

ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to amateur golfers who hold membership at an MGA member club and have an up-to-date MGA/USGA GHIN Handicap Index not exceeding 4.4 (as determined by the May 1, 2012 Handicap Revision), or who have completed their handicap certification as defined on the Entry Form.

EXEMPTIONS

Upon receipt of the Entry Form and fee, the players in the following categories are exempt from Sectional Qualifying if eligible:

1. MGA State Amateur Champions of the last five (5) years.
2. 2011 MGA State Amateur Round of 16 Finalists.
3. 2011 MGA Junior, Senior, Mid-Amateur, and Amateur Public Links Champions.
4. Low amateur in the 2011 Massachusetts Open Championship.
5. Top fifteen (15) finishers and ties in the 2011 MGA Player of the Year standings.
6. 2011 Ouimet Memorial Invitational Champion, if eligible.
7. 2011 MGA Player of the Year, Junior Player of the Year and Senior Player of the Year.
8. 2011 NEGA Amateur and Senior Amateur Champion, if eligible.
9. Special exemptions as selected by the MGA.

ENTRY PROCEDURES

Entrants shall apply on the MGA Entry Form attached. Entry fee of \$150.00 shall be paid by every player.

Refund Policy: Entry fee will be refunded, regardless of reason, if the MGA is notified in writing before the close of entries. After the close of entries, regardless of schedule changes, entry fee will be refunded only in the event of injury or illness, and if requested in writing by June 11, 2012, subject to MGA Championship Committee approval. Refunds will be issued, less a \$20.00 service charge, after completion of the Championship.

Late or incomplete entries will not be accepted. Entries by telephone, e-mail or fax will not be accepted. Deadline for entry means time of receipt at MGA office - not time of postmark. Entry should be mailed early to allow ample time for delay.

Entrants in the Sectional Qualifying and Championship Proper will be notified by mail or e-mail of their starting time, course assignment, and availability of practice privileges. **Courtesy practice privileges are at the discretion of the host club(s).** If a qualifying location has more players than can be accommodated, some players will be transferred to another location. Transfers are final.

A tie for the final qualifying place or any alternate places in Sectional Qualifying shall be decided by a hole-by-hole play-off whenever possible. Alternates for the Championship Proper will be notified of their playing status by the MGA office.

NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL

A player who decides not to participate must notify the MGA office (1-800-356-2201) by phone promptly. Failure to comply may result in a player's entry being rejected from future MGA competition.

SCHEDULE

Competition will be in two stages at Stroke Play:

1. Sectional Qualifying - 18 Holes

For all except Exempt entrants. See schedule of play on page one.

2. Championship Proper

The field is limited to 144 players.

A. Qualifying - 36 Holes at Stroke Play to determine 32 Qualifiers for Match Play. A tie for final qualifying places shall be decided immediately by a hole-by-hole play-off.

Monday, July 9

First Round, 18 Holes.

Tuesday, July 10

Second Round, 18 Holes.

B. Match Play - General Numerical Draw will be used. For purposes of determining places in the draw, ties in qualifying rounds shall be decided by the order in which scores are returned, except that places of those participating in a play-off shall be determined by performance in the play-off and if necessary a blind draw.

Wednesday, July 11

A.M. - First Round
P.M. - Second Round.

Thursday, July 12

A.M. - Quarterfinal Round
P.M. - Semifinal Round

Friday, July 13

Final Round, 36 Holes

In the event of a tied match, (a) the winner shall be decided immediately by a hole-by-hole play-off, and (b) the stipulated round is deemed to extend to as many holes as are required for a match to be won.

RULES OF GOLF

Play will be governed by the Rules of Golf as approved by the USGA. Questions shall be settled by the Committee in charge of the competition consisting of those officials assigned by the MGA, whose decision shall be final.

CADDIES & AUTOMOTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Sectional Qualifying - Players may use caddies, pull carts and/or automotive transportation during Sectional Qualifying at the host club(s) discretion. **Championship Proper** - Players shall not use automotive transportation or pull carts in the Championship Proper.

DRESS CODE

Proper dress code will be strictly observed.

CELLULAR TELEPHONES

The use of cellular telephones is prohibited.

DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES

In this competition, a player may use devices that measure or gauge distance only (see the Note to Rule 14-3). However, the use of a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect a player's play (e.g., gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.) is not permitted regardless of whether such an additional function is used.

GOLF SHOE POLICY

Shoes with traditionally-designed spikes (regardless of composition, i.e., ceramic, plastic, etc.) or spikes, regardless of design, comprised either entirely or partially of metal (if such metal may come in contact with the course) are prohibited. Penalty for breach of this condition: Disqualification.

PRIZES

The Massachusetts Cup will be presented to the Champion. A Gold medal will also be awarded. Merchandise certificates will be awarded and are only redeemable at the host site.

CONDITIONS/SCHEDULES

The MGA Executive Committee reserves the right to alter any of the conditions and schedules herein. The decision of the Executive Committee in any matter shall be final.

ENTRY FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5:00 P.M. ON THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2012