

KENTUCKY GOLF ASSOCIATION

Tournament Rules & Regulations

Effective March 1, 2020

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE - MISSION

To provide quality playing opportunities for Kentucky amateur golfers.

TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN - APPOINTMENT

The President shall appoint a Tournament Committee. Members of the Committee shall consist of the Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer, and not less than seven (7) or more than eleven (11) additional members. All members are appointed for a term of one year with no limit on the number of one year terms they can serve. The Vice President shall preside as the Tournament Committee Chairperson.

All committee members shall have one vote. KGA officers are invited to attend all meetings. The KGA Executive Director and Director of Amateur & Professional Competitions will serve as ex-officio members of the committee.

The Tournament Chairman or the KGA President, with at least three days notice of such meeting, may call meetings of the Tournament Committee. Five members shall constitute a quorum with a simple majority of those present deciding matters requiring a vote. In the event of a tie vote, the Tournament Committee Chairman or Co-Chairmen with longer service as chair will cast the deciding vote.

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE - DUTIES

- 1) The tournament committee's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to the following:
 - a) Solicit, receive, and evaluate proposals for all tournament sites;
 - b) Make recommendations on the proposed tournament schedule, including tournament sites, dates, fees and formats, to the Board of Directors for review and approval;
 - c) Conduct the amateur championship and all other Association tournaments;
 - d) Evaluate applications for tournament exemptions and grant said exemptions in accordance with the criteria established by the committee;
 - e) Set the tournament rules and establish the prizes for each tournament;
 - f) Appoint a rules committee for each event;
 - g) Make tournament assignments for participating Directors assisting with the amateur championship and any other event.

- 2) In addition to the Tournament Committee members mentioned in Tournament Chairman - Appointment, there will be three (3) representatives serving on an advisory panel to the Tournament Committee on matters relating to senior golf. The President shall appoint one (1) representative per year to a three (3) year term.
 - a) The advisory panel shall provide advice and counsel to the KGA Tournament Committee regarding all senior tournament activities.
 - b) The President shall appoint a panel member who is:
 - (1) At least fifty (50) years of age; and
 - (2) An active participant in the KGA senior tournament program.
 - (3) There shall be no limit to the number of terms that an advisory panel member may serve.
 - (4) A member of the advisory panel shall not be a voting member of the Tournament Committee, but may vote on matters relating to the senior tournament program.

TOURNAMENTS

- 1) The Board of Directors shall determine what tournaments and player divisions shall be held. The Board of Directors shall ensure all age, gender, and skill levels are considered for the association to provide for the best interests of all eligible golfers.
- 2) All tournaments shall be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf.
- 3) The Board of Directors shall set the eligibility requirements for all Association events.

DIRECTOR, AMATEUR & PROFESSIONAL COMPETITIONS - DUTIES

1. Publish all event schedules inclusive of site and date selections, entry forms, and corresponding notices and distribute them according to parameters set forth by the KGA Tournament Committee and the Executive Director. This duty includes disseminating the annual tournament schedule through media sources where available by a scheduled date determined and approved by the KGA officers and the KGA Executive Director.
2. Contact the host professional of any scheduled event in advance of the tournament and offer assistance to ensure success of the tournament.
3. Coordinate tournament sponsor relationships with Tournament Chairman and the Executive Director.
4. Ensure tournaments are conducted in accordance with the Rules of Golf.
5. Oversee tournament entry acceptance and/or withdrawal in accordance with the KGA Rules and Regulations guidelines.
6. Process all entries and return confirmation notices to registered participants.
7. Secure, coordinate and supervise staffing for KGA events.
8. Coordinate trophy and award purchases with Tournament Committee Chairman and the Executive Director.
9. Administer the KGA Player of the Year program and publish updated results on a timely basis.
10. Perform administrative responsibilities as they relate to suspensions.
11. Communicate periodically with the Committee/Committee Chairman to discuss feedback from tournament participants and how to ensure the future success of the tournament program.
12. Provide administrative direction as it pertains to conducting KGA Tournaments and their operations. Any other specific responsibility may be in the job description for Director, Amateur & Professional Competitions.

GENERAL

All players in KGA competitions shall be aware of and guided by the following:

1. KGA tournaments are conducted primarily to serve the interest and welfare of amateur golfers in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
2. Players are responsible for being aware of their starting time.
3. Players are responsible for knowing the Rules of Golf, Local Rules, and Conditions of the Competition.
4. Players are responsible for their scorecard in accordance with Rule 3.3b.
5. A player may withdraw from a multi-day tournament by notifying a member of the Rules Committee and should do so no later than (15) fifteen minutes after the completion of the round. During the round, a player may withdraw because of illness or other physical disability that requires medical attention or serious personal emergency. A player failing to notify a member of the Rules Committee of withdrawal prior to his/her scheduled starting time or prior to leaving the golf course during a stipulated round, shall be subject to a suspension of up to (60) sixty days during which the player may not compete in any tournament conducted by the KGA. If this violation occurs within (60) sixty days of the final scheduled tournament of the current year, 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 KGA tournament for a period of (1) one year from the date of the suspension.
6. A player that does not officially withdraw from a KGA Tournament and/or does not appear at the tournament site, NO SHOW, shall be subject to suspension of playing privileges for the next scheduled KGA Tournament.
7. Caddies: Players are allowed the use of a caddie at all KGA competitions, including the Amateur Series events.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

a. Kentucky Amateur Eligibility

To compete in the Kentucky Amateur, an applicant must be a resident of Kentucky and possess a current KGA handicap from a KGA member club.

b. Eligibility for other KGA Events

For all other KGA events, both residents and eligible nonresidents may play.

c. Date of Residency

The date for meeting the residency requirement or the nonresident requirement is the entry closing date for each competition.

d. Kentucky Resident

“Kentucky resident” is a person who maintains his or her legal place of residence in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. To establish residency for the purpose of KGA eligibility, an applicant ***must meet one of the criteria listed below in subsections 1-4:***

1. Is a person who meets ***one of the criteria listed 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.

e. Nonresident Requirements

To be eligible to participate in a KGA event other than the Kentucky Amateur, a nonresident shall:

1. Be a dues paying member of a private Type 1 KGA member club and hold an active KGA Handicap Index from that club at the time of entry; **or**
2. Be an annual fee paying member of a semi-private or public Type 1 KGA member club and hold an active KGA Handicap Index from that club at the time of entry.

“Annual fee paying member” includes all arrangements whereby a nonresident pays some form of fee or charge for the privilege of playing golf at a discounted rate for either a specified number of rounds or period of time in the current calendar year.

“A Type 1 KGA Member Club” shall include any KGA member club that holds real estate consisting of a golf course.

f. Verification

1. As a part of the application process, ***an applicant shall attest*** on the application that he or she meets either the residency requirements or the nonresident requirements listed above.
2. The KGA has the right, at any time, to request documentation from an applicant verifying that claimed status.
3. Any falsification or misrepresentation of the facts pertaining to the applicant’s eligibility may result in that person being disqualified, pursuant to USGA Amateur Status Rule 8-1, stripped of any prize or title, and that person being declared ineligible to participate in any future KGA events.

TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION

Contestants may enter a tournament by either of the following methods:

- Complete a tournament entry form and return it, with payment, to Golf House Kentucky at the appropriate address or complete an online entry at kygolf.org (includes personal information and payment).
- No entry application or payment will be accepted by fax or e-mail.
- Tournament Registration Fees are determined by factors including number of rounds and amenities provided to the player. The annual fee for the KGA Players Program is \$20 and membership is mandatory for participation in KGA Tournaments. (Exemption for all female contestants)
- A player who participated in the Kentucky Amateur, the Kentucky Match Play Championship or the Kentucky Mid-Amateur Championship during the previous season, may apply for and receive a \$20 credit toward their entry fee for any of the same events by recruiting a player who enters one of these events and did not compete in the same event the previous season. Application requests must be subjected by mail or email for consideration.

ENTRY DEADLINES

All tournament entry deadlines are posted on the KGA website at kygolf.org. Each event has a deadline date that is specific to the event and all deadlines include an 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time cut off. Entries are subject to rejection after that time.

REFUND POLICY

Requests for refunds must be submitted in writing or by e-mail and will be subject to the following:

- Prior to deadline > Fee minus \$5.00 service fee
- Prior to the first date of competition > Fee minus \$15 service fee
- After competition begins > \$0 refund
- Exception - medical emergency; fee minus \$15 service fee

RETURNED CHECK POLICY

A \$35.00 service charge will be applied to all returned checks. Applicants must be current with fee payments prior to playing in any KGA tournament.

AGREEMENT STATEMENT

By submission of any entry application, the player agrees to the tournament regulations set forth by the Kentucky Golf Association. The player agrees that there are certain risks inherent in the game of golf and accept 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 rejection may include unbecoming conduct. The player agrees that the responsibility for ensuring this application is received by the KGA 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 KGA 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 KGA 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.

WAITING LIST

Anytime a KGA event nears capacity, the Director of Amateur & Professional Competitions establishes a waiting list for additional entries. Tournament entrants will be advised that they are on this list and which position they hold at the time. As confirmed entrants notify Golf House Kentucky that they are withdrawing, the next player on the waiting list is notified and provided with pertinent information. If anyone is initially placed on the waiting list and does not receive a spot in the field, that entrant receives a full refund of his entry fee.

EXEMPTIONS

The KGA Board of Directors awards an exempt status to players in several categories of achievement for championships. A list of these players will be included in the players' information section posted to the online registration site. All exempt players are required to register and pay their fees by the deadline of the championship. Exempt status is non-transferable.

SPECIFIC POLICIES REGARDING PERSONAL CONDUCT

1. Policy on Conduct - KGA Code of Conduct (Rule 1.2b)

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 Tournament Committee (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.

1. Language – The use of profanity is not in the spirit of the game and is not acceptable.
2. 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 DQ the player based on their review of the offense.
3. Club Throwing - Throwing clubs (not an underhand toss back to the bag or out of a bunker) or other objects out of anger.
1st offense - WARNING, 1st offense after warning – 1 penalty stroke, 2nd offense – general penalty, 3rd offense – DQ
If however, the club/object thrown out of anger injures anyone or if it was intentionally thrown at anyone, even if they were missed, the penalty is DQ.
4. 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.
1st offense – WARNING, 1st offense after warning - 1 penalty stroke, 2nd offense – general penalty, 3rd offense – DQ
5. Interference - If a player willfully interferes with another player's rights under the rules.
1st offense – WARNING, 1st offense after warning - 1 penalty stroke, 2nd offense – general penalty, 3rd offense – DQ
6. Player Behavior - If a player's behavior appears to be a risk to themselves or others on the course, or if it appears his or her abilities are diminished such that their play will detract from the quality of the competition, the Committee may request the player 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 1.2a/1 Interpretations. These lists are not all inclusive of misconduct for which the Committee can disqualify a player.

The Kentucky Golf Association 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.

2. Policies on Dress – Players are expected to maintain an appropriate appearance as dictated by the KGA and the host facility. Amateurs may wear an appropriate style of shorts, unless such attire is prohibited by the host facility. If the Tournament Committee deems the attire or personal appearance of an amateur player during a KGA Tournament to be inappropriate, the committee has the power to act in the matter. The general procedure will be to request that the 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 and exclusion from future KGA tournaments.

3. 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 KGA tournaments. Players in KGA tournaments are responsible for knowing the pace of play guidelines in effect at each competition.

CHALLENGE CUP MATCHES

1. The KGA-PGA, Inc. shall govern the administrative affairs of the Challenge Cup.
2. Eligibility shall be limited to any KPGA Life Member or Class "A" Member who is eligibly employed in an active PGA classification at the close of the final event prior to the scheduled date of the Challenge Cup for which Player of the Year points are awarded. An Apprentice may compete only as KPGA Assistants' Champion.
3. The Professional Team shall consist of the top 6 ranked players on the previous year's KPGA Player of the Year Point List, plus the KPGA Senior Player of the Year, the KPGA Assistant Player of the Year, two players from the current year's KPGA Player of the Year Points standing (not already among the top 6 players from the previous year's standing) and two at-large choices selected by the team captain.
4. The Amateur Team shall consist of the top 11 players from Player of the Year standings and the KGA Senior Player of the Year (50 and over) from the previous year's final rankings. Except for the senior representative, in order to be eligible for this team, a player must have competed in one of Kentucky Golf's major events including the Kentucky Amateur, the Kentucky Open, the Kentucky Match Play Championship or the Kentucky Mid-Amateur Championship during the previous year.
5. The KPGA Board of Directors shall select the Honorary Captain of the Professional Team.
6. The KGA Board of Directors shall select the Honorary Captain of the Amateur Team.
7. The competition will consist of three nine-hole matches. The first nine holes will use the Four-Ball Match Play format. The second nine holes will use the Foursome Match Play format and the final nine holes will use a Singles Match Play format.
8. One point shall be awarded to the winner of each match. If a match is all square at the completion of 9 holes, ½ point shall be awarded to each side. (No extra holes shall be played).
9. The Tournament Committees from the KPGA and the KGA shall reserve the right to modify conditions of play if necessary.

KENTUCKY AMATEUR - EXEMPTIONS

1. Kentucky Amateur Champions - Lifetime (Amateurs)
2. Top 25 & Ties Kentucky Amateur
3. Top 30 KGA Player of the Year Rankings
4. KGA Mid-Amateur Champion (5 years)
5. KGA Senior Amateur Champion (1 year)
6. KGA Match Play Champion (5 years)
7. KGA Senior Match Play Champion (1 year)
8. KGA Mid-Senior Player of the Year
9. KGA Senior Player of the Year
10. Kentucky Open – Low Amateur
11. GHK Junior Player of the Year (1 year)
12. USGA National Champion - Lifetime (KY Resident)
13. USGA Qualifiers – Since previous championship (KY Resident)
14. KHSAA Boys Golf Champion (1 year)
15. Host Facility Exemptions (6)
16. 2nd Chance Qualifiers
17. World Amateur Rankings
(Kentucky Residents in Top 1000 - May 1)