

Wisconsin PGA Event Guidelines and Policies AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY (9-1-20)

Adjustments made due to COVID-19. All guidelines subject to change.



In view of the ongoing issues, uncertainty and risks arising from the Corona or Covid 19 Virus all members and participants should understand the WPGA, our sponsors and our host facilities are committed to strict compliance with all applicable government orders and, in addition, to adhering to the best health and safety practices as we understand them. However, all members and participants should understand and acknowledge that available information concerning best health and safety practices is uncertain, imperfect and is subject to change as our health officials acquire new or different information regarding the Corona or Covid 19 Virus, and following best practices as we understand them, as laymen, cannot provide any assurance that members and participants will not be infected or affected by the Corona or Covid 19 Virus as a result of participation in a WPGA event. All procedures and policies set forth in conducting WPGA events shall be subject to change based on any future orders issued by any government authority with jurisdiction and any publicly available health recommendations or guidelines. At each WPGA event It is a requirement that all members and participants shall adhere to all applicable government orders and follow all publicly available health recommendations or guidelines. The WPGA, our sponsors and our host facilities will monitor compliance. Failure to comply with applicable government orders and publicly available health recommendations and guidelines can result in disqualification.

The WPGA is attempting to provide events to accommodate the desires of members and amateurs to engage in beneficial outdoor recreation. However, the WPGA, our sponsors, and our host facilities cannot and DO NOT provide any assurance that such events will be free of risk, including risks associated with the Corona or Covid 19 Virus. Each member and participant must make their own personal determination regarding the risks and benefits of participating in any WPGA event. By participating in a WPGA event, each member and participant understands and agrees that the WPGA, our sponsors and our host facilities provide no promise or assurances regarding the health or safety of those participating in or conducting the event. The WPGA, our sponsors and our host facilities disclaim any responsibility or liability for health impacts, personal injury, liability, costs or damages to members and participants in the event. By participating in a WPGA event each member and participant agrees to hold the WPGA, our sponsors and our host facilities harmless from any health impacts, personal injury, liability, costs or damages incurred as a consequence of participating in the event, including health impacts, personal injury, liability, costs or damages arising or resulting from the Corona or Covid 19 virus or similar virus.

RULES OF GOLF ADJUSTMENTS

The following rule adjustments do not follow the USGA Rules of Golf. They are modifications that have been made in order to have a competition during COVID-19.

1) Definition of Holed (When pool noodles are being used)

“When the ball is at rest within the circumference of the hole.”

OR the traditional definition

“When the ball is at rest in the hole after your stroke and the entire ball is below the surface of the putting green.”

All WPGA matches or events must be played on courses where these options are possible. Players **SHOULD NOT** play matches on courses that are using safety methods such as raised cups.

2) Bunkers

When rakes are not present throughout the course, players will be allowed the ability to use preferred lies in the Bunker. The ball must be placed in the bunker within 1 club length not nearer to the hole than that spot. Otherwise players may use the unplayable ball rule to get out of the bunker.

ENTRY FEES & WITHDRAWALS – ILL OR COVID-19 RELATED

1) **Individual Events**

- If a player is feeling ill, been exposed to someone that has Covid-19 or are diagnosed with Covid-19 they should withdraw. The participant will be provided a full refund.

2) **Partner Events**

- If a player is feeling ill, been exposed to someone that has Covid-19 or are diagnosed with Covid-19 they should work with their team members to find a replacement player.

WHAT IF A WPGA STAFF MEMBER OR EVENT PARTICIPANT IS DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19

- 1) If a participant tests positive with Covid-19 or is experiencing those symptoms shortly after participating in an event, they should inform the WPGA so we can relay that information to their fellow playing competitors.
- 2) If a WPGA staff member tests positive for Covid-19 it could result in a suspension of the event schedule until we can guarantee that fellow staff members are in good health and can be onsite at future events.

GUIDELINES & PROCEDURES THAT WE WILL USE CONDUCTING THE EVENT

- 1) Practice social distancing **AT ALL TIMES** including in the practice areas.
- 2) Please respect all individuals and their space.
- 3) Do not touch or remove the flagstick unless the WPGA specifies otherwise.
- 4) Caddies and Spectators are handled on an event by event basis.
- 5) Practice ranges – The WPGA will adhere to all guidelines in place by the current government orders.
- 6) No player registration, just announcements on the starting tee or prior to the shotgun.
- 7) Hole Locations and Local rules will be emailed out in advance and placed on the WPGA App.
- 8) If permitted, any food and beverage service will be provided in accordance with applicable government requirements at the time of the event.
- 9) If food is not being provided please depart the course after golf is completed.
- 10) WPGA staff may wear protective items while administering the event.
- 11) Minimal WPGA signage and tournament products.
- 12) Individual plastic bags of tees and a pencil will be available at your starting hole.
- 13) We encourage players to bring their own hand sanitizer.
- 14) Follow event results on our website or App.

SCORING

1) Match Play, Pro-Pros and Stroke Plays

- All scoring will be electronic via the Wisconsin PGA BlueGolf App.
- One player from a group will be assigned to score the group on their phone.
- On the morning of the event players will receive a link and code via text to enter the scoring portal.
- It is recommended players still keep track of scoring on a scorecard.
- At the conclusion of the round the WPGA staff will verify the scores to the player verbally from a distance. When players depart the area the scorecard is considered returned.

2) Major Championships and State Open Qualifying

- All scoring will be electronic via the Wisconsin PGA BlueGolf App.
- Each player will electronic score and record a fellow players score and their own on the App.
- On the morning of the event players will receive a link and code via text to enter the scoring portal.
- It is recommended players still keep track of scoring on a scorecard.
- At the conclusion of the round the WPGA staff will verify the scores to the player verbally from a distance. When players depart the area the scorecard is considered returned.

3) Pro-Ams

- Scoring will be electronic via the Wisconsin PGA BlueGolf App.
- On the morning of the event the professional will receive a link and code via text to enter the scoring portal, that any player in the group may use.
- Professionals will also receive a traditional Wisconsin PGA provided paper scorecard on the tee box.
- Unfortunately BlueGolf's electronic scoring does not identify handicap shots, so professionals will have to refer to the paper card for handicaps and handicap shots.
- We encourage professionals to score on the App and paper scorecard.
- At the conclusion of the round an area will be setup where scores will be verbally confirmed. Scorecards will not be collected.

SKIN GAMES

1) Section Championships, Match Plays, Pro-Pros and Stroke Plays

- Each entry fee will include the skins game for all players. Skins will be paid out as a part of the purse.

2) Pro-Ams

- When registering professionals will have the option of adding on additional fees to cover skins for 1, 2, 3 or 4 players in their group. \$20 per player. Please pay attention when doing the registration form. Amateurs will be our usual gross and net games. They will no longer have the option to do just net or gross.

GOLF CARS

1) Professional Individual Events

- Players will have the option to ride or walk.
- In regards to golf car occupancy the WPGA will work with the host club and attempt to provide Single rider golf cars if capacity allows. In advance the WPGA may solicit players for their plans to walk or ride and their single rider / double rider preference. Players will then be informed of the riding situation at least 4 days in advance of the event.
- If the number of players that want to ride exceeds the number of golf cars, we may look for volunteers to consider walking.
- The walk or ride option will be in place until further notice.

2) Pro-Pro Events

- Players will have the option to ride or walk.
- Golf car fees are included in the entry fee. The standard setup will involve one golf car per twosome.
- If a team wants to request single golf cars they may but an additional fee will be required (\$20 for an additional golf car)
- If weather dictates the event will be played where it is walking only.

3) Pro-Ams

- The entry fee includes two golf cars per group however the WPGA will accept single golf car requests.
- There will be an additional cost for single rider golf cars, that cost is \$20 per extra golf car needed for the group. After the request is submitted the WPGA will send a link to the team professional to take care of the additional payment prior to arrival.
- If there are single golf car or walker requests we ask that the team professional specify those individual names. Any single golf car requests must be received by **stated deadlines in pre-event emails**.

The available golf car options could be,

- 2 golf cars with 2 riders in each golf car.
- 2 golf cars. Both bags on the golf car - one player walks along, the other rides.
- Single rider golf cars for 1 to 4 players on your team.
- Also the ability for anyone to walk if they choose.

WEATHER DELAYS

- Players will be asked to wait out weather delays in their car. It is recommended that players go directly to their car.
- The staff will use extra precaution in order to clear the golf course in a timely fashion.
- Communication on a restart time will be conveyed via text and email.
- No practice will be allowed before the restart.