



WOMEN'S GREATER KANSAS CITY PUBLIC LINKS ASSOCIATION

BYLAWS and RULES

Article I—Name

The name of this organization shall be the Women's Greater Kansas City Public Links Association (WGKCPLA).

Article II—Mission and Object

The mission of the WGKCPLA is to provide a spirit-filled, organized environment in which individuals who share a common desire to develop or improve their golfing skills and share in this life experience with other individuals.

The object of the WGKCPLA shall be to stimulate an interest in golf and promote women's golf on the public golf courses.

Article III—Membership

Section 1 - Individual Membership. Any woman who meets all of the following requirements may be a member:

- A. Pay annual membership dues as set by the Executive Board prior to in a play day.
- B. Have a verifiable active World Handicap System (WHS)/GHIN Handicap Index no higher than 38.4.
- C. Be at least 18 years old.

Section 2 - Course Membership. Any regularly organized public or semi-private golf course in the greater Kansas City area shall be eligible for membership with the following conditions and privileges:

- A. A two-thirds vote of the Executive Board is required for a course to become a member.
- B. Member courses are identified as courses that have paid the \$30 membership fee or equivalent and is accessible to all members.
- C. Individual members shall be able to redeem WGKCPLA certificates only at member courses.

Article IV—Governance

Section 1 - The governing power of this organization shall be vested in the Executive Board which consists of the following elected officers: President, Vice-President, (or Co-Presidents), Secretary, Treasurer, Sports Chair, and Social Chair.

Section 2 - Other positions and committee chairs as are necessary for the proper functioning for the WGKCPLA shall be chosen by the President/Co-President, in consultation with the Board.

Section 3 - The Immediate Past President/Co-President of the WGKCPLA shall serve as an advisory member of the board for one year following her term in office. Should she be unavailable, the current President/Co-President shall, with the approval of the Executive Board, appoint another past president of the WGKCPLA to serve in an advisory capacity. The advisor shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Board and shall have no vote.

Section 4 - The Executive Board shall have power to act for the WGKCPLA at all times in carrying on the work of the WGKCPLA. They shall have authority to fill vacancies caused by death or resignation of officers. They shall pass on the eligibility of courses to membership in the WGKCPLA and shall ratify all arrangements for handling the Championship event.

Section 5 - Two-thirds of the Executive Board members shall constitute a quorum.

Article V—Meetings

Section 1 - The business meetings of the WGKCPLA will be held in the spring and fall.

Section 2 - A meeting of the WGKCPLA may be held on any of the play days without notice, for emergency business. A majority vote of those present is required.

Article VI—Duties of Officers and Committee Chairs

Section 1- It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the WGKCPLA Executive Board, general membership meetings, and special meetings of the WGKCPLA. Executive Board or any special committees of the WGKCPLA may be called by the President at her discretion. Upon the written request of one-third of the membership of the WGKCPLA, she must call a meeting. The President shall appoint all special committees to handle the following duties:

- A. Set up the schedule of events for the season, including the Championship event. This would include providing event contracts to the Sports Chair and her committee.
- B. Maintain or update the website via a Webmaster.
- C. Purchase and handle trophies for the Championship event.
- D. Raise funds along with the Treasurer, including obtaining gift certificates from local vendors.
- E. Audits the Treasurer's report along with the treasurer and a member at large.
- F. Send out written notices of all general meetings of the WGKCPLA.
- G. Review member handicaps and assist in resolving issues with WHS/GHIN for individual members (Handicap Committee).
- H. Educate members on USGA rules and league rules and arbitrate any disputes regarding rules at play days (Rules Committee).

Section 2 - The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in her absence and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to her by the President. She is chair of the Nomination Committee for next year's officers.

Section 3 - The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the WGKCPLA and shall handle correspondence as required. She shall furnish copies of all correspondence to the President/Co-President. The Secretary shall provide an electronic roster of individual members, course members, and sponsors of the WGKCPLA. The Secretary shall perform the following communications for the organization: (1) Play day results to all members and the KC Star and (2) articles to Tee Times.

Section 4 - The Treasurer shall take charge of all funds of whatsoever source received in the name of, or under the auspices of the WGKCPLA, and shall dispense same subject to the approval of the President/Co-President and/or the Executive Board. She shall report in writing the state of finances when required to do so, and at the fall meeting she shall present a report showing all receipts and expenditures during the year. Other specific duties shall include:

- A. Send statements in February to each golf course that the yearly dues are due.
- B. Meet with the President/Co-President to establish a budget.
- C. Communicate with the Social Chair regarding monies available for hole prizes for the upcoming year.
- D. Communicate with the Secretary on membership dues received, course memberships received, and corporate sponsor memberships received.
- E. Assists the President/Co-President in raising funds.
- F. Communicates with Sports Chair monies available for distribution of prize money.
- G. Distributes prize money in the form of gift cards to the golf courses designated by members comparable to their winnings reported by the Sports Chair.
- H. Provides year-end reports for the Audit Committee.

Section 5 - The Sports Chair(s) shall conduct all events given by and under the auspices of the WGKCPLA and shall have the right to appoint an assistant and/or a committee to assist with her duties. The Sports Chair(s) shall make and keep a report of each play day, including all winners, the number of players, and any information pertinent to the course and play of that day. A copy of this report shall be sent to the Treasurer and the Web Master for posting. Other specific duties include:

- A. Handle all registrations for play dates and communicate with the membership regarding their reservations, tee times, pairings, hole assignments, and any specific announcements for the play day.
- B. Contact the Host Pro in sufficient time before play and confirm all arrangements.
- C. Determine flights, collect scorecards, determine winners, and maintain and report winners to Webmaster, newspaper, and membership.
- D. Establish the number of year-end payouts and value assigned to each payout.
- E. Appoint assistant to handle skins and chip-ins.

Section 6 - The Social Chair shall plan all luncheons, social events associated with meetings and special events as required. The Social Chair shall plan special events (Hole Events) at play days and report winners to the Treasurer to include in the year-end payouts to members along with any other assignments from the President/Co-President.

Section 7- The Executive Board shall review each year the list of duties of each elected and appointed position to ensure that all operations of the WGKCPLA are duly assigned. All prizes and gifts are to be determined by the Executive Board.

Article VII—Events

Section 1 - The two-day Championship event shall be scheduled whenever appropriate for the most members to participate, and also for the courses hosting the event.

Section 2 - Play days shall be held on Mondays when possible. If there is a rainout, then any day of the week at the mutual convenience of the WGKCPLA and Host Course Pro should be considered. Location of play days shall be rotated equally among member courses when possible.

Article VIII—Dues and Fees

Section 1- The annual dues for each course belonging to this WGKCPLA shall be set by the Executive Board.

Section 2- The individual membership dues shall be set by the Executive Board. These dues entitle a member to enter any event of the WGKCPLA. Dues are payable to the Treasurer on the date of application for membership in the WGKCPLA or prior to the individual's first play day.

Article IX—Individual Membership

Section 1- Application for individual membership shall be submitted in writing or electronically to the Treasurer of the WGKCPLA.

Section 2- The membership roster of this WGKCPLA must not be used for commercial purposes.

Article X—Rules of Play

All competitions shall be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf as adopted by the USGA with such special rules as are in force and published on the course over which the competition takes place and such other modifications as the Executive Board of the WGKCPLA may adopt from time to time.

Article XI—Quorum

A majority of those present at a WGKCPLA meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Article XII—Bylaws

These bylaws may be amended either by a ballot vote sent to each of the members, or a vote of the members present at the spring or fall meeting; providing that previous 30 days' written notice of each proposed amendment has been given to each member. A simple majority vote of ballots returned or members present at a meeting shall carry.

Article XIII—Parliamentary Authority

This WGKCPLA shall be governed by “Robert’s Rules of Order, Revised”.

Article XIV—Legal Liability

The WGKCPLA, its officers and members, and the Host Course are not liable for any injury or accident occurring during any event.

STANDING RULES

Article I—Rules of Play

Section 1- All flights shall play eighteen (18) holes and each member must have an established 18-hole handicap in order to be eligible for prizes.

Section 2- In case of a tie on play day, there will be scorecard play-off beginning with the most difficult handicap hole.

Section 3- All disputed points shall be decided by the Rules committee, which is composed of the Executive Board.

Section 4- Players in the annual Championship event must be members of the WGKCPLA and must play a minimum of five times in the current season before the Championship event to be eligible for the two-day event prizes.

Section 5- In case of inclement weather, play or cancellation will be decided by the Pro and Executive Board members. Members should assume that play will proceed unless otherwise notified. If play is cancelled, members will be informed as soon as possible by email.

Section 6- Unless otherwise specified, all rules are governed by USGA.

Article II—Handicaps

Section 1- All handicaps shall be governed by USGA and will be figured with WHS.

Section 2- Handicap adjustments of all players shall not exceed 36. In case of handicap dispute, the Executive Board shall be empowered to figure a handicap for an individual from recorded scores.

RULES

Handicaps

1. Members must have a verifiable World Handicap System (WHS)/GHIN 18 hole Handicap Index no higher than 38.4 and be a paid member of WGKCPLA.
2. Course handicap adjustments of any player shall not exceed 36.

Payment of Fees

1. Green fees and cart fees must be **paid at the course** prior to the start of the play day event or as the course management directs. WGKCPLA members will pay the price negotiated by the scheduler for each course unless the member course provides, in writing, that they agree to provide WGKCPLA members who are also members/patrons of that course with a discount in accordance with their membership/patron policy.
2. Players will be sent an invitation to play via Golf Genius two weeks prior to a play day event. Player is responsible to respond either "Playing" or "Not Playing" as soon as possible but no later than 6 PM of the Friday prior to the Monday play day. The Sports Chair(s) will send an acknowledgement of playing to those that have signed up after 6 PM evening prior to the Monday play day. It is the responsibility of each member to check their email (even their spam and junk mailbox) to make sure they receive such acknowledgement of playing. If a member's playing status has changed and it is after 6 PM on Friday prior to the play day, the member **MUST** contact the Sports Chair(s) directly via email, text or phone call.

Cancellations

1. If there is need to cancel, players must notify the Sports Chair by email or telephone **48 hours prior to an event**.
2. In case of an emergency on the morning of play that requires cancellation, players should call the host course and ask them to notify the Sports Chair/Play Day Managers.
3. Players should assume that play will proceed as planned. In case of inclement weather, cancellation will be decided by members of the Executive Board and the host course professional. Members will be notified as soon as possible by email or text. If in doubt, players should call the host course.
4. Play will always be postponed or cancelled due to lightning in the area.

Rules of Play

1. Unless otherwise specified, all rules are governed by USGA. Course rules apply only to designated out-of-bounds, penalty areas, and ground under repair. All disputed points are decided by the Executive Board and course pro.

2. Players must check in with the Sports Chair or Play Day Managers at least 30 minutes before tee time.
3. If a player arrives after play begins, USGA Rule 5-3 applies. If the player is at her hole no more than 5 minutes after starting time, she may play with a 2 stroke penalty on that hole. If the player arrives later than 5 minutes, she may play with her group but is disqualified from competition that day. If exceptional circumstances have prevented a player from arriving on time, she should talk with the Sports Chair after completion of the round.
4. All players must play the ball down everywhere. If conditions merit playing otherwise, players will be informed before teeing off.
5. When a course has a legal drop area for a penalty area (on the tee side of the penalty area), members may use the drop zone after losing a ball in the penalty area with a stroke penalty for going into the penalty area. If there is not a legal drop area, a player must continue to hit until crossing the penalty area or x-out on that hole and be disqualified from that day of play.
6. If there is a disagreement on rules while playing that is not resolved at that time, the player should play alternate ball(s) reflecting different solutions to the dispute and record scores for each. Immediately after play, players should report the situation to an officer who will arrange for all involved to speak with a course pro. The decision of the course pro will be final. The score card should not be signed until this decision has been made.
7. Players are asked to silence cell phones before play begins. If a player must have the phone on in case of an emergency, she should explain the situation to her partners.
8. If conditions are cart-path only, the ball will be played up (i.e. lift, clean and place in fairways and the rough).
9. Bunkers: On any play day, members can always lift, rake and place their ball in the bunker due to the fact that bunkers on public golf courses are not always raked (Animal foot prints, standing water, etc.) If conditions are cart-path only, ball may be moved to closest point of relief from the bunker. Do not bring the ball back to where the ball entered the bunker. It is the discretion of the member to hit from the bunker or take it out.
10. Relief may always be given if ball is in the **fairway** in an area of the course with winter kill or under repair determined by the foursome.

Pace of Play

1. USGA Rule 5.6 says a player must not unreasonably delay the pace of play and specifies penalties for breach of this rule. *WGKCPLA expects playing "ready golf" at all times::*
2. Take no more than 40 seconds to make a stroke. (Rule 5.6b)
3. Have ball mark repair tools, ball markers and tees in your pocket at the first tee.

4. Carry a spare ball in your pocket in case you need to hit a provisional ball.
5. Limit yourself to only one practice swing.
6. Tee off alphabetically on the first hole.
7. Limit your search for a lost ball to three minutes (Rule 18.2a.)
8. If driving, drop off the other player at her ball and proceed to your ball.
9. If a passenger, take more than one club to your shot and walk down the fairway after you hit. Don't wait for the driver to come to you.
10. Study your line of putt while others are putting. Continue putting until your ball is holed, if you desire.
11. A group of four players should take an average of 15 minutes per hole or 4 ½ hours to play 18 holes.
12. Any group not keeping pace with the group in front can be asked to play at a faster pace.

Scoring

1. Each group will keep their own scores. Handicaps will be provided by the Sports Chair/Play Day Managers. Put only two scores on each official scorecard.
2. Keep the official score of the opposing twosome and an unofficial score for your twosome.
3. Record scores at the next tee box prior to teeing off.
4. All official scorecards **MUST BE LEGIBLE**, signed, and attested with three signatures on each card (the scorekeeper and the two opposing players).
5. Members record their own scores in the WHS/GHIN system on the day of play. Scores are recorded as Home or Away scores.
6. Only the two day Championship scores are recorded as Competition scores in the WHS/GHIN system.
7. Each member will record ALL scores played in WHS/GHIN system, not just scores from WGKCPLA play days.

Play Day Winners

1. Players must play 18 holes in order to be eligible for prizes.
2. In case of a tie. There will be a scorecard play-off beginning with the most difficult handicap hole.
3. If more than 30 players, prizes will be awarded in four flights—Low Gross 1, 2 and 3; Low Net 1, 2 and 3, plus overall low gross and low net. If less than 30

players, the flights and payouts will be determined at the discretion of the Sports Chair/Play Day Managers. Players will be awarded prizes for occasional Social Events in all flights.

4. To be eligible for prizes in the two-day Championship event, a player must have previously played a minimum of 5 play day events in the same season as the championship event.