

DGA Winter Meeting 2014 – Proposals

PROPOSAL #2014 - 1

Enable members to attend the Winter meeting and vote on proposals and motions via remote communications. (Proposed by Larry Thiry and Doug Conway)

In this day of modern electronic communications, when much of business is conducted via conference calls and video conferencing, it is time for the DGA to move forward and allow members to attend the DGA Winter Meeting remotely, via conference call and/or video conferencing, etc.

Reasoning: The technology is available today to allow members to call via cell phones or join the meeting via video conferencing (Skype). The DGA should take advantage of this technology especially as our member age and are spending more and more time outside of New Jersey during the winter months. Just because the members are not physically present at the meeting does not mean that they care less about the discussions and decisions that are made at the meeting.

PROPOSAL #2014 - 2

Allow Consultation Between Partners During Partners Matches (Proposed By Doug Conway & Frank Thiry)

The DGA does not allow consultation or collaboration between players/partners because we are playing by Individual Rules primarily during DGA Rounds. We propose that Partners can consult and collaborate with each other during a Partners Match under the following conditions:

- Consultation or Collaboration will be allowed if opposing team agrees. A “No Consultation Allowed” from the opposing team overrides the “Yes, Allow Consultation” proposed by the other team.
- Consultation or Collaboration includes, yardage, club selection, reading greens and other advice.
- Teams who chose to allow consultation or collaboration play a separate DGA round from the other players playing on that given day.
- If multiple Partners matches are played in a consultative or collaborative mode, all players are part of the same DGA round.
- Scores posted during a consultative or collaborative round will count toward Individual Handicaps.

Reasoning: This proposal provides the best of all worlds. It set guidelines to allow consultation (i.e. just like a caddy would provide to a player) while not corrupting the competition being played by players playing in a purely individual competition. It sets the collaborative teams apart in a separate competition. It requires that the score posted be counted toward the player’s handicap.

PROPOSAL #2014 - 3

Proposal to Modify Gross and Net Par 3 Pots (Proposed by Doug Conway)

I propose that we modify the Gross Par 3 and Net Par 3 Pots so that only the player (and ties) with the lowest number of strokes in the category wins money in the pot. In 2013, these categories paid 60% of the pot to the 1st place winner and 40% to the 2nd place players.

Reasoning: We tried these pots in 2013 and they seemed to be well received....except for the payout to the 2nd place players. The 2nd place payout caused confusion on how to split the monies especially when there were ties for 2nd place.

PROPOSAL #2014 - 4

Proposal to Play Stableford Format during December, January and February (Proposed by Jim Rinaldi)

When the handicap season ends and DGA plays, we continue to play stroke play. I propose we use the Stableford scoring system as described below during the months of December, January and February.

- Net Double Bogey ----0 points
- Net Bogey-----1 point
- Net Par-----2 points
- Net Birdie-----3 points
- Net Eagle-----4 points
- Net Albatross-----5 points

Reasoning:

1. Since the handicaps do not change in the off season picking up when you get to net double bogey will have no effect on anyone's handicap.
2. It would speed up play when you get to net double bogey or if you have no chance of getting a net double bogey you pick up.
3. Because the courses are not in great shape in the winter months and the weather is marginal why do we want to torture ourselves with finishing a hole when there is an alternative scoring system that would make playing in the off season more enjoyable?
4. As you can see by the attached sample score card the scoring is easy to do and it works out very similar to stroke play.
5. If accepted I propose we would begin using the Stableford system immediately.

PROPOSAL #2014 - 5

Proposal to Play an "Equity Day" (Proposed by Larry Thiry and Doug Conway)

I would like to propose that we schedule an "Equity Day" round of golf. This would be an experiment for the DGA.

The way it works is similar to the way country club players score their rounds. Each golfer plays his round as he normally would, however, once a golfer gets to his equity stroke limit, he picks up.

- A 0-9 handicapper picks up at double bogie.
- 10-19 picks up at 7
- 20-29 picks up at 8
- 30-39 picks up at 9
- 40+ picks up at 10.

A player does not have to hit balls up to his equity stroke limit. For example, if an 18 handicapper hits 3 balls into the water on a par 4 or 5, he may just say, "put me down for an 7" and move on.

Reasoning: There are three potential benefits:

- It would significantly speed up play.
- It also adheres to the USGA handicap system.

Also, this may be an agreeable way to play under adverse conditions. Larry's extra comment: It sure beats going home or suffering through a downpour or extreme (cold) weather conditions.

PROPOSAL #2014 - 6

Add a Two Month Probationary Period to the new membership process (Proposed by Dave Perry)

There are times in the new membership process when a prospective member reaches his six round requirement so quickly that he had not met or played with the majority of the existing membership. This does not give the current members enough time or information (i.e. what type of player is the prospective member? Is the qualifying handicap accurate enough?) to make an informed decision. I propose that a two month probationary period be added to the process before a final vote for membership is taken. The revised process would work as follows:

- After the prospective member has played six (6) qualifying rounds, a vote will be taken. If the prospective member receives a majority of the votes in favor or abstention, he will be a Probationary Member and his new handicap will be calculated as it has in the past (best 2 of 6 rounds).
- After the Probationary Member has played another two (2) months, a final membership vote will be taken at which time the Probationary Member needs 2/3 of the votes cast in favor of his membership.

Reasoning: The additional probationary period will give the probationary member time to market himself and the membership more time and information to make an informed decision.