



# ***BRAINTREE MEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION 2019 COMPETITION PROGRAM GUIDE***

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## Competition Committees, Committee Members, Volunteers & Contributors

Much credit and thanks is due to the following BMGA committee members and the many other volunteers & course personnel. They contribute many hours of their time and talent throughout the year to make our competitive and social events a great success. Collectively, we hope our collaborative efforts will result in a fun and competitive 2019 BMGA Golf Season!

### **Competition Committees**

#### Tournament Committee

Mike Aspell  
Leo Cuscianna  
Nick Galante  
Mike Gardiner  
Mike King  
Buz McDonald – Chair

#### Rules Committee

George Hasenfuss - Chair  
Bob Lyons  
Scott Rymeski

#### Handicap Committee

George Hasenfuss  
Larry Larson  
Phil Paul - Chair  
Scott Rymeski

#### Wednesday Tournament Committee

Ray Diccico  
Dana Olson  
Tom Williamson – Chair

#### Thursday Night League

Roger St. Peter  
Tommy Stornaielo

### **Other Valuable Contributors**

Elected Executive Board Members – Ken Allman, Tobey Johnson, John Ebersole and John Chambers  
Daryn Brown, Course Manager  
Craig Coombes, Head Professional  
Duke, Adam, and the entire Grounds Crew  
Walt and Ruth Cartwright for volunteering to cater our BMGA & BWGA May Cookout Event.  
Pam Ruprecht for volunteering to arrange for baked goods at the May Event.  
Pro Shop Personnel including Dave, Ed and the rest of the gang  
Café Staff  
Course Rangers & Starters  
Ray Diccico, Fund Collections & Accounting  
Fred Foley & Ed Corcoran, Photography  
Sam Abraham, Fund Raising & Publicity  
Larry Larson, Divot Team  
Dennis Sullivan, Junior Golf Program  
Jack Birolini, Kevin Foley, Greens Committee



2019

## MAY

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

## JUNE

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
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| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

## JULY

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |

## AUGUST

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

## SEPTEMBER

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |

## OCTOBER

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

## TOURNAMENTS

## TOURNAMENTS &amp; DATES

SATURDAY MAY 4 BMGA/BWGA

KICKOFF TOURNAMENT/OPENING DAY TOURNAMENT - Shotgun Start

SUNDAY MAY 5 BWGA

OPENING DAY - Reserved Tee Times

SATURDAY MAY 18 BMGA

FOUR BALL QUALIFIER (in the event of &gt;16 teams)

MONDAY MAY 27 BMGA &amp; BWGA

MEMORIAL DAY FLORIDA - Reserved Tee Times

SATURDAY JUNE 1 BMGA

SHOWDOWN - Reserved Tee Times

SATURDAY JUNE 15 BMGA

FOUR BALL MATCHES - Reserved Tee Times (8 Matches)

SUNDAY JUNE 30 BMGA &amp; BRAINTREE MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

BRAINTREE OPEN - Reserved Tee Times

THURSDAY JULY 4 BMGA &amp; BWGA

INDEPENDENCE DAY FLORIDA - Tee Times

SATURDAY/SUNDAY JULY 13/14 BWGA

MEM/MEM CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - Reserved Tee Times

NLT SUNDAY JULY 14 BMGA

FOUR BALL MATCHES COMPLETED (4 Matches)

WEDNESDAY JULY 17 BMGA

SUPER SENIOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - Reserved Tee Times

SUNDAY JULY 21 BMGA

SUMMER SHAMBLE - Tee Times

SUNDAY AUGUST 4 BMGA

SENIOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - Tee Times

SATURDAY AUGUST 10 BWGA

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - Day 1 - Reserved Tee Times

NLT SUNDAY AUGUST 11 BMGA

FOUR BALL MATCHES COMPLETED (2 Matches)

TUESDAY AUGUST 13 BWGA

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - Day 2 - Reserved Tee Times

SATURDAY/SUNDAY AUGUST 17/18 BMGA

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - Reserved Tee Times

NLT MONDAY SEPTEMBER 2 BMGA

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH OF FOUR BALL COMPLETED (1 Match)

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 2 BMGA &amp; BWGA

LABOR DAY FLORIDA - Tee Times

SATURDAY/SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7/8 BMGA

MEM/MEM CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - Reserved Tee Times

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22 BMGA

BRAINTREE SOUTH - Shotgun 8:30

SATURDAY/SUNDAY SEPTEMBER TBA BWGA

MIXED FOUR BALL - Tee Times

SATURDAY OCTOBER 6 BWGA

PRESIDENT'S DAY - Tee Times

SATURDAY/SUNDAY OCTOBER 12/13 BMGA

MEMORIAL CUP - Tee Times

SATURDAY OCTOBER 27 BMGA

TURKEY SHOOT - Modified Shotgun

BMGA/BWGA Mixed Tournaments

BWGA Events

BMGA Events

# 2019 General Tournament Guide

## Introduction:

The Tournament, Rules and Handicap Committees serve complimentary roles in ensuring tournaments are held in a fair manner, consistent with the rules of golf. Because of that, the three committees have collaborated extensively in establishing various rules, handicap practices, score posting and tournament requirements.

## Information on the following subjects is included within this 2019 Tournament Guide:

- Applicable Tournaments
- Signup Deadlines and Requirements
- Permissible Entrants
- Tournament Entry Fees
- Tournament Meals
- Tee Times and Scheduling Complexities
- Tie Breaker Procedures
- Modifications to Handicaps
- Posting of Tournament Scores
- No Shows and Substitutions
- General Prize Structure and Parameters
- Weather Issues
- Special Events
- Charitable Endeavors
- Memorial Cup Points

## Applicable Tournaments:

Guidance within applies to All BMGA sponsored events including Major Championships (Individual, Senior, Super Senior, Member-Member and Four Ball); as well as the Kick-Off Classic, Showdown, Summer Shamble, Braintree South and Turkey Shoot.

## Signup Deadlines and Requirements:

Tournament entry must be no later than the Sunday evening prior to a following weekend event. Because of many follow-on activities required, this is a strict cut-off date. Late entrants will be put on a substitute list. Sign-up sheets will be available in the Pro-Shop or online. If necessary, call the Pro Shop or text the Tournament Coordinator listed on the Tournament Flyer (make sure you get a confirmation back).

## Permissible Entrants:

Entry into all BMGA tournaments is limited to 18+ y/o current BMGA members, or 18+ y/o guest(s) of a member in the Braintree South or other member guest tournament that the BMGA sponsors.

Entry into the Individual, Member-Member, Senior and Super Senior BMGA Championships will be limited to current BMGA members who have played in five, 2019 BMGA tournaments. Current members unable to meet the 5-tournament requirement may petition the Executive Board for a waiver. Waivers may be granted on a case-by-case basis for a member who has maintained continuous membership for the previous 2 years.

BMGA members please note: The issues surrounding the junior club champion participating in the BMGA Individual Championship have not yet been resolved. However, it is expected to be prior to playing this year's championship.



# 2019 General Tournament Guide

## Tournament Entry Fees:

Entry Fees for each tournament will be shown on the tournament flyer. Generally, the entry fee for most of our tournaments will approximate \$30, while the entry fees for our 2-Day Championship Tournaments will approximate \$35-\$40. The entry fee in each case includes a \$2 charge to help underwrite the costs of holding annual Memorial Cup Play-Off matches. The entry fee for the Braintree South is expected to be \$45 to account for slightly higher meal costs, prizes and swag. Pari-mutuel betting and/or supplemental Prize Pools for Gross, Net, Skins, Pins, etc. will be in addition to the above fees and optional in all cases.

## Tournament Meals:

The Tournament Committee intends to have modest meals at many of our tournaments, when it is financially feasible to do so. When a meal is included within a tournament, the cost of the meal will often be partially or wholly underwritten by private donations and other activities undertaken by the Tournament Committee. Funds from the BMGA's general treasury may also be available if approved by the general membership. Given the uncertainties, it is unknown how many tournaments will include partially subsidized meals, but at this juncture, plans call for the meal at our May 4<sup>th</sup> kick-off tournament to be wholly paid for with private funds at no cost to contestants. Additionally, meals at four other tournaments will be partially subsidized - again by private funds at no cost to contestants. If there are sufficient funds raised or otherwise made available by vote of the general membership, meals at 4 additional tournaments will be subsidized. With the exception of the Braintree South, the meal will likely be comprised of a burger, sub or sandwich with chips or fries, along with a soft drink. Tournament Contestants will be given a coupon worth a set amount of money to purchase the "Tournament Special" meal or use it in another way at the Grille Room in the event of a dietary restriction, etc. The coupon will expire that day.

Tee Times and Scheduling Complexities: Tee times for tournaments will be assigned in various and distinct forms:

- Two Tournaments will be shotguns: the Kick-Off Classic and the Braintree South; they will start at approximately 8:30am; with the tees shared with the BWGA.
- One will be a hoped for, modified shotgun, the Turkey Shoot, which will start at approximately 9am, subject to frost issues. A few foursomes of BWGA golfers may golf that day also.
- One will be held on Wednesday; the Super Senior Club Championship, and be integrated into the reserved tee-times we have for our normal Wednesday Tournament group.
- The Four Ball Championship involves both a qualifier and the first round of play that will be integrated into our normal reserved weekend tee-times. Tee-times for the remaining rounds that involve just a few players will need to be arranged by the contestants within the dates specified.
- The Memorial Cup Play-offs will be integrated into our normal reserved weekend tee-times.
- Three tournaments, the Club Championship, Member-Member Club Championship and Summer Shamble are our **"Super Reserved Tournaments"**. These tournaments will be scheduled with consecutive tee-times from the beginning of the field until the end. To the best of our ability, we will try to accommodate BWGA players with ultra early tee-times prior to the start of our tournament.
- The last two; the Showdown and Senior Club Championship will have tee-times possibly interlaced with those of the BWGA, since they will utilize our normal reserved weekend tournament tee-times. We will attempt to mitigate the impacts of having entwined tee-times but we may have to grin and bear it to some degree for these last two tournaments. We foresee less of a problem with the Senior Club Championship since it's being held on a Sunday when demand for tee-times is considerably less.

# 2019 General Tournament Guide

## Tie Breaker Procedures:

Ties for 1<sup>st</sup> place encountered during those tournaments labeled “Championships”, will be broken by a Sudden Death play-off starting on the 1<sup>st</sup> hole. Ties for all other prizes during our tournaments will be decided as follows: Scores from 10<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, then 13<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, followed by coin flip.

## Modifications to Handicaps:

When utilizing a percentage of a handicap, the handicap is first multiplied by the percentage. If it results in a decimal, that number is to be rounded to the nearest whole number (.5 rounded up). If unsure, refer to the “USGA Course Handicap Allowance Table”, posted on our hallway and Barry Room bulletin boards.

Members with a predominate number of recorded rounds (80%) from the gold tees during their last 20 rounds will be allowed to play gold tees during our larger tournaments but limitations exist on this practice for several tournament events – consult each individual tournament flyer.

After a golfer expresses intent to play a certain tee during an event and is also qualified to play from that tee, the Tournament and Handicap Committees will work together to review player profiles and construct alternative handicaps for players to use during a Tournament event as necessary. They will do so by utilizing scores exclusively from a specific Braintree Golf Course tee to recalibrate handicaps on an exception basis.

## Posting Tournament Scores:

A tournament score is a score made in a competition organized and conducted by a Competition Committee. The committee must identify winner(s) based on a stipulated round(s), and must be played under the Rules of Golf. The competition can be match play or stroke play. The USGA strongly advises against players entering any tournament scores for themselves or others.

The Handicap Committee, in consultation with the Competition Committee, will determine if the above conditions are met and announce in advance whether the letter “T” will be used to post scores. It is expected that the following tournaments will be coded “T”: Most Championships (Individual, Member-Member, Senior and Super Senior); and the Showdown. A designated member of the Tournament Committee or the Club pro will post scores on behalf of players in all of our major tournaments.

## No Shows and Substitutions:

In the event of a no-show in a 2-man event, a single team member can compete alone - no substitutions allowed. For 4 man tournaments, substitute scores will be obtained from a blind draw among those players within the field that share a level of similar skills to the missing player, e.g. “C” player draw for missing “C” player.

## General Prize Structure and Parameters:

Prizes derived from entry fees will generally be awarded to approximately 25-30% of the field. The Tournament Committee will post expected prize money and the number of prizes to be given when players sign in for a tournament. Prizes derived from optional pools will be awarded according to the stated rules contained within each flyer for each pool and will be specifically noted as to fee, net, gross, etc.

# 2019 General Tournament Guide

## Weather Related Issues:

In the event of adverse weather, the rule of thumb is that if the course is open, the tournament will be played. This guidance has everything to do with our limited ability to reschedule events. In the event of extreme weather where the event must be cancelled, we will alert the Pro Shop of our decision ASAP. The best advice is to head up to the golf course and be prepared to play. Shortening the tournament to 9 holes is always an option. If necessary, we will adapt tournament guidelines on the fly and notify all contestants before anyone tees off.

## Notable Special Events:

The May 4<sup>th</sup> Kick-Off tournament - This tournament will have a shotgun start that we will share with the BWGA's "Opening Day" tournament. What makes this tandem tournament particularly notable is that the entire golf course staff (maintenance, Pro Shop, Café, starters, rangers) is invited to attend a free cookout following the tournament. They will be our guests in a gesture of friendship and appreciation for all their hard work in support of our two golf associations. A volunteer team of BMGA & BWGA members, most notably Walt & Ruth Cartwright and family, will prepare, cook and serve the food. As noted previously in this Competition Guide, the Tournament Committee and private donors will provide the necessary funds to hold this cookout.

The Braintree South tournament on September 22<sup>nd</sup> - The South will also feature a shotgun start and the BMGA and BWGA will share the course and tees. A larger, more elaborate meal will follow this tournament along with prize presentations. Hopefully all members will give some thought to asking guests to attend in hopes that both the member and their guests will have a great time. The BMGA Treasury will hopefully contribute towards the overall cost of this tournament.

## Charitable Endeavors:

During our shotgun start tournaments, the Kick-Off tournament and the Braintree South, a 50-50 raffle or other fund raising activity will be held. Other forms of low-key fund raising will be held from time to time, but kept separate and apart from our tournaments so as not to detract from the golf tournament. These will most likely include the opportunity for members to buy a square as part of a 50 square raffle offering for a given item.

Irrespective of the above comments with respect to maintaining a low fund raising profile, it should be noted that the Braintree Golf Course is slated to be the primary sponsor of the Braintree Open with operational assistance to be provided by the BMGA. This particular tournament will be a major charity event.

## Memorial Cup:

All Tournament Flyers will contain a description as to how points will be allocated for that tournament. Comprehensive Memorial Cup guidance including rules, team selection, play formats and point allocations is set forth in separate documents entitled Weekend or Wednesday "Memorial Cup Guidelines"

Questions? Tournament Committee Chair, Buz McDonald, [earmcd@gmail.com](mailto:earmcd@gmail.com), 781-974-9280

# BMGA Weekend Tournaments

The following summary of 2019 Tournaments are a good indication of what each tournament will include for entry fees, prizes, etc. However, the Tournament Committee may make some changes as required depending upon General Membership votes, scheduling difficulties, etc.

## Kick-Off Tournament

- Tournament Date: May 4<sup>th</sup>, SHOTGUN START @ 8-8:30am
- Sign Up Deadline: April 28th - Use Sign Up Sheet in Pro Shop or our Website.
- \$30 Entry Fee (Includes prize money, pin money, \$2 Memorial Cup fee)
- Free Cookout for Contestants & Course Personnel immediately following Tournament
- Format: White & Gold Tee Play. 4 Man Balanced Teams, 2 Best Ball Net, 90% Handicap
- Pari-mutuel wagering on Two best ball Gross for Team (3 places paid; win, place & show)
- Gold Tee Players deduct strokes from their Gold handicaps to account for the difference in course ratings between the two tees.
- Optional Team Skins Pool (Lowest 2 best ball Gross Score on hole): Captain optionally may pony up \$20 for team and in turn, offer ¼ shares to teammates for \$5 each on first tee if interested. Captain owns unsold shares and wins greater share of skins if won.
- Four team pin prizes are included in the entry fee.

## Four-Ball BMGA Championship

- Tournament Date: May 18<sup>th</sup> – Qualifier; Two Man, Best Ball Stroke Play, 90% Handicap
- May 12<sup>th</sup> – Sign up Deadline - Sheet in Pro Shop or on our Website
- June 15<sup>th</sup> – Round #1 comprised of top 16 qualifying teams
- Completion Dates for Rounds #2, #3 and #4; Not Later Than 7/14, 8/11 and 9/2
- Entry Fee for Competitive Rounds: \$27 Entry Fee, payable June 15<sup>th</sup> (first day of match play)
- Tee Times for qualifier will be assigned and integrated within our normal weekend tournament times. Scores for that day will serve as your qualifier score and also establish your bracket seed. Tee times for Round #1 on 6/15 will be assigned. Tee-times for subsequent rounds are the responsibility of advancing teams.
- All matches played from White Tees at 90% handicap
- There will be no consolation bracket play due to chronic difficulties in scheduling four ball matches.

## Showdown Tournament

- Tournament Date: June 1<sup>st</sup>
- May 26<sup>th</sup> Sign up Deadline - Sign Up Sheet in Pro Shop or our Website.
- \$30 Entry Fee (Includes pins & prize money and \$2 Memorial Cup fee)
- Note: No meal will be offered at this tournament, but the Cafe will offer a "tournament special" meal.
- Format: White & Gold Tee Play. Individual Match Play against the Course, 90% Handicap.
- Gold Tee Players subtract strokes from their Gold handicaps equal to the difference in course ratings between the two tees after 90% calculation
- Number and dollar amount of prizes is dictated by how many players go one up or better against the course. All players who "Beat the Course" will share the prize pool
- Four Pin prizes each for Gold and White Tee players with a total of \$160 in prizes. The value of each will dictated by the number of players in each group e.g. 40% of field plays from gold tees, get 40% of prize pool.

## Braintree Open

- Tournament Date: Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>
- The Braintree Pro Shop will lead this charity tournament – more details will follow



# BMGA Weekend Tournaments

## Super Senior BMGA Championship

- Tournament Date: Wednesday, July 17th
- July 12<sup>th</sup> Sign Up Deadline - Sign Up Sheet in Pro Shop.
- Play from Gold Tees only
- \$25 Entry Fee (Includes prize money, pin money, \$2 Memorial Cup fee and \$3 towards the cost of Lunch)
- Contestants must be current BMGA Members, 70+ y/o and played in 5 BMGA Events
- Optional pari-mutuel wagering for Low Net.
- All net place prizes for up to 30% of field
- Four Pin Prizes included, \$10 each
- Winner will receive a \$100 gift from the BMGA

## Summer Shamble

- Tournament Date: Sunday, July 21st
- Sign Up Deadline: July 14<sup>th</sup> - Use Sign Up Sheet in Pro Shop or our Website.
- \$30 Entry Fee (Includes pin & prize money, \$2 Memorial Cup fee). A subsidized lunch meal may be offered at this tournament if it is financially feasible.
- Format: White & Gold Tee Play. 4 Man Teams, 2 Best Ball Net, 75% Handicap
- Modified Shamble: All tee off, best drive chosen and all play their own ball from there. Team members play their own ball on Par 3's from beginning to end.
- Gold Tee Players will have strokes subtracted from their Gold handicaps to account for the difference in course ratings between the two tees after the 75% handicap reduction.
- Optional Pari-mutuel wagering for 2 best ball Gross (3 Places Paid)
- Optional Team Skins Pool (Lowest 2 best ball Gross Score on hole): Captain optionally may pony up \$20 for team and in turn, offer ¼ shares to teammates for \$5 each on first tee if interested. Captain owns unsold shares and wins greater share of skins if won.
- Includes four team pin prizes at \$40 per hole, per team.

## Senior BMGA Championship

- Tournament Date: Sunday, August 4th
- Sign Up Deadline: July 28<sup>th</sup> - Use Sign Up Sheet in Pro Shop or our Website.
- \$30 Entry Fee (Includes pin & prize money, \$2 Memorial Cup fee and \$3 towards the cost of Lunch)
- Format: Individual, 100% Handicap, White Tees only.
- Contestants must be current BMGA Members, 60+ y/o and played in 5 BMGA Events
- Prizes: Net Prizes only - given up to 30% of field
- Optional pari-mutuel pools or other prize pools may be offered depending on field size
- Four Pin Prizes included, \$15 each
- Winner will receive a \$100 gift from the BMGA

## BMGA Individual Championships

- Tournament Dates: Saturday/Sunday August 17<sup>th</sup> - 18th
- Sign Up Deadline: August 11th - Use Sign Up Sheet in Pro Shop or our Website.
- \$35-\$40 Entry Fee (Includes prize money, \$2 Memorial Cup fee and up to \$3 towards the cost of lunch)
- Daily, Optional Pari-mutuel wagering will be available for 4 different cash pools: Low Gross in the Championship Flight and "A" Flight, Low Net in the "B" & "C" Flights.
- Optional \$5 Gross Skins Pool for each flight, each day.
- Contestants must be current BMGA Members, 18+ y/o and played in 5 BMGA Events

# BMGA Weekend Tournaments

- Tournament Flights and Prizes:
  - Championship (Any handicap), 3-4 Gross prizes only, Blue Tees only.
  - "A" Flight (9 - 12 handicap), 2-3 Gross prizes, 1 Net, Low Gross declared Winner, White Tees only.
  - Remaining 2-3 Flights will be arrayed by handicap, 3-4 Net Prizes in each, White Tees only.
  - The number of contestants that enter will dictate the number of net flights. Likely to be just "B" & "C".
  - BMGA winner of all Flights each receive a \$100 gift from the BMGA
  - In the event that an invited guest achieves low gross in the Championship Flight, he will receive a \$100 gift certificate and declared the Club Champion. If a BMGA member achieves low gross in the Championship Flight, he will receive \$100 in addition to the \$100 gift provided by the BMGA for being low gross among BMGA players.
  - Irrespective of who may achieve low medalist honors in the Championship Flight and named "Club Champion", the BMGA member who achieves low medalist distinction among it's members, will be named the BMGA champion and fully entitled to the awards and prizes designated by the Association for the BMGA winner.
- In the event of a 1<sup>st</sup> place tie in any flight, winner decided by a sudden death play-off

## Member- Member BMGA Club Championship

- Tournament Date: September 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>
- Sign Up Deadline: September 1<sup>th</sup> - Use Sign Up Sheet in Pro Shop or our Website.
- \$35-\$40 Entry Fee (Includes prize money, \$2 Memorial Cup fee and up to \$3 towards the cost of lunch)
- Format: Two Man Team Best Ball, 90% Handicap, White Tees only.
- Contestants must be current BMGA Members and played in 5 BMGA Events
- Place Prizes: Net Place Prizes - given to 25-30% of field
- Optional Pari-mutuel wagering will be available daily for Team Low Gross.
- In the event of a 1<sup>st</sup> place tie in any flight, winner decided by a sudden death play-off

## BMGA Braintree South

- Tournament Date: Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Sign Up Deadline: September 15<sup>th</sup> - Use Sign Up Sheet in Pro Shop or our Website.
- Tournament Costs (Per Person):
  - \$45 Tournament Entry Fee covers cost of place & pin prizes, morning coffee, lunch, \$2 Memorial Cup fee.
  - \$40 Green Fees for non-permit holders (subject to Superintendent's approval)
  - \$20 (estimated) Cart Fee is optional - reserve one when signing up, limited number available!
- Optional cash pools and/or pari-mutuel wagering will be offered the day of the tournament
- Format: Two Man Team Best Ball, 90% Handicap
- Shotgun Start @ 8:30am
- At least one Contestant on each team must be a BMGA Member - Guests of Members are Welcome!
- All contestants must be 18 y/o or older
- Guests must have a verifiable USGA Handicap (or play @ scratch)
- White & Gold Tee Flights (a separate "Gold" flight is subject to minimum of 4 teams entered)
- A separate "Fun" flight will be established for those teams comprised of male & female teams, all female teams or individuals interested in participating in the tournament, but not competing in it. No prizes will be awarded to individuals within this flight.

# BMGA Weekend Tournaments

## Turkey Shoot

- Tournament Date: Sunday, October 27th
- Sign Up Deadline: October 20th - Use Sign Up Sheet in Pro Shop or our Website.
- \$30 Entry Fee (Includes prize money, \$2 Memorial Cup fee and \$3 towards the cost of Lunch)
- Format: Combined Modified Stableford Scores from all 4 Players
- White & Gold Tee Play. Pick your own 4 Man Team.
- A limit may be set on a minimum handicap for a team such as 30 or higher.
- Prizes awarded to approximately 30% of field.
- Optional Pari-mutuel wagering will be offered with winners for highest individual point totals
- Gold Tee Players will strokes from their Gold handicaps to account for the difference in course ratings between the two tees.
- Includes Four team pin prizes for \$40 per hole, per team

Questions? Tournament Committee Chair, Buz McDonald, [earmcd@gmail.com](mailto:earmcd@gmail.com), 781-974-9280

# **BMGA \$5 Weekend Tournaments**

## **Saturday & Sunday \$5 Tournaments**

- Tournament Dates: Begins generally in the first week of May and ending after Labor Day
- Deadline for Signing Up for a Tee-Time: Sunday Evenings for tee times through John Chambers or other duly appointed representative of the BMGA.
- Sign Up Deadline for the Tournament: The day of the Tournament
- Entry Fee: \$5 entry fee payable the day of the event.
- Format: White & Gold Tee Play. Formats change from week to week with many individual tournaments, some two-man team events and an occasional four-man event.
- Gold Tee Players will deduct strokes from their Gold handicaps to account for the difference in course ratings between the two tees.
- Each tournament played will earn the participant 1 Memorial Cup point until the maximum of 12 participation points are achieved.
- Prizes are widely disbursed via Merchandise Chits usable through the Pro Shop. Individuals should be mindful of the fact that Chits may expire at the end of each calendar year.



# Weekend Memorial Cup Guide

## Applicability:

There are two Memorial Cup Play-Off events, one held for BMGA players who play predominately on weekends, and another held for those who play predominantly in the BMGA's Wednesday Tournaments. This particular guide focuses on the Weekend Memorial Cup Play-offs.

## Qualification:

To qualify for play in the annual weekend version of the Memorial Tournament playoffs, association members must earn points through competing in various BMGA sponsored activities. These activities include participating in Thursday Night League play, \$5 weekend tournament play, as well as the BMGA specially designated qualification tournaments held each month from May through November.

## Earning Memorial Points during the Course of the Year:

Either a league member or substitute earns participation points at a rate of ½ point for each Thursday Night League match, while participation points are earned at a rate of 1 point for each \$5 weekend tournament played. The combined maximum number of participation points earned from play in Thursday Night League play and \$5 weekend tournament play will be capped at 12 for the year.

For our specially designated Memorial Cup tournaments, two points will be awarded to each tournament participant and one point will be awarded to each tournament participant who is responsible for a closest to the pin prize. Additional points will be awarded to all place winners of official tournament place prizes plus other high finishers, but not for those who won prizes as a result of entering into any optional, supplemental pool. First place finishers receive 12 points while 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishers will receive 10 points, 8 points for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6 points for 4<sup>th</sup> and so on down in 2 point increments, depending upon how many place points are awarded. A greater number of players will receive points if the tournament field size reaches significantly higher participation levels. The Tournament Committee will display Memorial point distribution for every tournament via the tournament flyer.

There are 9 Memorial Cup Tournaments where performance points can be earned: Kick-Off Classic, Four-Ball, Showdown, Braintree Open, Summer Shamble, Individual Club Championship, Member-Member Club Championship, Braintree South and Turkey Shoot. Due to age limits for the Senior and Super Senior Championships, not all BMGA members can compete in those tournaments. Because of that, and in fairness to all members, only 2 Memorial Cup points will be awarded to participants of those. Also please note that our last yearly tournament, the "Turkey Shoot", is the first qualifying tournament for the following year.

## Player Pool:

At the conclusion of our last qualifying tournament (Braintree South), the top 36-point earners will earn a spot in the Memorial Cup play-offs. Teams will generally consist of 18 players each (Captain plus 17 players). In the event of a tie in points for 36th place, the first tie-breaker rule will be the number of qualifying specially designated tournaments played with the highest number winning the tiebreaker. The second tiebreaker will be the golfer who scored the highest number of points in any one of the qualification tournaments. The last tiebreaker will be by determining which player participated in the greater number of BMGA events.

## Prior to the Player Draft:

Before the actual draft, the Tournament Director (Tournament Committee Chair or alternate, formally designated by him) will confirm that all players entered into the draft pool will be able to attend and compete in the play-offs. Any non-availability decision made by an individual is considered irrevocable out of fairness to others. Substitutes will be chosen from the points standing list starting with player #37 in order to fill all draft pool spots. To avoid the appearance of favoritism, there will be no "Captain Picks" allowed.

# Weekend Memorial Cup Guide

## Teams and Team Captains:

From the pool of available players, Captains will be the two lowest handicap golfers within the group.

## Actual Player Draft:

The actual player draft is done with just the two opposing Captains present. Captains draft their respective players from the player pool developed from the step described above. The 34 remaining players within the player pool will be ranked in descending order by current handicap index and sub-divided by flight. After excluding the Captains, the 6 remaining lowest handicap index players will be designated the "A" flight, the next 8 lowest handicap index players on the list will be designated as the "B" flight, the next 8 lowest handicap index players on the list will be designated the "C" flight, the next 8 lowest handicap index players on the list will be designated the "D" flight with the remaining 4 players on the list designated as the "E" flight.

By the flip of a coin or other random method, the Captain who wins the toss will have the choice of either picking the first remaining "A" flight player in the draft or picking the color of whatever apparel item has been purchased for their team (they do not win both first pick and the choice of team color).

Drafting of players alternates between Captains until all the players within a flight have been chosen. After a flight has been exhausted of players, the picking order is reversed for the following flight. In summary, the Captain who had the first draft pick will end up with picks 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 24, 26, 28, 30, 31 and 33. The other Captain will end up with picks 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 16, 18, 20, 22, 23, 25, 27, 29, 32 and 34.

## Substitutions:

Following conclusion of the draft, Captains are responsible for maintaining contact with their players for purposes of confirming their selection and any participation issues. The Tournament Director will assist as required. If a late substitution is required (defined as after the Monday preceding the commencement of play), the substitution must come from the points standing list starting with the highest player on the list that has a distinctly similar handicap to the player that is unable to play. The captains must mutually agree on the substitute. In the event of a dispute, the Tournament Director will be the final arbiter. Required substitutions prior to the Monday cut-off will be made starting with the person having the highest point total of anyone remaining on the qualification list that fell below the cutoff line in the initial selection process.

## Order of Play and Level Competition:

The Captains selecting which of his players will play in what match will determine the order of play. Each captain may write down his order of play without the opposing captain's knowledge or as an alternative by mutual agreement; match opponents in each and all matches. In any event, in the interest of fairness, all matches shall be configured by flights e.g. "A" flight players must compete against the other team's "A" flight players, "B" flight players against the other team's "B" flight players, etc.

The order of play on the first day can be in any order agreed to by both captains, but the default order is to have the respective team Captains tee-off in the first group followed by all other "A" flight groups, then "B" flight groups, etc. The order of play on the second day will be the "E" flight first, followed by "D" flight, with the "C" and "B" flight following and finally the "A" flight.

## Play-Off Formats for Matches:

For the two-day Tournament, the competition will be comprised of:

# Weekend Memorial Cup Guide

- Day 1, Front Nine - Two Man Modified Pinehurst Format where both players tee-off on all holes and alternate shots are taken from that point starting with the teammate whose drive was not selected. Winner of each 2-man match will score 1 point for his team.
- Day 1, Back Nine – Two Man Best Ball, match play. Winner of each match will score 1 point for his team.
- Day 2 – The second day will feature individual 18-Hole Match Play contests pitting “A” flight players from each team playing against each other, “B” flight players from each team playing against each other, etc. Winners of each match will score 1 point for his team. One Captain can unilaterally invoke his right to go head to head with the other Captain in the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the event – a challenge that can’t be refused.

## Handicap Utilization and Application:

Handicaps used during play will be determined on the basis of a player’s lowest index earned within the current year starting with the published May 31 revision. Captains should be acutely aware of this particular fact when selecting team members. Handicap allowances for various types of matches are as follows:

- Two Man Best Ball: Each player receives strokes equal to his handicap minus the lowest handicap within the foursome. Example: an individual having a 14 handicap playing in a foursome where the lowest handicapped individual has an 11 handicap will get 3 strokes in an 18-hole match or 1½ strokes in a 9-hole match.
- Alternating Shot or Scramble: The higher combined handicap team receives strokes equal to the difference between their combined handicaps versus the combined handicaps of the lower handicapped team x 50%. For example, a two-man team having a combined 21 handicap playing another two-man team having a combined 15 handicap will get 3 strokes (6 x 50%) in an 18-hole match or 1½ strokes in a 9-hole match.
- Singles Match Play: Higher handicap player gets handicap difference between himself and his opponent with the handicap difference halved if playing just 9 holes. Note: Fractional strokes are given in lieu of rounding in all matches, which adds an additional level of volatility to the match results.

## Entry Fees For Qualifying Tournaments, Year-end Play-off Event and Other Financial Issues:

Entry fees charged for various Memorial Cup tournaments vary, depending upon whether meals are provided, and whether cash pools exist along with other factors. Irrespective of that, the entry fee for qualifying tournaments will include a \$2 fee to partially offset the cost of holding Memorial Cup year-end play-off matches.

The entry fee for the actual year ending play-off event will approximate \$10 per person with most of that payment needed to cover food costs following the event’s conclusion.

The actual prize pool to be paid out to participant’s changes yearly, depending upon the participation rates at our various Memorial Cup Tournaments and by the level of funding received by the BMGA Treasury. Captains are advised of the exact winner’s share size the week before the play-off matches commence. The weekend version of the Play-Offs is a “winner take all” format unless Captains of the respective teams choose otherwise.

Questions? Tournament Committee Chair, Buz McDonald, [earmcd@gmail.com](mailto:earmcd@gmail.com), 781-974-9280

# Wednesday Memorial Cup Guide

## Applicability:

There are two Memorial Cup Play-Off events, one held for those BMGA players who play predominately on weekends, and one held for those who play predominantly in the BMGA's Wednesday Tournaments. This particular guide focuses on the Wednesday Memorial Cup Play-offs.

## Qualification:

To qualify for play in the annual Wednesday version of the Memorial Tournament playoffs, BMGA members must earn points through competing in weekly BMGA sponsored Wednesday Tournaments.

## Earning Memorial Points during the Course of the Year:

One point is earned for participation in each Wednesday Tournament. There is no maximum number of points that can be earned through this method.

## Player Pool:

At the conclusion of the series of qualifying tournaments, the top 36-40 point earners will earn a spot in the Memorial Cup play-offs. Teams will generally consist of 18-20 players each (Captain plus 17-19 players). In the event of a tie in points for the last qualifying place, the first tie-breaker rule will be the golfer who won the most amount of money during the year at Wednesday Tournaments.

## Prior to the Player Draft:

Before the draft, the Tournament Director (Wednesday Tournament Committee Chair) will confirm that all players entered into the draft pool will be able to attend and compete in the play-offs. Any non-availability decision made by an individual is considered irrevocable out of fairness to others. Substitutes will be chosen from the points standing list starting with the first player on the list that did not make the first cut of entrants. To avoid the appearance of favoritism, there will be no "Captain Picks" allowed.

## Teams and Team Captains:

From the 36-40 available players, Captains will be the two lowest handicap golfers within the group.

## Actual Player Draft:

The actual player draft is done randomly by handicaps in order to balance the two competing teams. Golfers are grouped by flights, according to their respective handicaps.

## Procedures following Draft:

Following conclusion of the draft, the Wednesday Tournament Director is primarily responsible for maintaining contact with players for purposes of confirming their selection and any participation issues. If a late substitution is required (defined as after 8pm on the Friday preceding the commencement of play), the substitution must come from the points standing list starting with the highest player on the list that has a distinctly similar handicap to the player that is unable to play. Required substitutions outside the Friday 8pm substitution window may be made starting with the person having the highest point total of anyone remaining on the qualification list that fell outside the selection process when the teams were initially formed.

## Order of Play and Level Competition:

The Captains selecting which of his players will play in what match will determine the order of play. In any event, in the interest of fairness, evenly matched teams shall be configured all matches.



# Wednesday Memorial Cup Guide

## Year Ending Memorial Play-Off Matches:

The first 6 holes of the Tournament will be a Two Man Scramble where both players tee-off on all holes and each play their successive shots from their best location. The next 6 holes will be a Two Man Better Ball (Four Ball), match play pitting one two man team against the other within the foursome. The last 6 holes will be individual Match Play.

## Handicap Utilization and Application:

Handicaps used during play will be those current at the time of the playoffs. Handicap allowances for various types of matches are as follows:

- Two Man Best Ball: Each player receives strokes equal to his handicap minus the lowest handicap within the foursome. Example: an individual having a 14 handicap playing in a foursome where the lowest handicapped individual has an 11 handicap will get 3 strokes in an 18-hole match or 1½ strokes in a 9-hole match.
- Alternating Shot or Scramble: The higher combined handicap team receives strokes equal to the difference between their combined handicaps versus the combined handicaps of the lower handicapped team x 50%. For example, a two-man team having a combined 21 handicap playing another two-man team having a combined 15 handicap will get 3 strokes (6 x 50%) in an 18-hole match or 1½ strokes in a 9-hole match.
- Singles Match Play: Higher handicap player gets handicap difference between himself and his opponent with the handicap difference halved if playing just 9 holes. Note: Fractional strokes are given in lieu of rounding in all matches, which adds an additional level of volatility to the match results.

## Entry Fees For Qualifying Tournaments, Year-End Play-Offs and Other Financial Issues:

Entry fees charged for various Wednesday tournaments vary, depending upon whether meals are provided. Irrespective of that, the entry fee for qualifying Wednesday tournaments will include a \$1 fee to partially offset the cost of holding Memorial Cup year-end play-off matches.

The entry fee for the actual year ending play-off event will approximate \$10 per person with most of that payment needed to cover food costs following the event's conclusion.

The actual prize pool to be paid out to participant's changes yearly, depending upon the participation rates at our various Memorial Cup Tournaments and by the level of funding received by the BMGA Treasury. Captains are advised of the exact winner's share size the week before the play-off matches commence.

Questions? Tournament Committee Chair, Tom Williamson, [tewilliamson@verizon.net](mailto:tewilliamson@verizon.net), 617-416-0479

# Scoring and Posting Policy

## Introduction:

Your membership with the Braintree Men's Golf Association carries with it the responsibility to post all scores accurately and in a timely manner. To quote from the USGA Handicap System manual:

*"A basic premise underlies the USGA Handicap system, namely that every player will try to make the best score at each hole in every round, regardless of where the round is played, and that the player will post every acceptable round for peer review."*

This means that your handicap is not just your handicap; it is a public record of your play, available for other club members to review and check. Accurate handicaps for all of our members are essential if we are to insure the integrity of our tournaments.

It also means that each player must understand how to properly adjust their scores under Equitable Stroke Control (see below); and, how to properly score any holes that are not played out completely or are played in a manner other than would be justified if the player were playing under an individual stroke play format.

## Information about the following items is noted in this document:

- Hole Out Requirement For Club Tournaments/Events
- Unfinished Holes / Conceded Strokes / Most Likely Score
- Accidental Movement of a Ball on a Putting Green
- Equitable Stroke Control (ESC)
- Wrong Score for Hole in Stroke Play
- Posting Scores as a Tournament (T Scores)
- Posting Scores In A Timely Fashion

## Hole Out Requirement For Club Tournaments/Events:

The Rules of Golf do not permit the use of "gimmies". Rule 1-1 states the Game of Golf consists in playing a ball from the teeing ground into the hole by a stroke or successive strokes in accordance with the Rules.

The concession of a player's next stroke only applies in match play. In stroke play, a putt cannot be conceded; no matter how short it is, because the player must hole out on every hole of the stipulated round (Rule 3-2).

Additionally, in stroke play, if a player fails to hole out and does not correct the error prior to playing a stroke from the next teeing ground, he shall be disqualified (Rule 3-2). In match play, if the putt has not been conceded, (Rule 2-4) the player shall lose the hole.

## Unfinished Holes / Conceded Strokes / Most Likely Score:

A player who starts, but does not complete a hole or is conceded a stroke must record for handicap purposes the most likely score. The "most likely score" may not exceed the player's Equitable Stroke Control limit (see below). An "X" should precede this most likely score. (See Decision 4-1/1.)

## Accidental Movement of a Ball on a Putting Green:

When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment accidentally moves the ball or ball marker.

# Scoring and Posting Policy

## Equitable Stroke Control (ESC):

Before posting, you should reduce any scores to the maximums noted below:

| <i>Handicap</i> | <i>Maximum Score</i> |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 9 and under     | Double Bogey         |
| 10 – 19         | 7                    |
| 20 – 29         | 8                    |
| 30 – 39         | 9                    |
| 40 and over     | 10                   |

## Wrong Score for Hole in Stroke Play:

If a competitor returns a score for any hole lower than actually taken due to failure to include a penalty stroke that the player did not know he had incurred, the player is not disqualified. The penalty for the applicable Rule is applied, but there is no additional penalty.

There is no limit to the number of unfinished holes a player may have in a round, provided that failure to finish is not for the purpose of handicap manipulation.

In match play or best ball, a player should record his scores using these rules.

For any hole where a player's next shot was conceded, the score he should record for that hole is what he most likely would have had.

When a hole is conceded or not played, the player's score for handicap purposes is par plus the handicap strokes the player has been given on that hole.

For any holes not completed after the match is over, a player should record par plus any course handicap strokes he receives on those holes (i.e. your regular course handicap, not the match handicap) for his score.

Example 1: A player lays three (3) on the green, twenty (20) feet from the hole, and the putt is conceded. The player's score for posting is five (5) as he would most likely have needed two (2) putts.

Example 2: A and B are partners in a four-ball stroke play competition. On a hole on which neither player receives a handicap stroke, A lies two, 18 feet from the hole. B lies two, 25 feet from the hole. B holes a putt for a 3. A picks up on the hole, because A cannot better B's score. A records 4 on the scorecard because 4 is A's most likely score.

Example 3: If a player in a team event putts aggressively for a birdie because his partner already has a par (his next putt won't matter to the team), he should not count a resulting 3 putt for handicapping purposes. Rather, he should assume that, playing under a format where only his own score would have counted he would have two putted and should record a par for handicapping. When in doubt, assume the lower score.

## Posting Scores as a Tournament (T Scores):

A tournament score is a score made in a competition organized and conducted by a Committee in charge of the competition. The competition must identify a winner(s) based on a stipulated round(s), and must be played under the Rules of Golf. The competition can be match play or stroke play. The USGA recommends that the Tournament Committee should post all tournament scores.

The Handicap Committee in consultation with the Tournament Committee must determine in advance if the conditions above will be met, and announce in advance whether the letter "T" when posted must identify the score. This will be noted on the Tournament Flyer.

# Scoring and Posting Policy

The club, including the Tournament Chairman, Handicap Chairman, Club professional staff or their designees, post scores on behalf of players in all Club tournaments.

Should a player accidentally post a Club tournament score, the player should contact the Handicap Chairman immediately, so that the duplicate score can be removed from the player's record.

Players should continue to post scores in non-Club-tournament rounds on their own. The Handicap Chairman, assisted as necessary by other members of the Executive Board, will review posted scores of members as necessary to address handicap issues, as authorized under Section 8-4 of the United States Golf Association Handicap Manual, which states that "a Handicap Committee has the ultimate authority to adjust a Handicap Index under any circumstance that it feels necessary to do so."

## Posting Scores In A Timely Fashion:

The USGA Handicap System states in Section 5.2 "Posting scores in person immediately following the round at the course where the round is played is the preferred way to expose scores to peer review. This method of posting shall be used whenever possible." And while all players are responsible for posting their own scores, the BMGA's Handicap Chairman also has the responsibility to verify that scores are posted properly - this is especially true for our club tournaments but also applies to all other rounds.

(Note: For more information about the handicap system, an online version of The USGA Handicap System can be found at [www.usga.org](http://www.usga.org).)

Questions? Please direct them to the following individuals, depending on subject matter:

- Handicap Committee Chair, Phil Paul, [sportnutphil@yahoo.com](mailto:sportnutphil@yahoo.com), 978-590-7285
- Rules Committee Chair, George Hasenfuss, [ghasenfuss@yahoo.com](mailto:ghasenfuss@yahoo.com), 617-699-0732
- Tournament Committee Chair, Buz McDonald, [earmcd@gmail.com](mailto:earmcd@gmail.com), 781-974-9280

## Footnotes:

(1) Information contained within this document was derived from multiple sources including previous BMGA publications, the Golf Club of Houston, as well as the USGA.



# BMGA Local Rules

## Introduction:

The USGA has instituted several changes to the rules in 2019, along with the use of new terms such as “Penalty Area” as opposed to hazard, “general area” as opposed to “through the green”, etc. Changes such as these have been highlighted in the text that follows.

The rules listed and explained below are not intended to encompass the entire body of the rules of golf, but to highlight those instances where local rules have been instituted or where past inconsistencies in the applications of rules have occurred. Every member should be knowledgeable about the rules of golf and carry a copy of the rules in their bag. USGA Rule Booklets for this purpose are available in the Barry Room.

Occasionally, the Rules Committee may announce & post “Lift, Clean & Place” rules on a limited basis and/or limited time based upon the conditions of the course. Otherwise, the ball must be played as it lies.

The BMGA Rules Committee is the final arbiter in the event of a dispute regarding the application of rules.

## Information about the following items is noted in this document:

- Basic Rules & Guidelines
- Penalty Areas & Staking
  - White Stakes (Out of Bounds)
  - Yellow Stakes (Penalty Area, i.e. Water Hazard)
  - Red Stakes (Lateral Penalty Area, e.g. Water Hazard)
- Relief Areas
- Ground Under Repair
- Local Rules (permissible by USGA)
- Rules with respect to unusual Golf Course features
- Supplemental Rules Information for each hole

## Basic Rules & Guidelines

- No practice is allowed anywhere on the golf course other than a designated Area.
- Players are instructed to play the ball down, from tee through the green, NO relief is awarded from ANY divots, tree stumps or tree roots.

## Penalty Areas & Staking:

Penalty Areas are defined geographically and/or by distinctive feature and usually further defined by stakes. Refer to the scorecard and USGA Rules of Golf for added guidance.

- White Stakes - a player may take a:
  - 1 stroke penalty - Play a ball from the original spot
- Yellow Stakes - 1 stroke penalty, a player may:
  - Play a ball at the spot from which the original ball was last played; or
  - Drop a ball behind the Penalty Area, keeping the point where the original ball last crossed the Penalty Area margin directly between the hole and the spot where the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind the Penalty Area the ball may be dropped.

# BMGA Local Rules

- Red Stakes - 1 stroke penalty, a player may:
  - Drop a ball outside the Penalty Area within 2 club-lengths of, and no nearer to the hole, than the point where the original ball crossed the margin of the lateral Penalty Area.
  - Players may use the additional options described under the Yellow Stakes section above.

## Relief Areas:

- No penalty. One club length, no nearer to the hole, from the nearest point of relief, if a player's stance or swing is interfered by the following obstructions:
  - All service roads and cart paths.
  - Man-made bridges over brooks on Holes: #6, #7, #12, #16, #17
  - Man-made drainage ditches and rough growing at edge of Drains (e.g. Hole #8)
  - Weather Station and surrounding fence on Hole #18.
  - Sprinkler head relief is awarded *ONLY IF* the sprinkler head interferes with the player's stance or swing.
  - Aeration holes from tee through the green.
  - Bird houses as defined by:
    - If your ball is in the Penalty Area, no relief is awarded.
    - If your ball is outside the Penalty Area, a Free Drop is awarded away from the obstruction *ONLY IF* the players swing OR stance is affected.
- Ground under repair is defined as (Area marked with a blue or white circle) including:
  - Area marked with a blue or white paint circle (i.e. 'GUR').
  - Any pile of Aeration plugs or newly spread/manicured Aeration plugs.
  - Fenced area of goat pen or any other area created for the goats to 'work'.
  - Tire Tracks through the green excluding Penalty Areas and bunkers.
  - Loose impediments in bunkers; a player may remove any loose impediments from a bunker without penalty.
- Embedded (plugged) ball rule is in effect through the green excluding Penalty Areas and bunkers. A player may take relief without penalty for an embedded ball anywhere in the "general area" (new term for "through the green").
- A ball **MUST BE** in it's own pitch mark for the player to be awarded free relief.

**Questions?** Rules Committee Chair, George Hasenfuss, [ghasenfuss@yahoo.com](mailto:ghasenfuss@yahoo.com), 617-699-0732

# BMGA Local Rules

## Supplemental Rules Information:

- Hole #1
  - Out of Bounds Left: defined by stakes, property lines & fences - tee to green
  - Lateral Penalty Area Right: behind and around green, defined by stakes & marshy area
- Hole #2
  - Out of Bounds Left: defined by fence, staked swamp and boulder area - tee to green
  - Lateral Penalty Area on Right: tee to green, defined by stakes, tree line & marshy area
  - Penalty Area on Right ("Burley's Pond"): near green
- Hole #3
  - Out of Bounds Left: defined by fence
- Hole #4
  - Out of Bounds Left: defined by parking lot & fence on left - tee to green
  - Penalty Area (pond): behind Green
  - Lateral Penalty Area Left: over Cart Path adjacent to, and extending beyond green
- Hole #5
  - Out of Bounds Left: defined by white fence posts
  - Lateral Penalty Area Right: pond behind service road, woods and cart path
- Hole #6
  - Out of Bounds Left: defined by white stakes or - in the absence of stakes - by the right side boundary of the Reservoir Service Road from marsh adjacent to forward tee through the green
  - Lateral Penalty Area Left: tee to Intersection of pond and Reservoir Service Road
  - Lateral Penalty Area Right: wooded/low area before pond to path to 7th tee and around green
  - Penalty Area (stream): immediately in front of gold teeing area
- Hole #7
  - Penalty Area (Brook): crossing fairway. Note that grass walkway over the brook is NOT considered part of the Penalty Area.
  - Lateral Penalty Area Left: defined by pond from tee to brook in front of green
  - Lateral Penalty Area Right: from tee through green
- Hole #8
  - Lateral Penalty Area Left: from tee to green, defined by stakes, berm & marshy area  
*(Note: Above new Local Rule adopted by committee for pace of play and safety concerns)*
- Hole #9
  - Penalty Area: defined by marsh area in front of tee
  - Lateral Penalty Area Left: defined by tree line from tee to behind green
- Hole #10
  - Lateral Penalty Area Left: from tee through green and around back of green
  - Lateral Penalty Area Right: from tee to opening leading to 11th gold tee ground

# BMGA Local Rules

- Hole #11

- Lateral Penalty Area Left: from 11<sup>th</sup> tee to 12<sup>th</sup> tee - primarily defined by the brook and its banks with further definition provided by staking.

*Note: New Local Rule adopted by committee for pace of play: If a ball is hit into the Penalty Area on the left of the cart path, the player can take a drop within two club-lengths of the right edge of the cart path, and no nearer to the hole, across from the point where the original ball crossed the margin of the Penalty Area, with a one-stroke penalty.*

- Lateral Penalty Area Right: from tee to marsh area around back of green

- Hole #12

- Yellow staked Penalty Area (Brook): crossing fairway. Note: Grass walkway over the brook is NOT considered part of the Penalty Area.
- Lateral Penalty Area left: brook to and around green and pond on right, extending along left side of road to the #13 fairway.

- Hole #13

- Lateral Penalty Area Left: from tee to green and behind green to 14th tee area
- Lateral Penalty Area Right: from road between 13th & 14th holes to behind green

- Hole #14

- Lateral Penalty Area Left: defined by Pond
- Lateral Penalty Area Right: from tee to service road connecting 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> fairways
- Lateral Penalty Area Right: beginning behind green and proceeding towards the 15<sup>th</sup> tee area.

- Hole #15

- Lateral Penalty Area Left: defined by pond to green, behind and around green
- Lateral Penalty Area Right: from tee to path leading to 16th tee

- Hole #16

- Penalty Area (Stream): crossing fairway
- Lateral Penalty Area Right: from tee to a service bridge leading to 10th tee
- Lateral Penalty Area on Left: from tee to behind and around back of green

- Hole #17

- Yellow staked Penalty Area (Stream): crossing fairway
- Lateral Penalty Area Right: from tee to path leading to 18th hole
- Lateral Penalty Area Left: from tee to green and behind green. Ball landing over chain link fence behind green is out of bounds

- Hole #18

- Out of Bounds Left: defined by paved parking lot, cart barn, access road and wood fence directly behind clubhouse. Area further defined by white stakes.
- Lateral Penalty Area Right: from tee to beyond green to snack shack.