

2017 EWGA Championship Participant Information - Stroke Play

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

1. *Chapter Championship – 18 holes of Stroke play to be completed at Chapter level between March and July*
2. *Semi-Final Championship–18 holes of stroke play. Check Semi-final Championship Schedule on EWGA.com 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 Chapter Championship, 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 Chapter Championship. 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 USGA Rules of Golf will govern play. It would be advisable to carry a copy of the current USGA Rules of Golf in your golf bag. The Committee in charge of the competition will settle all disputes. Please see the EWGA Hard Card for additional Conditions of Competition.

*EWGA Gender Policy applies.

Format: Stroke Play competition will be conducted on both a gross and net score basis. Net winners are determined by subtracting the course handicap from a player's gross score. A player cannot be both a Gross and Net winner in her flight. If a player qualifies for both Low Gross and Low Net, Low Gross prevails. For all other places in the flight, the higher standing prevails. For example, if a player is third low gross and second low net, the second low net prevails.

Flights: All competitors meeting eligibility requirements will be placed in one of the following flights based on their verifiable USGA Handicap Index at the time of handicap verification for the Chapter Championship.

The flights are as follows:

Championship Flight	0.0 - 12.0
First Flight	12.1 - 19.0
Second Flight	19.1 - 25.0
Third Flight	25.1 - 32.0
Fourth Flight	32.1 - 40.4

At any time during the Championship series, the Tournament Operations (TOPS) Committee reserves the right to adjust a player's Handicap Index if her performance is not reflective of her handicap, or based on knowledge of the player's failure to post all acceptable scores, or otherwise not observing the spirit of the USGA Handicap System.

Updated Handicap Indexes will be required at every level of competition. Advancing players will be placed in respective flights based on their handicap index prior to the next level of competition. The index must be up-to-date by the effective date published for each level of competition. Competitors at all levels of the Championship will be responsible for ensuring that their verified handicap index is accurate. Disputes to the verified index must be supported by printed verification based on the published handicap verification date. If a Competitor's Index increases above 40.4 subsequent to the Chapter Championship or Semi-Final level, they will be allowed to advance, but must play with a Course Handicap equal to that of a player with a 40.4 Handicap Index.

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 Championship Finals level.

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 win Low Gross or Low Net in their flight or first place in the scramble division. Winners at the Chapter level must compete in the Semi-Final Championship designated for their Chapter.

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. At the Championship Finals level, caddies are strongly recommended to attend the rules meeting

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.

Yardages: The following are yardage & slope ranges for each flight:

Championship	5400 – 5700 yds.; Slope 120-130
1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd & 4 th	4800 – 5300 yds.; Slope 115-125

The Committee in charge will ensure that two sets of tee markers will be set and easily identifiable for those competing in each flight.

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.

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 may be construed as giving advice.

Spectators will not be allowed to use carts on the competition course. *Spectators with special needs must contact 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 low scramble team. All other places may be awarded at the Chapter's discretion. Awards for the Semi-Finals and Championship Finals will be provided by Association Headquarters.

Acceptance of Places; Notice of Withdrawal: Upon completion of the Championship qualifying round or Semi-final Championship round, 1st place winners receive automatic advancement to the next level of play. If she is UNABLE to compete in the next level of competition, she must complete the **Decline to Advance Form** within three (3) days of her qualifying event. The Director in charge of the competition will offer an opportunity to advance to the next eligible competitor. The order of advancement is based on the final results of the day at the Chapter/Semi-final competition. Scoring is not recalculated if a gross or net winner cannot advance. If the low gross player in any flight withdraws, competitors will advance based on the next low gross score, regardless of how the awards were given. The same applies to low net players.

If a qualifier withdraws outside of the 3 day window, she must promptly notify the EWGA in order to insure an alternate fair opportunity to play. Failure to comply may result in disqualification from future EWGA Championships.

Posting of Competition Scores: To be eligible to compete, all players advancing at any level of the Championship MUST post tournament scores from the previous competition before the revision date for the next competition.

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.