



**PGA**

Northern Texas Section

# **2010 Section Tournament Rules & Regulations**

**Effective: January 19, 2010**



## **TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

(Updated – 01/19/2010)

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**NORTHERN TEXAS PGA SECTION  
TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**ARTICLE I**

**Purpose**

**Section 1.**

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

## ARTICLE II

### **Proposing Rules and Regulations**

#### **Section 1.**

The Northern Texas PGA Tournament Committee has the responsibility of proposing rules and regulations governing all competition in the Section tournament programs. Such rules and regulations must be approved and adopted by the Board of Directors. The Board shall publish the Rules and Regulations governing the Tournament Program including all Chapter events. The PGA representative, assigned to represent the Section at a sanctioned event, is responsible to the Executive Director for enforcement of all regulations. *USGA Rules of Golf* shall govern all play except as modified by Local Rules. Professionals are responsible for the knowledge of *USGA Rules of Golf* and the rules, policies and regulations of the Northern Texas Section.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **Schedule**

#### **Section 1.**

The Tournament Committee shall formulate an annual tournament schedule of events which will permit full participation by eligible members, and which must be approved by the Board of Directors. A master calendar, listing all Section and Chapter events, will be published by the Section in January of each year.

## ARTICLE IV

### **Sanctioned and Approved Events**

#### **Section 1. Sanctioned Events**

Northern Texas PGA Members and Apprentices are encouraged to participate in Section sanctioned events in order to support Section programs and sponsors. Any golf competition played within the geographical territory embracing the Northern Texas Section, in which more than twelve (12) NTPGA golf professionals participate, charging an entry fee and/or offering a purse as prize money, or an appearance fee, must be sanctioned by the Section or Chapter Tournament Chairman or the Executive Director in order for Northern Texas Section Members and Apprentices to participate as competitors.

When an event is sanctioned the Northern Texas PGA will:

1. Publicize the event in its calendar of activities.
2. Approve Member and Apprentice participation.
3. Assure no conflicting pro-ams are sanctioned by the Section on the same date as a Section Major Championship, unless otherwise approved by the Section Tournament Committee Chairman.
4. Assure no conflicting pro-ams are sanctioned by the Section in the same Chapter on the same date, unless otherwise approved by the Section or Chapter Tournament Committee Chairman.
5. Assist the organizing entity with promotion of the event as needed.

Requests for sanction (other than Chapter pro-ams) shall be made in writing and should be received by the Executive Director at least sixty (60) days prior to the event. Each request for sanction will be considered separately. For an event to be sanctioned, the club serving as the host site must have a PGA Member or Apprentice Head Professional serving as the resident professional, unless otherwise approved by the Executive Director.

Any Chapter pro-am held within the Section and using more than twelve (12) Section professionals must be sanctioned by the Chapter in which it is played. The pro-am shall be scheduled through the Chapter Tournament Committee Chairman. Each Chairman will then communicate with the Section Office, which will then approve the dates or suggest changes as they relate to the National/Sectional tournament program.

Chapters may determine the method and amount of sanction fees. Currently, Chapter sanction fees are as follows: Metro Chapter - \$5.00 per player; East Texas Chapter - \$10.00 per player; West Texas Chapter - \$10.00 per player.

A general and administrative fee of twenty-seven and a half (27.5) percent will be charged against the income of all Section administered tournaments.

#### **Section 2. Approved Events**

Professional golf competitions (mini-tours) played within the Section in which non-PGA professionals participate may be approved by the Tournament Committee or the Executive Directive for more than twelve (12) NTPGA golf professionals to participate. The competition does not need to be approved if twelve (12) or less NTPGA golf professionals participate.

Each one of these events will be considered separately on its own merits. Requests for approved event status shall be made in writing to the Executive Director at least sixty (60) days prior to the event. If an event or tour is "approved", NTPGA Member/Apprentices may participate and the tournament sponsor will be responsible for the appropriate "approval fee", currently \$5.00 per player who participates.

For an event to be approved, the club serving as the host site must have a PGA Member or Apprentice Head Professional serving as the resident professional, unless otherwise approved by the Executive Director.

## ARTICLE V

### Rules of Conduct

#### Section 1. Section Tournament Policy

##### **Discipline, Penalties, and Appeals**

Each PGA of America Member or Apprentice Participant (“Participant”) in a Section golf tournament acknowledges the right and authority of the Section to (i) fine and suspend from tournament play; and/or to (ii) fine and permanently bar the Participant from Section tournaments. Any Participant in a Section event hereby releases the PGA of America Section, the PGA of America, the PGA Tournament Corporation, Inc., rules officials, each director, officer, member, employee, agent or representative of any of the foregoing jointly and severally, individually and in their official capacity, of and from any and all claims, demands, damages and causes of action whatsoever, in law or equity, arising out of or in connection with any such decision or action by the Section, PGA of America or any appellate body.

All National and Section offenses imposed against a “Participant” shall accrue for the time period of three (3) years from the said date of the offense. On the anniversary of the three (3) year time period, the said offense will expire and be removed from the record of the “Participant”.

Fines are due and payable within thirty (30) days unless the Participant has made a written appeal. Should the appeal be denied, the fine will be due and payable within thirty (30) days of such denial of appeal; and the Participant will be ineligible to participate in any Section tournament and any other PGA of America tournaments and the tournaments of any other PGA Section until said fine is paid in full.

##### **Advance Notification of Proposed Disciplinary Action**

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

##### **Rules of Golf**

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

##### **Classes of Penalties for Section Tournament Offenses**

MINOR PENALTIES - A Minor Penalty is a fine of not more than \$150.00 and/or suspension from tournament play for two or less Section major championships (as defined in Article VII, Section I) for which the Member/Apprentice is eligible for. During the suspension, the Member/Apprentice is not eligible to participate in PGA of America or Chapter tournaments. A Minor Penalty may be imposed by the Section tournament officials responsible for the conduct of the tournament.

MAJOR PENALTIES - A Major Penalty is a fine in excess of \$150.00, suspension from tournament play for more than three Section major championships (as defined in Article VII, Section I) for which the Member/Apprentice is eligible for, and/or permanent disbarment from Section tournament play. During the suspension, the Member/Apprentice is not eligible to participate in PGA of America or Chapter tournaments.

## **Appeals**

MINOR PENALTIES - Appeals from Minor Penalties shall be to the Tournament Committee Chairperson (or his/her designee). Such appeal may be in writing or oral. Such appeal shall be received by the Tournament Committee Chairman no later than thirty (30) days subsequent to the infraction. The

Tournament Committee Chairman shall render the decision on appeal in writing within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the appeal and submit a final report to the Section Executive Director. The Section Executive Director shall submit this final report to the Association General Counsel. Such decision shall be final. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that the Section determines that it would prefer that a Minor Penalty shall be submitted to the Board of Control for a hearing in lieu of action by the Section, then the Section Board of Inquiry will follow the same procedures set forth herein for all matters submitted to the Board of Control for Code of Ethics procedures.

MAJOR PENALTIES - Within thirty days from the date of notification of a Major Penalty, the Participant may submit a written appeal to the Section Board of Inquiry. Failure to file such an appeal shall be deemed conclusively to be an admission of the charges specified in the notification.

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

All fines must be paid within thirty (30) days from the imposition of the fine, or in the event of an appeal, within (30) days from the decision rendered by the Board of Control in the event the Board of Control upholds the findings of the Tournament Committee Chair.

## **Section 2. Violations**

Members and Apprentices shall be deemed to have violated the Rules of Conduct by:

### **Conduct Unbecoming a Professional**

Any Participant deemed guilty of conduct unbecoming a professional while participating in a Section tournament or in activities related thereto (e.g. practice rounds, hospitality events, etc.) shall be subject to fine, suspension and/or permanent disbarment from Section tournament play as provided in this policy.

Conduct Unbecoming of a Professional includes but is not limited to the following actions:

- (a) Displaying disrespect for the Tournament Committee;
- (b) Displaying disrespect for the PGA Staff;
- (c) Displaying disrespect for the host facility;
- (d) Displaying disrespect for the traditional etiquette of golf;
- (e) Making public complaints or criticisms involving the PGA, the PGA staff, sponsors, host clubs, golf courses or the tournament format;
- (f) Using loud, profane and/or abusive language in public;
- (g) Throwing or breaking a club in anger or disgust;

- (h) Consuming any alcoholic beverages and/or illegal drugs on the golf course during a tournament or official practice round;
  - 1. On the golf course is defined as from the starting time until the scorecard is returned upon the completion of the round.

Penalty (for violations A through H):

A fine of \$100.00 shall be levied for the first offense. A fine of \$150.00 shall be levied for the second offense, and a prohibition from participating in Section events for one year shall be levied for the third offense.

Any Participant that is found guilty of more than three offenses for conduct unbecoming a professional charge may, at the sole discretion of the Section, be permanently prohibited from participating in all Section and PGA of America tournaments and also may be subject to PGA of America Code of Ethics charges. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Section reserves the right to pursue Code of Ethics charges against any PGA Member/Apprentice for conduct charges related to the conduct of any Participant at Section golf tournaments and related events at the sole discretion of the Section in compliance with the procedures for Code of Ethics hearings as set forth in this Article II of the Bylaws.

- (i) Failure to send letters of appreciation;
  - 1. Those contestants who win prize money in the Eastern, Western, Northern Texas PGA Professional Championship, NTPGA Section Championship and Match Play Championship who do not send the Section copies of the appreciation letters mailed to sponsors within 45 days of the event.
- (j) Dressing in a manner which is not in keeping with the traditions of the game;
  - 1. Section male professionals are required to wear slacks at the following major events:
    - a. Eastern Championship
    - b. Western Championship
    - c. NTPGA PGA Professional Championship (PNC)
    - d. NTPGA Section Championship
    - e. Match Play Championship
    - f. Seniors Championship
    - g. Texas State Open
    - h. James P. Jordan Cup Matches
    - i. Texas Joe Black Cup Matches
    - j. Ewing Charity Classic

At the discretion of the host professional and facility, Section male professionals are permitted to wear golf appropriate shorts in the following Section and Chapter events:

- a. Section Pro-Pro Championship
- b. Section Pro-Assistant Championship
- c. Section Pro-Scratch Championship
- d. Section Assistants' Championship
- e. Chapter Major Championships
- f. Chapter Assistants Tournaments
- g. Chapter Pro-Am Tournaments

All female professional contestants will be required to conform to the current LPGA Tour dress code.

If a specific medical condition prohibits a contestant from wearing slacks, a written request shall be made to the Tournament Committee requesting an exception. Each request for a medical exception will be considered separately. All requests must be made in writing thirty (30) days prior to the event. The Tournament Committee, will review the request and either approve or decline the request in writing.

NOTE: The Tournament Staff or the Tournament Committee reserve the right to prohibit a competitor from playing should the competitor be deemed to be dressed inappropriately.

2. In Senior Associates' Tour events, all professional and amateur contestants may wear shorts.

(k) Golf Car Etiquette;

1. At no time are more than two people permitted to ride in or on one golf car. Spectators and caddies are permitted to ride, only if the total number of people in the golf car does not exceed two.
2. Contestants must follow the stated or posted golf car signs. Golf cars must remain on the car paths around all tees and greens. This includes the parking of the golf car.
3. At the completion of your round, the golf car used should be returned to the golf car staging area.

(l) Non-Metal Spikes;

All Section Major Championships conducted in the Northern Texas Section require the use of non-metal spikes. Shoes with metal or ceramic spike(s) will not be permitted.

(m) Practice During a Suspension of Play for a Dangerous Situation;

All practice areas shall be closed during a suspension of play for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open for use. Players who disregard such closing shall be subject to disciplinary action by the Section Tournament Committee.

Penalty (for violations I through M):

First Offense – \$25.00 fine.

Second Offense – \$50.00 fine and suspension from tournament play for one Section major championship.

Third Offense – \$150.00 fine and suspension from tournament play for two Section major championships.

Fourth Offense – One (1) year playing suspension.

(n) Competing in an “unsanctioned” event;

Each Member and Apprentice within the Section is personally responsible for knowing if an event has been sanctioned by the Section or Chapter. If uncertain, inquiries should be made to the Section or Chapter Tournament Chairman or the Executive Director. An “unsanctioned” event is defined as any event other than a sanctioned event. Northern Texas PGA Members and Apprentices may participate in unsanctioned events if such an

event is not conducted at the same time as a sanctioned event or if the Member or Apprentice receives a release to participate in such an event set forth in the conflicting event rule below.

**Conflicting Event Rule:** In the event a Section Member or Apprentice desires to participate in an “unsanctioned” event which is held during any date or dates a Section sanctioned event is scheduled to be held, (“Conflicting Event”), the Member or Apprentice will be required to submit a written request to participate in the Conflicting Event to the Executive Director for review. All requests must be made in writing thirty (30) days prior to the event. The Section Officers or a committee appointed by the Section Officers, will review the request and either approve or disapprove the request in writing. Requests may be granted or denied in the Section’s sole discretion.

In the event a NTPGA Section Member or Apprentice participates in a conflicting event without obtaining the written approval of the Section Officers or applicable committee, the Section Member or Apprentice shall be subject to;

**Penalty:** Minimum suspension of playing privileges for six months from the last day of the conflicting event.

- (o) Knowingly entering an NTPGA event for which the Member or Apprentice is not eligible;

**Penalty:** Minimum fine of \$100.00. The fine must not exceed \$150.00.

- (p) Failing to notify the Executive Director of a leave of absence by any eligible professional employed at the facility;

**Penalty:** Minimum fine of \$100.00. The fine must not exceed \$150.00.

- (q) Participation by owning or sharing a ticket or receiving financial benefit from a ticket in a Calcutta event held in connection with a sanctioned Section tournament;

**Penalty:** Minimum fine of \$150.00 fine and minimum suspension from tournament play for four Section major championships

- (r) Bringing fewer than the number of amateurs to a pro-am competition than previously committed;

**Penalty:** Minimum fine of \$50.00. The fine must not exceed \$150.00.

- (s) Failing to appear for any round of a NTPGA sanctioned event for which a player enters and is accepted. Note: If a competitor decides to withdraw from tournament play, the competitor must notify either the NTPGA Headquarters (leave message for the Director of Tournament Operations if after hours at extension 110), the NTPGA official on-site or the host professional, as applicable;

1. A professional enters a pro-am competition; accepts and fails to appear.

**Penalty:** Suspension from tournament play for two Section major championships and a \$150.00 fine.

2. A professional cancels from a pro-am competition on the day of the event or the previous day; he fails to find an eligible professional to take his place (if no alternates are available).

**Penalty:** Minimum \$100.00 fine. The fine must not exceed \$150.00.

3. A professional enters a NTPGA major event; he is accepted and fails to appear for any round.

Penalty: Minimum \$100.00 fine. The fine must not exceed \$150.00.

- (t) Every competitor MUST return a scorecard for himself or, in a team competition, for his team, even if the card is marked “no card”. It is not sufficient to merely tell someone in your group that you are “no carding”. If you tee off, you must turn in a scorecard;

Penalty: Minimum \$50.00 fine. The fine must not exceed \$150.00.

- (u) Verifying an incorrect handicap for an amateur;

Penalty: Suspension from tournament play for two Section major championships and a \$150.00 fine.

- (v) Returned Insufficient Funded Checks;

Any returned insufficient funded checks written in payment of entry fee or in conjunction with a NTPGA Section or Chapter tournament.

Penalty: Minimum \$50.00 fine. The fine must not exceed \$150.00.

- (w) Failure to send a Chapter Pro-Am event summary/sanction fee;

The host professional must send the Section office a Chapter Pro-Am event summary outlining the final results, number of participants and enclose a check for the Chapter sanction fee within five (5) days following the event.

Penalty: Minimum \$50.00 fine. The fine must not exceed \$150.00.

- (x) Failure to send a Chapter Professional only event summary/purse/sanction fee;

The host professional must send the Section office a Chapter Professional only event summary outlining the final results, number of participants and enclose a check for the purse and Chapter sanction fee within five (5) days following the event.

Penalty: Minimum \$50.00 fine. The fine must not exceed \$150.00.

## ARTICLE VI

### Eligible Professionals

#### Section 1. Classifications

The privilege of participating in the Northern Texas PGA Section Tournament Program will be extended to any Northern Texas PGA Member who is primarily employed or Apprentices who are employed full time in the area required by their classification in the Northern Texas Section, in good standing and otherwise eligible, and who meet the requirements listed in Article V, Section 1, of the *PGA of America Constitution, By-Laws, and Regulations*. Eligible classifications are as follows:

Member Classification	Apprentice Classification	Classification Description <small>(A detailed description of applicable classifications are available by using (Ctrl + click) to follow links in blue)</small>
<a href="#">A-1</a>	<a href="#">B-1</a>	Head Professional at a PGA Recognized Golf Course
<a href="#">A-2</a>	<a href="#">B-2</a>	Head Professional at a PGA Recognized Golf Range
A-3	Not Applicable	Exempt PGA TOUR, Champions Tour, Nationwide Tour, LPGA Tour and Futures Tour players
<a href="#">A-4</a>	<a href="#">B-4</a>	Director of Golf at PGA Recognized Golf Facilities
A-5	Not Applicable	Past Presidents
<a href="#">A-6</a>	<a href="#">B-6</a>	Golf Instructor at a PGA Recognized Facility
<a href="#">A-7</a>	<a href="#">B-7</a>	Head Professional at a PGA Recognized Facility Under Construction
<a href="#">A-8</a>	<a href="#">B-8</a>	Assistant Golf Professional at a PGA Recognized Facility
<a href="#">A-9</a>	<a href="#">B-9</a>	Employed in Professional Positions in Management, Development, Ownership Operation and/or Financing of Facilities
<a href="#">A-10</a>	<a href="#">B-10</a>	Golf Clinician
<a href="#">A-11</a>	<a href="#">B-11</a>	Golf Administrator
<a href="#">A-12</a>	<a href="#">B-12</a>	College or University Golf Coach
<a href="#">A-13</a>	<a href="#">B-13</a>	General Manager
<a href="#">A-14</a>	<a href="#">B-14</a>	Director of Instruction at a PGA Recognized Facility
<a href="#">A-15</a>	<a href="#">B-15</a>	Ownership or Management of a Retail Golf Facility
<a href="#">A-16</a>	<a href="#">B-16</a>	Golf Course Architect
<a href="#">A-17</a>	<a href="#">B-17</a>	Golf Course Superintendent
<a href="#">A-18</a>	<a href="#">B-18</a>	Golf Media
<a href="#">A-19</a>	<a href="#">B-19</a>	Golf Manufacturer Management
<a href="#">A-20</a>	<a href="#">B-20</a>	Golf Manufacturer Sales Representative
<a href="#">A-21</a>	<a href="#">B-21</a>	Tournament Coordinator/Director for Organizations, Businesses or Associations
<a href="#">A-22</a>	<a href="#">B-22</a>	Rules Official
<a href="#">A-23</a>	<a href="#">B-23</a>	Club Fitting/Club Repair
A-24	Not Applicable	Employed within the golf industry and not eligible for another Active classification
LMA	Not Applicable	Life Member Active
LMMA	Not Applicable	Life Member Master Professional Active

**Registered Apprentices** – Apprentices who are registered in the PGM Program who have passed the Playing Ability Test or if they have attempted the Playing Ability Test at least twice within two years and shoot one 18-hole score that is equal to or less than the Playing Ability target score for 18-holes plus five (5) strokes (B Classifications).

**Professional Golf Management Students** – PGM Students who are in the PGA Program who have passed their Playing Ability Test or if they have attempted the Playing Ability Test at least twice within two years and shoot one 18-hole score that is equal to or less than the Playing Ability target score for 18-holes plus five (5) strokes and are interning in the Northern Texas Section are eligible to compete in Section team events and pro-ams, but not in Section individual major championships.

Class “F” Members and Class A “Inactive” Members and suspended Apprentices are not eligible to participate in sanctioned Northern Texas PGA events (see Section 2 (h) Exceptions).

## **Section 2. Exceptions**

- (a) Class A-3 Members of the NTPGA (Professionals with exempt status on the PGA Tour, Champions Tour, Nationwide Tour or LPGA Tour) are ineligible to participate in NTPGA “Class A” Qualifying for Champions Tour, Nationwide Tour or LPGA Tour events or any pro-ams in which a PGA Tour or Nationwide Tour qualifying spot is designated for a NTPGA Member.
- (b) A NTPGA Member (other than a Class A-3 member) or Apprentice is not eligible to participate in a Section Major Championship Event if he has played in more than ten tournaments in the twelve months preceding the date of entry; however, a NTPGA Member or Apprentice may compete in Pro-Amateur Events upon invitation of the host professional. The following is a list of tours used to determine the ten tournaments: PGA Tour, Champions Tour, Nationwide Tour, LPGA Tour, PGA European Tour, Canadian Tour, Australia/New Zealand Tour, JPGA Tour, The Sunshine Tour, The Asian Tour, The Safari Tour, PGA Challenge Tour, European Seniors Tour, JPGA Senior Tour, WPTG tournaments, JLPGA, Hooters Tour (Professional Series, Winter Series and Carolina Series), Dakotas Tour, Futures Tour, Gateway Tour, Tar Heel Tour (egolf Tour), Heart Land Players Seniors Tour, LPGT, PGA Challenge Tour and Adams Pro Golf Tour Series (or any other “mini” tour that the tournament committee deems a “like” tour). The U.S. Open, U.S. Senior Open, PGA Championship and Senior PGA Championship are not included in the ten-tournament count.
- (c) A NTPGA Class-A Member may request an extension of his playing privileges from the date he becomes unemployed. Class A-3 Members are not eligible for this extension. The member, after requesting an extension, will receive an extension of one (1) month of playing privileges for each full year of PGA membership (maximum of twelve (12) months) or until the time he becomes inactive. A member does not have a classification while granted a playing extension. A playing extension provides playing privileges in all Chapter events and Section events except those restricted to specific classifications. The PGA National Office does not recognize playing extensions granted by a Section. A member is solely responsible for meeting any eligibility guidelines set forth by the PGA National Office for a National Tournament. A member may only use this type of extension one time in a two-year period. Such requests shall be made in writing to the Executive Director.

- (d) A NTPGA Apprentice member may request a 30-day extension of playing privileges from the date he becomes unemployed. An Apprentice member does not have a classification while granted a playing extension. A playing extension provides playing privileges in all Chapter events and Section events except those restricted to specific classifications. The PGA National Office does not recognize playing extensions granted by a Section. An Apprentice member is solely responsible for meeting any eligibility guidelines set forth by the PGA National Office for a National Tournament. Requests shall be made in writing to the Executive Director. An apprentice may only use this type of extension one time in a two-year period. Such requests shall be made in writing to the Executive Director.
- (e) Any NTPGA Member or Apprentice who takes a leave of absence for 90-days or less must be eligibly employed for a period of 30-days prior to the privilege of participating again in the Section's tournament program. For a leave of absence over 90-days, the NTPGA Member must be eligibly employed for a period of 60-days prior to the privilege of participating again in the Section's tournament program. Request for a leave of absence shall be made in writing to the Executive Director.
- (f) A NTPGA Member or Apprentice from a different chapter may be invited by the host professional to participate in a pro-am event at his club. There is no limit as to the number of NTPGA Members or Apprentices that a host professional may invite.
- (g) A PGA Member or Apprentice of a Section other than the Northern Texas Section may be invited by the host professional to participate in a pro-am event at his club. Not more than three (3) non-NTPGA members may be invited to an event, unless approval for an additional number is granted by the Tournament Committee.
- (h) The host professional of the Pro-Pro Championship and Pro-Scratch Championship will be given a playing exemption into the Championship when it is conducted outside Section boundaries. The following stipulations apply to this playing exemption: exemption must be approved by host professional's Section Executive Director, the host professional must team with a Northern Texas PGA Member; the host professional must meet the eligibility requirements for the tournament proper; the host professional playing exemption can only be transferred to a PGA Class A eligible member of his professional staff; the playing exemption is only for one host professional staff member; the host professional agrees to abide by the conditions of the competition and Northern Texas PGA Tournament Rules & Regulations as set forth.
- (i) Non-PGA affiliated professionals may be invited by the host professional to participate in a pro-am event at his club. Not more than three non-PGA affiliated professionals may be invited to an event, unless approval for an additional number is granted by the Tournament Committee. Each non-PGA affiliated professional must purchase a Chapter Player's Card to participate. The cost of this card is \$25.00 payable to the Chapter the pro-am is played in. A Chapter Player's Card must be purchased prior to each pro-am. It is the responsibility of the Chapter Tournament Chairman to manage this responsibility. All funds generated stay within the Chapter.
- (j) NTPGA Inactive Members may be invited by the host professional to participate in a pro-am event at his club. Not more than three (3) NTPGA Inactive Members may be invited to an event, unless approval for an additional number is granted by the Tournament Committee.

## ARTICLE VII

### **Major Tournament Championships**

#### **Section 1. Championship Events / Eligible Classifications**

The following are considered Section Major Championship events conducted by the Northern Texas PGA and applicable eligibility related to each event:

1. NTPGA PRO-ASSISTANT CHAMPIONSHIP – Maximum number of players: 264  
(Open to A-1, A-2, A-4, A-13 or A-14 Members and their employed assistants. The assistant must be an A-6 or A-8 Member or Apprentice [All B Classifications].)
2. NTPGA PRO-PRO CHAMPIONSHIP – Maximum number of teams: 60  
(Open to eligible Members and Apprentices, A-3 Members may not play on the same team.)
3. NTPGA EASTERN CHAMPIONSHIP – Maximum number of players: 144  
(Open to eligible Members and Apprentices, with the exception of A-3 Members.)
4. NTPGA WESTERN CHAMPIONSHIP – Maximum number of players: 144  
(Open to eligible Members and Apprentices, with the exception of A-3 Members.)
5. NORTHERN TEXAS PGA PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP – Maximum number of players: 156  
(PGA of America eligibility required)
6. NTPGA PRO-SCRATCH CHAMPIONSHIP – Maximum number of teams: 84  
(Open to eligible Members, Apprentices and scratch amateurs of their choice.)
7. NTPGA ASSISTANTS' CHAMPIONSHIP – Maximum number of players: 128  
(Open to eligible Members and apprentices, with the exception of A-3 Members.)
8. NTPGA SENIORS' CHAMPIONSHIP – Maximum number of players: 144  
(Open to eligible Members aged 50 and over, with the exception of A-3 Members.)
9. NTPGA SECTION CHAMPIONSHIP – Maximum number of players: 144  
(Open to eligible Members, with the exception of A-3 Members.)
10. NTPGA MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP – Maximum number of players: 32  
(Open to the top 32 eligible Members, with the exception of A-3 Members, from the current year's Player of the Year Point Standings following the NTPGA Section Championship.)

11. TEXAS STATE OPEN – Exemptions and qualifying for 144 players  
(Open to professionals and amateurs with a handicap index of 5.0 or less)
12. TEXAS WOMEN’S OPEN – Maximum number of players: 144  
(Open to professionals and amateurs with a handicap index of 9.9 or less, who were female at birth.)
13. NTPGA SECTION MCGLADREY TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP – Maximum number of teams: 32  
  
(PGA of America eligibility required)

The following are considered Major Championship events and are conducted by either the Northern Texas PGA, Southern Texas PGA or South Central PGA each year:

1. TEXAS STATE PRO-ASSISTANT CHAMPIONSHIP – Maximum number of teams: 150  
  
(Open to A-1, A-2, A-4, A-7, A-9, or A-13 Members in Texas and one of their employed assistants. The assistants must be an A-8 Member or Apprentice.) The Southern Texas PGA will determine eligibility on the official entry form.
2. TEXAS SENIOR OPEN – Qualifying for 120 players  
  
(Open to professionals and amateurs with a handicap index of 9.0 or less who have reached the age of fifty [50] on or before the first round of the Championship.)
3. TEXAS JOE BLACK CUP MATCHES – 12 players per team  
  
(Open to the top nine [9] A-1 or A-4 Members from each Section based on the Player of the Year Point Standings following each Section Championship; the low senior professional based on the Senior Point Standings following each Section Championship and Section President, regardless of their classification; plus one [1] Captain’s pick of an A-1 or A-4 Member.)  
  
To be eligible to compete in the Texas Joe Black Cup Matches, the top nine [9] A-1 or A-4 Members as well as the Captain’s pick must be eligibly employed as an A-1 or A-4 prior to the first round of the NTPGA Section Championship. They must also be eligibly employed as an A-1 or A-4 prior to the first day of the Texas Joe Black Cup Matches. Points earned in a classification other than A-1 or A-4 in the Eastern, Western or PNC Championships are transferable should the Member be employed as an A-1 or A-4 prior to the first round of the NTPGA Section Championship.
4. JAMES P. JORDAN CUP MATCHES – 12 players per team  
  
(Open to the top ten [10] A-8 Members and B-8 Apprentices based on the final NTPGA James P. Jordan Cup Point Standings, plus the team captain as selected by the NTPGA Board of Directors and the NTPGA Assistants’ Champion. To be eligible for the James P. Jordan Cup team, Members and Apprentices must be employed as assistant golf professionals.)

To be eligible to compete in the James P. Jordan Cup Matches, the top ten (10) A-8 Members or B-8 Apprentices, plus the team captain and the NTPGA Assistants’ Champion must be employed as an A-8 or B-8 prior to the first round of the final James P. Jordan Cup Point Standings event. They must also be eligibly employed as an A-8 or B-8 prior to the first day of the James P. Jordan Cup Matches. Points earned in a classification other than

A-8 or B-8 in the Winter Series, Eastern, Western, Assistants' or Chapter Championships are transferable should the Member or Apprentice be eligibly employed as an A-8 or B-8 prior to the first round of the final James P. Jordan Cup Point Standings event.

## **Section 2. Entry Requirements**

- (a) All major championship entry forms shall be returned to the Northern Texas PGA on-line, via mail, facsimile, overnight carrier or in person prior to the stated entry deadline. On-line and faxed entries with a valid Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover Card credit card will be accepted. Forms which are incomplete or without proper advance entry fee or with an invalid credit card will be returned and the entry rejected. Entries shall not be guaranteed to a credit card, payment must accompany the entry or the credit card will be charged. Entries will not be accepted over the telephone.
- (b) All competitors must sign an official entry form to be eligible to participate. By officially entering an event, competitors agree to abide by the Rules and Regulations of the NTPGA, the *USGA Rules of Golf* and NTPGA Rules of Play Card.
- (c) All entries are subject to approval by the NTPGA Tournament Committee. Competitors must be eligible at the time of entry deadline and at the date of the tournament.

## **Section 3. Qualifying Events**

The field for the Texas State Open, conducted in Northern Texas, will be determined as follows:

- (a) Exemptions into the field
  1. Past champions from the event.
  2. Top fifteen (15) professionals and ties from the previous year's event.
  3. Top three (3) amateurs and ties from the previous year's event.
  4. The top fifteen 15 NTPGA professionals and ties and the top fifteen 15 STPGA professionals and ties from the previous year's Player of the Year Point Standings.
  5. The title sponsor shall receive two sponsor's exemptions for professionals or amateurs who meet the Championship eligibility requirements.
  6. Class A-3 Members who are residents of the State of Texas.
  7. Championship PGA Member host professional (non-transferable).
  8. Fifteen (15) professionals who bring a team of three (3) paid amateurs to participate in the pro-am prior to the Championship will receive an exemption into the tournament proper.
  9. Top ten (10) money leaders on the NTPGA Players Tour as of the entry deadline, if otherwise eligible.
  10. Top three (3) leading money winners from Adams Golf Pro Tour Series 2009-2010 Winter Series, if otherwise eligible (non-transferable).
- (b) The remaining spots into the starting field will be determined by qualifying.

- (c) Size of the field will be determined as follows:
1. In the event that 144 or less competitors enter the tournament in a one course event, or 240 or less competitors enter the tournament in a two course event (exempt plus non-exempt competitors), all competitors will be included into the starting field of the tournament proper.
  2. In the event that 145 or more competitors enter the tournament in a one course event, or 241 or more competitors enter the tournament in a two course event (exempt plus non-exempt competitors), qualifying will be held to determine a starting field of a minimum of 144 competitors in a one course event or 240 competitors in a two course event. The number of qualifying positions available at each qualifying site will be determined pro-rata based on the percentage of qualifiers entered at a particular qualifying site relative to the total number of qualifiers entered. This number of qualifiers at each site plus all ties at that number will determine the actual size of the field. Second chance qualifying will be held at all open events between 1-14 days prior to the tournament proper. A maximum field size of 144 with a minimum of four (4) spots will be available. Individuals will be allowed to attempt qualifying twice.
- (d) Entry forms that are incomplete or without proper advance entry fee or with an invalid credit card or that are illegible or received after the entry deadline will:
1. Be returned with a second chance qualifying entry form and a memorandum explaining why the entry was returned.
  2. There will be no alternates for qualifying sites.
  3. Once each qualifying field has been set at the entry deadline, there will be no additions to any qualifying field or to the number of successful qualifying spots available at each site, unless authorized by the Tournament Committee.
  4. Players will not be able to change qualifying sites following the entry deadline.
- (e) Exempt Players (other than Class A-3's) whose entries are received after the entry deadline will:
1. Be placed on an alternate list. They will be informed by the Section office by telephone as their entry is received. Exempt players may replace successful qualifiers or other exempt players who withdraw prior to the second chance qualifying entry deadline.
  2. If an exempt player is still on the alternate list as of the second chance entry deadline, they may enter the second chance qualifying.
- (f) Exempt Class A-3 Members whose entries are received after the entry deadline:
1. There are three (3) spots allocated for Class A-3 Members whose entries are received after the entry deadline. These spots will be filled on a first come, first serve basis for Class A-3 Members. If the three (3) spots are filled, any additional A-3 Members will be placed on the exempt player alternate list outlined above.
  2. If the three (3) spots are not filled with Class A-3 Members prior to the second chance qualifying entry deadline, the remaining spots will be allocated to those participating in the second chance qualifying.

- (g) Exempt Pro-Am professionals who withdraw:
  - 1. If the exempt Pro-Am professional withdraws prior to the Pro-Am, the spot will be filled by the Pro-Am alternate list.
  - 2. If the exempt Pro-Am professional withdraws after the Pro-Am, the spot will be filled by the exempt player alternate list, if there are no exempt players on the alternate list, the spot will be filled by the alternate list from “Second Chance Qualifying”.
- (h) Refunds:
  - 1. Refund requests must be made prior to the entry deadline, after which time refunds will not be granted.
  - 2. Successful Qualifiers who Withdraw – Upon the completion of each qualifying event, successful qualifiers will not be granted a refund of the qualifying entry fee.
  - 3. Exempt Players – Refunds for exempt players will be granted up until 5:00 p.m. the day preceding the official practice round.
- (i) Qualifying “Rain-Out” Procedure:

In the event of a suspension during the qualifying round, the round shall be canceled if more than half the field is unable to complete the round on the qualifying date. If more than half the field completes the round, play should be temporarily suspended and completed when conditions permit. This may include completing play the following day.

Consideration of this procedure would depend on the availability of the golf course. The committee has the right to modify the qualifying round schedule which may include but is not limited to completing play on another day or cancel the entire qualifying round and reschedule at a later date.

Players who cannot play on the date rescheduled will be refunded their entry fee and will be sent a second chance qualifying entry form. They will not be refunded the qualifying fee paid to the host club. They will not be allowed to transfer to another qualifying site.

#### **Section 4. Entry Priority – Non-Qualifying Events**

The field for non-qualifying events conducted in Northern Texas will be determined as follows:

- (a) The defending champion in any Section major championship is automatically entered in this event provided that his entry is received prior to the entry deadline, and he is otherwise eligible.
- (b) All entries will be registered on the date of receipt at Section Headquarters. In events with a limited field, all eligible professionals whose entries in major championships are received prior to the stated deadline will be accepted into the field on the basis of the priority system and the maximum size of the field stated on the entry form.
- (c) Following the stated deadline, the field will be paired according to the time constraints set by the tournament committee and host facility. If the field is not full, entries received after the entry deadline will be placed on an alternate list for the applicable event. After the original pairings have been made, alternates will only be accepted to fill incomplete groups or replace contestants who withdraw.
- (d) For all Section Major Championships entries will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.

- (e) For the Match Play Championship, the field will be seeded according to their standing on the current year's Player of the Year Point Standings following the NTPGA Section Championship. If an eligible Member is unable to participate, the field will be filled by eligible members from those who finished outside the top 32 from the current year's Player of the Year Point Standings.

#### **Section 5. Entry Fees/Refunds**

- (a) The amount of entry fees shall be determined by the Tournament Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. Minimum entry fees shall be \$125.00 for assistant professional major championships; \$150.00 for senior professional major championships; \$150.00 for one-day professional team events; \$350.00 for one-day professional/three amateur team events; \$200.00 for individual professional major championships; \$300.00 for two-day professional/one amateur team events and \$350.00 for two-day professional team championships. Unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors.
- (b) A full refund (less a \$10.00 administrative fee) will be granted if the player/team cancels before 5:00 p.m. on the day preceding the official practice round. If a player/team cancels after this time they will be refunded the fixed tournament expenses only (cart, range and/or food less a \$10.00 administrative fee). In cases of emergency, written requests for refunds can be submitted to the Tournament Committee within five business days of the first round of the tournament. These requests for a refund will be considered separately on their own merits.

#### **Section 6. Arrangement of Pairings/Starting Times**

- (a) Starting times and pairings for individual stroke play major championships will be done on a blind draw basis from two categories:
  - 1. For individual stroke play non-qualifying events, professionals who were in the top 30 point leaders from the preceding calendar year, the current top 30 point leaders, all past and current individual major championship winners for events in which there is no qualifying will be paired together for round one.  
  
For events in which there is qualifying, all exempt players for that particular event (see Section 3 [a]) will be paired together for round one.  
  
For assistant professional events, professionals who were in the top 30 regular point leaders from the preceding calendar year, the current top 30 regular point leaders, all past and current individual major championship winners for events in which there is no qualifying, will be paired together for round one.
  - 2. All other professionals and amateurs will be paired together for round one.
- (b) For pro-am events, the field will be re-paired by score after the first round within the respective a.m. /p.m. waves. When a double tee wave is used, lowest scores from the a.m. wave will play late in the p.m. wave for the second round. Lowest scores from the p.m. wave day one will play late in the a.m. wave for the second round. Subject to change according to course design and availability.
- (c) For professional-only events, for the second and/or final rounds, the field will be re-paired by score using a double tee wave or waves (reverse horseshoe) with the lowest scores off last on the first tee, middle scores off first on the first and tenth tees, and highest scores off last on the tenth tee. Subject to change according to course design and availability.
- (d) Requests for starting times will be accommodated as practicable so long as the requests are made before the pairings are completed. This applies only to the original pairings. Second and third round starting times and pairings are based solely on score.

- (e) Under no circumstances may a player request a specific fellow competitor with whom to play.
- (f) Players will not be called to their tees.
- (g) Players shall start at the time and the order arranged unless otherwise informed by the Section representative in charge. Prompt attendance is required of all players at their starting point of each round. Time of starting penalties shall be consistent with Rule 6-3 and the Note to Rule 6-3 in the *USGA Rules of Golf*.
- (h) Each entrant is responsible for obtaining his or her starting time.

### **Section 7. Scorecard Requirements**

The player's scorecard responsibilities shall be consistent with Rule 6-6 of the *USGA Rules of Golf*.

### **Section 8. Pace of Play**

**DEFINITION OF OUT OF POSITION:** The first group to start will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, they exceed the time allotted to play, as detailed on the applicable Pace of Play Time Chart.

Any subsequent groups will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, they (a) exceed the allotted time to play and (b) reach a par-3 hole that is open and free of play or fail to clear the tee of a par-4 or par-5 hole before that hole is open and free to play. Both (a) and (b) must apply for a group to be out of position.

**NOTE:** The Rules Committee reserves the right to time a group when the Rules Committee deems it necessary. Further, if a player is determined by the Rules Committee to be unreasonably slow he may be timed individually at the Rules Committee's discretion, regardless of whether his group is out of position.

**TIMING:** When the Rules Committee determines that a group or an individual will be timed, all players in the group, or the specific individual, will be informed they are being timed. A group or an individual will be informed after leaving the teeing ground and before any further strokes. Timing will discontinue when the group has regained its position. Any timing exceeding the allotted time to play will be carried over for the remainder of the round.

Other than on the putting green, the timing of a player's stroke will begin when it is his turn to play and he can play without interference or distraction. Time spent determining yardage will count as time taken for the next stroke.

On the putting green, timing will begin after the player has been allowed a reasonable amount of time to mark, lift, clean and replace his ball, repair his ball mark and other ball marks on his line of putt and remove loose impediments on his line of putt. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball will count as time taken for that stroke.

**NOTE:** A player is permitted 40 seconds to play a stroke, and an extra 20 seconds (for a total of 60 seconds) will be allowed for: (a) the first player to play a stroke on a par-3 hole; (b) the first player to play a second stroke on a par-4 or par-5 hole; (c) the first player to play a third stroke on a par-5 hole; (d) the first player to play around the putting green; and (e) the first player to play on the putting green.

**PENALTIES:** Any player in a group being timed, who exceeds the applicable time to play a stroke, will be informed as soon as practicable and is subject to the following penalties:

- FIRST OFFENSE: Warning
- SECOND OFFENSE: One (1) Stroke Penalty
- THIRD OFFENSE: Two (2) Stroke Penalty
- FOURTH OFFENSE: Disqualification

## Section 9. Discontinuance of Play/Rain Out Procedure

- (a) The policy for discontinuance of play will be consistent with Rule 6-8 of the *USGA Rules of Golf*. The PGA representative in charge, after consultation with the Committee, has the authority to order discontinuance of play due to weather conditions. The decision to resume play, postpone any part of it or cancel play rests entirely with the official in charge. When serving on the Committee, no member may be a competitor. Discontinuance of play immediately for a dangerous situation will be signaled by one prolonged siren or horn note. Three consecutive short signal notes will signal discontinuance of play. Two short signal notes will signal the resumption of play. NOTE: Players should be aware of their right to stop play at any time if they think lightning threatens them, even though no signal for discontinuance has been given or heard. When play has been suspended for a dangerous situation all practice facilities including practice putting greens are deemed closed. The Rules Committee will notify players when these areas are to be re-opened.
- (b) In major open competitions contested at 36-holes, the following rain-out procedure will apply:
  - 1. One day rained out – event will be contested at 18-holes with the entire purse paid.
  - 2. Two days rained out – event will be rescheduled at 36-holes at a later date.
- (c) In major open competitions contested at 72-holes, the following rain-out procedure will apply:
  - 1. One day rained out – event will be contested at 54-holes with the entire purse paid.
  - 2. Two days rained out – event will be contested at 36-holes with the entire purse paid.
  - 3. Three days rained out – event will be rescheduled at 36-holes at a later date.
- (d) The following guidelines are for use by the Committee in case of bad weather:
  - 1. When unplayable conditions occur, play shall be suspended. When conditions thereafter become playable, play will then be resumed, even when that round cannot be completed that day. Play may be resumed the following day to include completion of the next scheduled round. It is the responsibility of each contestant to be prepared to commence play as soon as the Committee deems the course playable. Contestants are encouraged not to leave the clubhouse facility during a delay of any sort due to the unpredictability of weather conditions.
  - 2. Every effort shall be made to finish each round as scheduled.
  - 3. In the event of a suspension during the final round, the round shall be canceled if more than half the field is unable to complete the round. If more than half the field completes the round, play should be temporarily suspended and completed when conditions permit. Consideration of this procedure would depend upon availability of the golf course as well as the type of competition.

## Section 10. Policy Regarding Ties

- (a) **Major Events:** In all major events, should two or more professionals or teams tie for first position, the tie will be resolved by a sudden-death playoff, unless otherwise stated. If more than two tie, all players other than the winner will be declared joint winners of second place and share equally in the purse to be distributed. Professionals tying for other positions will share equally with others posting the same score.

- (b) **Match Play Championship:** The “Texas Joe Black Cup Team” tie-break method (see letter [c] below) will be used to determine a professional’s seeding in the Match Play Championship if there is a tie for a position in the top 32 finishers or for any alternate positions.
- (c) **Texas Joe Black Cup Team:** Should there be a tie for the last position on the Texas Joe Black Cup team or Match Play Championship, the tie will be broken using the Member’s finish in the current NTPGA Section Championship.

Should there be a tie following the NTPGA Section Championship tie-break method, the tie will be broken utilizing their individual rounds in the NTPGA Section Championship starting with the final round, and then the first round.

If the tie is still not broken, the same method to break the tie will be utilized using the Northern Texas PGA Professional Championship. If the tie is still not broken, the final position on the previous year’s Player of the Year Point Standings will be used to break the tie.

Should there be a tie for the last senior position on the Texas Joe Black Cup team, the tie will be broken using the senior Member’s finish in the current NTPGA Seniors Championship.

Should there be a tie following the NTPGA Seniors’ Championship tie-break method, the tie will be broken utilizing their individual rounds in the NTPGA Seniors’ Championship starting with the final round and then the first round.

If the tie is still not broken, the same method to break the tie will be utilized using the NTPGA Section Championship. If the tie is still not broken, the final position on the previous year’s Senior Points Standings will be used to break the tie.

If a Member qualifies for the Texas Joe Black Cup team as both the senior Member and on the regular points list, the Member in question will be considered the senior qualifier and the next eligible Member from the regular points list will qualify for the team.

- (d) **James P. Jordan Cup Team:** Should there be a tie for the last position on the James P. Jordan Cup team; the tie will be broken using the Assistant’s finish in the current NTPGA Assistants’ Championship.

Should there be a tie following the NTPGA Assistants’ Championship tie-break method, the tie will be broken utilizing their individual rounds in the NTPGA Assistants’ Championship starting with the final round and then the first round.

If the tie is still not broken, the final position on the previous year’s Assistant Point Standings will be used to break the tie.

## **Section 11. Reduction of Field (Cuts)**

- (a) For the Texas State Open, the starting field shall be reduced to 50 players having the lowest scores at the conclusion of 36-holes of tournament play, including any players tied for 50<sup>th</sup> place.

## **Section 12. Prize Fund Distribution**

- (a) The prize fund distribution shall be the total of all entry fees, plus the sponsorship added money, less the PGA Sanction Fee and other incidental expenses as determined by the Tournament Committee and Staff. Each finishing position for all major stroke play event purses will be assigned a specific percentage of the total purse (see tables in Appendix I).

A minimum of 33% of the field shall be paid. Should there be a tie for the final position in the money in chapter professional only or section major championships and as a result the final position check is less than \$20.00, the final position will not be paid out. The funds will be considered a donation to the Northern Texas PGA Junior Golf Foundation.

- (b) For the Texas State Open, the distribution of the amateur portion shall be arranged on descending percentage basis with a maximum for the low amateur as provided by the USGA. Amateur awards will be given only to those who make the 36-hole cut and return a scorecard for the final round. Should there be a tie for the final position in the money and as a result the final position check is less than \$20.00, the final position will not be paid out. The funds will be considered a donation to the Northern Texas PGA Junior Golf Foundation.
- (c) **Separate Tees/Same Purse Policy:** In all Section sanctioned events, with the exception of the Texas State Open, Texas Senior Open, Texas Women's Open, NTPGA Players Tour and PGA TOUR related qualifying events, a separate set of tees shall be provided for women professionals set at no less than 85% and no more than 90% of the overall championship yardage. In these events, men and women shall compete for the same purse. (The man or woman professional with the lowest score shall win first place money.)

In all Section sanctioned team events (Pro-Pro Championship, Pro-Scratch Championship, Pro-Assistant Championship) a separate set of tees shall be provided for men 60 years of age or older and set at no less than 90% of the men's tee yardage. In these events, all competitors will compete for the same purse.

- (d) The Section office will pay out the prize fund distribution within ten (10) business days of the event assuming all sponsorship monies have been received. Those contestants who win prize money in the Eastern, Western, Northern Texas PGA Professional Championship, NTPGA Section Championship and Match Play Championship will be mailed their check once the Section has received copies of the appreciation letters that are required to be mailed to sponsors within 45 days of the event. Professionals who win prize money in the Texas State Open and Texas Women's Open who are not a PGA Member or Apprentice will be mailed their check once the Section has received a current year IRS Form W-9.
- (e) There will be a \$1,000.00 Final Round Player's Pool for all professionals in the competition for round two in the Eastern, Western, PGA Professional (PNC) and Section Championship. The Final Round Player's Pool is based on scores for round two only. The top five (5) round two scores will be paid out with all ties equally shared. A player who is awarded Championship purse monies may not also earn Final Round Player's Pool monies. First place in the Final Round Player's Pool will be no more than last place prize money in the Championship. The Player's Pool is separate from the tournament purse. Winnings will be paid out by the Northern Texas PGA Section office via check.
- (f) There will be a \$1,000.00 Senior Division for those players who are 50 years of age or older in the Eastern, Western and Section Championship. The Senior Division is based on 36-hole total scores. The top five (5) scores will be paid out with all ties equally shared. A player who is awarded Championship purse monies may not earn Senior Division purse monies. First place in the Senior Division will be no more than last place prize money in the Championship. The Senior Bonus Division is separate from the tournament purse. Winnings will be paid out by the Northern Texas PGA Section office via check.

### **Section 13. Golf Cars/Caddies**

Golf cars are not required in all NTPGA major events; however, a caddie and/or golf car must be used. Contestants are not permitted to carry their own bag unless otherwise stated on the official tournament entry form. No more than two golf cars are permitted per group. The Rules Committee reserves the right to modify this regulation.

## ARTICLE VIII

### **Chapter/Pro-Amateur Events**

#### **Section 1. Host Professional's Responsibilities**

No event on the NTPGA Tournament Schedule may be conducted at a course without a PGA Member or Apprentice Head Professional serving as the resident professional, unless otherwise approved by the Executive Director.

In hosting a Chapter Pro-Am event, the host professional must:

- (a) Schedule the pro-am through the Chapter Tournament Committee Chairman. Each Chairman will then communicate with the Section office, which will then approve the dates or suggest changes as they relate to the National/Sectional tournament program.
- (b) Acknowledge each entry, advising applicant that his entry is accepted, on an alternate list or the field is full.
- (c) Notify accepted entries of their acceptance and starting time a minimum of three (3) days in advance of the event.
- (d) Arrange to have the use of the course reserved for tournament players only during the competition.
- (e) Define all boundaries, water hazards, lateral water hazards and ground under repair.
- (f) Prepare a Rules of Play Sheet and an official team scorecard with handicap stroke holes identified for amateur players.
- (g) Post a pairings sheet with starting times.
- (h) Provide a registration desk with personnel to handle entry fee collection and handicap verification.
- (i) Provide an official scoring area and provide personnel to audit, verify and post scores.
- (j) Prepare and post a prize breakdown sheet prior to the completion of the first (or only) round.
- (k) Provide an effective warning system to be used in the event of dangerous weather.
- (l) Arrange to write and distribute merchandise certificates to prize winning amateurs immediately after play is completed.
- (m) Send out the professional prize distribution within five (5) days following the event.
- (n) Send a tournament summary outlining the final results, number of participants and enclose a check for the Chapter Sanction Fee to the Section office within five (5) days following the event.

#### **Section 2. Entry Requirements**

- (a) Chapter pro-amateur event entry applications will be distributed to all Chapter Members and Apprentices via direct mailings conducted by each Chapter.

- (b) Pro-amateur event entry applications should be returned to the host professional unless otherwise stated on the form.
- (c) In pro-amateur events held in conjunction with major tournaments, the field of competing professionals will be selected by the host professional and/or the tournament sponsor, provided all selected professionals meet current eligibility requirements.
- (d) By signing an official entry form or by verbally committing to play, competitors agree to abide by the Tournament Rules and Regulations of the NTPGA.
- (e) An amateur, to be eligible to participate in pro-amateur events, must be invited by a NTPGA Member, Apprentice or the host club.

### **Section 3. Amateur Handicaps**

- (a) An amateur's handicap must be verified by presenting a current handicap card or in the absence of a handicap card a handicap computed according to the USGA system together with a record of the handicap prior to the pro-am. If handicap verification data is not presented at the tournament site, it must be sent to Chapter Tournament Chairman within three (3) days after the tournament. Without proper verification, checks and merchandise certificates will not be issued. If proper verification is not received within three (3) days of the event, all awards will be voided and assigned to the Section Benevolent Fund.
- (b) Members of the host club who are competing shall have their handicap verified by the host professional.

### **Section 4. Arrangement of Pairings**

- (a) The host club and/or host professional have the authority to assign starting times and groupings as they deem appropriate. They shall take into account the following:
  1. When using a shotgun start, the size of the field shall not exceed 32 teams per shotgun.
  2. When using morning and afternoon starting times, the field shall not exceed 64 teams.
  3. Starting times shall be arranged at intervals of 8 minutes or more.
  4. Once a competing team has begun play, there shall be no substitutions for amateurs or professionals who cannot complete a round, or who cannot return for a subsequent round. There shall be no refunds after an individual has begun play.
- (b) In the event a pro-amateur team is incomplete, the following shall apply:
  1. If a professional fails to appear, the amateurs assigned to his team may compete and use the scores of a drawn professional to assist in their team score.
  2. If an amateur fails to appear, a designated amateur shall be drawn and his scores shall be used to assist in their team score.
  3. Any drawn amateur or professional can only win a prize with his original team. Any prize won on a drawn team by an amateur shall be donated to the Section Junior Foundation. Any prize won on a drawn team by a professional shall be donated to the Section Benevolent Fund.

## Section 5. Scorecard Requirements

- (a) The professional contestant is responsible for maintaining the scorecard for the team. He shall enter the gross score of an amateur when that score is used as a best ball. He shall enter the best ball score(s) for each hole. The scorecard shall be signed by the professional and attested by one of the amateur team members. Penalties for violations shall be consistent with other scoring violations.
- (b) It is the competing professional's responsibility to examine the official scorecard for accuracy prior to the round. Any inaccuracies including the allotment of handicap strokes for amateurs shall be reported to the host professional or the Committee.

## Section 6. Pace of Play

- (a) When playing in groups of four, allowing an average of 15 minutes per hole, a round should be completed in four hours, 30 minutes.
- (b) Refer to NTPGA Pace of Play guidelines on the NTPGA Rules of Play Card.
- (c) An amateur unable to assist his team on a hole is required to pick up his ball.

## Section 7. Discontinuance of Play

- (a) The policy for discontinuance of play shall be consistent with Rule 6-8 of the *USGA Rules of Golf*.
- (b) The host professional, if not competing, or a committee designated by the host professional, has the authority and responsibility to order discontinuance of play due to weather conditions. The decision to resume play, postpone any part of it or cancel play entirely rests with the host professional or the designated committee. It is recommended that no member of the committee be a competitor in the event.
- (c) In a one-day event, if play is discontinued before the field has completed play, the following policy will apply:
  - 1. If 75% or more of the field has completed play, and it will not be feasible for the others to do so on that day, the tournament payout shall be re-figured on the basis of the number completing play. Those participants unable to complete play shall be deemed non-competitors and will be refunded the portion of the entry fee going into the prize purse.
  - 2. If less than 75% of the field has completed play, the event will be postponed and/or rescheduled.
  - 3. NOTE: One day events shall not be reduced to less than 18 holes if play is not completed.
- (d) In a multi-day event, if play is discontinued before the field has completed play, the following policy will apply:
  - 1. The unfinished teams will resume play on the following day, prior to the start of the day's scheduled play.
  - 2. If one of the rounds is completely washed out, the tournament will pay off in full based on one round scores. NOTE: Under no circumstances will play continue past the last scheduled round of the competition.

## **Section 8. Prize Fund Distribution**

- (a) The prize fund for distribution shall be the total of the entry fees plus any added money less the Chapter Sanction Fee and any operating expenses.
- (b) The prize fund will be distributed to a minimum of 33% of the starting field.
- (c) Winning professionals will be paid by check, mailed from the host professional within five (5) days of the event.
- (d) Winning amateurs will be awarded gift certificates redeemable for merchandise in the host club's golf shop.
- (e) If for any reason the certificates are not distributed upon completion of the event, they will be mailed to the professional of the team.

## **Section 9. Chapter Professional Only Events**

The Section office may be responsible for chapter professional only event entry forms, collection of entry fees, signing off on the prize distribution, final results, total revenue and expenses, and the net purse. The Section office will then pay out prize distribution within ten (10) business days of receiving the final results. The Chapter Tournament Chairman shall send a final tournament summary to the Section office including: prize distribution, complete results, total revenue and expenses, and the net purse.

## ARTICLE IX

### PGA TOUR Qualifying Exemptions

#### Section 1. “Section” Qualifying

The Section will conduct qualifying to determine NTPGA positions in PGA Tour events with number of positions determined by current PGA TOUR policy.

- (a) The Section will conduct qualifying to determine NTPGA positions in Nationwide Tour events with the number of positions determined by current Nationwide Tour policy. Currently, this policy provides two (2) exemptions for NTPGA Members in an 18-hole qualifying round in conjunction with the first round at the NTPGA Western Championship.
- (b) For “Section” Nationwide Tour qualifying events, “Section” qualifying will be open to NTPGA Professionals who are otherwise eligible under Article VI, Sections 1 and 2, Northern Texas PGA Tournament Rules and Regulations.
- (c) For “Section” Nationwide Tour qualifying events, all competitors will be required to compete from the same set of tees regardless of age or gender.

#### Section 2. Exemptions

- (a) Exemptions granted to the Northern Texas Section PGA Members for PGA TOUR events held within the Section will be guided by the current PGA TOUR policy.
  - 1. Currently, this policy provides an exemption for the current Northern Texas PGA Section Champion. This applies for the PGA TOUR Byron Nelson Championship only. In the event he chooses not to participate, leaves the Section, becomes ineligible for tournament play, or is otherwise already in the tournament proper his spot will revert to that year’s final Player of the Year Points List.
  - 2. Currently, this policy provides two exemptions into “open” qualifying for the first and second place professional on the previous year’s Northern Texas PGA Player of the Year Points List. This applies for the Byron Nelson Championship “Open” Qualifying only. In the event one or both choose not to participate, leave the Section, becomes ineligible for tournament play, or is otherwise already in the tournament proper, the exemption will revert the previous year’s final Player of the Year Points List. The committee will only go down to the tenth position on the Player of the Year Points List, after which time the spots will be forfeited if not filled. The Policy Regarding Ties in Article VII, Section 10 for the Joe Black Cup Team and Match Play Championship will be used to resolve ties.
- (b) Exemptions granted to the Northern Texas Section PGA Members for Nationwide Tour events held within the Section will be as follows:
  - 1. Currently, this policy provides an exemption for the current NTPGA Western Champion. This applies for the WNB Golf Classic only. In the event he chooses not to participate, leaves the Section, or becomes ineligible for tournament play, his spot will revert to the 18-hole “Section” qualifier.

### **Section 3. “Open” Qualifying**

- (a) The Section will conduct “pre” qualifying to determine positions into and “open” qualifying to determine open positions in PGA TOUR events with the number of positions determined by current PGA TOUR policy. Currently, this policy provides four (4) exemptions for all amateurs and all professionals in an 18-hole qualifying round. The “pre-qualifying” field will be limited to the first 264 entries. This applies for the Byron Nelson Championship only.
- (b) The Section will conduct qualifying to determine open positions in Nationwide Tour events with the number of positions being determined by current Nationwide Tour policy. Currently, this policy provides fourteen (14) exemptions for all amateurs and all professionals in an 18-hole qualifying round. The open field will be limited to the first 264 entries. This applies for the Nationwide Tour events only.
- (c) For “pre” and “open” PGA TOUR and Nationwide Tour qualifying events, qualifying will be open to all professionals, including NTPGA Members, Apprentices and amateurs with a handicap index of 2.4 or less.
- (d) For “pre” and “open” PGA TOUR and Nationwide Tour qualifying events, all competitors will be required to compete from the same set of tees regardless of age or gender.

## APPENDIX I: MAJOR CHAMPIONSHIP PRIZE FUND DISTRIBUTION

The following tables shall be used as a guide for the prize fund distribution for all Northern Texas PGA Major Championships. The Section Representative may round these totals up or down at their discretion.

In an event with no cut after 36-holes, 33% of the starting field should be paid. These events include the Pro-Assistant Championship, Pro-Pro Championship, Eastern Championship, Western Championship, Northern Texas PGA Professional Championship, NTPGA Section Championship, Pro-Scratch Championship, Seniors' Championship and Assistants' Championship. The Match Play Championship will have a separate prize fund distribution.

A. NTPGA Section Major Championships shall use the following percentage table based on 40 places to be paid:

1) .1200	9) .0340	17) .0200	25) .0135	33) .0096
2) .0788	10) .0320	18) .0190	26) .0130	34) .0092
3) .0660	11) .0300	19) .0180	27) .0125	35) .0088
4) .0570	12) .0280	20) .0170	28) .0120	36) .0084
5) .0480	13) .0260	21) .0160	29) .0115	37) .0080
6) .0440	14) .0240	22) .0150	30) .0110	38) .0076
7) .0400	15) .0220	23) .0145	31) .0105	39) .0072
8) .0360	16) .0210	24) .0140	32) .0100	40) .0069

B. The Texas State Open shall use the following percentage table based a reduction of the field to the low 50 scores plus ties. The percentage table is based on 50 professionals making the cut:

1) .1800	11) .0200	21) .0110	31) .0062	41) .0042
2) .1150	12) .0175	22) .0105	32) .0060	42) .0040
3) .0850	13) .0165	23) .0100	33) .0058	43) .0038
4) .0650	14) .0155	24) .0095	34) .0056	44) .0036
5) .0550	15) .0145	25) .0090	35) .0054	45) .0034
6) .0475	16) .0138	26) .0085	36) .0052	46) .0032
7) .0410	17) .0131	27) .0080	37) .0050	47) .0031
8) .0350	18) .0125	28) .0075	38) .0048	48) .0030
9) .0300	19) .0120	29) .0070	39) .0046	49) .0029
10) .0250	20) .0115	30) .0066	40) .0044	50) .0028

**APPENDIX II: POINTS DISTRIBUTION**

**NTPGA PLAYER OF THE YEAR POINTS DISTRIBUTION**

<b>Place</b>	<b>NTPGA Section Champ.</b>	<b>NTPGA Professional Champ.</b>	<b>Eastern/Western</b>
1	150	125	100
2	135	110	90
3	120	100	85
4	110	90	80
5	100	85	75
6	90	80	70
7	85	75	65
8	80	70	60
9	75	65	55
10	70	60	50
11	68	58	48
12	66	56	46
13	64	54	44
14	62	52	42
15	60	50	40
16	58	48	38
17	56	46	36
18	54	44	34
19	52	42	32
20	50	40	30
21	48	38	29
22	46	36	28
23	44	34	27
24	42	32	26
25	40	30	25
26	39	29	24
27	38	28	23
28	37	27	22
29	36	26	21
30	35	25	20
31	34	24	19
32	33	23	18
33	32	22	17
34	31	21	16
35	30	20	15
36	29	19	14
37	28	18	13
38	27	17	12
39	26	16	11
40	25	15	10

NOTE: A Player of the Year Award will be presented to the Section Member compiling the most points in these Section events: NTPGA Section Championship, Northern Texas PGA Professional Championship, Eastern Championship and Western Championship. Points are awarded using the above tables for each Major Championship. Only Members are eligible to receive Player of the Year points unless otherwise stated on the entry form.

### NTPGA SENIOR POINTS DISTRIBUTION

Place	NTPGA Senior Champ.	NTPGA Section Champ.	Eastern/Western
1	150	125	100
2	125	100	80
3	100	80	60
4	80	60	40
5	60	50	30
6	50	40	25
7	40	30	20
8	30	20	15
9	20	10	10
10	10	5	5

NOTE: Only Members are eligible to receive Senior Points unless otherwise stated on the entry form.

### NTPGA ASSISTANT POINTS DISTRIBUTION

Place	Asst. Champ.	Eastern/Western	Metro/East/West	Metro Chapter Professional Series
1	150	100	75	65
2	135	90	70	60
3	120	80	65	55
4	110	75	60	50
5	100	70	55	45
6	90	65	50	40
7	80	60	45	35
8	70	55	40	30
9	60	50	35	25
10	50	45	30	20
11	45	40	25	18
12	40	35	20	16
13	35	30	18	14
14	30	25	16	12
15	25	20	14	10
16	24	19	12	9
17	23	18	10	8
18	22	17	9	7
19	21	16	8	6
20	20	15	7	5

NOTE: A-8 Members and all Apprentice classifications are eligible to receive Assistant Points unless otherwise stated on the entry form.

### **APPENDIX III: BEN HOGAN / NTPGA STROKE PLAY SCORING AVERAGE AWARD**

The Ben Hogan / NTPGA Stroke Play Scoring Average Award is presented to the Section Member compiling the lowest overall adjusted scoring average in these events: Eastern Championship, Western Championship, Northern Texas PGA Professional Championship and NTPGA Section Championship. There are a total of eight (8) possible rounds to be played. All players must complete a minimum of six (6) rounds to be eligible for the Award. Each player's adjusted scoring average is determined by totaling the stroke averages according to par (+/-), dividing this total by the number of completed rounds six (6), and adding this final number to 72.

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