

# Colorado Women's Golf



## 2016 CWGA CHAMPIONSHIP POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Last Updated 4/4/2016

This document applies to the following CWGA championships. Additional information will be found in the hard card and in the Note to Competitors sent prior to the start of the event. The decisions of the CWGA Tournament Committee in any matter shall be final.

Individual Championships	Team Championships
Stroke Play	Brassie
Match Play (includes Senior Match Play flight)	Mashie
Senior Stroke Play	Niblick
	Chapman
	Club Team

Beginning in 2016, policies for junior girls' tournaments are documented at [www.coloradojuniorgolf.org](http://www.coloradojuniorgolf.org)

### 1. ELIGIBILITY

To compete in CWGA championships, a participant must:

1. Be a female amateur golfer,
2. Have an up-to-date and active 18-hole USGA Handicap Index from a CWGA member "golf club" as defined in the "USGA Handicap System Manual" which is licensed to use the USGA Handicap System,
3. If a junior, be either a member of the CWGA or the Junior Golf Alliance of Colorado, and be at least fourteen (14) years of age on the first day of the tournament, and
4. Abide by the USGA Rules of Amateur Status.

#### Exceptions:

1. **2016 Stroke Play championship:** entry is limited to players who meet the following criteria:
  - Member of CWGA or Junior Golf Alliance of Colorado (JGAC)
2. **Non CWGA** members with an up-to-date and active USGA Handicap Index from a licensed club may participate in CWGA championships, except the Stroke Play, by paying a \$50 administrative fee per event, provided the field is not full. Non-CWGA members must complete and submit a hard copy CWGA entry form. Call the CWGA Office to obtain a copy.

3. Senior Stroke Play and Senior Match Play entrants must be at least fifty (50) years of age on the first day of the tournament.
4. Provided the field is not full for Stroke Play or Match Play, the age requirement may be waived to allow younger players to enter at the discretion of the CWGA.
5. Transgender players: the CWGA will follow the USGA policy detailed on <http://www.usga.org/genderpolicy.html>

### **Eligible Handicap Index**

Entrants must have an up-to-date and active 18-Hole USGA Handicap Index issued by a licensed club (as noted above in "Eligibility" section) no higher than 30.0. Handicap Indexes will be verified as of the specified revision prior to the start of the tournament to determine eligibility and handicaps to be used in the competition.

#### **Exceptions:**

1. Entrants for the Niblick and Club Team Championships must have an active USGA Handicap Index no higher than 36.0.
2. Provided the field is not full, players outside the specified limits may be accepted at the discretion of the CWGA.

#### **Note**

All modified USGA Handicap Indexes will be reviewed by the Tournament Committee. The player's score history will be reviewed and the handicap chair responsible for making the modification will be consulted before the Tournament Committee determines if the modified index will be permitted for use in the CWGA championship in question.

## **2. TOURNAMENT ENTRY POLICIES**

Online entry forms must be used for entry into all tournaments by CWGA members. Non CWGA members must complete and submit a CWGA hard copy entry form. Entry forms must be accompanied by the appropriate entry fees. Players have until the tournament entry deadline to submit entries. Entry windows open at 8:00 a.m. MST and close at 12:00 p.m. MST. Please call the CWGA office if you need assistance with the online entry process.

Entry fees will be deposited and credit cards will be charged upon receipt of entry; this does not assure an entrant a spot in the tournament. See the sections on Eligibility and Oversubscription. Entrants will be notified by email or U.S. Mail of their entry status within 72 hours after the entry deadline.

Entries are subject to rejection at any time by the CWGA. Reason for rejection may include a fraudulent entry or handicap or unbecoming conduct.

#### **Event Cancellation Policy**

CWGA championships, except Stroke Play, Match Play, and Senior Stroke, may be cancelled if less than half of a full field is registered as of the entry deadline.

### **3. WITHDRAWALS AND REFUNDS**

If a player needs to withdraw from a CWGA championship, she must notify the CWGA as soon as possible with reason for the withdrawal. "No-Carding", "No-Showing", and withdrawing during an event without notifying the Tournament Committee, and without an acceptable reason is subject to penalty. Please see the CWGA Code of Conduct at [www.coloradowomensgolf.org](http://www.coloradowomensgolf.org)

- If an entrant is not accepted into a tournament because her handicap is too high, her entry was not accepted, or she was on the waiting list, she will receive a full refund of her entry fee.
- If an entrant withdraws before the entry window deadline, a refund will be issued less a \$25 service fee, regardless of reason.
- Entrants who withdraw after the deadline date, but at least three business day prior to the first day of the event, will receive a 50% refund of their entry fee. If an entrant can be replaced by someone on a waiting list, a refund will be issued less a \$25 service fee.
- No refunds will be issued for any reason for withdrawal within three business days or after the start of the tournament. All refunds are issued to the person listed on the entry form. Allow up to two weeks for processing a refund.

In team competitions, if a player needs a substitute for her original partner after the entry deadline, she must arrange for another eligible partner herself. If a replacement is needed after the flights have been finalized, the replacement partner must have a comparable handicap index or play down to the original partner's index to maintain the same flight and or seed position.

### **4. RULES OF GOLF AND CONDITIONS OF PLAY**

#### **Rules of Golf**

The USGA Rules of Golf and the Local Rules and Conditions shall govern play. Unless otherwise indicated, penalty for breach of a Local Rule is two strokes (stroke play), or loss of hole (match play), and penalty for breach of a Condition of Competition is Disqualification. Additional Local Rules, as deemed advisable, may be imposed during Championships and will be announced to players prior to play. All rules questions shall be settled by the Tournament Committee, whose decision shall be final.

#### **Distance-Measuring Devices**

In any CWGA tournament, a player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect play such as elevation changes, wind-speed, etc., the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is two strokes. For a subsequent offense, the player is disqualified.

#### **Dress Code**

The CWGA dress code is designed to maintain an atmosphere consistent with the traditions of the game of golf and the CWGA. Proper golf attire is required. Tank tops, halter tops, blue jeans, cut-offs, short shorts, or bare feet are considered inappropriate attire. Colored denims may be worn provided they are permitted at the host course.

The CWGA Tournament Committee is obliged to strictly enforce the dress code as specified by the host course for each Championship. The Committee shall enforce the decision made by the host course staff as to whether the requirements of the dress code have been met. Players are notified of specific host club dress code requirements in the confirmation letter sent out prior to each championship. Please see CWGA Code of Conduct at [www.coloradowomensgolf.org](http://www.coloradowomensgolf.org) for actions taken if a player fails to comply with this policy.

## 5. SPECTATOR POLICY

The CWGA encourages friends and relatives to follow players as a gallery during CWGA championships. Please note that Rule 8-1 in the Rules of Golf states that a player may receive advice only from her caddie or partner. The penalty for giving or asking for advice is two strokes in stroke play, or loss of hole in match play. The player is responsible for following this rule.

During a stipulated round, minimal contact will be permitted between spectators and players, or spectators and caddies. Spectators must remain at least 10 yards (30 feet) from players at all times, and are not permitted on fairways or putting greens.

**Cell phones:** Use of cell phones by spectators is **not** permitted on the golf course, unless so ordered by the Tournament Committee, or in the event of a medical emergency.

**Carts:** Spectators will **not** be allowed to use carts on the golf course. Spectators with special needs must contact CWGA for accommodations prior to the competition. Those spectators using golf carts must keep their carts on the cart paths, obey all cart rules of the host club, and remain behind the competitors at all times. However, if the number of carts at a tournament site is limited, players will have priority for carts over spectators.

Spectators who do not comply with this policy will be asked to leave the golf course. The Tournament Committee may disqualify a player from a championship if a spectator associated with them does not comply with this policy and entry into future CWGA championships could also be affected. The player will be permitted to appeal the decision of the Tournament Committee to the CWGA Conduct Committee.

## 5. CADDIE POLICY

### Caddies

Players may use a caddie **only** in CWGA Stroke Play, Senior Stroke Play, and Match Play Championships. Players are responsible for obtaining their own caddies. Caddies must sign a liability waiver and the Caddie Code of Conduct form (see below for the Caddie Code of Conduct). Players are responsible for the conduct of their caddies. Caddies found to be disruptive to other players may be asked to leave the golf course. Fourteen (14) years of age is the recommended minimum age for caddies.

Caddies must conform to the CWGA dress code and must report to the registration table or starter 30 minutes prior to play to be approved, sign a liability waiver and the Caddie Code of Conduct, and receive a CWGA caddie bib. The CWGA Tournament Committee has the authority to disqualify players using caddies who have not been approved.

## **Carts**

Players may have a caddie and a cart simultaneously, and their caddie may ride with them in the cart. However, if the number of carts at a tournament site is limited, players will have priority for carts over caddies. If a player and her caddie both ride, a full cart fee must be paid.

## **Caddie Code of Conduct — All caddies at CWGA Championships must pledge the following:**

- I will conduct myself in accordance with proper golf etiquette as outlined in Section I of the USGA Rules of Golf
- I understand the proper behavior required of a caddie
- I will be knowledgeable of the Rules of Golf and all local rules stipulated by the Tournament Committee
- I will show consideration for all competitors in the championship
- I will properly care for the golf course and will not unduly delay play
- I will not disrupt other players while they are preparing for or making a stroke
- I will not ride in a golf cart if there are not enough carts available for all players who wish to ride
- If I am informed that my behavior is disruptive, I will cease such behavior
- I will wear a CWGA caddie bib while on the golf course and will return it to the scorer's table at the end of the round

## **6. OVERSUBSCRIBED TOURNAMENT POLICY**

### **Individual Events**

#### **Stroke Play**

**2016 Stroke Play championship:** entry is limited to players who meet the following criteria:

- Member of CWGA or Junior Golf Alliance of Colorado (JGAC)

If the championship is oversubscribed,

- All entrants are ranked first by handicap index, as verified using the revision date in effect as of the entry deadline,
- If there is a "tie" for the last spots, preference will be given to those that have played in a CWGA Championship within the last three years.
- If all players tied for the last spots have played in a CWGA Championship within the last three years, players will be selected by lottery.

#### **Senior Stroke Play / Match Play**

If these championships are oversubscribed,

- All entrants are ranked first by handicap index, as verified using the revision date in effect as of the entry deadline,
- If there is a "tie" for the last spots, players will be selected by lottery.

### Team Events

Each field will be comprised of a designated percentage of low handicap players, CWGA personnel, new participants, and repeat participants according to the definitions and table below. The CWGA will determine all categories that apply for each entrant.

### Definitions

- **Low Handicap Players:** Admission into field will be determined by the CWGA using the handicap revision in effect as of the entry deadline.
- **CWGA Personnel:** Includes all active CWGA committee members, as well as current board and staff members. CWGA Personnel will be identified by the Tournament Committee.
- **New Participant:** Includes anyone who has never played in a CWGA tournament prior to the beginning of the 2016 season.
- **Repeat Participant:** Includes anyone who has played in a CWGA tournament prior to the beginning of the 2016 season.

Categories: The order in which each player is admitted into each category depends on the date and time their entry is received by the CWGA. If applicable, a player's entry not accepted under their highest ranking category will be automatically placed in the pool of entries for their second ranked category listed below:

### Ranking:

1. Low handicap players
2. CWGA personnel
3. New participants
4. Repeat participants

If a category of players does not reach the allotted percentage of the field, remaining spots will be allocated to the **repeat participant** category. Remaining players will be admitted based on date and time their entry was received by the CWGA.

The composition of the field for team events will be as follows:

<b>Tournament</b>	<b>Field Size*</b>	<b>Low Handicap Players</b>	<b>CWGA Personnel</b>	<b>New Participants</b>	<b>Repeat Participants</b>
Brassie	64 teams	13% / 8 teams	30% / 19 teams	5% / 4 teams	52% / 33 teams
Chapman	64 teams	13% / 8 teams	30% / 19 teams	5% / 4 teams	52% / 33 teams
Mashie	104 teams	13% / 14 teams	30% / 31 teams	5% / 5 teams	52% / 54 teams
Niblick	60 teams	N/A	15% / 9 teams	20% / 12 teams	65% / 39 teams
Club Team	32 teams	One team from the host club and the defending champions' club are accepted automatically. Remaining teams drawn at random.			

\* Field sizes are subject to change. All numbers are based on a full field.

In team events, partners' handicap indexes, as verified using the revision date in effect as of the entry deadline, will be combined to determine the low handicap player category.

- A team with at least one partner who is a volunteer, board, or staff member will be placed in the CWGA personnel category.
- A team with both partners who have never played in a CWGA tournament before will be placed in the new participant category.
- A team with at least one repeat participant who has not already been placed in the low handicap player or volunteer/board/staff member categories, will be placed in the repeat participant category.

## **7. MISCELLANEOUS POLICIES**

### **Publicity and Promotion**

By submitting an application, the player agrees to allow the CWGA to use the player's name, photographic and/or video image for any CWGA media related use.

### **Score Posting**

For handicap purposes, the CWGA will post all applicable tournament scores (T scores) to the GHIN Handicap Service.

### **CWGA Prize Distribution Philosophy**

Prizes are awarded to the top gross and net finishers within each flight at all CWGA Championships where the format allows. The Committee will use its discretion in determining if Championship Flight will pay Gross prizes only (which is desired) or if Net prizes will be incorporated when the size and composition of the flight (i.e., handicap spread) warrants it.

The overall low-gross scoring individual or team claims the title of State Champion in their flight.

The following championships have a travelling trophy that is given to the overall champion:

- Stroke play
- Senior stroke play
- Match play
- Senior match play
- Club team

### **Money Prizes**

The CWGA typically pays prize money, in the form of pro shop gift certificates from the host course, to 40% of the players in each flight in each event.

The total amount of prize money distributed at each event equates to approximately 35% of the tournament income, less course and cart fees (where applicable).

The overall champion of each event is paid a slightly larger amount than the other flight winners; however, all other places are paid the same amount in all flights.

## 8. PLAYER POINT SYSTEMS / TEAM COMPETITIONS

### **CWGA Point Systems**

The CWGA maintains two point systems for women:

- In 1995, the CWGA Board of Directors adopted a tournament point system to identify the top women players in the State. This list is used to determine:
  - CWGA Player of the Year
  - The Colorado team for the USGA Women's State Team Championship
  - The women's amateur team to compete in the Colorado Cup Matches
  
- In 2005, the CWGA added a Senior Point System to recognize the CWGA Senior Player of the Year.

The CWGA **Women's Point System** awards points for select CWGA Championships, USGA Qualifiers and Championships, the Colorado Women's Open, and select national tournaments.

The CWGA **Senior Point System** awards points for the CWGA Senior Stroke Play Championship, CWGA Match Play Championship (Senior Division Championship Flight), USGA Senior Women's Amateur Sectional Qualifier and Championship, and other select senior national championships.

### **CWGA Player of the Year Awards**

The CWGA Board of Directors will review the point standings at the end of each golf season and select a CWGA Player of the Year, and Senior Player of the Year. Total points earned will carry the most weight but may not be determinative. The Board of Directors, in its sole and non-appealable discretion, may consider other factors such as performance at non-point events of regional or national significance, demonstration of sportsmanship, courtesy and discipline, upstanding character and attitude towards the game, other players and tournament officials.

In order to be eligible for any Player of the Year award, players must participate in at least one CWGA individual championship and have an up-to-date and active 18-hole USGA Handicap Index from a CWGA member "golf club" (as defined in the "USGA Handicap System Manual") which is licensed to use the USGA Handicap System. Player of the Year points are earned and accumulated for the current season only, and are not carried over to the next season.

### **Colorado Cup Matches**

In 1971, the Colorado Section of the PGA and the CGA selected teams to represent their respective associations in a battle of amateurs versus professionals. After a full day of competition including a round of four-ball match play and a round of singles match play, the coveted silver cup was awarded to the winning team and the Colorado Cup Matches were born.

The Colorado Cup Matches expanded in 1982 to include a Senior Division for male amateurs and professionals over the age of 50. In 2002 the Colorado Cup Matches introduced a Women's Division. The CWGA Board of Directors selects a team of six amateurs who compete against a team of six female professionals. The CWGA's selection of the amateur team is based primarily upon CWGA Women's point standings for the previous tournament season; however, the Board of Directors reserves the right to select a player from outside the point leaders.



**U.S. Women's State Team Championship**

In 1995, the USGA conducted the first Women's State Team Championship. Due to the tremendous response from state golf associations nationwide, the USGA has continued to hold this event on a biannual basis in odd numbered years. The CWGA Board of Directors selects a team of three women to represent Colorado at this prestigious event. Team selection is based primarily upon CWGA Women's point standings for the current tournament season; however, the Board of Directors reserves the right to select a player from outside the point leaders.

## CWGA Women & Senior Point System

\*Senior Events Italicized

CWGA CHAMPIONSHIPS			
Stroke Play Finish	CWGA Stroke Play**	CWGA Senior. Stroke Play**	CWGA Brassie & Chapman*
1st	150	120	60
2nd	100	80	40
3rd	80	60	30
4th	70	50	25
5th	60	45	23
6th	55	40	20
7th	50	37	18
8th	45	35	16
9th	40	33	
10th	35	30	*Points awarded to each partner in Championship Flight only.
11th	30	25	
12th	25	20	
Medalist	35	N/A	
Match Play Finish	CWGA March Play**	CWGA Senior. Match Play**	CWGA Mashie*
Champion	160	100	60
Runner-Up	110	70	40
Semi-Finalist	85	50	30
Quarter-Finalist	60	N/A	N/A
Medalist	35	15	N/A
Cons. Flt. Winner	25	20	10
Champ Flt. Qualifier	20	10	N/A
OTHER WOMEN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS			
<b>Make Cut</b>	75		
<b>Matches Won:</b>			
Round 1	50	Round 4	125
Round 2	75	Round 5	150
Round 3	100	Round 6	175
OTHER SR. NATIONAL EVENTS			
COLORADO WOMEN'S OPEN***	Senior Women's Stroke Play **	Senior. Women's Team *	
150	150	120	
100	100	80	
80	80	60	
70	70	50	
60	60	45	
55	55	40	
50	50	37	
45	45	35	
40	40	33	
35	35	30	
30	30	25	
25	25	20	
20	20	15	
15	15	10	
10	10	5	
N/A	N/A	N/A	
***Points awarded to top Colorado Amateurs only.		**Points awarded to Championship Flight only.	*Points awarded to each partner in Championship Flight only.
USGA EVENTS			
Local / Sectional Qualifier:		Qualify for Match Play:	
Medalist	75	Women's Am.	100
Qualify	50	U.S. Women's 4-Ball	75
<b>Make Cut:</b>		Mid-Am.	75
Women's Open	250	Sr. Am.	75
<b>Matches Won:</b>			
Round 1	50	Round 4	125
Round 2	75	Round 5	150
Round 3	100	Round 6	175

Date	Days	Tournament
<b>January</b>		
18-23	M-Sa	Jones/Doherty Women's Amateur Championship <i>Jones/Doherty Sr. Women's Amateur Championship</i>
<b>May</b>		
2-5	M-Th	<i>Women's Trans Senior Four-Ball Championship (team event)</i>
21-26	Sa-Th	U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball
9	M.	U.S. Women's Open Sectional Qualifier
<b>June</b>		
6-8	M-W	<b>CWGA Mashie Championship</b> (team event)
13	M	<b>CWGA Match Play Qualifier</b>
14-16	Tu-Th	<b>CWGA Match Play Championship</b> <b><i>CWGA Match Play - Senior Division</i></b>
14-16	Tu-Th	Women's Eastern Amateur Championship
20-25	M-Sa	Women's Western Amateur Championship
28	Tu	U.S. Women's Amateur Sectional Qualifier
<b>July</b>		
7-10	Th-Su	U.S. Women's Open Championship
11-15	M-F	Women's Trans National Amateur Championship
11-15	M-F	North & South Women's Amateur Championship
<b>August</b>		
2-4	T-Th	<b>CWGA Stroke Play Championship</b>
16-18	Tu-Th	<i>North &amp; South Sr. Women's Amateur Championship</i>
18	Th	U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Sectional Qualifier
1-7	M-Su	U.S. Women's Amateur Championship
16-17	Tu-W	<b>CWGA Brassie Championship</b> (team event)
29	M	<i>USGA Senior Women's Amateur Sectional Qualifier</i>
31- (9/2)	W-F	Colorado Women's Open Championship
26-27	M-Tu	<b><i>CWGA Senior Stroke Play Championship</i></b>
<b>September</b>		
<b>Suspended</b>		
10	Sa	U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball Qualifier
10-15	Sa-Th	U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Championship
17-22	Sa-Th	<i>U.S. Senior Women's Amateur Championship</i>

Stroke Play 1 <sup>st</sup> Flight Finish	CWGA Stroke Play	CWGA Match Play Finish	Match Play President's Flight
1 <sup>st</sup>	75	Champion	110
2 <sup>nd</sup>	65	Runner-Up	80
3 <sup>rd</sup>	55	Semi-Finalist	60
4 <sup>th</sup>	45	Cons. Winner	15
5 <sup>th</sup>	35	Cons. Runner-up	10