

2017 DGA Rules Package

I. Rule Changes:

1. To change any of the rules governing the DGA, two-thirds of the official members must vote in favor of having a change in a particular rule or set of rules.
2. The Winter Meeting will be held on the Saturday following the Martin Luther King holiday.
3. At the Annual Winter Meeting, changes can be made by the vote of two-thirds of those present at the meeting location or those attending via videoconferencing (e.g. Skype, gomeeting.com) or teleconference (e.g. Teleconference Call-In Number or Cell Phone to another member attending the meeting) provided at least one-half of the membership is present by either of these options. In order to get a vote counted at the Winter Meeting, a member must have played at least 5 money rounds the previous year.

II. Membership Rules

1. The maximum number of active DGA members is 40.
2. DGA Lifetime Membership would be an option for DGA Members who:
 - Have 30 or more years of service with the DGA
 - Would not qualify to retain their membership under the existing membership rules

The decision to assume a DGA Lifetime Membership is at the discretion of the eligible DGA member. DGA Lifetime Members would not count toward the maximum number of active members. The DGA Lifetime Membership would have the following rules and regulations:

- No voting privileges.
 - Maximum of 15 DGA Rounds per year in Somerset County. DGA Rounds played in other locales do not count toward this restriction. These rounds could be played anywhere as long as they abide by the rules determining an official DGA round.
 - The DGA Lifetime Member must maintain an official USGA Handicap either through their local/state Golf Association or through the DGA (kept manually in DGA Book). ALL non-DGA rounds must be included in the calculation of the handicap.
 - DGA Annual Dues and USGA Handicap Fee are waived for Lifetime Members.
 - The DGA Lifetime Member would not participate in the 50-50 unless the regular membership does not select all of the numbers.
 - The DGA Lifetime Member would not participate in World Series, Match Play, Partners Match Play or any external Team Tournaments (i.e. Interclub Tournament).
 - The DGA Lifetime Member would be eligible to play in normal DGA events including Scrambles.
 - The DGA Lifetime Member would pay for all fees on Kitty Day since they do not pay any DGA Membership Fees. These Kitty Day fees include, golf, cart and food.
 - The DGA Lifetime Member would be eligible for all pots (except for Double Eagles and Holes-in-One because they don't pay when an Active Member makes one of these, therefore they should not receive the amount) during the play of an official DGA Round.
3. Prospective Members must be sponsored in writing by a current member.
 4. Prospective Members will be assigned a handicap and will be eligible to play six qualifying rounds.

5. Prospective Members must play their 6 qualifying rounds within 10 weeks. The start of this time period begins when the prospective member plays their first qualifying round. Prospective Members are NOT allowed to bring Guests during their qualifying period.
6. Prospective Members will play for beers only:
 - Prospective Member will win \$5.00 if he finishes in the top half of the playing group
 - Prospective Member will lose \$10.00 if he finishes in the bottom half of the playing group
7. After the sixth qualifying round is completed and the handicap is established, the Secretary will conduct a vote. One half of the current membership must vote yes in order to accept a qualifier as a Probationary Member. If an Active Member “actively abstains” from voting (i.e. they send a note to the Secretary declaring that they Abstain From Voting), the “Active Abstains” will be deducted from the number of Active Members voting. An Active Member who does not vote will be counted as a NO vote. The Probationary Membership will be for a period of two (2) months. This period of time allows the Probationary Member to meet and play with members that they may not have met during their six (6) round qualifying rounds. During this time, the Probationary Member will play in DGA competitions for all Nassaus and Pots as if they were a full member. The Probationary Member’s handicap will be adjusted on the specified Handicap Revision Dates.
8. After the two (2) month Probationary Period is completed, the Secretary will conduct a vote. Two thirds of the current membership must vote yes in order to accept the Probationary Member as a Full DGA Member.
9. The Sponsor must take responsibility for making sure that the Prospective member is introduced to the current members during Qualifying. The Sponsor is responsible for notifying Prospective/Probationary Member of result of membership vote.
9. To REMAIN a DGA member, you MUST play a minimum of 10 Appearance Rounds per year, or 15 Appearance Rounds over a two year period. (Example: If you play 7 rounds 1 year, you must play at least 8 rounds the following year or you are DGA HISTORY!). Ten (10) Appearance Rounds in one year automatically renews the members playing privileges for the following year unless you play less than ten (10) rounds in a given years then the fifteen (15) round rule takes precedence. Once a member plays less than 10 Appearance Rounds in a year, they are automatically “on the clock” for the 15 Appearance Rounds over two years. An Appearance Round is defined as an official DGA round of golf with 3 or more DGA Members. Money rounds such as Blind Better Ball are not considered an additional Appearance Round if scored from an Individual Round scorecard. An Injury Waiver may be considered by the Rules Committee when needed.

III. DGA Official Rounds

1. An Official DGA Round is one with 3 or more DGA Members (Active and Lifetime) playing for DGA Pots and Nassaus. If there are only 3 players, all of them must be Active or Lifetime. The third golfer cannot be a Prospective member.
2. Only Official 18-hole rounds will be entered in the book for Handicap and Vardon Trophy determinations under the following conditions:
 - All DGA Rounds (3 or more DGA Members/Prospective Members/Probationary Members) played from April 1 – October 31 (NJSGA Handicap Season).
 - All DGA Rounds (3 or more DGA Members/Prospective Members/Probationary Members) played from November 1 – March 31 if the round is played in a location where the handicap season is OPEN (i.e. Florida, South Carolina).
3. Only official DGA members will be allowed to play DGA - No Guests. Anyone playing a qualifying round will play for \$5.00 if they win & -\$10.00 if they lose.

IV. DGA Member Responsibilities - Each Round

Each member of the DGA is responsible for verifying the scorecard as follows:

1. Their gross and equity score are correct.
2. Their net score and handicap are correct.
3. Their total for Birdies, Net Birdies, Greenies, Sandies and Net Eagles are correct.
4. Once the scorecard is turned in (signed and attested), it is official for that round. Any player who does not sign their scorecard forfeits all rights to challenge the "official" results. Also, all scores and pots must be entered on the "official result" sheet that will be used to generate the results report.
5. Rules Committee/Appeal Process: If there is a dispute within a group and there is not unanimous agreement on the resolution of the issue, the player must play 2 balls for the remainder of the hole in question. Both scores should be entered for the hole on the scorecard. The issue must be brought to the attention of the Rules Committee Members and/or Alternates at the end of the round. The player(s) submitting the issue should mark "APPEAL" on the scorecard. The members of the group must sign the scorecard marked with "APPEAL". The Rules Committee Members and/or Alternates will listen to the issue/scenario and will use whatever resources are available to them (i.e. Rule Book, Internet etc) to make a decision as to which ball/score is considered the correct one. Results will not be published until the Issue/Appeal is resolved.
6. The Rules Committee for 2017 will be composed of the following DGA members:

Min Minutello
Dave Perry
Mark Schuler
Dennis Grote
Greg Cavallo

Alternates

- | | |
|----|--------------------|
| A. | Tom Wrobel |
| B. | Bruce Rapp |
| C. | Ed Korleski |
| D. | Bob Nowark |

7. If all of the Rules Committee members are not present to review an Appeal, one or more Alternates will be asked to participate in the review and decision. A total of 3 Rules Committee Members (including Alternates) must be present to render a decision.

V. DGA Pots/Nassaus

1. Individual Hole Categories:

These categories will be treated as "pots".

- A. Cost: \$6.00 (\$1.00 for the Regular Birdies, Net Birdies, Net Eagles, Greenies and Sandys Pots. \$1.50 for the Gross Par 3 and Net Par 3 Pots).
- B. Entry into pots is mandatory if you play DGA.
- C. Determination of the winner for the Regular Birdies, Net Birdies, Net Eagles, Greenies and Sandys Pots .
 - 1. Most in a particular category determines the winner.
 - 2. Winner takes all.
 - 3. If no winner in a category, nobody pays.

Determination of the winner for the Gross Par 3 and Net Par 3 Pots:

- 1. Lowest Total Gross Score on the Par 3 Holes. Winner (and ties) takes all.
- 2. Lowest Total Net Score on the Par 3 Holes. Winner (and ties) takes all.

- D. The categories:
 - 1. Regular Birdies
 - 2. Net Birdies
 - 3. Net Eagles
 - 4. Greenies - This is the number of greens hit in one, regardless of how close. You lose credit for the greenie if you score a bogie or higher.
 - 5. Sandys - To earn credit for a Sandy, you must get out of a sand trap; then hole out in one or less strokes; and have a score of net par or better for the hole. 2 sandys will be credited for holing out of the trap for net par or better. A Maximum of 2 Sandys will be credited on any hole.
 - 6. Gross Par 3 – Lowest total gross score on the Par 3s
 - 7. Net Par 3 – Lowest total net score on the Par 3's
- E. Individual hole scores will be credited as follows:

1. Natural Birdie	-	1 in Birdie Pot
2. Net 1 under par	-	1 in Net Birdie Pot
3. Net 2 under par	-	2 in Net Birdie Pot
	-	1 in Net Eagle Pot
4. Net 3 under par	-	3 in Net Birdie Pot
	-	2 in Net Eagle Pot

- F. Eagles are worth \$3.00 per man of those playing.
- G. Double Eagle: each official DGA Active member will be assessed \$10.00 for any double eagle made during an official DGA round or DGA sponsored function (i.e. 2 man scramble).
- H. HOLE-IN-ONE: each official DGA Active member will be assessed \$10.00 for any hole-in-one made during an official DGA round or DGA sponsored function (i.e. 2 man scramble). Do NOT collect for EAGLE.

- I. Beers are either plus or minus \$2.00 for equalizing distribution of money to players in middle of pack. The low half of net scores wins \$2.00, the high half of net scores loses \$2.00.

2. NASSAUS:

- A. 18 Hole Nassaus - as per position on the 18 hole Position of Finish chart.
- B. 9 Hole Nassaus - \$2.00 per man per Nassau. Ties for 1st Place split the total available pot.

If at least 7 players, positions 1 and 2 will share each 9 hole Nassau pot approximately 75% for 1st, 25% for 2nd. See the 9 hole Nassau chart for exact amounts.
- C. In order for a 9 or 18 hole Nassau to be counted, 50% of members who tee off must finish the 9 or 18 holes. If only 9 holes are played, money will be assessed for the one Nassau and half the pots. Any golfer dropping out of a nine automatically finishes last for the 9 and the 18. If a player X's on any given hole, he will finish last for the 9 and 18. If he has completed a nine, his score will count for that nine and his pots will be counted for the day. This rule applies for whatever reason (injury, illness, anger or disgust).

VI. DGA Handicaps

- 1. Handicap Index using the USGA Slope System is based on lowest differentials as follows:

2 of 6	3 of 9	4 of 12	6 of 15	8 of 18
2 of 7	3 of 10	5 of 13	6 of 16	9 of 19
2 of 8	4 of 11	5 of 14	7 of 17	10 of 20
- 2. MAXIMUM HANDICAP INDEX -- 36.4
- 3. Differential is equal to the difference between the course rating and the gross score adjusted according to USGA Equity Stroke Control adjusted for Slope Rating. Prospective members will be handicapped by the Handicap Committee.
- 4. The 2017 Handicap Committee will consist of Doug Conway, John DeSimone, Ed Korleski and Larry Thiry.
- 5. The DGA will use the GHIN system and handicaps will be calculated on the GHIN frequency (1st and 15th of every month). The DGA will use the following chart for determining maximum score on a hole:

Handicap	Maximum Score Allowed
0 – 9	Double Bogey
10 - 19	7
20 - 29	8
30 – 39	9
Over 40	10

- 6. Handicapping services will be provided for DGA Active Members ONLY.

VII. SOMERSET COUNTY PLAY:

1. Somerset County has instituted a "Non-Resident" Card program. Members can purchase the "Non-Resident" card and the Tee Time Reservation service. They will be able to play at County Rates during the year. The DGA Treasury will budget a maximum of \$400 which will be split to reimburse a portion of the Call-In Service fee. Members must register for this card by May 1, 2017 to be eligible for the reimbursement.
2. See the 2017 DGA Call In Card Number sheet for the Card Numbers and PIN to be used when reserving Tee Times either online or by phone.. The Call-in Telephone number is **(908) 231-1122**. The URL is **www.somersetcountyparks.org**.
3. Members should reserve the earliest times available at the scheduled course by calling at 9:00 p.m. the week before play. Given a choice between 6am and 8am, please take the 8am time first.
4. DGA Members who are successful in reserving a tee time must call or send a note to Doug Conway to report the tee time for the call-in card. The member may select to play at the tee time that they reserved. If they choose not to play at that tee time, they will be subject to the normal draw.
5. If a DGA member reserves more than 1 tee time in a given week, they will be able to select whichever tee time they want. If a DGA member reserves 4 or more tee times, they get to pick the members of their group.
6. Players must declare playing status no later than 3 p.m. on the Wednesday before the Saturday round.
7. Groups will be assigned by pulling names out of a hat. Matches or special requirements (i.e. guests) must be requested in advance of assignment.
8. Tee Times will be published on Thursday morning. Any revised tee times will be published on Friday morning.
9. Members calling for playing spots after the draw will be assigned to the next available group.
10. Guests must play in the last group with the DGA member who brought them.
11. If all groups are not filled by Thursday afternoon, we will release the empty reservation(s) so that no penalty is incurred.
12. Somerset County is becoming increasingly strict with their rules and regulations pertaining to call in reservations. They will begin charging the players of a reserved time for the greens fees of the entire reservation. In other words, if a time was reserved for a foursome, and only three players show up from that group, they will charge an extra greens fee, EVEN if they fill it with a walk on!
13. Due to this new rule, if a player does not notify Doug Conway by NOON on the Friday before play that they cannot make the reservation time, and they are a no-show for the reservation, that player will be responsible for the greens fee if the group is assessed a charge. This is payable in CASH!
14. If a player cannot make the course on the date of play for whatever reason, they should make every attempt to call the course and get in touch with anyone in their assigned group. This may give the group ample time to pick up a player to replace the spot and avoid an extra charge. The course phone numbers are as follows:

Green Knoll	(908) 722-1301
Quail Brook	(732) 560-9199
Spooky Brook	(732) 873-2242
Warrenbrook	(908) 754-8402
Neshanic Valley	(908) 369-8200

Somerset County Golf Operations: (908) 369-1458 ext.427

Website: <http://www.somersetcountyparks.org/>

VIII. Membership Fees

1. Each D.G.A. member will have on deposit with John DeSimone a \$100 "bank" to cover losses during the year.
2. Each member will pay \$75 to the Treasurer, **John DeSimone**, prior to April 1st. Payment is necessary to keep membership - No pay, No play!! If payment is not received by May 1st, this will be considered an automatic resignation from the DGA.
3. Each member also owes \$20 per number that they have in the 50-50. Every member must have a minimum of 2 numbers in the 50-50. This will be either \$40 or \$60 for their 50-50 numbers depending on how many numbers they have -- due by April 1st. Prior Year losses MUST be paid by the Winter Meeting or DGA Membership is suspended until paid.
4. **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO JOHN DESIMONE.**
5. The \$75 payment will be credited as \$50 towards dues, and \$25 toward GHIN handicapping (for 2017).
6. Special Tournament Fees – If you sign up to play in any special tournament at courses other than the regular Somerset County schedule, you will be liable for paying the fees even if you do not play. This is as a result of many golf courses requiring prepayment.
7. New Members will pay their fees according to the following schedule:
 - I. \$60 at the start of Qualifying. This will cover the maximum potential loss during the 6 qualifying rounds. The money will be posted in the DGA "Bank".
 - II. \$20 per 50-50 Number to be paid prior to the start of the 50-50 if numbers are available.
 - III. \$115 after the official membership vote of acceptance in the DGA. This includes the remaining \$40 for the DGA Bank to bring the Bank Account to \$100 and the \$75 DGA Dues.
8. If the prospective member is not accepted as DGA member, they will receive the balance of their DGA Bank Account.

IX. DGA Year End Events:

1. A Committee of 4-6 members will be formed to recommend what type of Year End Event should be organized and run. This Committee will work with the Treasurer to discuss subsidizing a golf tournament or a dinner (with or without significant others).
2. ~~The Atlantic City trip will be held on the weekend of October 21-23 but will not be subsidized by the DGA Treasury.~~ **Larry Thiry** is the Chairperson for this event.

X. DGA Official Handicap Dates And Playing Rules:

1. Official Handicap Dates are designated by USGA and NJ State Golf Association. They are based on the "Official" Handicap season for New Jersey which is April 1 through October 31.
2. The rules of play during this time span will be "Summer Rules" unless superseded by the rules of a Tournament (Pru, Elks, St. Therese, etc.).
3. Play before and after the official handicap dates will be preferred lies everywhere but in staked hazards. Preferred Lies are defined as "ball may be moved up to 6 inches but no closer to the hole".
4. If conditions warrant, "Summer Rules" may be replaced by preferred lies based on decision by majority of Rules Committee. Decision to play "preferred lies" will be published with the tee times as early as possible...or "on the board" at the golf course.
5. A Provisional ball **MUST** be played from the original spot if there is any doubt that a ball is in play by any member of the group.. This option takes precedence over the following rules/options/examples.
6. If a ball is lost or out-of-bounds, and a provisional ball was not played, the player **must** take a two-stroke penalty rather than returning to the spot where the original shot was played from. (Exception: 1st hole at Warrenbrook, 1st and 9th holes at Quail Brook Driving Range - course rule is no provisional, you must take **ONE** stroke penalty and drop). The appropriate place to Drop is based on whether the player is taking a 1 or 2 stroke penalty. For example:
 - a. On the 1st hole at Quail Brook and 1st hole at Warrenbrook (Local Rule), if the player hits it into the left woods and determined to be in the hazard (Quail Brook) or OB (Warrenbrook), they will take a 1 stroke penalty and drop within 2 club lengths of where the ball entered the hazard before taking their next stroke.
 - b. Based on Local Rule: On the 1st and 9th holes at Quail Brook, if the player hits it OB right into the driving range, they will take a 1 stroke penalty and drop within 2 club lengths from where the ball entered the driving range before taking their next stroke.
 - c. On the 5th hole at Quail Brook, the player hits it in the right or left woods. First of all, they should have played a Provisional Ball at the urging of their playing partners. If they did not hit a Provisional and the original ball is not found, they would take a 2 stroke penalty. They would drop within 1 club length from the edge of the woods. The rationale is that the player is already taking a 2 shot penalty and they should not be additionally penalized by dropping deep in the woods.
 - d. If a player hits a ball into high grass and did not play a Provisional ball, they would take a 2 shot penalty within 2 club lengths of where the ball entered the high grass.

7. If there is some doubt that a ball cleared a hazard, the player is allowed to play a "Hazard Ball". In this case, if the player moves forward nearer the hazard to hit their next shot, the player would exercise his options under the Rules of Golf as if the ball was in the hazard, putting a "Hazard Ball" in play. If the player plays their next shot from the original spot, this new ball is considered a Provisional Ball.
 - a. If the player moved forward (i.e. Hazard Ball) and finds the original ball in play outside of the confines of the hazard, they MUST play the original ball without incurring the penalty shot.
 - b. If the player moved forward (i.e. Hazard Ball) and doesn't find their original ball in play outside the hazard, they will play the "hazard ball" with the one (1) shot penalty.
 - c. If the player moved forward (i.e. Hazard Ball) and finds the original ball within the confines of the hazard, the player is NOT allowed to play that ball because the "hazard ball" is in play at this time. This "hazard ball" exception has been added to the rules to alleviate the need to go back to the original spot to hit a provisional ball and to eliminate the problem of having two (2) balls in play (the original and the hazard balls).
 - d. If the player did not move forward and played their next shot as a Provisional Ball and finds the original ball outside of the confines of the hazard, they MUST play the original ball without incurring the penalty shot.
 - e. If the player did not move forward and played their next shot as a Provisional Ball and doesn't find the original ball, they will play the Provisional Ball with the one shot penalty.
 - f. If the player did not move forward and played their next shot as a Provisional Ball and does find the original ball inside the hazard, they have the option to play the original ball from the hazard without the one shot penalty. If they play the original ball from the hazard, the Provisional ball is out of play. If they decide not to play the original ball from the hazard, they will play the Provisional Ball with the one shot penalty.
8. Quail Brook - Out of Bounds is defined by the chain link fence around the property. All white OB stakes should be ignored except along the driving range to the right of #1 and #9.
9. Green Knoll – White OB stakes MUST be observed along holes 1 and 11 (Driving Range / Par 3 Course). The player MUST hit a provisional ball from the original spot if they are unsure if the ball is in or out of bounds. If a Provisional Ball was not hit by the player, they must drop within 2 club lengths from where the ball went OB and take a 2 stroke penalty.
10. In order to keep play at a steady pace, players should hit when READY. This supersedes the Match Play rule.
11. All golf balls must contain a unique identification mark. When playing a provisional ball, the player must announce the name and number of the original and the provisional ball.
12. Green Knoll – Parking Lot and driveway are Out-of-Bounds from 1, 2, 3 and 4 even if the ball lands on another fairway (in course Out-of-Bounds). Also, on Green Knoll #15, any shot hit short and right of the evergreen tree/bush is not considered as part of the hazard. Any shot hit to the right beyond the evergreen tree/bush would be deemed in the 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.
13. REMINDER – Bridges (i.e. #15 Green Knoll) are considered part of the hazard. You may play your ball from the bridge and you are allowed to ground your club on the bridge.
14. Blue tees will be played in Somerset County at all times where they are set:
 - a. The exception to the Blue Tees is Warrenbrook #15, Spooky Brook #1 and Quail Brook # 17 – BACK Tee

15. On a course where a Drop Area is not identified prior to hitting over a hazard, a player would normally continue to hit shots until they clear the hazard. If the group finds a clearly marked Drop Area on the other side of the hazard, the player will **NOT** be assessed the extra shots that they played attempting to clear the hazard. For example, the player hits the first shot into the hazard and takes three more attempts before clearing the hazard. If there is a clearly marked Drop Area on the other side of the hazard, the player will take a drop and hit their third (3rd) shot instead of hitting eight (8). In Somerset County, we will NOT play the designated Drop Areas (#6 – Green Knoll, #17 – Spooky Brook, #17 – Warrenbrook). You must continue to play your shots from where it crossed the hazard. The Exception is if you hit your ball into the stream behind #6 at Green Knoll. You have the choice to play from the Drop Area or 1 club length from the back hazard no closer to the hole.
16. Per the USGA Ruling that Local Clubs can allow the use of Distance Measuring Devices (DMDs) as a Local Rule, members will be allowed to purchase and use DMDs during DGA rounds. The DMDs may be used for distance measuring ONLY. If using a measuring application on a smart phone, there must be no other features/apps in use on that device such as weather, compass, green reading, slope measuring etc. Sharing of knowledge is allowed but COMMON SENSE IS TO BE USED. If not everyone has a device, others may ask for distances but not in such a way to slow pace of play. Example, if you are without a device and far from the group (or player with such device) like in another fairway, then to keep the group moving forward, the player with the measuring device DOES NOT have to come to you. Just as we do now, the player off the fairway (being played) can ask for a rough estimate in comparison to where the group is. Example, currently we yell over to a player in the fairway and ask him to point out the 200 or 150 or 100 marker.
17. Loose stones or loose foreign objects can be removed from bunkers prior to the next shot. This is allowed per the USGA Ruling that Local Clubs can create this provision as a Local Rule.
18. Per USGA Rule 25-1c: Ball in Abnormal Ground Condition Not Found

It is a question of fact whether a ball that has not been found after having been struck toward an abnormal ground condition is in such a condition. In order to apply this Rule, it must be known or virtually certain that the ball is in the abnormal ground condition. In the absence of such knowledge or certainty, the player must proceed under Rule 27-1.

If it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found is in an abnormal ground condition, the player may take relief under this Rule. If he elects to do so, the spot where the ball last crossed the outermost limits of the abnormal ground condition must be determined and, for the purpose of applying this Rule, the ball is deemed to lie at this spot and the player must proceed as follows:

(i)Through the Green: If the ball last crossed the outermost limits of the abnormal ground condition at a spot through the green, the player may substitute another ball, without penalty, and take relief as prescribed in Rule 25-1b(i).

(ii)In a Bunker: If the ball last crossed the outermost limits of the abnormal ground condition at a spot in a bunker, the player may substitute another ball, without penalty, and take relief as prescribed in Rule 25-1b(ii).

(iii)In a Water Hazard (including a Lateral Water Hazard): If the ball last crossed the outermost limits of the abnormal ground condition at a spot in a water hazard, the player is not entitled to relief without penalty. The player must proceed under Rule 26-1.

XI. Vardon Trophy:

1. Vardon Net Score - equals net score for the round.
2. 12 Official Individual Money rounds to qualify.
3. All DGA Rounds that are entered for Handicap will be included in the Vardon Trophy calculation. This includes all DGA Rounds played between April 1 and October 31 (NJSGA Handicap Season) and DGA Rounds played between November 1 and March 31 if the round is played in a place where the handicap season is open such as Florida and South Carolina.
4. Prize will include one dozen balls - paid out of Kitty.
5. All official individual rounds will count towards trophy.

XII. Most Improved Golfer

The DGA Most Improved Golfer will be determined based on the New Jersey State Golf Association (NJSGA)/USGA reports mailed to the Handicap Chairman. The calculation formula is documented in the NJSGA/USGA manuals. A member must play at least 10 individual score rounds during the year to qualify. The DGA Winner will receive a dozen golf balls from the DGA and a certificate from the NJSGA.

XIV. The World Series of the DGA

BACKGROUND

The World Series Tournament was first played back in 1972. The qualifiers were the winners of the four individual tournaments. The first World Series winner was Ed Kerr. In 1981, the Low 72-hole qualifier was introduced and ironically the winner was Ed Kerr. In 1983, the multiple wins (a LEG) category was introduced and at the time you only needed two LEG's to qualify and no, Ed Kerr wasn't one of the winners. In 1987, the multiple win category was raised to three and Ed Kerr was one of the qualifiers. In 2011, World Series Points replaces the Multiple Wins category.

EVENTS

World Series rounds are played on the second Saturday of May, June, July and August. Postponed to the following Saturday in the event of bad weather. See the DGA Schedule for the Official World Series Dates. A minimum of eight (8) DGA members must complete their rounds.

- **World Series #1 - May - Spooky Brook**
- **World Series #2 – June – Warrenbrook**
- **World Series #3 – July – Green Knoll**
- **World Series #4 – August – Quail Brook**
- **World Series Championship – September – To Be Determined**

ENTRY RULES

All members are assumed to be IN the competition. Members must tell John Rutigliano by April 1, 2017 if they are NOT in.

New Members must notify John Rutigliano after accepted as a member if they want to participate in the remaining World Series competitions.

Players must commit to play on the World Series Day FINAL one week prior to the event (scheduled for 9/14/13) and must pay CASH in advance to reserve their spot.

ENTRY FEE

Members entering World Series will have \$12 deducted from their account. There will be no refunds because of the additional qualifying options outlined in the entry rules.

QUALIFIERS

A minimum of eight (8) players will qualify for The World Series Championship. All WS winners and WS Aggregate winner and World Series Points leaders are qualifiers. If WS winners and Aggregate winners equal eight or more then only the first place finisher in the WS Points Standings will automatically qualify.

- **World Series winners.** The low net scorer on the four designated dates. Ties for low qualifying position will not be broken. All ties for first place are qualifiers. Once a member wins a qualifying round, his score will not count for future qualifying rounds. Therefore, if a previous winner is again low-net scorer in any subsequent rounds, the second place finisher will be the winner of that qualifying round. Again, all ties are qualifiers.
- **WS aggregate winner.** The player that finishes all four WS rounds and compiles the lowest cumulative score.
- **World Series Points (WSP).** Members will earn points by being the low individual net scorers in any official DGA round with a minimum of eight (8) members playing, between New Jersey State Golf Association Handicap Start date and the Wednesday prior to the World Series Championship. When playing Neshanic

Valley, if the DGA groups are split to different 18 Hole combinations, each competition MUST have a minimum of eight (8) members in order for the winners to be eligible. Points will be determined by the number of players participating in the round. First place winners will share points as follows in the chart below:

# of Players	WS Points
8	2
9-12	3
13-16	4
17-20	5
21 and Above	6

Points will be evenly divided between all first place winners in a particular round with a minimum of one (1) being awarded.

The players with the highest point totals will fill the remaining open spots for the WS Championship. All first place ties will qualify and all subsequent finishers needed to round out the World Series Tournament will be determined by tie breaker rules, if necessary.*

The qualifiers will play together on the second Saturday in September to determine the World Series Champion. In case of a tie for first place, there will be a sudden death playoff (when possible) based on the net scores - strokes as they fall. Only members playing official DGA rounds on the qualifying dates will be considered to be qualifying for the World Series.

PRIZE MONEY

Everyone who qualifies will get at a minimum their entry fee. The balance of the prize fund will be split based on the number of players who qualify. No shows are automatic last place.

*Tie breakers for non-first place WS Point finishers:

1st Tie Breaker - Most wins.

2nd Tie Breaker - Lowest total net. Lowest cumulative net score that makes up a players point total.

3rd Tie Breaker - Lowest individual net score that is part of a players point total.

4th Tie Breaker - Best WS Aggregate ranking. The player with the most WS rounds that year and the lowest WS Aggregate ranking will rank higher.

World Series Money Distribution

Pos/Players	40	39	38	37	36	35	34	33	32	31	30
1	\$200	\$195	\$190	\$185	\$180	\$175	\$170	\$165	\$160	\$155	\$150
2	\$100	\$95	\$89	\$85	\$83	\$79	\$75	\$73	\$71	\$68	\$67
3	\$65	\$65	\$64	\$62	\$60	\$58	\$56	\$54	\$52	\$50	\$48
4	\$40	\$38	\$39	\$38	\$36	\$36	\$35	\$33	\$32	\$32	\$30
5	\$28	\$28	\$27	\$27	\$26	\$25	\$25	\$24	\$23	\$22	\$20
6	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$19	\$18	\$18
7	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15
8	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12
Total	\$480	\$468	\$456	\$444	\$432	\$420	\$408	\$396	\$384	\$372	\$360

XV. DGA Match Play Tournament

The Official Rules of the Match Play Tournament are: Active DGA members as of January 1, 2017 are eligible. The tournament will utilize a single elimination format - 1 loss and out. Positions on the Tournament Match Chart will be determined by draw. The Match Chart will determine the various match pairings.

The Match Chart will be based on the number of entries. Several players will receive byes in the preliminary round. The number will vary based upon the number of entries. If the number of entries exceeds 32 players, a play-in round will be necessary. Players eligible for the Play-in round will be first drawn from those players who did not play in Match Play in the previous year, then the rest of the field by draw of the hat.

There will be five rounds of matches (unless a Play-in round is necessary). Each round must be completed during the time span indicated. All matches must be completed by the indicated date and prior to the end of the Handicap season (i.e. must be played with Summer Rules). (NO EXCEPTIONS!). Matches may be played as soon as participants are determined. (NOTE: Foursomes will be arranged to accommodate Match Play). All matches are to be scheduled by the players involved.

See the DGA Schedule for the Official Cutoff Dates.

Handicaps will be those in effect on the date a match is played. For each match the player with the lower handicap will play "scratch". The higher handicap player will receive the number of strokes by which his handicap exceeds the handicap of this opponent. The handicap will be applied on a hole by hole basis beginning with the first handicap hole. Example: player X has a 13 handicap, player Y has a 17 handicap; player Y receives a 4 shot handicap and gets a stroke on handicap holes 1, 2, 3 and 4. Player X has an 11 handicap, player Y has a 30 handicap; player Y receives a 19 stroke handicap -- 2 strokes on handicap hole 1, and 1 stroke on handicap holes 2 - 18.

Each Player MUST keep a match scorecard and must announce the current match score before anyone tees off on the next hole. Once announced and agreed to by both players, play may continue and no change can be made to scoring on prior holes concerning the match play score. Matches that end in ties after 18 holes should continue (conditions permitting) until one of the players wins a hole. The same handicap rules that applied for the first 18 holes will apply to any extra holes necessary. When further play is not possible or the match participants agree, a tied match may be replayed from the beginning at a later date. Handicaps in effect on the later date will apply.

A "challenge" rule will apply. If both players scheduled to play a match are present and one of the players requests that the match be played, the other player is obligated to play. Failure to play a match when challenged will result in a concession to the challenging player. However, if the concession is not requested by the challenging participant on the date of the challenge, it will be assumed that the challenge is withdrawn and the match will be played at a later date. No "Challenge" prior to the official start of the DGA season (i.e. Summer Rules).

If the match is not played by the specific date and there were no challenges, the winner will be determined by the player who has played the most rounds during the time period allowed. If both player have played the same number of rounds and have not attempted to play the match, both are eliminated. There will be a one (1) week grace period for tied matches or rainouts.

Entry fee will be \$12.00 chargeable to your account. Final prize list to be determined by number of entrants. The following approximate percentages will apply:

		<u>With 32 participants, the prize list would be:</u>	
Winner	-- 50% + Trophy for 1 year	Winner	-- \$160.00
Second	-- 25%	Second	-- \$ 80.00
Third	-- 12 1/2%	Third	-- \$ 40.00
Fourth	-- 12 1/2%	Fourth	-- \$ 40.00

A list of entrants will be compiled at the Winter Meeting. Any member wishing to enter should contact Greg Cavallo prior to April 1st. Once you have committed to playing in the event, the \$12 fee will be deducted from the DGA Bank.

XVI. Partners Team Tournament

The Partners Tournament will consist of two-man teams made by individual choice. The Partners Tournament will have a minimum of 8 teams.

Official entry of each team must be submitted to Frank Thiry and Doug Conway before April 1, 2017. No substitutes after April 1st. Substitutes are allowed until April 1st for any reason. Once a Partner Member is out, he is out for the entire year.

~~In 2017, the event will have 15 teams. Instead of awarding a BYE, the club voted to have the field organized into five (5) Pools of three (3) teams each. Every team will play the other teams in their Pool. This means that every team plays two matches rather than "one and done". Winning teams of the five (5) Pools will be entered into the Quarterfinals. Three (3) Wild Card Teams will round out the field in the Quarterfinals. Wild Card Teams will be determined based on Highest Total Match Points. The field will be seeded from best to worst with the team ranked #1 playing the team ranked #8 etc.~~

~~The process for determining the five (5) Pool Winners and three (3) Wild Card Teams and breaking any possible ties in those positions is:~~

- ~~• Total Match Wins~~
- ~~• Total Net Match Points, up to the hole when the match was decided~~
- ~~• Total Net Points on holes 9 + 18 from both matches (...and 8 + 17 etc if needed)~~

~~Scorecards from Partners Matches should be given to one of the Partners Team Tournament Committee Members (Frank Thiry, Bob Nowark or Doug Conway) if they are present or sent to one of them electronically. This document retention is needed in case the tie breaking rules process needs to be implemented for any Pool Winners or Wild Card determination.~~

~~The previous BYE method is crossed out but retained in the Rules Package in case it is decided to use it in some future year. In the event that there are less than 16 Teams, First Round Byes will be determined as follows:~~

- 15 Teams – Previous Year Champion (in 2017 the BYE was determined by Blind Draw)
- 14 Teams – Previous Year Champion and Previous Year Runner-up
- 13 or less Teams – Previous Year Champion and Previous Year Runner-up and a blind draw of the remaining teams

If more than 16 teams sign up, there will be a "Play In" Round.

Entry Fee will be \$15 per man (\$30 per team).

Prizes will be distributed as follows:

- Champion 50% of Total Pot
- Runner-up 25% of Total Pot
- 2nd Runner-up 15% of Total Pot
- 3rd Runner-up 10% of Total Pot

Partners Tournament Format:

- "Bessie/Aggie" System (Net Scores), total 18 holes.
 - Low Best Ball per hole: 1 point
 - Low Aggregate Score per hole: 1 point
- Handicap Holes will be determined/played off the Low Man's Handicap
- Tiebreaker(s): Add Points from 9th & 18th Holes, (8th & 17th, etc.)

See the DGA Schedule for the Official Cutoff Dates.

If the match is not played by the specific date and there were no challenges, the winner will be determined by the team who has played the most rounds during the time period allowed. If both teams have played the same number of rounds and have not attempted to play the match, both are eliminated. All matches must be completed by the indicated date and prior to the end of the Handicap season (i.e. must be played with Summer Rules). (NO EXCEPTIONS!).

One player from each team MUST keep a match scorecard and must announce the current match score before anyone tees off on the next hole. Once announced and agreed to by both teams, play may continue and no change can be made to scoring on prior holes concerning the match play score.

XVII. Interclub (Ryder Cup) Team Tournament - Selection Rules

The DGA will select 8 members to participate in the Interclub Team Tournament. Rules of selection were determined by a committee consisting of: Dennis Grote, Geoff Marshall, John Perry.

The 8 Team Members will select a Captain who will determine the pairings based on the tournament rules.

The Team Captain will be responsible to attend the tournament organizational meetings the following year.

The Selection Rules are:

- All qualifiers are required to have completed at least 8 Vardon Rounds by no later than 8/15 of the qualifying year.
- Hole-in-One Money is excluded from Money List ranking
- Tied categories such as 3 win qualifiers in World Series and low aggregate World Series qualifiers would all qualify for the EOY tournaments unless other rules preclude ties
- Once teams are selected then all eight members will vote for captain. They will submit their votes to Doug Conway. The captain will be responsible for allocating the members into the various team events.
- If the previous or current year qualifier is no longer with the DGA as of 8/15, that position will be filled by the next position on the list until all slots are filled.

List of Qualifying Events:

1. Winner of Previous Year World Series
2. Winner of Previous Year Match Play
3. Winner of Previous Year Myrtle Beach (Individual)
4. Low Aggregate World Series Score (Current Year)
5. World Series Winners (Current Year)
6. 3 Win World Series Qualifiers (Current Year)
7. 2 Man Scramble Winners (Current Year)
8. Vardon List 1st (Current Year)
9. Money List 1st (Current Year)
10. Vardon List 2nd (Current Year)
11. Money List 2nd (Current Year)
12. Alternating Vardon List 3-?? And Money List 3 - ?? (Current Year)