

11th SENIOR FOUR-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Conducted by the Maine State Golf Association

Riverside Golf Course | Portland, Maine | June 13, 2017



ELIGIBILITY

The Senior Four-Ball Championship is open to all Maine golfers aged 55 or older as of June 13, 2017. Sides will consist of two players both in good standing of an MSGA member club on or before the date they submit their application. All players must be a 2017 MSGA Championship Player to apply.

ENTRY INFORMATION

All sides must file an entry for the championship. Players may apply for the championship either online at www.mesga.org or by paper application. Entries will not be taken over the phone. The field is limited to 70 sides. Sides do not need to consist of players belonging to the same club. Substitutions will be allowed as long as the substituted player meets the eligibility requirements prescribed above.

An entry form where any player on the side is not active in GHIN at the home club, or is not a 2017 MSGA Championship Player, will be considered incomplete.

Cost: The entry fee for the championship is \$110 per side.

Entry deadline for all sides is June 2, 2017 at 5:00 pm. The MSGA reserves the right to extend the deadline if the field is not full at that time.

Players are reminded to apply early to allow time for resolving any errors, an incomplete application, or for not adhering to the eligibility as prescribed above.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The championship will consist of 18 holes of four-ball stroke play. Players will play their own ball, with the low gross and net score counting for each hole.

Tuesday, June 13: First round, 18 holes

In the event of a two-way tie, both teams will be deemed co-champions.

If more than two teams tie, a tie-breaker will decide the winner using Rule 33-6.

PRIZES

Winner: Crystal trophy for every member of the side.

Runner-up: Silver medal for every member of the side.

Top finishers: Prize money, determined by finishing position, in the form of a voucher added to their MSGA account.

Prizes will be awarded for both gross and net divisions.

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RULES OF GOLF

All play will be governed by *The Rules of Golf* as approved by the USGA, except as modified by Local Rules. The on-site Rules Committee will have the final authority on all rulings. The competition is deemed to be closed when the trophy is awarded to the champion.

TRANSPORTATION

Players will be allowed to use motorized carts in the championship. Carts may be limited at certain sites, so players are encouraged to call the host club ahead of time to reserve a cart.

CONDITIONS AND SCHEDULES

The MSGA Tournament Committee/on-site Rules Committee reserves the right to alter any of the conditions, provisions, and/or schedules herein. The decision of the Tournament Committee/on-site Rules Committee in any matter is final.

WITHDRAWAL AND REFUND POLICY

Advanced entry fees will be refunded regardless of reason if the MSGA is notified before the close of entries. Refunds of entries made by credit or debit card will be applied to that same card, in keeping with proper merchant processing protocol. After the close of entries, fees will only be refunded if the tournament remains full, or in the event of injury or illness. No refunds will be given after the start of the tournament. **A 20 percent service charge will be deducted from all refunds.** Unusual circumstances will be considered individually.

STARTING TIMES

After the application deadline, starting times will be posted at www.mesga.org, as well as emailed to all players in the field. Starting times will be made public no less than four days before the tournament begins.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For any additional information regarding this championship, or to resolve any questions, please contact the Maine State Golf Association at msga@mesga.org, or by calling the office at (207) 829-3549.

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PAPER APPLICATION FOR ENTRY

PLAYER 1

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____
EMAIL: _____
PHONE: _____ ALTERNATE PHONE: _____
GOLF CLUB: _____
DATE OF BIRTH _____ AGE ON JUNE 13, 2017 _____
GHIN #: _____

PLAYER 2

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY, STATE: _____
EMAIL: _____
PHONE: _____ ALTERNATE PHONE: _____
GOLF CLUB: _____
DATE OF BIRTH _____ AGE ON JUNE 13, 2017 _____
GHIN #: _____

Entry Deadline: June 2, 2017 at 5:00 pm

Please mail completed applications, along with entry fee of \$110, to:
MSGA, 58 Val Halla Road, Cumberland, ME 04021

RULES OF PLAY AND CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION FOR MSGA CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Rules of the United States Golf Association and their decisions govern play. See applicable Notice to Players and Entry Application for additional Local Rules and Conditions. Complete text of Rules and Appendix I may be found in the 2016-2017 Rules of Golf.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is: Match play – Loss of hole; Stroke play – Two strokes

RULES OF PLAY

OUT OF BOUNDS: Defined by inside points, at ground level, of white stakes, fence posts and white lines. Rule 27-1.

WATER AND LATERAL WATER HAZARD STAKES AND LINES: When a water hazard or lateral water hazard is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When a water hazard or lateral water hazard is bounded by out of bounds, the hazard margin extends to and coincides with the out of bounds line.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR: Defined by enclosed white lined areas. French drains are deemed to be ground under repair. Ground under repair may include areas of unusual damage including wheel ruts, animal diggings and eroded areas in bunkers, but only when so declared by an authorized member of the committee. **All flower beds** are considered ground under repair from which play is prohibited and the player must take relief under Rule 25-1. Seams of cut turf are always GUR under the Local Rule in App. 1b page 129.

CART PATHS: Cart paths are immovable obstructions. Associated wear areas and white-lined areas tying into cart paths have the same status as the paths, that of obstructions.

WOOD CHIPS AND MULCH: Are loose impediments, unless otherwise provided in Local Rules/Notice to Competitors.

EMBEDDED BALL: Anywhere "through the green," a ball which is embedded in its own pitch-mark in the ground, except in loose sand, may be lifted without penalty, cleaned and dropped as near as possible to the spot where it lay but not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must first strike a part of the course through the green. EXCEPTION: A player may not obtain relief under this rule if it is clearly unreasonable for him to play a stroke because of interference by anything other than the condition covered by this rule.

INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE COURSE: Include cables, rods, wires or wrappings when closely attached to trees; artificial walls and pilings when located in hazards, unless otherwise provided for in Notice to Competitors/Local Rules.

TURF PLUGS: On putting greens, turf plugs have the same status as old hole plugs and may be repaired under Rule 16-1c.

DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES: DMD's are allowed in all MSGA competitions under the following Local Rule: 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 measures other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., elevation changes, wind speed or wind direction etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3. (Rev. 1/2016)

CONDITIONS

LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS: Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS: Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

HANDICAP – The Committee reserves the right to modify a player's course handicap before or between rounds of the competition.

MSGA PACE OF PLAY POLICY: In effect unless otherwise indicated on Local Rules/Notice to Competitors. NOTE: See MSGA Pace of Play Policy.

SUSPENSION OF PLAY DUE TO DANGEROUS SITUATION: When play is suspended for a dangerous situation, if the players are between the play of two holes, they must not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, **they must discontinue play immediately** and not resume play until the Committee has ordered play to resume. If a player fails to discontinue play immediately, he is disqualified, unless circumstances warrant waiving the penalty as provided in Rule 33-7. All practice areas will be closed during a suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open.

NOTE: A suspension of play for a **dangerous** situation will be signaled by **one prolonged** siren or horn blast. All other types of suspension will be signaled by **three intermittent** siren or horn blasts.

UNBECOMING CONDUCT: Unbecoming conduct is, but not limited to: vulgarity, throwing equipment in anger, destruction of property, and verbal or physical abuse to any person. A player who is in violation may be subject to disqualification.

PLAY-OFF: If a play-off is required, the play-off will begin at the time and the hole designated by the Committee in charge after all players have completed the stipulated round. If conditions do not allow a play-off to occur or continue, there will be a matching of scorecards as prescribed by the USGA method (Page 143 Section 10(c) of the USGA Rules of Golf). If this procedure does not produce a winner, the winner will be determined by lot. Any player who fails to report for a play-off will be relegated to last place in the tied group.

CLOSE OF COMPETITION: The competition is deemed to have closed when the trophy has been presented to the winner or, in the absence of a prize ceremony, when all scores have been approved by the Committee. The result of a match is considered to have been "officially announced" when the Committee has approved the result as posted on the public scoreboard.

These rules and any local rules distributed by the Committee supersede anything printed on the host club's scorecard. The Committee in charge of this competition comprises those officials assigned by the MSGA whose decisions are final.