

Battle Creek Area Senior Golf Association (BCASGA) By-Laws



INDEX

Section		Page
I	Name and Definition.....	3
II	Mission Statement.....	4
III	Player Identification and Responsibilities.....	5
IV	Handicap and Scoring.....	7
V	Membership and Competition Prizes and Fees.....	9
VI	Model Local Rules.....	11
VII	Officers and Responsibilities.....	12
VIII	Meetings.....	15
IX	Change to the Rules.....	16
X	Definitions.....	17

Section I

Name

The name of this league is the Battle Creek Area Senior Golf Association. The league will be known as the BCASGA as it appears within these established by-laws.

Section II

Mission Statement

The objective of the BCASGA is to promote friendly competition and good fellowship among seniors and other players. Our goal as members and leadership are to focus on enhancing the league and provide continual improvements each year through cooperation with the BCASGA players.

Below are some of our objectives designed to advance our mission statement:

- Increase awareness and membership of the BCASGA.
- Provide affordable playing opportunities at courses within Southwest Michigan
- Continuing to improve communications methods
- Finding economical applications to improve BCASGA members' experience
- True fiscal stewardship and with total transparency on how the BCASGA operates.

Section III

BCASGA Players and Responsibilities

1. The BCASGA player must meet one of the following requirements to be eligible to be a member.
 - a. Any person who has reached the age of fifty (50) years of age in the year of their fiftieth birthday.
 - b. Any person who may not be able to golf in another league due to not being able to join a league based on work requirements or other impeding factors. These individuals. Based on their mitigating circumstances, need to be approved by BCASGA leadership.
2. Tee box assignments will be based on age, ability or other mitigating circumstances approved by the BCASGA leadership.
 - a. Red or Far Forward (FF) Tee Box: Have reached the age of eighty (80) or will within that playing year. Female members will also play from this box.
 - b. Gold/Yellow or Forward Tee Box: Have reached the age of sixty (60) or will within that playing year.
 - c. White or Middle Tee Box: Those not meeting the requirements of another tee box.
 - d. Special consideration based on health issues or disability will be approved by the BCASGA leadership.
3. Players will be flighted into four separate groups based on their handicaps. The groups will consist of A, B, C and D. The groupings will be separated by numbers as equally possible.
4. Players must be a minimum of thirty minutes early to pay for the events and provide any administrative updates with the BCASGA leadership team.

5. Players are responsible for ensuring they maintain the pace of play, ensuring timely completion by all teams. Goal is 4 hours and 15 minutes or less to accommodate course requirements for open play.
6. Players will ensure that their scorecards are legible and accurate.
7. New members/players will provide an initial handicap to the BCASGA Secretary no later than 48 hours prior to play for updating scorecards and flight placement.

Section IV

Handicaps and Scoring

1. Each player will be assigned a handicap for individual play. New members will provide their local handicap to the BCASGA Secretary no less than 24 hours prior to the event.
2. Reference for Handicap System:
 - a. Rules of Golf (USGA), effective January 2023, Rule 3.1c(2)
 - b. Rules of Handicapping (USGA), effective January 2023.
3. Handicaps will be used to position the player in a suitable flight.
4. Handicaps will be based on the following model and these three key elements (AGS, ACR and ASR) described below:
 - a. Average Gross Score (AGS): The players' AGS will be established after the first three rounds of play and will be amended again after each three rounds.
 - b. Average Course Rating (ACR): The average course rating from the same courses the player provided the AGS.
 - c. Average Slope Rating (ASR): The average course slope from the same courses the player provided for the AGS.
 - d. Average Score Differential (ASD): The average score differential is a calculation based on the AGS, ACR and ASR. The calculation is as follows. $AGS - ACR$ multiplied by 113. This number is then divided by the ASR, and the result is the ASD.
 - e. Handicap Index (HCP-I): HCP-I is a calculation of the ASD multiplied by 95%. The result is the handicap (HCP) you will be assigned. Example provides in *figure 1*.
 - f. The HCP will be rounded to the next nearest number based on the following:
 - i. HCP ending in 0 – 4 will be rounded down.

- ii. HCP ending in 5 – 9 will be rounded up.

$\frac{(\text{Avg Gross Score} - \text{Avg Course Rating}) \times 113}{\text{AVG Slope Rating}}$	=	Average Score Differential (ASD)
$\text{ASD} \times 0.95 = \text{Handicap Index}$		

Example:	Based on Cedar Creek playing with an 80 Avg score, Course Rating (CR) of 67.8 playing from the red tees, and a slope rating of 112							
AGS	80	CR	67.8	AGS - CR =	12.2 x 113	= 1378.6	ASD =	12.3
			112					
		ASD	12.3	X 95%	Handicap Index =	11.7	HCP =	12

Figure 1.

5. Maximum HCP allowed is 36, which is two strokes per hole.
6. Maximum score per hole is double par. If you would exceed the double par score, annotate on the scorecard the double par score and circle.

Section V

Membership and Competition Prizes and Fees

1. Membership Fee

- a. Each player will pay an annual membership fee of \$15.00; this is applicable to returning and new players.
- b. Membership fees will be amended on an annual basis as necessary to meet the costs of the league.

2. Competition Fees

- a. Each player will pay a competition fee of a predetermined amount to meet the cost of each event and end of year awards.
- b. The competition fee will be separated as follows:
 - i. Skins – Payouts will be based on weekly participation.
 - ii. Random Drawing - Payouts will be based on weekly participation.
 - iii. Flight Winners - Payouts will be based on weekly participation.
 - iv. Balance – goes towards administration requirements and end of year event.

3. Competition Prizes

- a. There will be competition prizes for each weekly event as well as the year end event known as “Race to the Medalist.” The end of year event will have the same payouts as the regular weekly events plus an accumulated prize payout.
- b. Weekly flight prizes, to include the Medalist prize money paid out for each of the four flights.
 - i. 1st Place - Payouts will be based on weekly participation.
 - ii. 2nd Place – Payouts will be based on weekly participation.
 - iii. 3rd Place - Payouts will be based on weekly participation.

- c. Weekly skin and proximity prizes, to include the Medalis.
 - i. Skin pot is based on weekly participation and will be equally divided, rounded to the nearest dollar, between the three categories of skins.
 - 1. Gross Skin – applicable to all players
 - 2. Low Net Skin – applicable to all players in A and B flights
 - 3. High Net Skin – applicable to all players in C and D flights
 - ii. Proximity prizes, when applicable, will be based on weekly participation. Proximity funding would come from an additional cost in the competition fee.
 - 1. Closest to the Pin – applicable to all players
 - 2. Longest Putt – applicable to all players
 - 3. Closest 2nd Shot– applicable to all players
 - iii. End of year payout for the “Race to the Medalist” will pay for six places for each of the four flights.
 - 1. 1st Place – Will be based on total annual participation.
 - 2. 2nd Place - Will be based on total annual participation.
 - 3. 3rd Place - Will be based on total annual participation.
 - 4. 4th Place - Will be based on total annual participation.
 - 5. 5th Place - Will be based on total annual participation.
 - 6. 6th Place - Will be based on total annual participation.
- 4. End of Season Tournament, “The Race to the Medalist.”
 - a. Each player must compete in a predetermined number of weekly tournaments, normally 8. This can be adjusted due to cancellations, rainouts, etc. The league leadership will let all league players know the determined number of courses.
 - b. The lowest eight scores from the season will be utilized to establish winners in each of the flights.

- c. Players who win end of year flight money and are not in attendance at the final round at the Medalist, have until 30 September to retrieve their winnings at Cedar Creek Golf Club.

Section VI

Model Local Rules

1. Model Local Rules are rules to approved to amend the rules already established and laid out by the United States Golf Association (USGA) in the Rules of Golf and Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, both effective as of January 2023.
2. Per the Official Guide to Rules of Golf, Model Local Rules can be implemented and managed by a committee. For the purposes of the committee, it will be recognized that the BCASGA leadership are considered the committee.
3. BCASGA applicable Model Local Rules
 - a. Rule E-3: For balls that have come to rest in a divot created by a previous player, free relief of no more than the length of a scorecard is permitted. No penalty applies.
 - b. Rule E-5: For lost balls that have gone out of bounds, player has the option of dropping on the edge of the fairway laterally to where the ball when out of bounds with a two-stroke penalty.
 - c. Rule F-9: Allow one club length when the ball is resting on or next to tree roots, considering this ground under repair. This does not apply if the root impedes the stance of the player.
 - d. Rule F-16: Relief from Bunker that is filled with water. Players may choose relief outside the bunker if bunker is not sufficient to allow play from another section. No penalty is applied.
 - e. Rule BCASGA 1: Gimme putts will be no longer than the length between the putter head and the bottom of the grip.

Section VII

Officers and Responsibilities

1. The officers of the BCASGA will be the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. These duties have been combined by adding the Vice President responsibilities to the other three officers.
 - a. A simple majority of players can call an election at the season-end meeting. If no election is called, the current BCASGA President shall continue with the duties. If an election is called, it must be completed within thirty days.
 - b. The BCASGA President can appoint the remaining officer(s) unless an election is called by a majority of the players at the season-end meeting.
 - c. The officers will also be appointed as the committee for enforcing adherence to applicable USGA and Model Local rule changes.
2. President – The President in conjunction with the Secretary and Treasurer shall run all meetings and be responsible to set up all tournaments or to charge a second person with that responsibility. Individual responsibilities are listed as follows:
 - a. Selecting the courses, based on previous years' schedule and input from the players.
 - b. Negotiate the price of the green fees and carts with the course pro, and any other additions, such as lunch, range balls, start times, and hole line up for the shotgun start.
 - c. Make a call to play or cancel the play, based on conditions at the course within a reasonable amount of time to notify participants.
 - d. Promote the League so that it grows. This includes utilizing BCASGA funds for advertising.
 - e. Maintenance of the web pages.

3. Secretary – The Secretary will be responsible for the administrative duties associated with the BCASGA. Individual responsibilities are listed as follows:
- a. Selecting the courses, the players want to play from the survey results received.
 - b. Be a minimum of two (2) hours early on-site to set up; three (3) hours in case of inclement weather, to make a call to play or cancel the play, based on conditions at the course.
 - c. Print and have ready all cart signs and scorecards to be placed on carts at least an hour before play begins.
 - d. Ensure that pairings are correct and allow for a smooth flow of play.
 - e. Track event to include scores, results, and winners.
 - f. Communicate in a timely manner with players of the League, key information for the weekly events, standings, handicaps, and weekly results.
 - g. Promote the League so that it grows.
 - h. Keep track of the “Race to the Medalist” over-all event.
4. Treasurer – The Treasurer will be responsible for the financial duties associated with the BCASGA. Individual responsibilities are listed as follows:
- a. Collect the money, accountable for receipts and make the change (or oversee).
 - b. Accounting at end of each tournament and YTD with financial figures entered Excel—Final Year-end presented to members at final tournament year-end awards meeting.
 - c. Pay for the golf course (check payment).
 - d. Set all prize money and opening drawings for both individual tournaments and “Race to the Finals” as long as money is available.
 - e. Purchase water and snacks for each event.

- f. Record attendance.
- g. Prepare winnings of each tournament.
- h. Prepare winnings for "Race to Medalist" overall event.
- i. Advise as to totals that can be used for winning prizes for each tournament.
- j. Advise as to totals that can be used for overall "Race to Medalist" winning prizes for each tournament.
- k. Make deposits after the event.
- l. Set "cash" box for next event.

Section VIII

Meetings

1. Meetings

- a. A Meeting will be held at the last tournament of the year. Notice shall be given to each BCASGA member who has paid their dues for the current year.
- b. The agenda for the meeting must be sent out to each member 10 days before the meeting. The agenda will include financial reporting.
- c. The BCASGA leadership team will preside over all meetings.
- d. The President may call special meetings at any time. In each case, the Secretary will give notice via electronic means setting forth the purpose of the meeting and the subject matter to be acted upon.

Section IX

Changes to the Rules

1. The rules may be amended by a majority vote of the BCASGA members who have paid their yearly dues.
2. Prior to the vote, proposed changes to the by-laws must be sent to the members at least ten (10) days prior to the vote.
3. The voting results will be based on majority votes.
4. When required for preservation of the league or a tie in the voting process, the BCASGA leadership reserves the right for the final vote/decision.

Section X

Definitions

This is a list of commonly used terminology used within the BCASGA by-laws for clarity and a better understanding of this document.

By-Laws - rules made by an association or society to guide/control the actions of its members:

Course Rating – a numerical value that indicates the difficulty of a golf course for scratch golfers, or those with a handicap of 0.0.

Flights - a flight refers to a division or grouping of players within a tournament, typically based on their skill level or handicap.

Gross Score - is the total number of shots that a golfer has actually taken plus, if applicable, any penalty shots incurred.

Gross Skin - the lowest score on a hole wins the skin, without considering player handicaps.

Handicap - a numerical measure of a golfer's playing ability, calculated based on their average scores from previous rounds.

Handicap Index - a portable number that represents a golfer's demonstrated ability. It is calculated based on a player's past scores relative to the difficulty of the courses played and the conditions during those rounds.

High Net Skin - a scoring format that takes into account a player's handicap to determine the outcome of each hole. High net is applicable to flights C and D of the BCASGA.

Low Net Skin - a scoring format that takes into account a player's handicap to determine the outcome of each hole. High net is applicable to flights A and B of the BCASGA.

Model Local Rules - are templates that provide an alternative to the default position of the Rules of Golf. Model Local Rules are contained in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, January 2023.

Proximities - refer to various distance-related games that are often included in tournaments, such as charity events or corporate outings.

Score Differential - a measure that compares a golfer's score to the difficulty of the course played.

Score Rating - the method of recording the number of strokes taken to complete a hole or round.

Skins - format where players compete for a prize based on the lowest score on a hole.