



CHICAGO WOMEN'S DISTRICT GOLF ASSOCIATION

INSTRUCTIONS GOVERNING TOURNAMENT PLAY – 2016

Tournament Policies: The *Rules of Golf* as approved by the **USGA** governs all CWDGA competitions as supplemented by the conditions of the competition established by the CWDGA and set forth in the *Handbook for Members* and on the cwgda.org website. Each player is responsible for knowing the Rules and conditions of the competition, and it is suggested that you carry a copy of each with you.

Tournament Eligibility: Handicap records received by the CWDGA from the USGA Handicap System are used for all competitions. The Handicap Index limitations for the four CWDGA tournaments are: 26.0 for the CWDGA Championship, 28.0 for the One-Day Stroke Play, and 33.0 for the Better-Ball and Senior Better-Ball of Pairs. An "eligible player" must have golf privileges at a CWDGA member club, have amateur status and must maintain a current, valid CDGA handicap at that club.

A player who is a member of more than one club must select the club that she will represent in all CWDGA competitions. Changes are not permitted during the year unless permission is granted by the CWDGA Board of Directors

Tournament Entry: Only online entry forms will be accepted by CWDGA for tournaments with entry fees paid by credit card (MasterCard, VISA or Discover) on our website, www.cwgda.org. The CWDGA reserves the right to decline any entry.

Tournament Information: Information concerning confirmed participation, pairings, starting times, etc., will be emailed to contestants approximately 5-7 days prior to the event. If a contestant has not received information within seven days of the event, it is her responsibility to contact the CWDGA Tournament or Championship Chair.

Withdrawal/Refund Policy: Individuals, who have submitted an entry for a CWDGA event and wish to withdraw for any reason, **MUST** notify the CWDGA Tournament or Championship Chair. Withdrawals may be sent via email, telephone or FAX. Withdrawals submitted prior to the refund deadline will receive a full refund minus a \$20 handling fee in the case of Championship and a \$10 fee per player for all other tournaments. **NO REFUND** will be made unless cancellation is received before the date specified for each tournament.

Over Subscribed Events: The CWDGA Championship and One-Day Stroke Play tournaments are limited to the lowest entrants (80 for Championship and 100 for One-Day Stroke). If either tournament is over subscribed, then the field will be composed of the players with the lowest Handicap Indexes, and the remaining entries will be placed on a waiting list in order of Handicap Index. After the entry deadline, players will be accepted in Handicap Index order to fill any vacancies. Handicap Indexes as of the revision date stated for each tournament will be used.

Both the Better-Ball of Pairs and Senior Better-Ball of Pairs events are limited to 112 players (56 pairs), with players selected on a first come, first serve basis. Online entries are accepted in the order of their transaction time and date.

When the field is full, entries are put on a Wait List in the order of transaction time and date. A full refund will be given to anyone on the Wait List who does not make it into the event.

Start Time Requests: The CWDGA will not honor any start time requests for any CWDGA tournament. The One-Day Stroke Play, Better-Ball of Pairs and Senior Better-Ball of Pairs Tournaments are shotgun starts. The CWDGA Championship is a match play event with Championship flight off first followed by the other flights.

Practice Rounds: One practice round may be available for the CWDGA Championship. Specific information will be included in the official acceptance packet. If a practice round is available, each contestant is responsible for contacting the host site for arrangements. Players may

NOT bring their own caddie to a host-club. Practice rounds are not available for any of the other tournaments.

Attire: Players and caddies must be properly attired both on the golf course and the premises of the club. Jeans of any color, T-shirts and tank tops are prohibited. Collared shirts are strongly suggested. Shorts and golf skirts must be mid-thigh in length. Any additional dress code restrictions of the site hosting the event are in effect. It is always advisable to consult the host-club for clarification of its policies.

The Committee: The Committee is the CWDGA and is represented at all competitions by the uniformed CWDGA officials present at the competition. Host-club officers and personnel are not members of the Committee.

Caddies/Carts: If a host-club has provided caddies, and caddies are available, a contestant must use a caddie or a cart with a caddie. Contestants **may not** provide their own caddies. Reserved caddies must be used.

Communication Devices: CWDGA Rules strictly prohibit contestants and caddies from using cell phones, other internet communication devices, smart watches, or any devices that emit sounds during a stipulated round (range-finders that beep must not disturb other players). CWDGA does not allow smart phones or watches to be used as a Rules of Golf source or as a distance-measuring device in any CWDGA-sponsored event. If the Committee determines that a violation of this policy has resulted in an opponent or a fellow competitor being placed at a significant disadvantage, the player will be disqualified due to a serious breach of etiquette. Otherwise, a violation of this policy will result in a warning to the player; a second violation in any CWDGA event will result in disqualification for the remainder of the current playing season. (Rule 33-7).

Distance Measuring Devices: Distance measuring devices that conform to USGA specifications will be allowed in all CWDGA events at a host club where the Local Rule allowing such devices is in effect. (The Rules of Golf, Appendix 1, Part B, #9.)

Slow Play: Pursuant to USGA Rule 6-7, the CWDGA has established the following pace of play guidelines. A group of four players is expected to take no more than 15 minutes per hole – **4 hours and 30 minutes per round** to play. Any group that fails to hold its position on the course will be alerted and requested to play at a faster pace. After being warned, the group will be monitored. The time each player takes to play each stroke will be recorded. Any player in a group out of position that takes more than 45 seconds to play a stroke on two occasions will be advised of that fact and told that if she exceeds the time limit on two more shots, she will incur the **penalty** provided in Rule 6-7.

Scores: All scores in CWDGA tournaments are tournament scores under the USGA Handicap System. All scorecards must show an eighteen hole score and a score for each hole for each player. The CWDGA Handicap Chair will post these scores as "T" scores. The One-Day Stroke Play, Better-Ball of Pairs and Senior Better-Ball of Pairs tournaments are stroke play competitions. Strokes must not be conceded.

Prizes: Prizes will be awarded to the winners of all flights in all of the CWDGA tournaments. If a winner is unable to stay for the awarding of prizes, she may ask someone to accept it for her, providing the designated person signs for the prize and the winner arranges for its pick-up with the CWDGA Tournament or Championship Chair.

Policy on Spectators at CWDGA Events: It is the policy of CWDGA that all spectators at CWDGA-sponsored events must remain at a respectful distance from players and should avoid unnecessary personal contact with them. CWDGA policy prohibits cell phone use. Spectators are invited to walk the course or to rent a golf cart from the pro shop (subject to availability) at the host club's prevailing rate.