



**PGA**

Western New York Section

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Format of Doubles Golf®?**

- Doubles Golf® is the new trademarked rebranding of the 2-player scramble format. 9 Hole Rounds create speedy play, and the opportunity for evening events (Tournaments & Leagues), at PGA and LPGA Member Facilities.

### **Can PGA Professionals play?**

- No, not at this time. In the future, we will create opportunities for PGA Professionals to participate.
- The United States Doubles Golf® Amateur Championships are open for amateur teams only. Should a licensed Section choose to create a Doubles Golf® program for its PGA Members it should feel free to do so.

### **Will all events be 9 holes?**

- Section Championships and the United States Doubles Golf® Amateur Championships will be based on 9-Hole Rounds. (Tournaments may be multiple 9-hole rounds, as an 18-hole round is considered two Doubles Golf® rounds).

### **What if a golfer is a qualifier in multiple divisions?**

- A golfer may win his/her Doubles Golf® Club Championship on teams in more than one division (Men's, Women's, Senior, Mixed-Doubles). Depending on the scheduling of the Section's Doubles Golf® Championships, said player may have to choose only one division to compete in if a timing conflict occurs.



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## **How does the Section determine how many Teams to accept for the Section Championship?**

- Sections have the choice to accept as many qualifying teams as possible...or the number of participating facilities may decrease) In this format, it is possible to fit up to 24 foursomes in an 18-hole shotgun. That would allow for 48 qualifiers. Each Section can stage their Championships as they choose. Some may want to charge entry fees; some may opt not to.

## **Do teams play whenever they can and then clubs take the top so many teams and invite them to a club championship? Does play have to be during a league?**

- Teams may post a 9 Hole Score for the rating and ranking system whenever they play the Doubles Golf® format. To determine your Club Championship field, it is recommended that entries are based on a first-come, first-served basis, until your field is full.

## **Definitions of Divisions**

- Men's - any two men 25 years of age or older.
- Women's - any two women 25 years of age or older.
- Mixed - one man and one woman 25 years of age or older.
- Senior - any two players 60 years of age or older.



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**Can clubs create an adult/junior division? If they do create different divisions can the sections recognize them as divisions to advance to the section championship?**

- Not for the Inaugural 2020 Year. We will look to add this type of division in the future.
- Nothing stops individual facilities from conducting a Parent-Jr (13 yrs. and under) and/or a Parent-Mid Jr. (14-17) Club Championship. No advancement, however, in 2020.

**Does the senior division include both genders? Can two women compete against two men?**

- Yes. Any two players 60 years of age or older.

**Is there a rules book of double golf?**

- We will have one coming out shortly. The United States Doubles Golf® Committee (national governing body) will release a Conditions of Play.

**Where is the US Doubles Golf® Am Championships located for 2020?**

- To be announced very soon - Southeastern site.



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### **Does payment to the sections work just like PGA Jr. League?**

- Doubles Golf® Payments will be made to PGA/LPGA Members and Sections every quarter directly from the DoublesGolf.com registration site.

### **Do facilities have to enroll to be a part of Doubles Golf?**

- Yes. A PGA Member must register his/her facility as an official Doubles Golf® host facility. This registration gives the PGA Member exclusive rights to conduct Doubles Golf® events at the facility.

### **How can we incorporate this format into Junior Golf Tours? This seems like a perfect format to get girls involved.**

- We will work with SOCDOG to develop this for future years.

### **How do you regulate what tee's people play from? Does that get included in the formula for rankings?**

- Recommended yardages for A, B, and C Division Doubles Golf teams will be included in the release of Doubles Golf rules. A team's posted scores will also have the tees used included in the score-posting. The formula used in the 2PG scoring, rating/ranking system factors the scores and the tees used in the rating of the team.



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### **When will the 2PG App/software be available?**

- 2PG (2-player-golf) App will go live in February. Registration for Doubles Golf® teams will also go live at that time, and teams will be able to post their 9-hole rounds and receive their team ratings after three rounds are posted.

### **Cost per Team to register for Doubles Golf® R&R? Multiple team cost per person? Section's cut? Professional's cut? Facility's cut?**

- \$30.00/Team for the 1st Team a player is registered on.
  - Section receives \$10 per Team for 1st Year
  - Section receives \$5 per Team for renewals
- \$25.00/Team for 2nd Team a player is registered on.
  - Section receives \$5.00 per Team
- \$20.00 per Team for each subsequent Team said player registers on.
  - Section receives \$5.00 per Team
- Professionals and Facilities to do not share in the Doubles Golf® annual team registration fee. Host Professionals, however, receive a minimum of 80% of all Doubles Golf® program fees generated at their facilities.

### **In 2021, Doubles Golf® Leagues will be introduced.**

- Cost will be a minimum of \$50.00 per Team to participate in Section Leagues (fees to be determined by each licensed Section).
  - Professionals will receive a minimum of \$40.00 per Team.
  - Sections will receive \$10.00 per Team.



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### **Do the Sections get access to all player information?**

- Yes - all Section data collected on the 2PG system will be shared with the corresponding Section.

### **Does the 2PG scoring app recognize 18 holes as two 9-hole rounds?**

- Doubles Golf® teams, playing 18 holes, will be prompted to post two rounds...front, and back.

### **Is there a specific formula that we can share to explain how teams are ranked?**

- Doubles Golf® team rankings are different from their ratings. The team rating, constant for each 3-month Doubles Golf® season (winter, spring, summer, fall), determines the division (A, B, C) and flight within each division (1,2,3) that the team is rated to compete in. Should a team compete against another team outside of its rated division/flight, there will be a stroke allocation to create parity. (Stoke Allocation table included in Doubles Golf® rules to be released).
- The team rating indicates a “3-stroke range” that the team most often plays within. Should the team’s range of scores change, an adjustment in the team’s rating will occur at the beginning of the next quarterly Doubles Golf® season. A team’s ranking, always current, and available on the 2PG App, allows a team to see how it ranks against the other Doubles Golf® teams in its grouping (Men, Women, Senior, Mixed-Doubles) at the team’s facility, in the Section, and nationally. This ranking may change with each 9-hole round posted.



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**2PG.com is also a website for little kid's games.**

- DoublesGolf.com is the site, “powered by 2PG technology”.

### **What are the administrative functions of the 2PG app?**

- The App allows for the registering of a team, the posting of that team's 9-hole Doubles Golf® rounds, and the factoring of those rounds to create a Rating, and a Ranking for the team.

### **Does the software give the Professional the capability to create leagues?**

- While the host Professional will have administrative access to all of his facility's Doubles Golf® team postings, and the ratings of teams to use in League play...the development of Doubles Golf® Leagues will be a Section endeavor, and the USDGC will assist Sections in the development of their league management tools.

### **Does 2PG give the clubs/sections the availability to customize their page?**

- We intend to develop “Clubhouse” pages for each host Professional, who will serve as “Commissioner” of any Doubles Golf® leagues developed at his/her facility. Jack desires to see PGA Professionals having “ownership” of Doubles Golf at their facilities.



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### **What stops the average Joe from downloading the app and playing?**

- Nothing...and we should all encourage golfers to give the Doubles Golf® format a try. However, only PGA Member facilities have the right to conduct Doubles Golf® programs (tournaments and leagues) ...which encourages the golfer who falls in love with Doubles Golf® to join a facility with a PGA Professional.

### **Does the PGA Professional give access to people?**

- At municipal, public, and daily fee facilities with Doubles Golf® rights, golfers will be able to access Doubles Golf® programs.

### **How are you going to regulate golf courses with only PGA Professionals to DG events?**

- Doubles Golf® is a registered trademark, and we will enforce the trademark rights, and the provisional patent we have on the system. Any Section with a “territorial complaint” should report it to Doubles Golf® HQ...and we will issue a “cease and desist” to the offending party.

### **What if people that do belong to a club with no PGA Professional? SOL?**

- As with PGA Jr. League, nothing stops a PGA Professional from serving as the “rights holder” at any facility that desires Doubles Golf® programming. Said Professional gets his/her share of program revenue!





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### **Can guests of 2PG members play?**

- 2PG is the “engine” that allows membership to Doubles Golf®. We are looking into a method by which a Doubles Golf® “event membership” can be attained for facility events like a Doubles Golf member-guest.

### **If someone registers on the app how does the section know it’s a part of their section?**

- If someone uses an Arizona address but has a home address in Nebraska how do we know? Part of the registration process includes the team declaring a “home course”. That data is used in applying membership to Sections.

### **How many rounds does it take to get an official ranking?**

- Three 9-hole rounds get a team its “conditional rating”, which can be used for Doubles Golf® competition. Five rounds achieve the official rating.

### **Are these events handicapped off the 2PG rating system?**

- While Doubles Golf® stays away from using handicaps...there will be a “stroke allocation” table, used for creating parity for inter-flight, and inter-division competition.



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### **Can you post scores outside of DG events?**

- All 9-hole rounds played by a team in the Doubles Golf® format should be posted to the mobile App. This includes competitive, and recreational rounds. Doubles Golf® encourages the posting of rounds played in match-play events as well. Should a team pick up on a hole in match play...they will post one shot higher than their opponent posts on the hole.

### **When is the announcement schedule?**

- We are currently in the process of scheduling this.

### **Conditions of Competitions - who will develop it?**

- SOCDOG will develop the Conditions of Competitions, to be approved by the USDGC.

### **When should Club Championships and Section Championships be determined?**

- Club Champions should be determined by August 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Section Championships should be determined by September 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **When is the 2PG website and app going to be ready?**

- Feb 15th.



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### **When can we expect to see a Section agreement?**

- License agreement template is completed and will be customized for each Section. EDs should contact Bob Longmire, at their convenience. Agreement discussion should take no more than 30 minutes for any Section.

### **How soon can we officially start promoting DG?**

- Now, internally....and by Feb 15, Doubles Golf HQ will assist.

### **Will there be additional marketing materials available?**

- We will continually be creating Doubles Golf digital promotional materials for our member Sections, and have been promised all channels of PGA HQ communication to support the effort. All marketing material will be located in a Google Shared folder. We encourage all section staff to include any custom material created for their section to help best practices across the country.

### **What national promotion will be done by DG?**

- We will announce the formation of the USDGC and its members. The USDGC will announce the inaugural USDG Am Championships...including the Sections conducting Qualifiers. Other national promotions, other than through viral media, complicates a “restricted rollout” like ours.

### **What is the entry fee for a team in the National Championship in 2020?**

- No more than \$200...and, depending on sponsorship, possibly less.



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**In 2021, does a team pay \$50 per league they enter at their facility or just one \$50 fee to play in all leagues they want at their facility?**

- Per league. This is the revenue generator for Professionals as there are four groupings of leagues (Men, Women, Senior, Mixed-Doubles), and three divisions in each grouping...just like tennis. This gives the Professional the potential (with 6 teams in each division) of as many as 72 teams playing in 5-week Doubles Golf leagues. Plenty of income going directly from Doubles Golf HQ to the Professional.