

2017 EWGA Championship Participant Information - Scramble

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The EWGA Championship is an amateur competition conducted under the direction of the EWGA Headquarters Office. Competition is in three stages:

1. *Championship Qualifier – 18 holes of Scramble play to be completed at the Chapter level between March and July.*
2. *Semi-Final Championship – 18 holes of scramble play. Check Semi-final Championship Schedule for specific dates.*
3. *EWGA Championship Finals – 36 holes of scramble play at Hot Springs Village, AR on Oct. 6-7, 2017.*

Eligibility: Entries are open to all EWGA Chapter members in good standing who are female amateur golfers*, and have a verifiable USGA Handicap Index. Players with a **trend handicap or local index exceeding 40.4** at the time of registration into the Chapter Championship are only permitted to play in the Scramble division. After registration, player handicap indexes that fluctuate higher than 40.4 are required to use a Course Handicap of a 40.4 indexed player.

EWGA Member-in-Good-Standing:

Prior to registration into the Championship Qualifier, registrants must be EWGA Chapter members with current membership processed and on record at EWGA Headquarters (EWGA). In addition, dues must be paid current at the time of registration into the Championship Series and at any level of advancement in the competition.

Handicaps: Players must have an established USGA handicap index and have an equivalent of two (2) 18-hole scores posted to their handicap record in the current year prior to the handicap cut-off date for their respective Championship Qualifier. Players with less than the minimum requirements posted in 2017 **will not be eligible to compete**. To establish a USGA handicap index, a player must post the minimum equivalent of five (5) 18-hole scores prior to the next handicap revision date.

Amateur Status: All players must conform to the USGA Rules of Amateur Status as specified in the USGA Rules of Golf.

By her application, the player verifies that she has not received remuneration other than as specified as acceptable by the USGA "Rules of Amateur Status". Refer to USGA Rules of Golf for the Definition of an Amateur Golfer

Rules of Golf: The Rules of Golf, so far as they are not at variance with the following specific rules, apply to Scramble Play. Team members are considered partners and applicable rules apply. EWGA rules for scramble play are not intended to alter or revise the Rules of Golf. It would be advisable to carry a copy of the USGA Rules of Golf in your golf bag. The Committee in charge of the competition will settle all disputes.

Format: On every hole, each team member may hit a tee shot. The team then selects one of the tee shots from which to play. All team members may then hit a shot from that position. This procedure is repeated until the ball is holed out. Each team member must hit and use a **minimum of three (3) tee shots** per eighteen-hole round. The scorecard shall be marked for each hole with the initials of the player whose tee shot was chosen. Each team member may place a ball within one club length of the selected shot, no nearer the hole.

If the selected shot is played from a hazard, bunker, rough, or fringe of the green, a ball may be placed within one club-length of the selected shot, no nearer the hole, but must remain in the hazard, bunker, rough, or fringe of the green. When putting, a ball must be placed within one putter club-head length (approx. 4") of the selected shot, no nearer the hole.

Once the first ball is holed, the hole is complete. Team members may stand behind one another (on an extension of the line of play or putt) while they are making a stroke or putting.

Representation of a Team: A team may be represented by any one team member during part of the stipulated round. All team members need not be present. An absent team member may join her team between holes, but not during play of a hole. Each team member must still hit and use the required **minimum number of tee shots** per 18-hole round.

Team Composition: Scramble teams consist of four (4) members who meet the eligibility requirements. The Team Computation Factor is determined after the handicap cut-off date for the Chapter Championship and is the sum of the computation factors listed in the table below. Look up each team member's handicap index in the table below, and add the computation factor in the right-hand column. The sum of which is the Team Computation Factor. The Team Computation Factor will be adjusted prior to each stage of the Championship.

TEAM MEMBER USGA Hcdp. INDEX	COMPUTATION FACTOR
0.0 - 12.0	+2
12.1 - 19.0	+1
19.1 - 25.0	0
25.1 - 32.0	-1
32.1 & higher	-2

The Team Computation Factor must fall in the range of +2 and -5 at time of Chapter Championship registration. Teams with a Team Handicap that is greater than +2 will not be eligible to compete. Teams with a Team Handicap less than -5 may compete but the Team Handicap must remain a -5. Only one member of the team shall have a handicap index of 12.0 or less as of the handicap cut-off date for the Chapter Championship.

The EWGA Tournament Operations (TOPS) Committee, working with the Chapter Handicap Chair, has the discretion to adjust a player's handicap based on knowledge of the player's failure to post all acceptable scores, or otherwise not adhering to the spirit of the USGA Handicap System.

Scoring: This is a NET only competition. The Team Computation Factor is added to or subtracted from the team's gross score and the lowest NET score for a team is the winning team.

Entries: Registration, Fee, and Closing Date: All players must enter the Championship by completing the official online Entry Form. The EWGA Championship Entry Fee and applicable local Chapter tournament fees are payable by each player to the Association. Entry fees are refundable up to the close of registration by notifying the Chapter Championship Director. After the close of registration, entry fees are non-refundable. Refund policies for tournament fees at the



Chapter level are determined by the Chapter and by EWGA for the Semi-final and Final Championship levels.

Qualifying Location: Registrants must compete in the Chapter Championship where they pay Chapter dues. Members of more than one Chapter may compete in more than one event, but can only represent the first Chapter competition in which they finish first place in the scramble division or Low Gross or Low Net in stroke play. Winners must compete in the Semi-Final Championship designated for their Chapter.

Pace of Play: Players shall play without undue delay. It is a stated goal of the Association to complete all Championship rounds in 4.5 hours or less. Refer to "Pace of Play Policy" for more details.

Rules Meeting: A Rules Meeting for players will be held at each level of the competition. Knowledge of the rules and conditions of play are the responsibility of the player. Attendance to the rules meeting is strongly recommended for players.

Yardages: The following are yardage ranges for each team member based on her individual handicap factor.

+2.....	5400 – 5700 yds.; Slope 120-130
+1, 0, -1 & -2.....	4800 – 5300 yds.; Slope 115-125

The Committee in charge will ensure that two sets of tee markers are set and easily identifiable for each handicap division.

Personal Appearance: Proper golf attire is required **at all levels of the Championship**. Players must be neat in appearance with respect to personal grooming and clothing. Bermuda shorts or their equivalent and golf type shirts preferably with collars are required. Jeans are not permitted.

Personal Conduct: By submitting an entry for any EWGA competition, players understand that their participation is at the sole discretion of the EWGA. A contestant may be disqualified from the competition at the discretion of the Committee in charge at any time before or during the competition. Incidents of unbecoming conduct or actions deemed to be detrimental to the image of the EWGA are grounds for such disqualifications.

Individual Disqualification During a Championship Round Results in Team Disqualification: The disqualification of a team member during play will result in the disqualification of her affiliated team under the following circumstances: Rule 1-3 Agreement to waive the rules, Rule 3-4 Refusal to comply with rule, Rules 4-1 or 4-2 Clubs, Rules 5-1 or 5-2 Balls, Rule 6-2b Handicap, Rule 6-6b Signing and returning card, Rule 6-6d Wrong score for the hole, Rule 6-7 Undue Delay-repeated offense, Rule 7-1 Practice before and between rounds, Rule 33-7 Serious breach of etiquette or conduct unbecoming.

Markers: Markers will be provided at the EWGA Championship Finals. Though they are recommended, markers are not required for the Chapter/Semi-final Championship rounds.

Spectators: Spectators, including family and friends, may follow the players provided it is permitted by the golf facility. Spectators must remain on cart paths and/or at least 15 yards from players and are not permitted on fairways or putting greens. Spectators are cautioned not to talk to players as such conversation might be construed as giving advice. Spectators will not be allowed to use carts on the competition

course. *Spectators with special needs must contact the TOPS Committee for accommodations.*

Award & Prizes: Chapters are responsible for providing awards & prizes at the Chapter Championship. Chapters shall recognize and award prizes for 1st place gross and net in each flight and the 1st & 2nd low NET scramble teams. All other places may be awarded at the Chapter's discretion. Awards for the Semi-Finals and Championship Finals will be provided by EWGA Headquarters.

Acceptance of Places; Notice of Withdrawal: Upon completion of the Chapter Championship 1st and 2nd place winners (stroke and scramble) must notify the Director in charge of the respective event. Upon completion of the Semi-final Championship round, 1st and 2nd place teams must notify the Director in charge of the respective event. If the team is UNABLE to compete in the next level of competition, you must complete the Decline to Advance Form within three (3) days of the event. Once your intention is communicated, the opportunity to advance will be offered to the next eligible team. The order of advancement is based on the final results on the day of the Chapter/Semi-final competition.

Outside of the 3-day window, the team must promptly notify the EWGA in order to insure an alternate team fair opportunity to play. Failure to comply may result in disqualification from future EWGA Championships.

Substitutions: Substitutions will be considered for conditions that arise after registration into the Chapter Championship. No more than two substitutions of the original team will be allowed, as the team will no longer have the identity of the team that played at the Chapter level. If a team is unable to comply, the next place team from the previous level will advance in their place.

A **Substitution Request Form** must be submitted to the EWGA Championship office. The substitution player's handicap index dated at the time of form submission must be as such that the total team handicap factor is not outside of the +2/-5 range. Requests will be reviewed and decisions will be provided as soon as possible. The TOPS Committee reserves the right to disallow the substitution when it is apparent that the substitution is being made to improve the team's chances of winning or to replace a team member who is able to play in the next level of competition. Once a player has been substituted for, she cannot return to the team later in the series.

Within 5 days of a competition, if an emergency arises which prevents one competitor from playing and that team is unable to find an appropriate substitute, the team may compete with a 3-women team as long as they were already registered and eligible to play as a 4-women team. The Team Computation Factor will be recalculated using the indexes of the three players and the +2/-5 parameters will be disregarded. Four drives will be required from each of the three players. A request must be sent to the Championship office. The TOPS Committee reserves the right to disallow a 3-women team when appropriate.

Appeal Process: Appeals on any questions, actions taken, or decisions regarding the EWGA Championship shall be made in writing (electronic or paper) to the EWGA TOPS Committee. Decisions of the Committee are final. There is no further appeal process.

*EWGA Gender Policy applies.