

BEST EVER GOLF ASSOCIATION (BEGA) BY-LAWS

These by-laws have been adopted by the BEGA membership to clarify and guide the conduct of the Association and shall be adhered to by all members.

A. Membership

1. Membership in BEGA is open to all persons. Membership is on a calendar year basis and expires each year on December 31. A signed BEGA application must be provided to the BEGA Secretary/Treasurer for membership to become valid. This application will be kept on file and does not need to be resubmitted unless the member's personal information changes. BEGA membership dues are set by the Board of Directors on a yearly basis prior to November of each year and will be communicated to the membership by email from the secretary/treasurer. Membership entitles the person to enter any BEGA event and to use the BEGA handicap system. Additional entry fees may be necessary for certain BEGA events.

2. Membership must be valid prior to entry into any of the scheduled tournaments or by the second week after a player starts playing with a league. This same rule applies at midseason if additional players are allowed to join the second half of summer league play.

3. Guests are allowed to participate in one BEGA event each calendar year. For a second event the guest must join BEGA. A guest is not entitled to any prize fund monies, points or awards.

B. Board of Directors

1. The Association shall be administered by the Board of Directors. The Board shall consist of five members who are elected by the membership of the Association to two year terms (with no term limits.)

2. The Board will manage the affairs, property and policies of the Association within the limits of the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws. The Board members will elect a president from their ranks.

3. Elections for Board members will occur in September/October of odd numbered years for the next two year term. Any member shall be eligible for nomination provided he/she has given his/her consent. Nomination for Board of Directors members shall be made only by current BEGA members. An election committee appointed by the Board will control the elections. Ballots shall be prepared and mailed (paper or electronic mail) no later than September 1 and returned no later than October 20. A brief resume

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(maximum of half page) of the qualifications of each nominee may be included on the ballot. The five people receiving the highest number of votes shall be duly acknowledged and installed to the Board of Directors beginning January 1. All results of the election shall be publicized either by written notice and/or electronic communication media.

[The initial Board of Directors shall consist of Dwight W. Potter, Stephen B. Ellzey, Richard H. Rush, Lawrence W. Bryan, and Harold G. Wiley per the Articles of Incorporation. They will serve the 2014/2015 term of the Board of Directors. The first election of the Board of Directors will occur in November/December 2015. (Note: The Articles of Incorporation state that Ralph L. Thompson will also be an initial director; Mr. Thompson has voluntarily resigned from the board and will not be replaced)]

4. The Board will recruit, assign, and select the officers and the league presidents/committee chairs. Officers and league presidents/committee chairs may come from those that are on the Board.

5. The Board may delegate duties to the committees.

6. Proxies may be voted at all meetings of the Board of Directors. Any resolution put in writing and signed by the board members shall constitute action by the Board.

7. Three members present at a meeting of the Board constitute a quorum.

8. The Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of one time per year to review and approve the upcoming year's budget and to work any other matters that need to come to the board. A special board meeting may be called at any time by any board member by communicating the request to all five directors.

C. Duties of Officers

1. President. The President shall preside at BEGA board meetings. He/she shall enforce the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation and these bylaws and have general supervision of BEGA activities. The President shall call meetings as he/she deems necessary or as required by the Articles of Incorporation or By-laws. He/she shall appoint such committees as may be necessary to further the interests and purposes of BEGA.

2. Vice-President. The primary function of the Vice-President shall be to act as an independent audit agency for BEGA. In addition he/she shall work with the Tournament Director in the planning and coordination of BEGA Monthly Tournaments, to include

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preparing tournament flyers, golf course selection and the price negotiation (green fee and food cost). The Vice-President will help the leagues get established and work with each league to insure they are successful. He/She shall fill the duties of the president in the president's absence or as requested by the president. He/she shall enforce the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws and assist in the general supervision of BEGA activities.

3. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep the minutes of all BEGA meetings and will maintain all correspondence and papers of the association. The Secretary/Treasurer shall handle publicity for the association. The Secretary/Treasurer shall maintain an up-to-date roster of all league officers and report changes to this roster to the league presidents and tournament directors. The Secretary/Treasurer shall maintain the BEGA handicap systems (Golf Software and GHIN) and serve as the Handicap Committee Chairperson. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep a full and accurate account of all monies received. He/she shall have authority to receive and give receipts for all money due and payable to BEGA from any source. The Secretary/Treasurer shall present a written report of money affairs at all Board of Director meetings. The Secretary/Treasurer shall prepare and obtain concurrence from the Board of Directors concerning an annual forecast of anticipated receipts and money expenditures.

D. Standing Committees

1. The Committees of the Association are the Handicap Committee, Web Master Committee and committees that support each sanctioned league, the monthly tournaments and Travel'n Golf. The league presidents/committee chairs may recruit others to help fulfill the needs of the committee. Committee leaders attend all board meetings as nonvoting, ad hoc members.
2. The League Presidents will preside over all functions associated with each individual league and shall attend all meetings of the Board of Directors as ad hoc members. The League Presidents are responsible for providing their yearly budget to the Treasurer for inclusion into the annual association budget forecast.
3. The Webmaster shall manage and maintain the BEGA website. This website will be hosted on the World Wide Web to provide accessibility for all members. Official items of the association shall be posted to the website, to include the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, and minutes of Board of Directors meetings. General items of interest to members shall be posted and maintained at the site. No member personal data shall be published to non-members.

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E. Signature Authority

1. The following are authorized to sign association checks:
President and Secretary/Treasurer
2. Only a Director is authorized to enter into a contractual relationship with another entity on behalf of the BEGA.
3. On-Line Banking. The association shall utilize an on-line banking system to provide visibility to the directors and officers.
 - a. The on-line system shall be password protected. Any time a person having that password is transferred or resigns the password will be changed.
 - b. Bookkeeping and Audits. BEGA shall utilize Quicken as the bookkeeping system to provide visibility to the BEGA officers and directors. The books kept by the Secretary/Treasurer are subject to an audit at any time as specified by the President. The Vice-President and the Treasurer shall establish an audit cycle that is agreeable to both parties. The audit report will be provided to all directors via paper or electronic means for their review.

F. Playing Rules

1. League play will be governed by USGA rules, as modified by golf course local rules and the following BEGA local rules:
The local rules listed here are for all BEGA Leagues, Tournaments and other golfing events sponsored by BEGA. All BEGA members should read the rules and comply with them during BEGA events. If any additional local rules are used they will be explained prior to the start of any BEGA sponsored event. Any questions regarding local rules should be forwarded to Stephen Ellzey, BEGA Handicap Chairperson at the following email address: ellzey1103@comcast.net

Local Rule 1 – Ages for Playing from Different Tees in Competition

Local Rule 2 – Root and Rock

Local Rule 3 – Forced Carries

Local Rule 4 – Alternative to Stroke and Distance for Lost Ball or Ball Out of Bounds

Local Rule 5 – Bunker Filled with Temporary Water

Local Rule 6 – Ball Deflected by Power Line

The above local rules can be found at the following location:

<http://begainc.org/Handicap%20Committee/Local%20Rules.pdf>

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2. League Play

- a. League presidents will determine specific rules concerning format, length of the season, and location for each BEGA sponsored league.
- b. League play locations and format will be determined by the league presidents. Leagues may elect to play at a single course for the entire season or to travel to different courses during the season.
- c. League awards may be given to flight winners and the league champions. League presidents will determine if weekly prizes for various categories (such as most points, least putts, most birdies, etc), are awarded.
- d. Each player shall be responsible to enter their scores for league and tournament play utilizing the Boeing Portal or complete his/her scorecard with the total score and any other requested computations before submitting the card to the league presidents/tournament directors or their designee after completion of play. The BEGA Portal is located at the following location:
<http://bestever.golfclub.net/portal.html?id=5367>

3. Tournament Play

- a. The BEGA Tournament Schedule is published separately.
- b. An entry (prize) fee will usually be required. Dependents under the age of 18 will not be charged for prize fees.
- c. Entry qualification will be predicated on a single league, club, or other association handicap. The lowest handicap will be used for tournament play. The entrant must inform the BEGA Secretary/Treasurer or Tournament Director of all of his/her handicaps (other than his/her BEGA handicap) if he/she maintains handicaps in other leagues, clubs or associations. These handicaps will be entered on the entrant's tournament entry form. These handicaps are subject to audit by the BEGA Secretary/Treasurer or Tournament Director. Automatic disqualification from award of tournament prizes and possible suspension for 1 year for tournament play may result from the violation of this requirement. An appeal may be made to the Board of Directors of the association.
- d. A tournament entrant without an established or current USGA/BEGA/GHIN handicap must have or produce a minimum of five attested 18-hole scores within the past twelve months to be eligible for entry into a regular tournament flight. If five attested scores are not available, the BEGA Secretary will establish a handicap for the player based on the guidance in the World Handicap System Manual.
- c. Handicaps will be based on formulas from the World Handicap System. Established current club handicaps for new players will be allowed if scores can be transferred to the BEGA Handicap System or GHIN.

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- e.** Ties will be resolved by dividing place prizes evenly between those players unless otherwise determined by the Tournament Director.
- f.** Slow play in tournaments will not be tolerated. The penalty for slow play after one official warning from the Tournament Director or designated marshal will be a two stroke penalty. Slow play is being more than one hole behind the group in front (defined as a group not teeing off before the group ahead has cleared the green except on par 3's).
- g.** Tournament entry fees will be indicated on the tournament entry form and are to be paid to the Tournament Director prior to play. No additional fee will be required at the tournament course.
- h.** Those wishing riding carts (if not part of the tournament fee) or wanting trail permission for owned carts will pay the required fee directly to the golf course.

4. Handicaps

- a.** All association members will establish a handicap index following the guidelines of the World Handicap System Manual.
- b.** The BEGA Handicap System (Golf Software) and the Golf Handicap Information Network (GHIN) are endorsed by the USGA and designed to provide equitable handicaps for golfers of any skill level. The Handicap Systems are available through the BEGA to all association members. The system is based on the assumption that every player will endeavor to make the best score he/she can on each hole in every round and that he/she will report every round for handicap purposes, regardless of where the round is played.
- c.** Handicap Index's will be updated on a schedule determined by the BEGA Handicap Chairperson, in conjunction with World Handicap System update schedule. All scores submitted by a player and registered in either the BEGA Handicap System or GHIN which will be used to calculate a player's index. Tournament scores will be used where applicable.
- d.** The BEGA Handicap Committee is empowered to review and enforce the handicap rules.
- e.** Any member or guest found violating the BEGA handicap rules may be disciplined as determined by the Board of Directors. Discipline can include expulsion of the member from the association and/or forfeiture of any prizes the player may have been awarded.

G. Amendments to the By-laws

Amendments/Revisions require three of the five Directors Approval. Any errata update can be updated by the Web Master