

**NORTHERN NEVADA WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION**  
**TEAM MATCH PLAY TOURNAMENT**  
**STANDING RULES**  
**Revised April 2015**

**SECTION 1. GENERAL**

- A. The Team Match Play Tournament is an 18-hole competition.
- B. Clubs are invited to submit a six-person team comprised of three, two-person teams. Clubs may enter one or two six-person teams. *(Note: It is the recommendation of this Committee that one person in each two-person team has played in at least one Match Play event.)*
- C. All 18-holes must be completed.
- D. USGA rules of Match Play will be followed.
- E. Prizes will be awarded.

**SECTION 2. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE**

- A. The Tournament Chairman may designate a Committee to help with the organization and operation of the tournament.
- B. The Tournament Chairman and/or Future Sites Chairman with the approval of the Executive Board shall set:
  - 1. Location
  - 2. Date
  - 3. Entry Fee
  - 4. Deadlines
  - 5. Refund date
- C. At least 60 days before the tournament date, the Director of Tournaments will present a proposed budget to the NNWGA Executive Board for approval.
- D. Any expenditure that exceeds the original budget in excess of \$100.00 must be approved by a majority of the NNWGA Executive Board before the expense(s) is incurred.
- E. Entries:
  - 1. At least 45 days prior to the tournament start date, entry forms will be available on the NNWGA website: [www.nnwga.org](http://www.nnwga.org)
  - 2. The tournament field will be filled on a first received basis.
  - 3. Incomplete entries will be considered void and will not be accepted.
  - 4. Entry deadlines must be stated clearly on the application. (Entry deadline may be extended without notice to attract a full field).
  - 5. No refunds will be issued unless it is an emergency and will be processed on a case by case basis.
  - 6. Replacement players will be accepted on a case-by-case basis up until 2-days before the tournament.

**SECTION 3. ELIGIBILITY**

- A. In order to be eligible to play, each entrant must:
  - 1. Be a member in good standing of an NNWGA member club at least 60 days prior to the first day of the tournament.
  - 2. Have a verifiable USGA Handicap Index.
  - 3. Be at least eighteen (18) years of age prior to the first day of the tournament.
  - 4. Meet amateur status as specified in the USGA Rules of Golf

5. At date of entry, a player's handicap may not exceed 36 on the competition course.

#### **SECTION 4. GUIDELINES FOR COMPETITION**

- A. Play shall be for NET Team Match Play. (In a foursome, the better net score of a two-person team against the other teams net score.)
- B. This is a non-flighted tournament.
- C. Each player's handicap will be determined utilizing the most recent GHIN revised Index (unless otherwise published) and converted to your fully indexed handicap for the course to be played.
- D. Each team will have 6 participants divided into three teams of two.
- E. It is the recommendation of the NNWGA that each two-person team keep those handicaps within a 10 stroke differential. The handicaps of the 2-person teams within the 6-person team can be different ranges (I.E., 12 & 18, 16 & 24, 28 & 36)
- F. Team Pairings will be determined by combined 2-person team handicaps. (From example in Item E above: handicap 12 + 18 = 30; 16 + 24 = 40, etc.)
- G. Pairings will be with closely handicapped opponents from other clubs.
- H. No club shall play another club more than once. (This Committee reserves the right for an exception to this Rule if a club submits more than one team).
- I. Each team shall have an official scorecard and its official score shall be kept by a fellow competitor or appointed marker.
- J. All ties will be broken by matching scorecards, using the USGA recommended method of USGA Rules of Golf, Appendix I.
- K. Rules Committee.
  1. The Tournament and Rules Chairmen shall designate a Rules Committee.
  2. Any infraction or decision needing interpretation of the USGA Rules of Golf must be presented to the Rules Committee immediately after the 18-hole round.
  3. The Committee's ruling shall be final.
  4. Rules other than disqualification may not be changed or waived once the competition begins.
- L. Team contestants shall be from the same club.
- M. Clubs and balls used by the players must be on the Conforming Balls or Clubs list of the USGA. However, The Rules of Golf defining Club Groove and Punch Specifications, effective January 1, 2010, are not in effect for this tournament. These Rules were adopted for the highest levels of amateur golf and competitions with expert players.

#### **SECTION 5. TROPHIES AND AWARDS**

- A. NNWGA will be award a plaque to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place NET team winner's club. At the discretion of the NNWGA Board, this may be expanded based on the number of teams in the field.
- B. Prize Fund
  1. Will be distributed to one third of the field.

#### **SECTION 6. TOURNAMENT CANCELLATION POLICY**

- A. Because this is a team event, an individual who must withdraw or cannot participate in the event should contact their Team Captain and obtain a replacement player.
- B. The Team Captain must notify the Tournament Chairman 48 hours before play date.
- C. If notification is inside 48 hours to the tee-time, the substitute player can play for pace of play, but will be ineligible to participate on the 2-person team. The Tournament Chairman reserves all rights to make exceptions to this policy on a case-by-case basis.

- D. In the event a Club needs to withdraw from participation, deadline is 10 days prior to the event date. The Club is requested to:
  - 1. Put in writing the time of withdrawal.
  - 2. The Reason for the Team withdrawal request.
- E. The final decision on refunds will be made by a majority vote of the NNWGA Executive Board.

#### **SECTION 7. DRESS CODE**

- A. A Proper golf attire is required; no blue denim, cut-offs, short shorts, lycra/spandex type shorts or halter-tops.
- B. Soft Spike or Spike-less shoes only.
- C. The Tournament Committee has the authority to disqualify any Competitor who does not meet the dress code requirements.

#### **SECTION 8. PLAYER CONDUCT**

- A. Poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated.
- B. The USGA Rules of Golf, NNWGA Bylaws and Standing Rules will guide player conduct.
- C. The Rules Committee may disqualify any player whose conduct before, during or after the tournament is deemed unsportsmanlike.

#### **SECTION 9. ELECTRONIC DEVICES, CELLULAR PHONES, BEEPERS AND DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES**

- A. In accordance with USGA Rules of Golf, the Note under **Rule 14-3** for all NNWGA Championships and tournaments is in effect. Therefore, a player may obtain distance information by using a device that **measures distance only**. If during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect her play (e.g., gradient, wind-speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is **disqualification**, regardless of whether any such additional functions are actually used. Any device measuring slope, wind condition or any other condition is disallowed even when those aids are disengaged.
- B. The following uses for a cellular phone during a stipulated round **are not a breach** of Rule 14-3:
  - 1. Using phone for matters unrelated to golf (e.g., calling home);
  - 2. Accessing information on advice related matters published prior to the start of the player's round (e.g., yardage book, swing tips);
  - 3. Obtaining information related to the competition being played (e.g., leader board, projected cut).
- C. The following uses for cellular phones during a stipulated round **are a breach** of Rule 8-1 and will result in Disqualification:
  - 1. Using phone to ask for or give advice is breach of Rule 8-1 (e.g., calling a swing coach);
  - 2. Accessing information on advice-related matters not published prior to the start of the round.
- D. If the use of a cellular phone consistently disregards the etiquette guidelines (outlined in the Rules of Golf), the offending player will be issued a warning. If the player repeatedly distracts or offends an opponent or fellow competitor by using a cellular phone the player will be **disqualified** under Rule 33-7.

#### **SECTION 10. PACE OF PLAY**

- A. RULE 6-7 "The player must play without undue delay and in accordance with any pace of play guidelines that the committee may establish. Between completion of a hole and playing from the next teeing ground, the player must not unduly delay play." The responsibility for maintaining the pace of play belongs with the player. If you keep up with the group in front of you, there will be no pace of play issue. If you fall behind, you are expected to play efficient golf and get back into position. If you have a lost ball or a ruling gets you out of position, it is your responsibility to get back into position as soon as possible.

B. OUT OF POSITION:

1. A group is out of position if when approaching the tee on a par 3 hole, there is an empty hole ahead of you; when approaching the tee on a par 4 hole, the hole is empty or the preceding group is leaving the green; when approaching the tee on a par 5 hole, the preceding group is on the green.
2. When a group is out of position, they may be given a verbal warning that they are out of position and are expected to get back into position within the next two holes.
3. **The second time the group is asked to close the gap, both teams will be asked to pick up all balls, split the point for that hole and move to the next hole.**

C. OUT OF THE HOLE:

1. This is a Team Match Play event. If you or your partner are "out" of the hole, you can pick up and concede the hole/point.
2. IF all four players are having a very bad hole ... all four players can agree to split the point of the hole and move to the next hole.

**SECTION 11. SPECTATOR POLICY**

- A. NNWGA encourages friends and relatives to follow players.
- B. Player may only receive advice from her partner.
- C. Spectators shall stay 25 yards from the players.
- D. Spectators may not ride in carts.
- E. Spectators shall refrain from conversation with the players.

**SECTION 12. PUBLICITY**

- A. A detailed list of all winners must be submitted to the NNWGA Secretary no later than 10 days after the tournament.
- B. The Tournament director and the Director of Publicity of NNWGA will work together to encourage media coverage and publishing the tournament results.