



SOUTHERN OHIO

TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

2024

| | | |
|---------------------|---|-----------|
| ARTICLE I | PURPOSE..... | 3 |
| ARTICLE II | PROPOSING RULES AND REGULATIONS..... | 3 |
| ARTICLE III | SANCTIONED EVENTS..... | 4 |
| ARTICLE IV | SCHEDULE..... | 4 |
| ARTICLE V | TYPES OF EVENTS..... | 4 |
| Section 1 | Major Tournament Championships..... | 4 |
| Section 2 | Championship Tournament Events..... | 5 |
| Section 3 | SectionTeam Events..... | 6 |
| Section 4 | Pro-Am Events..... | 6 |
| Section 5 | Greater Cincinnati Events..... | 6 |
| Section 6 | Associate Tour Events..... | 6 |
| ARTICLE VI | ELIGIBILITY..... | 7 |
| Section 1 | Eligibility..... | 7 |
| Section 2 | Exceptions..... | 7 |
| Section 3 | Players Fee..... | 8 |
| ARTICLE VII | DIVISIONS..... | 8 |
| Section 1 | Overview..... | 8 |
| Section 2 | Main Division..... | 9 |
| Section 3 | Senior Division..... | 9 |
| Section 4 | Senior Division (65+)..... | 9 |
| Section 5 | Women's Division..... | 9 |
| Section 6 | Associate Division/PGM Students..... | 9 |
| ARTICLE VIII | REGISTRATION PROCEDURES..... | 10 |
| Section 1 | Entry Deadline/Full Field..... | 10 |
| Section 2 | Entry Fee..... | 10 |
| Section 3 | Cancellation Policy..... | 11 |
| Section 4 | Refunds..... | 11 |
| Section 4 | Outstanding Fees..... | 11 |
| ARTICLE IX | PAIRINGS & STARTING TIMES..... | 11 |
| ARTICLE X | POLICY REGARDING TIES..... | 12 |
| ARTICLE XI | PRIZE/POINT DISTRIBUTION..... | 12 |
| Section 1 | Prize Distribution..... | 12 |
| Section 2 | Point Distribution/Player of the Year..... | 13 |
| ARTICLE XII | AMATEURS PROVISIONS..... | 13 |
| ARTICLE XIII | DRESS CODE..... | 14 |
| Section 1 | Professionals..... | 14 |
| Section 2 | Amateurs..... | 14 |
| Section 3 | Clarifications..... | 14 |
| ARTICLE XIV | CELL PHONE POLICY..... | 14 |
| ARTICLE XV | SUSPENSION OF PLAY..... | 14 |
| ARTICLE XVI | CODE OF CONDUCT..... | 15 |
| Section 1 | Policy..... | 15 |
| Section 2 | Minor Violations and Penalties..... | 16 |
| Section 3 | Major Violations and Penalties..... | 16 |
| Section 4 | Appeal..... | 16 |
| Section 5 | Board of Inquiry..... | 17 |
| APPENDIXES | | |
| I. | Prize Distribution Chart..... | 18 |
| II. | Point Distribution Chart..... | 19 |
| III. | Pace of Play..... | 20 |
| IV. | Hard Card..... | 21 |
| V. | New for 2024..... | 22 |

ARTICLE I

Purpose

Section 1.

To coordinate a tournament program (schedule and policies) consistent with the Tournament Program philosophy that best meets the needs and desires of the Membership.

It shall be the purpose of the Tournament Program to be a vehicle for maintaining and promoting the highest standards of competition, sportsmanship, fellowship, promotion of the game of golf and public goodwill, as well as increase the value of the PGA member, the Section, and PGA of America.

The Program will accomplish this purpose by conducting a variety of competitions that promote full participation of all eligible Section members and the golfing public. Competitions shall be conducted and administered in a manner that will emphasize the professionalism of the PGA member, the Section and Association, and provide an avenue to highlight the PGA members' ability to promote the game, contribute to the good of the community, conduct high quality golf events, and play at an accomplished level.

In achieving the stated purpose, the Section will provide benefit to the membership by elevating the value of each PGA member through events conducted at a high standard, provide opportunities for fellowship, camaraderie and networking, stimulate interest in the game, and provide an opportunity to test golf skills.

2024 Southern Ohio PGA Tournament Committee

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Chairman - | Andy Montgomery, PGA - Kinsale Golf & Fitness Club |
| Committee Member - | Dave Bahr, PGA- Maketewah C.C. |
| Committee Member - | Mike Kaido, PGA- Zanesville C.C. |
| Committee Member - | Ben Kern, PGA- Hickory Hills G.C. |
| Committee Member - | Joey Glander, PGA- Brookside Golf & C.C. |
| Staff Liaison - | Tim Grieser, PGA- SOPGA Section Office |

ARTICLE II

Proposing Rules and Regulations

Section 1.

The Tournament Committee has the responsibility of proposing rules and regulations governing all competition in the Section tournament program. Such rules and regulations must be approved and adopted by the Board of Directors. The Board shall ensure the publishing of such Rules and Regulations governing tournament events. The PGA representative assigned to represent the Section at any Southern Ohio PGA Section event shall be responsible to the Executive Director for the enforcement of all rules and regulations. The current Rules of Golf approved by the United States Golf Association and the R&A Limited govern all play, except as modified by the Southern Ohio PGA Section Rules of Play Card and Local Rules. The Section Rules of Play Card shall be

considered part of the Southern Ohio PGA Section Tournament Rules and Regulations. Southern Ohio PGA Section Professionals are responsible for knowledge of the Rules of Golf and its Interpretations, as well as the rules, regulations and policies of the Southern Ohio PGA Section.

ARTICLE III

Sanctioned Events

Section 1.

(a) Any golf competition played within the geographical territory embracing the Section and offering a purse as prize money (including, but not limited to appearance fees or gift certificates to professionals), must be sanctioned by the Tournament Committee in order for Section Professionals to participate as players. This includes, but is not limited to, any Pro-Am, Pro-Lady, stroke play competition, or similar event. Each reasonable request for sanction will be considered separately, on its own merits. Requests for sanction shall be made in writing and should be received by the Tournament Director at least sixty (60) days prior to the event. In specific situations where there is not a PGA Professional hosting or affiliated with organizing the event, each SOPGA Participant will be responsible for acquiring a waiver.

(b) Any request to host a Section sanctioned event on the same date as a Section Major Championship (as defined in Article V Section 2, 3, and 4) shall be denied (regardless of proximity) unless otherwise approved by the Section Tournament Chair and/or Tournament Director.

(c) By participating in an unsanctioned event, SOPGA Professionals and Associates would be in violation of Article XVI Section 2 and subject to the penalties associated with.

ARTICLE IV

Schedule

Section 1.

The Tournament Committee shall create, or cause to have created, an annual tournament schedule of events that will permit and encourage full participation by eligible members. Any such schedule of events must be submitted, approved, and adopted by the Board of Directors.

Note: Members will receive 2 PDR (Total) points for each Section Event in which they participate with a maximum of 8 PDR (Total) points per cycle year.

ARTICLE V

Type of Events

Section 1. Major Tournament Championships

The following are considered Major Championship events (eligibility assumes participants are otherwise eligible in accordance with the Section Rules and Regulations):

1. SOUTHERN OHIO PGA PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Open to Section Class A Members, Life Members (Active, Retired, Master Active, and Master Retired), Master Professionals, and Retired Members; however, Life Member Active, Life Member Master Active, Retired Members, Life Members Retired and Life Members Master Retired are not eligible to qualify for the PGA Professional Championship. Participants must also meet the eligibility requirements in Article VI of this document.

2. SOUTHERN OHIO PGA SENIOR PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Open to Section Class A Members, Life Members (Active, Retired, Master Active, and Master Retired), Master Professionals, and Retired Members; however, Retired Members are not eligible to qualify for the Senior PGA Professional Championship. Players must be 50+ years of age. A player who will be 50 years of age prior to the Senior PGA Professional Championship, but not the SOPGA SPC may compete as a qualifier for the SPPC only (not eligible for the purse). The participant must also meet the eligibility requirements in Article VI of this document.

3. SOUTHERN OHIO PGA ASSISTANT PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Eligibility is limited to Class A-8 PGA Members and B-8 Associates who meet the criteria located in Article VI of this document.

4. SOUTHERN OHIO PGA WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Eligibility is limited to active female Section Members and Associates who have met the eligibility and are otherwise eligible in accordance with Article VI.

5. OHIO WOMEN'S OPEN

Eligibility into the Ohio Women's Open is open to professionals and amateur golfers who can be verified by documentation to be female at the time of entry. It is recommended that all amateurs have a current USGA Handicap Index of 9.4 or lower.

Contestants are not required to reside in Ohio.

6. SOUTHERN OHIO PGA TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP

Southern Ohio members in the Main POY will qualify (NOTE: Top 30 Main POY will not include 12 seniors that have already qualified). There will be two separate purses for the event and no one may compete for both purses unless a senior wants to play the back tees. If anyone outside the top 30 or top 12 cannot participate, they will NOT be replaced by someone outside the standings. The top 3 in the Women's and Associate POY will qualify.

Section 2. Championship Tournament Events

The following are considered Championship events (eligibility assumes participants are otherwise eligible in accordance with the Section Rules and Regulations):

1. SOPGA STABLEFORD
2. LEGACY CHAMPIONSHIP
3. SPRINGFIELD CLASSIC

4. QUEEN CITY CLASSIC
5. SOPGA CLASSIC
6. CAPITAL CITY CLASSIC
7. PRO-SCRATCH
8. NEW ALBANY CLASSIC
9. SOPGA INDIVIDUAL MATCH PLAY
10. SOPGA SENIOR INDIVIDUAL MATCH PLAY
11. SOPGA ASSOCIATE MATCH PLAY

Section 3. Section Team Events

The following are considered Championship events (eligibility assumes participants are otherwise eligible in accordance with the Section Rules and Regulations):

1. SPRING PRO-PRO
2. SUMMER PRO-PRO
3. FALL PRO-PRO
4. PRO-OFFICIAL
5. OHIO CUP
6. TEAM CHALLENGE
7. SOPGA TEAM MATCH PLAY

Section 4. Pro-Am Events

The following are considered Pro-Am events (eligibility assumes participants are otherwise eligible in accordance with the Section Rules and Regulations):

1. PRO-AM #1
2. PRO-AM #2
3. PRO-AM #3
4. PRO-AM #4
5. PRO-AM #5
6. PRO-AM #6
7. PRO-AM #7

Section 5. Greater Cincinnati Events

The Southern Ohio PGA will conduct the Greater Cincinnati Match Play and Stroke Play each year. Players must be a Member or Associate in good standing and be employed within the boundaries of the prior Southwest Chapter boundaries.

Section 6. Associate Tour Events

The Associate Tour is a series of tournaments conducted by the Southern Ohio PGA for professionals aspiring to become PGA Members. They are usually held in conjunction with a Championship event. The purpose is to motivate, activate, and educate Associates working at facilities throughout the Southern Ohio PGA, and to provide each of them with increased opportunities for professional and personal growth. Eligibility is limited to active Section

Associates and PGM Students who have met the eligibility and are otherwise eligible in accordance with the Section Rules and Regulations.

ARTICLE VI

Eligibility

Section 1. Eligibility

In General, PGA Members & Associates of the Southern Ohio PGA Section in good standing shall be eligible to compete in all Section Tournaments unless noted on application or otherwise within this document (ex. Southern Ohio PGA Professional Championship). Associates must be eligibly employed. PGM Students may play in Associate Division events and Pro-Am Series events provided they have met the additional requirements and are employed within the Southern Ohio PGA Section. The SOPGA Players Fee must be paid before registering for some Section tournaments. The Players fee information can be found in Article VI Section 3.

Section 2. Exceptions

(a) The player will ineligible if they have played in more than *****four (4)** combined All Pro Tour (APT), Asian Tour, Dakotas Tour, DP World Tour, Epson Tour (LPGA), European Challenge Tour, European Legends Tour, GPro Tour, JPGA Senior Tour, JPGA Tour, Korn Ferry Tour, Ladies European Tour (LET), LPGA Tour, PGA TOUR Americas (Formerly MacKenzie Tour and PGA Tour Latin America), PGA Australia Tours, PGA New Zealand Tours, PGA TOUR, PGA TOUR Champions, The Safari Tour and The Sunshine Tour tournaments between January 1 and December 31 in the same calendar year. The U.S. Open, U.S. Senior Open, U.S. Women's Open, PGA Championship, KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship and KPMG Women's PGA Championship are not included in the *****4-tournament** count; ***Exception:** The current year's PPC champion will be allowed a total maximum of eight (8) tournaments during their winning year only. Reason: The PPC Champion earns exemptions into six (6) PGA TOUR open tournaments with their win, which leaves room for them to qualify for two (2) additional events during the year.) (Board Meeting, June 2022) ****In addition**, a special exception will be made for any PGA member finishing in the Top 15 of the PGA Championship, Top 15 of the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship and/or the Top 10 of the KPMG Women's PGA Championship, that would exempt them into the following year's Championship, also allowing that member a maximum of eight (8) tournaments instead of four (4), for one year only, provided the member does not transfer into an A-3 classification and/or accept any temporary membership that a respective tour may offer. Reason: Such a strong finish in these major Championships may provide additional playing opportunities which could result in exceeding the 4-tournament rule for that year. These additional opportunities increase the spotlight on PGA members and their playing accomplishments, which has a resulting positive impact on our membership overall.) (Board Meeting, June 2023)

(b) SOPGA Match Play Competitions – Individuals who become ineligible (suspensions, non-payment of dues, etc.) at any point during a match play event shall be suspended from playing until such time as they return to active status. If they are unable to regain active status before a scheduled deadline for competition of a match, they will have to forfeit to their opponent. Note: Playing partners in a team match play competition have the option to continue on alone until their playing partner rejoins them (provided the format allows). They will still be responsible

for completing their match before the deadline for each round. Substitutions or replacement of a team member will not be permitted.

(c) Greater Cincinnati Championship Eligibility – Championships (Stroke Play, Senior Stroke Play, and Match Play) are open to Members or Associates in good standing and who are employed within the boundaries of the prior Southwest Chapter boundaries.

(e) Any Section Hall of Fame Member shall be granted Section Member eligibility for all Section events, even if they are no longer affiliated with Southern Ohio Section provided, they have paid their Players Fee.

(e) Class A-3, Reserve, Inactive & Suspended Members/Associates are not eligible to play in any Section tournaments.

The SOPGA Tournament Committee may set policies for eligibility with Board approval.

Section 3. Players Fee

The Players Fee is to be paid in full (\$175) by the time of registration in order to participate in SOPGA Section events with the following exceptions.

Exceptions: The following events do not require the Player's Fee to be paid to participate:

- SOPGA Pro-Am Series (optional additional fee applies)
- SOPGA Spring Meeting - SOPGA Fall Meeting
- SOPGA Reach Pro-Am
- SOPGA Pro-Assistant
- SOPGA Professional Championship
- SOPGA Senior Professional Championship
- SOPGA Assistant and Women's Professional Championship.
- PGA Professionals hosting the SOPGA Section event.

All fees collected will only be used for Tournament administrative costs.

ARTICLE VII

Divisions

Section 1. Overview

It takes three (3) players to make a division who have completed their round and turned in a scorecard. If less than three (3) participate in a division, that division will be moved to the Main Division. Age is determined by the day of the event.

There will be a Main Division winner (Overall Champion) and a Senior Division winner with a playoff only taking place in the Main Division only.

Note Regarding Pro-Am Events: There will only be one Team division (gross and net), i.e. no separate team division for Seniors or Ladies Divisions

Section 2. Main Division

1. Main Division participants may receive Player of the Year and Ohio Cup points.
2. Associates may compete in the Main Division for purse only, not POY or Ohio Cup points.
3. PGM Students are not eligible for the Main Division.
4. Recommended yardages are between 6,600 and 6,800 yards. The Tournament Director has the discretion to set the yardage outside the recommended range based on facility, weather, and event.

Section 3. Senior Division (50-65 Years of Age)

1. Seniors Division participants are defined as 50 years of age and older at the time of the event may compete in the Main Division and Senior Division, provided they pay the additional entry fee and play from the Main Division tee (can win in both divisions).
2. Senior Division participants may receive Player of the Year and Ohio Cup points competing from the Senior tee or the Main tee.
3. Senior yardage will be set at approximately 95% of the Main Division.

Section 4. Senior Division (65+)

1. Senior Division (65+) participants are defined as those who are 65 years of age and older at the time of the event. Yardage will be approximately 90% of the Main Division.
2. Senior Division (65+) are not eligible to compete in the Main Division but are eligible to compete in the Senior Division for purse only. No points are awarded for this division.

Section 5. Women's Division

1. Women will always play from a Forward Tee. The Women's Yardage will be set at approximately 84%- 86% of the Main Division.
2. Women may compete in the Main Division Only, a Women's Only Division, or in both the Women's and Main Division giving the division meets the requirements provided within this article.
3. Women may compete in the Main Division and Women's Division, provided they pay the additional entry fee (can win in both divisions).

Section 6. Associate Division/PGM Students

1. Associate Division participants may receive Associate Division points. PGM students are not able to receive Associate Division points but are eligible to receive Associate only purse winnings.
2. Yardage for the Associate Division will be the same as the Main Division.

ARTICLE VIII

Registration Procedures

Section 1. Entry Deadline/Full Field

1. The entry deadline for an event will be posted on the event page. The deadline is the week prior on Wednesday at midnight. The Executive Director, Tournament Chairman, or Tournament Director have the ability to adjust any deadline provided it is posted on the event page in advance.
2. A full field in an event shall be defined by the number of participants entered into an event at the close of entry and/or the number of available starting times at the facility. Participants who attempt to enter after the deadline or a full field as defined above, will be placed on a waiting list and will be entered into the tournament only in the event of a cancellation or in order to complete a pairing.
3. Members and Associates will have the ability to register for an event as long as they have met the requirements of the specific event.

Section 2. Entry Fee

Entry fees must be collected at time of registration.

Section Event Entry Fees

\$135 per Person (increase of \$15 in 2020)

Deductions from Section Entry Fee:

1. Standard Course Fee - \$40 (increase of \$15 in (2020)
 - All Course Fees Included
 - A \$5 Administration Fee

2. Any additional items must have Tournament Chairman approval.

Section Pro-Am Entry Fees

\$100 per person per entry (players fee paid) without food and beverage

\$130 per person per entry (players fee paid) with food and beverage

\$130 per person per entry (players fee not paid) without food and beverage

\$155 per person per entry (players fee not paid) with food and beverage

Deductions from Pro-Am Entry Fee:

1. Standard Course Fee - \$40
 - All Course Fees Included
 - A \$5 Administration Fee per team

2. Any additional items must have Tournament Chairman approval.

*Standard fee for box lunches is \$20 per lunch.

Section 3. Cancellation Policy

1. A full refund of the entry will be given for anyone who has canceled or withdrawn from an event before the registration deadline. This refund is to be made before the date of the event. If the participant cancels or withdraws after the deadline, see Article VIII Section 4- Refunds.

Section 4. Refunds

1. No refunds for cancellations or withdrawals after the tournament deadline (Friday at noon or 3 days prior to the event) unless authorized by the Section Tournament Committee.

2. Participants failing to notify the SOPGA Section Office of a withdrawal before the deadline shall be responsible for the entry fee.

3. Participants may request a refund for the event if the cancellation occurred after the deadline. The requests must be submitted to the Tournament Director in writing no later than the day of the event. The Section Tournament Committee must review all requests and render a decision in writing within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the request and submit a final report to the Section Executive Director.

Section 5. Outstanding Fees

Anyone that is 30 days delinquent on fees owed to the Section (entry fees, fines, returned checks, etc.) shall have their playing privileges revoked until said payment is processed in full. The 30 days shall be based from the date of the tournament or program, except in the case of appeals, in which case the 30 days shall be based on the date the appeal was decided.

ARTICLE IX

Pairings & Starting Times

Section 1.

Pairings and starting times for Southern Ohio PGA Section events will be assigned no less than 3 days prior to any event. Pairings will be available on BlueGolf and emailed out to all participants. Times as assigned are final, and subject only to changes by the Tournament Committee or Tournament Director.

Pairing Policy All Section Events will use the following procedure to create pairings:

1. Randomize

2. Make Changes Based on Special Requests

3. You may request an individual during registration. Requests to be paired with specific individuals will be honored once per season in the "Championship" events. There is no guarantee you will be paired with your request.

4. Professionals from the same facility will NOT be paired together (Exceptions: Major Championships (based on standards set for the event), Section Special Events, and events where pairings are selected at the time of registration).

5. The SOPGA Professional Championship pairings will include the top 18 players in the current Rolex Player of the Year that will be paired together in order. The six pairings will be randomly distributed in the field with the first 3 pairings on the front and the next 3 pairings on the back.

6. An attempt should be made by the Tournament Director that no two Professionals are paired together more than once during a given season. No same facility professionals may be paired together for Championship Events.

ARTICLE X

Policy Regarding Ties

Section 1.

1. In all Major Championships, should two or more Professionals tie for the Championship, a sudden-death playoff will ensue. Professionals and amateurs tying for other positions will share prizes.

2. If there are two or more contestants tied for the (a) championship, (b) final qualifying position(s), and (c) order of alternate positions, there will be a sudden-death playoff. If, within the alternate playoff, a winner is determined, the other players must continue play to determine additional alternate positions (if needed). If any player is not present for an alternate playoff, he/she will be given the lowest position amongst those with whom they were tied. Post-event, if any further alternate positions need to be determined, a scorecard playoff will be utilized by comparing total scores from (i) the final round, (ii) the final nine holes (#10-18), (iii) the final eight holes (#11-18), and so forth. If there is still a tie, a random draw of holes will be used until the tie is broken.

3. In Pro-Am events, should two or more teams tie for any position, including first place, those posting the same score shall share equally in the total purse allotted for the number of tied positions.

ARTICLE XI

Prize Distribution/Point Distribution

Section 1. Prize Distribution

Prize breakdown shall be available for each competitor for review for all events. Section Events utilize a 28% breakdown. Prize chart is located in Appendix I. Provisions for deviating from suggested 28% must be approved by a vote of the Tournament Committee.

There will be a separate purse for professionals and amateurs.

Sponsor monies will be allocated in the following percentages:

3 Divisions (Main, Senior, Lady)

Main Division: 80%

Senior Division: 15%

Women's Division: 5%

2 Divisions (Main, Senior)

Main Division: 85%

Senior Division: 15%

Section 1. Point Distribution/Player of the Year

All Player of the Years will run from the day after the Tour Championship to the following year's Tour Championship (wrap around points). The distribution of points is located in Appendix II.

ARTICLE XII

Amateur Provisions

Section 1.

The Southern Ohio PGA (SOPGA) reserves the right to adjust the handicaps of any amateurs if warranted by previous performance. Two (2) rounds of exceptional tournament performance can trigger a handicap adjustment for an amateur competing in SOPGA events for the remainder of the season. Professionals are responsible for their amateurs' handicap; any flagrant violation will be cause for disciplinary action. Amateurs must have a current handicap established at a USGA Authorized Golf Club or World Golf Handicap.

Amateur Handicaps in Pro-Am events cannot be less than zero. An individual with a plus handicap will play to a zero in said event. If an amateur has two or more handicaps, they shall play with the lower of the two.

Amateurs must have an active handicap at the time of registration or play as scratch for said event.

Amateur Prize Limitations: While no cumulative prize limits are in place, individuals will be required to follow USGA guidelines for maximum allowable single event prizes (currently set at \$1,000.00). The prize will be awarded in merchandise credit to the host club regardless of a scratch or handicap event.

Amateur entry fees in "Classic" events will include \$40 going to the main purse for professionals and a \$5 administrative fee. Amateurs will play for a separate purse based on the number of amateur entries.

Amateur Certificates: Host Clubs will be responsible for maintaining all records/certificates of amateurs winning merchandise credit at their event. The Section Office shall post on the website the results informing the team-winning Professionals of their amateur's credit at the host facility.

ARTICLE XIII

Dress Code

Section 1. Professionals

Proper dress code is required at all Southern Ohio PGA events. Denim of any style, cut-offs and tank tops are not permitted. Proper attire can include collared shirts, mock turtlenecks, slacks. All shirts must be tucked in at all times.

Section 2. Amateurs

Amateur participants are required to adhere to the same dress code policy as Professionals; however, Amateurs in any Southern Ohio PGA event may wear golf-styled Bermuda shorts. All shirts must be tucked in at all times.

Section 3. Clarifications

1. The host Professional determines if shorts are allowed for professionals. This is indicated in the agreement signed by the host professional for that event.

3. Contestants not wearing proper attire shall not be permitted to compete.

4. The dress code shall be communicated on the event page on or before the deadline of the event and be included in the pairing email from BlueGolf.

5. Dress code policies are in effect for any and all activities associated with an Southern Ohio PGA Event, to include practice rounds and social functions unless otherwise specified.

6. If the appearance of any participant or caddie is deemed to be injurious to the Southern Ohio PGA or the host facility, it will be within the power of the Executive Director or Tournament Director to take any necessary action, which may include prohibiting play or participant expulsion from the site.

ARTICLE XIV

Cell Phone Policy

Section 1.

Voice phone calls are not permitted at any time during tournament rounds. Participants must keep their phone on silent/vibrate mode. Functions such as texting, internet usage, etc. are permitted provided they are not a distraction to fellow competitors and don't violate any rules set forth by the host facility.

ARTICLE XV

Suspension of Play

Section 1.

1. The Rules Committee for the specific event shall have the right to postpone or suspend play at any time. If suspension of play has been declared due to a dangerous situation, participants must follow the Section 1 Suspension of Play Due to a Dangerous Situation located on the SOPGA Local Rules & Conditions of Competition in the Appendix.

2. If an event is canceled, the Southern Ohio PGA and host facility/professional will come to an agreement of cost based on the factors presented on the day of the cancellation.

ARTICLE XVI

Code of Conduct

Section 1- Policy

1. The Southern Ohio PGA Section Tournament Committee expects the conduct of its professionals and amateur contestants to adhere to the PGA Code of Ethics and the traditional etiquette expected. Each PGA of America Member or Associate Participant acknowledges the right and authority of the Southern Ohio PGA Section to (i) fine and suspend from tournament play; and/or to (ii) fine and permanently bar the Participant from Section events. Any Participant in a Section event hereby releases the Southern Ohio PGA Section, the PGA of America, the PGA Tournament Corporation, Inc., rules officials, each director, officer, member, employee, agent or representative of any of the foregoing jointly and severally, individually and in their official capacity, of and from any and all claims, demands, damages and causes of action whatsoever, in law or equity, arising out of or in connection with any such decision or action by the Southern Ohio PGA Section, PGA of America or any appellate body. Any Participant that is found guilty of more than three offenses for violating the code of conduct may, at the sole discretion of the Southern Ohio PGA Section, be permanently prohibited from participating in all Southern Ohio PGA Section and PGA of America tournaments and also may be subject to PGA of America Code of Ethics charges. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Southern Ohio PGA Section reserves the right to pursue Code of Ethics charges against any PGA Member/Associate for conduct charges related to the conduct of any Participant at Southern Ohio PGA Section golf tournaments and related events at the sole discretion of the Southern Ohio PGA Section in compliance with the procedures for Code of Ethics hearings as set forth in the PGA of America Bylaws. If any Participant engages in any of the following (but not limited to the following) activities or behavior at the site of a Southern Ohio PGA Section tournament before, during, or after the actual competition, he or she shall be considered in violation of the Southern Ohio PGA Section Code of Conduct, and this shall constitute grounds for disciplinary action.

2. Except for penalties under the Rules of Golf, any Participant subject to disciplinary action or penalty as defined in Article XVI shall first be notified of such proposed action in writing. Within fifteen (15) days from receipt of the notice, the Participant shall submit to the Southern Ohio PGA Section Tournament Director or Southern Ohio PGA Section Executive Director such facts or evidence of mitigating circumstances as may apply. Within fifteen (15) days of receipt of such information from the Participant, the Southern Ohio PGA Section Executive Director or Southern Ohio PGA Section Tournament Director shall notify the Participant in writing of the imposition of the proposed disciplinary action. After imposition of any penalty hereunder, the Participant shall have the right to appeal as set forth in Article XVI Section 4.

Note: Alcoholic beverage will be permitted in all SOPGA events except the following:

- SOPGA Professional Championship
- SOPGA Senior Professional Championship
- SOPGA Women's and Assistant's Championship

Section 2 - Minor Violations and Penalties

1. Minor Violations:

- a. Displaying disrespect or making public complaints or criticisms involving the PGA or Section staff, sponsors, host clubs, golf courses, or the tournament format.
- b. Disrespecting the traditional etiquette of golf.
- c. Using loud, profane, and/or abusive language in public.
- d. Throwing or breaking a club in a manner of anger or disgust.
- e. Excessive drinking.
- f. Vandalism.
- g. Using a prohibited communication device and/or excessive use of a Cellular Device.
- h. Organizing or Competing in non-sanctioned event.

2. Minor Violation Fine Schedule

Minor penalties are cumulative for a twelve (12) month period starting with the date of the first offense. In the case of a habitual offender, the Tournament Committee may escalate what is considered a Minor Penalty into a Major Penalty.

- a. First offense - Fine up to \$250
- b. Second offense - Fine up to \$400 and/or suspension of one event
- c. Third offense - Fine up to \$600 and/or suspension up to one year

Section 3- Major Violations and Penalties

1. Major Violations

- a. Serious infraction of any Minor Penalty (multiple complaints)
- b. Dishonest play, cheating
- c. Player taking undue advantage of the rules of golf or a fellow competitor
- d. No player may compete as a partner of, or verify the handicap of an amateur when knowingly incorrect
- c. Serious breach of a rule of golf resulting in disqualification

2. Major Violation Fine Schedule

- a. First Offense - Fine up to \$350
- b. Second Offense - Fine up to \$600 and/or suspension of one event
- c. Third Offense - Fine up to \$1,000 and/or suspension from events up to one year

Section 4- Appeal

1. Minor Penalties as defined in Article XVI Section 2

Appeals from Minor Penalties shall be to the Section Board of Inquiry Chairperson (or his/her designee). Such appeal must be in writing. Such appeal shall be received by the Section Board of Inquiry Chair no later than thirty (30) days subsequent to the infraction. The Section Board of Inquiry Chair shall render the decision on appeal in writing within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the appeal and submit a final report to the Southern Ohio PGA Section Executive Director. The Southern Ohio PGA Section Executive Director shall submit this final report to the Association

General Counsel. Such decision shall be final. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that the Section determines that it would prefer that a Minor Penalty shall initially be submitted to the PGA Board of Control for a hearing in lieu of action by the Southern Ohio PGA Section, then the Southern Ohio PGA Section Board of Inquiry will follow all procedures set forth herein for all matters submitted to the PGA Board of Control for Code of Ethics procedures.

2. Major Penalties as defined in Article XVI Section 3

Within thirty (30) days from the date of notification of a Major Penalty, the Participant may submit a written appeal to the Southern Ohio PGA Section Board of Inquiry Chairman. Failure to file such an appeal shall be deemed as a waiver of all rights to pursue any further appeal and an acceptance of the penalties imposed.

3. All fines must be paid within thirty (30) days from the imposition of the fine, or in the event of an appeal, within (30) days from the decision rendered by the Board of Control in the event the Board of Control upholds the findings of the Board of Inquiry.

Section 5- Board of Inquiry

1. Subject to the provision of the PGA of America Bylaws, the Section Board of Inquiry shall have the primary jurisdiction in any situation or incident involving a violation of the Southern Ohio PGA Section Tournament Rules & Regulations. The Section Board of Inquiry shall consist of five (5) members. The committee make up shall include the Section President, Section Vice President, Section Secretary, & (2) immediate Past Presidents. The Section Executive Director shall serve on the Board of Inquiry as a non-voting member. When violation involves Section Tournament Policy and Procedures, the Tournament Committee Chairman and immediate past Tournament Committee Chairmen will become voting members of the Board of Inquiry (7). The Section Tournament Director will become a non-voting member of the committee.

Note: The Executive Director and/or Section Tournament Director shall serve as administrator of the Disciplinary Process.

2. If any individual is thought to be in violation of the rules, ethics, or Code of Conduct of the Southern Ohio PGA Section Tournament Rules & Regulations, the Section Board of Inquiry shall have the power, by simple majority, to impose upon such violator, a fine/suspension as outlined in Article XVI above.

SOUTHERN OHIO PGA PURSE DISTRIBUTION CHART

[illegible]

SOUTHERN OHIO PGA POINT STRUCTURE

SOUTHERN OHIO PGA EVENTS

| Place | Class A | Class B | Class C | Class D |
|-------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | 300 | 250 | 200 | 250 |
| 2 | 225 | 180 | 130 | 180 |
| 3 | 205 | 160 | 120 | 155 |
| 4 | 185 | 150 | 110 | 155 |
| 5 | 175 | 140 | 100 | 125 |
| 6 | 165 | 130 | 90 | 125 |
| 7 | 155 | 120 | 80 | 125 |
| 8 | 145 | 110 | 75 | 125 |
| 9 | 135 | 100 | 70 | 60 |
| 10 | 130 | 90 | 65 | 60 |
| 11 | 125 | 80 | 60 | 60 |
| 12 | 120 | 75 | 55 | 60 |
| 13 | 115 | 70 | 50 | 60 |
| 14 | 110 | 65 | 45 | 60 |
| 15 | 105 | 60 | 40 | 60 |
| 16 | 100 | 55 | 38 | 60 |
| 17 | 95 | 50 | 36 | |
| 18 | 90 | 45 | 34 | |
| 19 | 85 | 42 | 32 | |
| 20 | 80 | 40 | 30 | |
| 21 | 75 | 38 | 28 | |
| 22 | 70 | 36 | 26 | |
| 23 | 65 | 34 | 24 | |
| 24 | 60 | 32 | 22 | |
| 25 | 55 | 30 | 20 | |
| 26 | 50 | 28 | 18 | |
| 27 | 45 | 26 | 16 | |
| 28 | 40 | 24 | 14 | |
| 29 | 35 | 22 | 12 | |
| 30 | 30 | 20 | 10 | |
| 31 | 28 | 18 | | |
| 32 | 26 | 16 | | |
| 33 | 24 | 14 | | |
| 34 | 22 | 12 | | |
| 35 | 20 | 10 | | |

Class A SOPGA Events:

SOPGA Professional Championship
 SOPGA Senior Professional Championship
 SOPGA Women's Professional Championship

Class B SOPGA Events:

SOPGA Tour Championship

Class C SOPGA Events:

SOPGA Stableford
 Legacy Championship
 Springfield Classic
 Queen City Classic
 SOPGA Classic
 Capital City Classic
 Section Pro-Scratch
 New Albany Classic

Class D SOPGA Events:

Senior Match Play
 Individual Match Play
 Associate Match Play

OUTSIDE EVENTS

| Place | Class E | Class F | Class G |
|-------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | 300 | 250 | 150 |
| 2 | 225 | 175 | 125 |
| 3 | 205 | 160 | 115 |
| 4 | 185 | 140 | 110 |
| 5 | 175 | 120 | 105 |
| 6 | 170 | 100 | 100 |
| 7 | 165 | 90 | 90 |
| 8 | 160 | 80 | 80 |
| 9 | 155 | 70 | 70 |
| 10 | 150 | 60 | 60 |
| 11 | 145 | 50 | 50 |
| 12 | 140 | 45 | 45 |
| 13 | 135 | 40 | 40 |
| 14 | 130 | 35 | 35 |
| 15 | 125 | 30 | 30 |
| 16 | 120 | 29 | 29 |
| 17 | 115 | 28 | 28 |
| 18 | 110 | 27 | 27 |
| 19 | 105 | 26 | 26 |
| 20 | 95 | 25 | 25 |

Additional Points

-Playing in US Open Final Qualifying
 +50 points
 -Playing in US (Senior) Open
 +100 points
 -US Open (Senior)
 Making the cut- +50 points
 -Playing in PGA (Senior) Championship
 +100 points
 -PGA (Senior) Professional Championship
 Making the first cut- +25 points
 Making the second cut- +50 points (total)
 -Ohio Open (Senior)
 Making the cut- +25 points

Class E Outside Events:

US Open
 US Senior Open
 PGA Championship
 Senior PGA Championship
 US Women's Open
 KPMG Women's PGA Championship

Class F Outside Events:

PGA Professional National Championship
 Senior PGA Professional National Championship
 LPGA Club Professional National Championship

Class G Outside Events:

Ohio Open
 Ohio Senior Open
 Ohio Women's Open

- 1- Player of the Year will run from the day after the Tour Championship to the following year's Tour Championship**
- 2- Ohio Cup team will be decided September 1st or the last Section event leading up to this date**
- 3- Points are based on overall finish including amateurs in any field**
- 4- Must have a cut to award points to players that would have made a cut**
- 5- Must make Match Play bracket to receive points**

SOPGA Pace of Play Guidelines

The pace of play will be established using the suggestions of the USGA and, if necessary, adjustments by the Tournament Administrator and the Host Professional. The pace of play for the event will be posted at the starting location and scoring location and will be located on each scorecard.

Maximum Allowable Time

The maximum allowable time is the maximum time considered necessary by the Committee for a group to complete its round. This is expressed in a per-hole and aggregate time format and includes all time associated with playing the game including time for rulings and time between holes.

Definition of "Out of Position"

The first group to start will be considered "out of position" if, at any time during the round, the group's cumulative time exceeds the time allowed for the number of holes played.

Any following group will be considered out of position if there is a par-3 or par-4 hole open or when the preceding group is on the putting green of a par-5 hole when the group in question is on the teeing ground and has exceeded the time allowed for the number of holes played.

Procedure When Group is Out of Position

1. Referees will monitor pace of play and decide whether a group that is "out of position" should be timed. An assessment of whether there are any recent mitigating circumstances, e.g. a lengthy ruling, lost ball, unplayable ball, etc. will be made.

If a decision is made to time the players, each player in the group will be subject to individual timing and a referee will advise each player that they are "out of position" and they are being timed.

2. The maximum time allocated per stroke is 40 seconds. (10 extra seconds are allowed for the first player to play: a) a tee shot; b) an approach shot to the green; and c) a chip or putt).

The timing will start when a player has had sufficient time to reach the ball, it is his or her turn to play and he or she is able to play without interference or distraction. Time taken to determine distance and select a club will count as time taken for the next stroke.

On the putting green, timing will start when the player has had a reasonable amount of time to lift, clean and replace the ball, repair damage that interferes with the line of play and move loose impediments on the line of play. Time spent looking at the line of play from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.

Timings will be taken from the moment it is decided by the referee that it is the player's turn to play and he or she is able to play without interference or distraction. The group will be timed until back in position or until the rules committee has determined the timing is no longer needed.

Penalty for Breach of Pace of Play Local Rule:

Penalty for first breach:

One-stroke penalty

Penalty for second breach:

General Penalty applied in addition to the penalty for the first breach.

Penalty for third breach:

Disqualification

Until a player has been advised of a bad time, he or she cannot incur a further bad time.

Checkpoints

There will be 3 checkpoints on the golf course with clocks to indicate if the group is on pace. One located on the front nine, one at the turn, and one located on the back nine. If a group is off pace at one of these checkpoints, the group will be made aware they are off pace and an official will be notified to monitor each players pace as specified within this local rule.

Procedure When Again Out of Position During Same Round

If a group is "out of position" more than once during a round, the above procedure will apply on each occasion. Bad times and the application of penalties in the same round will be carried forward until the round is completed. A player will not be penalized if he or she has a second bad time before being advised of the earlier bad time.

Note 1: Any and all discussion regarding rules violations are to be put in writing by the Rules Officials and handed to the Tournament Administer to be put on file.

Note 2: Notations of any penalties assessed should be put in writing and follow the same procedures as above.

Note 3: Any appeal of a penalty must be referred to the onsite Tournament Official immediately upon completion of a player's round. The Tournament Director's decision shall be final.

Note 4: In the administration of these Pace of Play guidelines, a member of the Rules Committee shall not tolerate abuse, oral or otherwise, by a player. Such abuse may constitute conduct unbecoming a professional.

Note 5: A pace of play summary will be sent with the thank you email at the conclusion of the event to every participant.



SOUTHERN OHIO

Southern Ohio PGA

Local Rules & Conditions of Competition

Play is governed by the Rules of Golf effective January 2019, and where applicable, by the following Local Rules and Terms of the Competition. Committee Procedures refers to the Committee Procedures section in the current Official Guide to the Rules of Golf. The Committee refers to the SOPGA Rules Committee.

Unless otherwise provided, penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the General Penalty:

Match Play – Loss of Hole; Stroke Play – Two Strokes

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION

1. **SUSPENSION OF PLAY DUE TO A DANGEROUS SITUATION:** When play is suspended for a dangerous situation, if the players in a match or group are between the play of two holes, they must not resume play until the Committee has ordered the resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they must discontinue play immediately and must not continue until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play.

NOTE: A suspension for a dangerous situation will be signaled by one prolonged siren or horn blast. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three intermittent siren or horn blasts. Resumption of play will be signaled by two intermittent siren or horn blasts.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF THIS CONDITION: DISQUALIFICATION

All practice areas will be closed during suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open for use.

2. **GOLF BALLS:** The ball the player plays must be named on the current List of Conforming Golf Balls issued by the USGA.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF THIS CONDITION: DISQUALIFICATION

3. **DRIVER HEADS:** Any driver the player carries must have a clubhead, identified by model and loft, that is named on the current List of Conforming Driver Heads issued by the USGA.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF THIS CONDITION: Penalty for breach is Disqualification

4. **GROOVE & PUNCH MARK SPECIFICATION:** The player's clubs must conform to the groove and punch mark specifications in the Rules of Golf that are effective from January 1, 2010.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF THIS CONDITION: Disqualification

5. **ONE -BALL CONDITION:** Is not in effect
6. **PACE OF PLAY:** (RULE 5.6 Unreasonable Delay) A player shall be subject to penalty if he/she unreasonably delays play. The Local Rule for Pace of Play is in effect & posted.
7. **RETURNING SCORECARD:** For the purpose of applying Rule 3.3b(2), a player's scorecard is treated as returned when the player has first left the scoring area with both feet.
8. **CLOSE OF THE COMPETITION:** When all scores have been posted on the Official Scoreboard and approved by the SOPGA Rules Committee, the results of competition are deemed to have been officially announced.
9. **LIFTING AN EMBEDDED BALL:** The EMBEDDED BALL RULE as written in Rule 16.3 is in effect in the general area.

10. **OUT OF BOUNDS:** Defined by the inside edge of white stakes and/or property fence posts at ground level.

Note: A ball, which crosses a public road defined as out of bounds and comes to rest beyond that road, is out of bounds even though it may lie on another part of the course

11. **TREE WRAPPINGS, ELECTRICAL WIRES, AND CABLES:** Closely attached to trees: No relief. Tree wrappings, electrical wires, cables, signs, and lightning rods closely attached to trees are not obstructions. They are integral parts of the course.
12. **RED & YELLOW PENALTY AREA STAKES AND LINES:** Penalty Areas are defined by yellow/red lines and identified by yellow/red stakes. When a red penalty area is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When penalty areas are bounded by out of bounds, the penalty area margin extends to and coincides with the out of bounds line
13. **GROUND UNDER REPAIR:**
 - a) Areas completely encircled with white lines (except ball drops)
 - b) French drains which are trenches filled with stones
 - c) Relief is for the lie of the ball & area of intended swing for the following: (general area only)
 - i) Sod Seams – All seams within the sodded area are considered the same seam
 - ii) Newly trenched areas
14. **RETAINING WALLS AND PILINGS:** When located within penalty areas or within and/or around bunkers, retaining walls and pilings are integral parts of the course.
15. **OBSTRUCTIONS:**
 - a) Asphalt and artificially surfaced roads and paths are obstructions.
 - b) When railroad ties, curbing, and the like adjoin cart paths and roads, they are deemed to be part of the same obstruction.
 - c) White lined areas tying into roads and paths have the same status as the roads and paths, and thus they are obstructions and not ground under repair.
 - d) Landscaped garden areas completely encircled by an obstruction are part of the obstruction
16. **TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS:** Committee Procedure Section 8 is in effect and includes any temporary obstruction installed for the competition. (Model Local Rule F-23)

17. **DAMAGE ON PUTTING GREEN:** On the putting green as written in 13.1c(2), the player may repair damage on the putting green.
18. **PERMANENT ELEVATED POWER LINES & CABLES:** As stated in committee procedures, if a ball strikes a permanent elevated power line or cable, the stroke is canceled, and the player must play a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was played. (Making Next Stroke from Where Previous Stroke Made).
19. **ACCIDENTAL MOVEMENT OF A BALL ON PUTTING GREEN:** Rule 13.1d is stated as follows, when a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment. The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced as provided in Rules 13.1d(1). This Rule applies only when the player's ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental.

As stated in Rule 13.1d(2), if it is determined that a player's ball on the putting green was moved as a result of natural forces, where the player plays from next depends on whether the ball has been lifted and replaced on its original spot. If the ball has not been lifted and replaced the ball must be played from its new spot. If the ball has been lifted and replaced the ball must be replaced on its original spot which if not known must be estimated.

20. **DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES:** In SOPGA competitions, a player or his/her caddie may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his/her play (e.g., gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 4.3a, for which the penalty for the first offense is general penalty and disqualification for any subsequent offense.

Updates to the SOPGA Tournament Rules & Regulations- 2024

1. Name

- a. The name was updated from Tournament Handbook to Tournament Rules & Regulations

2. Purpose

- a. Stated mission of the Tournament program.
- b. Wording has been updated but the primary purpose is the same.

3. Proposing Rules and Regulations

- a. Provides a guideline of the procedures needed to make/update changes to the tournament program and rules/regulations.

4. Sanctioned Events

- a. Deadline to report an event
 - i. The deadline to submit a form regarding the event was updated from 30 days to 60 days prior to the event.
 - ii. Penalty for participating in an unsanctioned event updated to follow the new Code of Conduct Policy. (Fine of \$250 vs. up to \$500 for first offense)

5. Schedule

- a. Language was added to outline the schedule and to indicate the PDR points available.

6. Type of Events

- a. Events were not listed in prior handbooks. Each event is now listed and categorized.

7. Eligibility

- a. Only update is under "Exceptions". The player will be ineligible if they have played in more than four (4) events starting in 2024 instead of eight (8). This change was approved during the national board meeting in June of 2023

8. Divisions

- a. No updates were made

9. Registration Procedures

- a. Section Events and Pro-Am Series Events have been combined into one policy. The wording regarding the procedures stayed the same.
- b. Entry Fee, Cancellation Policy, Refunds, Outstanding Fees have been added to this section with no changes to the wording in any area.

10. Pairings & Starting Times

- a. There were no changes.

11. Policy Regarding Ties

- a. Added language regarding ties.

12. Prize Distribution

- a. No updates were made.

13. Amateur Provisions

- a. The name changed from Amateurs to Amateur Provisions.

14. Dress Code

- a. Added wording regarding host professionals determining if shorts are permitted for professionals.

15. Cell Phone Policy

- a. No updates were made.

16. Suspension of Play

- a. Removed the following: In a Pro-Am, if half the field has completed play, the Rules Committee may deem the event official and prizes paid as outlined in Article XI.

17. Code of Conduct

- a. The violations and penalties have been updated.
- b. The policy itself is more detailed.

The following Items were removed from the Tournament Rules & Regulations

1. Carts
2. Slow Play Provisions
3. Prior Player of the Year List
4. Gratuities and use of Facilities