

Date: January 24, 2017
To: DGA Members
Subject: 2017 Rule Changes

The Winter Meeting was held on January 21, 2017 at Stage House Tavern. The DGA has 37 Active, 7 LifeTime Members and 2 Deceased Lifetime Members. 24 Active Members attended the meeting at Stage House Tavern. All 24 Attendees had Voting Privileges by playing five (5) or more rounds in 2016 which meant that 16 votes were needed to pass any Rule Changes.

The following Proposals were submitted for consideration prior to or at the Winter Meeting:

PROPOSAL #2017 – 1

I propose that the DGA Rules clarify that ONLY Active Members pay for and/or receive the \$10 fee for Double Eagles and Holes-in-One. (Proposed by Doug Conway)

Further Information: The current Rules state that when a Lifetime Member plays a DGA round, they are eligible for all DGA Nassaus and Pots. Also, the current Rules state that a Member receives \$10 from each Member when they make a Double Eagle or Hole-in-One.

It was assumed that when the Lifetime Member rules were written that Lifetime Members would not be charged \$10 when a Member makes a Double Eagle or Hole-in-One. That has been the practice that has been followed. These two Rules should be changed to state:

- Lifetime Members are eligible for all DGA Nassaus and Pots except Double Eagles and Holes-in-One since they do not pay for these items if an Active Member makes a Double Eagle or Hole-in-One.
- Active Members receive \$10 from ALL Active Members when they make a Double Eagle or Hole-in-One during a DGA Round.

Reasoning: Lifetime Member should not receive \$10 for either of these items if they are not required to pay when another Member makes a Double Eagle or Hole-in-One.

Result: Proposal was approved by a vote of 22-2.

PROPOSAL #2017 – 2

I would like to propose that natural Eagles be \$3 “for ALL Active Members” rather than just those Active Members playing that day/course. (Proposed by Ron Ceglia Sr.)

Further Information: Currently, only those Members playing that day/course are charged \$3 if a Member makes a natural Eagle.

Reasoning: The player making the Eagle should be rewarded similar to Double Eagles and Holes-in-One.

Result: Proposal was defeated by a vote of 7-17.

PROPOSAL #2017 – 3

Propose amending the Exception part of Rule 15 concerning the 6th Hole at Green Knoll to say “into the stream or beyond”, you have the choice to play from the Drop Area or 1 club length from the back hazard no closer to the hole. (Proposed by Rich Fitzgerald)

Further Information: The extra wording “and beyond” will clarify the choices if the player hits the ball over the 6th green at Green Knoll.

Reasoning: Just looking for a rule that has us all playing the same.

Result: After discussion, it was decided to change the wording to include “and beyond” to the rule.

PROPOSAL #2017 – 4

Clarify the options concerning the right side of the 15th hole at Green Knoll. (Proposed by Rich Fitzgerald)

Further Information: Green Knoll number 15, on the right, has no hazard stakes. DGA players are playing this differently. There is high fescue, other thicker higher grasses/plants, and then 6 foot high impenetrable growth getting near the brook. If you find your ball in each level of grass, where is an unplayable drop to be made (2 club lengths, next level of grass, fairway)? If lost (and no provisional), where to drop? Needs discussion and a rule for consistent play. Can't have one player dropping deep in high fescue and another dropping on the fairway, etc.

Reasoning: Just looking for a rule that has us all playing the same.

Result: After discussion, it was decided that any shot hit short and right of the evergreen tree/bush would not be considered within the hazard. Any shot hit beyond the evergreen tree/bush would be deemed in a lateral hazard since the course is marked with a red line or red stakes from the evergreen tree/bush all the way to the creek in front of the green. The creek is considered a water hazard (yellow stakes).

PROPOSAL #2017 – 5

I propose to change the definition for an Official DGA Round during the “off season” of November 1 – March 31. The proposal would read that in order to be an official round, a minimum of 8 DGA Members (Active and Lifetime) would need to play. (Proposed by Bob Babetski)

Further Information: Rounds of 3 DGA Members playing in the Carolinas and Florida during the “off season”, have an advantage of counting handicap rounds on harder courses and therefore might increase their handicap when the Handicap Season starts on April 1. Eight (8) DGA Members should be the minimum.

Reasoning: Reduce number of counting handicap rounds during the off season.

Result: The proposal was defeated by a vote of 12-12.

PROPOSAL #2017 – 6

The Rules Committee includes Ron Ceglia Sr who will not be playing as much DGA since he moved to Arizona. He should be replaced by the 1st Alternate – Greg Cavallo. Also, Joe Musella should be removed from the Alternate List because he will not be playing as much DGA since he moved to South Carolina. (Proposed by Doug Conway)

Further Information: The Rules Committee has always been staffed by members who play regularly in New Jersey.

Reasoning: The Rules Committee has always been staffed by members who play regularly in New Jersey.

Result: After discussion, this was agreed upon by the membership without a vote.

PROPOSAL #2017 – 7

I would like to propose that the Beers Pot be \$increased to \$3. (Proposed by Larry Thiry)

Further Information: This Pot has not been increased in many years.

Reasoning: Beer is more expensive now.

Result: Proposal was defeated by a vote of 15-9. 16 votes would have been needed to pass.

PROPOSAL #2017 – 8

I would like to propose that the Course Rating and Slope that we use for Green Knoll revert to the previous 68.9/120. The NJSGA rerated the course in 2016 as 69/126 and 126 seems too high just like Quail Brook's 129.

Further Information: After Quail Brook's Course Rating and Slope were increased in 2016, the DGA Members voted to revert to the previous Course Rating and Slope because we felt that the new numbers were incorrect. This precedent should apply to Green Knoll now.

Reasoning: The new Slope seems much too high for the difficulty of Green Knoll.

Result: Proposal was defeated by a vote 9-15.

PROPOSAL #2017 – 9

I would like to propose that we clarify where to drop when taking a 2 shot penalty.

Further Information: Rule X 6c. should be changed to clarify that the drop for a 2 shot penalty when the shot entered wood would be on the edge of the woods. When the ball is lost in high grass, the drop would be 2 club lengths from the high grass.

Reasoning: To clarify and make the drop consistent.

Result: After discussion, it was agreed to clarify this rule for more consistent drops.

PROPOSAL #2017 – 10

I would like to propose that we clarify the Hazard Ball rule.

Further Information: Rule X 7 should be changed to clarify which ball should be played when a Hazard Ball is played and the original ball is found.

Reasoning: To clarify and make the scoring consistent.

Result: After discussion, it was agreed to clarify this rule to state the following example: If you move forward to hit the next shot over a Hazard, it would be played as a Hazard Ball and you must play that ball if the Original Ball is found within the Hazard. If you play the next shot from the original spot, it is considered a Provisional and allows you to make a choice of which ball to play if the Original Ball is found in the hazard and is playable.

PROPOSAL #2017 – 11

It was proposed that the Partners Tournament teams be pulled “out of the hat” in 2018 and then revert to members selecting their Partner in 2019.

Further Information: Break up some teams and allow members to play with other members.

Reasoning: To change the process for one year.

Result: Proposal was defeated by a vote of 4-20.