

# MPGA

## Tournament Player's Information

If you plan to participate in a tournament sponsored by the Minnesota Public Golf Association, it is important that you read the following information. It is your responsibility to know the rules and regulations concerning participation in MPGA events.

**CONDITIONS OF PLAY:** The Minnesota Public Golf Association reserves the right to decline any entry. Any person whose entry is accepted shall be subject to the rules and conditions of play set forth by the MPGA. The MPGA reserves the right to shorten any competition due to weather or other conditions warranting such action. Any act of unsportsmanlike conduct, as written in the MPGA Conduct Policy stated below, will be cause for removal from a tournament. NOTE: The MPGA will not make any provisions for a player asking for special consideration due to other commitments.

**MPGA CONDUCT POLICY:** By submitting an entry, or by participating in any MPGA competition, the player understands that his participation is at the sole discretion of the MPGA. The player's entry may be rejected for any event, at the discretion of the Official in Charge, at any time before the close of the competition (as defined in the USGA Rules of Golf Book-Rule 341b). Likewise, the player's entry may be rejected, at the discretion of the Committee for reasons deemed necessary, at any time after the close of the competition. Unbecoming conduct or actions at any MPGA event, or state, national, or international event, or conduct or action deemed detrimental to the MPGA, the spirit of the game, or to the host facilities are grounds for such rejection.

These include, but are not limited to:

1. Cheating
2. Willful destruction of golf course or MPGA property
3. Abusive language or conduct towards MPGA and/or host facility, staff, volunteers, or other players
4. Abusive or derogatory criticism of the MPGA and/or host facility staff, volunteers, or other players
5. Club throwing and/or physical endangerment of others
6. Offensive or excessively loud behavior
7. Alcohol and/or substance impaired behavior
8. Repeated withdrawals or no cards during or after completion of a round
9. Inappropriate golf attire
10. Other conduct deemed to be unbecoming

Should such an incident occur, the Official in Charge shall submit a report to the Executive Committee. Future sanctions may range from suspension from future MPGA events to not being eligible for MPGA team competitions and/or player awards. The decision to reject an entry during an event by the Official in Charge is final. However, any further sanctions imposed by the Executive Committee may be appealed to Executive Committee. The decision of this Executive Committee shall be final.

**TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY:** Entries are open to amateur golfers who are current members of a Men's Club that is a current member club in good standing of the MPGA and possess a GHIN handicap. MPGA tournaments, may be entered starting Monday, March 2, 2015, provided the entry is received on or before the entry closing date and the field is not full. The entry closing dates are located on each individual application. The MPGA does not accept entries by telephone, fax or e-mail. Late or incomplete entries are not acceptable and will be returned. Time limit for entries means time of receipt at the MPGA (not time of postmark). Entries should be mailed early to allow ample time for delay or error in transmission. Entries with insufficient funds will be considered incomplete and unacceptable and will be withdrawn. The entrant is responsible for any fees incurred by the MPGA for NSF checks and must pay such fees before entry in further MPGA events is allowed.

**ONLINE APPLICATIONS:** Applications are available online for all events. You must fill in data on application, submit application and check to cover the tournament entry fee to the address listed on the application form. Starting with the 2013 golf season, the MPGA allows on-line registration and payment via [On-Line Registration](#) which includes registration using the GHIN mobile application.

**TOURNAMENT INFORMATION:** Information concerning pairings, starting times, etc., will be mailed or e-mailed approximately 7 days prior to the event and will be posted on the MPGA website [www.mpga.net](http://www.mpga.net). If you have not received your information within seven days of the event, it is YOUR responsibility to contact the MPGA Tournament Office. PLEASE DO NOT CALL MORE THAN SEVEN DAYS PRIOR TO THE EVENT!

**E-MAIL:** If you wish to receive tournament information by email please indicate this on the application by filling in your e-mail address in a readable format. Tournament information will be sent by e-mail if you have filled in your e-mail address on the tournament application form.

NOTE: You must be able to receive messages with attachments and you must have *Acrobat Reader* in order to open the attachments.

**TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEES:** Entry fees for all tournaments include GREEN FEES ONLY. Golf carts, when permitted, are at the player's expense.

**HANDICAPS:** The current GHIN handicap index as of the Championship entry closing date is used to determine the player's course handicap for tournaments. The MPGA reserves the right to adjust a player's USGA Handicap Index prior to the start of the competition entered. (See Knuth points on next page)

**FOOTWEAR POLICY:** The MPGA will honor the footwear policy of all host clubs.

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**SCORE POSTING:** Tournament scores recorded in *all* MPGA tournaments except for the Combination will be posted for handicap purposes.

**WEATHER DELAYS:** The MPGA will make every effort to complete an event in its entirety. However, the MPGA reserves the right to shorten an event as necessary if weather-related circumstances require such action.

**WITHDRAWALS/NO SHOWS:** Players who have applied to participate in an MPGA event and wish to withdraw for any reason MUST notify the MPGA at (651-452-6394), or by e-mail to [jogolf@comcast.net](mailto:jogolf@comcast.net) prior to the event closing date. If withdrawing on the day of the event, you must call the course where the tournament is being held. Players who fail to follow this procedure will be listed as a NO SHOW. Repeated no shows by a player may result in the player's entry for future events being rejected.

**MPGA NET COMPETITIONS/KNUTH POINTS:**

All players' course handicaps for handicap events will be reviewed and may be reduced based upon past performances in the handicap events by using a modified "Knuth Points" system.. The following defines the "modified Knuth points" and possible handicap reductions.

The Knuth system is based upon awarding points to NET finishers in MPGA net competitions. The USGA Handicap Index is not changed, but players may compete in MPGA net tournaments at a reduced handicap based on past performance. The MPGA uses performances in MPGA net tournaments played in the last three (3) Years to determine "Knuth Points".

**REFUNDS:** Entry fees will be refunded for any withdrawal up to the entry closing date listed on the tournament application.. A withdrawal after entry closing date, or a no show, will not be eligible for any refund.

**ELECTRONIC MEASURING DEVICES:** The use of these devices is permitted in MPGA tournaments. Devices can be used for distance measuring only. For all MPGA tournaments, a player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional function is actually used."

Place	Points
1	4
2	3
3	2
4	1
5-up	0

**CELL PHONES/PAGERS:** The use of audible telecommunications equipment is prohibited during MPGA tournaments.

**Handicap reduction for MPGA tournaments will be as follows:**

When total points accumulated reach 8 tournament handicap reduces by 1

When total points accumulated reach 10 tournament handicap reduces by 2

When total points accumulated reach 12 tournament handicap reduces by 3

**PHOTOGRAPHIC/VIDEO:** By submitting any application, the player agrees to allow the MPGA to use the player's photographic/video image for any MPGA media related use(s).

When total points accumulated reach 14 tournament handicap reduces by 4

**MPGA DRESS CODE:** For all MPGA competitions, players and caddies must be neat in appearance with respect to personal grooming and clothing. The Official in Charge shall decide whether this requirement has been met and will withdraw the entry of a player who does not comply.

When total points accumulated reach 16 tournament handicap reduces by 5

**SPECTATOR CARTS:** When golf carts are permitted in an MPGA event, their use is limited to transporting players and their clubs. SPECTATORS ARE PROHIBITED FROM USING GOLF CARTS. Walking spectators always are welcome at MPGA Championships.

The maximum reduction for a player will 5 strokes.