

WOMEN'S NINE HOLE GOLF ASSOCIATION

TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

The Tournament of Champions (TOC) is held each year in September or October after each member club has completed its own club championship tournament. The purpose of this competition is to recognize the outstanding golfers in the Women's Nine Hole Golf Association, and to honor the overall WNHGA Champion.

There are two individual tournaments, hereafter called A and B. The A tournament will be for the low gross champion of each club and the low net winner of the first flight. The B tournament will be for the low net winners of the second and third flights. These tournaments may be held at the same location on the same day with each tournament on a different nine, or they may be held on separate days at different locations.

All participants must have a 20-game index, (ten 18-hole games or combined 9-hole scores) and these twenty games must have been played within the current 24-month period, with a minimum of five rounds being played in the current year. They must also be an active, participating member of a nine-hole organization. The criteria for this requirement are decided by each member club. If a player is a member of more than one club, she may represent only the club designated as her home course.

Organizing the Member Club Championship Tournament

- When your club calendar is prepared, set the tournament dates so that the championship tournament will be completed at least two weeks prior to the date of the WNHGA TOC. Three rounds **must** be played. These three rounds of golf may all be played on the same nine holes, or on alternate nines. They can be played on three separate days, or two rounds may be played on the same day. However, all competitors must play on the same nine, on the same day, and at the same time of the day. **Make-up rounds are not permitted in this tournament.**
- Post a sign-up sheet inviting all eligible WNHGA members with a 20-game index (five of these in the current year) to participate. After the players have signed up for the tournament, place them in flights according to their indexes before the start of the tournament (i.e. if you are going to start the tournament on July 19, then you would use the July 15 indexes). The flight index ranges for the WNHGA TOC are as follows (as of October 2020):

First flight	0 to 15.9
Second flight	16.0 to 20.9
Third flight	21.0 and above

- The competitors will then play at their course handicap determined by the slope rating of the nine holes to be played. If the tournament spans more than two weeks, players must use their current index for each round, but remain in the flight where they started the tournament.

Note: If the player's index increased significantly and would have put her in a higher flight, she will play in her original flight and her index will be limited to the maximum for that flight. If the player's index decreased significantly and would have put her in a lower flight, she will play in her original flight and will play to her current index.

- After all three club level rounds are completed, the club champion is determined by the lowest total gross score of all the participants (no matter which flight). In case of a tie for the club champion (total gross score), there will be a sudden death playoff. Players will compete, hole-hole, until someone wins a hole.
- First, second, and third flight winners are determined by total low net scores (all three rounds). Any ties in these flights are broken by handicapped holes on the scorecards. Using the women's handicapped holes, total the three net scores from the most difficult hole. The lowest total will determine the winner. If there is still a tie, continue this process using the next most difficult hole, etc. Repeat the procedure until a winner is determined.
- *For WNHGA Tournament of Champions only (no matter which flight)*, the scores of the three most difficult holes are added together. If there is still a tie, the score of the next most difficult hole(s) is added continuing this process using the next most difficult hole, etc. The player with the lowest total wins the card-off.
- During the tournament, a USGA-approved distance-measuring device or app on a cell phone may be used for distance only and **must** be in silent mode. **If a player uses a distance device in any other capacity, a General Penalty (2 strokes) will be given. For subsequent offense – Disqualification. Once any distance measuring device makes a sound, the penalty is – Disqualification.**
- Submit the names of the club champion and the flight net winners to the WNHGA TOC director. (See Note below) If a player's index has changed at the time the winning names are submitted to the WNHGA director, the player will still play in the flight in which she qualified. If the player's index increased significantly and would have put her in a higher flight, she will play in her qualifying flight and her index will be limited to the maximum for that flight. If the player's index decreased significantly and would have put her in a lower flight, she will play in her qualifying flight and will play to her current index. The invitation will state which index date will be used.

NOTE: You may *not* send a substitute for the Champions' Flight; however, in the First, Second and Third Net Flights, if your winners cannot attend the Tournament of Champions, you may send the second place person.

- The TOC director will contact you in the spring with her contact information and an instruction/information letter. Direct any questions to the WNHGA TOC director. (Contact information is on *WNHGA.com*.)

TOC Host Club Requirements

- Consider hosting a Tournament of Champions at your club as fulfillment of your obligation to hold a major event or Open Day every three to four years. Coordinate with your club for a date when your club could host this event. Bring the proposed date to your scheduled Spring Area Meeting one year prior to the event.
- The WNHGA TOC director will contact you in early summer to discuss and coordinate the necessary arrangements. Items to be determined include menus, table decorations and nearby hotel information. Your club will be asked to provide assistance at registration and to help with the golf bags and scorecards. Depending on the course layout, spotters may also be needed.
- **It is also the host club's responsibility to provide markers for the tournament.** The WNHGA TOC director will tell you how many experienced markers are needed. A marker will be required for each foursome in the competition. The director will provide the marker sheets and clipboards to be used for the event.
- The WNHGA TOC director will tell you how many golf carts will be required.
- Coordinate with your general manager or club pro to see if your club will allow the TOC participants an opportunity to play a practice round. If approved, the TOC director will send a letter to all the clubs participating in the TOC inviting them to play a practice round. The letter should include cost (green fees, cart, food), dates and times.
- Table decorations may be provided for the event by the host club. WNHGA will provide table signs indicating starting hole assignments (stands to be provided by the host club). The host club will provide a podium, microphone, and table(s) for prizes.
- Arrange to have your club pro, prior to the start of play, provide a short welcome, announce any local rules and the location of the restrooms on the course.
- At the luncheon, the host club captain or club TOC chair will welcome the participants and guests, acknowledge host committee members, and introduce the WNHGA TOC director. The DIC will then express her thanks to the appropriate people and present the awards.

TOC Host Club Checklist

MEALS AND HOSPITALITY

- Food and Beverage
 - Prior to meeting with the TOC director two months before the event, plan a buffet breakfast and either a buffet or served luncheon.
 - Give meal price information to the director at the planning meeting.
 - Breakfast is open seating. Luncheon is assigned seating by starting hole.
 - Table decorations are optional.
 - Visible tee assignment cards needed on each table (cards provided by WNHGA; holders provided by club).
 - Needed at front of room - podium and microphone, and table for the trophies.

- Registration
 - Arrange for registration tables, with chairs for at least three or four people.
 - Arrange for three or four people to check in guests, hand out scorecards/local rules.
 - Arrange for bag handlers if pro shop is not providing them.

- Scoring Room
 - Need a private room for eight to ten people.
 - Have water and glasses available.

TOURNAMENT DUTIES:

- Morning of Tournament
 - Greet incoming cars. Answer questions. Give directions to parking and bag-drop area. Make sure players know where to check in.
 - Check that all carts have identification signs, a map of the course (if available), an extra scorecard and a pencil.
 - Make sure water is on the carts.
 - Oversee the placement of golf bags on the carts.
 - Have a plan on how players are going to get to their starting holes.

- Markers
 - The DIC will let you know how many markers will be needed for TOC.
 - Have a quiet room available where the markers can meet for training before play starts.
 - Markers' materials provided by WNHGA.

- Spotters
 - Host club to provide spotters on holes where needed.
 - Spotters will check-in at marker training area to receive their information.

- Scorecard Collectors
 - Direct players and markers to the checking area.
 - Once scorecards and marker sheets have been checked, direct players and markers to the dining room.
 - Need two runners to take scorecards and marking sheets to scoring room.

- Pro Shop
 - Provide cart signs.
 - Make sure hole numbers on the course are well-signed; drop areas and ground under repair areas are marked.
 - The pro will provide a short welcome to include any local rules, and restroom locations on the course.

- Captain
 - Welcome guests at lunch, acknowledge host committee members, and introduce the TOC director.