

Indo-American Golf Association Membership and Tournament Guidelines 2012 Season

(Items in Blue are NEW for this season)

Outlined below are guidelines for our membership to follow as you progress through the year. These guidelines will enhance your golfing experience in the IAGA. These guidelines will ensure the IAGA Committee is able to run events efficiently and with minimal stress. PLEASE ADHERE TO THESE GUIDELINES. They apply to ALL members; no exemptions or exceptions are allowed:

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS and FEES

New Membership (includes NCGA) – Regular members enjoy the full IAGA benefits. There is a ONE TIME PAYMENT processed at the time of initiation:

- Between January and July - \$200 (Regular), \$100 (Junior 17 years or below)
- Between August and October - \$100 (Regular), \$75 (Junior 17 years or below) – Not Eligible for Club Championships and Awards Tournament or Prizes. Renewal for next season NOT included.
- Between November and December - \$200 (Regular), \$100 (Junior 17 years or below) – Renewal for next season included.

Note: New Members must be sponsored by an Active Member to join the club.

Membership Renewal (including NCGA) – This is an ANNUAL PAYMENT processed in December:

- Regular Member - \$150
- Junior 17 years or below - \$100

Note: Effective 2012 season, IAGA has discontinued Associate Membership

Membership Cancellation (including NCGA) – You can cancel your membership anytime by sending an email to IAGA email addresses listed above. Your paid IAGA/NCGA membership fees for the year are non-refundable. Your membership with IAGA and NCGA will remain active for the year through December. We will cancel your IAGA/NCGA in December during the renewal process for next year.

TOURNAMENT FEES

Stroke Play – Tournament Fees includes Breakfast or Lunch, Green Fees, Cart, and Range Balls:

- Regular Member – \$110/tournament
- Junior 17 year or below – \$100/tournament
- Guests – \$135/tournament
- Club Championships and Match Play – IAGA tournament fees for these special events vary.
- Tournament fees are in addition to the annual Membership Fees.

TOURNAMENT FLIGHTS

IAGA has a 2 flight structure – Maharaja and Tiger Flights. Each active member is assigned to one of the 2 IAGA Flights for Stroke Play tournaments:

- **Maharaja Flight** – This flight consists of members with an IAGA Handicap Index of less than or equal to 9.9. All players in this flight play from the Blue Tees. Tiger Flight members can play in the Maharaja Flight with a max index of 9.9, however, their IAGA Handicap Index must be less than 12.0 to be allowed to play in the Maharaja Flight.

Note: Once you move into the Maharaja flight, you will play in that flight for the rest of season. We will only allow you to move back to the Tiger flight if your IAGA index goes to 14.0 or above.

- **Tiger Flight** – This flight consists of members with an IAGA Handicap Index from 10.0 to 18.4. All players in this flight play from the White Tees. In accordance with the NCGA tournament handicap structure, the maximum index allowed for competitions in IAGA will be 18.4.
- **Guest Flight** – This flight consists of guests or other non-eligible members who are not eligible to participate in any tournament activities including skins. Participants in this flight must play from the White Tees or other assigned by IAGA.

TOURNAMENT HANDICAPS

All eligible tournament members play to a Handicap Index assigned by the IAGA:

Stroke Play Tournaments:

- Regular member with a NCGA established handicap – IAGA Tournament Handicap Index is based on the on the current NCGA handicap index.
- New Regular member with a NCGA handicap – If you currently have three month NCGA/USGA handicap index and this is your first tournament with IAGA, you will play to the current NCGA index. You current NCGA index must be verified by your sponsoring member.
- New Regular member without a NCGA handicap – If you currently do not have a three-month established with NCGA/USGA handicap you are NOT eligible for prizes and skins in your 1st tournament with IAGA. The first tournament score will be used to evaluate your playing level and the IAGA committee will assign your IAGA handicap index for next tournaments until a handicap is established. However, you are eligible for Closest to the Pin and Long Drive competitions.
- Skins Handicap – Participation in the Skins game is optional based on the assigned IAGA index. Based on Section 3-5 of USGA rules, a maximum of 18 Course Handicap will be assigned “Off High Rating”

Match Play Tournaments:

- Regular member with a NCGA established handicap – IAGA Handicap Index is based on the 90% of the course handicap for each round from either Blue or White tees. Handicaps are adjusted for every round.

- New Regular member without a NCGA handicap – If you currently do not have a three-month established with NCGA/USGA handicap you are NOT eligible to participate in Match Play.

Important Note about Handicap Adjustments: IAGA Committee reserves the right to lower indexes at any time if it is determined that players are not maintaining handicaps within the spirit of the USGA guidelines of establishing and maintaining handicaps and scoring. As an example, if IAGA tournament scores are below those of the established handicap, a review and adjustment by the committee is possible for future events.

TOURNAMENTS

Tournament Formats:

- **Tournament of Champions (February)** – The Tournament of Champions is an invitation only for those members who came First or Second in an event during the previous year. Each flight winner and runner-up during the previous season qualifies including the Match Play. Everyone plays the same tees.

A regular SKINS event will be available for ALL eligible and non-eligible members to participate in on the day of the event. This is for those itching to get some competitive golf in after the off season.

- **Regular Season events** – IAGA will conduct 7 regular season stroke play events, an Individual Match Play event, and a Club Championship during the course of the season. IAGA regular season starts in March.
- **IAGA Major (July)** – IAGA will have 1 major during the year to be held in July. You must qualify for a Major from the events leading to the major. Cutline is 70% if lowest Net scores of all qualifying tournaments combined. Each Flight will have its own MAJOR winner.
- **Individual Match Play (June – September)** – IAGA Match Play event will be conducted WITHIN each flight with a Flight winner established. Each Flight winner will receive prize money and be recognized accordingly. A FINAL match will be conducted with the two flight winners to capture the Match Play Trophy.
- **Club Championships** – The Club Championship will be held in October and is a 36 hole format. You MUST play in a minimum of 3 events PRIOR to the Club Championship to be eligible for the awards and prizes in the Club Championship. The Match Play event counts as a qualifying event. The Club Championship is a chase to determine the Maharaja Cup and Tiger Cup Champions.
- **NCGA Qualifiers** – IAGA will sponsor all participants who qualify for an NCGA event qualifier held at an IAGA event. There are typically 3 such events every IAGA season.
- **Golfer of the Year** – Golfer of the Year is formatted to recognize the player within each flight who displays the most consistent golf throughout the year. **The OVERALL points earner within EACH flight will be crowned Golfer of the Year.** Each player will earn points based upon performance within their respective flight. Top 5 players within each flight for every stroke play event will get 100/80/60/40/20 points. In case of Tie Breaker, the low cumulative Net of equal number of rounds played will be used.

Tournament Schedule – IAGA tournament schedule is posted at www.iagagolf.com

Tournament Signups – Please follow this process:

- You must sign up for a tournament using the IAGA eClubhouse on the website or respond to the tournament email.
- During the signup for a tournament, please choose your playing partner preference. IAGA Committee will create foursomes and publish them on website or communicate via email within a day of the tournament.
Note: We cannot accommodate requests to form your own foursome.
- Breakfast or Lunch, Range Balls, Cart are included in the tournament fee unless specified differently by the IAGA Committee.

Sign up and Payment Deadline – 1 week prior to the tournament unless specified differently by the IAGA for a specific tournament. If a payment is not received 3 days prior to the tournament date, we may remove the member from the tournament field.

Tournament Cancellation Policy – The following cancellation policy applies for all tournaments:

- Members can cancel their and/or guest entry 1 week prior to the tournament date (> 7 days) – **NO CHARGE**
- Members can cancel their and/or guest entry between 2-5 days prior to the tournament date - **NO CHARGE IF REPLACEMENT IS FOUND, 100% OF THE TOURNAMENT FEE PENALTY IF REPLACEMENT IS NOT FOUND.**
- Members can cancel their and/or guest entry within 24 hours of the tournament - **100% OF THE TOURNAMENT FEE PENALTY**
- Member or Guest are a NO SHOW at the tournament - **100% OF THE TOURNAMENT FEE PENALTY**
- Members are encouraged to help IAGA Committee to find a replacement if the cancellation is within 7 days of the tournament.
- IAGA Committee shall make every effort to find a replacement but cannot guarantee a replacement.
- If a member and/or their guest have signed up for a tournament and do not inform the IAGA tournament committee that they will not show up, they will be assessed a penalty of 100% tournament fee.

NOTE: If the IAGA committee is not informed for more than 1 tournament by the same member of a NO SHOW then IAGA will not accept their entry for the rest of the year.

Tournament Day:

- Attendance at the Members Breakfast or Lunch is mandatory, unless stated otherwise by IAGA Tournament committee. All Members must reach within 10 minute grace period of the assigned time. Any member that shows after will be assessed \$20 late fee. All late fees will be accumulated during the year and will contribute towards the awards at the Annual Awards Tournament. You must understand this one guideline that can make the difference between a smooth run event and one that falls apart. **Do not consider yourself exempt.**

- For Tee Times start you will be required to show up on the first tee 15 minutes prior your assigned tee time ready to go. Tee times are posted on the website 1 day prior to the tournament day. We **cannot** make any last minute changes to the tee times on the day of the tournament. If you miss your tee time, you will be **DISQUALIFIED**.
- The tournament results will be posted on the website within a week. Prizes will be distributed during the next tournament breakfast or lunch.
- We strictly follow and enforce USGA rules for tournament play. Local rules for the golf course apply. Additional local rules will be communicated before the start of the tournament by IAGA Committee.

Tournament Prizes:

- Flight Winners – Prize for first place winner for each flight.
- **Low Gross – Prize for Low Gross Score of the day.**
- Long Drive – Prize for long drive winner in each flight.
- Closest to Pin – Prize for one overall Closest to the Pin winner.

Note: Prizes may vary for Champions shootout, Majors, Match Play or Club Championships.

Speed of Play during tournaments:

- 7-8-9 Local Rule – This IAGA LOCAL rule is to speed up play only. This rule applies to all IAGA tournaments:
 - Par 3 – If you are hitting your 7th shot, pick up and write a 7 on the scorecard.
 - Par 4 – If you are hitting your 8th shot, pick up and write an 8 on the scorecard.
 - Par 5 – If you are hitting your 9th shot, pick up and write a 9 on the scorecard.

NOTE: We have done extensive analysis on historical scorecards and found out this local does not really alter the results of the tournament. So don't worry about if someone is getting a break by IAGA max rule but think about how it helps us in getting off the course sooner. No one really wants a 6 hour round.

- Provisional Ball – This IAGA LOCAL rule applies if your golf ball is heading towards tall grass that is in play. When in doubt about your shot, before going and looking for your ball, play a second provisional ball. This will avoid a trip back to the original spot in case of a lost ball.
- ALL members must complete the round in no more than 5 hours and 15 minutes. We will have a rabbit group who will finish the round no later than 4 hours and 45 minutes (this assumes that the course was not delayed prior to our tee-off). A member from this group will be the IAGA course marshal upon completion of their round and will help insure that all foursomes finish in 5 hours and 15 minutes.

SUGGESTIONS FOR SPEED OF PLAY:

- ALL foursomes must keep up with the group in front of them. IAGA is not a look behind club. You must keep up with the group IN FRONT of you. It doesn't matter that there is nobody behind you. If you can't see the group in front of you, YOUR group is playing slow. We will have an IAGA marshal monitor each group during the course of play. If at any time a group is 1.5 holes behind the group in front of them, THE ENTIRE GROUP may be asked to pick up and move to the next tee box and be assessed an IAGA 7-8-9 Rule for every member. There is no finger pointing

allowed as it is the ENTIRE group's responsibility to monitor itself to stay close to the group ahead. This rule applies regardless of the 5 hour 15 minute guideline. There is NO excuse for being 1.5 holes behind the group in front of you...KEEP UP!

- To help enforce this, ALL players must putt out once the furthest away player has started putting. Every player in the foursome must putt out without delay once it's your turn (REGARDLESS if you are going to be stepping on someone's line). Do not mark your ball because you are now closer to the hole and then wait your turn and read the green from 5 sides. Once you have started putting, you must finish the hole. The next furthest away player can start to putt and finish and so on till the final player putts out. This doesn't mean you can't read the green from both sides, it means that once you start putting, finish your turn till you are in the hole.
- If your group is behind by couple of holes, 2 players from the foursome can finish putting first and go to the next tee to tee off, while the remaining 2 players finishing putting. This process should be followed until you are caught up.
- Another procedure to help you keep up will be for players to hit when it's their turn. Too often in the IAGA we park our carts next to the person who is away, wait for them to hit, then together they go to the next person's ball. Go to the player whose ball is the furthest away, drop them off, let them take 2-3 clubs and then drive to your ball. Be ready to hit when it's your turn. Follow this process all the way to the green and then putt out in turn on the green. From past experience this makes a HUGE difference.
- Rules Dispute - In case of a dispute in regards to rules, play a second ball and let the IAGA committee decide on the correct ruling after the round. Do not waste any time arguing the correct ruling during the tournament.

Season Ending Club Championship Format and Eligibility:

- Club Championship is a 2 day mandatory 36 hole event for both Flights
- The Club Champion comes from the Maharaja Flight.
- Club Champions playoff – A 3 Hole playoff, if required, will be played on Holes #1, #2 and #3. Low Cumulative NET total for the 3 holes will be declared winner. If there is a tie, the low cumulative net for Holes #2 and #3 will be used to declare the winner. If there is a tie, the low net for Hole #3 will be declared the winner. If a tie still exists, we go to sudden death starting at Hole #4
- In order to qualify for Club Championships, you must have played in 3 IAGA regular season tournaments between March and September. If you have played in less than 2 tournaments during the regular season, you can still play in CC but would not be eligible for prizes. Your participation in any Match Play event counts as a regular season tournament.

IAGA emails used for communications: tournaments@iagagolf.com and finance@iagagolf.com