

# Carolinas Golf Association Tournament Manual



Championship and Tournament Regulations  
*Effective February 1, 2025*

# **Carolinas Golf Association (CGA)**

## **Contact Information**

### **Office**

Carolinas Golf Association

140 Ridge Road

Southern Pines, North Carolina 28387

Telephone: 910-673-1000

Fax: 910-673-1001

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm

Website: [www.carolinasgolf.org](http://www.carolinasgolf.org)

E-mail Address: [tournaments@carolinasgolf.org](mailto:tournaments@carolinasgolf.org)

### **Table of Contents**

<b>CGA Championships</b>	Page 3
<b>One-Day Tournaments</b>	Page 17
<b>Tarheel Youth Golf Association</b>	Page 27

# CGA Championship Regulations

*These regulations apply to CGA championships and supplement any rules or policies stated on an official CGA championship entry form/Terms of Competitions, Notice to Players, or championship player information sheet.*

[USGA Rules of Golf](#) effective January 2023 govern play.

- **Assumption of Risk and Release from Liability**

All golfers are voluntary participants at CGA/TYGA events. Your submittal of any application/entry form is conditioned on the fact that you agree and acknowledge that the CGA/TYGA is not liable, in any way, for any injuries or damages of any kind that you may suffer, or be exposed to, while participating, or being present, at a CGA/TYGA event. You agree that the acceptance of your entry for a CGA/TYGA event is sufficient consideration for your agreement that the CGA/TYGA has no liability or responsibility, of any kind, for any damages or injuries that you may incur while involved, participating, or present, at a CGA event.

- **Automotive Transportation**

The CGA may require the use of automotive transportation at a championship or qualifying event. Such a requirement is stated on the championship entry form, player information to competitors, and/or Notice to Players.

Automotive transportation by contestants is typically prohibited at junior events and other championships as specified in the championship entry form, player information to competitors, and/or Notice to Players.

- **Caddies**

Caddies are **NOT** permitted in any CGA/TYGA championships, CGA/TYGA qualifiers, or CGA one-day tournaments. Model Local Rule H-1.1 will be in effect in all competitions. This caddie restriction does not apply to USGA qualifying and TYGA Tots events (9-hole events ages 6-12).

- **Spectator Carts**

SPECTATOR CART POLICY (non-junior championships): Spectators are not allowed to ride in a player's golf cart at any time. Spectator carts are not guaranteed and are subject to the following guidelines.

The CGA will grant a person with a bona fide physical handicap a spectator cart if the following

conditions are met:

1. The host club has a golf cart available
2. The handicapped person pays the host club the appropriate cart fee
3. The handicapped person presents to the CGA staff or CGA representative a handicap card issued by a government agency.

NOTE: There will be times when no spectator carts are not available at host clubs. The CGA reserves the right to limit the availability of spectator carts to guarantee that competitors are afforded a golf cart.

- **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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 55<sup>th</sup> 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 65<sup>th</sup> 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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 65<sup>th</sup> birthday by the date listed on a senior entry form.

**MID-AMATEUR MALE** is an amateur member of a CGA member club who has reached their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday by the date listed on a mid-amateur entry form.

**MID-AMATEUR FEMALE** is an amateur member of a CGA member club who has reached their 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday by the date listed on a mid-amateur entry form or is out of college.

***YOUNG AMATEUR*** is a male or female member of a CGA member club between the ages of 18 to 25 by the date listed on the 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 “Standards of Player Conduct”, Rule 1.2 in the USGA Rules of Golf. Additionally, the CGA requires all players to adhere to the following guidelines known as the [CGA Code of Conduct](#) Policy. Players may be warned, penalized, or disqualified for violations of the Code of Conduct (Including violations by their caddies or family members). Further, the CGA may reject an entry application, revoke an accepted application, expel from the tournament, and/or suspend a player from future tournaments if the player, their caddie, or family members engage in conduct detrimental to the integrity and image of the game of golf and/or public confidence in the CGA.

- **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**

A defending champion **must** complete online entry for the next year’s championship and fulfill all eligibility and deadline requirements. See Entry Requirements and Deadlines for further clarification.

- **Discontinuing Play**

Competitors are permitted to discontinue play in accordance with Rule 5.7 (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.

- ***Required Dress***

- Collared shirts or mock turtle necks (mock neck must be ½" minimum)
    - Women's fashion shirts without a collar must have sleeves
    - Women's shirts must not rise above the belt line at any time during the golf swing
    - Men's shirts must be tucked in
    - Hats/visors must be worn brim forward
    - Women's shorts, skorts, and skirts must be an appropriate length. Shorts under skorts should not be seen before, during, or after the golf swing.

- ***Prohibited Dress***

- Tank tops, t-shirts, workout/gym attire
    - Denim shorts, short-shorts, cut-off shorts, gym shorts, jeans, sweat pants, yoga pants, compression pants\*
    - Cargo shorts or cargo pants

\*Compression and yoga pants may be worn if covered by shorts, skorts, or skirts

Proper attire is required at all times at the host golf club, including cookouts, lunches, and dinners. Should a club have a stricter dress code, its policy will take precedence.

Questionable attire will be reviewed by the CGA Staff on site. A competitor who does not conform to the championship dress code will be asked to change attire prior to his/her starting time. The penalty for non-compliance is disqualification.

- **Tournament 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:

- **Carolinas Championships:**

1. Member of a CGA Member Club, and
2. Has an active GHIN® number issued by a CGA Member Club, and
3. Complies fully with USGA Rules of Amateur Status, and
4. Maintains a residence in North Carolina or South Carolina (is a legal resident of NC/SC; or enrolled and attends on-campus college/university in NC/SC; or lives in NC/SC at least 5 of the previous 12 months before the tournament start date)

- **North Carolina and South Carolina Championships:**

1. Member of a CGA Member Club, and
2. Has an active GHIN® number issued by a CGA Member Club, and
3. Complies fully with USGA Rules of Amateur Status, and
4. Is a *\*legal resident* of the state for which the championship is for (North Carolina or South Carolina)

- ***Legal Residency Criteria for State Championships (NC or SC named championships):***

\*Resident: An individual is considered to be a resident of North or South Carolina when said individual (a) maintains his/her primary residence in North Carolina or South Carolina. If in question, residency is determined by voter registration.

College Student: A college student is considered a resident of their parent(s)/guardian(s) “Legal Residency Criteria” as stated above unless said student (a) has no dependency on his/her parents, and (b) lives full time in North Carolina or South Carolina.

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 (and spouses) 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 provision is waived under the “Resident” criteria. He/she must meet all other eligibility requirements listed on the official tournament entry form.

- *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 Open divisions of the Father-Son and Parent-Child championships) and must conform to the **PROFESSIONAL** classification.

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.

Every competitor must complete an online application at [www.carolinagolf.org](http://www.carolinagolf.org). Mail/paper entry forms are not accepted. No entry is accepted before a championship’s opening date/time. Entries are accepted until 11:59 p.m. of the closing date listed on the form.

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

Refer to each championship's Terms of Competition for registration instructions. Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover payments are accepted.

The CGA cannot and does not guarantee that the ability to apply online will be available seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day. The CGA does not make any guarantee that an entry submitted will be received by the CGA or received in a timely fashion. The responsibility for ensuring that an application is received by the CGA lies solely with the applicant. The CGA shall have no liability concerning any such delay and/or error of an entry. 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.

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



- ***Late Registration:***

Late entries do NOT guarantee entry into a tournament.

Following the close of entries, a player may contact the CGA at [tournaments@carolinasgolf.org](mailto:tournaments@carolinasgolf.org) or contact the Official in Charge to request a late entry. Late entries will only be accepted at the discretion of the CGA and only if a spot is available in the field.

Late entries are subject to a \$30 (\$15 for TYGA One-Days) late fee in addition to the entry fee of the tournament. The late fee is non-refundable.

- ***Defending Champion Registration:***

If necessary, CGA will file a blank entry form for a defending champion and for host club exemption(s) prior to the closing date. The defending champion should notify the CGA at least seven days prior to the championship of their entry status. The 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 and are listed on the official Terms of Competition.

- **Exemption from Qualifying Events**

In championships that require sectional qualifying events, exemption categories are listed on the championship Terms of Competition. 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/medical condition or maternity/paternity leave. Players must request deferment of exemption the year they are exempt and do so before the entry window closes for that year's championship in which they are exempt. Once a player starts a competition (makes a stroke in the competition), that event exemption may not be deferred for any reason.

- **Early Registration/Sign Up Exemptions**

For select events, exemption categories will allow players to sign up for those tournaments early. All other competitors will have to register during the open registration window.

For those Exempt players must register during the early registration/signup window to ensure acceptance. Exempt players that signup after the early registration/signup window and non-exempt players gain entry into the tournament on a first come first serve basis.

- **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.

- **Gender Policy**

In championships in which a specific gender is required, the player must identify himself or herself during the entry process as that particular gender. In the event that a player has had gender reassignment surgery at any point after puberty, that player must comply with the eligibility requirements below. Gender reassignment prior to puberty is not subject to these requirements.

The following requirements set forth the eligibility for participation of transgender players in CGA Championships:

Those who transition from male to female are eligible to compete in the female category under the following conditions:

(i) The player has declared that her gender identity is female. Such declaration cannot be changed, for sporting purposes, for a minimum of four (4) years;

(ii) The player must have undergone gender reassignment surgery (*i.e.*, a gonadectomy) prior to the entry deadline for that specific Championship; and

(iii) The player must have undergone hormonal therapy and maintained testosterone levels appropriate for the assigned sex in a verifiable manner and for a sufficient length of time to minimize gender-related advantages in sport competitions, as determined by the USGA in consultation with its medical consultant(s).

Failure to provide proof of gender when gender has been reassigned may result in disqualification from the Championship.

- **Local Rules & Terms of the Competition**

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: [CGA Local Rules & Terms of Competition](#).

- **Official Starting Time**

- Tee Times - The clock at the tee (1st or 10th) where the player begins his/her round is the official time of starting. Starters will not call 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 enforces pace of play guidelines in championships & qualifiers. Following the lead of the USGA, the CGA has developed a pace of play policy, based on Rule 5.6, that is fair to every competitor.

Rule 5.6 states, in part: "The player shall play without unreasonable delay in accordance with any pace of play guidelines which may be laid down by The Committee," and thereafter prescribes penalties for slow play. To prevent any such penalty, we suggest that you [review carefully the following CGA Pace of Play Policy](#).

- **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 the efficient completion of a championship.

Pairings and starting times are posted 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 before 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 practice round before a championship at a pre-determined rate. The 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 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 trophy stays permanently on display at Carolinas Golf House.

The CGA nor the host club are 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 rounds. The number of qualifiers' places at each site is determined by the CGA once pairings are made, based on the size of the field. **Qualifying site moves after the close of entries can only be changed if a spot opens in another qualifying site.**

If a qualifying site is full at the time of registration, a player may opt to be placed on that site's alternate waitlist or register at another qualifying site. A player may only play at one qualifying

site. Waitlist 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.

- **Qualifying Events Rain-Out Policy**

In the event a qualifying round begins, gets suspended and does not resume, and all players complete a 9-hole round, qualifiers will be selected based on the 9-hole round scores. If players start on 1 and 10 tees, 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's 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.
5. Respective Player Rankings: Men=Carolinas Men's Rankings; Senior Men=Carolinas Senior Men's Rankings; Super Senior Men=Carolinas Super Senior Men's Rankings; NC Junior Boys=NC Junior Boys Rankings; SC Junior Boys=SCGA Junior Boys Rankings; Carolinas Junior Boys=Carolinas Junior Boys Rankings; Women=Carolinas Women's Rankings; Senior Women=Carolinas Senior Women's Rankings; NC Junior Girls=NC Junior Girls Rankings; Carolinas Junior Girls=Carolinas Junior Girls 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:

Any withdrawal within three (3) days before the first day of the tournament will not receive a refund. All other withdrawals are subject to a \$30 admin fee. Refer to the table below for the deadline to withdraw with a refund less the \$30 admin fee.

<u>Deadline for Refund (less admin fee) at 11:59 pm</u>	<u>First Day of Tournament</u>
Thursday	Monday
Friday	Tuesday
Saturday	Wednesday
Sunday	Thursday
Monday	Friday
Tuesday	Saturday
Wednesday	Sunday

Withdraw within three days before or on the Championship or Qualifying Date; No-Shows: No refund.

Alternates/Waitlist: Players are not charged an entry fee until they gain entry into a qualifying/tournament site.

\*Note: Refund policy and schedule apply 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 again (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” based on the late registration policy.

Players/teams in multi-day tournaments/championships that have a round of play canceled 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 that have qualifying events).

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

- **Scorecard**

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 player's scorecard is considered returned to the Committee 15 minutes after the scorecard is accepted into the electronic scoring system in the scoring area.

A player's scorecard is returned if any of the following four events occur, even if it occurs before the 15-minute time limit has expired or the player is still in the scoring area:

- Starting times have been posted after a cut has been made.
- The player begins their next round.
- Any player has made a stroke to begin a play-off.
- The competition has closed.

No changes may be made to a scorecard by a competitor after it is returned to the committee.

A competitor who fails to return a signed scorecard within 15 minutes of completion of the round is deemed to have failed to return a score for the round and may be listed on the scoreboard as a "Disqualification".

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

In match play championships, scorecards 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 CGA Staff to verify match play results 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.

### **Score Posting to GHIN**

In accordance to the 2020 World Handicap System, the CGA has adopted the following policies for score posting to your GHIN Handicap.

- Events CGA will post scores to GHIN:

Individual Stroke Play Championships, Championship Qualifiers, USGA Qualifiers, All One-Day Tournaments - the CGA will post scores to GHIN from the adjusted course rating and slope from

the tees played that day, as "C" (Competition) Scores.

- Events CGA will not post scores to GHIN:

Four-Ball Championships, Match Play Championships, USGA Four-Ball Qualifiers - due to the nature of these events, and not having hole-by-hole scores for all players, the CGA cannot post scores to the GHIN Handicap System. The CGA expects players to still post their scores in these events.

Foursomes, Modified Alternate-Shot - due to the nature of the competition, players will not have a score to post for these rounds.

- **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 that 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 the CGA Notice to Players and Terms of Competition. Generally, 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 scorecard using the USGA recommended method.
- In a match play championship, the round will be extended until a winner is determined.
- In a match play championship, ties for final match play **spots** playoff 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 Individual, One-Day Four-Ball, Senior Four-Ball One-Day, Two-Day Tournaments, and Ladies Play Day Tournaments

## Tournament Regulations

[USGA Rules of Golf](#) effective January 2023 govern play.

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

- **Assumption of Risk and Release from Liability**

All golfers are voluntary participants at CGA/TYGA events. Your submittal of any application/entry form is conditioned on the fact that you agree and acknowledge that the CGA/TYGA is not liable, in any way, for any injuries or damages of any kind that you may suffer, or be exposed to, while participating, or being present, at a CGA/TYGA event. You agree that the acceptance of your entry for a CGA/TYGA event is sufficient consideration for your agreement that the CGA/TYGA has no liability or responsibility, of any kind, for any damages or injuries that you may incur while involved, participating, or present, at a CGA event.

- **Eligibility**

A CGA One-Day Individual Tournament (**One-Day**) is open to any amateur who has an active GHIN® number 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® number 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® number at a CGA member club and who has reached his 55<sup>th</sup> birthday by the day of the event. Applicants for amateur reinstatement (A/R) are not eligible for these events.

A CGA Two-Day Individual Tournament (**Two-Day Individual**) is open to any amateur who has an active GHIN® number at a CGA member club and who has reached his 13th birthday by the day of the event. Applicants for amateur reinstatement (A/R) are not eligible for these events.

A CGA Ladies Play Day (**LPD**) is open to **any** amateur female golfer who is a member of a club that is a member of the Carolinas Golf Association and has an active GHIN® number a CGA member club. The minimum age for entry is 13 years as of the event date. A player with more than one handicap index must use the lowest current index.

- **Caddies & Golf Carts**

A player is prohibited from using a caddie during the round (Rule 10.3a is modified in this way: A player must NOT have a caddie during the round). Model Local Rule H-1.

Use of a golf cart is strongly encouraged and in some cases required at some CGA one-day, one-day four-ball, senior four-ball one-day, and two-day tournaments. Cart and range fees are included in tournament entry fees.

- **Code of Conduct**

The CGA expects all competitors to adhere to the “Standards of Player Conduct”, Rule 1.2 in the USGA Rules of Golf. Additionally, the CGA requires all players to adhere to the following guidelines known as the [CGA Code of Conduct](#).

- **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 before play, 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.

- **Entry Information**

Each one-day tournament program has separate entry forms and entry fees which are available at [www.carolinagolf.org](http://www.carolinagolf.org).

**Entries are accepted online only, either on a first-come, first-served basis or using Lottery Registration.** Each entry fee must be paid online with a credit card.

Entry Selection Process: There are two forms of registration to select entries: First-Come Registration (FCR) and Lottery Registration (LR). Each are defined below.

Regardless of the type of registration, entries open at 8:00 p.m. on the entry open date. Teams who are a "No Show" (DNS) or "No Card" (NC) are subject to suspension from future one-days. Entries will not be accepted before or after the open and close date.

- **First-Come Registration (FCR):** For most events, entries are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis (FCR). In FCR, alternates are ranked in the order in which entries are received

and placed on the waitlist. Division selection has no bearing on entry or alternate order. Entries close when the allotment of accepted and alternate teams is filled or at 11:59 p.m. on the entry close date.

- **Lottery Registration (LR):** For select events identified on the online schedule, a lottery will be used to determine entries (LR). LR will open at 8:00 p.m. on the open date and teams will have a limited time window to register. If the event is over capacity after the registration window, all entries will be placed into a randomized lottery. The max capacity (usually 52 teams or 104 players) will receive entry to the event based on lottery order and the remaining teams will be placed on the waitlist based on lottery order. Division selection has no bearing on lottery selection.

If the event does NOT meet max capacity in the LR window, all registered teams will receive entry into the event. The event will then revert to FCR and teams who register after the window will receive entry based on a first-come, first-served basis. In this scenario, entries will close when the allotment of accepted and alternate teams is filled or at 11:59 p.m. on the adjusted entry close date.

There is no advantage to signing up earlier or later in the LR window. All entries, regardless of registration time in the LR window, are equal and will be placed in the randomized lottery. Teams will be notified of their status (registered or waitlisted) within 48 hours after LR closes

All events are treated as separate events and no preference is given to any team for back-to-back events. LR does not affect or change any withdrawal or refund procedures.

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 the dress code.

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.

- **Late Registration:** Late entries do NOT guarantee entry into a tournament.

Following the close of entries, a player may contact the CGA at [tournaments@carolinasgolf.org](mailto:tournaments@carolinasgolf.org) or contact the Official in Charge to request a late entry. Late entries will only be accepted at the discretion of the CGA and only if a spot is available in the field.

Late entries are subject to a \$30 (\$15 for TYGA One-Days) late fee in addition to the entry fee of the tournament. The late fee is non-refundable.

- ***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 55+ Division, 65+ Division, 70+ Division or 75+ Division. Both team members must be age 65+, 70+ or age 75+ to compete in the respective division.

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.

- ***Two-Day Events:*** Competitors must enter as an individual. Players are placed into flights by Handicap Index.
- ***Ladies Play Day Events:*** Competitors must enter as a group of **two** competitors. Yardage will be between 4800-5300 yards, based on course restrictions.

- **Pace of Play (Model Local Rule K-1)**

- **Shotgun Start:** The CGA One-Day Tournament Committee reserves the right to disqualify an individual player, side (four-ball team) and/or the entire group if they return their scorecard to the Official-In-Charge (OIC) more than 25 minutes after the group that starts directly in front of them.
- **Tee Times Start:** The CGA One-Day Tournament Committee reserves the right to disqualify an individual player, side (four-ball team) and/or the entire group if they return their scorecard to the Official-In-Charge (OIC) more than 25 minutes after the group that starts directly in front of them AND over the posted pace of play time on the scorecard. The first group of the day will be judged based on the posted pace of play time on the scorecard plus 25 minutes to finish.
  - Shotgun Start Example: A group that began their round on Hole #18 turns in their scorecard at 2:00 p.m. The group that started directly behind them on Hole #17 turns in their scorecard at 2:40 p.m. The group starting on Hole #17 is disqualified for turning in their scorecard more than 30 minutes behind the group ahead of them.
  - Tee Times Start Example: The pace of play on the scorecard is 4:30 for 18 holes. A group that began their round at 8:50 a.m. off Hole #10 turns in their scorecard at 1:15 p.m. The group that started directly behind at 9:00 off Hole #10 turns in their scorecard at 1:46 p.m. The group that started at 9:00 a.m. is disqualified for being more than 30 minutes behind the group ahead of them and over the pace time of 4:30.

- This policy encourages all players to remain in position with the group ahead of them and return their scorecard as soon as possible.
- Competitors are reminded that Rule 5.6 carries a penalty for unreasonable delay of play and/or slow play. The player must play without delay and in accordance with any pace of play guidelines that the Committee establishes.

- **Practice Rounds**

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

Entry fee refund policy schedule:

Any withdrawal within three (3) days before the first day of the tournament will not receive a refund. All other withdrawals are subject to a \$30 admin fee. Refer to the table below for the deadline to withdraw with a refund less the \$30 admin fee.

<u>Deadline for Refund (less admin fee) at 11:59 pm</u>	<u>First Day of Tournament</u>
Thursday	Monday
Friday	Tuesday
Saturday	Wednesday
Sunday	Thursday
Monday	Friday
Tuesday	Saturday
Wednesday	Sunday

Withdrawals within three days before or on Tournament Date; No-Shows: No refund.

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

Players/teams who withdraw from a tournament 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 tournament is full, the player/team will be placed at the end of the alternate waitlist.

Players/teams who withdraw from a tournament after the closing date may “Un-withdraw” according to the Late Registration Policy.

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

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

- **Format of Play & Divisions**

- ***One-Day Tournament:*** 18 holes of individual stroke play, gross and net scores. 100% course handicap. The field is divided into divisions based on handicap index, gender, and age. Players may choose to compete in any division in which they are eligible.

- Long Tee Division: No index, age, or gender restriction (all players play 6300-6900 yards)
- Regular Tee Division: No index, age, or gender restriction (all players play 5800-6400 yards)
- Senior Tee Division: No index or gender restriction (age 55+, all players play 5800-6400 yards)
- Super Senior Tee Division: No index or gender restriction (age 65+, all players play 5400-6000 yards)
- Women Division: Women Only, no index or age restriction (all ages and players play 4600-5200 yards)

Note that yardage may vary based on the tournament site.

- ***One-Day Four-Ball:*** The format is 18 holes of four-ball stroke play, gross, and net scores. According to the *Rules of Handicapping*, 85% 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. Further course handicap reductions are applied based on the *CGA Four-Ball Handicap Reduction Policy*. Teams may choose to compete in any division in which they are eligible. Division options are based on team gender combination and yardage. Division options and yardage:

- Long Tee Division (any gender, all players play the same tee from 6300-6900 yards)
- Regular Tee Division (any gender, all players play the same tee from 5800-6400 yards)
- Short Tee Division (any gender, all players play the same tee from 5400-6000 yards)
- Mixed Division (one male player plays from 5400-6000 yards)/one female player plays from 4600-5200 yards)
- Women's Division (Women only, all players play the same tee from 4600-5200 yards)

Note that yardage may vary based on the tournament site.

- ***Senior Four-Ball One-Day:*** The format is 18 holes of four-ball stroke play, both gross and net scores. According to the *Rules of Handicapping*, 85% of a player's course handicap is used to determine net scores. Course handicaps are limited to 30 strokes prior to the 85% reduction. Further course handicap reductions are applied based on the *CGA Four-Ball Handicap Reduction Policy*. Teams must select to compete in the "55+" division (all ages/play 6000-6400 yards), the "65+" division (both players age 65+/play 5600-6000 yards), or the "70+" or "75+" division (both players age 70+ or 75+/play 5000-5600 yards).

Note that yardage may vary based on the tournament site.

- ***Two-Day Individual Tournament:*** The format is 36 holes of individual stroke play with 100% course handicap unless altered by the CGA Tournament Committee. Gross and net prizes are awarded. 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.
- ***Ladies Play Day:*** The format is 18 holes of four-ball stroke play, gross and net scores. 85% of a player's course handicap is used to determine net scores unless altered by the CGA Tournament Committee. Course Handicaps are limited to 45 strokes. Further course handicap reductions are applied based on the CGA Four-Ball Handicap Reduction Policy. Yardage will be between 4800-5300 yards, based on course restrictions.

- **Local Rules**

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

Unless otherwise noted, the following local rules are in effect at CGA One-Day Tournaments:

[One-Day Individual & One-Day Four-Ball Tournament](#)

[Senior Four-Ball One-Day Tournament](#)

[Ladies Play Day](#)

- **Official Starting Time**

- **Tee Times** - The clock at the tee (1st or 10th) where the player begins his/her 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.

- **CGA Four-Ball Handicap Reduction Policy**

Individuals or teams who record a Lowest Net Scores (LNS) in two or more tournaments within the 12-month period prior to the tournament will be subject to reduced playing handicaps. The reduction may be reduced for an individual if that player's ratio of LNS to the number of Four-Ball competitions is less than 1 in 5. The Lowest Net Score (LNS) is defined as being a member of a team with the lowest net team score (including ties) in a division in a CGA four-ball tournament with net scoring. This rule is in effect for CGA One-Day Four-Ball tournaments, CGA One-Day Senior Four-Ball tournaments, and Ladies Play Days or in a combination of these programs. Competitors who qualify for this reduction will be subject to the following playing handicap reduction for any CGA Four-Ball tournament using net scoring: 2 LNS = 10% reduction of Playing Handicap; 3 LNS = 20% reduction of Playing Handicap; 4 LNS = 30% reduction of Playing Handicap (minimum of 1 stroke); 5 LNS = 40% reduction of Playing Handicap (minimum of 1 stroke), and so forth.

- **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 before play, based on the competitor's previous tournament scores or scoring history.

The CGA nor the host club are 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 before 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's 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, the CGA is not responsible for those prizes after the tournament date. Ties are broken on the scorecard using the following method. Match scorecards using the total for the back nine holes (10-18), the last six holes (13-18), the last three holes (16-18), and the 18<sup>th</sup> hole. If a tie still remains, the scorecards will be matched beginning with the 18th hole going backward until the tie is broken. Gross ties use gross scores. Net ties use net scores. Gross ties are determined first.
- ***One-Day Four-Ball:*** Prizes are awarded for gross and net scores in all flights. Ties are broken on the scorecard using the following method. Match scorecards using the total for the back



nine holes (10-18), the last six holes (13-18), the last three holes (16-18), and the 18<sup>th</sup> hole. If a tie still remains, the scorecards will be matched beginning with the 18th hole going backward until the tie is broken. Gross ties use gross scores. Net ties use net scores. Gross ties are determined first.

- ***Senior Four-Ball One-Day:*** Prizes are awarded for gross and net scores in all flights. Ties are broken on the scorecard using the following method. Match scorecards using the total for the back nine holes (10-18), the last six holes (13-18), the last three holes (16-18), and the 18<sup>th</sup> hole. If a tie still remains, the scorecards will be matched beginning with the 18th hole going backward until the tie is broken. Gross ties use gross scores. Net ties use net scores. Gross ties are determined first.
- ***Two-Day Individual:*** Prizes are awarded for gross and net scores in all flights. Ties are broken on the scorecard using the following method. Match scorecards using the total for the back nine holes (10-18), the last six holes (13-18), the last three holes (16-18), and the 18<sup>th</sup> hole. If a tie still remains, the scorecards will be matched beginning with the 18th hole going backward until the tie is broken. Gross ties use gross scores. Net ties use net scores. Gross ties are determined first.

- **Scorecards**

A scorecard is deemed to be returned (no more changes allowed) *15 minutes after the scorecard is accepted into the electronic scoring system in the scoring area.*

*A player's scorecard is returned if any of the following four events occur, even if it occurs before the 15-minute time limit has expired or the player is still in the scoring area:*

- *Starting times have been posted after a cut has been made.*
- *The player begins their next round.*
- *Any player has made a stroke to begin a play-off.*
- *The competition has closed.*

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

A competitor who fails to return a signed scorecard within 15 minutes of completion of the round is deemed to have failed to return a score for the round and may be listed on the scoreboard as a "Disqualification".

Competitors who fail to return scorecard 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 Two-Day Individual Tournaments:*** Scorecards provided by the CGA will contain a player's name, course handicap, and tees to play. The scorecard must be signed by the player and his marker. A duplicate scorecard 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/Senior Four-Ball One-Day and Ladies Play Days:*** Scorecards 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 scorecard where provided. Only one player from the competitor's side and the marker's side must sign the scorecard before it is returned. A duplicate scorecard can be made if the original is lost.
- ***CGA Score Posting Policy:*** The USGA Rules of Golf require a marker to record only the gross score of the player whose net score is to count (23.2b (1)). 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. The CGA will automatically post scores for each participant.

- **Spectator Carts**

Spectators are permitted to rent a spectator cart at any CGA one-day tournament if:

1. The club has a cart available
2. The 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



[USGA Rules of Golf](#) effective January 2023 govern play.

*These regulations apply to TYGA tournaments.*

- **Assumption of Risk and Release from Liability**

All golfers are voluntary participants at CGA/TYGA events. Your submittal of any application/entry form is conditioned on the fact that you agree and acknowledge that the CGA/TYGA is not liable, in any way, for any injuries or damages of any kind that you may suffer, or be exposed to, while participating, or being present, at a CGA/TYGA event. You agree that the acceptance of your entry for a CGA/TYGA event is sufficient consideration for your agreement that the CGA/TYGA has no liability or responsibility, of any kind, for any damages or injuries that you may incur while involved, participating, or present, at a CGA event.

- **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**

Are only allowed at TYGA Tots events.

- **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 canceled 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 the club agrees) during the round.

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 <http://www.tygajuniorgolf.org/>.

- **Local Rules**

USGA Rules of Golf govern all play. Local rules are posted at the starter's tent.

- **Refund Policy**

Any withdrawal within three (3) days before the first day of the tournament will not receive a refund. All other withdrawals are subject to a \$30 admin fee. Refer to the table below for the deadline to withdraw with a refund less the admin fee.

<u>Deadline for Refund (less admin fee) at 11:59 pm</u>	<u>First Day of Tournament</u>
Thursday	Monday
Friday	Tuesday
Saturday	Wednesday
Sunday	Thursday
Monday	Friday
Tuesday	Saturday
Wednesday	Sunday

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

- **Scorecards**

A scorecard is deemed returned to the committee when the score is posted on the official scoreboard. No alteration may be made on a scorecard 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.tygajuniorgolf.org](http://www.tygajuniorgolf.org).