

TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS



PGA

Connecticut Section

(Amended March 31, 2017)

**ARTICLE I
GENERAL**

Section 1. GENERAL

These Tournament Rules and Regulations of the Connecticut Section of The Professional Golfers' Association of America, hereafter referred to as section, shall govern the conduct of all professional and/or open and/or invitational golf tournaments and other golf events sponsored, co-sponsored, recognized or sanctioned by the section and any of its chapters and subsidiaries such as the Assistants' Association and, the conduct and responsibilities of the contestants therein and the responsibilities of the sponsors, or co-sponsors, thereof.

These Rules and Regulations may be amended by a majority vote of the Board of Directors or a two-thirds (2/3) majority of voting members at Section Annual Meetings.

Section 2. AMENDMENT PROCEDURES

Members of the section may amend the Rules and Regulations in one of the two following manners:

- (a) PGA Members may submit written proposed amendments to the Tournament Committee. The Tournament Committee must receive such proposals ten (10) days prior to a Board of Directors meeting. The Tournament Committee shall consider such the proposal and may elect to present the proposal to the Board of Directors who can pass, amended or defeat the resolution by a simple majority vote. If the motion carries, the Board of Directors will determine the effective date.
- (b) Or, a PGA Member may propose to amend these section Tournament Rules and Regulations at an Annual Section Meeting by presenting a resolution in writing to the Secretary/New Business Chairman prior to 10:00 a.m. It will require a two-thirds (2/3)-majority vote of the voting membership in attendance. The Board of Directors shall determine the effective date of a passing amendment.

**ARTICLE II
AUTHORITY AND DEFINITIONS**

Section 1. AUTHORITY

These Section Tournament Rules and Regulations shall become effective upon the date of approval by the Board of Directors and these Articles shall supersede in their entirety, all previous regulations that have governed the conduct of the Section, Chapter, and Subsidiaries tournaments.

Section 2. DEFINITION

The President on the approval of the Board of Directors shall appoint the Chairman of the Tournament Committee. Members of the Tournament Committee shall be appointed jointly by the Tournament Chairman and Section President, upon approval of the Board of Directors. The Tournament Committee, acting on behalf of the Board of Directors, shall have complete control over all events sponsored and conducted by the section.

Section 3. RESPONSIBILITY

(a) TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

It is the responsibility of the Tournament Committee to adopt and uphold these regulations and to conduct tournaments for the betterment of its members. The Committee shall present a proposed schedule of events to the Board of Directors for the following year no later than August 1. Once the schedule is approved, the Tournament Committee is responsible for establishing proposed event budgets for each tournament, which shall also be presented to the Board of Directors. The Tournament Committee is responsible for acquisition of all host sites and distribute a schedule of events accordingly. The Committee shall establish conditions for the purpose of continuity of play in such events. The Tournament Committee, acting on behalf of the Board of Directors may review any conduct or negligence that violates any of the Tournament Rules and Regulations.

(b) RULES COMMITTEE

It is the responsibility of the Section Rules Committee to oversee all Section competitions, including but not limited to course set up, conditions of competition, Rules of Play, Rules Officiating and recruitment and training of committee personnel. The Rules Committee shall work in conjunction with the Tournament Committee on all matters regarding the staging of tournaments and shall include the host site golf professional on the Tournament Rules Committee he/she is hosting.

(c) TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

The Tournament Director responsibilities include, but are not limited to overseeing all administrative functions of carrying out the season's tournament program. The Tournament Director shall report to the Executive Director and work closely with the Tournament and Rules Committees. The Tournament Director shall be the primary section office contact for tournament matters and shall train and supervise the Field Staff. When on site, the Tournament Program Manager shall serve as a Rules Official.

(d) FIELD STAFF

The section's Field Staff will be a supervised and trained group of on-site staff to assist the Tournament Director. They will assist in the registration, scoring and ranger duties, and other responsibilities deemed necessary by the Tournament Director.

(e) HOST PROFESSIONAL

Host Professional duties and responsibilities are covered in Appendix I of these Rules & Regulations.

**ARTICLE III
TOURNAMENT DEFINITIONS**

Section 1. DEFINITIONS

Within these Tournament Rules and Regulations are terms and phrases that are referred to frequently. These terms are defined hereunder and italicized within these Rules and Regulations:

(a) OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT SEASON

April 1 through October 31 inclusive.

(b) AMATEUR HOME GOLF FACILITY

An amateur Home Golf Facility is the facility at which he/she maintains a valid USGA Handicap; plays a majority of his/her golf; and/or is a member in good standing. In the event an amateur maintains two handicaps, the competitor must use the lowest his/her handicap and the lower of the two shall serve as the Home Golf Facility.

(c) SENIOR COMPETITOR

A senior professional or amateur competitor is one who has reached their 50th birthday by the day of said tournament he or she is entered.

(d) PLAYING PRIVILEGES

Playing privileges in section tournaments are granted to PGA members (excluding Class F, A-3, and Suspended Members) in good standing; Inactive members and eligibly employed Registered Apprentices with the understanding that each tournament has their own eligibility requirements based upon membership classifications and employment.

(e) PURSE

The purse is the net amount of monies after expenses available for prize distribution.

(f) PRIORITY ELIGIBILITY

Priority Eligibility is a means to establish seniority for professionals when entering Pro-Am Series events and obtaining requested starting times in section tournaments.

(g) OVER SUBSCRIBED

An event when the number of entries exceeds the number of available spots.

(h) UNDER SUBSCRIBED

An event when the number of entries is less than the number of available spots.

Section 2. APPROVED EVENTS

All approved events are assured the section will not schedule an event opposite said tournament, with the understanding that eligible section members are eligible to enter.

For an event to be approved and scheduled by the section the golf facility serving as the host site must have either a PGA Member or Registered Apprentice *Head Golf Professional* in good standing serving as the resident professional, and must also meet criteria established under one of the Categories listed below.

(a) CATEGORIES

SPONSORED:

Owned and conducted entirely by the section and its subsidiaries during the Official Tournament Season, with no consideration, and/or commitments from a second party.

CO-SPONSORED:

Owned and conducted entirely by the section during the Official Tournament Season, with added monies, considerations, and/or commitments from a second party.

RECOGNIZED:

Owned and conducted by a Second party or owned by a Second Party but conducted in conjunction with the section.

(1) Recognized Association Events:

The Open Championships of the Connecticut State Golf Association and Massachusetts Golf Association (when held within the section boundaries) will be assured dates on the Tournament Schedule with the understanding that all section Members and Apprentices in good standing, be permitted to participate in this event, provided they meet all the other event eligibility criteria. Every attempt will be made so that no section Sponsored or Co-Sponsored event will be scheduled in opposition to them.

***REGULATION:** At the discretion of the Board of Directors, professional-amateur events hosted and conducted by the Connecticut State Golf Association, the golf course superintendents, the SNEWGA, and similar regional associations may be Sanctioned and/or listed on the Tournament Schedule and excused from section requirements covering Sanctioning fees and other disbursements.*

(2) Recognized Charity Tournaments:

Owned and conducted by a second party for the benefit of a worthwhile charitable organization, between the dates of April 1 and October 31 inclusive, with added monies, and/or commitments from the second party. These events will appear on the Tournament Schedule with the understanding that section golf professionals will be invited to compete.

(3) Recognized National Tournaments:

Owned by, and conducted in conjunction with, a second party for the benefit of the section, between the dates of April 1 and October 31 inclusive, with added monies, and/or commitments from the second party. The event will appear on the Tournament Schedule with the understanding that eligible golf professionals will be invited to compete.

SANCTIONED:

Owned and conducted by a Second party who enters into an agreement with the section, pays a sanctioning fee, and invites section professionals to participate.

- (i) Tier 1 Sanctioned Tournament:
- (i) Tier 2 Sanctioned Tournament:
- (i) Tier 3 Sanctioned Tournament:

***REGULATION:** Golf Tournaments approved by the section and conducted by a second party which are not "Sponsored," "Co-Sponsored," or "Recognized" events as described above will be required to pay the section a Sanctioning Fee to be put on the tournament schedule.*

Section 3. UNAPPROVED EVENTS

These are events that are owned by a second party *and conducted within the geographic boundaries of the section* during the Official Tournament Season with no endorsement by the section. These events will not appear on the Tournament Schedule.

***REGULATION:** In order to protect the integrity of the Section Tournament Schedule and its Co-Sponsors, any section member or apprentice desiring to participate in an Unapproved Event without prior approval from the Tournament Committee shall be deemed to have violated these Tournament Rules & Regulations and the participating professional would be subject to disciplinary action as outlined herein. Any member who desires to play in an Unapproved Event must submit a written request seven (7) days prior to the date of the event to the section office (in care of the Tournament Committee). The Tournament Committee's decision to allow or deny the member's participation shall be final.*

Section 4. ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION

The Assistants' Association is a subsidiary of the section and its mission is to create an environment, through education and training, which shall improve the skill level and effectiveness of the section assistant professionals in their career pursuits of obtaining head golf professional positions in the section job market.

The section Assistants' Association tournament schedule is open to Class A-8 PGA members and eligibly employed Registered Apprentices as defined by section Bylaws. The Assistants' Association tournaments are subject to these same Tournament Rules & Regulations.

***REGULATION:** An annual Assistants' Association Membership Fee (AAMF) may be required to play in the series of Individual Pro events within the landscape of Assistants' Association tournament schedule, but not required for other tournaments the section conducts.*

***REGULATION:** The Assistants' Association shall submit its tournament schedule to the Tournament Committee for approval 60 days before the SPRING MEETING of the current year. If a schedule is not submitted, there may be no changes from the preceding years schedule with the exception of sites and dates, the number of tournaments and their formats will stay the same.*

**ARTICLE IV
ELIGIBILITY**

Section 1. PGA MEMBER ELIGIBILITY

Tournament privileges are extended to section-affiliated PGA Class A (except Class A-3) Members, Life Members and Retired Members of the section in good standing per each tournament event eligibility requirements.

REGULATION: *PGA Members not affiliated with the section will not be permitted to participate in section tournaments unless specified on the Official Entry.*

REGULATION: *Section-affiliated PGA Inactive, Class F, Class A-3 and Suspended Members will not be permitted to participate in section tournaments unless specified on the Official Entry.*

Section 2. APPRENTICE ELIGIBILITY

Tournament playing privileges are extended to section-affiliated PGA Registered Apprentices who are *eligibly employed* as defined by PGA Bylaws per each tournament event eligibility requirements, which are defined as noted on tournament entry form.

**ARTICLE V
TOURNAMENTS**

Section 1. SECTION INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Section Individual Championships are intended to be conducted annually. The sites and dates will be determined by the Tournament Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

(a) CONNECTICUT PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

Format:

36 holes, Stroke Play, held over two days. There will be no cut with a field of 60 or less. If the field is 60 or more, the field will be cut to 60 players and ties or any player within 7 shots of the lead. The purse payout will be 33% of the starting field.

Eligibility:

Open to all PGA members in good standing regardless of section affiliation, and all Connecticut Section Apprentices as defined herein.

(b) CONNECTICUT PGA PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Format:

36-hole, stroke play competition

Eligibility:

Section-affiliated PGA Members per PGA of America, Professional National Championship regulations.

REGULATION: The professional who wins the Section Player of the Year title, and who is section affiliated at the time of the national championship, will receive an exemption from the Connecticut Section PGA.

NOTE: If the Section Player of the Year is awarded an exemption into the PGA Professional Championship from The PGA of America the exemption would be awarded to the first alternate in the Connecticut PGA Professional Championship.

NOTE: In years when only two exemptions are provided from The PGA of America, the professional who wins the Player of the Year title will not receive an exemption from the Connecticut Section PGA and all exemptions will be awarded the top two finishers at the Connecticut PGA Professional Championship.

(c) SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Format:

36-hole, stroke play competition

Eligibility:

Section-affiliated PGA Members as defined herein Article IV, Section 1 in good standing, who have reached the age of fifty, on or before the date of the event.

(d) ASSISTANT CHAMPIONSHIP

Format:

36-hole, stroke play competition

Eligibility:

Section-affiliated PGA Class A-8 Members in good standing and eligibly employed Registered Apprentices. Also serves as the PGA of America Assistant Championship section qualifier.

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(e) MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP

Format:

Contested over three days. Day 1 (Round of 64 followed by Round of 32); 18-holes each, match play. Day 2 (Round of 16 followed by Quarter Final Matches); 18-holes each, match play. Day 3 (Semi Final followed by the Final Match); 18-holes, match play.

Eligibility:

Section-affiliated PGA Members as defined herein Article IV.

REGULATION: *The defending champion will receive the #1 seed. All other seeds will be determined by the official Player of the Year point rankings. Players entering the event with no Player of the Year points will be seeded by blind draw.* (Eligibility/format change approved on March 14, 2017)

(f) THE SPRING PGA STROKE PLAY

Format:

36-hole, stroke play competition

Eligibility:

Section-affiliated PGA Members as defined herein Article IV, Section 1 and Section-affiliated Apprentices as defined herein Article IV, Section 2.

Note: *The exemption into the Travelers Championship must be awarded to a Class-A PGA Member.*

Section 2. SECTION TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Section Team Championships are intended to be conducted annually. The sites and dates will be determined by the Tournament Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

(a) PROFESSIONAL-ASSISTANT CHAMPIONSHIP

Format:

18-hole, four-ball stroke play competition

Eligibility:

Supervising Golf Professional as defined by PGA Bylaws and his/her Assistant Professional from the same golf facility. Teams shall consist of section-affiliated PGA Class A-1, A-2, A-4, A-7, A-8, and A-14 Members; Registered Apprentices (A-A's only) and Pre-Apprentices in good standing on the date of the event. More than one team per facility may enter depending on availability.

(b) DEL KINNEY PRO PRO CHAMPIONSHIP

Format:

18-hole, four-ball stroke play competition

Eligibility:

Teams shall consist of section-affiliated PGA members as defined herein Article IV, Section 1 in good standing, and eligibly employed Registered Apprentices (whose team partner must be a PGA member as defined above). Competitors may choose their own partner, however, the top 30 Player Performance Points leaders as of 30 days prior to the tournament may not be on the same team. Anyone not on in the top 30 may form a team with any other eligible golf professional.

An eligibly employed registered apprentice may not be paired with a PGA Member who is inside the top 10 in the current Player of the Year standings.

(c) PRO-AM CHAMPIONSHIP

Format:

18-hole, four-ball stroke play competition (gross only), contest include Pro+1 Club Champion, Pro+1 Senior Club Champion (age 50+) and Pro+1 Ladies Club Champion.

Eligibility:

Teams shall consist of 1 professional and up to three (3) of his or her club champions. Amateur partners can be a Club Champion from any year. (Current year is preferred)

Section 3. SECTION JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Section Junior Championships are intended to be conducted annually. The sites and dates will be determined jointly by the Junior Golf and Tournament Committees and approved by the Board of Directors.

(a) CONNECTICUT PGA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPFormat:

The section shall follow the regulations established by the PGA of America.

Eligibility:

Junior boys and girls must be under 18 years of age as of the first day of the National Championship (PGA of America guidelines are followed).

(b) JACK KELLY JUNIOR TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONSFormat:

18-holes, Individual Stroke Play, girls & boys divisions.

Eligibility:

Junior Boys and Girls (age 13 - 17 on the day of the event) club/course champions of section-affiliated golf facilities where employment of PGA members or apprentices is established, and exemptions are also awarded to overall winners of events on the Section Junior Golf Tournament Schedule and state high school division champions. Additional exceptions are pre-determined by the Junior Golf Committee and denoted on the Official Entry.

Section 4. SECTION SPONSORED TOURNAMENTS

The section may elect, from time to time, to conduct or sponsor golf tournaments form with inside the boundaries of the section. The Tournament Committee upon approval from the Board of Directors shall have complete and final authority to decide as to what extent the section will be involved in such events.

REGULATION: Section Tournament Rules & Regulations are applied to these tournaments the section owns and operates.

Section 5. PGA TOUR & AFFILIATE QUALIFIERS

All PGA Tour, LPGA Tour, Champions Tour and Nationwide Tour events and qualifiers will be assured a date on the Tournament Schedule with the understanding that no Sponsored or Co-Sponsored section tournament will conflict.

Section 6. PGA OF AMERICA TOURNAMENTS AND QUALIFIERS

Events conducted by the PGA of America, and the section qualifiers for such events will be placed on the Tournament Schedule. Section members who meet eligibility requirements will be permitted to enter and participate in these events:

- (a) PGA ASSISTANT PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIER
- (b) THE PGA OF AMERICA, SENIOR PROFESSIONAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIER
- (c) THE PGA OF AMERICA, PROFESSIONAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
- (d) TRAVELERS CHAMPIONSHIP

REGULATION: The USGA Rule pertaining to new groove and punch mark specifications will be in effect for all PGA of America Tournaments and Qualifiers.

**ARTICLE VI
TOURNAMENT ENTRY AND WITHDRAWALS**

Section 1. OFFICIAL ENTRY

Unless otherwise specified, registration into Connecticut Section PGA Sponsored member tournaments will take place online at www.ctpga.com Unless specifically required in entry information, all payment should be made payable to the Connecticut Section PGA.

(a) ENTRY FEE

The Entry Fee for each tournament will be specified on the Official Entry.

***REGULATION:** A deposit is required to enter all Pro-am series events before the deadline. All participants will be required to pay the remaining balance of their entry fee the day of the Pro-Am.*

***REGULATION:** Under no circumstances will an Official Entry and/or Entry Fee be accepted outside of the section office for delivery by section staff or personnel. The only entry fee that will be accepted on-site is for the Pro-am series events.*

Section 2. ENTRY DEADLINE

The Official Entry deadline for each section event will be stipulated on the tournament information website. The Entry Fee must accompany Official Entry by the deadline date. Such entries will take place online, be mailed or hand delivered to the section office.

***REGULATION:** Official Entries will not be accepted after the deadline without the consent of the Tournament Committee or Tournament Chairperson.*

***REGULATION:** All late entries must be completed four (4) days prior to the Pro-Am by 12:00 noon, (Thursday at 12:00 noon for a Monday Pro-Am).*

***REGULATION:** The host assistant professional can only accept official entries for the Assistants' Association Individual Pro Series events after the deadline. The above late fee policy shall apply.*

Section 3. STARTING TIMES

The Starting Times for all section tournaments will be made at the section office under the auspices of the Tournament Chairperson. Starting times will be made available by calling either the section or the host professional within a few days after the tournament entry deadline. Starting times can also be found online at www.ctpga.com. In certain instances, starting times will be mailed to competitors. In certain events specified on the tournament entry, professionals may request a preferred starting time. Preferred starting times cannot be guaranteed, but a time will be assigned as close to the requested time using the Priority Eligibility of the Pro-Am Series as a means of honoring requests.

***REGULATION:** Starting Times or Player Pairings for Pro-Am Series events, will be posted on the section website, at least one week prior to the event.*

Section 4. WITHDRAWAL

If a professional wishes to withdraw from a tournament, he/she must inform both the section office and the host professional of his/her intention to withdraw. A full refund, less 10% (see Refunds) will be granted if the professional withdraws before the entry deadline. If the professional withdraws after the deadline, he/she may submit a Request for a Refund to the section office, which is forwarded to the Tournament Committee for consideration of refund. This request must arrive in the section office within five (5) days of the conclusion of the event.

If a professional wishes to withdraw from a Pro-Am Series event, the professional must inform the Tournament Program Director at least four (4) days prior to the Pro-Am by 12:00 noon, (Thursday at 12:00 noon for a Monday Pro-Am).

***REGULATION:** If a professional withdraws from a Pro-Am Series event after the withdrawal deadline, the professional would be subject to a first offense fine of \$200.00 (Pro-3am) or \$100 (Pro-1am); and a second offense fine of \$200.00 (Pro-3am) or \$100 (Pro-1am), plus a suspension of section playing privileges for thirty (30) days during a period specified by the Tournament Committee. The professional may not submit a Request for Refund under these circumstances.*

Section 5. ALTERNATE PROFESSIONALS

In the case of a professional withdrawal from an over-subscribed event, the section office will contact the next professional eligible on the waiting list.

Section 6. REFUNDSBEFORE THE DEADLINE

If a professional wishes to obtain a refund for any entry paid prior to the entry deadline, he/she should contact the section office prior to the deadline to confirm tournament withdrawal. In such instances, a full refund will be returned, less 10% which will be retained by the section for administrative purposes.

AFTER THE DEADLINE

If a professional wishes to withdraw after the deadline of any tournament, a written Request for Refund must be submitted to the Tournament Chairman in care of the section office within five (5) days of the conclusion of said event. Under no circumstances will a refund be sent to a member who withdraws from any tournament after the deadline for said entry unless there is a reasonable cause. If the reasonable cause is accepted and approved by the Tournament Committee, a full refund will be returned, less 10% which will be retained by the section for administrative purposes.

***REGULATION:** The Tournament Committee shall have full authority to determine the just cause of tournament withdrawal after the deadline. The decision of the Tournament Committee to deny refund for said withdrawal might be appealed to the Board of Directors whose decision shall be final.*

**ARTICLE VII
TOURNAMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

Section 1. CANCELLATION

The Host golf course superintendent will have the final say as to whether an event is canceled or postponed because of inclement weather or course conditions. If an event is cancelled due to weather, or other adverse conditions, the following policies will apply.

- (a) **REFUND POLICY:** Any player on the course at the time the tournament is canceled shall be refunded his/her entry fee less any golf car fees and Administration fees. Golf car fees will be refunded based on host golf facility policy. Administrative fees will consist of 15% of the entry fees.
- (b) **COMPLETED TOURNAMENT:** If at least half the field in a one-day event has completed the round, the competition will be considered complete and the prize distribution shall be computed based on the number of participants who have posted scores.

REGULATION: *The following cancellation procedures will apply for all tournaments.*

One Day, 18, 27, or 36-hole events will be rescheduled at a later date.

- i) If at least 18-holes are completed by the entire field, and play is subsequently cancelled, the tournament reverts to an 18-hole event.

Two Day, 54-hole event.

- i) If the final round is rained out, the results will be based on the standings of the first two rounds.
- ii) First day rained out: The tournament becomes a one day 36 hole event.
- iii) The Committee depending upon weather and the facilities availability will make every attempt to complete the tournament.

Two Day, 36-hole event.

- i) 1st day rained out: Tournament reverts to an 18 hole event with the second round to be played as scheduled.
- ii) 2nd day rained out: Tournament reverts to an 18-hole event with the final results being based on the standings of the 1st round.

REGULATION: *Guidelines for Tournament Director/Coordinator or Host Professional*

- 1) When unplayable conditions occur, play shall be suspended. When conditions become playable, play will then be resumed, even when that round cannot be completed that day. Play may be resumed the following day to include completion of the next scheduled round.
- 2) Every effort shall be made to finish each round as scheduled.
- 3) In the event of a suspension during the final round, the round shall be cancelled if more than half the field is unable to complete the round. If more than half the field completes the round, play should be temporarily suspended and completed when conditions permit. Consideration of this procedure would depend upon availability of the golf course. If the round cannot be completed, scores will revert back to the previous round.

ARTICLE VIII COMPETITION

Section 1. RULES OF PLAY

All tournaments conducted by the section shall be played under the Rules of Golf as approved by the USGA. Except in unusual circumstances, the ball shall be played as it lies.

All matters of administration, conditions of play, and conduct of play shall be administered under the authority of the section Tournament Committee.

In addition to the Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association, the following policies and procedures will be enforced in all section sponsored and co-sponsored events:

- (a) In an effort to protect the integrity and promote the true intention of the game of golf, every attempt will be made to play the ball as it lies in all section sponsored and co-sponsored events regardless of the different conditions that may exist throughout the section.
- (b) A professional competitor who is disqualified and/or does not turn in a completed scorecard from an event after he/she begins play will remain in the team competition in a Pro-Am Series event.

Section 2. COMPETITION

The amateurs will play at 80% of their handicap to determine net scores in Pro and Three Ams. In Pro and One Am competitions, amateurs will be allowed 100% of their handicaps. In both instances, the maximum "net" handicap allowance is 18 strokes for all participants. In competitions where the entire field of amateurs is women, the maximum "net" handicap allowance is 36 strokes.

REGULATION: *Women Professional Tees: In accordance with the PGA of America policy for women professional competitors the separate-tee, same-purse policy shall apply. Women's tees will be set not more than 90% of the length of men's tees and men and women professionals will compete for the same purse.*

REGULATION: *All Connecticut Section events that offer special exemptions into other events such as PGA Tour competitions require female PGA Professionals to compete from the same tees as their male counterparts.*

REGULATION: *Female Handicaps: In any tournament where males and females are in the same competition, women amateurs shall play from forward tees and the same rules of handicaps shall apply.*

REGULATION: *All events that are conducted and sponsored by the Connecticut PGA will be played under the rules of the USGA and the Connecticut Section PGA Hard Card.*

**ARTICLE IX
PRIZES AND AWARDS**

Section 1. PROFESSIONAL PRIZES AND AWARDS

Professional Prizes and awards consist of both monetary prizes and special exemptions.

- (a) **INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM PRIZES:** All professional prizes shall be dispersed from the Section office within a reasonable time frame from completion of said event.

PROFESSIONAL PRIZE BREAKDOWN

REGULATION: *Professional Prizes in section events will be paid to approx. 33% of the starting field.*

PROFESSIONAL SKINS

REGULATION: *Professional Skins competitions will be conducted at selective events and at all Pro-Am Series events. Check or credit card entry required, and prizes for such will be issued through the section office.*

REGULATION: *A skins purse that is not awarded will be forwarded to the following year's event and will be allocated to the skins purse of said event (added Jan 2107)*

1099 RECORDS

REGULATION: *Professionals who are forwarded from the section office more than \$600 of combined prize money, amateur team member prizes and host professional fees during the calendar year will be sent a 1099 Tax Record form indicating their annual income from said events.*

- (b) **PROFESSIONAL EXEMPTIONS:**

Professionals will receive special exemptions to selective events based upon finish in designated competitions.

CHALLENGE CUP MATCHES

REGULATION: *Professionals who finish among the top eight (8) in Player-of-the-Year points standings and the top two seniors in the Senior Player-of-the-Year competition, plus the defending section Champion, the host professional, and two (2) captain's selections will be invited to participate in the following year's Challenge Cup Matches. In the event one of the above professionals will be unavailable to compete the next professional on the respective list would be eligible.*

NOTE: *If a professional finishes in the top eight (8) in the POY points standing and in the top two (2) in Senior POY standing the professional will compete in the senior division. The next professional on the POY point standings would be eligible.*

REGULATION: *The tournament committee will select the Challenge Cup captain for the Challenge Cup Matches. The person will be named at the Fall PGA Membership Meeting and will be approved by the Board of Directors. The captain is responsible for selecting two captain's selections.*

REGULATION: *The two (2) captain's selection shall be Connecticut Section Affiliated PGA members in good standing.*

TRAVELERS CHAMPIONSHIP

REGULATION: *The low scoring PGA Member in the current year of The Spring PGA Stroke Play will receive an exemption from qualifying in the same year Travelers Championship.*

REGULATION: *The host PGA Professional of the Pre and Open Qualifier will receive an exemption into the Open Qualifier, the remaining Open Qualifier exemptions will be awarded to the top finishers in the Pre-Qualifier that did not qualify for the Open Qualifier.*

THE PROFESSIONAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

REGULATION: *The professional who wins the Section Player of the Year title, and who is section affiliated at the time of the national championship, will receive an exemption from the PGA of America, Professional National Championship.*

NOTE: *In years when only two exemptions are provided from the PGA of America, the professional who wins the Player of the Year title will not receive an exemption from the Connecticut Section PGA and all exemptions will be awarded to the top two finishers at the Connecticut PGA Professional Championship*

NOTE: *If the Section Player of the Year is awarded an exemption into the Professional National Championship from the PGA of America, the exemption would be awarded to the first alternate in the Connecticut PGA Professional Championship.*

(c) PRIZE AND EXPENSE DISTRIBUTION FOR SECTION TOURNAMENTS:

REGULATION: *The following expense and prize distribution will be in effect for section tournaments in order to determine an event purse.*

1. Through annual budgeting between 80% and 82% of entry fees will be allocated for purposes of establishing a prize purse for section tournaments so that between 18% and 20% will be withheld for the purpose of funding the tournament program. A gross profit or loss may be realized as a result.

REGULATION: *For PGA Pro-Am Series tournaments only, the section will retain 60% of the Professional entry. The balance of the entry fee and 100% of the sponsorship income will be used to determine the Individual Professional and the Team Professional prizes.*

2. In addition to the above, section policy states that direct expenses such as, Bank Fees, BlueGolf Internet Fees, Golf Car Fees, Golf Course Fees, applicable Food & Beverage expenses, Host Pro Fees; On-Site Field Staff (does not include any office staff personnel); Rules Official Fees, Tournament Staff Travel, Banners & Signs, Trophies and Awards and any other applicable expenses that are specific to a tournament, shall be withheld from entry fees.
3. In the Pro & 1 Amateur events, thirty percent (30%) of the purse will be awarded to individual professionals per the section's prize breakdown distribution and in the Pro & 3 Amateur events, twenty-five percent (25%) of the purse will be awarded to individual professionals per the section's prize breakdown distribution.
4. In the Pro & 1 Amateur events, seventy percent (70%) of the purse will be distributed to the Pro-Am competition while Pro & 3 Amateur events will distribute seventy-five percent (75%) of the purse to the Pro-Am competition. All gross and net place finishers will receive the same valued prizes, with more places being awarded prizes in the net division.
5. Regarding team prizes, the professional will receive the cash equivalent of his/her share of the team prize.
6. In team events, the amount of teams paid will be approximately 25 percent of the total teams entered

TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

and per the section's Prize Breakdown distribution.

7. A 6.5% administration fee will be deducted from the total Skins entry fees.
8. The Connecticut Section PGA will adopt the USGA Rule 33-6/2(3), which states "In either a scratch or handicap stroke play competition, if a play-off of any type is not feasible, matching cards is recommended." It goes on to say, "An acceptable method of matching cards is to determine the winner on the bases of the best score for the last nine holes. If the tying players have the same score for the last nine, determine the winner on the basis of the last six holes, last three holes and finally the 18th hole." No ties will be broken unless each player will receive less than \$50. For all events, the last nine holes are deemed to be holes 10-18.
9. In determining gross and net team payouts, when breaking a tie, the higher dollar amount prevails.

Section 2. AMATEUR PRIZES

Amateur prizes will be paid to the tournament host head golf professional for credit disbursement.

***REGULATION:** Last place Amateur team prizes shall be determined by a match of cards, rather than be split among the teams that tie for last place money.*

OUT OF SECTION AMATEURS

The following regulation applies to non-section-affiliated amateurs who win prizes.

***REGULATION:** Amateur prizes won by out of section amateurs or from amateurs from non-PGA section-affiliated home golf courses will be paid to the tournament host professional for merchandise credit disbursement.*

Section 3. SECTION PLAYER OF THE YEAR

The section Player of the Year Award shall be awarded to the professional accumulating the most Player Performance Points during the Official Tournament season. The Player of the Year will be recognized on the Robert N. Shea Trophy.

Section 4. SENIOR PLAYER OF THE YEAR

The section Senior Player of the Year Award shall be awarded to the senior professional who accumulates the most Senior Player Performance Points during the Official Tournament Season. The Senior Player of the Year will be recognized on the Robert N. Shea Trophy.

Section 5. ASSISTANT PLAYER OF THE YEAR

The section Assistant Player of the Year Award shall be awarded to the assistant professional who accumulates the most Assistant Player Performance Points during the Official Tournament Season.

Section 6. TOURNAMENT POINT SYSTEM

Player-of-the-Year Performance Points are described in APPENDIX II. Only section-affiliated PGA Members as defined under Article IV, Section 1, herein are eligible to earn player Performance Points.

ARTICLE X CONDUCT

Section 1. PROFESSIONAL DRESS CODE

All male professionals shall wear collared shirts and slacks and shall not wear shorts anywhere on host golf club property. Women professionals may wear capri pants, walking, or golf shorts that constitute acceptable clothing worn by women. All professionals must present a neat appearance in both clothing and grooming.

REGULATION: The dress code applies to all Sanctioned tournaments. Violators will be subject to disciplinary action.

Section 2. AMATEUR DRESS CODE

It is the responsibility of section competing professionals to inform amateurs of the dress code. Amateurs shall wear shirts with collars, slacks or Bermuda shorts. Jeans, denim is not acceptable.

Section 3. CONDUCT VIOLATIONS

Each PGA of America Member or Apprentice Participant (“Participant”) in a Section golf tournament acknowledges the right and authority of the Section to (i) fine and suspend from tournament play; and/or to (ii) fine and permanently bar the Participant from Section tournaments, per the PGA of America Code of Ethics Regulations, Section IV – Code of Ethics Procedures, Section Tournament Policy.

In addition, the Tournament Committee shall reserve the right to interpret the conduct of professionals at all section events. Professionals witnessing Section defined Conduct Violations have a responsibility to bring the matter to the attention of the Tournament Committee or Tournament Director. Violations of Conduct can be interpreted as being PGA Code of Ethics violations and if breached, sectional professionals will be subject to a fine and or suspension.

Violation of PGA of America Section Tournament Policy can include but is not limited to the following:

- (a) Intentional and/or malicious damages to the golf course, clubhouse, facilities, golf facility equipment and/or golf cars.
- (b) Intentional throwing, breaking or destruction of golf clubs.
- (c) Loud, profane, crude and/or abusive language deemed to be offensive to spectators, participants and/or the Tournament Committee.
- (d) Violation of any rule and/or regulation of the host golf facility.
- (e) Cheating in any form.
- (f) Participation in an Unsanctioned event that conflicts with a Sanctioned event without Tournament Committee approval.
- (g) Supplying false and inaccurate handicap information for amateurs.
- (h) During a stipulated round, consumption of any type of alcohol while participating in a Connecticut Section PGA sponsored event.
- (i) The use of cellular telephones or any similar cellular telecommunications equipment of the golf course during tournament rounds is prohibited except for a medical emergency and under USGA Rules.
- (j) Non-discretionary use of chewing tobacco, snuff, and sunflower seeds while on golf course property during a tournament is prohibited

Section 4. COMPLAINTS

Complaints, constructive criticism and suggestions regarding section tournaments shall be submitted in writing to the Tournament Committee Chairman (special forms are available from the Tournament Director at all section tournament sites). Professionals are requested not to voice any grievance at the tournament site. The Tournament Committee is charged with interpreting the matters, and will review all properly submitted complaints.

**ARTICLE XI
DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

Section 1. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

If, in the course of entering or participating in a golf tournament Sanctioned by the section, any section-affiliated professional violates any of the provisions of the Tournament Rules and Regulations or conducts themselves in a manner likely to injure or discredit the reputation or standing of the Association, section or any members, he/she shall become liable to a fine and or suspension, consistent with the policies and procedures defined per the PGA of America Code of Ethics Regulations, Section IV – Code of Ethics Procedures, Section Tournament Policy.

APPENDIX I HOST PRO DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The Host Professional for each section sponsored or co-sponsored event shall be held responsible for providing the golf course facilities and services normally required by contestants to insure that participation in the tournament is enjoyable.

Section 1. COURSE PREPARATION

- (a) All Tournaments shall be played under the Rules of Golf of the USGA, supplemented by any Local Rule approved by the Tournament Committee.
- (b) For the Pro-Am Series, the regular tees shall be utilized in all events. Yardage between 6,250 to 6,500 yards is highly recommended. Forward tees shall also be set that are consistent with the host club's policy for setting women's tees in the event women amateurs are competing.
- (c) Hole locations should be fair and equitable. The USGA recommendation for hole locations shall be adhered to as follows:

The area of two to three feet around the cup should be flat, but does not have to be exactly level. The hole location should be placed, if possible, at least five paces from the edge of the surface especially prepared for putting, and at a greater distance if approach to the green is over a bunker or hazard.
- (d) In the event there are women professional competitors, a set of tees shall be set at no more than 90% of the total course length set for men in the competition.

Section 2. PRE-TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- (a) Work with the club manager/owner to ensure the following: (1) availability of locker room; (2) available hours of operation of the grillroom are posted (these shall be clearly posted for the competitors).
- (b) Work with the course superintendent on the above Section 1.
- (c) For the pro-am series, communicate with the section office prior to the event to confirm any changes in the professional field. All entries must be filled by eligible professionals and the section's waiting list, if applicable, shall be followed. Ascertain which professionals in the field are eligibly employed at PGA Recognized Golf Courses and which ones are not.
- (d) Make sure there are an adequate supply of golf cars and/or caddies.

Section 3. TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITY

- (a) Pro shop must be open 1 hour before the first tee time, and 90 minutes before a shotgun start.
- (b) Prepare area and have supplies available for the field staff (registration area, scoring area, banners & signs). Provide access for both electric and telephone outlets.
- (c) For the pro-am series, the host professional or his/her representative must be on sight and available all day for rules decisions (the professional and/or staff are responsible for all rules decisions at the site). The host professional is responsible for verifying all amateur handicaps through the GHIN handicap system.
- (d) Prepare typed local rules sheet to accompany official section rules, including but not limited to information on food availability, course conditions, tees to be used, and golf car regulations.
- (e) Provide as much staff as possible to service the participants in making the event first class, including but not limited to golf bag help, starters, volunteers, spotters, and rangers.
- (f) In the event of threatening weather, a committee of the host professional, the official in charge/ coordinator, and the course superintendent will make decisions concerning possible delay or cancellation (see Article VII).

TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

**APPENDIX II
TOURNAMENT POINT SYSTEM**

Section 1. PLAYER PERFORMANCE POINTS

Player Performance Points are awarded to section-affiliated PGA members for section-affiliated professional place finish. In the following events, the number of points awarded is outlined below:

TIER 1:

PLACE	Connecticut PGA Championship	Section Professional Championship	Spring PGA Stroke Play	The Connecticut Open (CSGA)*
1.	75	100	75	60*
2.	60	75	60	55
3.	55	60	55	50
4.	45	50	45	45
5.	40	45	40	40
6.	35	40	35	35
7.	30	39	30	30
8.	29	38	29	29
9.	28	37	28	28
10.	27	36	27	27
11.	26	35	26	26
12.	25	34	25	25
13.	24	33	24	24
14.	23	32	23	23
15.	22	31	22	22
16.	21	30	21	21
17.	20	29	20	20
18.	19	28	19	19
19.	18	27	18	18
20.	17	26	17	17
21.	16	25	16	16
22.	15	24	15	15
23.	14	23	14	14
24.	13	22	13	13
25.	12	21	12	12
26.	11	20	11	11
27.	10	19	10	10*
28.	9	18	9	
29.	8	17	8	
30.	8	16	7	
31.	7	15	6	
32.	6	14	5 all participants	
33.	5	13		
34.	5	12		
35.	5	11		
36 & ties	5	10**		
Cut	5 all participants	5 all participants		

* The Connecticut Open: Points will be awarded to all competitors that complete the first two rounds (excludes all WD, DNS, NC, and DQ). Connecticut Section PGA Professional that wins will receive an additional 25 bonus.

** Decreases by one point until 5 points. All participants that complete the event will receive at least 5 points

Match Play Championship

100-(Champion), 80 -(Runner-Up), 60-(Semi-Finalists), 40-(Quarter-Finalists), 20-(Round of 16), 10-(Round of 32)

TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

TIER 2:

PLACE	Walter Lowell PGA Tournament	Pro-Junior Invitational	Pro-Am Series
1.	40	10	10
2.	30	9	9
3.	27	8	8
4.	25	7	7
5.	23	6	6
6.	21	5	5
7.	19	4	4
8.	17	3	3
9.	15	2	2
10.	13	1 all participants*	1 all participants*
11.	11		
12.	10		
13.	9		
14.	8		
15.	7		
16.	6		
17.	5		
18.	4		
19.	3		
20.	2		
21.	1 all participants*		
22.			
23.			
24.			
25.			
26.			
27.			
28.			
29.			
30.			

*excludes WD, NC, DQ.

TIER 3:

PLACE	Manchester Open	Western Mass. Open
1.	25*	25*
2.	22	22
3.	20	20
4.	17	17
5.	15	15
6.	12	12
7.	10	10
8.	9	9
9.	8	8
10.	7	7
11.	6	6
12.	5	5
13.	4	4
14.	3	3
15.	2	2
16.	1	1
	*10 bonus pts. for win	*10 bonus pts. for win

Travelers Championship Pre-Qualifier:

The number of points to the top place finisher will be determined by the number of section professionals entered and then be reduced by one point for each place finish so that last place will receive one point.

* Professional that wins will receive an additional 10 bonus points.

TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

TIER 4:

MGA Massachusetts Open: Qualify- 10 points; Connecticut PGA Professional that wins the MGA Massachusetts Open Championship receives 25 bonus points.

U.S. Open: Alternate-15; Qualify for Regional-25; Qualify for Open-50;
Make cut-100 (Cumulative)

Qualify for Travelers Championship through Open Qualifying: 25 points

Travelers Championship: Make cut-75

PGA Championship: Qualify-80, Make cut-100, Win-500

The National PGA Professional Championship: Participate-10, Make cut-25; Win-100

PGA Tour (Other than the Travelers Championship): Qualify for event-25; Win event-150

Qualify for New England Open: 10 points

Section 2. SENIOR PLAYER PERFORMANCE POINTS

Senior Player Performance Points are awarded to section-affiliated Senior PGA members for section-affiliated professional place finish. In the following events, the number of points awarded is outlined below:

TIER 1:

PLACE	Senior Connecticut PGA Championship	Connecticut Senior Open
1.	100	100
2.	90	90
3.	80	80
4.	70	70
5.	65	65
6.	60	60
7.	55	55
8.	50	50
9.	45	45
10.	40	40
11.	35	35
12.	30	30
13.	25	25
14.	20	20
15.	15	15
16.	10	10
17.	9	9
18.	8	8
19.	7	7
20.	6 all participants	6 all participants

Senior PGA Professional National Championship Qualifier**

25, 20, 15, 12, 10, 8, 5 (all players that participate will receive 5 points)

**If the Sr. PGA Professional National Championship and Sr. PGA Championship are held at the same time, these points will not be used but the qualifier(s) for the Sr. PGA Professional National Championship will receive five (5) bonus points.

TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

TIER 2:

PLACE	Connecticut PGA Championship	Spring PGA Stroke Play	Walter Lowell PGA Tournament
1.	50	50	50
2.	40	40	40
3.	35	35	35
4.	30	30	30
5.	25	25	25
6.	20	20	20
7.	15	15	15
8.	10	10	10
9.	9	9	9
10.	8	8	8
11.	7	7	7
12.	6	6	6
13.	5 all participants	5 all participants	5 all participants

PLACE	Manchester Open*	Western Mass Open*
1.	20	20
2.	15	15
3.	13	13
4.	11	11
5.	9	9
6.	8	8
7.	7	7
8.	6	6
9.	5	5
10.	4	4

*Manchester Open and Western Mass Open points are awarded only if the Tournament offers a Senior Division

The following points will be awarded to seniors in special events listed below:

U.S. Senior Open: Qualifying-50; Make cut- Additional 50 points

Senior PGA Professional National Championship: Make cut-25

PGA Senior Championship: Qualifying-50; Make cut- Additional 50 points

APPENDIX III

Connecticut Section PGA Rules of Play

Play is governed by the Rules of Golf and its Decisions, and where applicable, by the following Local Rules, Conditions and Definitions. Appendix I refers to the Appendix of Local Rules; Conditions of the Competition in the USGA Rules of Golf booklet. Unless otherwise specified, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is: Stroke Play - two (2) strokes.

1. SUSPENSION OF PLAY FOR A DANGEROUS SITUATION: When play is suspended for a dangerous situation, if a player is between the play of two holes, the player shall not resume play until the committee has ordered a resumption of play. If a player is in the process of playing a hole, the player shall discontinue play immediately and shall not thereafter resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. (Note to Rule 6-8b).

If a player fails to discontinue play immediately after a suspension for a dangerous situation, the player is disqualified unless circumstances warrant waiving the penalty.

The following signals will be used to identify a dangerous situation:

Discontinue Play Immediately: One prolonged signal note.

Discontinue Play: Three consecutive short signal notes.

Resume Play: Two short signal notes.

All practice areas shall be closed during suspension for a dangerous situation until the committee has declared them open for use.

2. EQUIPMENT: The player's golf ball, and driver shall be named on the current "List of Conforming Golf Balls" & "List of Conforming Drivers".

3. TURF PLUGS ON PUTTING GREENS: On the putting green, in addition to Rule 16-1C, the player may repair turf plugs of any size.

4. OUT OF POSITION: A group is deemed to be out of position when they have exceeded the allotted time given and is out of position on the golf course.

FIRST GROUP ONLY: The first group in the competition will be considered out of position if at any time they are behind the allotted time at the completion of any hole.

ALL OTHER GROUPS: Subsequent groups will not be considered "out of position" if any previous group has caused the field to fall behind their allotted time. Any subsequent groups must remain within 14 minutes of the group in front of them. This is measured by your having the flagstick in the hole within 14 minutes of the group in front of you.

5. UNDUE DELAY: (Note to Rule 6-7 Undue Delay): A competitor "Out of Position" shall be subject to penalty if during the round, he/she takes 40 seconds to complete his/her swing (see note below). If a player exceeds the time limit on one (1) occasion, the player will be cautioned that if he/she exceeds the time limit on one more occasion, (total of 2), he/she will automatically incur a penalty of one stroke, under Rule 6-7. If a player exceeds the time limit a third time he/she will receive an additional two-stroke penalty. If a competitor exceeds the time limit a total of four (4) times the penalty is DISQUALIFICATION.

NOTE: An additional 10 seconds will be allowed for; a) the first to play from the teeing ground on a par 3 hole, b) the first player to play a second stroke on a par 4 or par 5 hole, c) the first player to play a third stroke on a par 5 hole, or d) the first player to play on or around the putting green.

6. LATE TO TEE: (Rule 6-3a): If a player arrives at his starting point, ready to play, within five (5) minutes after his starting time the penalty for failure to start on time is loss of the first hole in match play or two strokes at the first hole in stroke play. Otherwise, the penalty for breach of this rule is disqualification.

7. PRACTICE: Practice is permitted as described in the Rules of Golf, except as described in Note 2 Rule 7-2, which prohibits: (a) practice on or near the putting green of the hole last played, and (b) rolling a ball on the putting green of the hole last played.

8. LIFTING AN EMBEDDED BALL: The "EMBEDDED BALL RULE" as written in Appendix I is in effect "through the green."

9. OUT OF BOUNDS: Defined by inside edge of white stakes and/or property fence posts at ground level. A ball that crosses such boundary is out of bounds even though it may lie on another part of the course.

10. GOLF CARS: The use of motorized golf cars will be optional for all competitors unless specified.

a. Caddies may **not** ride in a golf car at any time unless authorized by the committee. If a player hires a caddie that caddie must transport that player's clubs at all times unless authorized by the committee.

b. A player must not be accompanied by a spectator in the golf car. Unauthorized use of the player's car is subject to penalty as follows:

Match Play – At the conclusion of the hole at which the breach is discovered, the state of the match shall be adjusted by deducting one hole for each hole at which the breach occurred. Maximum deduction per round: Two holes.

Stroke Play – Two strokes for each hole at which the breach occurred;

Maximum penalty per round four strokes (two strokes at each of the first holes at which the breach occurred).

Match play or stroke play – If breach is discovered between the play of two holes, it is deemed to have been discovered during the play of the next hole, and penalty must be applied accordingly.

In either form of play – Use of any unauthorized automotive vehicle must be discontinued immediately upon discovering that a breach has occurred. Otherwise the player is disqualified.

11. ABNORMAL GROUND CONDITIONS:

- (1) Areas defined by white lines, or otherwise posted as Ground Under Repair.
- (2) Drains that are exposed trenches filled with rocks or stones.
- (3) Active fire ant beds or mounds.
- (4) Flower beds – mandatory relief must be taken from stance and lie of ball.
- (5) Relief is for lie of ball only for the following:
 - a. seems of cut turf
 - b. newly trenched areas
 - c. non-burrowing animal damage.

12. ROADS AND PATHS: White lines: Asphalt and artificially surfaced roads and paths are Obstructions. White lined areas tying into roads and paths are the same status as the roads or paths, and thus they are Obstructions, and not Ground Under Repair.

13. INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE COURSE: Artificial walls and /or pilings used to define the margin of bunkers are integral parts of the course and are through the green.

14. OBSTRUCTION: Railroad ties, curbing or the like adjoining artificially surfaced road or paths are part of the road or path. Stakes, ropes, wires or other objects supporting trees or tree limbs provided they are not closely attached are obstructions, the tree or tree limb is not part of the obstruction.

15. PERMANENT ELEVATED POWER LINES AND CABLES: If a ball strikes such a line or cable, the stroke shall be cancelled and the ball MUST be replayed, without penalty in accordance with Rule 20-5. If a ball is not immediately recoverable, another ball may be substituted.

16. BUNKERS: STONES IN BUNKERS are deemed to be obstructions and may be removed without penalty.

17. RESULTS OF THE COMPETITION: The competition shall be deemed to have closed when the Connecticut Section Rules Committee has approved all scores. In the event of a playoff, the competition shall be deemed to have closed when the Connecticut Section Rules Committee has approved the playoff scores.

18. DISTANCE MESURING DEVICES: A player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., elevation changes, wind speed, etc) the player is in breach of rule 14-3, for which the penalty is disqualification.

19. ACCIDENTAL MOVEMENT OF A BALL ON A PUTTING GREEN: Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1 are modified as follows:
 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 as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1.

This Local Rule applies only when the player's ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental.

Note: If it is determined that a player's ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new location. A ball-marker moved in such circumstances is replaced.

**APPENDIX IV
PRO-AM SERIES**

A pro-amateur series of tournaments will be conducted for the benefit of section members to compete and develop camaraderie with their golf course membership and players. The mission of the pro-am series is to primarily serve those PGA members who are actively employed at section PGA recognized facilities and their playing patronage.

(a) ELIGIBILITY

Professional Eligibility:

Professionals must be section-affiliated PGA Members in good standing as defined herein Article IV, Section 1.

REGULATION: *As a condition of Team Entry, all amateurs team members must be comprised of home course amateurs from the competing professional's PGA recognized facility. The professional may seek to obtain an amateur(s) from any other golf facility where the GHIN handicap system is used, provided that the amateur's head golf professional is notified in advance of the event as a courtesy. Failure to provide this courtesy is subject to tournament committee review.*

REGULATION: *Professionals with incomplete amateur teams in pro-ams are responsible for the entire team entry fee*

Amateur Eligibility:

Amateurs must have reached their 18th birthday by the tournament in order to participate. Amateurs must have an established, valid and current USGA approved handicap index. All amateurs must have their handicaps computed by the GHIN computation service.

REGULATION: *Amateurs establishing more than one handicap at different golf courses must use their lowest established handicap. The professional is responsible for the authenticity of his/her amateur partners' handicaps (host professional to verify via GHIN network).*

REGULATION: *Amateurs establishing a handicap that is not computed by the GHIN computation service must compete in the event with a "0.0" handicap index.*

REGULATION: *An amateur is limited to play in no more than two (2) pro-am series tournaments each season with a PGA Professional. (Change effective Jan. 2017)*

(b) REGISTRATION

REGULATION: *Registration in a pro-am series event does not guarantee entry.*

REGULATION: *All late entries must be completed four (4) days prior to the pro-am by 12:00 noon, (Thursday at 12:00 noon for a Monday pro-am).*

REGULATION: *Starting times or player pairings for pro-am series events will be posted on the section website at least one week prior to the event.*

(c) SUBSCRIPTION

The pro-am series events are limited in terms of the number of teams that can compete, so a field size for each event is established.

REGULATION: *A professional playing with a sponsor team shall come from the waiting list of that tournament (if a wait list is present). The tournament committee has the right to have any member play with the sponsor team, once the waiting list has been exhausted.*

REGULATION: *Host Professionals will receive first priority in registration and starting time preference at their pro-am event. All facilities that host a pro-am event will receive an exempt spot into all pro-am series events for the current year. A PGA member at the facility must fill the exemption.*

(d) WITHDRAWALS

REGULATION: *If a professional wishes to withdraw from a pro-am series event, the professional must inform the section office at least four (4) days prior to the pro-am by 12:00 noon, (Thursday at 12:00 noon for a Monday pro-am).*

REGULATION: *If a professional withdraws from a pro-am series event after the withdrawal deadline, the professional would be subject to a first offense fine of \$200.00 (Pro-3am) or \$100 (Pro-1am); and a second offense fine of \$200.00 (Pro-3am) or \$100 (Pro-1am), plus a suspension of section playing privileges for thirty days during a period specified by the tournament committee. The professional may not submit a request for refund if he/she is disqualified and/or does not turn in a completed scorecard from an event after he/she begins play will remain in the team competition in a pro-am series event.*

(e) FORMAT

Each tournament season, the tournament committee will select the team format for each pro-am series tournament as one of the following:

- (i) Gross and net combined scoring, two best balls (cannot be the same player's ball)
- (ii) Gross only, two best balls
- (iii) Gross and Net divisions; one best ball

(f) OVER SUBSCRIBED:

The number of professionals entering the event exceeds the available spots.

REGULATION: *Time of registration, from earliest to latest determines the order in which properly registered professionals receive their starting time preference. In the event of an over subscribed pro-am, time of registration, from earliest to latest, determines the order in which properly registered professionals receive their starting time preference.*

REGULATION: *Each Pro-am event will open exactly thirty days prior to the pro-am event date. The deadline to register is ten days prior to the event date.*

REGULATION: *The tournament committee reserves the right to hold a maximum of two team entries for each pro-am series event for the benefit of the title and presenting sponsor. In such instances where a title and presenting sponsor's team is participating, the above eligibility regulations do not apply to that invited team.*

TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

(g) UNDER SUBSCRIBED:

The number of professionals entering the event is less than the available spots.

REGULATION: *In under subscribed tournaments, professionals may enter a tournament up until four days prior to the event by calling the section office and confirming their commitment to play.*

(h) PRO AM SERIES TEAM PRIZE BREAKDOWN

REGULATION: *In team events, the amount of teams paid will be approximately 33 percent of the total teams entered, per the section's prize breakdown distribution. The professional will receive the cash equivalent of his/her share of the team prize.*

(i) PRO AM SERIES FINANCIAL POLICY

For Connecticut Section PGA Pro Am Series events the following policies apply.

REGULATION: *PGA Professionals requesting to participate in a Pro Am Series event will pay the Team Deposit directly to the Section Office before the entry deadline*

REGULATION: *The remaining team balance is due to the host club on the day of the event*

Section Responsibility:

REGULATION: *The Section will retain 100 percent of the Team Deposit*

REGULATION: *The Section will pay all professional prize money to include any portion of team prize money.*

Host Site Responsibility:

REGULATION: *The host site will retain 100 percent of the remaining balance that is collected on the day of the event.*

REGULATION: *33 percent of the remaining balance that is collected by the host site will be allocated to amateur prizes in the host site's golfshop*

REGULATION: *The remaining 66 percent of the remaining balance SHALL be allocated to cover lunch, greens fees and cart fees for all participants*