

ARTICLE I NAME AND LOCATION

The name of the Association shall be the BRAINTREE MENS GOLF ASSOCIATION (BMGA). The headquarters of the BMGA shall be the Town of Braintree, Massachusetts, at a location selected by the Executive Board of the association.

ARTICLE II DEFINITION, PURPOSE AND ACTIVITIES

Definition: The BRAINTREE MENS GOLF ASSOCIATION is a non-political, non-profit membership society of golfers.

Purpose: The purpose of the Association is to promote interest in golf at the Braintree Municipal Golf Course.

Activities: The activities of the Association in achieving this purpose include, but are not limited to:

- a. Encouraging and supporting golf programs at the Braintree Municipal Golf Course.
- b. Encouraging and supporting weekend and weekday tournaments for members 18 years of age or older, for the regular golfing season.
- c. Encouraging and supporting an Annual Junior Four Ball Tourney for boys 12-18 years of age.
- d. Encouraging and supporting Junior Golf by providing for a free BMGA membership to juniors and special tournaments for juniors under 18 years of age. The application form must have the applicant's date of birth on the form.
- e. Participating in improvements in the clubhouse or golf course through an annual contribution with the approval of the BMGA General Membership for the benefit of all golfers.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDING

Association Membership: Any golfer interested in the Braintree Municipal Golf Course may make a written application to the Association for membership.

Massachusetts Golf Association (MGA) Membership: The BMGA shall be a participating member of the MGA.

Dues:

- a. Members under 18 years of age will be considered as Junior Members.
- b. Dues will be assessed on a yearly basis, Jan 1 – Dec 31.
- c. Dues must be paid prior to May 1st of each year, or the member will be dropped from the roles. A surcharge will be charged for joining after May 15.
- d. The Association shall set the dues for the forthcoming year at the last General Meeting of the year. The Executive Board will make a recommendation at the meeting and acceptance by the membership by a majority will set the rate of dues for the following year. A Senior and Junior rate will be set. Dues must be paid prior to any member entering into any BMGA sponsored tournament.

Assessments: Assessments may be made upon recommendation of the Executive Board, and the approval of a majority of membership at a regular or special meeting.

Funding: Funding will be obtained from the following sources:

- a. Dues and assessments
- b. Tournament Committee
- c. Gifts
- d. Raffles

Control of Funds: Association funds shall be in custody of the elected Treasurer and shall be subject to an audit by the Executive Board, or appointed members thereof, on a yearly basis. The fiscal year shall run from Jan1 thru Dec 31.

ARTICLE IV ASSOCIATION GOVERNMENT

Forms of Government: The Association government shall be representative, with policy and direction established by the Executive Board, and shall be carried out by the Association officers.

Association Officers: There shall be a President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary as shown below, elected by the Association from its own membership. The term of office shall be for two years.

Committees: The Committees shall consist of:

- a. **Tournament Committee**
- b. **Handicap Committee**
- c. **Rules Committee**
- d. **Greens Committee**

- e. **Liaison & Grievance Committee**
- f. **Special Events & Entertainment Committee**
- g. **Publicity Committee**
- h. **Junior Golf Committee**
- i. **Nominating Committee**
- j. **Team Captain**

Committees of more than one member shall elect, or select, their own chairman for a one year term, and make their selection or elections known to the President and the Secretary prior to the first General Meeting of the year.

Each Committee shall have the power to add to its Committee Membership between elections such additional members which, in their own judgment, are desirable in achieving the purposes of the Association. The Golf Professional may serve as an advisory member of each and every committee. The President or his representative may appoint Special Committees at any time.

Executive Board: The Executive Board shall consist of all officers, and the chairman of each committee. This Board shall also act as the Auditing Committee.

Duties of Officers:

President: The President shall have general responsibilities for; and supervision over, the affairs of the Association. He shall preside at the meetings of the Association, and the Executive Board, and he shall be, ex-officio, a member of all Committees.

The BMGA shall pay the annual BMGA dues of the President while he is in Office.

Vice President: The Vice President shall assume the chair of the President at any meeting where the President is absent, and shall assist the President in his duties whenever possible.

The BMGA shall pay the annual BMGA dues of the Vice President while he is in Office.

Secretary: The Secretary shall be the custodian of the By-Laws, Association correspondence and records. He shall serve as the recording secretary for the Executive Board and General Membership meetings. He shall ensure that notification is made to the membership of pending meetings, and shall do this at least one and one half weeks in advance of the meeting whenever possible.

He shall prepare and submit reports of the previous meeting minutes at the next regular General Meeting of the membership.

He shall assume the chair of the President at any meeting where the President and Vice President are absent.

The BMGA shall pay the annual BMGA dues of the Secretary while he is in Office.

Treasurer: The treasurer shall be the comptroller of the finances, and custodian of the funds of the Association, under the supervision of the Executive Board. He shall render an Annual account of Association finances, and other such reports as called for by the Executive Board. He shall be the mandatory Signer for disbursement of Association funds. The President and Vice President will also be appointed annually as mandatory Signers to the BMGA accounts in the event that the Treasurer is unavailable to perform his duties. The Treasurer shall also maintain a roster of membership.

The BMGA shall pay an amount not to exceed \$500 towards the annual permit holder fee for the Treasurer while he is in office.

Executive Board: The Executive Board shall enunciate, carry out, and control the affairs and funds of the Association, and shall have the authority to take any actions that in its judgment are deemed necessary, or desirable, to further the interests of the Association, subject only to the limitations of applicable law, and By-laws of the Association.

The Executive Board shall meet at the call of the President, or acting President. Normally, at least four days notification shall be given of the Date, Time and Place of the called meeting. Meetings are generally prior to a General Meeting. Any action that is consummated by the Executive Board at an Executive Board Meeting shall be placed on the agenda of the subsequent meeting for approval by the membership. A quorum for transaction of business at the Executive Board Meeting will be 5 (was seven) members of the Board.

Duties of Committee Chairman:

Tournament Committee: The Tournament Committee shall be responsible for presenting a yearly schedule of weekend, weekly, Trophy and Special Tournaments. The Annual Member/Guest Tournament shall be supervised by this committee, and for these events, the committee is empowered to expand its membership to the extent necessary to insure a successful tournament. They shall make necessary arrangements with the Pro Shop, to accept entry fees, to tournaments and shall turn over all funds that are received to the Treasurer with a record of winners, and the value of the prizes given, or merchandise vouchers given. They will promptly, at the conclusion of each tournament, furnish the Publicity Chairman with all necessary data, so that the Association may obtain adequate publicity. In order to participate in BMGA tournaments, all members must be 18 years or older.

The BMGA shall pay an amount not to exceed \$500 towards the annual permit holder fee for the Tournament Chairman while he is in office.

Handicap Chairman: The Handicap Chairman shall be responsible for maintaining the handicap board in the clubhouse in a current manner. The board should be updated every two (2) weeks during the playing season. The Chairman is empowered to declare null and void, and refuse to accept members' cards that are submitted with gross errors. The Chairman's decision shall be final for the Association.

The BMGA shall pay an amount not to exceed \$500 towards the annual permit holder fee for the Handicap Chairman while he is in office.

Rules Committee: The Rules Committee shall be responsible for the posting of all local rules. They shall be the final word on all complaints, or questions, concerning the rules and/or interpretation thereof. The advice of the Club Professional will be sought, and will weigh heavily in any decision.

Liaison and Grievance Committee: The Liaison and Grievance Committee shall hear all grievances of the members, and take indicated action. They shall also act as a Liaison between the BMGA and the Braintree Golf Course Advisory Committee of the Town of Braintree Park Department.

Greens Committee: The Greens Committee shall be responsible for bringing to the attention of the Superintendent any complaints pertaining to the condition of the Greens, and/or other playing surfaces, including sand traps and hazards.

Special Events and Entertaining Committee: The Special Events and Entertainment Committee shall be responsible for arrangements connected with Association Award ceremonies. They shall be responsible for refreshments at all general meetings; dining arrangements for Special Tournaments; and for all special events such as "Drive the 12th" on Special Occasions. This committee is empowered to expand its membership to the extent necessary to insure successful events.

Publicity Committee: The Publicity committee shall be responsible for the furnishing of notices, information and tournament results to various news media. They shall also be responsible for the posting of all necessary notices of Special Events, etc. in the clubhouse.

Junior Golf Committee: The Junior Golf Committee shall be responsible for organizing and controlling all special tournaments for Juniors in concert with the Golf Pro and his Staff. They shall act as the representative of the members under 18 years old on the Executive Board. This committee is empowered to expand its membership to the extent necessary to insure successful events.

Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee shall be responsible for soliciting and developing a slate of nominations for BMGA Officers every two years. The Chairman of the committee shall recommend the slate of nominated officers for the upcoming 2-year term to the membership in attendance at the last General Meeting of the year, every other year.

Team Captain: The Team Captain shall be responsible for the formation of a team of members, and for their participation in a league of similar teams from the surrounding areas.

Information & Technology Officer: The Executive Committee is authorized to appoint on a yearly basis, a person to fill the position of IT Officer in order to perform specific computer and automation needs of the association including, but not limited to development of computerized address lists, development of e-mail systems, automated scorekeeping systems, etc.

The BMGA shall pay an amount not to exceed \$500 towards the annual permit holder fee for the IT Officer while he is in office.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

The Association shall hold at least three (3) General Membership Meetings annually. Special meetings may be held for the membership at the discretion of the Executive Board. The first meeting should be held prior to the opening of the course or as close to the opening as possible. The final meeting each year should not be held after November 15th. At the final meeting, dues will be set for the following year. New officers shall be elected at this meeting every two years. Special Meetings may be called by the President, or upon the request of 25% or more of the paid up membership.

A quorum will consist of 15 members.

Executive Board Meetings should be called by the President, prior to the scheduled General Meetings, to form the agenda for the General Meeting. The President may call meetings of the Executive Board to act upon sudden emergency actions deemed necessary, and in accordance with the By-Laws. Committee meetings will be set at the call of the chairman, and actions taken will be recorded and reported upon at the next Executive Board Meeting/General Meeting.

ARTICLE VI ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee shall, every two years, at the last General Meeting, submit to the membership, a slate of candidates for all elective offices, who have been contacted, and have expressed a willingness to serve. It shall be legal and proper to nominate candidates from the floor for election to any office of the Association. A majority vote of the membership present shall elect the slate of candidates or candidate nominations from the floor following two (2) years. Elected officers will serve from the time they are voted into office by majority of the membership present at the meeting.

ARTICLE VII OBLIGATION AND DISCIPLINE

Acceptance of membership in the Association shall obligate the member to abide by the By-Laws, and any legal amendments thereto.

Failure of a member to furnish the entry fee for any tournament for which the member has signed the entry or sign up sheet, will be considered a violation of the By-Laws unless expressly excused for good reason by the Chairman of the Tournament Committee. Members of the Association who refuse, or neglect to comply strictly with this Constitution and By-Laws, shall be liable to suspension or expulsion by a majority vote of the membership present and voting.

Should a member of this Association be guilty of conduct prejudicial to the best interests and objectives of the organization, he may be debarred by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Board present and voting, from taking part in all such activities sponsored and/or sanctioned by this Association. In all such cases, an appeal may be made, in writing, to the President or acting President, and brought before the next General Meeting of the Association. A majority votes of the membership present and voting on the question of the appeal will be final on all parties concerned.

Whenever the Braintree Golf Course Advisory Committee feels it necessary to take punitive or restrictive action against any BMGA member, the Executive Board will consider possible action under the paragraph above.

ARTICLE VIII LIABILITY

All obligations that are incurred by the Braintree Men's Golf Association shall be solely Association obligations, and present no personal liability whatsoever shall be attached to, or incurred by, a member or officer of the Association by reason of any such obligations undertaken in fulfillment of the authority granted by these By-Laws.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS AND CHANGES

Amendments and/or changes to these By-Laws may be proposed by a majority of the Executive Board, or upon petition addressed to the President, and signed by no less than 5% of the total number of members of the Association in good standing, as shown by the records of the Association as maintained by the Treasurer.

Proposed Amendments and/or changes meeting this criteria shown in the preceding paragraph shall be subject to an approval by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, at a General Meeting, provided that the amendment and/or change was expressed as a motion, seconded, and favorably acted upon at a previous meeting, and all members have been notified, in writing, of the motion, its contents, and the fact that it would be the subject of a vote at the General Meeting.

ARTICLE X COMPENSATION

At the last BMGA meeting of each year or the first meeting, a vote shall be taken to decide the stipend not to exceed \$500 that shall be paid to the following officers, committee chairmen and officials:

Treasurer
Handicap Chairman
Tournament Chairman
Information Technology Officer

The amount decided by the vote shall be deducted from the BMGA treasury.

Additionally, the annual BMGA dues for the following BMGA officers shall be paid by the BMGA Treasury while they are in their respective offices:

President
Vice President
Secretary

Revisions represent changes made by Membership through June 2008