

WMCPGA



PGA

Pacific Northwest Section
Western Montana Chapter

Rules and Regulations

SECTION 1. ELIGIBILITY FOR PROFESSIONALS

- Western Montana Chapter PGA Pro Am events will be open to all PGA members, except those classified as “F” or as “Inactive”, and registered Apprentices and Novices in good standing with the Pacific Northwest Section PGA and the Western Montana Chapter of the PGA of America. In all other Chapter events the above will apply to all professionals. Chapter members must reside in or be employed within the Chapter geographical boundaries as designated by our chapter constitution.
- In order to conduct or host a PROFESSIONAL-AMATEUR TOURNAMENT, PROFESSIONAL-PROFESSIONAL TOURNAMENT co-sponsored by the Chapter, a Class A Head Professional or B1 Head Professional must be employed at an 18 hole facility and be in good standing with the Pacific Northwest Section and the Western Montana Chapter. (If the hosting professional, either Class A Head Professional or B1 Head Professional drops out of good standing with the Section and becomes ineligible to compete in Chapter events, he/she will have until the end of that calendar year to correct any deficiencies and regain good standing in order to retain the date of the next year’s Pro-Am at their facility.
- The chapter office must receive Western Montana Chapter PGA dues **before a Professional may register for an event.**
- With the exception of the Western Montana Stroke Play Championship, Match Play Championship, Pro-Assistant Tournament and Pacific Northwest PGA or PGA National Tournament qualifiers, a visiting PGA MEMBER from another section or chapter or LPGA MEMBER may be invited to participate in a Chapter sponsored or co-sponsored event (Limit of three (3) per season). If the event has a limit to the field size, the invited professionals will not count against the limit. Participation in each event must be approved by the Chapter Executive Committee ***prior to*** seeking permission from the Host Professional. Guest professionals will be assessed an additional \$25.00 fee for the first two (2) events that they participate in, equal to, but not to exceed the amount of chapter dues. Guest professionals will be restricted from getting a tee time for any Pro-Am event prior to seven (7) days before the event. All golf professionals must abide by the Western Montana Chapter rules and regulations to include the submission of team players and the players’ handicap indexes. Only Chapter Members can be awarded Player of the Year and Montana Cup points at the events. Participating guest professionals will be discounted in the point process.
- The Chapter Pro-Assistant golf tournament will consist of one Professional defined as a Class A or Non-Member Head Professional and one Assistant defined as a Class A member or Apprentice with playing privileges, in good standing with the Chapter and Section, and employed at a facility within the Chapter as an Assistant Professional. **TEAM ELIGIBILITY: Eligibility is to include teams having a relationship of head professional and THEIR assistant. Directors of Golf and General Managers may play with their assistant professionals. Directors of Instruction may play with their assistants. Professionals with an independent position (many A-6's) at the facility are not eligible. Multiple teams from one facility and head professionals entering with up to 3 of their assistants are eligible on a space available basis.**

SECTION 2. PLAYERS ABILITY TEST

Playing Ability Tests (PAT) are scheduled according to the National office. The Pacific Northwest Section, under the guidelines of the Playing Ability Test Rules and Regulations, administers the PATs.

SECTION 3. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE (ON SITE)

The Committee: The host Professional, Chapter Tournament Chairman and/or his designee and the Chapter Tournament Coordinator shall be the tournament committee at any tournament. In the event the field does not have these three committee members present, the host professional will appoint, from the field, the number of Class 'A' Members to bring the total to three.

SECTION 4. TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To be determined and directed by the Pacific Northwest Section, PGA.

SECTION 5. PRO-AM DATES AND SITES

- The Chapter Board of Directors will determine the Tournament Schedule.
- The Tournament Committee will keep in mind traditional dates for Pro-Am sites when constructing the event calendar.
- The Western Montana chapter Board of Directors reserves the right to cancel or reassign an established Pro-Am date for the following year if any host facility fails to field an event of fifteen (15) or more teams.
- Additions to the priority Pro-Am list will be made using the following criteria:
 - a. PGA Member Head Professional at an 18 hole facility – FIRST PRIORITY
 - b. Non-Member Head Professional at an 18 Hole Golf Course – SECOND PRIORITY
- Events with less than twelve (12) teams entered seven (7) days prior to the event will be cancelled.
- The Board of Directors shall have the discretion to make any Pro-Am schedule changes based on the information provided by the facilities in question. It is the responsibility of the requesting facility to notify the Board in writing if they wish to change either the assigned date or wish to be added to the Pro-Am schedule.
- WMCPGA events are not scheduled on the following holidays: **Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day.**

SECTION 6. TOURNAMENT RESCHEDULE POLICY

Any event that has to be canceled due to weather related problems could be rescheduled to the Friday, four (4) weeks forward, provided a WMCPGA event has not been scheduled for that date, or may be scheduled on a Friday during the first two (2) weeks of October. In the event that these three (3) dates present a conflict for the host facility, the Tournament Chairman may assign a date for the facility. Any changes to the original tournament schedule must have the approval of the Chapter President and the Tournament Chairman. The Tournament Director will then send out an announcement to the membership stating the new date.

SECTION 7. PRIORITY LIST FOR PRO-AM TEE TIMES

- For all Pro-Am events, no tee times will be assigned to any team after 2:30 p.m.
- Golf Professionals may not make tee times for any Pro-Am event for any other golf professional from the same call with the exception of those eligible professionals that are on their facility staff.
- Tee times shall be made through the Fore Tee's Web Portal.
- ProAm signups will be made in monthly segments. Tee times for all upcoming events in any given month will be made at on the 17th day of the month prior to the event schedule. Class "A" Professionals will be able to access the web portal at 9:00 a.m. and Associates and other Members at 10:00 a.m.

SECTION 8. HANDICAPS (TEAM ONLY)

- All Western Montana Chapter Professionals shall have a handicap computed by the PNWPGA.
- The maximum professional handicap shall be no more than eighteen (18) and a maximum adjusted net handicap (75% of full value) will be fourteen (14) strokes. Handicaps will be used in Pro-Am or Pro-Pro events and applied to the team score only. All Professionals will use the adjusted handicap for Pro-Am and Pro-Pro events. The fraction for the adjusted handicap of .49 and below will be the lower handicap number. The fraction of .50 and above will receive the next higher handicap number.
- For Pro-Am events all amateur handicaps shall be adjusted to 75% of full value. A maximum adjusted net handicap of 24 (for men amateurs) and 32 (for women amateurs).
- If three (3) of the four (4) amateurs playing on the same Pro-Am team have a combination of two (2) first place or second place finishes, including ties, within a calendar Pro-Am season, only two (2) of the four (4) players may compete on the same team for the remainder of that Pro-Am season.

SECTION 9. ENTRY FEES

- Professionals
 1. Pro-Ams consisting of 4 amateurs ~ \$65.00, Pro-Ams consisting of 3 amateurs ~ \$75.00. Both entry amounts include the optional \$10 Skins Game, lunch, range balls and team and individual purses.
 2. Match Play Championship and the Chapter Championship entry fees are \$100.00.
 3. Pro-Assistant entry fees are \$150.00 per team for one day events and \$250.00 for two day events.
 4. Pro-Pro and Pro-Junior: Entry fee to be determined by the Tournament Chairman.
 5. Any Professional playing with a sponsor team will still need to pay his/her entry fee.
- Amateurs: (Men and Women) \$65.00 for ProAm's consisting of 4 amateurs, \$75 for ProAm's consisting on 3 amateurs. Both entry amounts includes lunch, range balls, deuce pot, team and individual purses.
- Skins Game or other added games are optional.
- Special Event Pro-Ams (i.e. for charity or a benefit) The maximum entry fee for a 9 to 18-

hole event would be \$100.00. The maximum entry for a 27 to 36-hole event would be \$150.00. The Chapter President, Tournament Chairman and the Chapter Secretary must approve special Event Pro-Ams.

SECTION 10. HOST PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- The host Professional is responsible for the following in hosting a WMCPGA event. (The Tournament Coordinator may undertake some responsibilities).
- **With the PGA 2.0 12 Strategic Initiatives to Grow the Game of Golf us in the Western Montana Chapter need to do are part. Please set the golf course up in a way that pace of play should not be a factor. Hole locations should be set near the middle of the greens and tee placement should be a length that all players will enjoy their round and day.**
 1. Complete and return the Host Professional Agreement to the WMC Tournament Director.
 2. Coordinate with the Tournament Coordinator of available tee times and staff tee time reservations for the event.
 3. Provide the WMCPGA rules sheet, including format and local rules.
 4. Provide a meal or voucher worth \$11.00
 5. Assist the Tournament Coordinator as needed.
 6. All scorecards are to be given to the Tournament Coordinator immediately following the event.
 7. Provide a Player Assistant to monitor pace of play. If you do not have a Player Assistant, the Chapter will provide one for you at a cost of \$100 to be taken out of the host Professional green fees. If a host Professional fails to provide a Player Assistant and does not notify the Tournament Coordinator 7 days prior to the event, the host Professional will only receive \$4 per player for their host fee. The following year a Player Assistant will be assigned by the Chapter for a fee of \$200 to be taken out of the host facilities fee.
 8. Pro-Am sites that allow 2 teams must allow a minimum of 32 teams to participate. The 32-team field does not constitute a limited field.
 9. Host Professional and staff may have 2 teams and may give a visiting professional another team (from the host club) only if the field is not full.

SECTION 11. ENTRY DEADLINE PLAYER AND TEAM LIMIT

- The host Professional may not limit the field to less than thirty-two (32) teams in order to host an official Pro-Am date. The 32-team field does not constitute a limited field.
- In Pro-Am Tournaments, all Professionals are limited to no more than two (2) amateur teams each. The Professional must play nine holes with each team. A Professional, who has more than one team finish in the payout, will receive team money based on the team which has the highest order of finish.

SECTION 12. PROFESSIONAL CONTESTANTS' RESPONSIBILITIES

- Book Tee Times and Cart Reservations through the Fore Tee's portal.
- No later than midnight, 3 days prior to the event, submit your team through the Golf Genius Portal.

Note: Professionals will be fined each time their team entry does not include all required information of amateur players' names, players' handicap indexes and

handicap ID numbers, and/or is not called in or emailed to the chapter office by midnight three (3) days prior to the event.

First Offense: \$25.00 Second Offense: \$50.00 Third Offense: \$75.00

After the third offense, The Tournament Committee may recommend that Professionals playing privileges be suspended.

- Professionals will pay their team entry electronically on the Golf Genius Portal prior to the event.
- Professionals will register with the Tournament Director or Assistant Tournament Director at least 30 minutes prior to teeing off.
- Have yourself and your team ready to play on time. Maintain your own and your teams proper pace of play. Slow play will not be tolerated. You and your team may be subject to penalty strokes and or fines.
- Observe the WMCPGA and host facility's dress code, for yourself and your team.
- Familiarize yourself and your team of the rules of play and all local rules.
- A Professional forced to cancel from an event, must remove his/her tee time from the Fore Tees Web Portal by 5:00 p.m. 6 days prior to the event.
- In any WMCPGA event, a professional who fails to show at his/her appointed starting time, and has not notified the Tournament Coordinator of his/her withdrawal, is responsible for the tournament entry fee(s) for himself and or his/her team and is subject to a fine. The Board of Directors will address being late or situations beyond the Professionals control on a case-by-case basis. A Professional forced to cancel after 12:00 p.m. the day prior to the event will be fined \$100.00. A Professional who is forced to cancel between 5:00 p.m. six days prior and 12:00 p.m. the day prior to the event will be fined \$55.00.
- All amateurs must have an established MSGA Handicap to participate in WMCPGA Pro-Am events. The exception is out of area visiting amateur players, who will be allowed to participate in two Pro-Am events providing they have an established and verifiable USGA Handicap. To be eligible to compete in additional Pro-Am events the amateur player will be required to secure a MSGA Handicap or play to scratch. It is the responsibility of the team Professional to provide a current USGA identification number and handicap index when registering an out of area visiting amateur participant.

WMCPGA HANDICAP ADJUSTMENT POLICY

The Chapter will adjust amateurs ProAm handicaps based on the Pacific Northwest Section, PGA guidelines.

PACE OF PLAY

The WMCPGA pace of play regulation is in effect: 17 minutes per hole. Determinations for slow play violations are based on the total time it takes to play the round. The Professional must check in with the Tournament Coordinator within 5:06 of their starting time. Failure to complete the round within the allotted time will result in a pace of play warning from the WMCPGA Board of Directors. If the Professional accumulates a total of three violations in a season, he/she will only be granted one of the final tee times in future events, subject to the discretion of the Tournament Coordinator.

SCORECARDS

A Scorecard will be considered official at the end of a stipulated round after the Professional and all the amateurs have signed and attested the hole by hole individual scores. The scorer is not responsible for the team score, only the individual hole scores.

It is encouraged for all professionals to keep updated hole by hole scores on their mobile device using the Golf Genius App.

It is required to have all players attest his or her score to avoid posting an inaccurate hole score. Inaccurate posted scores will be dealt with in accordance with the Rules of Golf.

If an amateur does not sign his card, he will be disqualified and his score will not count towards the team score.

SECTION 13. DRESS CODE

Only proper traditional golf attire will be considered appropriate. Shorts are permitted provided they are standard type shorts with pockets and no shorter than 4" above the knee. No jogging shorts, swimsuits or athletic shorts will be allowed. Each host facility may have its own dress code, which must be adhered to.

SECTION 14. PRIZES

- All Professional net money goes to the professional individual purse.
- \$3.00 per amateur entry fee will be taken out of the purse for individual gross and net skins game. Skins will be totaled and divided into the pot to determine the value of each skin. *Gross and Net skin cannot be won on the same hole.
- 1st Gross and 1st Net in the Amateur Division will be paid out based on a split of \$1.00 per players purse.
- The amateur prize purse will go to the team payout.
- Team money will be split equally among Professionals and amateurs.
- Additional entry money generated from the 4 player Pro Am's will go into the general fund and be distributed by the discretion of the WMC Board of Directors.
- All high school age participants will only be allowed to receive a maximum of \$50.00 gift certificate per Pro-Am event with the balance to go to the WMCPGA Junior Golf Fund. This complies with MHSA rules regarding winnings. If a high school age participant is a team member on a Pro-Am team, it is the responsibility of the team Professional to indicate to the Tournament Coordinator when checking in for an event that the team member is of high school age.
- Amateur Gift Certificates: At the time of registration, the Professional must declare on the registration form where his or her amateurs' prizes, gift certificates, will be redeemed. Each amateur will have a choice of having credit at one of the following three locations:
 1. Host event course
 2. Amateur's home course: WMCPGA area with WMCPGA member as Head Golf Professional.
 3. Professional's home course providing that the Professional is employed, or has been employed within one year, at a golf course facility within the WMCPGA territory.

- At the completion of each Pro-Am event, all moneys will be sent to the PNWPGA Section Office and a check will be sent to each Professional placing in the event, whether in the individual or team category. The Professional will be responsible for the equal distribution of winnings to each amateur team member in the form of gift certificates or credit at one of the three options listed above.
- An amateur that is serving a USGA suspension may participate in a Pro-am event, but any prize money he/she wins will be donated to the Chapter Championship Fund.
- If no professional skin is won at a Chapter Pro-Am event, the skins money for that event will be credited to the Chapter Tournament Fund.

SECTION 15. COMPETITION

- The standard competition recommendation for all WMCPGA Pro-Am events shall be a stroke play two best ball total, one gross and one net ball or two net or Stableford one gross one net or 2 net competition.
- If the hosting Professional wishes to have a different format, it must be so noted on the scheduling calendar at the beginning of the year or he/she must send the entire WMCPGA membership a flyer no later than three (3) weeks prior to the event.
- A team will consist of one (1) Professional and four (4) amateurs unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors. There will be no amateur captains and a team will not be awarded a blind draw player to complete a team with less than four (4) amateur participants.
- The official close of any competition will be 9:00 a.m. the day following the event.
- Participants shall be allowed the use of measuring devices for the measuring of distance only.
- If the competition cannot be completed due to inclement weather forcing either a stoppage of play or a delay in play that creates a situation where all competing teams are not able to complete the round, the written rules regarding incomplete rounds will be enforced. These written rules will be in the possession of the Tournament Coordinator at all Pro-Am events and are as follows:
 - **Official Stoppage of Play** – When conditions warrant, the order to stop play shall officially be made by the Tournament Committee consisting of the Host Professional, Tournament Coordinator, Rules Chairman and the Tournament Chairman.
 - **What Constitutes a Complete Pro-Am Tournament** – A Pro-Am tournament will be considered complete when at least 50% of the registered and paid participating teams have completed the round and posted an 18 hole score.
 - **Suspension of Play** – With the recommendation of either a member of the Tournament Committee or the host Grounds Superintendent, it will be the responsibility of the Tournament Coordinator to suspend play.
 - **Payout Adjustment** – In the case of an official stoppage of play, the tournament payout will be based on the number of teams completing the round provided that at least 50% of the field post scores for the event.
 - **Reimbursement of Entry Fees** – In the case of an official stoppage of play, any registered and paid team that has not completed the round will be reimbursed \$35.00 per amateur participant and \$35.00 for each Professional plus a full

reimbursement of the \$10.00 skins entry if applicable. Note: Teams not registered and paid at the time of the official stoppage will not be considered as part of the event and will not be provided a meal or charged any fees.

SECTION 16. RESULTS

Tournament results must include:

- Order of finish for all teams in the money
- Any duce pot, skins, or other added games including amateur sweeps results.
- Total number of players, total purse and total payout.

SECTION 17. SECTION AND CHAPTER MONEY BREAKDOWN

Pro-am Events

- \$6.00 per entry to the Host Professional
- \$3.50 per entry to the WMCPGA General Fund
- \$.50 per entry to WMCPGA Junior Fund
- \$3.50 per entry to PNW Section Championship Fund (**Amateurs Only**)
- \$2.50 per entry to PNW Section Tournament Fund (**Professionals Only**)
- \$11.00 per entry to lunch (includes gratuity)
- \$2.00 per entry to Host Facility for range balls
- \$5.00 per entry to the Host Professionals local 501c3 charity (**Amateurs Only**)

SECTION 18. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Players participating in WMCPGA events, and related activities, shall observe these regulations and the applicable rules of play. While engaged in tournament play, and at all times, players shall conduct themselves in a manner becoming PGA Professionals that will not reflect unfavorably on the Pacific Northwest Section or the Western Montana Chapter, its members, or the tournament host.

To this end, players shall use their best efforts to play golf to the caliber and with skill befitting Professionals, and to show respect for the game of golf.

Any player who violates any of the foregoing or any of the provisions of these regulations may be subject to a fine, suspension from play in the PNWPGA Section and WMCPGA events, or suspension of membership or appropriate combination of both.

Each player, by participating in WMCPGA events, acknowledges the right of the Board of Directors, Tournament Coordinator, Tournament Committee or Grievance Committee, to fine and make recommendations to the PNWPGA Section to suspend the player from the Western Montana Chapter and/or PNWPGA Section events. Only the PNWPGA Section Board of Directors may decide cases and permanent revocation of playing privileges and suspension of membership privileges. Any such participating player, if involved or affected in any manner whatsoever, by decision of the Chapter Board of Directors, Tournament Committee, Executive Director or his representative, the WMCPGA, and the PNWPGA and any sponsor, club and each officer, director, member employee, agent or representative of any of the foregoing jointly or severally, individually and in their official capacity, of and from any and all claims, arising out of or in connection with any such decision or action by the above named.

The Tournament Chairman may issue fines for specific acts at a Tournament Site; such as throwing clubs, improper withdrawals, violations of dress codes, or other similar infractions. The Tournament Committee and/or Grievance Committee will be responsible for fines involving general conduct at a tournament unbecoming a Professional; such as embarrassing hosts, deliberate rules of golf violations, or other similar incidents. The Section Board will be responsible for suspension of membership or serious violations of Code of Ethics. In all cases, Section 4, 5, and 6 of the PNWPGA Section by-laws will guide any action.

Fines are due and payable within thirty (30) days of notification. Unpaid fines after the thirty (30) day period will result in the loss of Chapter playing privileges.

All disciplinary action may be appealed. Appeals must be made in writing and must be submitted to the Chapter President within fourteen (14) days of notification of the disciplinary action. Such appeals shall contain such facts or mitigating circumstances that may apply. While the appeal is in process, any disciplinary action will be held in abeyance until a decision is made. If the appeal is denied, any fine becomes due and payable within thirty (30) days. The term of any suspension may be adjusted as deemed necessary and action taken by the Tournament Chairman or Tournament Committee may be appealed to the Board of Directors.

SECTION 19. ASSISTANTS CHAMPIONSHIP

In order to protect the integrity of this event, entry eligibility and fee policy shall be set.

- Format: 36-hole stroke play
- Entry Fee: To be determined by the Associate Chairman.
- Eligibility: A-8, A-6, and Associates with Chapter playing privileges and in good standing with the Western Montana Chapter and the Pacific Northwest Section PGA.
- Pay-out: 100% of the field
- Raffle Tickets: Encouraged but not required for participation. An entry fee schedule will be utilized that is based on the dollar value of the raffle tickets sold.
- An Assistants Championship Committee will administer the Assistants Championship. The Committee will be made up from three regional representatives: The North, South and East.
- The Executive Director is to attend the Assistants Championship.

SECTION 20. MONTANA CUP MATCHES

- All members of the WMCPGA are eligible to represent the Chapter on the Professional team for the Montana Cup Matches
- The WMCPGA will provide the Montana Cup team with the top six (6) players from the Montana Cup point list.
- Points can be earned from all Chapter Pro-Ams, Chapter Majors – WMCPGA Stroke Play, WMCPGA Match Play and Chapter Pro-Junior Tournaments. Section events will count towards the Montana Cup as of 2012.
- To qualify for the Montana Cup team, players' points will be accumulated during a twelve-month period beginning July 1st of the proceeding year through June 31st of the current year.
- In the case of a tie, the tie breaker will be determined by the higher average point total accumulated per event throughout the qualifying cycle.

SECTION 21. MONTANA CUP AND PLAYER OF THE YEAR POINTS

MONTANA CUP POINTS AND PLAYER OF THE YEAR POINTS WILL BE AWARDED AS FOLLOWS:

- As of January 1, 2016 all Player of the Year Points will be awarded to Professionals based on their order of finish
- Player of the year points will be issued for PNW Section Majors based on order of finish.
- This will also be the format for Montana Cup Points as of July 1st, 2016.
- Points will not be awarded for the Pro/Pro, Pro/Assistant, Assistant Championship, and Senior events.

SECTION 22. WMCPGA PRO-AM INDIVIDUAL PROFESSIONAL PAYOUT

Percentage of Purse per Place

Entries	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
45-48	12	27	19	14	10	8	6	5	4	3	2	1
40-44	11	28	20	14	10	7	6	5	4	3	3	1
36-39	10	29	21	14	9	7	6	5	4	3	2	
32-35	9	30	23	16	11	6	5	4	3	2		
28-31	8	31	24	17	12	7	4	3	2			
24-27	7	32	25	18	12	7	4	2				
20-23	6	33	26	18	12	7	4					
16-19	5	35	27	19	13	6						
10-15	4	37	28	20	15							
7-9**	3	45	35	20								
5-6**	2	60	40									

- **Professional Payout Only

SECTION 23. WMCPGA INDIVIDUAL (TEAM) PAYOUT CHART FOR NON PRO-AM TOURNAMENTS

Note: A minimum of 50% of the field will be paid at all non Pro-Am events. The Tournament Director and the Tournament Chairman will determine the payout amounts for the Chapter Match Play Tournament. Other non Pro-Am Chapter events will utilize the following payout scale.

Percentage of Purse per Place

Player of the Year and MT Cup Point System

Place	Pro-Am	Chapter Champ	Match Play Champ	Section (5 events)	
1	300	750	750	Win	800
2	250	625	600	Top 5	600
3	210	525	450	Top 15	400
4	185	460	350	Top 25	300
5	165	415	250	Cut/Cash	150
6	150	375	250	Participation	50
7	140	350	250		
8	130	325	250		
9	120	300	150		
10	110	275	150		
11	100	250	150		
12	95	235	150		
13	90	225	150		
14	85	212.5	150		
15	80	200	150		
16	75	190	150		
17	70	175	50		
18	65	160	50		
19	60	150	50		
20	55	135	50		
21	50	125	50		
22	45	115	50		
23	40	100	50		
24	35	90	50		
25	30	75	50		
26	25	60	50		
27	20	50	50		
28	15	50	50		
29	10	50	50		

