

# MGA Mid-Amateur Championship Conditions & Regulations

## ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to amateur golfers who have reached their 25th birthday by September 15, 2009, who hold membership at an MGA member club and have an up-to-date MGA/USGA GHIN Handicap Index not exceeding 5.4 (as determined by the July 8, 2009 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:

1. MGA Mid-Amateur Champions of the last five (5) years, if eligible.
2. Fifteen (15) lowest scorers and ties in the 2008 Massachusetts Mid-Amateur Championship, if eligible.
3. MGA State Amateur Champions the last five (5) years.
4. 2008 MGA Senior and Public Links Champions, if eligible.
5. Top fifteen (15) finishers and ties in the 2008 MGA Player of the Year standings, if eligible.
6. 2008 MGA Player of the Year and Senior Player of the Year, if eligible.
7. 2008 MGA State Amateur Round of 16 Qualifiers, if eligible.
8. 2008 NEGA Amateur and Senior Amateur Champions, if eligible.
9. Special exemptions as selected by the MGA.

## ENTRY PROCEDURES

Entrants shall apply on the MGA Entry Form attached. Entry fee of \$125.00 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 August 17, 2009, 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. If a qualifying location has more players than can be accommodated, some players will be transferred to another location. Transfers are final. Courtesy practice privileges are at the discretion of the host club.

A tie for the final place or an alternate's place 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 (2) stages at Stroke Play:

### 1. Sectional Qualifying - 18 Holes

For all except Exempt entrants.

#### Monday, August 17

- Highfields G & CC, Grafton

#### Wednesday, August 19

- Cummaquid GC, Yarmouthport

#### Thursday, August 20

- South Shore CC, Hingham

#### Wednesday, August 26

- Elmcrest CC, East Longmeadow

- Wedgewood Pines CC, Stow

### 2. Championship Proper - 54 Holes.

The field is limited to 120 players.

#### Tuesday, September 15

First Round, 18 Holes.

#### Wednesday, September 16

Second Round, 18 Holes.

*The low 30 scorers and ties or anyone within 5 strokes of the lead will continue play on Thursday, September 17.*

#### Thursday, September 17

Final Round, 18 Holes.

*Any tie for first place will be decided immediately by a hole-by-hole play-off.*

## 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

Players may use caddies, pull carts and/or automotive transportation during Sectional Qualifying and Championship Proper.

## DRESS CODE

Proper dress code for all stages of the competition 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 Ted Bishop Cup will be awarded to the Champion. Gold and Silver medals will also be awarded.

## 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 THE MGA OFFICE BY 5:00 P.M. ON THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2009**