

**The LPGA Amateur Golf Association Championship** is an amateur competition conducted under the direction of the LPGA Amateur Golf Association Headquarters. The competition is in three stages:

1. **Local Championship Qualifier (LCQ)** – 18 holes of scramble competition to be completed at the Local level between March and July (please refer to the dates on the Championship calendar).
2. **Sectional Championship Qualifier (SCQ)** – 18 holes of scramble competition. Check the Sectional Championship Qualifier Schedule online at [Lpqaamateurschampionship.com](http://Lpqaamateurschampionship.com) for specific dates and locations.
3. **Championship Finals** – 36 holes of scramble competition.

**Eligibility:** Entries are open to all LPGA Amateur Golf Association Chapter members in good standing who are female amateur golfers\* and have a verifiable USGA Handicap Index. Players with a **Local Index exceeding 40.4** are permitted to play; however, their Course Handicap will be calculated 40.4 Index. \*LPGA Amateur Golf Association Gender Policy applies.

**LPGA Amateur Golf Association Member-in-Good-Standing:** Prior to registration into a Local Championship Qualifier, registrants must have a current membership for that chapter.

**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 LCQ. Players with less than the required minimum scores posted in the current year **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.

**The USGA Handicap System Section 6-5, Player Belonging to More Than One Golf Club** – If a player has a different Handicap Index at different clubs, despite posting all scores at all clubs, the Committee in charge of the competition may require the player to use the lowest Handicap Index..

**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 the USGA Rules of Golf for the definition of an amateur golfer.

**Rules of Golf:** The USGA Rules of Golf and the LPGA Amateurs Rules of Play, 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. 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.

**Format and Team Composition:** Scramble Teams consists of four (4) members who meet the eligibility requirements. The team course handicap will be determined after the handicap revision date for the event.

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. Each team member must hit and use a minimum of four (4) tee shots per 18-hole round. *\*Three (3) player teams will hit a minimum of five (5) drives per player.*

The scorecard shall be marked for each hole with the initials of the player whose tee host was chosen. Each team member may place a ball within one club length of the selected shot, no nearer the hole, in the same condition. If the selected shot is played from a hazard, bunker, rough or fringe of the putting 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 putting green. When playing on the putting green, a ball must be placed within one putter club-head length (approximately 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.

**Caddies will NOT be permitted at any level of Scramble competition.**

**Team Course Handicap (Ambrose):** The team course handicap will be determined by using the Ambrose method. The Ambrose method is 50% of the average of the 4 competitors' course handicaps rounded to the nearest whole number.

The Committee, working with the Local Handicap Chair, has the discretion to adjust a player's Course Handicap based on knowledge of the player's failure to post all acceptable scores, or otherwise not adhering to the policies of the USGA Handicap System.

**Scoring:** This is a **NET** only competition. The Team Handicap will be subtracted from the team's gross score. The two teams with the lowest Net scores will advance to the Sectional Championship Qualifier.

**Entries: Registration, Fee and Closing Date:** All players must enter the Championship by completing the official online registration for the event. Entry fees are refundable up to the close of registration. Entries are only refundable with the approval from the Director of Golf. After the close of registration, entry fees are non-refundable at any level (LCQ, SCQ, Finals). No late signups will be allowed after the close of registration at any level of competition. If a team member fails to register by the deadline, you will not be able to substitute for that player, but you are allowed to play as a three (3) woman team.

**Qualifying Location:** Once a team has qualified to advance at a LCQ, they must advance from that LCQ. To qualify to advance from another LCQ, the captain of the team must first decline to advance from the previous LCQ prior to playing in the subsequent LCQ.

**Player Meeting:** A meeting for players will be held at each level of competition. Knowledge of the Rules of Golf and LPGA Amateurs Rules of Play are the responsibility of the player. Attendance at the meeting is strongly recommended as additional Local Rules in play for the event will be covered.

**Yardages:** Each team member will play the tees designated for her Handicap Index. The following are yardage and Slope guidelines:

**Handicap Indexes 10.0 or lower:** 5300-5700 yards; Slope 120-130

**Handicap Indexes 10.1 to 24.0:** 4900-5300 yards; Slope 115-125

**Handicap Indexes 24.1 to 40.4:** 4500-4900 yards; Slope 110-120

At the Local level, creating three sets of tees may be difficult. A Local Championship Qualifier may revert to two sets of tees. When this is the case, yardage for players with Indexes 10.0 or lower remains the same. Those with Indexes between 10.1 and 40.4 would play from 4800-5300 yards. There will be 3 sets of tees at the Sectional Championship Qualifiers and Championship Finals.

**Individual Disqualification During a Championship round Results in Team Disqualification:** Breach of the following Rules of Golf by any team member will result in the disqualification of the entire team:

- Rule 1-3b. Deliberately Failing to Apply a Penalty; Agreement to Waive the Rules;
- Rule 3-3b(2). Signing and Returning Card;
- Rule 3-3b(3). Wrong Score for Hole;
- Rule 3-3b(4). Handicap;
- Rules 4-1. Clubs;
- Rules 4-2. Balls;
- Rule 5-2. Practice Before and Between Rounds;
- Rule 5-6. Undue Delay-repeated offense;
- Serious Breach of LPGA Amateurs Code of Conduct

**Spectators:** Spectators, including family and friends, may follow the players provided it is permitted by the golf club. They must remain on the cart paths and/or at least 15 yards from players and are not permitted on the tee boxes, 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. Those with special needs must contact Headquarters for accommodations.

**Awards and Prizes:** Chapters shall recognize and award prizes for 1<sup>st</sup> Place Low Gross and Low Net in each flight and the two (2) Low Net Scramble Teams. All other places maybe awarded at the Chapter's discretion. Awards for the Sectional Qualifiers and Championship Finals will be provided by headquarters.

**Exemption to Championship Finals:** The 1<sup>st</sup> Place Scramble team at the Championship Finals flight receives an exemption to the Championship Finals in the following year.

**Acceptance of Places, Notice of Withdrawal:** Upon completion of the Local Championship qualifying round or Sectional Championship round, 1<sup>st</sup> place winners receive automatic advancement to the next level of play. If the team is UNABLE to compete in the next level of competition, the team captain must complete the **Decline to Advance Form** within three (3) days of their qualifying event.

Headquarters will offer an opportunity to advance to the next eligible scramble team. The order of advancement is based on the results of the day at the Local/Sectional competition. Scoring is not recalculated if the net team winner cannot advance.

If an advancing team withdraws outside of the 3-day window, the team captain must promptly notify Headquarters to ensure the next qualified team an opportunity to play. Failure to comply may result in disqualification from future LPGA Amateur Golf Association competitions.

**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 of competition will be offered the advancement opportunity in their place.

**NOTE:** If a team member fails to register by the deadline, you will not be able to substitute for that player. You are allowed to play as a three (3) woman team.

A **Substitution Request Form** must be submitted to Headquarters. At any time, Headquarters reserves the right to disallow a substitution. Within five (5) days of a competition, if an emergency arises which prevents one competitor from playing and the team is unable to find a substitution, the team may compete as a three (3) woman team. The Team Course Handicap will be recalculated using 50% of the average course handicap of the three (3) remaining players. Five (5) drives will be required from each of the three (3) players. Players **will not rotate hitting an extra stroke** on each hole.

**Ties:** A scorecard playoff is to break ties. The winning team is determined on the basis of the last nine holes played (shotgun start: holes #10-18). If tying teams have the same score for the last nine, the winner is determined on the basis of the last six holes, last three holes, and finally the last hole played using one-half, one-third, one-sixth, etc., of the team's Course Handicap. Fractions of one half stroke or more count as a full stroke; any lesser fractions should be disregarded (USGA Handicap System 9-5, iii). If this procedure does not produce a winner, the same process is followed using the first nine holes.

**Appeal Process:** Appeals on any questions, actions taken, or decisions regarding the LPGA Amateur Golf Association Championship shall be made in writing (electronic or paper). Decisions of the Committee are FINAL. There is no further appeal process.