



TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

As of July 2026

The Section's current and approved tournament regulations are to be considered a part of the Section's By-laws and, for convenience, are printed separately.

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I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE, AUTHORITY, EFFECTIVE DATE

The Gateway Tournament Program shall provide a high-quality arena of competition for its members. Its motives will be fellowship, sportsmanship, and the opportunity to develop and test our playing skills. These Regulations became effective January 2025, and superseded all previous rules and regulations governing the conduct of Gateway PGA Tournaments.

II. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

The Tournament Committee is regulated under the operating By-laws, which are considered part of the Constitution. The Tournament Committee may recommend amendments to tournament rules and regulations to the Section Board of Directors for ratification.

III. CHAIRMAN

- A. The Chairperson of the Tournament Committee is appointed by the Section President and ratified by the Board of Directors. The Committee shall consist of at least six (6) people. The Committee will comprise a Tournament chairman, Director of Competitions, Executive Director, assistant chairman, and those selected.

Meetings will be called at the chairman's discretion, with notice given by e-mail or telephone at least five (5) days before the meeting.

- B. The Director of Competitions and/or a designated Section employee shall administer/officiate at the following tournaments and be responsible for the enforcement of these rules and regulations as outlined:

Players Championship
Pro-Assistant Pro
Team Championship
PPC Qualifying
Junior/Senior
Gateway Match Play Championship
Pro-Am's
Sanctioned Charity Events

Stoke Play Events
Assistants' Championship
Senior PPC Qualifying
Pro-Superintendent
Pro Junior
Lake Team Event
Team Events

NOTE: This list may be modified annually based on the tournament schedule.

- C. The Tournament Committee, Director of Competitions, Executive Director, or their Designated Representative shall have jurisdiction regarding contestants' eligibility and interpretation of golf rules.

IV. SANCTIONED AND APPROVED EVENTS

- A. Eighteen (18) or more hole golf competitions played within the geographical boundaries of the Gateway Section, in which 20 or more golf professionals participate, charging an entry fee and offering a purse as prize money, must be sanctioned by the Section or its Designated Representative in order for Gateway members to participate as competitors. This includes but is not limited to any Pro-Am, Pro-Lady, Pro-Junior, or similar event or any stroke play competition (excluding Pro-Member events held Tuesday through Sunday).
- B. Golf competitions played within the Section must be approved by the Tournament Committee or by its designated representative. Gateway members may then participate. Each of these events will be considered individually on its merits.
- C. Charity events will be sanctioned and approved per the agreement enclosed.

V. ELIGIBLE EMPLOYMENT

PGA Members and Associates who are employed in more than one profession shall be subject to the following:

The National Office shall determine if a professional is eligible employed based on the documentation provided by the professional and the recommendation of the Section. Should the National Office and Section disagree, the matter shall be submitted to the Board of Control. The Board of Control's decision shall be binding by the Section and the National office.

Professionals are not determined to be eligible employed until approval is obtained.

The following guidelines shall be used to determine eligible employment.

1. Professionals who satisfy the following are considered employed in the golf industry and eligible for an active classification regardless of other income or profession:
 - a. Employment must be required by their classification and average at least 36 hours per week for the entire season. The length of the season is determined by the Section.
 - b. Employment must fulfill all national and state guidelines, including wage and hour requirements, income tax reporting requirements, and social security tax requirements.
 - c. Upon request, individuals may be requested to provide to the Section or the Association applicable income and tax records where cause exists to assist in determining the proper classification. The failure of the member/associate to provide the requested information by the deadline stated in the written request for

information may result in a dismissal of the case, with the inquiry/appeal denied summarily at the sole discretion of the body that requested the information.

2. Professionals must document to the Section and the National Office on a quarterly basis (of another specified time period as agreed by the National Office and Section) that they satisfy the eligible employment guidelines and the requirements of their classification.
3. On an individual basis, the Board of Control may modify the eligible employment requirements in extenuating circumstances, such as adverse weather, injury, or illness.

VI. ELIGIBILITY FOR TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION

All Classifications must be in GOOD STANDING to participate in the following events. The Quad-Pro and Pro-Assistant are exempt from this chart.

Event	LMA, LM- RM	MP	A1-2	A-3	A4-7	A-8	A-9	A-10	A11- 14	A15-2 3	B-8	Assoc/ Affiliate	PQ
Players Championship	Qualify through season-long POY points. Top 25 Regular, Top 15 Seniors, Top 5 Assistants, Top 3 Super Seniors, and 2- women's POY will qualify.												
Scratch ProAm	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Pro-Opens	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Team Champ.	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Match Play	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
36 Hole Stroke Play	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
PPC/Section Champ	Limited to all Class "A" members who are actively employed at the entry deadline and time of the tournament												
Asst. Champ		X				X					X	X	
Sr.Sec.Champ Sr. PPC		X			X	X	X	X	X	X			
Team (2 person)	Top 10 overall in Regular POY, Top 5 Seniors, and Top 5 Assistants points may not team together. Exception Multi-Section Pro-Pro's NO RESTRICTIONS.												
Team (3-4 person)	No more than 2 players from the top 10 overall in Regular POY, Top 5 Seniors, and Top 5 Assistants points, may not team together												
Slice of Life	Player of the Year point list and Southern Illinois HealthCare special invitees												
Pro-womens	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Pro-Asst Pro	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X *	X	X	X	X
Pro-Junior	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lake Team	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Las Vegas Pro Am	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

❖ A14 may play with an A6 in a Pro-Assistant format

Must not have played in more than eight (8) combined Adams Pro Tour (APT), Asian Tour, Dakotas Tour, Epson Tour (formerly Symetra Tour- LPGA), European Challenge Tour, European Senior Tour, European Tour, GPro Tour (beginning 1/1/2022), JPGA Senior Tour, JPGA Tour, Korn Ferry Tour, Ladies European Tour (LET), LPGA Tour, Mackenzie TOUR-Canada (including the Forme Tour), PGA Australia Tours, PGA New Zealand Tours, PGA TOUR, PGA TOUR Champions, PGA TOUR-China, PGA TOUR LatinoAmerica, SwingThought Tour, The Safari Tour and The Sunshine Tour tournaments. The U.S. Open, U.S. Senior Open, U.S. Women's Open, PGA Championship, KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship and KPMG Women's PGA Championship are not included in the 8-tournament count.

PGA of America reserves the right to determine whether any player meets eligibility and to reject any player who does not meet these requirements. A PGA member will not be eligible to participate if:

- a) the member is serving a suspension from membership;

- b) the member is suspended from tournament participation for national tournaments or
- c) the member is classified as Class F, Reserve, A-3, LM, LMM, LMA, LMMA, LMC, RM or HM.

SECTION TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY

All members and registered associates of the Gateway Section must have attended the fall meeting of the prior calendar year or the current spring meeting, or they must forfeit the right to participate in the section's tournament program of the current calendar year (per by-laws).

New Orientation Registrants (Prequalifies) – eligibility in the Gateway PGA tournament program will be for the initial 6-month registration period only. After the 6-month period has expired, any person still registered as a New Orientation Registrant will become ineligible for all Gateway PGA tournaments. Meeting requirements are adjusted based on the time of enrollment into the program. After completing this level, participants have 30 days to register as an Associate to remain eligible for GPGA tournament play.

Registered Associates – only good-standing associates will be eligible for Gateway PGA tournaments. Once you become current, you will be reinstated in the tournament program.

VIII. RULES

- A. All play in Gateway-sponsored or sanctioned events is governed by the current rules of golf of the USGA and, where applicable, the local rules and definitions listed in the Gateway Rules of Play, subject to change for particular tournaments by the Director of Competitions. The Executive Director, Director of Competitions, Tournament Chairmen (or Designated Representative of the Tournament Committee), and Host Professional shall be present at each event, applying and interpreting the rules and rendering any decisions. Appeals of rules decisions shall require a minimum of three votes.
- B. **TIES:** In all section point events, should two or more professionals or teams tie for first place, the tie will be resolved by a **“Hole-by-Hole” Sudden-Death PLAY-OFF** immediately following the event's conclusion. The winner of any play-off shall be deemed to have placed first in the tournament, and his prize money and/or points will be determined accordingly. The loser of any play-off involving two players shall be deemed to have placed second and shall be entitled to second place prize money and/or points. If a play-off involves more than two players, those other than the winner shall be deemed to have tied for second place regardless of their scores in the play-off and their prize money and/or points shall be apportioned accordingly. Professionals tying for other positions will share equally with others posting the same score. In Pro-Ams and the Quad-Pro, all ties shall be split.
- C. All events played in March and April will be played under the Model Local Rule E-3 Preferred Lies-Model Local Rule E-3 of the Rules of Golf Committee Procedures is modified as follows: Model Local Rule E-3 Of The Rules Of Golf Committee Procedures Is In Effect And Is Modified As Follows: When A Player's Ball Lies In A Part Of The General Area Cut To Fairway Height Or Less, The Player May Take Free Relief Once Using A Preferred Lie By Placing The Original Ball Or Another Ball In This Relief Area:
 - Reference Point: Spot Of The Original Ball.
 - Size Of Relief Area Measured From Reference Point: One Club- Length From The Reference Point, But With These Limits:
 - Limits On Location Of Relief Area: Must Not Be Nearer The Hole Than The Reference Point, And Must Be In The General Area.

IX. DISCONTINUATION OF PLAY/POSTPONEMENT (RULE 6-8, A & B)

- A. The Gateway PGA Director of Competitions, Executive Director, or the Designee 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 entirely rests with the official in charge. **(GATEWAY SECTION RAIN POLICY)**
- B. Suspension of Play: Reference Section: XVI. Rules of Play, A. note
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.
- C. In the event that a player must discontinue play, he/she should lift his/her ball after marking the spot on which it lay. In such a case he/she shall place a ball on the spot when play resumes.

Note: The Gateway PGA Section Tournament Staff is concerned about dangerous situations regarding weather. In most cases, suspension of play will be for a dangerous situation and shall be signaled with one prolonged blast.

X. RELEASES

Players may be released to play in a conflicting event within the Section with the approval of the Executive Director or the Director of Competitions of the Gateway PGA.

XI. GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

- A. All details relating to entries, pairing, starting, and the play of the game shall be handled by the Executive Director, Director of Competitions, PGA office staff, their Designee, and the Host Professional
- B. The PGA Staff shall be responsible for ensuring that the pairing and time published on the official pairing sheet are **strictly followed** when contestants start.
- C. All professionals are responsible for knowing the Rules of Golf and local rules posted for an event. It is advised that you carry a current Rules of Golf booklet in your bag.
- D. All professionals are held responsible for ensuring that their scorecards have been marked correctly and properly attested before turning them into the tournament scorer.
- E. In all Professional-Amateur events, each professional shall be held responsible for the validity and accuracy of the handicap of his/her amateur partner or partners.
- F. Personal Complaints: Criticism or complaints involving PGA, sponsors, host clubs, golf courses or players shall be made to the PGA staff's Tournament Advisory Board or Board of Directors in writing.
- G. Women Professionals will play from tees as specified by the Director of Competitions. PGA of America's new tee regulations were adopted in 2003.
- H. You must register online at www.gatewaypga.org under the tournament section through Golf Genius.
NO PAYMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON-SITE.
- I. Pairing and tee assignments for all events, excluding the Section Championship, PPC Qualifying, Match Play and Pro-Ams, will be made by random draw for the first round of each event. No re-pair on tee time events; the exception is multi-round events, which will re-pair the next round. Scores will determine all pairings and tee assignments for subsequent rounds. If the last Section point event is not one in which pairings are assigned according to points, it shall be modified to do so.
Pairings for standard 36-hole events will be determined as closely as possible to the current Player of the Year points list. A re-pairing will not occur for the second round; this applies exclusively to 36-hole events completed on the same day.
- J. Starting times will be available between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. on the Friday preceding the event.

- K. Players shall present a neat appearance in both clothing and personal grooming. The Director of Competitions shall interpret this regulation in all individual cases—*the new update to the dress code for the Gateway Section. As of June 17, 2021, the Gateway Section board has approved that shorts are allowed at all section events. Unless the Host Club requires pants to be worn.*
- N. **The entry/cancellation deadline for all Monday events is 5:00 pm on Thursday. Entries received after that time will be placed on a waiting list and added to the field on an “as available” basis by the Director of Competitions. If the entry is accepted into the event, a \$40 late fee will be charged. Entry cancellations will be charged a \$10 fee for all events or may be transferred to another event for no charge.**
- O. **TEES:** The Director of Competitions will set up all course yardages at the direction of the Tournament Committee. Regular Division tees will be set at between 6700 and 7000 yards, wherever possible, depending on the host facility. Senior Tees (50-59) will be set at approximately 95% of the Regular yardage. Super Senior Tees (60-up) will be set at approximately 90% of the Regular yardage. Women's Tees 49 and under will be set at approximately 83%-85% of the Regular yardage. Senior Women's tees will be approximately 83-85% of Senior Men's tees. Senior Playoffs will be played from the default tee, by gender, for that contest, regardless of multiple contest/division players.
- P. **Alcohol Policy:** The consumption of alcoholic beverages during the play of POY Point Events is prohibited. Violation of this rule will result in Disqualification.
- Q. **Cancellation of an event—If an event needs to be canceled, the section will refund the players any money left over after they pay course fees and other expenses related to the event.**

NOTE: These events are paired based on the current point list or Player rankings: Match Play, PPC, and the Players Championship.

XII. POINT SYSTEM

- A. Points will be awarded in the events listed below. Points will determine the “Gateway Section Player of the Year” and the members of the **Shogren Cup Matches**. The following are point events:
- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Gateway Section Championship/PPC | Players Championship |
| Sr Match Play | US Open Local Qualifying |
| PPC | US Open Sectional Qualifying |
| Stroke Play Events | US Open |
| Southern Illinois Open/36-Hole stroke play | PGA/ Sr PGA Championships |
| National PPC | |
| Gateway Match Play Championship | |
- B. **Divisions:** The following Divisions will be in effect for the 2025 Gateway PGA Tournament Season.
- **Only PGA Members will earn points in these divisions.
 - **Regular Division – All players age 49 and under
 - **Senior Division – All players age 50 to 59
 - **Super Senior Division – All players age 60 and up
 - **Women – All ladies age 49 and under
 - ** Senior Women-- All ladies aged 50 and over

Assistants – All competitors, regardless of age, with the classification of A-8, B classification, and Associate/Affiliate.

Updated 2025				
Place	Championship Section	Match Play	Section "B"	Section "C"
1st	300	300	225	150
2nd	225	225	170	120
3rd	200	180	150	100
4th	185	180	135	85
5th	170	140	125	70
6th	155	140	115	60
7th	145	140	105	55
8th	135	140	100	50
9th	125	75	90	45
10th	115	75	80	40
11th	110	75	70	35
12th	105	75	60	30
13th	100	75	50	25
14th	95	75	40	20
15th	90	75	30	18
16th	85	75	28	16
17th	80	17-32nd - 30	26	14
18th	75	33rd and up - 10	24	12
19th	70		22	11
20th	65		20	10
21st	60		18	9
22nd	55		16	8
23rd	50		14	7
24th	45		12	6
25th	40		10	5
26th	35		5- 26th and lower	2 -26th and lower
27th	30			
28th	25			
29th	20			
30th	15			
31st	10			
32nd & up	5			

NOTE: The above point system applies to all divisions.

The Championship Section includes the Section Championship and PPC.

- ❖ Section "B" includes the Southern Illinois Open, Players Championship, and any event of 36 or more holes designated as a POY point event.
- ❖ Section "C" includes 18 hole Stroke Play Events,
- ❖ Outside Events for Regular & Senior Divisions will be awarded points as follows:

Updated in 2026

- **Regular & Senior National PPC** - 25 points for qualifying, 25 points added for making the first cut, 50 points for making the second cut
- **Regular & Senior PGA Championships** - 100 points for qualifying. 300 points for making the cut
- **Regular & Senior U.S. Open Qualifying** – 25 points for being an alternate, 50 points if you advance to Section qualifying.
- **US Open**- 100 points for qualifying. 300 if you make the cut.

Assistants Division

Points will be awarded in the events listed below. Points will determine the “Assistant Player of the Year.”

- Stroke Play events(18 and 36 holes), Match Play, the Assistants Championship, the Players Championship, and US Open Qualifying, as stated above.

Senior/Super Senior Division

Points will be awarded in the events listed below. Points will determine the “Senior and Super Senior Players of the Year.”

- Stroke Play events (18 and 36 holes), Senior PPC Championship, the Players Championship, US Senior Open Qualifying, US Senior Open, National Senior PPC, and Senior PGA Championship will follow the same guidelines as the Regular Division.

Senior PPC Championship points will be equivalent to Championship Points.

Women's Division(s) Regular and Senior

Points will be awarded in the events listed below. Points will determine the “Women's Regular and Senior Women Division Player of the Year.” Only Class A members will be eligible to win Player of the Year points

- Stroke Play, 36 Hole events -Regular and Senior PPC, Match Play, US Women’s Open Qualifier & US Women’s Open, and PPC Qualifier.

XIII. SECTION TOURNAMENT POLICY.

Each PGA of America Member or Associate 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 for 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 appellate body.

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.

A. Advance Notification of Proposal 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 receipt of the notice, the Participant shall submit to the Section Director of Competitions 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 Director of Competitions, of 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 the Section Board of Inquiry as set forth in Section E herein.

B. 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.

C. 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. A fine of \$100 shall be levied for the first offense. A fine of \$150 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/Associate 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.

D. Classes of Penalties for Section Tournament Offenses

1. MINOR PENALTIES

A Minor Penalty is a fine of not more than \$150 and/or suspension from tournament play for two or less tournaments. A Minor Penalty may be imposed by the Section tournament officials responsible for the conduct of tournament.

2. MAJOR PENALTIES

A Major Penalty is a fine in excess of \$150, suspension from tournament play for more than three tournaments, and/or permanent disbarment from Section tournament play.

E. Appeals

1. 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 Chair no later than thirty (30) days subsequent to the infraction. The Tournament Committee Chair shall render the decision on appeal in writing within thirty (30) days of 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 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 procedure set forth herein for all matters submitted to the Board of Control for Code of Ethics procedure.

2. 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 appeal 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 in effective date of any penalty, except suspension from the 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.

XIV. DISCIPLINE, PENALTIES, APPEALS, ETC.

Any player deemed guilty of conduct unbecoming a Golf Professional while participating in the Gateway Tournament Program or activities related thereto or who otherwise violates the Code of Ethics of the PGA shall be subject to fine or suspension from tournament play.

- A. **Conduct and Discipline:** Rules of conduct and schedules of fines for disciplinary action are in the Gateway PGA Tournament Regulations and will be enforced. We must always remember that we are guests at each of these clubs and have the PGA image to uphold.
- B. **Withdrawal Deadline:** Each player is responsible to notify the Section Office by 12:00 noon on Friday prior to the event. Failure to appear will result in loss of entry.
- C. **Penalties:** The Director of Competitions, at the direction of the Executive Director, shall be authorized to impose penalties consisting of a fine of up to \$100 for any of the following violations:
 - 1. Club throwing, club breaking
 - 2. Excessive profanity
 - 3. Damage to or littering course, equipment or property
 - 4. Bad checks
 - 5. Practice (more than one ball to a green)
 - 6. Knowingly allowing amateurs to use incorrect handicaps
 - 7. Other conduct deemed by the Director of Competitions to be unbecoming of a Golf Professional
- D. All players in our Player of the Year points events MUST use the Golf Genius Scoring app to keep score or the entire group will be fined \$100

Any sanction levied may be appealed to the Executive Board within ten (10) days, which shall consider the appeal within thirty (30) days and render a final decision. A player may appeal to the Executive Board from the imposition of disciplinary action taken by the Assistant to the Executive Director in accordance with the provisions above. Such appeal shall be in writing and may include defenses or mitigating circumstances, including written statements of witnesses.

Fines are due and payable within ten (10) days after notice of disciplinary action is given or prior to the next tournament, whichever comes first, unless a written appeal has been made. Should the appeal be denied, the fine would be due and payable within ten (10) days of such denial. The player will be ineligible for any PGA competition thereafter until such fine is paid.

XV. PACE OF PLAY PROCEDURE

The Rules of Golf requires that a player shall at all times play without undue delay. The Rules Committee of the Gateway Section will handle the administration of the pace of play.

- 1. **Rule 6-7 Undue Delay**
The player shall play without undue delay. Between completion of a hole and playing from the next teeing ground, the player shall not unduly delay play.
- 2. Gateway PGA Officials will use discretion concerning Pace of Play of early groups. All groups will be expected to play at a reasonably fast pace, i.e. groups of three – 14 minutes/hole: groups of two – 12 minutes/hole.
- 3. **Each group must maintain their starting interval.** Any group falling a hole (par 4 or par 5) behind is subject to being timed. You are deemed to be a hole behind when your group is on the tee and the hole is clear. If you are out of position, you will be notified that you are out of position and timed.
- 4. **SLOW PLAY-TIMING PROCEDURES:** When a group or individual will be timed, all players in the group or the specific individual will be informed. The timing of a player's stroke will begin when it is clearly his/her turn to play and he/she can play without interference or distraction. A player will have a maximum of 40

seconds to complete his/her stroke. It is reasonable for a player to have a few extra seconds for trouble shots. The person who is to play first from a given area (ie: the teeing ground, approach shot, putting green) has an additional 10 seconds for preparation. Any player being timed who exceeds the applicable time to play a stroke will be informed as soon as practicable. Penalties for violation of slow play will be applied individually as follows:

- FIRST OFFENSE: Warning.
- SECOND OFFENSE: One stroke penalty and a \$50 fine.
- THIRD OFFENSE: Disqualification and a \$50 fine.

NOTE: Timing of individuals will discontinue when their group is no longer out of position.

5. If a player exceeds the time limit on one (1) occasion, he/she will then be cautioned that if he/she exceeds the time limit on one more occasion (total of 2), he/she will automatically incur a penalty of one stroke, under rule 6-7. If the player exceeds the time limit on one more occasion (total of 3), he/she will incur an additional two-stroke penalty. If a player exceeds the time limit a total of four (4) times, the penalty is disqualification.

NOTE: Timing will discontinue when the group has regained its position. Time previously recorded that may have exceeded limit, however, will be held over for further occurrence.

XVI. RULES OFFICIALS

Rules Official(s) shall be assigned to a Gateway PGA Event when the following criteria have been satisfied:

1. All Major Championships, regardless of location.
2. All Pro-Opens in Metro St. Louis. Pro-Opens outside of Metro St. Louis (50-mile radius), including the Southern IL Open, will require a minimum of 50 players.
3. Any other event designated by the Tournament Committee and approved by the Board.
4. Rules Officials will be paid a stipend of \$125 per day and meals as independent contractors. Lodging and mileage for out-of-town, multiple-day events will be provided.

XVII. TOURNAMENT FORMATS

A. STROKE PLAYS

1. Prize money: The distribution of the prize money shall consist of entry fees, fewer administration costs, rules official fees, opening and superintendent fees, cart fees, plus sponsor contributions. The purse will be determined by the number of players and the prize breakdown will be posted prior to play. We will pay 33% of the field
2. Starting times: Shotgun start will be used for all Stroke Plays unless otherwise specified as a tee time event.
 - 18-hole Pro-Open – 10:00 AM Shotgun or Tee Times- unless the course requests another time
 - 27/36 hole Events – 9:00 AM & 2:00 PM Shotguns-unless the course requests another time
3. Scores: Scores shall be promptly posted upon completion of play.
4. Stroke Plays for Purse considerations would be run with these divisions: Regular, Senior, and Super Senior, with the following stipulations:
 - A. Players will be paired blindly regardless of division to allow for the integration between head professionals and assistants.
 - B. Participants must decide (upon tournament sign-up) in which division he/she is competing for prize money and pay the appropriate entry fee for that division. However, points will still be distributed for both appropriately to all eligible participants, regardless of which division they play in.

- C. Sponsor dollars shall be divided between the Regular Senior and Super Senior divisions. This division of sponsor dollars shall be proportionate to the number of players in each division versus the total.

B. GATEWAY PGA SECTION CHAMPIONSHIP

1. Entry deadline – Set by the Section -the Thursday before the Competition at 5 Pm
2. Competition – 36 holes, stroke play. 18 holes on Day 1 & Final Round on Day 2.
3. Class A members (and eligibility determined by National PGA)
4. Purse – to be determined.
5. Starting times – players will be notified.

C. MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP

1. The entry deadline will be Thursday at NOON of the preceding week of the event.
2. Competition – Match Play 36 holes per day for three (3) consecutive days.
3. Purse – to be determined.
4. Starting times – players will be notified.
5. Other Rules – All eligible players may sign up to complete the field, if 32 players or less determine the field, players will be seeded with the defending champion seated 1 and the remainder of the field will be seated based on the following: The tournament committee will rank each player in the field with the use of the previous 3 years Points List, the Gateway Section Player Rankings and any additional information given by the Tournament Chairman. An average of the rankings will be taken from the lists supplied to determine the seeds.

D. PGA PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING

1. Entry –**New for 2022** - All entries will be through the section and Golf Genius
2. **New for 2022-** LMA and LMMA classifications are no longer eligible classifications for the PGA Professional Championship. This makes the Championship solely for PGA Professionals in an actively working classification (LMA and LMMA will still be eligible classifications for the Senior PGA Professional Championship).
3. Starting times – players will be notified via email and times will be posted online.
4. Late registrations will not be allowed for this event.
5. The competition will be 36 holes of stroke play.

E. GATEWAY PGA TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

1. Entry deadline – Same as Stroke Play regulations
2. Competition – 36 holes best ball two-man team event.
3. Purse – to be determined
4. Starting times – shotgun starts 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM.
5. Other rules:
 - A. GPGA Professional may select any eligible GPGA Professional as a partner or Amateur. If an amateur is playing with a member, the amateur must be a mid-am age of 25 or older.
 - B. The scorecard must indicate which partner made the score that is counted on each hole.

F. SENIOR PPC/ SECTION CHAMPIONSHIP

1. Entry – **New for 2022** - All entries will be through the section and Golf Genius
2. Competition – 36 holes, stroke play.
3. Purse – to be determined.
4. Eligibility – PGA members/associates in good standing who are 50 years of age or older by the day of the tournament.(and eligibility determined by National PGA)

G. ASSISTANTS' CHAMPIONSHIP

1. Entry fee – \$30 to National, \$200 on site. **New for 2022** - All entries will be through the section and Golf Genius
2. **Assistant Professional Championship Eligibility—Only A-8 and B-8 classifications through level 1 are eligible to move on to the National Championship (eligibility is determined by the National PGA).** All B classifications are eligible to play but not move on to the championship.
3. Competition – 36 holes, stroke play.
4. Purse – to be determined.
5. Starting times – shotgun starts are Determined by the Director of Competition and the host course.

H. PRO STAFF (NEED TO UPDATE FOR 2025)

1. Entry deadline – Same as Stroke Play regulations.
2. Competition – 18-hole best ball two-man team event.
3. Other rules – The Head Professional may play with two or more assistants or full-time employees by paying the corresponding team entry fee. Eligibility requirements are not in place for this event. The payout for teams with non-PGA players will be paid only to team members with eligible PGA status.

I. QUAD-PRO

1. Entry deadline – Same as Stroke Play regulations.
2. Competition – 18 Holes, first 9 half of team scramble added to other halves best ball. Second 9 is the reverse of first 9 scoring.
3. Other Rules—Teams may not include more than 2 players from the top 10 Regular Division players, top 5 Seniors, Top 5 Super Seniors, or top 5 Assistants. Eligibility requirements are not in place for this event. The payout for teams with non-PGA players will be paid only to the team member with eligible PGA status.

I. LAKE TEAM EVENT

1. Entry deadline – Same as Stroke Play regulations.
2. Format – 54 Holes over 3 days
3. Open to Members of Gateway, Midwest, South Central, Iowa & Nebraska Section Members, in good standing. One member may also be an amateur. One team member must be from District 7 or Iowa; another team member has no residency requirement, only PGA requirement.
4. All non-member sponsors to play in the event

K. PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP

Qualifying Criteria:

The Top 25 in Regular POY Points, Top 15 in Senior POY Points, Top 5 in Assistant POY Points, Top 5 Super Sr POY Points (NEW 2025), & Top 2- women POY will be eligible for the Championship. If any player does not accept the invitation to participate, there will be no substitutions from the respective POY point list.

XVII-A. PRO-AM REGULATIONS

A. ELIGIBILITY

1. All members of the Gateway PGA in good standing.
2. Amateurs at the discretion of the Member who has a verifiable handicap and active Amateur status.
3. If an amateur is a member of two (2) clubs, the lower handicap is used.
4. Amateurs will receive a % of their handicap based on the format of the event.
5. Amateurs must present a current handicap card or verification at registration.
6. Entry fee per team is TBD.
7. The format for the Gateway PGA Pro-Ams is TBD.

B. STARTING TIMES

1. Will be published prior to the start of registration.

C. POSTING RESULTS

1. The Professional is responsible for ensuring that his/her score and the team score is accurate, and an amateur member of the team verifies the scorecard.
2. Scores of all teams shall be promptly posted upon completion of play.

D. SPECIAL FORMATS

1. Scratch Pro-Am: All Pro-Am regulations apply, except the following:
 - a. It is recommended but not required that the competition will be scored using two best balls of the foursome. Only gross scores will be used. However, the committee may change the format at their discretion.
 - b. It is recommended but not required that all amateurs must have established handicaps.
2. Pro-womens:
 - a. Entry fee deadline – same as regular Pro-Ams.
 - b. Handicap – 50% handicap Shamble, maximum of (20).
3. Pro-Junior:
 - a. Entry fee – \$75 per Junior includes carts, lunch, and prizes.
 - b. Entry deadline – 12:00 noon Tuesday preceding the event.
 - c. Starting times – To be determined.
 - d. Format will be Shamble with 50% handicap, with maximum of (25). Gross & Net Divisions.
 - e. Eligibility – All Juniors who have not reached their 18th birthday by the date of the event.
 - f. Purse – Trophies awarded to first and second place teams in each division with scorecard playoffs for a tie.

Shogren Cup Qualifiers(2025 Update): The Robert Shogren Cup is an annual Ryder Cup-style event against the Metropolitan Amateur Golf Association. The Team Captain will be the Current Regular Player of the Year. Each team consists of 14 Players. The Gateway Team will be selected based on the previous year's Player of the Year Point List. The team will consist of the following:

- Top 8 in the Regular Division
- Top 3 in the Senior Division
- The Current Assistant Player of the Year
- The Captain will also have 2 picks - 1 for the Regular division and 1 for the Senior Division.