



2024



T-TALK MEMBER HANDBOOK & DIRECTORY

89 YEARS METRO DETROIT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Schedule.....	1
History	2
2024 Board	3
Introduction	4
By-laws.....	4
Manual of Operation	8
Member Benefits	10
Competitions/Awards	10
General Play	10
Club Champion	10
Match Play.....	10
Most Improved Golfer	10
Special Events.....	11
Games.....	11
Guests	11
Terms of Competition/Scoring/Posting	12
Notable Member Responsibilities	14
Inclement Weather	14
USGA & Local Rules Governing Play	15
Pace of Play Hints	17
Refunds & Course Standards.....	18
Club Champion - 2023.....	19
Queen - 2023	19
Member Contact Information.....	

2024 SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Event	Course	City	Guest Fees
MAY					
5/01	8AM		Oxford Hills	Oxford	\$45
5/08	8:30AM	SAM	Greystone	Washington Twp	\$65
5/15	8AM		Tanglewood	South Lyon	\$50
5/22	8AM	CC	Lake Forest	Ann Arbor	\$50
5/29	8AM		Pontiac CC	Waterford	\$42
JUNE					
6/05	8AM	CC	Fieldstone	Auburn Hills	\$51
6/12	8AM		Boulder Pointe	Oxford	\$60
6/19	8AM		Fellows Creek	Canton	\$39
6/26	8AM		Links at Gateway	Romulus	\$45
JULY					
7/03	8AM	CC	Kensington	Milford	\$47
7/10	8AM	Fundraiser	Paint Creek	Lake Orion	\$90
7/17	8AM	MP	Pheasant Run	Canton	\$60
7/24	8AM	MP	Indian Springs	White Lake	\$40
7/31	8AM	MP	Heather Hills	Romeo	\$40
AUGUST					
8/07	8AM		Whispering Willows	Livonia	\$41
8/14	8AM		Moose Ridge	South Lyon	\$55
8/21	8AM	CC	Huntmore	Brighton	\$59
8/28			NO PLAY		
September					
9/04	8AM	AAM (CC*)	Eagle Crest	Ypsilanti	\$59
9/11	8:30AM	Doe Day	Edgewood CC	Commerce Twp	N/A

SAM= Spring Association Meeting

AAM = Annual Association Meeting

CC = Club Championship - Must play all 4 dates to qualify for Club Championship

CC*= Club Championship Rain-Out Date

MP = Match Play - Must play all 3 dates to participate

History

In 1936, a group of women playing the Michigan Golf Association courses team play was having a tournament at Sylvan Glen. Bob Sutherland, the pro there at the time, became interested in the group and suggested that they get together and organize Medal Play.

He called a meeting in the early part of 1936 at the Tuller Hotel on Grand Circus Park in Detroit. Several women attended, and so did Detroit News sports writer, John Walter. The group decided to create an organization that would promote competitive golf and good sportsmanship among the women who played the public and semi-public course in Michigan. At this initial meeting, a tentative board was appointed, and Wednesdays were chosen as the day to hold weekly tournaments, starting in May and going through September.

“Women’s Michigan Golf Association” was the title chosen and registered in Lansing. However, the District Ladies asked if we would change our name as they had been using it for some time, although they had not registered said name. A meeting was called and the name “Women’s Metropolitan Golf Association” (WMGA) was selected and duly changed in Lansing.

In 1937, The Women’s Michigan Golf Association extended an invitation to our president and five of our lowest handicap players, to play in their State Tournament, an event the WMGA participated in for several years.

The first competition of the newly formed WMGA was held at Sylvan Glen on May 6, 1936 and 61 players attended. During World War II, the trophies were “retired for the duration” of the war and War Stamps were given as weekly prizes. Since the ending of WW II, WMGA had held continuous weekly seasonal competitions.

Past Presidents

1936	Mrs. H.C. Carr
1937	Mrs. C.E. Stricker
1938	Gertrude Pett
1939	Mrs. W. Berggren
1940	Mrs. R.F.DeBolt
1941	Agnes Baynes
1942-43	Mrs. G. Andre
1944 -	Mrs. W. Staley
1945-46	Ada Falco
1947	Agnes Baynes
1948	Mrs. W. Staley
1949	Mrs. C.P. Gawlas
1950	Mrs. R. T. Kennard
1951	Mrs. H.G. Garman
1952-53	Mrs. G. Sundstrom
1954	Mrs. A.C. Yost
1955	Mrs. P.W. Morrow
1956	Mrs. D. Mancini
1957	Mrs. N.H. Holtz
1958	Edna Karkanen
1959	Jane Todd
1960	Mrs. R. Michelson
1961	Mrs. N.W. Froelich
1962	Isobel Burrell
1963-64	Mrs. D. Graham
1965	Mrs. G. Roth
1966	Ruth Langford
1967	Mrs. D. Reno
1968	Mrs. G. Todd
1969	Mrs. G. Kendrick
1970	Margaret Cova
1971	Mrs. J. Ralston
1972	Julie Brunk
1973	Betty Insley
1974-75	Juanita Hamel
1976	Evelyn Denton
1977-78	Mrs. R. Axon
1979	Evelyn Denton
1980-82	Doris Rich
1983-84	Donna Fegley
1985-86	Zoe Alpern
1987-88	Elaine Jenks
1989-90	Judy Hill
1991-92	Janina Jacobs
1993-94	Elaine Taylor
1995-96	Karin Flood
1997	Sally Smith
1998	Sallie Campbell
1999	Shirley Estabrooks
2000-01	Judy Figa
2002-03	Sandy Burns
2004	Judy Figa
2005-06	Judy Hamilton
2007-08	Verna Jasieniecki
2009-10	Nancy Serra
2011-13	Carol Hylkema
2014-16	Debbie Stout
2017-19	Cynthia Pinkard
2020-22	Barbara Porter
2023 -24	Belinda Friis

2024 Board of Directors



PRESIDENT
Belinda Friis
bafriis@comcast.net
2024



EVENT CHAIR
Julie Williams
kjrwilliams@comcast.net
2024



SECRETARY
Arezell Brown
arezellb@yahoo.com
2024



TREASURER & RULES CHAIR
Liz Cantu
lizcantu@comcast.net
2026



MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
Katy Trionfi
kattytrionfi@gmail.
2027



SCORING CHAIR
Linda Belleau
Lbdecc22@aol.com
2027



HANDICAP CHAIR
Suzanne Madej
wndblwn97@gmail.com
2025



COURSE COORDINATOR
Kathleen Brown
tipperrtw@gmail.com



VICE PRESIDENT
Ellen Jean Pravato
ellenjeanp@hotmail.com
2025



NEWSLETTER & HISTORIAN CHAIR
Barbara Porter
wmga2023@gmail.com
2025

Term ends in fall of year indicated. If you are interested in volunteering your services, please reach out to any Board Member

INTRODUCTION

WMGA's Handbook consist of an incorporated Articles of Constitution and a Manual of Operation. – These documents have been developed over our long history and are analyzed annually to provide our members with an equitable and efficient golf experience. Please take the time to read this Handbook as it provides valuable information on WMGA procedures and member obligations.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the Association shall be the Women's Metropolitan Golf Association (WMGA).

ARTICLE II: MISSION

The mission of the Association is to promote and serve the best interests of women's amateur golf in Southeastern Michigan by hosting handicapped golf competitions governed by the R&A/USGA Rules of Golf with emphasis on Pace of Play and Golf Etiquette.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership in the Association shall be open to amateur women golfers with a current USGA Handicap that does not exceed 25.4. At the Board's discretion, membership may be granted to women with near qualifying indexes for a probationary period of one year.

Section 2: There shall be two classes of active membership in the Association: Full and Associate. All Full and Associate Members may hold a Board position and are eligible to vote. All non-Board members are expected to assist with the competitions and/or special events.

Section 2a: Annual Full membership shall be granted to women golfers who pay the annual dues. They may play all scheduled competitions.

Section 2b: Annual Associate membership shall be available to women golfers who pay 75% of the annual dues and select only 10 weeks of competitions. (Additional weeks played will be charged at the guest rate).

Section 3: There shall be one class of inactive membership in the Association: Sponsored.

Section 3a: Annual Sponsored membership is for posting purposes only with no other privileges of membership. The Board will establish eligibility and set the dues.

ARTICLE IV: NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF THE BOARD

Section 1: All Board terms shall be for 3 years.

Section 2: The Vice President shall recruit candidates for the Board from the active membership; shall present the slate of candidates to the Board; and, after the Board has approved the candidates, shall present the candidates to the membership at least two (2) weeks prior to the election date.

Section 3: Board members whose terms are ending are eligible for reelection.

Section 4: Election of Board members shall take place yearly, at the Annual meeting. (See Article VI; Section 2) The Vice President shall be responsible for overseeing the election process including preparing, distributing, collecting and tallying of the ballots. If the election is not contested, the vote will be conducted by acclamation.

Section 5: Should a Board member resign; her term shall be filled by the candidate who placed next in votes in the preceding election. Should that candidate be unable to accept, the vacancy shall be offered to the remainder of the candidates in order of the number of votes each received. Should none of the candidates be able to fill the vacancy, it shall be filled by Board appointment.

Section 6: All exiting Board member's records shall be turned over to the Board.

ARTICLE V: BOARD

Section 1: The Association shall be governed and managed by the Board.

Section 2: The Board shall be comprised of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Course Coordinator, Handicap Chair and any additional Chairpersons as defined in the Manual of Operation.

Section 3: The President shall be appointed at the first meeting of the new Board to be held prior to the new year.

Section 3a: Before a Board member may hold the office of President, she shall have served at least one year on the Board. She may not serve more than three (3) consecutive years as President.

Section 4: The remaining Board positions will be appointed, after the appointment of the President, also at the first meeting of the new Board to be held prior to the new year.

Section 5: A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum sufficient to conduct business.

Section 6: The Board shall meet as necessary to conduct routine business.

ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Section 1: There shall be a Spring meeting of the Association with the date and place to be determined by the Board (generally held in May) to, foremost, welcome members and to address member questions.

Section 2: There shall be an Annual meeting of the Association with the date and place to be determined by the Board (generally held following golf after the last official competition). The meeting shall include a treasurer's financial report, election of Board members and other business as deemed necessary-

Section 3: Special Meetings of the Association, when deemed necessary, may be called by the President and/or the Board.

ARTICLE VII: OBLIGATIONS AND DISCIPLINE

Section 1: Members of the WMGA shall abide by the By-laws and other rules/documents of the Association. They shall accept and enforce the decisions of the Board.

Section 2: When participating in any golf scenario, members are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner consistent with proper golf etiquette (see R&A/USGA Rule 1.2) to avoid disparagement of the organization, the Board and/or general membership.

Section 3: The Board has the power to take disciplinary action against a member. A grievance against a member must be presented to the Board in writing. That member will have an opportunity to provide a written rebuttal to the grievance to the Board. After review of the grievance and rebuttal, if any, by all Board members, the Board shall render and document its decision. The decision of the Board shall be final.

ARTICLE VIII: WEEKLY COMPETITIONS

Section 1: The Board shall make up a schedule of weekly 18-hole competitions. The Course Coordinator (in collaboration with other Board Chairs as needed) shall negotiate contracts with relevant course personnel to complete the schedule. The schedule shall identify the dates for Club Championships and any additional competitions/events per Board approval.

Section 2: Weekly events shall be governed by the R&A/USGA Rules of Golf and local rules shall be developed as needed by the Rules Chair. A Rules Committee consisting of the Rules Chair, the course golf professional (if qualified and necessary) and others as needed shall be designated for each competition.

Section 3: Members are required to post all their scores per WMGA posting procedures.

ARTICLE IX: ASSOCIATION COLORS

The colors of the Women's Metropolitan Golf Association shall be green and white.

ARTICLE X: INDEMNIFICATION

Section 1: Each person who is or was a board member, director, officer, or member of a committee of the Association shall be indemnified by the Association to the fullest extent permitted by the laws of the State of Michigan. The Association may, to the extent authorized from time to time by the Board, grant rights to indemnification to any employee, non-director volunteer, or agent of the Association to the fullest extent provided under the laws of the State of Michigan. The Association may maintain insurance on behalf of any such person against any liability asserted against and incurred by such person in any such capacity or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not the Association would have power to indemnify such person against such liability under the preceding sentences.

Section 2: However, the Association shall not assume any liability to the extent the assumption is inconsistent with the status of the Association as an organization described in section 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE XI: FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Association shall be from January 1 to December 31.

ARTICLE XII: DISSOLUTION

In the event of the termination of the activities of the Association and its dissolution, the entire assets of Association, together with any and all accumulations thereto, shall be distributed to such charitable organizations as recognized by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and selected by the Board.

ARTICLE XIII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1: These By-Laws may be amended at any duly called meeting of the Association (e.g. the Spring, Annual or a Special meeting) by a two- thirds majority of the members present provided the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing to all members at least 2 weeks prior to the vote.

Revisions: 4/23/2006, 5/4/2011, 5/2/2012, 4/9/2019, 5/8/2024

MANUAL OF OPERATION

The Manual of Operation was developed from our By-Laws as a summary of the responsibilities of the Board as the decision-making body of the MWGA. Detailed Board responsibilities may be found in the internal Duties of the Board document.

Duties of the Board

1. The President shall preside at all meetings and shall appoint any chairperson, advisor or committee she may deem advisable.
2. The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President in her absence or in her inability to function and shall perform other duties requested by the President. She will direct the Match Play competition.
3. The Secretary shall record all meetings; furnish such minutes upon Board request and retain all current WMGA documents. She shall send notes of appreciation to courses played and other correspondence as requested.
4. The Treasurer shall take charge of all funds and keep accurate, current records of all receipts and disbursements. All indebtedness incurred by the Association shall be paid by the Treasurer. She shall be bonded annually, said bonding to be paid from the treasury. At the end of the season, it is recommended a reserve balance of \$2500.00 be kept in the treasury.
5. The Membership Chair shall update the yearly membership application and T- Talk Member Handbook & Directory. She shall maintain a current membership database and spearhead membership growth. She will also maintain contact with new members throughout the season to ensure they feel welcome and become familiar with the Association's procedures.
6. The Course Coordinator shall contact and contract with courses for a schedule of competitions for the following season. She shall be the primary contact with the course and will work with the Handicap Chair on weekly pairings.
7. The Handicap Chair shall be responsible for monitoring each member's USGA index under the rules and regulations designated by the Association's status as a GAM (Golf Association of Michigan) member club. She shall provide each member with a current course handicap during the playing season.
8. The Newsletter Chair will be responsible for editing a newsletter on a regular basis and other duties that may be requested by the President.
9. The Events Chair shall preside over events (Rules Clinic, Fundraiser, etc.) other than the 18-week competitions and any committees necessary for such special events.

10. The Scoring Chair is responsible for the electronic scoring process at competitions. She records player points throughout the season and provides results for website posting. She also selects the CTF and coordinates with the Rules Chair regarding any abnormal playing conditions.
11. The Historian Chair shall preserve, store and collect memorabilia pertinent to the narrative of the WMGA. She receives and records the organization's relevant dated documents.
12. The Rules Chair is proficient in the R&A/USGA Rules of Golf and applies these rules, along with any local rules, in providing assistance to players as well as resolving rules or scoring issues that may arise during a competition.
13. Other positions will be created and/or defined as needed by the Board.
14. The failure of any Board member to fulfill her position as defined in this Manual, or to be absent from 3 consecutive meetings or 4 total meetings in 1 year shall result in her removal from the Board by a majority vote of the Board.
15. Board members may receive a reduction of the cost of their WMGA golf fees for 1 year. The amount is to be reviewed annually by the Board.

Dues

1. The annual dues assessment is established by the Board.
2. Any member may withdraw from the Association. To reclaim any unused portion of her dues, less 10% handling fee, plus less GAM Handicap Fees, she must submit her request in writing to the Board with her reason(s) for withdrawal. Such claim will be subject to review and acceptance by the Board.

Competitions and Awards

1. In addition to the 18 weekly competitions, the Board shall schedule dates for Club Championships, Match Play, Doe Day and, when applicable, dates for other special events.
2. The official season shall run approximately from May through September, with play on Wednesdays.
3. The monetary amount allocated for points for the 18 weekly competitions and Match Play Competitions shall be determined by the Board as approved in the annual budget.
4. An annual club championship title is awarded to the player with the lowest total gross score of the four (4) Club Championship competitions.

Flights

1. The number of flights and handicap limits of each flight shall be determined by the Handicap Chair and adjusted as necessary throughout the season.
2. Each player is assigned their USGA Handicap Index as provided by GHIN.

Revisions: 5/4/2011, 5/2/2012, 5/16/2018, 4/12/19, 4/5/2021, 2/3/2022, 3/12/24

MEMBER BENEFITS

Membership in WMGA includes a GAM/GHIN membership, a USGA handicap and a right to play in WMGA events. WMGA membership does not afford members

special golf rates or privileges. Please do not inquire as this reflects negatively on our organization.

COMPETITIONS / AWARDS

Weekly play consists of stroke play, where you compete against all other players in your flight. Exception is the Match Play Event and, when suitable, Special Events and Doe Day. Play customarily starts at 8AM with a shotgun start. Refer to our schedule for any variations.

General Play –The Handicap Chair assigns each member to one of four flights (Champion, 1st, 2nd or 3rd) according to the member's USGA Handicap Index. Throughout the season, a member may change flights as their index changes. Each week, players are awarded points in each flight as follows:

- 1st Low Gross = 5 points
- 2nd Low Gross = 3 points
- Low Net = 3 points
- Match Play = 2 points

In the event of a tie, each player is awarded the same point value. Points awarded to each player are recorded by the Scoring Chair to determine our Club Champion as well as other awards presented at our Doe Day luncheon, which is the last event of our season.

Club Champion - All current members are automatically eligible to become our Club Champion. To qualify, a member must play all four (4) "Club Championship" dates designated on the annual schedule. – These dates are generally one per month. The player with the lowest overall total gross of the four (4) scores is selected as our Club Champion and represents the WMGA in the GAM (Senior) Tournament of Champions. Her entry fee is paid by the WMGA. Additionally, using the same four (4) dates as criteria, appropriate awards will be given in each flight.

Match Play – An optional 3 round Match Play Tournament is offered as long as there are 24 participants. You must be available to play all three dates. In the event you lose in the first round of play, you play a consolation round on the second date scheduled so that all participants are guaranteed 2 matches. Members not participating in Match Play are paired for regular individual stroke play.

Most Improved Golfer – All current members are eligible for this award which begins on opening day and ends the week before Doe Day. To qualify, players must participate in a minimum of 12 events. The player with the largest percentage drop in their index is recognized as our Most Improved Golfer. In case of a tie or ties, all players are recognized.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Included in our season, but not limited to, are the following special events:

1. Rules Seminar and New Member Orientation
2. Annual Fundraiser to help support a charity dedicated to helping women. If a change with the current charity is deemed necessary, a replacement charity will be selected by committee. This event coincides with our "Guest Day."
3. "Doe Day," our season finale, open to members only, includes an awards presentation luncheon following golf.

GAMES

Games (separate from the competition) are managed by member volunteers and are available at your discretion. The monetary amount is set by said volunteers. Games include, but not limited to, Skins (flighted), Closest-to-Flagstick (flighted) and Chip-ins (not flighted). If you plan on participating in the "games", arrive in sufficient time to complete the monetary transactions. - Correct change is requested.

GUESTS

Members are encouraged to bring a guest any week except for "Doe Day". An individual guest, including former members, may play 5 times a season, based on availability. For guests to compete in the voluntary CTF and/or Skins Games, their handicap needs to be verified with our handicap chair 7 days in advance of the play date. For reservations, contact Handicap Chair, Sue Madej, wndblwn97@gmail.com at least 2 weeks in advance and send payment to Treasurer Liz Cantu, 5671 Hidden Pines Ct. White Lake, MI 48383.

TERMS OF COMPETITION / SCORING / POSTING

1. **USGA Rules** – All play is governed by USGA “Rules of Golf”. When playing mixed tees (red & white/forward & middle) WMGA tee markers will be placed at the appropriate tee box. The last group playing the holes designated with WMGA tee markers should pick them up and return them to the Scoring Chair. A “Player Information Sheet” will be emailed each week. Disregard any special rules on course scorecards. Range finders and GPS units are allowed.
2. **Prior to Play** – Player must only pick-up her official scorecard, generally located on a table in the pro-shop/grill area. Failure to do so may result in player being disqualified.
3. **Exchange Scorecards** – Prior to play, exchange the official WMGA scorecard with your partner or among the players when a threesome. Record starting and ending time when applicable.
4. **Ready Golf** – Play ready golf, with the exception of Match Play, however, be courteous of your partners.
5. **Scoring** - Each hole on your scorecard must have one of the three entries as described below:
 - a. **Actual Score** - The player’s actual score for the hole (strokes plus any penalties).
 - b. **Likely Score + X** - If a player starts a hole but does not complete the hole for any reason, the player’s score should reflect what her score likely would have been followed by an X. As an example, a 6X would be used when a person experiences vertigo after reaching the green in 4 and is 25 feet out (assumes 2 putts would be required to complete the hole). A maximum stroke allowance of 10X may be used when a player believes that her strokes for the hole will likely be in excess of 10. This is also encouraged for pace of play. The player is not eligible for points for the round but does remain eligible for games money.
 - c. **Hole-Not-Played** - If a player chooses not to play a hole for any reason the score should be left blank. The player is not eligible for points for the round but does remain eligible for games money.
6. **Verify** – Verify hole-by-hole and total scores for both you and your partner prior to turning in scorecards to the scoring table. Do this periodically during play for time saving purposes.
7. **Disputed Scores** – Consult with the Rules Committee regarding questions or disputed scores after completing play but before signing and submitting scorecards to the scoring table

8. **Completion of Play** – Turn in your signed and attested scorecards to the scoring table immediately after completing your round and before you attend to your equipment. Every scorecard must be turned in even if the player has withdrawn. If you withdraw, mark “WD” on your scorecard and, if you leave the course prior to completion of your round, place your scorecard in the WMGA tote bag.
- 9.
10. **Disqualification:** No player may unilaterally determine that she is disqualified. Disqualification results from a major breach of the rules and is a penalty to only be imposed by the Rules Committee. Players who are disqualified are not eligible for points or games money for the round. Reasons for disqualifications are based on the USGA Rules of Golf.
11. **Handicaps & Posting** - Handicaps will be computed according to the World Handicap System /USGA by the GHIN Handicap Program. The standard is Net Double Bogey. Members are obligated to maintain a current handicap by posting their gross hole-by-hole score to GHIN. Posting hole-by-hole allows GHIN to automatically adjust your hole score to no more than net double bogey. When posting, any holes not played should be left blank. If you are confused about this, please ask the handicap chair for help.
12. **Penalty Scores** - To protect the integrity of the field, all scores must be posted according to the World Handicap System/USGA and is governed by your WMGA Handicap Committee. Scores should be posted the day of play and no later than 11:59 pm Thursday after golf on Wednesday. Any scores posted after this deadline will be subject to a penalty score calculated by GHIN. Forgetting to post is not an acceptable excuse and will be penalized. Other excuses may be entertained to avoid penalty but must involve extreme adversity and incidents will be considered on a one-by-one basis by the committee and the penalty score may be removed. Repeated violations of score posting may result in the withdrawal of your handicap index.

NOTABLE MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Attend annual Rules Clinic and New Member Orientation when possible.
2. Submit all play date changes at least 8 days in advance to Handicap Chair, Sue Madej, wndblwn97@gmail.com.
3. Before play, always refer to the Player Information Sheet (emailed by the Monday prior to play) for any procedural changes and general course facts.
4. Arrive at least 30 minutes before start time (8AM). Pick-up scorecard and enter voluntary games. Be in your cart by 7:45 for announcements and drive to starting hole.
5. Abide by Pace-of-Play Policy (see Local Rules Governing Play pg. 16).
6. Participate in all association meetings.
7. During play, members are not to contact the course except for emergencies. Any complaints are to be addressed to the Board.
8. Communicate any concerns/questions/suggestions to any Board Member for prompt resolution.
9. Use of cell phones, except for GPS play, is discouraged. Place on Silent Mode.
10. Conduct unbecoming a WMGA member, including but not limited to, poor sportsmanship, inappropriate language, intentional rules violations and verbal abuse will not be tolerated. See By-laws; Article VII
11. Appropriate golf attire is required.
12. Always drive responsibly when operating a golf cart. Avoid distractions and use extreme caution in inclement weather and on steep inclines. Passengers should remain vigilant and share cart duties to promote pace-of-play.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In cases of severe inclement weather, such as an electrical storm or course closure, the Board shall determine if the course is unplayable. If clearly unplayable, an email will be sent to the membership by 9 p.m. the evening prior to play. Members scheduled to play should check their email before heading for the course. On the day of play, two Board members will inspect golf course in case of inclement weather to determine if course is unsuitable for play.

1. If play has commenced and then canceled due to weather the field will be called in. If 10 – 17 holes are completed, the score posting rules apply.
2. If you elect to withdraw due to weather conditions, and leave the course, do not attempt to influence others to withdraw. Mark “WD” on your scorecard and place it in the WMGA tote bag.
3. If inclement weather prevents all players from completing their round, scores will be posted, when applicable, for handicap purposes only and points will not be awarded.

WMGA USGA & LOCAL RULES GOVERNING PLAY

USGA RULES

USGA rules are in effect and are further defined by The Committee, by the following definitions and Local Rules.

Penalty Areas: Rule 17 (see this rule for relief options)

Defined by: red or yellow stakes and/or red or yellow lines.

When stakes or lines are not clearly evident, the edge of a penalty area is defined as the uncut edge of areas on the course with:

- ponds, creeks, lakes, cattails
- dense woods and/or dense undergrowth
- drainage ditches and bridges

For example, if the ball lands in dense undergrowth on the right side of the fairway, the reference point is the point on the uncut edge where the ball last crossed that edge (or the players best estimate of that point), and red-penalty-area relief (any one of the three options described in rule 17) is taken from that point. Yellow-penalty-area relief does not apply because any area that is not marked is red, by default.

Abnormal Course Conditions: Rule 16

Defined by white lines, bare spots, or sparsely grassed areas in the General Area, including immovable obstructions, embedded ball, ground under repair, temporary water, dangerous animal conditions, holes made by animals, machine ruts, newly sodded areas, flower beds and all bare areas surrounding the green.

Out of Bounds: Rule 18.2a, b

Defined by white stakes, white lines, boundary fences or other markings defining the outer perimeter of the course, and roads that are not part of the course.

Loose Impediments: Rule 15.1a

Are removable anywhere on the course without penalty. If your ball moves when removing these items, there is a 1 stroke penalty and you must replace your ball.

Movable Obstructions: Rule 15.2a, b

Are removable anywhere on the course without penalty. If your ball moves when removing these items, there is no penalty and you must replace your ball.

Provisional Ball: Rule 18-3

If it seems probable that your ball is lost outside a penalty area or is out of bounds, you may play a provisional ball, under penalty of stroke and distance, at any time before your 3-minute search period has expired. If your original ball is found in bounds or is in a penalty area, you MUST abandon the provisional ball.

Playing a second ball – Rule 20.1 c (Stroke Play Only)

When in doubt as to a ruling; play a second ball – you must declare which ball's score you want to count and you must report the situation to the committee before signing and turning in your scorecard. Failure to do this can result in disqualification.

Maximum Stroke Play: Rule 21.1 b

The WMGA has adopted a modified version of this rule. Once a golfer's stroke total reaches 10, she may pick up without holing out, indicating this with a 10X on her Scorecard. The golfer will not be eligible for gross or net prizes for the day but can remain in other games.

Inclement Weather (see pg. 14 for policy details)

You are expected to come to the course unless you receive official notification from the WMGA by email, text or phone call.

Pace of Play (POP) - Undue Delay: Slow Play – Rule 5-6

Each group must keep pace with the group in front of them. Undue delay could result in penalty strokes being assessed. When you are in a group of four and cannot see the group on the hole in front of you on a par 4 or, if the group ahead is not still on the hole on a par five, you must split up into twosomes until you catch up. This should be done at any time you are behind. As we tee off in a shotgun format, you will be penalized if your finishing time is more than 15 minutes behind the group ahead of you, pending explanation. *The time your group walks off the green on your last hole must be written on your scorecard. If you are found to be unreasonably delaying play and not following the local procedure: Penalty for this breach: One Penalty Stroke.*

Note: When applicable, additional local rules pertaining to the course being played will be addressed in your weekly player memo.

PACE OF PLAY HINTS

Remember, when playing golf, you are not a SPECTATOR. Be ready to PLAY when it is your turn. If others in your group are not ready when it is their turn, PLAY your ball. (Except when format is Match Play). PACE OF PLAY requires that you keep PLAY moving. If you do that, you should never feel rushed. Keep up with the group in FRONT of you. Below is list of actions required to keep play moving.

1. Minimize your time on the tee, play READY GOLF.
2. Do not let conversations interfere with play.
3. If your ball could be lost outside a penalty area, PLAY A PROVISIONAL BALL BEFORE moving forward.
4. Watch all balls in your group and landmark their position; help player(s) with ball direction.
5. Always go to your ball as soon as possible and prepare to play your shot – if not interfering with other players, play your shot.
 - a. Don't just sit in cart waiting, walk or drive to your ball.
 - b. Don't help others look for their ball first if your ball is nearby. Help others look for their ball after you have played your ball.
6. Share cart duties and share responsibility to keep up with group in front of you.
7. When leaving your bag, estimate your yardage and take sufficient clubs so you do not need to return to your cart.
8. Put your clubs away while waiting for others to play or after you have arrived at at your next shot. – Do not make your partners wait for you to put your clubs away.
9. Place your bag or park your cart on the greenside closest to the next tee.
10. On the green, look over your line while others are putting; do not interfere or move; just prepare your putt.
11. CONTINUOUS PUTT when close to the hole and do not need to stand on another player's line. (Except when format is Match Play).
12. Record and verify scores at the next tee while simultaneously teeing off.

When out of position and two people sharing a cart are finished putting, leave the green and proceed to the teeing box and tee off. If the other players are not at the tee or your group is out of position, split up and play as a twosome, until you catch the group in front of you. Your fellow players should eventually catch up, then you can rejoin them.

See USGA Rule 5.6 for additional information on Unreasonable Delay; Prompt Pace of Play.

If every player delayed play by 30 seconds on every hole, 36 minutes would be added to the time it takes to play your round! Please, be respectful to all players and the course. DO NOT DELAY PLAY!

REFUNDS

Full Members that comply with the 8-day advance notice requirement, shall receive a \$20 refund for each week not played, up to a maximum of 3 weeks. In the event of a course closure/cancellation, Full Members scheduled to play will receive a \$20 refund. Associate Members (10-week players) that comply with the 8-day advance notice requirement, may change up to 2 of their play dates. In the event of a course closure/ cancellation, Associate Members scheduled to play may pick a different course or receive a \$20 refund.

Withdrawal from WMGA – See Manual of Operation: Dues: Article 2 for refund clarification.

COURSE STANDARDS

All WMGA courses must meet at least one of the following three standards:

1. Minimum of 4850 yards
2. Minimum slope of 118
3. Minimum rating of 69

Courses will be adjusted to meet the above standards prior to play.

CLUB CHAMPION

2023 Shelly Weiss



QUEEN RECOGNITION

All current members are eligible for this honor. In 1955, WMGA member Rudy Gillard originated the tradition of selecting a “Queen” for the upcoming year.

On Doe Day, the President grants the “Queen” designation to a player who has (1) not been chosen before (2) has served as an exemplary WMGA member over the years, and (3) has acted as a goodwill ambassador representing the fine qualities of our membership.

2023 QUEEN
Carolyn Byl



Past Queens

2013 Barbara Porter
2014 Angie Cook
2015 Carol Hanchett-Card
2016 Linda Boyle
2017 Nancy Serra
2018 Arezell Brown
2019 Vicki Van Becelaere
2020 All Members (COVID)
2021 Cindy Hill
2022 Gail Cooper
2023 Carolyn Byl