



The Committee – Rule 33





The Committee

Definition

The Committee is the committee in charge of the competition or, if the matter does not arise in a competition, the committee in charge of the course.





The Committee

The Committee can be as few as one person (not recommended) or as many as desired.

As a CGA Rules Official you are a member of that event's "Committee".

Committee members are listed on the rules sheet at each CGA event.



The Committee

Rule 33-1:

The Committee must establish the conditions under which a competition is to be played.

The Committee has no power to waive a Rule of Golf.



35th Mid-Amateur Championship of the Carolinas Golf Association

April 17-19, 2015

North Ridge Country Club (Lakes), Raleigh, NC

Entries Open: February 8 (8:00 pm)

Entries Close: March 17 (11:59 pm)



ELIGIBILITY

Entry is open to any male amateur golfer who has reached his 30th birthday by April 17, 2015, is a legal resident of North Carolina or South Carolina, is a member in good standing of a club which is a member of the Carolinas Golf Association (CGA) and has an active GHIN® USGA Handicap Index® at a CGA member club that does not exceed 5.4. Entries are subject to rejection at any time, including during the event, by the CGA or the host club. The reason for rejection may include unbecoming conduct or unauthorized cell phone use during a stipulated round. All players must conform to the "USGA Rules of Amateur Status" as specified in "The Rules of Golf". For complete residency and eligibility requirements, refer to the CGA Tournament Manual at the CGA website (www.carolinascga.org). Championship Field Size: 120 (approximately).

ENTRY FEES (All Course Fees Paid by the CGA to the Host Club)

Sectional Qualifying Entry Fee: \$115.00 (includes sectional qualifying cartilage fees)

Successful Qualifier Championship Entry Fee: \$75.00 (fee is charged automatically to the player's credit card used for sectional qualifying registration who successfully qualifies and includes all championship site cartilage fees)

Exempt Player Entry Fee: \$165.00 (includes all championship site cartilage fees)

ENTRIES AND ONLINE REGISTRATION
All players, including those exempt, must register online at www.carolinascga.org. ~~Handwritten notes: This is not accepted for this event. Fee, mail, e-mail, telephone, incomplete, illegible, or entries received before the opening date and after the closing date, are not accepted.~~

Exempt Players: Accepted into the championship proper at time of entry.

Non-exempt Players: Gain entry into the championship proper through sectional qualifying (see "Exemptions from Sectional Qualifying" and "Sectional Qualifying and Alternates" sections).

The CGA is not responsible for errors or delays by any internet service provider. Entries are only accepted between the open and close dates as stated above. Confirmation of acceptance is sent to players when their status is determined. Status may be checked at www.carolinascga.org. The appropriate entry fee must be paid at time of registration. Players who "Did Not Show" (DNS) or "No Card" (NC) are suspended from next year's Carolina's Mid-Amateur Championship.

REFUND POLICY

Entry fee refund policy schedule:
Open Date to Day Prior to Championship or Qualifying Date: Full refund minus \$30.00 administrative fee regardless of reason if entry accepted into championship or sectional qualifier.

Withdraw on Championship or Qualifying Date; No-Shows: No refund for any reason.

Alternates: Full refund if player does not gain entry into a qualifying site.

Note: Refund policy and schedule applies to each entry fee stage. Example: Player pays \$115.00 entry fee to qualify. Player is successful in qualifying (\$115.00 entry fee has been used) and is automatically charged the \$75.00 championship entry fee balance due to their credit card. Player withdraws from the championship proper on the day prior to the first round. Player receives a refund of \$45.00 (\$75.00 championship entry fee balance-\$30.00 admin fee).

RULES

USGA Rules of Golf govern play. Questions will be decided by the on-site Rules Committee whose decision will be final. Notice to Players and local rules are posted at host club and distributed at the starting tee(s). The CGA reserves the right to alter the conditions or schedules as stated, including alteration of the stipulated round(s) at any time during the championship including sectional qualifying. The competition is closed when the championship trophy has been presented. Special requests for starting times or pairings are not granted.

CARTIRANGE FEES, GOLF CARTS, CADDIES, SPECTATORS (NEW)

Sectional Qualifying: Qualifying round cartilage fees paid by the CGA and are included in the entry fee. Competitors have the option to either walk or use a golf cart during a qualifying round. Cart rental is mandatory for practice rounds.

Championship Site: Championship site cartilage fees paid by the CGA and are included in the entry fee. Competitors have the option to either walk or use a golf cart during championship rounds. Cart rental is mandatory for practice rounds.

Caddies: Caddies are allowed for sectional qualifying and championship rounds.

Caddies will not be available at host club.

Caddies/Spectator Cart Policy: During the play of a hole, either the player or his caddy may ride in a golf cart but not both at the same time. Spectators are not allowed to ride in a player's golf cart at any time. Club owned spectator carts are not allowed except as provided in the CGA Tournament Manual.

CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

The championship format is 54 holes of stroke play. After 36 holes, the field is cut to the low 60 scorers and fees. A tie for the overall championship is decided by an on-course playoff.

PRIZES

Merchandise prizes are awarded to the top 30 finishers at the championship proper and to the medalist at each qualifying site. Champion receives a trophy, merchandise from host club and possession of the Duff Moore Trophy for the ensuing year.

EXEMPTIONS FROM SECTIONAL QUALIFYING

Players in the following categories are exempt from sectional qualifying if otherwise eligible. A complete list of exempt players is available on page 2.

1. Champions of the Carolinas Amateur since 2005.
2. Champions of the Carolinas Mid-Amateur since 2005.
3. Champions of the North Carolina Amateur since 2010.
4. Champions of the CGA South Carolina Amateur Match Play since 2010.
5. Champions of the North Carolina Mid-Amateur since 2010.
6. Champions of the SCGA South Carolina Amateur since 2010.
7. Champions of the SCGA South Carolina Mid-Amateur since 2010.
8. Champions of the North Carolina Amateur Match Play since 2010.
9. 2014 Carolina Senior Amateur champion.
10. 2014 North Carolina Senior Amateur champion.
11. 2014 SCGA South Carolina Senior Amateur champion.
12. Players who finished 30th or better in the 2014 Carolina Mid-Amateur.
13. 2014 Carolina Men's Player of the Year.
14. 2014 Carolina Senior Men's Player of the Year.
15. Players ranked in the Top 25 of the CGA Carolina Men's Amateur Rankings as of opening date.
16. USGA individual champions since 2010.
17. 2014 USGA Championship qualifiers who advanced to match play at the amateur championships, finished top-100 at the U.S. Senior Open or advanced to the U.S. Open Championship proper.
18. Most recent Walker Cup Team members.
19. One exemption for championship host club.
20. 2014 Captain's Putter Carolinas Regular Team members.
21. Special exemption bestowed by the CGA.

SECTIONAL QUALIFYING AND ALTERNATES

Sectional qualifying is 18 holes of stroke play. The number of qualifiers' places at each site is determined by the CGA after entries close, based on the size of the field. All sites for the final qualifying position qualify for the championship. Assignment is based on the drawtime the CGA receives and processes each entry form. Qualifying site assignments cannot be changed after entries close.

If a qualifying site is full at the time of registration, a player may opt to be placed on that site's alternate wait list or register at another qualifying site. A player may only register for one qualifying site. Wait list alternates and on-site alternates are ranked according to drawtime an entry is received and processed.

Qualifying site player information is sent after entries are accepted.

Note: Qualifying sites may be cancelled due to a lack of participation.

SECTIONAL QUALIFYING SCHEDULE

March 24
Carolina Lakes Golf Club, Indian Land, SC (Charlotte area)
March 26
Heritage Golf Club, Wake Forest, NC
March 28
Country Club of Whispering Pines (Pines), Whispering Pines, NC
March 30
Forest Oaks Country Club, Greensboro, NC
April 2
The Windermere Club, Blytheville, SC

CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 16
Two times available for practice.
Friday, April 17
First round: 18 holes of stroke play.
Saturday, April 18
Second round: 18 holes of stroke play.
Field cut to low 60 scores and fees for final round.
Sunday, April 19
Final round: 18 holes of stroke play.

CONTACT INFORMATION

CGA: 910-673-1000 or e-mail: admin@carolinascga.org

Championship Site:
North Ridge Country Club: 919-846-9667

Qualifying Sites:
Carolina Lakes Golf Club: 803-547-9688
Country Club of Whispering Pines: 910-549-3000
Forest Oaks Country Club: 336-674-2241
Heritage Golf Club: 919-453-2020
The Windermere Club: 803-786-7388



The Committee

Definition of “*Rule Or Rules*”

The term “Rule” includes:

- a. The Rules of Golf and their interpretations as contained in “Decisions on the Rules of Golf”;
- b. Any Conditions of Competition established by the Committee under Rule 33-1 and Appendix I;
- c. Any Local Rules established by the Committee under Rule 33-8a and Appendix I; and
- d. The specifications on:
 - (i) clubs and the ball in Appendices II and III and their interpretations as contained in “A Guide to the Rules on Clubs and Balls”; and
 - (ii) devices and other equipment in Appendix IV.



The Committee

Rule 33-1:

In stroke play, the Committee may limit a referee's duties.

(i.e. declaring ground under repair)

*Note: Only CGA staff or authorized representative has the authority to make a final decision.



The Committee

- One of the most difficult duties of The Committee is to determine questions of fact
- We have to be the Detective, Judge and Jury in a short amount of time





The Committee

- Every situation is different
- Sometimes the timing of the ruling is critical (*Wrong Ball in stroke play*)
- Sometimes ruling can wait after the hole is played or after the round (*Rule 3-3*)
- Interview players, caddies, spectators, officials to gather all of the facts



The Committee

- Take into account any physical evidence
- Use the weight of evidence to determine the final ruling
- Then apply the necessary penalty under the Rules of Golf
- See Decision 34-3/9 (Resolution of Questions of Fact; Referee and Committee Responsibility)



The Committee

What if a Rules Official Gives a Wrong Ruling?

2 Types of Rules Officials:

1. Those who HAVE made mistakes
2. Those that WILL make mistakes



The Committee

How Do We Correct a Wrong Ruling?

- All depends upon the timing, form of play and rule involved
- Committee should correct the error as soon as possible
- Sometimes we can correct the error “immediately”

Example: Dec. 34-3/3.3



The Committee

Dec. 34-3/3.3: Competitor in Stroke Play Makes Stroke from Wrong Place Due to Incorrect Ruling; Procedure for Competitor When Error is Discovered

Q. In stroke play, a competitor obtains a ruling from a referee and proceeds on the basis of that ruling, which involves dropping a ball and playing from a wrong place. The Committee then learns of the incorrect ruling by the referee. Should the Committee require the competitor to disregard the stroke or strokes made after the incorrect ruling and proceed correctly?



The Committee

A. Unless a serious breach is involved or the competitor has been seriously disadvantaged due to his playing from a wrong place, the strokes made after the incorrect ruling must stand with no penalty.



The Committee

If a serious breach is involved or the competitor has been seriously disadvantaged due to his playing from a wrong place, and the competitor has not played from the next teeing ground or, in the case of the last hole of the round, has not left the putting green, in equity (Rule 1-4), the Committee must correct the error.



The Committee

The Committee must direct the competitor to cancel the stroke made from the wrong place and any subsequent strokes and proceed correctly.

The competitor incurs no penalty for playing from a wrong place. If it is too late to correct the error, the strokes made after the incorrect ruling must stand with no penalty.



The Committee

How Do We Correct a Wrong Ruling?

- Sometimes all we can do is inform the player of the mistake and apologize

Example: Dec. 34-3/1.3



The Committee

34-3/1.3: Competitor Incorrectly Advised to Cancel Stroke

Q. In stroke play, a competitor's second stroke on a hole strikes the equipment of a player in another group. The competitor consults a referee before making his next stroke, and the referee incorrectly advises him that he must cancel and replay the stroke without penalty, which he does. Having replayed the stroke, the competitor then takes two more strokes to hole out. The competitor plays from the next tee and, prior to returning his score card, the referee's error comes to light. What is the ruling?



The Committee

34-3/1.3: Competitor Incorrectly Advised to Cancel Stroke

A. The referee's decision to require the competitor to cancel and replay the stroke stands. In such circumstances, the competitor's score for the hole concerned would be 4.



The Committee

How Do We Correct a Wrong Ruling or Committee Error?

- Sometimes we must take action after the close of a competition

Example: Dec. 33-5/2



The Committee

33-5/2: Wrong Handicap Applied by Committee Results in Player Not Receiving Prize

Q. In a stroke-play competition, A returns a card showing the handicap to which he is entitled and the Committee applies the wrong handicap or miscalculates the correct net score. This results in another competitor receiving a prize to which A was entitled. The error is discovered after the competition has closed. What is the ruling?



The Committee

33-5/2: Wrong Handicap Applied by Committee Results in Player Not Receiving Prize

A. The Committee should correct its error by retrieving the prize and awarding it to A. There is no time limit for correcting such an error. Rule 34-1b is not applicable since it deals with penalties and not with Committee errors.



The Committee

How Do We Correct a Wrong Ruling?

- In all cases, The Committee must inform the player(s) of the mistake and provide the correct ruling for their future knowledge

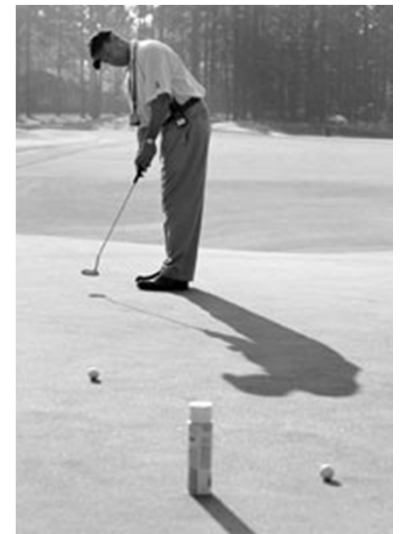


The Committee

Committee Responsibilities

Rule 33-2

- Defining the course (O.B.) and margins (hazards, GUR)
- *“The Best Rules Official is a Well-Marked Golf Course”*
- Setting hole locations
- Defining practice grounds
- Determining course playability





Rule 33-3

- ## Rule 33-4

- [illegible]



The Committee

Committee Responsibilities

Rule 33-5

- Provide each competitor with a score card containing date and competitor name(s).
- Addition of scores
- Application of handicaps
- Recording better ball score in four-ball, applying handicap strokes and adding the scores



The Committee

Committee Responsibilities

Rule 33-6

- Determines the manner in which ties will be decided
- Cannot use stroke play to decide a match and vice versa





The Committee

Committee Responsibilities

Rule 33-7

- Arguably the most powerful rule in the book
- A penalty of disqualification may in exceptional individual cases be waived, modified or imposed if the Committee considers such action is warranted.
- Any penalty less than disqualification must not be waived or modified.



The Committee

Committee Responsibilities

Rule 33-7

- If a Committee considers that a player is guilty of a serious breach of etiquette, it may impose a penalty of disqualification under this Rule.

Recommendation:

1st violation = Warning

2nd violation = DQ





The Committee

Committee Responsibilities

Rule 33-8

- Establishing Local Rules (Drop Zones, TIO's, etc.)
- A Rule of Golf must not be waived by a Local Rule
- Any Local Rule that modifies the Rules of Golf must be approved by the USGA



The Committee

Long Cove Local Rule Modification *2007 Carolinas Amateur Championship*

- Bunkers composed of oyster shells
- Hitting an oyster shell was dangerous
- Local Rule is for “Stones in Bunkers”
- CGA called USGA and asked for expansion of Local Rule to include oyster shells
- Request was granted and Local Rule was modified for this championship.