NCGA Player Points Program Policies

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NCGA POINTS YEAR: The NCGA Points Year for 2026-2027 will run from October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027 All players begin each new points year with zero points. The tournament finish date determines which points year points will be awarded. Should an event change dates that would cause the event to be played twice in one points year then points will be awarded twice within that given points year. All event date changes must be approved by the NCGA. In exceptional circumstances, (e.g. NCGA / USGA Championships in late September / early October) the points season may be extended to include an event in early October. An event in late September may be excluded if it's being played twice in the same points season.

PLAYER ELIGIBILTY: In order to earn NCGA Player Points, contestants must be amateur golfers who are current members of the club they represent and whose club is a current member club, in good standing, of the NCGA. This includes being in compliance with the NCGA Handicap Certification Program. The USGA's definition of an amateur golfer is the standard of the NCGA. Players must have an active Handicap Index listed on their club's Master Roster prior to the start of the event. Anyone who has not established an active Handicap Index is ineligible for points. Players serving a suspension from NCGA competitions are not eligible to earn points. To be considered for NCGA Player of the Year, a player must play in at least one NCGA or California Amateur Championship. The final determination for NCGA Player of the Year will be decided by the NCGA.

AGE DIVISIONS: An NCGA "regular division" tournament is open to both regular and senior players; an NCGA "senior division" tournament is only open to senior and super senior players. The following is a breakdown of age qualifications per division:

Men's Senior: Players must have reached their 55th birthday on or before the start of the tournament. (Approved points events are allowed to accept players ages 50 to 54, however those players will not earn points on either the regular or senior points list).
Women's Senior: Players must have reached their 50th birthday on or before the start of the tournament.
Men's Super Senior: Players must have reached 65th birthday on or before the start of the tournament.

TOURNAMENT (EVENT) ELIGIBILTY: All tournaments must be approved for points by the NCGA Operations Committee. NCGA Player Points apply only to a tournament's championship (scratch) flight. Tournaments must be open to all NCGA members; however, tournaments may use the additional criteria of handicap index and age. Any other criteria that may possibly restrict the entry of any NCGA member must be pre-approved by the NCGA. All tournaments must be conducted on an NCGA member golf course (see note below). An NCGA member club/course or associate club must administer all tournaments (events approved prior to Points Year 2002 are exempt from this requirement). All tournaments must have a minimum of 10 players. All players must meet their respective maximum index requirement of 7.4 for regular, 9.4 for senior division, 11.4 for super senior division, 14.4 for women's division and 18.4 for senior women's division. Tournament formats must be scheduled for at least 36 holes for stroke play events or a round of 16 for match play events. If a tournament round gets canceled due to weather, etc., thus making it an 18-hole tournament, the tournament will still receive points as it was scheduled to be 36 holes. All tournaments must have local rules approved by the NCGA. A tournament that fails to meet any part of the eligibility criteria will have their points revoked for the current year and players placing in a points position in these events will not receive player points.

Note: USGA, CGA, and NCGA Championships approved for NCGA Player Points are exempt from this requirement. The NCGA reserves the right to exempt any other event from this requirement.

RULES OF PLAY: Approved NCGA Points Tournaments **MUST** conduct their events in accordance with the Rules of Golf. Points Tournaments **MUST** form a committee, with at least three members, that is responsible for making all final decisions for the championship. The Committee should provide tournament entry forms outlining all terms of competition including format, eligibility, scheduling, play-off procedure, etc., and provide contestants with competition-specific local rules on the first day of the tournament.

POINTS DISTRIBUTION: 2026-2027 Points for all events will be entered as soon as they are received. Qualifier points will no longer wait until the championship proper to be configured. All points will be assigned by the NCGA **ONLY** based on the official results provided by the tournament. Ties for first place should be broken by play-off or by using the USGA recommended procedure "How to Decide Ties" located in Section 5A(6) of the Committee Procedures in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf. If a tie exists other than for first place, events are NOT to break ties when reporting results. Events may break ties for their own purposes, i.e. for gift certificates. The NCGA will add and split all points for ties other than for first place. All split points will be rounded up.

Note: Where ties are decided by play-off, the play-off will determine who earns first and second place points.

Individual Tournaments: In individual tournaments, ineligible players placing in a points position will not earn points and the points will not be assigned to any player. Points for tournaments that are open to both amateurs and professionals will be awarded based on the order of amateur finish (US Open and Senior Open not included).

Exceptions: When Senior players (ages 55+) or Super Senior players (ages 65+) compete in events where there is no official Senior or Super Senior Division, by default, points earned go towards the applicable Player of the Year standings. However, any Senior or Super Senior player may opt to have those points applied to their age applicable Player of the Year standings (Senior or Super Senior). To do so, the player must send the request to the NCGA. For example, Player A, a 56-year-old Senior, competes in the U.S. Mid-Am and earns points. By default, those points would be allotted to the Player of the Year standings, however, Player A could opt to have the points applied to the Senior Player of Year standings by request. Points earned by male players age 50-54 for the US Senior Open only will be applied to the regular points list.

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Four-Ball Tournaments: The overall points for four-ball tournaments listed on the NCGA Player Points grid will be divided evenly between partners. In four-ball (best-ball/two-ball) tournaments, an eligible player placing in a points position with an ineligible partner (i.e. non-NCGA member or not age eligible for the division) will not earn points and the points will not be assigned to any player(s). In senior / super senior four-ball events both players must be super seniors to play in the super senior division. If one of the partners is a senior, then they must compete in the senior division. In the NCGA Four-Ball and NCGA Mid-Am Four Ball Senior players 55+ who play with a partner not 55+ can have their points applied to any eligible division. For example, Player A who is 57 competes in the NCGA Mid-Am Four-Ball with Player B who is 27 and they place in a points position. Player A may have their points applied to the Senior POY award.

USGA Exemptions: Players who receive exemptions for USGA Championships will receive exemption points based on the stage from which they are exempt. For example, a player who is exempted directly into the US Amateur Championship will only receive Final qualifying points. To receive exempt points, players should notify the NCGA of their exemption.

REPORTING RESULTS: The tournament is responsible for reporting **COMPLETE** official results to the NCGA **within five business days**. The tournament **MUST** also report a list of current handicap indexes for all players and submit a copy of the tournament's Local Rules. Completeness and timeliness of reporting are noted and taken into consideration during the tournament's annual evaluation by the NCGA. **Failure to submit ALL the aforementioned reports to the NCGA will result in the event not receiving points.**
Note: Match play events must also submit stroke-play qualifying results.

TOURNAMENT SCORE POSTING: The tournament is required to post all players' tournament scores. It is highly recommended that tournaments are set up in the BlueGolf or another tournament management software as scores can be posted directly to GHIN through this program.

CONTACT PERSON / TOURNAMENT INFORMATION: Each tournament is required to provide the NCGA with an official tournament contact person. The official tournament contact person is responsible for knowing, understanding, and complying with all NCGA Player Points Program policies. The official tournament contact person is responsible for updating pertinent tournament information such as changes to a tournament's name, date, format, site, contact name, contact address, contact phone/email, and reporting such changes to the NCGA. Any tournament information change without notifying the NCGA could result in a delay in assigning player points.

TOURNAMENT PROMOTION/PUBLICITY: Approved NCGA Points Tournaments will be listed on the NCGA website – www.ncga.org – and the NCGA Calendar of Events. The NCGA will not promote any points tournament other than using the aforementioned sources. The NCGA will not supply points tournaments with address or mailing labels for any NCGA member clubs or individuals. Approved NCGA Points Tournaments may not promote any tournament of any kind at any level of NCGA, USGA, or CGA Championships. If a tournament is promoted in any inappropriate manner, the action may jeopardize its points event status.

NEW TOURNAMENTS / POINTS TOURNAMENT APPLICATIONS: Tournaments that would like to be recognized as an NCGA Player Points Tournament must apply with the NCGA prior to the start of the applicable Points Year. For example, events applying for points for the 2026-2027 Points Year must apply prior to October 1, 2026. To apply, an event must provide the NCGA with the Name of the Event, the Dates, Course(s), age divisions competing, planned eligibility requirements and name of a contact person. The NCGA reviews all requests and will contact the applicant if clarification or additional information is needed. The NCGA reserves the right to adjust or revoke any tournament's points or status as an NCGA Player Points Tournament at any time.

POINTS TOURNAMENT EVALUATION: The Points Tournament Evaluation (PTE) is an evaluation conducted by a representative of the NCGA. The evaluation includes pre-tournament administration, course preparation and course set-up, local rules and application of the Rules of Golf, and on course administration. The NCGA will conduct a PTE of points tournaments as needed.

TOURNAMENT POINTS LEVELS: Tournaments are placed in points levels based on the field size of the tournament upon the first round. This is known as "live points." Size of field is determined by the total number of players that meet the maximum index criteria. A tournament's points may go up or down depending on actual participation of eligible players at that year's event. All new points tournaments are placed in the 50 points level.

The points levels are as follows:

Regular Division		Senior Division / Super Senior Division	
50 Points Level	10-19 Players	50 Points Level	10-14 Players
75 Points Level	20-39 Players	75 Points Level	15-19 Players
100 Points Level	40-69 Players	100 Points Level	20-29 Players
150 Points Level	70-119 Players	150 Points Level	30-39 Players
200 Points Level	120+ Players	200 Points Level	40-Plus Players

Women's Division / Senior Women's Division	
50 points level	8-12 Players
75 points level	13-16 Players
100 points level	17-20 Players
150 points level	21-24 Players
200 points level	25-Plus Players

Note: The NCGA reserves the right to exclude events from this requirement.