

Georgia PGA Tournament Regulations

**FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE TOURNAMENT
REGULATIONS, PLEASE CHECK TOURNAMENT
REGULATIONS UNDER THE TOURNAMENT TAB ON
WWW.GEORGIAPGA.COM.**

ARTICLE I PURPOSE

The Tournament Program shall be a vehicle for maintaining and promoting the highest standards of competition, sportsmanship and public good will.

ARTICLE II DEFINITIONS

Tournament Committee

The Tournament Committee will be comprised of a Chairman, appointed by the President, and committeemen selected by the Chairman with the approval of the President.

Event Rules Committee

The Event Rules Committee is the onsite Rules Committee for each specific event.

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the Georgia PGA

Officers

The Officers of the Georgia PGA

Sanctioned Events

A golf competition that meets the following criteria:

- Conducted by the Georgia Section, or under its auspices
- Held at a facility that employs a Georgia PGA Member or Apprentice in good standing

Approved Events:

A golf competition the meets the following criteria:

- Conducted by Members or Apprentices of the Georgia Section
- Placed on the GPGA Tournament Calendar

Allowed Events:

A golf competition that meets the following criteria:

- Conducted within the boundaries of the Georgia Section by NON-PGA Professionals or other entities
- Subject to Georgia PGA Tournament Regulations

Protected Events:

- Events that fall under the protection of the Conflicting Events Clause
- For a list of Protected Events please see Article IV, Events

Conflicting Events:

A conflicting event is defined as a golf event conducted on the same day as a Sanctioned Event.

Club Sponsored Events

A golf tournament conducted by the Georgia Section but sponsored by a specific club. (Ex. Griffin Classic, Chicopee Woods Players Championship, and The Championship @ Berkeley Hills).

**ARTICLE III
ELIGIBILITY and EXEMPTIONS**

Eligibility

Each tournament within the Georgia Section will have its own set of eligibility requirements according to its format. All entries are subject to approval by the Georgia PGA Tournament Committee.

The privilege of competing in Georgia Section events will be extended to the following:

GPGA Members

PGA of America members in good standing, assigned to the Georgia Section, and in the following classifications will be eligible as follows:

A-1, A-2, A-4 thru A-24, LM, MP, and RM may play in all Georgia PGA events.

A-3's may play in all Georgia PGA events except:

- Match Play Championship
- Georgia PGA Championship
- Georgia PGA Senior Championship
- Pro-Assistants' Championship
- Georgia PGA Professional Championship
- PGA Tour/Nationwide Tour Section Qualifying
- Chapter Championships

Class "F" Members are not eligible to participate in GPGA Tournaments, except as an open qualifier for the Georgia

Open. Class "F" Members may not participate in GPGA Tournaments as a sponsor exemption.

Class "IN" Members may participate as a sponsor exemption or as an open qualifier for the Georgia Open.

A maximum of 3 sponsor exemptions may be awarded by any such event.

GPGA Apprentices

Apprentices may play in all Georgia PGA events except:

- Match Play (Apprentices may play if the field is not full after the deadline that is set for those in the Top 64 of the Player of the Year points list or all other Class A members).
- Georgia PGA Championship
- Georgia PGA Senior Championship/Professional Championship
- Georgia PGA Professional Championship
- PGA TOUR/Nationwide TOUR Section Qualifyings

Playing privileges will be immediately suspended for any apprentice who becomes unemployed or becomes suspended by the PGA of America. However, if an apprentice is employed, and in good standing as of the entry deadline and subsequently becomes ineligible employed or suspended, he/she may participate in that event.

PGA Professionals from other Sections

PGA Members and Apprentices from outside the Georgia Section may participate in Pro-Am events provided they meet all other criteria outlined above. In such cases, the GPGA Board of Directors determines the number of such entries allowed for the specific event.

Non-PGA Professionals

May participate only in the following:

- Open qualifyings for PGA Tour
- Open qualifiers for the Nationwide Tour
- Georgia Open (must be current Georgia resident) under
- Georgia Open as a Sponsor Exemption
- Georgia Open Qualifying
- Club Sponsored Event as a Sponsor Exemption

Amateurs

Amateurs may participate in the following:

- Open Qualifyings for the PGA Tour
- Open Qualifyings for the Nationwide Tour
- Georgia Open Qualifying
- Georgia Open through exemption
- Atlanta Open Qualifying
- Atlanta Open through exemption
- Griffin Classic
- Chicopee Woods Players Championship
- The Championship @ Berkeley Hills
- Club Sponsored Events per the handicap restrictions for each event
- Club Sponsored Events through a sponsor exemption for that event
- Senior Division events as determined by the Senior Division

EXEMPTIONS

PGA TOUR (McGladrey Classic at Sea Island)

Any exemptions granted to Georgia Section PGA members for PGA Tour events held within the Section will be guided by the Policy in effect at the time by the PGA Tour.

Category I: The current Georgia PGA Player of the Year. In the event the current Georgia PGA Player of the Year is unable to play, the spot will be awarded to the next player on the points list.

Category II: Four starting places will be open to all Professionals, including Georgia PGA Members and Apprentices, and Amateurs with 2.0 or less handicap index as determined by GHIN. This 18-hole qualifying shall be a separate event from Sectional Qualifying above, and will be conducted on a separate day. The Section is responsible for running both qualifiers.

For current rules regarding PGA Tour qualifying, check with the Georgia PGA office in the event of policy change.

NATIONWIDE TOUR (STADION ATHENS CLASSIC)

- Category I:** The current Georgia PGA Section Champion will have his/her choice of playing in either the Stadion Athens Classic or the South Georgia Classic. The current Georgia PGA PNC Champion will receive the exemption into the other Nationwide Tour event. If neither elects not to, or is otherwise unable to participate in the event, the spot will be added to Category II.
- Category II:** Two other exemptions for Section Members only shall be determined by an 18-hole qualifying round within one month preceding the Nationwide Tour event. Eligibility for Members is listed in Article III.
- Category III:** A limited number of starting places will be open to all Professionals, including Georgia Section PGA Members and Apprentices, and Amateurs with 2.0 or less handicap index as determined by GHIN. This 18-hole qualifying shall be a separate event from Sectional Qualifying above, and will be conducted on a separate day. The Section is responsible for running both qualifiers.

NATIONWIDE TOUR (SOUTH GEORGIA CLASSIC)

- Category I:** The current Georgia PGA Section Champion will have his/her choice of playing in either the Stadion Athens Classic or the South Georgia Classic. The current Georgia PGA PNC Champion will receive the exemption into the other Nationwide Tour event. If neither elects not to, or is otherwise unable to participate in the event, the spot will be added to Category II.
- Category II:** Two other exemptions for Section Members only shall be determined by an 18-hole qualifying round within one month preceding the Nationwide Tour event. Eligibility for Members is listed in Article III.

Category III: A limited number of starting places will be open to all Professionals, including Georgia Section PGA Members and Apprentices, and Amateurs with 2.0 or less handicap index as determined by GHIN. This 18-hole qualifying shall be a separate event from Sectional Qualifying above, and will be conducted on a separate day. The Section is responsible for running both qualifiers.

Note: Withdrawal Policy - If a player withdraws, he will be replaced by the next available player in that category (i.e., if a section qualifier withdraws, he will be replaced by an alternate from the qualifying).

EXEMPTION REQUIREMENTS FOR GEORGIA OPEN

Category I

- A) Top ten and ties from previous years Georgia Open
- B) All Past Champions (Must meet eligibility requirements)
- C) Host professional or eligible GPGA professional or apprentice at – 1) Tournament site
2) All Qualifying sites
- D) Host club exemptions (2) (Must meet eligibility requirements)
- E) Sponsor exemptions (2) (Must meet eligibility requirements)
- F) Georgia PGA Exemptions (4) (Must meet eligibility requirements)
- G) Atlanta Open winner if not otherwise exempt (current winner)
- H) Low Amateur From Atlanta Open Exempt for the Georgia Open

Category II

- A) GPGA - Top seventy-five and ties from the prior years point list
- B) GPGA – Top ten and ties from the current and prior years Assistant Division point list
- C) GPGA - Top ten and ties from the current and prior years Senior Division point list
- D) GPGA - Top ten and ties from the current and prior years North, Central, and East chapter point list
- E) GPGA Section Champion
- F) GPGA Senior Section Champion
- G) GPGA Match Play Champion
- H) GPGA Assistant Champion
- I) GPGA Junior Tour 16-18 Boy's Player of the Year
- J) GPGA Senior Open Champion
- K) GPGA Section Points Event winners from the current year not otherwise eligible
- L) All A-3's
- M) GPGA – Top twenty and ties from current point list as of entry deadline.

Category III

- A) GSGA Amateur Champion
- B) GSGA Mid-Amateur Champion
- C) GSGA Senior Amateur Champion
- D) GSGA Match Play Champion
- E) GSGA - Top twenty and ties from the prior years points list
- F) GSGA Public Links Champion
- G) GSGA Amateur Championship - Top five and ties from current year
- H) GSGA – Top five and ties from current point list as of entry deadline.

Note: All players exempt under Category III must retain amateur status to remain exempt.

Note: The Georgia PGA's policy regarding member participation in Non-Exempt Events does not apply to the Georgia Open.

EXEMPTION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE YAMAHA ATLANTA OPEN

Category I

- A) Top ten and ties from previous years Atlanta Open (Must meet eligibility requirements)
- B) All Past Champions (Must meet eligibility requirements)
- C) Host professional or eligible GPGA professional or apprentice at – 1) Tournament site
2) All Qualifying sites
- D) Host club exemptions (2) (Must meet eligibility requirements)
- E) Sponsor exemptions (2) (Must meet eligibility requirements)
- F) Georgia PGA Exemptions (4) (Must meet eligibility requirements)
- G) Georgia Open winner if not otherwise exempt (Current winner - Must meet eligibility requirements)

Category II

- A) GPGA - Top seventy-five and ties from the prior years point list
- B) GPGA – Top ten and ties from the current and prior years Assistant Division point list
- C) GPGA - Top ten and ties from the current and prior years Senior Division point list
- D) GPGA - Top ten and ties from the current and prior years North, Central, and East chapter point list
- E) GPGA Section Champion
- F) GPGA Senior Section Champion
- G) GPGA Match Play Champion
- H) GPGA Assistant Champion
- I) GPGA Junior Tour 16-18 Boy's Player of the Year
- J) GPGA Senior Open Champion (Must meet eligibility requirements)
- K) GPGA Section Points Event winners from the current year not otherwise eligible
- L) All A-3's
- M) GPGA – Top twenty and ties from current point list as of entry deadline.

Category III

- A) GSGA Amateur Champion
- B) GSGA Mid-Amateur Champion
- C) GSGA Senior Amateur Champion
- D) GSGA Match Play Champion
- F) GSGA - Top twenty and ties from the prior years points list

- G) GSGA Amateur Championship - Top five and ties from current year
- H) GSGA – Top five and ties from current point list as of entry deadline.
- I) GSGA Public Links Champion

Note: All players exempt under Category III must retain amateur status to remain exempt.

ARTICLE IV EVENTS

The Tournament Committee, with the assistance of the Tournament Director and the Executive Director, shall formulate an annual tournament schedule of events which will permit full participation by the members, and which must be approved by the Board of Directors. The schedule shall be posted by December 1st of the prior year.

Georgia Section Members and Apprentices are encouraged to participate in Section events in order to support Section programs and sponsors.

When an event is sanctioned, approved or allowed, the Georgia Section will:

1. Publicize the event in its calendar of activities
2. Approve members' participation

Events shall be designated in one of the following categories:

A. Sanctioned Events

Shall include, but are not limited to the following, and are subject to a \$30 per-entry Administrative Fee:

- Atlanta Open
- Atlanta Open Qualifiers
- McGladrey PGA Qualifier
- Chicopee Woods Players' Championship
- Georgia PGA Assistants' Championship
- Georgia Open
- Georgia Open Qualifiers
- Georgia Senior Open
- Georgia PGA Championship
- Georgia PGA Senior Championship
- Georgia Women's Open
- Georgia PGA Professional Championship
- Griffin Classic
- Georgia PGA Pro-Pro Scramble
- Georgia PGA Pro-Assistant Championship
- Georgia PGA Pro-Pro Championship

Georgia PGA Pro-President Championship
Georgia PGA Match Play Championship
Nationwide PGA Qualifier
The Championship @ Berkeley Hills CC
Georgia PGA Club Championship
Georgia PGA Pro-Superintendent

Note: Additional events may be added from time to time with approval of the Board of Directors.

B. Approved Events (Examples)

Hospice LaGrange Pro Am
St. Ives Pro Am
Mountain Classic
Green Island CC Charity Outing
Idle Hour Charity Outing

C. Allowed Events (Examples)

Gold Creek Invitational

D. Protected Events

Atlanta Open
Chicopee Woods Players' Championship
Georgia PGA Assistants' Championship (for Assistants and Apprentices only)
Georgia Open
Georgia Senior Open (for seniors only)
Georgia PGA Championship
Georgia PGA Senior Championship (for seniors only)
Georgia Women's Open (for Women only)
Georgia PGA Professional Championship
Griffin Classic
Georgia PGA Pro-Pro Scramble
Georgia PGA Pro-Assistant Championship
Georgia PGA Pro-Pro Championship
Georgia PGA Pro-President Championship
Georgia PGA Match Play
The Championship @ Berkeley Hills CC
Georgia PGA Club Championship
Georgia PGA Pro-Superintendent

E. Club Sponsored Events

Griffin Classic
Chicopee Woods Players' Championship
The Championship @ Berkeley Hills CC

F. Conflicting Event Rule

In the event a Section Member or Apprentice desires to participate in an event which is held during any date or dates a Section Protected event is scheduled to be held, (see “D” above), the Member or apprentice will be required to submit a written request to participate in the Conflicting Event to the Section office for review within 3 days prior to the 1st round. The Section Officers or a committee appointed by the Section Officers, will review the request and either approve or disapprove the request in writing. Requests may be granted or denied at the Section's sole discretion.

In the event a Section Member or Apprentice participates in a conflicting event without obtaining the written approval of the Section Officers or applicable committee, the Section Member or Apprentice shall be disciplined according to Article VI, L.

GEORGIA SECTION POLICY REGARDING MEMBER PARTICIPATION IN NON EXEMPT EVENTS

Any Georgia Section member or apprentice who participates in a non-exempt event (see list below) *is required* to report such participation to the Section office. Written notice of participation *must be* received at the Section office no later than 10 business days from the event's completion. A form to be used in reporting such participation is included in the Georgia PGA Handbook and is available at the Section office and on the Section website.

If a Section Member of Apprentice fails to give notice of participation in such events he/she will be disciplined according to Article VI, M. any subsequent instances of failing to provide notification will result in a fine and further suspension of GPGA playing privileges

- Once a Section professional has played in ten (10) combined PGA TOUR, Champions Tour, Nationwide Tour, LPGA Tour, PGA European Tour, Canadian Tour, Australia/New Zealand Tour, JPGA Tour, The Sunshine Tour (South Africa), The Asian Tour, The Safari Tour, The PGA Challenge Tour, National Senior Tour, European Seniors Tour, JPGA Senior Tour, WPGT, JLPGA, Grey Goose Gateway Tour, Hooters Tour, and Symetra Futures Tour tournaments, or any of the mini-tour events listed below from July 1st of current year - June 30th of the following year he/she will forfeit their Georgia PGA playing privileges for six (6) months from the date of the first round of the 10th event or until July 1st of the following year, whichever is longer. Any event played in after the 10th non-exempt event, Georgia PGA playing privileges will be restored following six (6) months after the last day of the non-

exempt event or until July 1, of the following year, whichever is longer.

All TOUR events in Georgia will count towards the ten-tournament count; however the U.S. Open, U.S. Senior Open, PGA Championship, and Senior PGA Championship are not included in the 10-tournament count.

Any Member or Apprentice may appeal his/her suspension of playing privileges to the Georgia Section Board of Directors.

Suspended players may play in club-sponsored events on sponsor exemptions. They will not be eligible for player of the year points.

Note #1: The Georgia PGA Tournament Committee will have the discretion to determine which events will be exempt, with final approval of the GPGA Board of Directors.

Note #2: The Georgia PGA Board of Directors may add additional events to either category.

Note #3: Georgia PGA members may submit requests for exemptions to the GPGA Tournament Committee.

Note #4: Any Professional or Amateur who enters the Section is subject to this rule as if they had been a Section Professional or Apprentice the previous year. If they participated in more than ten Non-Exempt events in a prior year they will forfeit playing privileges under the above guidelines.

Exempt Events:

- * All events conducted by, approved by, or sanctioned by the Georgia PGA
- * Charity Events – subject to approval by the GPGA Board of Directors
- * Pro-Member Events
- * Any Pro-Am that involves taking the Professional's club members
- * Events conducted by the PGA of America
- * The United States Open
- * The United States Senior Open
- * The United State Women's Open

Non-Exempt Events:

- * Unapproved Conflicting Events
- * All PGA Tour events - including those in Georgia based on the last sentence above
- * All Champions Tour events
- * All Nationwide Tour events – including those in Georgia based on the last sentence above

- * All LPGA Tour events
- * All PGA European Tour events
- * All Canadian Tour events
- * All Australia/New Zealand Tour events
- * All JPGA Tour events
- * All Sunshine Tour (South Africa) events
- * All Asian Tour events
- * All Safari Tour events
- * All PGA Challenge Tour events
- * All National Senior Tour events
- * All European Seniors Tour events
- * All JPGA Senior Tour events
- * All WPGT Tour events
- * All JLPGA Tour events
- * All non-sanctioned mini-tour events, including but not restricted to:
- * All Grey Goose Gateway Tour events
- * All Hooters Tour events
- * All Symetra Futures Tour tournaments
- * All eGolf Tour events
- * All Fringe Tour events
- * All North Florida PGA Winter Tour events
- * All Golden Bear Tour events
- * All Coastal Players Tour events
- * All Peach State Professional Golf Tour Events
- * All Open Golf Atlanta Events

ARTICLE V CONDUCT OF TOURNAMENTS

A. Entry Requirements

1. Go to www.georgiapga.com.
2. Click on "ONLINE EVENT REGISTRATION".
3. Type in your Member ID and Password.
4. Review and Accept the Waiver.
5. Review all the information of the Tournament Registration Form.
6. Accept or Decline to join the GPGA Premium Players Club.
7. Enter payment information (ALL fields must be entered) and Submit Payment.
8. You will then receive an email verifying your acceptance into the event, or an email saying that your entry has not been accepted or that you have been put on the wait list.

The system will automatically allow you in the tournament if the event is NOT FULL.

All entry deadlines will be at 10:00 a.m. the Friday BEFORE the event.

For those events, which require qualifiers, the entry deadline will be 10:00 a.m. the Friday BEFORE the first qualifier (except for the any PGA TOUR Open qualifier and/or Nationwide Open Qualifier, as per the PGA TOUR rule that the entry deadline will be 5:00 p.m. the Wednesday before the qualifier).

By registering online for a Georgia PGA Tournament, competitors agree to abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia PGA, and USGA Rules of Golf.

All entries are subject to approval by the Georgia PGA Tournament Committee. An applicant must be eligible on the closing date of entry. Pairings will be available on Friday prior to the event after 3:00 p.m.

B. Withdrawal Requirements

Professionals withdrawing from any Section event must notify the Section office at least 24 hours prior to the start of the tournaments first scheduled tee time. In the event the Section office is closed, he/she must call the Section Office and leave a voicemail message at least 24 hours prior to the tournaments first scheduled tee time.

Refund Policy

1. Withdrawals before the entry deadline will receive a full refund less a \$10 Administrative Fee.
2. Withdrawals after the entry deadline, but before the first group tees off in the tournament, will receive a full refund less an administrative fee of \$75.
3. In a multi-round event a player may withdraw by notifying the Tournament Director or a member of the Event Rules Committee within 15 minutes after the final group completes that round. Failure to do so will result in an automatic \$100 fine.
4. Before or during any round a person may withdraw because of illness or other physical disability, which requires medical attention, or serious personal emergency. If a competitor decides to withdraw, he must notify a member of the Event Rules Committee. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action under Article VI.

C. Starting Times/Pairings

1. 18-hole events will be assigned by draw.
2. 36-hole events, starting times for the first round will be assigned by draw, and the times shall be fixed for the second round, based on score.
3. 54-hole event, starting times for the first and second rounds will be assigned by draw, except that in the case of the Georgia PGA Championship where all past Champions shall be paired together, and the times shall be fixed for the third round, based on score.
4. 72-hole event, starting times for the first and second rounds will be assigned by draw, and the times shall be fixed for the third and fourth round, based on score.
5. If a player is late for a scheduled tee-time, he will be penalized as stated in the USGA Rules of Golf. (For failure to appear please see Article VI, C, 10.)

D. Scorecard Requirements

Scorecards shall be marked correctly in a neat and legible manner and must be returned to the scorer's table immediately upon completion of play. The hole-by-hole score must be entered on the card at the completion of each hole. In best-ball or four-ball competition, the gross scores to count must be individually identifiable; otherwise the side shall be disqualified. Cards shall be signed by the marker and attested by the player. Every competitor **MUST** return a card for himself or, in team competition, for his team, even if the card is marked "no card". Failure to return a scorecard will result in an automatic \$100 fine for the offending professional per Article VI, C, 12.) It is not sufficient to merely tell someone at the table you are "no carding". If you tee off, you must turn in a card.

If a competitor decides to withdraw from tournament play, he must notify the Tournament Director or a member of the Event Rules Committee. Players failing to notify the preceding will be subject to disciplinary action under Article VI, C, 10 or 13.

Amateurs who decide to withdraw and fail to notify the Tournament Director or a member of the Events Rules Committee in the proper time frame are subject to forfeiting their privilege to enter future GPGA events.

E. Size of Field/ Cuts

In all Georgia PGA individual stroke play Championships, the size of the final field will be limited to 156 participants. Exception: Georgia Open field is 144. The Georgia Open field will be cut to the low 60 scorers and ties after 36 holes.

F. Golf Cars / Caddies

Golf cars are required in all Georgia PGA events. A caddie may be used but the bag must remain on the golf car. The Event Rules Committee has the right to modify this Regulation.

G. Policy Regarding Ties

Unless otherwise determined by the Event Rules Committee, in all events, should two or more participants or teams tie for first position, the tie will be resolved by a sudden-death play-off. If more than two tie, all players other than the winner will be declared joint winners of second place and share equally in the purse to be distributed. Professionals tying for other positions will share equally with others posting the same score.

H. Discontinuation of Play / Postponement (Rule 6-8 a, b)

The Event Rules Committee has the authority to order discontinuance of play due to weather conditions. The decision to resume play, postpone any part of it or cancel play rests entirely with the Event Rules Committee. Procedure for discontinuing play can be found on the GPGA Rules card. When play has been suspended for a Dangerous Situation all practice facilities including practice putting greens are deemed closed. The Event Rules Committee will notify players when these areas are to be re-opened.

I. Same Purse/Separate Tees for Women Professionals.

Women professionals will compete for the same purse but from separate tees in events where both men and women compete. Women professionals will play from a yardage not more than 90% of the men's yardage for that competition.

J. Purse Distribution

1. The purse shall pay the top 40% of the field at Section point events with first place receiving 12-25%, 15% being the standard. Any event wishing to pay higher than 15% shall request approval of the Tournament Committee at least 60 days prior to the event.
2. It is recommended that the Chapter's and Division's follow the purse distribution outlined above. However, at the discretion of the President's of the Chapters and Divisions, a variance to this distribution may be made.

K. Host Professional Responsibilities

Per contract with Georgia Section

ARTICLE VI CONDUCT OF PLAYERS

In making a commitment to participate in a Georgia Section PGA tournament, a player obligates himself to attempt to exercise his maximum golf skill and to play in a professional manner. If, in the course of entering or participating in a golf tournament sponsored, co-sponsored or sanctioned by the Georgia PGA or the PGA of America, any Member, Apprentice or Pre-Apprentice violates any of the provisions of the GPGA Tournament Rules and Regulations or conducts themselves in a manner likely to injure or discredit the reputation or standing of the Association, Section or any Members, they shall become subject to a fine not to exceed \$1,000, revocation of the right to participate in certain prescribed Sectional or National activities for a specified period of time, or suspension or expulsion from the membership or apprentice program of the Association under the PGA Code of Ethics.

Each PGA of America Member or Apprentice Participant (“Participant”) in a Section golf tournament acknowledges the right and authority of the Section to (i) fine and suspend from tournament play; and/or to (ii) fine and permanently bar the Participant from Section tournaments. Any Participant in a Section event hereby releases the PGA of America 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 Section, PGA of America or any appellate body.

Section Professionals witnessing Conduct Violations have a responsibility to bring the matter to the attention of the Event Rules Committee, the Section Board of Inquiry or the GPGA Section Officers. Fines are due and payable within thirty (30) days unless the Participant has made a written appeal. Should the appeal be denied, the fine will be due and payable within thirty (30) days of such denial of appeal; and the Participant will be ineligible to participate in any Section tournament and any other PGA of America tournaments and the tournaments of any other PGA Section until said fine is paid in full.

A. Advance Notification of Proposed Disciplinary Action

Except for penalties under the Rules of Golf and for “Minor Penalties” (as hereafter defined), any Participant subject to disciplinary action or penalty defined as a “Major Penalty” shall first be notified of such proposed action in writing. Such notice may be presented to the Participant by a tournament official. Within thirty (30) days from the receipt of the notice, the Participant shall submit to the Section Tournament Director or the Section Executive Director such facts or evidence of mitigating circumstances as may apply. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of such information from the Participant, the Section Tournament Director or the Section Executive Director shall notify the Participant in writing of the imposition of the proposed disciplinary action or penalty, or that the proposed action has been dismissed. After the imposition of any penalty hereunder, the Participant shall have the right to appeal to the Section Board of Inquiry as set forth in Section E herein.

B. Rules of Golf

Any Participant in a Section tournament who breaches the Rules of Golf of the United States Golf Association or Local Rules in effect for the conduct of such event shall be subject to the penalties provided in such Rules as well as any other penalties imposed by the Section consistent with this policy. The decision of the Section Rules Officials/ and/or the Section Tournament Committee with respect to such Rules breach shall be final and conclusive.

C. Conduct Unbecoming a Professional

Any Participant deemed guilty of conduct unbecoming a professional while participating in a Section tournament or in activities related thereto (e.g. practice rounds, hospitality events, etc.) shall be subject to fine, suspension and/or permanent disbarment from Section tournament play as provided in this policy. A fine of \$100 shall be levied for the first offense. A fine of \$150 shall be levied for the second offense, and a prohibition from participating in Section events for one year shall be levied for the third offense. Any Participant that is found guilty of more than three offenses for conduct unbecoming a professional charge may, at the sole discretion of the Section, be permanently prohibited from participating in all Section and PGA of America tournaments and also may be subject to PGA of America Code of Ethics charges. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Section reserves the right to pursue Code of Ethics charges against any PGA Member/Apprentice for conduct charges related to the conduct of any Participant at Section golf tournaments and related events at the sole discretion of the Section in compliance with the procedures for Code of Ethics hearings as set forth in this Article II of the Bylaws. Conduct unbecoming a professional can be interpreted as being a PGA Code of Ethics violation and may include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Damaging the golf course intentionally.
2. Throwing and or breaking golf clubs.
3. Using abusive or profane language.
4. Conducting oneself in a manner unbecoming to the profession.
5. Cheating.
6. Violation of the Alcohol Consumption Policy during Section Events.
7. Worthless Checks.
8. Displaying disrespect for the Tournament Committee, Event Rules Committee, GPGA Staff, PGA of America, Sponsors, and or the Host Club or Professional.
9. Dressing inappropriately:
All PGA participants will be required to present a neat appearance, appropriate to a professional golf tournament in both clothing and grooming. No participant shall be allowed to begin a Tournament round inappropriately attired. Male PGA participants must wear slacks and shall not wear shorts anywhere on Club property during practice rounds, tournament rounds or while practicing on the driving range, practice chipping or practice putting greens. Denim blue jeans are not considered appropriate attire.
Female PGA participants may wear culottes, walking shorts or golf skirts, which constitute acceptable clothing worn by women in connection with participation in professional golf tournaments.
10. Failing to appear for the first round of any GPGA sanctioned event for which a player enters and is accepted. Minor offense – automatic fine of \$100.
11. Violation of Conflicting Event Rule (Article IV, F.) Minor Offense - automatic fine of \$100
12. Failure to give notice of participation in Non-Exempt Event. Minor Offense – automatic fine of \$100
13. Failure to notify Tournament Official of withdrawal in a multi-day event. (Article V, B.) Minor Offense – automatic fine of \$100
14. Failure to turn in a scorecard (Article V, D.) Minor Offense – automatic fine of \$100

D. Classes of Penalties for Section Tournament Offenses

1. MINOR PENALTIES.

A Minor Penalty is a fine of not more than \$150 and/or suspension from tournament play for two or less tournaments. The Section tournament officials responsible for the conduct of the tournament may impose a Minor Penalty.

2. MAJOR PENALTIES.

A Major Penalty is a fine in excess of \$150, suspension from tournament play for more than three tournaments, and/or permanent disbarment from Section tournament play.

E. Appeals

1. MINOR PENALTIES.

Appeals from Minor Penalties shall be to the Tournament Committee Chairperson (or his/her designee). Such appeal may be in writing or oral. The Tournament Committee Chair shall receive such appeal no later than thirty (30) days subsequent to the infraction. The Tournament Committee 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 Section Executive Director. The 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 be submitted to the Board of Control for a hearing in lieu of action by the Section, then the Section Board of Inquiry will follow the same procedures set forth herein for all matters submitted to the Board of Control for Code of Ethics procedures.

2. MAJOR PENALTIES.

Within thirty days from the date of notification of a Major Penalty, the Participant may submit a written appeal to the Section Board of Inquiry. Failure to file such an appeal shall be deemed conclusively to be an admission of the charges specified in the notification. Thereafter, the Section Board of Inquiry will prepare a report of the matter to the Board of Control and the matter will be set for a hearing before the Board of Control in accordance with all applicable procedures set forth herein for ethics appeals heard by the Board of Control. The Board of Control shall hear the appeal either at the next regularly scheduled Board of Control hearing or at an expedited meeting that may be held in person or via conference call at the discretion of the Chair of the Board of Control. The decision of the Board of Control shall be final. An appeal shall operate to stay the effective date of any penalty, except suspension from a Section tournament then in progress or scheduled for the calendar week in which the alleged violation occurred, until after a final decision on the appeal

Violations will remain on record for a period of five years.

ARTICLE VII ANNUAL AWARDS

Player of the Year

The Georgia Section will recognize, on an annual basis, a Player of the Year. The winner of this award will be determined in accordance with the Player of the Year point distribution.

Gregg Wolff Award

The Gregg Wolff Award for low stroke average will be given to the player with the lowest stroke average for all rounds completed in the following events: Atlanta Open, Chicopee Woods Players Classic, Griffin Classic, Georgia Open, Georgia PGA Championship, Georgia PGA Professional Championship, The Championship at Berkeley Hills (or any other event designated by the tournament committee).

A player may miss only one of the above stated events to remain eligible for the award. A withdrawal from any event, for any reason, will disqualify the player from receiving this award.

Furthermore, to be eligible for this award, the player must be a Georgia PGA Class MP, LM, RM, A-1, A-2, and A-4 through A-24 member in good standing.

Billy Peters Cup Team (biennial)

The Billy Peters Cup is returning to an every other year schedule on EVEN years. The 2012 Billy Peters Cup Team will be based on 2012 tournament points only, with the 2012 Lee-Weir Senior Classic on September 24-25 and the Georgia PGA Professional Championship (PNC) on October 1-2 being the final point events in determining the make-up of the 2012 Billy Peters Cup Team.

The Billy Peters Cup Team will be captained by a PGA Member chosen by the Tournament Executive Board. In the event a Captain is not chosen, or is unable to attend, the Section President shall serve as Captain.

ELIGIBILITY:

All Billy Peters Cup team members must be a Class "A", Master Professional, Life Member, or Retired Member in good standing. Ten (10) members of the Billy Peters Cup Team will be selected from the 2012 Billy Peters Cup Points list standings, along with two (2) captain's picks. In the event any one from the top 10 on the 2012 Billy Peters Cup Points list is unable to play that spot will be awarded to the next available player on the points list.

SENIORS:

1st pick, low senior on the 2012 Player of the Year Points list. 2nd pick, player of the year on the Senior Points list. (If this is the same player, the senior with the second amount of points would be next). 3rd pick would be determined by the age of the 2 seniors already chosen. If both players are between age 50-54 then the next pick would be the low 55+ senior off of the Senior Points list. If one of the top 2 players is 50-54 and one is 55 or older then the next player chosen would be the next senior on the list regardless of age. If both players are 55+ then the next player chosen would have to be age 50-54. 4th pick would be a captain's choice based on what age is needed to fill the team.

Georgia PGA Tournament Withdrawal and Refund Policies

Withdrawal Requirements

In making a commitment to participate in a Georgia PGA co-sponsored event or approved event, a player thereby obligates himself to attempt to exercise his/her maximum golf skill and to play in a professional manner.

Professionals withdrawing from any Section event must notify the Section office at least 24 hours prior to the start of the tournament's first scheduled tee time. In the event the Section office is closed, the player must call the Section Office and leave a voice mail message at least 24 hours prior to the tournaments first scheduled tee time.

Refunds/ Fines

(1) Withdrawal before the entry deadline, a full refund less a \$10 administrative fee. After the entry deadline, but before the first group tees off in the tournament, a player will receive a full refund less a \$75 administrative fee.

(2) In a multi-round event a player may withdraw by notifying the Tournament Director or a member of the Rules Committee within 15 minutes after completion of play. Failure to do so will result in an automatic \$100 fine.

(3) Before or during any round a person may withdraw because of illness or other physical disability that requires medical attention, or serious personal emergency. If a competitor decides to withdraw, he must notify a member of the Rules Committee. Failure to do so will result in an automatic \$100 fine.

(4) Any professional failing to return a scorecard for him, or in a team competition, for the team, even if the card is marked “no card,” will be automatically fined \$100.

*** Until such time as fines are paid, a player will have his playing privileges suspended.**



PGA

Georgia Section

2012-2013

GEORGIA PGA NON-SANCTIONED EVENT REPORT FORM

Name _____

Club Affiliation _____

Event _____

Dates of Event _____

Email Address _____

Signature

Date

- This form must be completed and submitted to the Section Office within 10 days of the last round of the event in which you played.
- Once a Section professional has played in ten (10) combined PGA TOUR, Champions Tour, Nationwide Tour, LPGA Tour, PGA European Tour, Canadian Tour, Australia/New Zealand Tour, JPGA Tour, The Sunshine Tour (South Africa), The Asian Tour, The Safari Tour, The PGA Challenge Tour, National Senior Tour, European Seniors Tour, JPGA Senior Tour, WPGT, JLPGA, Grey Goose Gateway Tour, Hooters Tour, and SBC Futures Tour tournaments, or any of the mini-tour events listed in the current Georgia PGA Tournament Regulations from July 1st of current year - June 30th of following year he/she will forfeit their Georgia PGA playing privileges for six (6) months from the date of the first round of the 10th event or until July 1st of following year, whichever is longer. Any event played in after the 10th non-exempt event, Georgia PGA playing privileges will be restored following six (6) months after the last day of the non-exempt event or until July 1, of following year, whichever is longer.
- All TOUR events in Georgia will count towards the ten-tournament count; however the U.S. Open, U.S. Senior Open, PGA Championship, and Senior PGA Championship are not included in the 10-tournament count.

Please fax form to Georgia PGA at (678) 461-0500