

# STANDING RULES

## Handicap

1. Per the USGA Handicap System, players should post scores immediately following play. Failure to post scores in a timely manner may result in assessment of a penalty round.
2. Play Day Posting - Players must post their **TOTAL** adjusted score using the GHIN app prior to 5:00 PM on day of play. Adjusted score is to be computed using the hole handicaps and procedures as directed by the Handicap Chair.
3. To be eligible for Most Improved Player of the Year award, a player must have 20 rounds in their scoring record (10 of which are WWGA rounds) on December 1 with no penalty rounds in her scoring record for the preceding 12 months (December – November).
4. Procedures on posting and adjusting scores will be included in the introduction package for new members and issued to Regular members on an annual basis.
5. WWGA members must post all rounds. Instances of non-compliance will be addressed by the Handicap Committee.
6. Penalty Rounds - If the Handicap Committee concludes that a player failed to submit a score or complete a round for the purpose of gaining an unfair advantage, it may withdraw the player's Handicap Index, and/or apply an appropriate penalty score (high or low depending on intent) and consider further disciplinary action for players who repeatedly fail to submit their scores or who fail to complete rounds.
7. When a hole is not played you post nothing for that hole. You must enter score hole-by-hole and leave the hole you skipped blank. GHIN has a program for handling that situation. Your scorecard should also be blank for a skipped hole.
8. When picking up (not finishing a hole) and marking "x," the score recorded is the LOWER of:
  - Equitable maximum: par + handicap "pops" + 2, OR
  - What the player would reasonably expect to score had she played out.Your scorecard should read X8, but when entering your score in the GHIN app, enter "8," NO "x."

## Pace of Play

1. All WWGA events (Tuesday play, tournaments, Play Away) require adherence to pace of play. A foursome is expected to keep up with the group in front of them.
2. Foursomes are to tee off on time. It is imperative that groups NOT tee off early but wait for their scheduled tee time to start their round.
3. When a foursome has fallen out of position, the first two golfers finished on the putting green are expected to advance to the next tee and tee off.
4. WWGA plays "ready golf." No more than 2 practice swings. Determining distance, club selection and strategy should be handled unobtrusively while others are hitting.

5. In general, in weekly Tuesday play a round at Westchester GC should be completed within 3 ½ hours. If a group has fallen behind (a hole is totally open in front of them AND they are not on pace for a 3 ½ hour round) the group is expected to skip the next hole and go to the next tee. Scoring for skipped hole is in accordance with USGA rules (par + pops). If a hole is skipped, players are ineligible to contest game of the day or any tournament prize.

## Major Tournaments

1. Eligibility: To register and play in any major tournament a player must have 20 rounds in their GHIN scoring record (**Official** GHIN handicap). Once tournament play has commenced, no player (regardless of eligibility status) may be added to the tournament field.
  - a. Exception: Scrambles are open to all WWGA members; and Qualifiers may enter only IF there is space available. Priority: Regular members, then Associate members, then Qualifiers.
  - b. Exception: To contend for the title of Club Champion, players must have ten (10) WWGA rounds\* within twelve (12) months of the first day of the tournament. All WWGA members in good standing, with a permanent handicap, who pay the fee can play in the tournament and win prizes in their flight as well as contend for low net over-the-field without regard to WWGA rounds previously played.

\*WWGA rounds consist of: regular Tuesday League play (12 or more players) and WWGA play away tournament rounds (not practice or optional rounds). Team play rounds do not count.

Occasionally a member who might be a contender for the title of Club Champion is unable to play 10 rounds in the 12-month qualifying period due to injury and/or illness. Any exemption in this instance will be addressed on a case-by-case basis by the Board of WWGA.

2. Tournament scorecards must be signed by all members of the group.
3. Tournament rounds will be posted by the Handicap Chair.
4. Tournament tee sheets and pairings are the responsibility of the Major Tournament Chair; she will provide tournament pairings/times to the Starter who then publishes to the club as part of the usual weekly routine.
5. Tournament prizes
  - a. The tournament prize pool is the total of registration fees collected. The Board may budget annually a tournament prize category to be used at the discretion of the Tournament Chair to round prizes and/or pay ties. Use of any tournament prize budget is at the discretion of the Tournament Chair. Under no circumstances shall annual prizes paid exceed the total of tournament fees paid + any budgeted amount.
  - b. The cash prize for Club Champion and Low-Net-Over-the-Field in the Championship Tournament are NOT paid from the fees. These two (2) cash prizes are paid in accordance with the approved annual budget.
  - c. Flights are generated using GHIN index dated as close as is feasible to first day of competition.

- d. For multi-week tournaments playday handicap in subsequent weeks will be used for play; but flights will NOT be modified. EXCEPTION: The eclectic tournament uses the same H/C for both rounds.
  - e. Field size will determine the number of flights and the number of winning places in each flight. The objective is to payout approximately 1/3 of participants.
  - f. Payout for last place, shall be equal to the entry fee, at a minimum. (except as noted in 5.i below)
  - g. Flights will be equal in size. If this is not feasible, inequities will – to the extent possible – skew to favor lower handicap golfers.
  - h. Publication of flights will include GHIN Index for each flight, in addition to course handicap.
  - i. Ties will be paid. The Tournament Chair will compute results; then determine prize for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> etc. for each flight (paying ties), insuring prize levels are equal for all flights and do not exceed total prize pool. (except as noted in 5.b. above) NOTE: Ensuring that all 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, etc. prizes are the SAME in all flights may result in unequal total payouts between flights.  
  
EXCEPTION: In the event of a tie after the completion of the Club Championship (*for the Title of Club Champion ONLY*) the tied players will immediately commence a sudden death play-off.
  - j. Except where specified here, decisions regarding tournaments prizes are at the discretion of the Tournament Chair.
6. Match Play Tournament – the number of flights is determined by field size. Tournament field will be capped by Tournament chair to ensure flights of 8; resulting in 3 weeks of play w/o bye rounds.
- Handicap variance shall be limited to a maximum of 8 strokes. In the event there is a greater than 8 stroke variance between two opponents the higher handicap player will have her handicap adjusted down to 8 strokes higher than her opponent.
- Pairings within each flight shall be: lowest handicap (index) player vs. highest; next lowest vs. 2<sup>nd</sup> highest, etc. Index shall be used to refine process.
7. Club Championship – In addition to the Tournament prizes a Senior\* flight may be identified and receive special recognition.
- \*Senior TBD determined by board, based on field size and age of players.
8. Tournament Rules
- a. Club rules as outlined on the back of our weekly scorecards and the bulletin board, shall prevail. If you don't know what to do, take pictures and notes, play two balls if necessary and report the problem on the day of play to the WWGA Rules Chair and Tournament Chair for resolution.
  - b. 2-stroke penalty for placing or receiving an unmuted phone call during the round

- c. In the event a foursome falls behind they will receive a warning. After one warning, if there are two open greens in front of them a 2-stroke penalty will be assessed to each player in the foursome.

## **Weekly Games**

1. There must be a minimum of 12 members who pay/play the round for Weekly Game to be contested. Note: If in regular Tuesday league play fewer than 12 members play NO weekly game; and HIO, low net, birdies and/or chip-ins are NOT counted.
1. An “X” on any hole in the round results in disqualification from the weekly game. EXCEPTION: If the Weekly Game is a team event (pink ball, orange ball) and the hole with “X” does NOT affect the team/game score, the team will NOT be disqualified.
2. Eligibility for Weekly Game winnings is contingent upon player posting her adjusted score using the GHIN app **and** submitting scorecard by 5:00 PM on day of play.
3. There will be no Weekly Game(s) held during the period in which a Major Tournament is being contested.
4. Weekly Games which are team events\* a minimum of 3 players must complete the round for team eligibility. \*Pink Ball, Orange Ball, etc.
5. Flights are generated after play, based on the field size.
  - a. Generally, there will be 3 flights, unless there are <20 players, in which case there may be two flights.
  - b. Flights will be equal in size. If this is not feasible, inequities will – to the extent possible – skew to favor lower handicap golfers.
  - c. Publication of flights will include GHIN Index for each flight, in addition to course handicap.
6. Two signatures are required on the Weekly Game scorecard.

## **Scoring Disputes**

1. Rules Disputes  
Players will follow USGA rules and Westchester GC local rules as outlined on the scorecard.
2. Scoring Disputes  
In the event a player disagrees with another player’s score the following steps are recommended:
  - a. Ask the player if she’s certain her stated score is accurate (she will revisit her strokes taken and confirm or adjust).
  - b. If no adjustment is made the questioning player will revisit the strokes taken and demonstrate that an error has been made.
  - c. The other members of the foursome should weigh-in and affirm either the stated score or the revised score.

- d. Upon reaching a consensus a score is agreed upon.
- e. If a consensus cannot be reached the group will continue to play. Scorecard will have the score in question circled and those objecting to the score used will sign the scorecard with U.P. (under protest) after their name. The score card will be submitted to the Rules Chair at [wwgarules@gmail.com](mailto:wwgarules@gmail.com). The rules chair will discuss the matter with all players involved and decide the score to be used. The Handicap Chair will modify posted score if necessary.
- f. In instances where a player seems to consistently state scores that come into question among the other members of the foursome, the following steps are suggested:
  - i. Players keep track of the player-in-question's actual strokes by making "tick marks" on the scorecard; and/or
  - ii. Confirming stroke count of all players upon reaching the green (each player states: I am lying "x," prior to anyone putting.

**Low Net** (administered by Weekly Tournament Chair)

1. Low Net will be tracked annually. Dates: December 1 – November 30.
2. Twenty (20) qualifying scores required for eligibility. All eligible net scores will be averaged for an annual low net average. For members with > 20 rounds, the 20 lowest net rounds will be used.
3. The players with the lowest annual average of 20 scores will contest for the Low Net title in the Low Net Tournament each January. Availability to play will be confirmed; and a player not available to play will be replaced by the player with the next lowest average. Tournament field size: minimum 12. Actual field size will be determined by Chair based on year-end data vis-à-vis a natural "break" in standings and any ties.
4. The Low Net award monies:
  - Each member in the tournament field will receive an award.
  - An additional 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Low Net for the Tournament itself will be awarded.
  - Prize values TBD in annual budget meeting.
5. Eligibility for Low Net score entry for the week is contingent upon player posting her adjusted score using the GHIN app and submitting WWGA scorecard prior to 5:00 PM on day of play.
6. An "X" on any hole by a member renders that day's score inadmissible for low net consideration.
7. Scores for players in any tournament which allows and/or recommends picking up to enhance pace of play, will not be included for Low Net consideration. Each year the board, in conjunction with the Weekly Tournament/Low Net Chair will decide if scores for non-tournament players will be eligible for Low Net submission. This will be re-visited throughout the year during each tournament; and may vary.
8. Two signatures are required on the weekly play scorecard to have scores eligible for Low Net submission. In the case of an individual with a disputed score, she must also sign.

## **Weekly Play Day**

1. Cancellations: Notice must be received by the WWGA Starter prior to 10:00 AM on the Monday prior to play day. When cancelling at 10:00 AM on Monday or later (deemed “late cancellations”) members must notify WWGA starter. ALL late cancellations are subject to the assessment of greens fee, payable at Westchester Golf Course. This obligation is NOT waived even if the slot is filled by a late signup. This fee is to be paid at the time of the player’s next round in addition to her fees for that day. Players subject to the fee assessment will be noted on the tee sheet. Any member failing to pay the assessed fee will be ineligible to sign up for future tee times until the issue has been resolved. NOTE: IF cancelling on Tuesday morning members are to call the golf course to cancel.
2. Late sign-ups: Members electing to play after the sign-up deadline must contact the WWGA starter. Signing up through the Pro Shop is NOT permitted. This will enable the starter to coordinate ALL after-deadline requests.
3. Associates: A WWGA Associate member may participate in weekly play once per month; she is not eligible to participate in the weekly game.
4. Guests: WWGA members make arrangements for their guests through the WWGA Starter. An individual guest may play three times/year. Guests will be accommodated on a space available basis.
5. Qualifiers: Qualifiers must coordinate with the Membership Chair for tee times. Qualifiers are subject to assessed fee for early cancellation. (Refer to #1, above) Assessed fee must be paid prior to commencing a subsequent qualifying round.

## **Hole in One (HIO)**

1. HIO is paid to WWGA member who scores a HIO during Weekly Play or at the Play Away IF she has paid into the pool.
2. HIO award is \$150
3. HIO is an optional kitty. Oversight of funds is handled by the club Treasurer; however, this is a side-event and not considered part of WWGA budget.

## **Board Responsibilities**

1. Contracts  
Any contract entered into on behalf of WWGA must be reviewed by the board (or pre-arranged subcommittee) prior to execution.
2. Banking  
The President, Secretary and Treasurer will be named as authorized agents and signers on bank account.
3. Minutes  
The Secretary shall generate fully-executed (signed) minutes on WWGA letterhead after each Board and General meeting. Minutes will be posted on the website.

## Miscellaneous

1. The decision to implement preferred lies (winter rules) will be assessed on an as-needed basis and announced and/or posted on the bulletin board by the Rules Chair or her designee.
2. Except for the Hole-in-One payout, all cash prize winnings will be aggregated and issued in the form of a gift card annually for December 1 – November 30 winnings.
3. Except for the perpetual Club Champion trophy, cash prizes will be issued in lieu of trophies.
4. Guests are ineligible for WWGA budgeted items and/or subsidies. (For example: luncheon/play away budgeted expenses, subsidies as determined by the Board to defray costs to members)
5. The Lynn Smith Award for Distinguished Service will be awarded at the discretion of the Board.
6. WWGA local rules are printed on the back of the WWGA scorecard.
7. Pro-rated Membership Fees (based on fiscal year Jan-Dec):

Jan-May	100%
June-August	50%
Sept-Oct	25%
Nov-Dec	gratis