requirement is stated on the championship entry form, letter to competitors and/or local rules sheet.

Automotive transportation by contestants and caddies is prohibited at junior events and other championships as specified in the championship entry form, letter to competitors and/or local rules sheet.

Caddies and Spectator Carts

Caddies are permitted at CGA championships unless otherwise stated in the letter to competitors and/or the local rules sheet. A competitor should identify his/her caddie to an opponent or to the competitor's marker prior to the start of play. The competitor is responsible for the conduct of the caddie during an event.

At non-junior CGA Championships, caddies **must** be over the age of 13.

At CGA junior events, caddies over the age of 18 are **not** permitted.

CADDIE/SPECTATOR CART POLICY (non-junior championships): During the play of a hole, either the player or his caddie may ride in a golf cart but not both at the same time. Spectators are not allowed to ride in a player's golf cart at any time. Club owned spectator carts are not allowed.

Exception 1: The CGA will grant a person with a bona fide physical handicap a spectator cart if the following conditions are met: 1. Host club has a golf cart available; 2. Handicapped person pays host club the appropriate cart fee; 3. Handicapped person presents to the CGA staff or CGA representative a handicap card issued by a government agency.

Exception 2: During the match play portion of a CGA individual match play championship, both the player and caddie may ride in the same golf cart if carts are available for all competitors.

Cellular Phones and Electronic Devices

The use of cellular phones (except for emergencies, a ruling, viewing tournament leaderboard or use as a distance measuring device), laptop and tablet computers, PDA's, pagers, beepers, and the like are not allowed during a stipulated round. First offense results in a warning. Second offense results in the player's disqualification.

Championships - Rules and Regulations

The Carolinas Golf Association Executive Committee is responsible for rules and regulations that govern CGA championships. CGA staff or committee members who attend a CGA championship are responsible to the Executive Committee for enforcing regulations. United States Golf Association (USGA) Rules of Golf and local rules govern play.

Classifications of Competitors

AMATEUR is a male or female member of a CGA member club who maintains his or her amateur status as defined by the USGA.

PROFESSIONAL is a member of the golf professional staff of a CGA member club.

JUNIOR is an amateur dependent of a member of a CGA member club who has not reached their 19th birthday by the date listed on a junior entry form and has not started college.

SENIOR MALE is a male amateur member of a CGA member club who has reached his 55th birthday by the date listed on a senior entry form.

SUPER SENIOR MALE is a male amateur member of a CGA member club who has reached his 65th birthday by the date listed on a senior entry form.

SENIOR FEMALE is a female amateur member of a CGA member club who has reached her 50th birthday by the date listed on a senior entry form.

SUPER SENIOR FEMALE is a female amateur member of a CGA member club who has reached her 65th birthday by the date listed on a senior entry form.

MID-AMATEUR is an amateur member of a CGA member club who has reached their 30th birthday by the date listed on a mid-amateur entry form.

YOUNG AMATEUR is a male or female member of a CGA member club between the ages of 18 to 30 by the date listed on young amateur entry form, who has finished high school and maintains his/her amateur status as defined by USGA.

FATHER-SON is a team comprised of a father and a son, stepfather-stepson, father-in-law and son-in-law, or grandfather-grandson. One member of each team must be a member of a CGA member club or a member of the golf professional staff of a CGA member club.

PARENT-CHILD is a team comprised of a father and a daughter, mother-daughter, mother-son, stepfather-stepdaughter, stepmother-stepdaughter, stepmother-stepson, mother/father-in-law and son/daughter-in-law, grandfather-granddaughter, grandmother-granddaughter or grandmother-grandson. One member of each team must be a member of a CGA member club or a member of the golf professional staff of a CGA member club.

Code of Conduct

The CGA expects all competitors to adhere to the "Etiquette; Behavior on the Course" section of the USGA Rules of Golf. Entries are subject to rejection at any time, including during the event, by the CGA or the host club. The reason for rejection may include unbecoming conduct, did not start (DNS) or no card (NC). Failure to follow the CGA Code of Conduct may result in the competitor's suspension from participation in future CGA competitions.

Course Preparations

The CGA staff, at the bidding of the championship committee, is responsible for marking a golf course and determining tee and hole locations. Special rules, such as dropping zones, are listed on the Notice to Players.

Defending Champions

In a match play championship, the defending champion is exempt from the next year's match-play qualifying and is seeded first in match play unless these rights are waived. A defending champion **must** complete an entry form for the next year's championship and fulfill all eligibility and deadline requirements.

In a four-ball match play championship, both competitors of the defending team must enter as one team to retain the exemption and are seeded number one for match play.

Discontinuing Play

Competitors are permitted to discontinue play in accordance with Rule 6-8 (USGA Rules of Golf). The championship committee and the host club superintendent or club committee also may discontinue play.

Any interruption of play is noted by a siren blast. When play is discontinued, a competitor should mark and lift his/her ball.

When play is suspended for a dangerous situation, a competitor who is between the play of two holes may not resume play until the committee has ordered a resumption of play. A competitor in any event **must** discontinue play immediately upon announcement of a dangerous situation.

If conditions become so severe that play cannot be resumed the same day, the championship committee may suspend, postpone or cancel the round. When play is suspended, play will be resumed from where it was stopped, and all posted scores stand. When play is postponed, returned scores **may** be canceled at the discretion of the committee. A postponed round is rescheduled immediately for the following day if possible.

Dress Code

The CGA defers to the dress code of a host club but also enforces its own code. Unsuitable attire at championships includes: shirts without collars (mock neck must be ½" minimum), pants or shorts made of denim, cargo shorts and cargo pants, shorts less than Bermuda length, tank tops, T-shirts and cut-offs. Caps must be worn forward.

A competitor who does not conform to a championship dress code will be asked to change attire prior to his/her starting time. The penalty for non-compliance is disqualification.

Eligibility

General: Specific championship eligibility rules are listed on the respective CGA championship entry form. Participation in Carolinas Golf Association championships and qualifiers is open to an individual who meets the following criteria:

1. Member of a CGA Member Club, and
2. Has an active GHIN® USGA Handicap Index® issued by a CGA Member Club, and
3. Complies fully with USGA Rules of Amateur Status, and
4. Must either be a "resident" of North Carolina or South Carolina (see "Legal Residency Criteria" below) or if they are not a "resident" they must meet the "non-resident" requirements below for Carolinas senior and super senior championships.

Legal Residency Criteria

Resident: An individual is considered to be a resident of one of the Carolinas when said individual (a) maintains his/her primary residence in North Carolina or South Carolina or if (a) is in question, (b) the individual (i) possesses a valid North Carolina or South Carolina driver's license and/or (ii) is registered to vote in North Carolina or South Carolina in local, state and national elections.

Juniors: An eligible junior is an 18-year-old or under who is a dependent of a member of a CGA member club who meets the "Resident" criteria and has not started college, or is a member in their own right. An eligible junior is not required to have a current USGA Handicap Index issued by a CGA member club unless otherwise stated on the championship entry form.

Military: Active duty members of the United States Military are eligible to participate in CGA Championships if they are stationed in one of the Carolinas as of the last scheduled day of the event and meet the "General" criteria 1, 2 and 3 items. The voting and driver's license provisions are waived under the "Resident" criteria. He/she must meet all other eligibility requirements listed on the official tournament entry form.

College Students: A college student is considered a resident of their parent(s)/guardian(s) "Resident" criteria unless said student (i) has no dependency on his/her parents; and (ii) fulfills the "Resident" criteria as stated above.

Non-Resident Criteria

*Applies to Carolinas Male/Female Senior and Super Senior Championships: An individual, who is not a resident, as defined above under "Legal Residency Criteria", is eligible for Carolinas senior and super senior championships if they

meet the following “Non-Resident” criteria:

1. Member of a Type I (Green Grass) CGA Member Club, and
2. Has an active GHIN® USGA Handicap Index® issued by a Type I (Green Grass) CGA Member Club, and
3. Complies fully with USGA Rules of Amateur Status, and
4. Own a residence in North Carolina or South Carolina, and
5. Must use their Carolinas residence address when registering for a championship.

*Carolinas Senior Amateur, Carolinas Women’s Senior Amateur, Carolinas Senior Four-Ball, Carolinas Super Senior, Carolinas Super Senior Four-Ball, Carolinas Interclub.

Note: “Non-resident” criteria only apply to Carolinas championships. “Non-residents” are ineligible for Carolinas Team, Tar Heel Cup USGA State Team competitions and state-specific championships (i.e. North Carolina Senior Amateur, North Carolina Women’s Senior, etc.). “Legal Residency” criteria apply to state-specific championships.

Other Eligibility Criteria:

Applicants for reinstatement to amateur status (A/R) are not eligible for CGA amateur championships. Professionals are eligible only for professional events (including divisions of the Father-Son and Parent-Child championships) and must conform to the **PROFESSIONAL** classification.

USGA Handicap Index® limitations are stated on each championship entry form if applicable.

Entrants who misrepresent their playing proficiency are subject to disqualification at any time and to rejection from future CGA events.

The CGA reserves the right to reject an entry if the entrant was a “No Card” (NC) or “Did Not Show/Start” (DNS) at that event the previous year.

Entry Requirements and Deadlines

Entry opening and closing deadlines are strictly observed. Championship entry forms received before the specified opening date are returned to the sender and must be re-submitted.

Every competitor must complete an online application at www.carolinasgolf.org. Mail/paper entry forms are only accepted for the Parent/Child, Father/Son or Island Four-Ball. Mail/Paper entry forms must be filled out completely and **legibly**. No entry is accepted prior to a championship’s opening date/time. Entries are accepted until 11:59 p.m. of the closing date listed on the form.

Fax, e-mail, telephone, late or incomplete entry forms are not accepted.

Refer to each championship entry form for registration instructions. The specified entry fee must be paid by cash, check or money order and must accompany the championship entry form. Checks must be made payable to the Carolinas Golf Association. Visa, MasterCard and Discover payments are accepted for online applications only.

While the CGA is pleased to provide online championship applications, we stress that the Internet is an unstable environment. The CGA cannot and does not guarantee that this site or the ability to apply on-line will be available seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day. The CGA does not make any guarantee that an entry submitted pursuant to this site will be received by the CGA or received in a timely fashion. Just as with registration by mail, the responsibility for ensuring that an application is received by the CGA by no later than the deadline set forth on the particular entry form, and the risk of delay and/or error in transmission lies solely with the applicant. The CGA shall have no liability with respect to any such delay and/or error and the consequences therefrom, including rejection of an entry. Entries will be automatically rejected by the CGA if received at the CGA after the date and time set forth on the relevant entry form. Please be advised that players who are minors upon the date of submission of an entry form in the state in which they reside (e.g. North Carolina, under the age of 18) must have parental consent to apply via the Internet.

The CGA is not responsible for errors or delays made by any mail, delivery courier, internet service provider or credit card vendor. Confirmation of acceptance and lodging information are sent to competitors as soon as practicable.

Entry into a CGA championship is subject to approval by the CGA Championship Committee. By signing a championship entry form, each entrant agrees to abide by all CGA and club regulations.

Note: If necessary, CGA will file a blank entry form for a defending champion and for host club exemption(s) prior to the closing date. Defending champion should notify CGA at least seven days prior to the championship of their entry status. Host club should advise the CGA at least seven days prior to the championship of the selected player. Should the host club's exemption selection withdraw prior to the championship, the host club may substitute another player prior to that player's scheduled championship tee time with approval from the CGA.

Entry Fees

The entry fee and entry fee schedule for each championship is listed on that championship's official entry form.

Field Size

Field sizes are determined by the CGA.

Exemption from Qualifying Events

In championships which require sectional qualifying events, exemption categories are listed on the championship entry form. All other competitors must qualify.

Medical Deferment for Exempt Players: Players may defer their exemption into an event for one year if they are unable to compete due to a verifiable injury or other medical condition. Once a player starts a competition (makes one stroke in competition round), the exemption for that event may not be deferred for any reason.

Gambling

The CGA discourages any form of gambling in connection with any CGA event. Incidents of wagering or gambling considered flagrant or excessive by the committee may result in disqualification of those involved and rejection of entry in subsequent CGA championships.

Local Rules

The CGA Championship Committee is responsible for preparing and distributing the "Notice to Players," including all local rules. These are distributed at the starting tees and are available at the starter's table.

Unless otherwise noted, the following local rules are in effect at CGA championships:

*The "One-Ball Rule" is **not** in effect.*

*Decision 4-1/1 **Groove and Punch Mark Specifications** are **not** in effect.*

***Embedded ball** relief is "**through the green**" **except in sand not in closely mown areas**.*

***Regular water hazards** are **identified** by yellow stakes and **defined** by yellow lines. Stakes and lines are deemed to be in a hazard.*

***Lateral water hazards** are **identified** by red stakes and **defined** by red lines. Stakes and lines are deemed to be in a hazard.*

***Ground under repair** is defined by white lines. White-lined areas tying into a cart path are deemed to be part of that obstruction.*

***Out of bounds** is defined by the **inside points** of white stakes **at ground level** and other items as defined in the Notice to Players.*

Ball at Rest Moved on Putting Green: *When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment. The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced. This Local Rule applies only when the player's ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental.*

Distance Measuring Devices: *A player may use a distance measuring device to measure distance only. However, if, during a stipulated round, a player uses a function that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., gradient, wind-speed, temperature, etc.); the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.*

*At clubs that have shoe and **spike restrictions**, the penalty for non-compliance of the club rule is **disqualification**.*

*All club **dress codes** will be observed. The penalty for non-compliance is **disqualification**.*

Official Starting Time

Tee Times - The clock at the tee (1st or 10th) where the player begins his/her stipulated round is the official time of starting. Starters will not page players in advance of their starting time. Players should report to the tee at least five minutes prior to their starting time.

Shotgun or Simultaneous Start - A player is responsible for being at the assigned tee promptly to begin play on time. The assigned starting time for shotgun events is when a) a horn or siren is sounded, b) if no horn or siren is used, when the group can play without interference or c) if the player is in the second group to start on an assigned hole, when that group can play without interference.

Pace of Play

The CGA is concerned about the pace of play in championships. Following the lead of the USGA, the CGA has developed a pace of play policy, based on Rule 6-7, that is fair to every competitor.

Pace of play regulations are stated on the championship local rules sheet. Specific pace of play guidelines are denoted on the player's score card. As a general rule, these include:

Any competitor who is discovered taking more than 40 seconds to play a stroke is subject to a warning for slow play and will be advised of the fact. The competitor will be notified that exceeding 40 seconds on one more occasion will result in a penalty of one stroke in stroke play or loss of hole in match play. A third violation will result in a two stroke penalty in stroke play or loss of hole in match play, followed by disqualification for a fourth violation.

A warning is any notice given to a competitor regarding pace of play.

A competitor's time to play begins when the competitor has had a reasonable opportunity to reach his or her ball and when it is the competitor's turn to play and can do so without interference or distraction. Penalties are applied individually, but more than one competitor in a group may be penalized.

In general, competitors in a group are subject to being timed at any time but specifically when the group is deemed to be out of position and over the allotted pace of play guidelines.

Note that a group that is out of position at any time may be asked to close the gap regardless of pace of play guidelines.

Pairings and Starting Times

The CGA is responsible for making pairings and starting times, for making these available to competitors and for conducting championships.

Preferences for starting times and pairings are **not** granted. Pairings are made to facilitate efficacious completion of a championship. Tee times and pairings can not be altered after close of entries.

Pairings and starting times are posted at each host club prior to the last practice-round day, are available at the CGA

office and on the CGA website.

Competitors are responsible for ascertaining starting times and should be ready to play at the assigned tee at least five minutes prior to the starting time.

Practice Rounds

Practice rounds before a championship generally are scheduled the day(s) before the event at the discretion of the host club. Competitors generally are granted one complimentary practice round before a championship. Use of golf carts may be required.

Multiple shots are not permitted during a practice round except from the teeing ground and on a putting green, provided play is not delayed.

Prizes

All prizes are determined by the CGA Championship Committee or by the duly-appointed CGA representative.

Prizes in CGA amateur championships comply with USGA Rules of Amateur Status (see USGA Rules of Golf). Prize money for professional events or divisions is determined by field size. Prizes in junior championships comply with state high school athletic and otherwise applicable regulations.

In a championship featuring a permanent trophy, the current champion's home club has custody of the trophy until the scheduled date of the championship the following year. The champion from the preceding year has the responsibility to assure that the permanent trophy on display at his club arrives, in due time, at the next championship site. If this is not possible, the custodian club must notify the CGA office in advance of the championship dates.

The CGA is not responsible for any unclaimed or unredeemed merchandise certificates after a tournament play date. It is the player's responsibility to claim or redeem a certificate or golf shop credit prior to leaving a tournament site. The CGA will not replace any lost or unclaimed merchandise certificates/gift cards after a tournament is played.

High School or collegiate players should check with their institution compliance department regarding High School or NCAA regulations relating to accepting prizes or merchandise.

Qualifying Events

Qualifying events are held for CGA championships which attract far more entries than can be accommodated in the championship starting field.

Sectional qualifying is 18 holes of stroke play consisting of two nine-hole stipulated rounds. The number of qualifiers' places at each site is determined by the CGA after entries close, based on the size of the field. All ties for the final qualifying position qualify for the championship. Assignment is based on the date/time the CGA receives and processes each entry form. **Qualifying site assignments cannot be changed after entries close.**

If a qualifying site is full at the time of registration, a player may opt to be placed on that site's alternate wait list or register at another qualifying site. A player may only register for one qualifying site. Wait list alternates and on-site alternates are ranked according to date/time an entry is received and processed.

*Note: Qualifying sites may be cancelled due to a lack of participation.

Rain-Out Policy. In the event a qualifying round begins, gets suspended and does not resume, and all players complete a 9 hole stipulated round, qualifiers will be selected based on the 9 hole stipulated round scores. If players start on 1 and 10 tee, the qualifying spots will be allocated among the players playing each side based on number of players. (e.g. if a qualifying site has 8 spots available, and 9 holes are completed and play is subsequently suspended; the players off 1 (half total field) get 4 spots and the players off 10 (half total field) get 4 spots.

In the event a qualifying round does not start (or does not complete 9 holes) and cannot be rescheduled, the CGA

reserves the right to choose competitors for the championship as follows:

1. From eligible competitors who played in the specific championship proper the previous year event was contested.
2. From eligible competitors who successfully qualified for USGA Championships during the previous 24 months.
3. *From eligible competitors in ranking order on the respective Carolinas player rankings as of the last update.
4. From the remaining competitors with the lowest handicap indexes up to the total number of available qualifying spots determined in advance by the Committee.

*Respective Player Rankings: Men=Carolinas Men's Rankings; Senior Men=Carolinas Senior Men's Rankings; NC Junior Boys=NC Junior Boys Rankings; SC Junior Boys=SCGA Junior Boys Rankings; Carolinas Junior Boys=Allocation based upon a percentage of players from each state using appropriate state junior rankings (NC Junior Boys=NC Junior Boys Rankings; SC Junior Boys=SCGA Junior Boys Rankings).

Note: If there are more eligible players than qualifying spots available for any of the above eligibility criteria, then a "blind draw" will be used to determine those players advancing to the championship proper. Competitors who have "Withdrawn" from the qualifier are not eligible under this policy. The CGA reserves the right to adjust the number of qualifying spots.

Refund Policy

Entry fee refund policy schedule:

Open Date to Day Prior to Championship or Qualifying Date: Full refund minus \$30.00 administrative fee regardless of reason if entry accepted into championship or sectional qualifier.

Withdraw on Championship or Qualifying Date; No-Shows: No refund for any reason.

Alternates: Full refund if player does not gain entry into a qualifying site.

*Note: Refund policy and schedule applies to each entry fee stage of a championship with qualifiers.

Players/teams who withdraw from a championship or qualifier may re-enter the event prior to the closing date as long as space is available in the tournament field and pay the full entry fee (unless a refund of the original entry fee has not yet been processed). If the championship or qualifier field is full, the player/team will be placed at the end of the alternate wait list.

Players/teams who withdraw from a championship or qualifier after the closing date may "Un-withdraw" as long as space is available in the tournament field and pay the full entry fee (unless a refund of the original entry fee has not yet been processed). If the championship or qualifier field is full, the player/team will be placed at the end of the alternate wait list.

Players/teams in multi-day a tournament/championship that have a round of play cancelled will not be issued a refund for that round.

Refunds are not made for any reason after the qualifying round for qualifying competitors (in championships which have qualifying events).

Credit card registration refunds are credited to the account from which payment was made.

Entries paid by check will either have the check destroyed or a refund check for the appropriate amount will be issued from the CGA office.

Score Cards

Each competitor is responsible for the accuracy of the score recorded for each hole but not for the addition of those scores.

In CGA competitions, a score card is deemed returned to the committee when the score is posted on the official scoreboard. In CGA conducted USGA qualifying, a score card is deemed returned when the player has exited the scoring area. No alteration may be made on a score card by a competitor after it is returned to the committee. Competitors are encouraged to remain in the scoreboard area until their scores are verified and posted.

A competitor who fails to return a signed scorecard within 20 minutes of completion of the stipulated round is deemed to have failed to return a score for the round and may be listed on the scoreboard as a "Disqualification" (DQ under Rule 6-6b).

Competitors that fail to return a score card without informing the CGA are denoted as a "No Card" (NC).

In match play championships, score cards are not required. The winner of a match must report the result of that match to a CGA official immediately after completion of the match. Competitors are urged to check the scoreboard to see that match play results are posted properly and to determine the starting time of the next-scheduled round.

The CGA reserves the right to reject an entry if the entrant was a "No Card" (NC) or "Did Not Show/Start" (DNS) the previous year.

Television, Radio, Motion Picture, Video and Photographic Rights

Competitors in CGA championships grant and assign to the CGA, without limitation, their individual television, radio, motion picture, video, photographic and all other similar rights with respect to participating in CGA events.

Competitors also agree to refrain from any action which might interfere with the CGA's ownership of the rights granted and assigned to the CGA. All such rights are the property of and expressly reserved for, by and to the CGA. Any use thereof, without the expressed and written consent of the CGA, is forbidden.

Ties and Playoffs

Resolution of ties and playoff information are listed on CGA Notice to Players and Local Rules sheets. As a general rule, these include:

- A tie for first place in a stroke play championship is resolved by a hole-by-hole playoff beginning at a hole to be determined by the Committee. If a playoff involves more than two competitors, those other than the champion are deemed to tie for second place.
- In championships at which trophies are awarded to more than the champion, ties will be resolved on the score card using the USGA recommended method.
- In a match play championship, the stipulated round will be extended until a winner is determined.
- In a match play championship, ties for match play **spots** will begin at a hole to be determined by the Committee when such a situation is determined.
- In a match play championship, ties for match play **seeds** will be blind drawn to determine seeding.
- Competitors or teams finishing at the same level in a match play championship (such as semifinalists) receive identical prizes.

One-Day Tournament Program including One-Day Handicap, One-Day Four-Ball, Senior Four-Ball One-Day and Mid-Amateur/Senior/Super Senior Tournaments

Tournament Regulations

2016-17 USGA Rules of Golf govern play.

CGA championship regulations apply to all one-day tournaments except as listed below.

Eligibility

A CGA One-Day Handicap Tournament (**One-Day**) is open to any amateur who has an active GHIN® USGA Handicap Index® at a CGA member club. Applicants for amateur reinstatement (A/R) are not eligible for these events.

A CGA One-Day Four-Ball Tournament (**One-Day Four-Ball**) is open to any amateur who has an active GHIN® USGA Handicap Index® at a CGA member club. Applicants for amateur reinstatement (A/R) are not eligible for these events.

A CGA Senior Four-Ball One-Day Tournament (**Senior Four-Ball One-Day**) is open to any male amateur who has an active GHIN® USGA Handicap Index® at a CGA member club and who has reached his 55th birthday by the day of the event. Applicants for amateur reinstatement (A/R) are not eligible for these events.

A CGA Mid-Amateur/Senior/Super Senior Tournament (**Mid-Amateur/Senior/Super Senior**) is open to any male amateur who has an active GHIN® USGA Handicap Index® at a CGA member club and who has reached his 30th birthday by the day of the event. Applicants for amateur reinstatement (A/R) are not eligible for these events.

Caddies

A player is prohibited from using a caddie during the stipulated round (Rule 6-4 Note, Appendix I).

Code of Conduct

CGA expects all competitors to adhere to the "Etiquette; Behavior on the Course" section of the USGA Rules of Golf. Entries are subject to rejection at any time, including during the event, by the CGA or the host club. The reason for rejection may include unbecoming conduct, did not start (DNS) or no card (NC). Failure to follow the CGA Code of Conduct may result in the competitor's suspension from participation in future CGA competitions.

Discontinuing Play

The CGA official-in-charge and the staff of the host club have the authority to discontinue play or cancel an event due to inclement weather or conditions. Competitors may discontinue play only if they consider themselves to be in danger from lightning or for some other factor, such as sudden illness, which the CGA official-in-charge considers satisfactory.

If an event is canceled, all entry fees will be refunded. No refunds are made to groups or individuals who fail to start due to inclement weather when an event is not canceled.

Refund Policy

Entry fee refund policy schedule:

Open Date to Day Prior to Championship or Qualifying Date: Full refund minus \$30.00 administrative fee regardless of reason if entry accepted into championship or sectional qualifier.

Withdraw on Championship or Qualifying Date; No-Shows: No refund for any reason.

Alternates: Full refund if player does not gain entry into a qualifying site.

Players/teams who withdraw from a tournament prior to the closing date may re-enter the event as long as space is available in the tournament field and pay the full entry fee (unless a refund of the original entry fee has not yet been processed). If the tournament field is full, the player/team will be placed at the end of the alternate wait list.

Players/teams who withdraw from a tournament after the closing date may “Un-withdraw” as long as space is available in the tournament field and pay the full entry fee (unless a refund of the original entry fee has not yet been processed). If the tournament field is full, the player/team will be placed at the end of the alternate wait list.

Credit card registration refunds are credited to the account from which payment was made.

Entries paid by check will either have the check destroyed or a refund check for the appropriate amount will be issued from the CGA office.

Players/teams in multi-day a tournament/championship that have a round of play cancelled will not be issued a refund for that round.

Entry Information and Selection Process

Each one-day tournament program has separate entry forms which are available at the CGA office and on the CGA website, www.carolinasgolf.org.

A competitor with more than one CGA handicap index must use the lowest current index.

Entries are accepted online only; on a first-come, first-served basis. Each entry fee must be paid online with a credit card.

Entry Selection Process: Entries are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Alternates are ranked in the order which entries are received. Competitor substitutions are allowed prior to and at registration, provided the substitutes are otherwise eligible. Alternates may show-up on a tournament day and fill a vacant spot if available. **However, on-site walk-up entries are not accepted.**

All player information must be filled out or entry(s) will be returned.

All entries are subject to approval by the CGA. By submitting an entry form, each competitor agrees to abide by all CGA and host club regulations, including dress code.

Practice rounds are generally not available for any one-day event and are not included in any entry fee.

Use of a golf cart is required at all CGA one-day, one-day four-ball, senior four-ball one-day and pre-senior/senior/super senior tournaments. Cart and range fees are included in tournament entry fees.

Mail, faxed, e-mail, telephone, late or incomplete entry forms are not accepted.

The CGA is not responsible for errors or delays made by any mail or delivery courier.

Tournament applications are not accepted until the tournament's opening date/time and are not accepted after the closing date/time. See the CGA website for open/close dates/times.

One-Day Events: Competitors must enter as an individual. Players may choose to compete in any division for which they are eligible.

One-Day Four-Ball Events: Competitors must enter as a group of two competitors. Teams may choose to compete in any division for which they are eligible.

Partner substitutions are allowed with prior approval. Partner substitutions made within five days of the tournament date must be approved by the CGA office. Any on-site partner changes may result in the new partner playing at scratch.

Senior Four-Ball One-Day Events: Competitors must enter as a group of two competitors. Teams may compete in the

Tournament division (all ages), Super Senior division (ages 65+) or Super Senior division (ages 70+). Both team members must be age 65+ or age 70+ to compete in the respective Super Senior division. Teams are pre-flighted according to total team handicap and paired prior to play.

Partner substitutions are allowed with prior approval. Partner substitutions made within five days of the tournament date must be approved by the CGA office. Any on-site partner changes may result in the new partner playing at scratch and the team competing within the appropriate flight.

Mid-Amateur/Senior/Super Senior Events: Competitors must enter as an individual. Players are placed into flights by age.

Format

One-Day: 18 holes of individual stroke play, gross and net scores. 100% course handicap. Field divided into six divisions based upon handicap index, gender and age. Players may choose to compete in any division in which they are eligible. Men A: 7.9 index or less (all ages, 6400- 6800 yards); Men B: 8.0 index or higher (all ages 5900-6300 yards); Senior Men A: 7.9 index or less (age 55+, 5900-6300 yards); Senior Men B: 8.0 index or higher (age 55+, 5900-6300 yards); Super Senior Men: No index restriction (age 65+, 5600-6000 yards); Women: No index restriction (all ages, 5000-5400 yards). Note that yardage may vary based upon tournament site. A minimum of four entries is required to create a division. Otherwise, divisions are combined together using the appropriate handicap adjustment for the difference in course ratings. Division changes are not allowed after entries close.

One-Day Four-Ball: Format is 18 holes of four-ball stroke play, gross and net scores. According to USGA handicap procedures, 90 percent of a player's course handicap is used to determine net scores unless altered by the CGA Tournament Committee. Course handicaps are limited to 30 strokes. If the difference between the partner's course handicaps exceeds eight strokes, then an additional 10 percent reduction is applied to both team members. Further course handicap reductions are applied based upon the *One-Day Four-Ball Multiple Net Winner Course Handicap Reduction Policy* (see page 16). Teams may choose to compete in any division in which they are eligible. Division options are based upon team gender combination and yardage. Division options and yardage: Men A (6500-6800 yards), Men B (6000-6300 yards), Mixed (one male (6000-6300 yards)/one female (5000-5400 yards), Women (5000-5400 yards). Note that yardage may vary based upon tournament site. A minimum of four teams is required to create a division. Otherwise, teams are combined together using the appropriate handicap adjustment for the difference in course ratings. Division changes are not allowed after entries close unless approved by the CGA.

Senior Four-Ball One-Day: Format is 18 holes of four-ball stroke play, both gross and net. According to USGA handicap procedures, 90 percent of a player's course handicap is used to determine net scores. Course handicaps are limited to 20 strokes prior to the 90% reduction. If the difference between the partners' course handicaps exceeds eight strokes, then an additional 10 percent reduction is applied to both team members. Further course handicap reductions are applied based upon the *One-Day Four-Ball Multiple Net Winner Course Handicap Reduction Policy* (see page 16). Teams must select to compete in the "Tournament" division (all ages/play 6000-6300 yards), the "Super Senior 65+" division (both players age 65+/play 5600-5900 yards) or the "Super Senior 70+" division (both players age 70+/play 5300-5600 yards). Note that yardage may vary based upon tournament site. Teams are pre-flighted according to total team course handicap within their division based upon the number of entries. A minimum of 4 teams is needed to constitute a flight. Otherwise, "Tournament" and "Super Senior" teams are combined together using the appropriate handicap adjustment for the difference in course ratings. Division changes are not allowed after entries close unless approved by the CGA. Teams that do not indicate a division preference will be placed in the "Tournament" division.

Mid-Amateur/Senior/Super Senior Tournament: Format is 36 holes of individual stroke play with 100 percent course handicap unless altered by the CGA Tournament Committee. Gross and net prizes are awarded. Entrants placed into divisions according to age. Age divisions: Mid-Amateur (30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54); Senior (55-59, 60-64); Super Senior (65-69, 70+). There must be at least four participants to constitute a flight. Otherwise, those players will compete in another flight or age parameters in a flight may be adjusted.

Local Rules

USGA Rules of Golf govern all play. Local rules are posted at the starter's desk. The following local rules are in effect at all one-day tournament program events.

*The "One-Ball Rule" is **not** in effect.*

*Decision 4-1/1 **Groove and Punch Mark Specifications** are **not** in effect.*

***Embedded ball** relief is "**through the green**" except in sand not in closely mown areas.*

***Regular water hazards** are **identified** by yellow stakes and **defined** by yellow lines. Stakes and lines are deemed to be in a hazard.*

***Lateral water hazards** are **identified** by red stakes and **defined** by red lines. Stakes and lines are deemed to be in a hazard.*

***Ground under repair** is defined by white lines. White-lined areas tying into a cart path are deemed to be part of that obstruction.*

***Out of bounds** is defined by the **inside points** of white stakes **at ground level** and other items as defined in the Notice to Players.*

***Distance Measuring Devices:** A player may use a distance measuring device to measure distance only. However, if, during a stipulated round, a player uses a function that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., gradient, wind-speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.*

***Ball at Rest Moved on Putting Green:** When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment. The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced. This Local Rule applies only when the player's ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental.*

*At clubs which have shoe and **spike restrictions**, the penalty for non-compliance of the club rule is **disqualification**.*

*All club **dress codes** will be observed. The penalty for non-compliance is **disqualification**.*

The use of cellular phones (except in the case of an emergency or a ruling), laptop and tablet computers, PDA's, pagers, beepers, and the like are not allowed during a stipulated round. First offense results in a warning. Second offense results in the player's disqualification.

Official Starting Time

Tee Times - The clock at the tee (1st or 10th) where the player begins his/her stipulated round is the official time of starting. Starters will not page players in advance of their starting time. Players should report to the tee at least five minutes prior to their starting time.

Shotgun or Simultaneous Start - A player is responsible for being at the assigned tee promptly to begin play on time. The assigned starting time for shotgun events is when a) a horn or siren is sounded, b) if no horn or siren is used, when the group can play without interference or c) if the player is in the second group to start on an assigned hole, when that group can play without interference.

A competitor who fails to show is denoted as a "Did Not Start" (DNS). Competitors that are a "DNS" are suspended from the next four CGA one-day tournaments.

One-Day Four-Ball Tournament Multiple Net Winner Course Handicap Reduction Policy

Individuals or teams who win first place net in three or more events in a calendar season will be subject to reduced course handicaps through the remainder of the calendar year. This rule is in effect for CGA One-Day Four-Ball tournaments, CGA Senior Four-Ball One-Day tournaments and in a combination of these tournament programs. Competitors who qualify for this reduction will be subject to the following course handicap reduction for the remainder of the tournament season, excluding any Tournament of Champion events. After 3rd Win=Additional 20% reduction; After 4th Win=Additional 30% reduction; After 5th Win=Additional 40% reduction, and so forth. If a player wins in three or more events with different partners, only the multi-event net winner will incur the appropriate course handicap reduction.

Prizes

The CGA official-in-charge reserves the right to withhold any prize won by a competitor whose handicap index is considered unrealistic or who has participated in a disproportionate share of CGA prize collections.

The CGA official-in-charge may adjust a competitor's course handicap prior to play, based on the competitor's previous tournament scores or scoring history.

The CGA is not responsible for any unclaimed or unredeemed merchandise certificates after a tournament play date. It is the player's responsibility to claim or redeem a certificate or golf shop credit prior to leaving a tournament site. The CGA will not replace any lost or unclaimed merchandise certificates/gift cards after a tournament is played.

Collegiate players should check with their institution compliance department regarding NCAA regulations relating to accepting prizes or merchandise.

One-Day: Prizes are awarded for gross and net scores. The number of net prizes is determined by the number of entries. If winners are not available to accept prizes, and no address is available, prizes will be mailed to the individual whose address is listed first on the entry form. Ties are broken on the score card using the USGA recommended method of using the total for the back nine holes, the last six holes, last three holes and the 18th hole. If a tie still remains, the scorecards will be matched beginning with the first hole until the tie is broken. Gross ties use gross scores. Net ties use net scores. Gross ties are determined first. First place winners will be eligible to compete in the One-Day Tournament of Champions.

A player is disqualified if his net score beats the course rating by eight or more strokes and beats the next best net score in their flight by four or more strokes.

One-Day Four-Ball: Prizes are awarded for gross and net scores in all flights. Ties are broken on the score card using the USGA recommended method of using the total for the back nine holes, the last six holes, last three holes and the 18th hole. If a tie still remains, the score cards will be matched beginning with the first hole until the tie is broken. Gross ties use gross scores. Net ties use net scores. Gross ties are determined first. First place winners will be eligible to compete in the One-Day Four-Ball Tournament of Champions.

A team is disqualified from net prizes if they beat the course rating by 12 strokes or more AND beat the next best net score in their division by four strokes or more. For mixed tee divisions (i.e. partners are playing two different sets of tees), the average of the two course ratings are used to determine the team course rating for the purpose of this rule. Example: a) Course rating is 70.2. A team posts a net 54, and then the next best net score in their division is net 59. The net 54 team is disqualified from net prizes, but it still eligible for gross prizes. b) In a mixed tee division, the course rating is 70.2 for one player and 69.4 for the partner. We will average the two course ratings to determine the team course rating as 69.8

Senior Four-Ball One-Day: Prizes are awarded for gross and net scores in all flights. Ties are broken on the score card using the USGA recommended method of using the total for the back nine holes, the last six holes, last three holes and the 18th hole. If a tie still remains, the score cards will be matched beginning with the first hole until the tie is broken. Gross ties use gross scores. Net ties use net scores. Gross ties are determined first. First place winners will be eligible to compete in the Senior Four-Ball One-Day Tournament of Champions.

A team is disqualified from a tournament if their net score beats the course rating by 12 strokes or more AND beat the next best net score in their division by four strokes or more.

Mid-Amateur/Senior/Super Senior One-Day: Prizes are awarded for gross and net scores in all flights. Ties are broken on the score card using the USGA recommended method of using the total for the back nine holes, the last six holes, last three holes and the 18th hole. If a tie still remains, the score cards will be matched beginning with the first hole until the tie is broken. Gross ties use gross scores. Net ties use net scores. Gross ties are determined first. First place winners will be eligible to compete in the One-Day Tournament of Champions.

A player is disqualified if his net score beats the course rating by eight or more strokes and beats the next best net score in their flight by four or more strokes for both rounds.

Score Cards

A score card is deemed to be returned when the score(s) have been posted on the official scoreboard. No alteration to a card may be made after it has been returned to the committee.

The CGA official-in-charge is responsible for applying course handicaps to scores.

A competitor who fails to return a signed scorecard within 20 minutes of completion of the stipulated round is deemed to have failed to return a score for the round and may be listed on the scoreboard as a "Disqualification" (DQ under Rule 6-6b).

Competitors that fail to return score card without informing the CGA tournament director are denoted as a "No Card" (NC) and are suspended from the next four CGA one-day tournaments.

One-Day and Mid-Amateur/Senior/Super Senior One-Day: Score cards provided by the CGA will contain a player's name, course handicap and tees to play. Score card must be signed by the player and his marker. A duplicate score card can be made if the original is lost.

The CGA will post adjusted gross scores back to a player's home club handicap.

One-Day Four-Ball and Senior Four-Ball One-Day: Score cards provided by the CGA will contain both players' names, allocation of strokes received and tees to play. The score to count must be individually identifiable. To expedite the scoring process, teams are requested to list the best ball gross and net on the score card where provided. Only one player from the competitor's side and the marker's side must sign the score card before it is returned. A duplicate score card can be made if the original is lost.

CGA Scoring Policy: The USGA Rules of Golf requires a marker to record only the gross score of the player whose net score is to count (Rule 31-3). The CGA scoring policy requires markers to record ALL hole scores for all players for handicap purposes. This enables the CGA to post scores to each player's handicap scoring record. Please do not post these scores yourself as this will duplicate the CGA's effort. Section 5-2f of the USGA handicap manual allows a tournament committee to post scores for players. The CGA will automatically post scores for each participant. How to record scores for holes not completed: For unfinished holes, enter the score you most likely would have made (more often than not). For holes not started, enter par plus any handicap strokes you would have received on the hole. In either case, the hole score should be preceded with an X (e.g. X-6) so as not to be used in determining the low gross or low net team score for that hole. Failure to record individual hole scores may jeopardize participation in future CGA one-day tournaments.

Spectator Carts

Spectators are permitted to rent a spectator cart at any CGA one-day tournament if: 1. Club has a cart available and 2. Spectator pays the appropriate cart fee. Spectator carts must remain on the cart path at all times. Spectators are not permitted to ride in a player's cart at any time.

Tarheel Youth Golf Association (TYGA)

Tournament Regulations

2016-17 USGA Rules of Golf govern play.

These regulations apply to TYGA tournaments.

Eligibility

Each member must be 18 years old or younger and have not yet started college as of the tournament date for "one-day" and "tour championship" events and 18 years old or younger as of the last tournament day for all multi-day events. Also, the junior must reside in North Carolina.

Entry Requirements

Entries must be completed by each competitor and are available online only. Entries are accepted until 11:59 p.m. of the closing date or until the field is filled. Entries must be returned to the Carolinas Golf Association.

Mail, fax, telephone, e-mail, late, or incomplete entries will not be accepted.

Confirmation of acceptance will be sent via email. The CGA is not responsible for error and/or delays with any mail courier or Internet service provider.

Entries are subject to rejection at any time, including during the tournament, by the Carolinas Golf Association, the Tarheel Youth Golf Association, or the host club. The reason may include unbecoming conduct. Players failing to show without either notifying the CGA office or the host site prior to the event may be subject to rejection from future events.

Caddies

A caddie must be 18 or younger and must walk.

Discontinuing Play and Cancellations

The TYGA official-in-charge and the staff of the host club have the authority to discontinue play or cancel a tournament due to inclement weather. If a tournament is cancelled prior to, or on the day of play, fees will be refunded.

Format

Each competitor must walk and carry his/her own bag (pull carts are allowed if club agrees) during the stipulated round, unless the competitor employs a caddie.

Divisions will be as follows: Boys and Girls 8-11, Boys 12-13, Boys 14-15, Boys 16-18, Girls 12-13, Girls 14-18. Practice rounds are not included in the tournament entry fee.

Tobacco and alcohol products are prohibited. USGA Rules of Golf govern all competitions. Local rules will be distributed at each site and are located at www.tyga.org.

Refund Policy

A \$20.00 administrative fee is charged for all refunds.

Players who withdraw from a tournament may re-enter the event prior to the closing date and pay the full entry fee.

Score Cards

A score card is deemed returned to the committee when the score is posted on the official scoreboard. No alteration may be made on a score card by a competitor after it is returned to the committee. Competitors are encouraged to remain in the scoreboard area until their scores are posted.

Starting Times

Tee time assignments will be made available at the host site seven days prior to the event and at www.tyga.org.

Middle School Championship

Format

36-holes of stroke play over two days.

Number of Players/Teams

90 players will be allowed into the state championship.

Team Rosters

Team members may change prior to the start of the event but not during the event.

Entry Information

First 18 teams and first 12 individuals will be accepted. Extra spots created by lack of four-player teams will be filled with individuals.

Note: The "double par" rule will not be allowed during regional qualifying or the state championship.

Prizes

Trophies are awarded to the championship team, all members of the championship team, the individual boys champion, the individual girls champion and members of All-State team (top 6).

Eligibility

All team members must attend the same middle school. A middle school student is defined as a student who is in grades 6-8 of the current school year. A maximum of **four** players may represent a school, however, **if no girls are on the team, that school is limited to three participants**. Any number of girls may play for a school. Home-schooled players and private school students and teams are allowed.

Caddies

Caddies are not allowed for the Middle School Championship.