



**KENTUCKY**

# **KENTUCKY PGA SECTION TOURNAMENT POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

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**Golf House Kentucky**

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**@KentuckyPGA @GolfHouseKY**



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## ABOUT THE KENTUCKY PGA SECTION

The Kentucky PGA (KPGA) is one of the 41 sections that comprise The PGA of America. Formed in 1925, the Kentucky PGA has a professional membership of more than 325 men and women professionals across the Commonwealth of Kentucky, each of whom is dedicated to promoting the game in Kentucky.

The KPGA is dedicated to the promotion of the game of golf and providing ongoing education and professional development of KPGA Professionals. KPGA Professionals are responsible for conducting a variety of golf related functions, which include general management, golf instruction, tournament operations, golf shop merchandising, junior golf programs, golf club repair and much more. KPGA is a founding member of Golf House Kentucky, the umbrella organization that manages Kentucky's Family of Golf Organizations.

The PGA of America is an organization made up of nearly 30,000 golf professionals, each of whom is dedicated to promoting the game. The PGA has the responsibility to impact the traditions and history of golf to the future caretakers of the game. The PGA of America, the Kentucky PGA and its member golf professionals are recognized as leaders in the world of golf today.

## IMPORTANT UPDATES/REMINDERS FOR 2025 SEASON

**Points for Playing Further Tee Distance:** Should a player elect to play from a further tee, they are eligible to receive POY points in multiple divisions. *The player MUST make sure this is known by the Tournament Director prior to beginning play.*

- Examples:
  - Senior plays from Regular Tees; will receive points for Larry Gilbert POY & Senior POY
  - Super-Senior plays from Senior Tees; will receive points for Senior POY & Super-Senior POY

**Super-Senior Tees & Points:** There will be Super-Senior tees and POY Points available at all KPGA tournaments, *EXCEPT* the Kentucky Open & Qualifiers, Section Professional Championship and Assistant Professional Championship.

**Player of the Year Points for Waitlisted Tournaments:** Player of the Year points will be awarded at all KPGA tournaments, regardless of if there is a waitlist or not.

**KY Open Entry Fee & Carts:** At the Championship proper, carts will now be included as part of the entry fee, so players will not have to pay for a cart on their own anymore. At Qualifiers, players will remain responsible for paying for a cart and range balls on their own.

**Playing Music on Phones, Speakers:** Playing music during play *IS ONLY PERMITTED at KPGA Pro-Pro & Pro-Am tournaments*, unless otherwise restricted or prohibited by the host facility. Please check with the other competitors in your group to see if they are okay with you/your cart playing music. Additionally, *volume MUST be kept at a reasonable level and MUST not be a disturbance to other competitors/groups on the course.*

*Music is NOT* allowed during the round at the Kentucky Open & Qualifiers, Kentucky Women's Open, Kentucky Senior Open, Kentucky PGA Professional Championship, Kentucky PGA Senior Professional Championship and the Kentucky PGA Assistant/Women's Championship.

## REGISTRATION & MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS

**Tournaments:** Go to [kygolf.org](http://kygolf.org) or click this [LINK](#) to login to your Golf Genius profile. Then register for any tournaments you would like to play in.

**KPGA Players Card:** KPGA Members & Associates can register for a KPGA Players Card for an annual fee of \$100. By joining, you will receive a discount of \$25 off the posted entry fee when registering for Pro-Pro & Pro-Am tournaments (excludes Travel Pro-Ams). Additionally, by purchasing a KPGA Players Card, this enters you into the Pro-Pro Series Team Draft. The Pro-Pro Series Teams earn points (different from POY points) at each Pro-Pro event played. There is an end of year payout to the members of the winning team in the Pro-Pro Series Team Season Points Race.

### KPGA Hole-In-One Club:

- **Registration:** KPGA Professionals can register for the Hole-In-One Club for an annual fee of \$25. 50% of this fee will be automatically donated to the Kentucky Golf Foundation with the other 50% going into the prize pool. **Non-KPGA Professionals & Amateurs are NOT eligible.**
- **Payouts:** HIO members that make a hole-in-one during a designated KPGA tournament will split the overall prize pool to be awarded at the end of the season.
  - **NOTE:** you must join the HIO Club prior to making a hole-in-one for it to be eligible for the prize money. If there are no hole-in-ones in the calendar year, 50% of the entire prize pool will be donated to the Kentucky Golf Foundation and the remaining 50% will roll into the next season's prize pool.
- **Eligible Events:** Any KPGA Sanctioned tournament, including KPGA Section run events.
- **Ineligible Events:** KPGA Junior Tour events, Travel Pro-Ams outside of Kentucky, any PGA TOUR Qualifying, PGA of America Championships, Playing Ability Tests or any side-game/event run on a course consisting of only par-3 holes.

## **SANCTIONED & SUPPORTED TOURNAMENTS**

### KPGA Sanctioned Tournaments:

- Are scheduled, operated by and fiscally accountable tournaments of the KPGA. All such tournaments are to be approved and scheduled by the KPGA Tournament Committee with approval by the KPGA Board of Directors. The KPGA will, for the edification of its members, publish the names and dates of the sanctioned tournaments on the KPGA website and in other forms available to KPGA Members & Associates.
- KPGA tournaments held within the geographical territory that defines the KPGA shall be held at KGA Member Clubs participating in Golf House Kentucky's handicap computation service. Such clubs must employ as a head professional a KPGA Member or an Associate registered in the PGA Associate Program.
- Selection of the sites for the KPGA Section Professional Championship and the KY Open Championship are subject to the approval of the KPGA Board of Directors. Such sites must employ a KPGA Member or Associate in good standing at the time the event is scheduled.

### KPGA Supported Tournaments:

- Tournaments that promote the visibility of KPGA Members & Associates, but are not recognized as sanctioned tournaments, may, with the approval of the KPGA Board of Directors, be published and listed as KPGA Supported Tournaments. Any facilities hosting such a tournament, may, without charge, provide the KPGA Director of Professional Competitions such information as to the date, site, participation and other pertinent details about the event. Such sites must employ a KPGA Member or Associate in good standing at the time the event is scheduled.
- The KPGA will, for the edification of its members, publish these details on its host website for a period up to the date of said event. KPGA Members & Associates are personally responsible for knowing the status of KPGA Sanctioned Tournaments and KPGA Supported Tournaments. Participation in a tournament that is scheduled during the play of a KPGA Sanctioned Tournament and that is being conducted within 150 miles of such tournament is prohibited. The KPGA Tournament Committee shall determine a reasonable disciplinary action for such violations not to exceed the guidelines detailed in the Tournament Conduct Policy.

**NOTE: the Host Professional may extend a limited number of invitations to non-KPGA Members in KPGA Supported Tournaments.**

## **TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY**

**Approval & Rejection:** all entries are subject to approval or rejection, with or without reason, at any time at the discretion of the Kentucky PGA Board of Directors.

**Attendance to a KPGA Member Conference:** KPGA Members & Associates **MUST** attend either the 2024 Fall Member Conference **OR** 2025 Spring Member Conference **AND attend at least one (1) of the education breakouts** to be eligible to compete in tournaments for the 2025 Season.

**Professionals:** eligible to compete in KPGA competitions must fall within the scope of the following eligibility requirements as of the entry deadline posted on each entry form:

- A Member in good standing of the KPGA
- A registered PGA Associate in good standing in the KPGA. This individual must have passed all pre-qualifying requirements and has reached Level 1 toward membership in the PGA of America.
  - This means the associate needs to have purchased Level 1 materials.
  - Associates **does NOT** have to have passed the PAT
- For KPGA Sanctioned tournaments and qualifying events, participants must be eligibly employed in an active PGA classification in the KPGA within 30 days of the deadline posted on the tournament page of that tournament or be a PGA Life Member-Retired or PGA Life Member-Active.
  - **NOTE: Inactive and Class "F" members are ineligible to compete in KPGA competitions.**

**Awaiting Reinstatement of Status:** Individuals who have petitioned and are waiting to regain their amateur status through the USGA are not eligible to register and compete in Kentucky PGA Section Sanctioned events.

- **Exception-** An individual may register and compete as an AR (Amateur Awaiting Reinstatement) in the Kentucky Open. They must waive their right to any prize money offered and must not accept any prize reserved for an amateur golfer.

#### **Kentucky Open:**

- **Age-** Open to players of all ages
- **Professionals-** Open to Kentucky PGA Professionals and Professionals that are Kentucky Residents
  - **Exception-** Past Champions that are non-residents are eligible to compete.
- **Amateurs-** Open to residents & non-residents that meet the following criteria
  - **Residents-** Must have an active GHIN/Handicap Index for the current season with a KGA Member Club, KGA Affiliate Club, KGA EClub or USGA/Kentucky GC.
  - **Non-Residents-** Must be a dues paying member at a KGA Member Club AND have an active GHIN/Handicap Index for the current season with a KGA Member Club, KGA Affiliate Club, KGA EClub or USGA/Kentucky GC.

#### **Kentucky Women's Open:**

- **Age-** Open to players of all ages
- **Professionals-** Open to all professional golfers, regardless of residency.
- **Amateurs-** Open to residents & non-residents and **MUST** have an active GHIN/Handicap Index for the current season with an authorized club/association (**does NOT** have to be from a KGA Member Club, Affiliate Club, KGA EClub or USGA/Kentucky GC).

#### **Kentucky Senior Open:**

- **Age-** players must be 50 or older as of Round 1 of the Championship
  - There will be a Championship Division (Age 50+) and Super-Senior Division (Age 60+) for players to select during registration.
- **Professionals-** Open to all professional golfers, regardless of residency.
- **Amateurs-** Open to residents & non-residents and **MUST** have an active GHIN/Handicap Index for the current season with an authorized club/association (**does NOT** have to be from a KGA Member Club, Affiliate Club, KGA EClub or USGA/Kentucky GC).

**Definition of Kentucky Resident:** Is a person who maintains his/her legal place of residence in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. To establish residency for the purpose of eligibility for the Kentucky Open, Kentucky Women's Open and Kentucky Senior Open, an applicant **MUST meet one of the criteria listed below in subsections 1-4:**

1. Is a person who meets one of the criteria in paragraphs (a)-(d):
  - a. Has resided in Kentucky for thirty (30) consecutive days immediately preceding the date of the entry deadline of the event; **OR**
  - b. Holds a Kentucky Driver's License; **OR**
  - c. Is registered to vote in Kentucky; **OR**
  - d. Owns property in Kentucky; **OR**
2. Is a student who physically attended a high school or college in Kentucky at any time during the four months before the date of the entry deadline; **OR**
3. Is a student who graduated from a Kentucky high school and who attends an out-of-state college, but remains a legal dependent of a parent or guardian who meets the Kentucky residency requirement; **OR**
4. Is a member of the military who is based in Kentucky on active duty as of the date of the entry deadline.

### Pro-Pro Series:

- Must be a KPGA Member and have purchased a Player's Card for the current season.
- All eligible players will then be "drafted" onto teams after Day 1 of the Kaiser Cup.
- There will be points awarded after each Pro-Pro event

**Pro-Am Competitions:** KPGA Members & Associates are responsible for the eligibility of his/her team members. If a team competes in a sanctioned event with an ineligible amateur, that team will be disqualified from the competition.

- **Amateur Eligibility-** Open to residents and non-residents and **MUST** have an active GHIN/Handicap Index for the current season with an authorized club/association (**does NOT** have to be from a KGA Member Club, KGA Affiliate Club, KGA EClub or USGA/Kentucky GC).

**Sponsor Playing Invitations-** the KPGA Tournament Committee reserves the right to extend a playing invitation for Pro-Am events to sponsor representatives of the specific KPGA Sanctioned Tournament of which they are affiliated. Sponsor representatives must meet the eligibility requirements that include having an active Handicap Index and meet the USGA definition of an amateur golfer.

**Handicap Rules & Scoring-** Handicap rules will apply when a tournament includes amateur participation and net scoring is part of the format being played. The tournament committee has the option to modify the terms of the competition to include or exclude these guidelines when applicable.

- **Handicap Index-** Amateur golfers **MUST** have an active GHIN/Handicap Index with an authorized club/association
- **Limitations-**
  - Men's Course Handicap- maximum of 36
  - Women's Course Handicap- maximum of 40
    - **NOTE: players may have a course handicap at the time of the competition but will be limited to the required maximum in this guideline for the competition round(s).**
- **Percentages-**
  - Best Ball Competitions- 80% of the players handicap index
  - Shamble Competitions- 70% of the players handicap index
- **Score Posting-**
  - All amateur scores should be posted after the competition using the appropriate course slope and rating for the teeing area used by that player. If a player has not completed all holes, the administrator should use the guidelines provided by the USGA Handicap System booklet (Rule 3.3, pages 41-44).

### ISCO Championship (PGA TOUR):

- **Special Exemptions for Kentucky PGA Section-**
  - Championship Proper- the KPGA Larry Gilbert POY from the prior season will receive a direct exemption into the ISCO Championship field, without qualifying.
  - Monday Qualifier- players ranking 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in the KPGA Larry Gilbert POY from the prior season will receive an exemption to forgo pre-qualifying and register directly for the Monday Qualifier field.
  - **NOTE: All corresponding fees along with following the rules & regulations set forth by the PGA TOUR are the responsibility of the player and all entry submissions must be made by the posted registration deadline.**
- **All Other Entries-** players must meet the posted eligibility requirements and pay the appropriate entry fees for the respective Pre-Qualifier and/or Monday Qualifier. All details can be found on the respective tournament pages, which are listed on the KPGA tournament schedule.

### Kaiser Cup Matches:

- **Eligibility-** Limited to any KPGA Member or Associate in good standing who is eligible employed or a Life Member of the PGA of America.
  - Team KPGA Members- must be a Class (A) Member or a Master Professional of the PGA of America, excluding Class A-8
  - Team Assistants/Associates- must be a Class A-8 PGA Member or a registered Associate
- **Captains-**
  - Larry Gilbert POY- from the previous season shall serve as Team Captain for Team KPGA Members unless that member is an Assistant/Associate at the time of the Kaiser Cup competition. If that individual declines the invitation, the participant with the most points from the Larry Gilbert POY list shall serve as Team Captain.

- Assistant/Associate POY- from the previous season shall serve as Team Captain for Team Assistants/Associates unless that individual is a non-Assistant/Associate at the time of the Kaiser Cup competition. If so, the participant from the Assistant/Associate POY list shall serve as Team Captain.
- **Team Selection-** Is based on Player of the Year points standings in the Larry Gilbert and Assistant/Associate points races from the previous season. The top-8 players from each list will be invited to participate, plus two (2) at-large selections will be made by each Team Captain. If any invitee is unavailable, the next player from the list will be invited until the teams are complete.
- **Formats & Scoring-**
  - Day 1- Front 9- Four-Ball; Back 9- Foursomes
  - Day 2- Singles
  - One point shall be awarded to the winner of each match. If the match is Tied at the completion of the stipulated round, ½ point shall be awarded to each side. No extra holes shall be played.

**NOTE: THE KPGA TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE AND THE KPGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MODIFY THE ABOVE TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS AT ANY TIME.**

#### **Coomer Cup Matches:**

- **Eligibility-** Limited to any KPGA Life Member or Class A Member who is eligible employed in an active PGA classification at the close of the final event for which Player of the Year points are awarded. An Associate may compete only as KPGA Assistants Champion.
- **Captains-** the current KPGA & KGA Presidents shall be the Honorary Captains for their respective teams.
- **Team KPGA-** shall consist of the Top-4 players in the Larry Gilbert POY standings, to-4 players in the Assistants/Associates POY standings and the top-2 players from the Senior POY standings from the **CURRENT** season.
- **Team KGA-** shall consist of the top-8 players from the John C. Owens POY standings and the top-2 players from the Tom Musselman POY standings from the **PREVIOUS** season.
- **Formats & Scoring-**
  - 9-holes- Two-Man Scramble, 9-holes- Chapman Alternate Shot, 9-holes- Four-Ball
  - Each hole as well as the total match will be worth 1 point, ties will be split .5 points to each side. A total of 150 points will be available to capture.

**NOTE: THE KGA-PGA, INC SHALL RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MODIFY THE CONDITIONS OF PLAY IF NECESSARY.**

## **DEADLINES & REFUND POLICIES**

**Deadlines:** All tournament deadlines will be at 11:59pm EST, SEVEN (7) days prior to the event, unless otherwise noted on the Tournament Information Page

**Late Entries:** Are not accepted after the entry deadline has closed.

**Waiting List:** If a tournament reaches its maximum capacity before the tournament deadline, a waiting list will be established. Should a spot come open in the event, the next player off the waiting list will be added to the event. If a player does not get into the field from the waitlist, there will be no charge.

**Refund Policy:** A refund will be granted to participants in the following way.

- **Before Entry Deadline-** participant will receive a full refund, minus a \$5 cancellation fee.
- **After the entry deadline and at least 72 hours prior to Round 1-** will receive a 50% refund of the total entry fee.

**NOTE:** In the event of an extreme circumstance, after the entry deadline, resulting in the participant not being able to compete in the tournament, please contact the Director of Professional Competitions ASAP. Each situation will be handled on a case-by-case basis. A full or partial refund may be available.

**Withdrawals:** Participants **MUST** notify the tournament staff in advance if they need to withdraw from an event. Failure to properly withdraw from a tournament and/or not showing up will forfeit the entry fee and will be considered a "No Show" and is subject to suspension of up to sixty (60) days during which the player may not compete in any tournament, either conducted by or sanctioned by the KPGA. If this violation occurs within sixty (60) days of the final scheduled tournament of the current season, the suspension will include the first tournament of the next year. If a player incurs a second violation of this policy, he/she shall be subject to suspension from any KPGA tournament for a period of one (1) year from the date of the suspension.



**Weather Situations:** Weather shortened tournaments will be handled on a case-by-case basis and may or may not result in a partial refund.

**Agreement Statement:** By submission of any entry application, the player agrees to the tournament regulations set forth by the KPGA. The player agrees that there are certain risks inherent in the game of golf and accepts personal and sole liability for all such risks. The player agrees that this entry application is subject to rejection at any time. The reason for rejections may include unbecoming conduct. The player agrees that the responsibility for ensuring this application is received by the KPGA no later than the date and time specified is the player's alone and that this entry application will be automatically rejected if received by the KPGA after such date and time. The player agrees that the risk of delay or error in transmission lies solely with him/her and that the KPGA has no liability with respect to such delay or error and the consequences there from, including rejection of this entry application. The player also affirms, by submission of the entry application, that they meet all eligibility requirements.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

**Conduct Policy:** Although conduct is covered in the PGA Code of Ethics, the Tournament Committee wishes to establish more clearly its policy on conduct of Members & Associates in any tournament. Conduct that is judged potentially injurious to the individual professional, the host professional, or the KPGA shall be subject to review by the Tournament Committee and/or the Board of Directors. Abuses include, but are not limited to, excessive displays of temper, damaging club property, excessive consumption of alcohol, excessive swearing, failing to comply with club or tournament policy, or other actions that cause hardships or embarrassment to the employees of the host club. Individuals will be subject to disciplinary action in the form of a fine and/or suspension of playing privileges as deemed by the Tournament Committee or Board of Directors.

**Dress Code:** KPGA Members & Associates are expected to maintain an appropriate image in their attire and personal appearance that will reflect positively on them and the PGA of America. When a Member or Associate is playing in a KPGA Sanctioned Event, whether as a contestant or otherwise, they shall wear appropriate style slacks or shorts and approved shirt styles until the event has concluded. ***Denim jeans are NOT permissible.*** Female Members or Associates shall wear slacks, culottes, walking shorts, or golf shorts and appropriate tops that constitute acceptable clothing worn by women. However, if a host facility for a KPGA Sanctioned Event has a policy prohibiting certain attire (i.e. short sleeve mock turtleneck shirts, professionals in shorts, cargo style slacks, etc.); the KPGA will honor this policy and prohibit such attire among participating professionals. The KPGA will communicate such policies.

- ***Exceptions:***
  - All professionals & amateurs competing in the KY Open and KY Senior Open are **REQUIRED** to wear slacks during all competition rounds.
  - All professionals competing in the KPGA Section Championship, KPGA Senior Section Championship and KPGA Assistant/Associate Championship are **REQUIRED** to wear slacks.
  - All professionals competing at the final venue for the KPGA Match Play, KPGA Senior Match Play and KPGA Assistant Match Play will be **REQUIRED** to wear slacks during the competition.
- ***NOTE: If the Tournament Committee deems the attire or personal appearance of a KPGA Member, Associate or Amateur during a KPGA Sanctioned Event to be inappropriate, the committee has the power to act in the matter. The general procedure will be to request that player make the appropriate changes to comply with the dress code. If the request goes unheeded, the player will be subject to disqualification from the event, exclusion from a future KPGA Sanctioned Event or possible disciplinary action.***

**Card Playing Policy:** In general, the KPGA frowns on card playing at the site of any tournament and feels that abusing a privilege such as this can injure the KPGA and cause embarrassment to the host professional. For this reason, card playing by a group of professionals on the premises of a tournament site shall only be allowed with the consent of the host professional. Warnings shall be given to those who abuse this policy and if the warning goes unheeded, violators will be subject to disciplinary action.

**Gambling Policy:** In general, the KPGA feels that when players engage in betting on themselves or on their teams and the primary purpose is the playing of the game for the enjoyment, that any such wagers should be made discretely and not in any way cause embarrassment to the host professional or the KPGA. Anyone who abuses this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action. No KPGA Member or Associate is permitted to participate by owning or sharing tickets or receiving financial benefit from a ticket in a Calcutta event held in conjunction with a KPGA tournament in which he/she is participating.



**Policy on Slow Play:** Slow play is detrimental to the game. For this reason and in the interest of making the game as enjoyable as possible for all, the pace of play will be monitored at KPGA tournaments. Players in KPGA tournaments are responsible for knowing the pace of play guidelines in effect at each competition.

**Discipline:** Any player deemed guilty of unbecoming conduct while participating in a KPGA tournament or in activities related thereto or who otherwise violated the Code of Ethics of the PGA shall be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the Tournament Committee and/or KPGA Board of Directors.

**Penalties (Fines & Suspensions):**

- The Tournament Committee Shall have the authority to impose penalties consisting of a minimum fine of \$100 for the first offense, a minimum fine of \$500 for the second offense and suspension from tournament play for the third offense.
- Any reported violation of conduct by a player must be submitted in writing to the Tournament Committee and must be signed. ***NOTE: name of person reporting violation will be kept confidential.***
- Any professional accused of cheating shall be required to appear before the KPGA Board of Directors and if found guilty, shall be automatically suspended for the remainder of the year and fined a minimum of \$500.

**Appeals:** A player may appeal, within 30 days, to the KPGA Board of Directors any imposition of disciplinary action by the Tournament Committee.

- Such an appeal shall be in writing and may include defenses or mitigating circumstances, including written statements from witnesses.
- Any letter of appeal must include payment of the fine(s). Fine(s) will be refunded if appeal is upheld.
- Any KPGA Member who has been fined and has not paid such fine shall not be eligible for any future events until such fine has been paid.
- Any appeals of eligibility status must be made in person to the KPGA Board of Directors.

**The Spirit of the Game:** Golf is played, for the most part, without the immediate supervision of a referee or umpire. The game relies on the integrity of the individual to show consideration for other players and to abide by the rules. All players are to conduct themselves in a disciplined manner, demonstrating courtesy and sportsmanship at all times, irrespective of how competitive they may be. This is the spirit of the game of golf.

Golf is a sport that is about family. The atmosphere surrounding the competition must be such that it is comfortable, safe and inoffensive to the host club, all competitors and spectators of all ages.

**Warning:** The authority of the Rules Committee to disqualify a player is not limited to the list of misconducts identified in this code. In the event of an egregious violation of any provision of this code, the Committee may impose a penalty of disqualification upon a first offense. Violation of this code should be reported to the Committee either through the rules telephone hotline or by directly communicating with a rules official. A player witnessing a potential violation should not attempt to deal with that potential violation individually.

- ***Language:*** Use of profanity is not in the spirit of the game and is not acceptable.
- ***Damage to Course or Equipment:*** Willful and unnecessary damage to the course or course equipment, whether out of anger or not
  - The Committee reserves the right to either implement the General Penalty or to Disqualify the player based on their review of the offense.
- ***Club Throwing:*** Throwing clubs (not an underhand toss back to the bag or out of a bunker) or other objects out of anger. ***NOTE:*** If the club/object thrown out of anger injures anyone or if it is intentionally thrown at anyone, even if they were missed, the penalty is Disqualification.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Offense- Warning
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense- 1 penalty stroke
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense- General Penalty
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Offense- Disqualification
- ***Player Interaction:*** If a player continues to willfully distract other players after they have been told their actions are distracting and were requested to stop the activity. Any verbal outburst at another player or person is a violation of this code.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Offense- Warning
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense- 1 Penalty Stroke

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense- General Penalty
- 4<sup>th</sup> Offense- Disqualification
- **Interference:** If a player willfully interferes with another player's rights under the rules.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Offense- Warning
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense- 1 penalty stroke
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense- General Penalty
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Offense- Disqualification
- **Player Behavior:** If a player's behavior appears to be a risk to themselves or others on the course, or if it appears his/her abilities are diminished such that their play will detract from the quality of the competition, the Committee may request the player to withdraw from the competition, or the Committee may disqualify the player.

More examples of misconduct may be found under the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf under 1.2a/1 Clarification. These lists are not all inclusive of misconduct for which the Committee can disqualify a player.

*The KPGA reserves the right to refuse entry into any number of future competitions by any player that has been disqualified for violation of this Code of Conduct.*

## TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

**Rules of Play:** The 2023 USGA Rules of Golf shall govern all play. The Kentucky PGA Section Local Rules & Terms of the Competition (Hard Card) will be handed out to the players at each tournament prior to play, along with the Notice to Players.

**Distance Measuring Devices:** Players and caddies are permitted to use devices to obtain yardage information. These devices include laser range finders, GPS watches, mobile apps, etc.

**Caddie Guidelines:** Caddies are permitted at all KPGA tournaments.

**Use of Push/Pull Carts:** Manual and remote-controlled push/pull carts are permitted at all KPGA tournaments.

**Motorized Carts:** Players and/or their caddie may ride in a cart at all KPGA tournaments. *No more than TWO (2) CARTS per group. If only two players are riding in a group, the KPGA reserves the right to have both players ride in the same cart.*

**Policy for Player Carts & Caddies:** At all KPGA tournaments, groups are limited to a *maximum of 2 carts per group.*

*Caddies are NOT guaranteed to be able to ride in a cart.*

- **Twosome-** if there is a twosome, both players may be required to ride in the same golf cart.
- **Threesome-** if there is a threesome, this would leave one seat open, should all 3 players elect to ride in the cart. Should all three players have a caddie, then the group will have to discuss how they want to go about rotating or handling it.
- **Foursome-** if there is a foursome, this would leave zero seats open, should all 4 players elect to ride in the cart. Should any or all players have a caddie, then the group will have to discuss how they want to go about rotating or handling it.

*NOTE: Players & Caddies may ride in the cart at the same time, however, they are not guaranteed to be able to do so. Additionally, the Player or Caddie is permitted to walk while the other rides in or drives the cart at any point during the round.*

## PACE OF PLAY POLICY

Rule 5.6b states in part, players must play without delay and in accordance with any pace of play policy the Committee may establish and thereafter prescribes penalties for slow play. The following is the recommended process, but each tournament or situation may be different. If an official believes something different than the recommended process that is laid out, they have the authority to do so but should notify the OIC when deviating from this process.

### Maximum Allowable Time

Is the maximum time that the Committee considers necessary for a group to complete its round. This is expressed in a per-hole and aggregate time format on the player scorecard in Stroke Play and by asking a referee in match play. The hole is completed when the last player in the group removes their ball from the hole.

- Players should play at a prompt pace throughout the round.
- In Stroke Play, players are encouraged to play “ready golf” in a safe and responsible way (Rule 6.4b).
- In Match Play, players may agree to play out of turn to save time (such agreement applies only to the stroke played out of turn and not to the entire match).

### “Out of Position”

A group is **out of position** when it exceeds the maximum allowable time **AND:**

- a.) Arrives at a par-3 after **ALL** players in the group ahead have played from the teeing area of the next hole.
- b.) Arrives at a par-4 that becomes clear of play before **ANY** player plays a stroke from the teeing area.
- c.) Arrives at a par-5 after **ANY** player in the group ahead has made a stroke on the putting green.

**NOTE: If a ruling or some other legitimate delay occurs which causes the group in question to lose its position, that group is expected to regain its position within a reasonable time.**

### Group Out of Position – Warning/“On the Clock”

When the Committee determines that a group is out of position, the group may either receive a warning or be put immediately “on the clock” (that is, to be timed) and the players will be notified by a referee. **NOTE: A group out of position when play is discontinued is out of position when play is resumed.**

- When warned, the group is expected to regain position with the group ahead as soon as possible. If the group does not make up time or regain position, the group will be put “on the clock” and informed by a referee.
- While “on the clock”, any player in a group who incurs a bad time will be informed as soon as possible.
- While “on the clock”, the Committee may assess a bad time to a player who delays play between shots or holes.
- A referee will not inform a group when it has regained its position and is no longer “on the clock”. A player may inquire as to the status of the group at any time.
- If the group in question regains its proper position, any previous bad times will be carried forward for the remainder of that round.
- Regardless of position, if the Committee determines that a player(s) in the group is delaying play of their own or any subsequent group, or the competition in general:
  - The player(s) may be warned and/or placed “on the clock” by a referee.
  - The penalty for breach of Rule 5.6a (Unreasonable Delay of Play) may be applied.
  - The Committee reserves the right to warn or put a group, match or individual player “on the clock” at anytime.

### Time Permitted to Play a Stroke

A player is considered to have incurred a bad time when the player exceeds 40 seconds to make a stroke.

- An extra 10 seconds (for a total of 50 seconds) will be permitted for the first player to play:
  - A stroke on a Par-3
  - A second stroke on a par-4 or par-5
  - A third stroke on a par-5
  - A stroke around the putting green
  - A stroke on the putting green
- The timing of a player’s stroke begins when it is the player’s turn to play without interference or distraction. Time spent determining yardage and other conditions, such as wind, will count as time taken for the stroke.

- **On the putting green**, the actions allowed under Rule 13.1 are not included in the timing of the player's stroke, provided the player is not unreasonably delaying play. However, time spent surveying the line of play from any angle will count as time taken for the stroke.

### Penalties

The following is the penalty structure for a player who receives bad times while "on the clock" (timed):

<u>BAD TIMES</u>	<u>STROKE PLAY</u>	<u>MATCH PLAY</u>
1 <sup>st</sup> Bad Time	No Penalty	No Penalty
2 <sup>nd</sup> Bad Time	1 Stroke Penalty	Loss of Hole
3 <sup>rd</sup> Bad Time	Additional 2 Stroke Penalty	Additional Loss of Hole
4 <sup>th</sup> Bad Time	Disqualification	Disqualification

### Pace of Play Success Strategies

The only time an Official should talk to the players about their pace is when they become out of position.

1. Officials **should inform a group** they are over the maximum allowable time and/or out of position when they are leaving a teeing ground.
2. Officials **should notify a group** that is behind a slow group if the slow group has significantly picked up the pace. This should be done out of courtesy and not done in a manner that group would interpret as they are in jeopardy of being out of position.
3. Officials **should only tell the group** how many minutes behind they are if they request the information.
4. If a group that has not been behind, suddenly falls behind because of an issue on a particular hole (I.E. waiting on a ruling). **An Official should express to the group to catch up over the next couple of holes in a respectful way.**
5. When a group is out of position, the **Rover or designated Official may monitor** the group.

**Any appeal of a pace of play penalty must be referred to the designated Tournament Director of this event immediately upon completion of the round and their decision is final.**

## SPECTATOR POLICIES

Spectators are encouraged to attend all KPGA events. They must be courteous to all competitors and abide by all rules put in place by the KPGA and the host facility. It is the player's responsibility to keep spectators away.

**Advice:** Rule 10.2a

**Rulings:** Only designated rules officials from the KPGA will give rulings to the players at the request of the individual.

**Distance from Players:** Spectators should remain on the cart paths, when available. In absence of cart paths, spectators should walk in the rough and stay off all teeing grounds, fairways, and putting greens and remain at least 30 feet from players at all times.

**Mobile Devices:** It is requested that all spectators have their mobile devices turned to silent mode or turned off. If you must make a call, please be courteous to the players.

**Forecaddie/Spotting Balls:** Spectators are encouraged to be ahead of the group, without being in the line of play to the best of their abilities, to spot golf balls for the group. Spectators may also assist with the search for a player's ball.

**Spectator Carts:** There will be ***ZERO Spectator Carts*** at KPGA events. Should a spectator with a medical issue have a motorized scooter that they would like to use, and stay on the cart path with, they are welcome to do so.

**\*\*NOTE:** *There may be a limited amount of carts available for disabled/handicapped individuals. This is NOT GUARANTEED and is subject to availability and at the course's discretion. Should there be some available, the disabled/handicapped individual will need to pay the applicable cart fee.\*\**

## DIVISIONS, YARDAGES, PURSES & POINTS

**Approximate Yardages:** NOTE: Yardages are subject to change based on weather conditions, course conditions, course difficulty, course par (70-71-72-73) and at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

- **Professionals-**
  - **Championship (Any Age):** 6,600+
  - **Seniors (50+):** 6,200-6,500, or a maximum of 92% of the Professional Championship Tees
  - **Super-Seniors (60+):** 5,900-6,200, or a maximum of % of the Professional Championship Tees
  - **Women (Any Age):** 5,600-6,000, or a maximum of 85% of the Professional Championship Tees
- **Amateurs-** for Pro-Am events only
  - Same as above

**Same Purse, Separate Tee Policy:** Although competing from separate tees, all professionals will compete for the same purse in all KPGA events, unless otherwise noted.

**Points for Playing Further Tee Distance:** Should a player elect to play from a further tee, they are eligible to receive POY points in multiple divisions. **The player MUST make sure this is known by the Tournament Director prior to beginning play.**

- Examples:
  - Senior plays from Regular Tees; will receive points for Larry Gilbert POY & Senior POY
  - Super-Senior plays from Senior Tees; will receive points for Senior POY & Super-Senior POY

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Are handicaps used in Pro-Am events?**

- The KPGA utilizes both gross and net scores in various Pro-Am tournaments. This means that handicaps are used to calculate the results of the net portion of the competition.

**Can I make a tee time, group or paring request?**

- For certain events, there will be a prompt during the registration process to enter any specific requests (AM or PM Shotgun, early or late tee time, etc.). The KPGA will do its best to honor your request, but there are no guarantees.

**I signed up for a tournament. How do I know I'm in the field?**

- Once you've completed the registration and payment process, you will receive an automated confirmation e-mail that you are entered in the event. You can also check the participants list by visiting the tournament information page where a list of players in the field will be displayed.