

# BAGG NEWSLETTER

## Mar/Apr Edition

### Rules Refresher

#### 1- Tee off on time

According to USGA Rule 6-3 (a) and related decisions, all competitors must be at the tee box at the appointed time. This means if the starting time was established at 12:10 for a foursome, then all four competitors must be at 1st tee at or before 12:10. Tee'ing off earlier without consent from the committee is also not allowed

#### 2- Playing incorrect ball

If you play an incorrect ball and correct your mistake, there is a 2 stroke penalty. In case you do not correct your mistake you are disqualified but under local BAGG rules, that equates to a 2 stroke penalty.

#### 3- Swing and miss

If a player starts his downswing and his club head is deflected or stopped by an agency other than himself ,e.g., the branch of a tree, he is deemed to have made a stroke.

#### 4- Free Relief

Any balls coming to rest in what is deemed to be an abnormal ground condition can get free relief. Burrowing by animals are consider abnormal conditions under this rule and are granted free relief.



Newsletter for March and April has been combined since our Editor-in-Chief had been tied up with various new projects.

## “The Masters”

BAGG's first Major of 2017 was played in March at home of NCGA, Poppy Hills. Congratulations to *Ahmer Khan* for winning back-to-back Masters tournaments in 2016 and 2017. Ahmer came back from a 4 shot deficit to win with a gross birdie / net eagle on the 18th. Faisal Jeddy was leading the pack with a comprehensive lead until the 13th hole, but a series of double and triple bogies in the last few holes cut the lead considerably. On the other hand, Ahmer had a strong back-9 including a birdie on 18th, after a hooked tee-off and a 230 yard approach to the green leaving him with a 5-foot birdie putt, that helped him clinch victory.

### *Some highlights from the tournament:*

**Split Tees:** We've heard very positive feedback on the using Split Tees for tournaments on difficult courses. Allowing players to select their tees allows golfers of all skill levels to enjoy.

### 5- Do not touch

A player is not to touch or move any loose impediments lying in or touching a hazard. Breach of this rule results in a penalty of 2 strokes.

### 6- Finish it

If a competitor fails to hole out at any hole and does not correct his mistake before he makes a stroke on the next teeing ground or, in the case of the last hole of the round, before he leaves the putting green, he is disqualified. All USGA rules that result in disqualification of a player from a tournament will automatically convert to a 2-stroke penalty on the player in BAGG.

### 7- Hitting your equipment

If the player had deflected his or her ball by way of striking another player's equipment this would "NOT" result in a penalty. It is only when you deflect the ball by way of your own equipment that results in a penalty of a stroke.

Under the Definition of "Equipment," equipment includes a golf cart, whether or not motorized. If two or more players share a golf cart, the cart and everything in it are deemed to be the equipment of one of the players sharing the cart. If the cart is being moved by one of the players (or the partner of one of the players) sharing it, the cart and everything in it are deemed to be that player's equipment. Otherwise, the cart and everything in it are deemed to be the equipment of the player sharing the cart whose ball (or whose partner's ball) is involved.



## “BAGG Match Play”

What BAGG year is complete without a major controversy? This year the controversy around the rules infraction that led to Firzok qualifying to the Final round may well win the controversy-of-the-year award. A note of caution, don't get your hopes too high - there's more than half a year still to go - plenty of time for another controversy to dethrone this one from being controversy-of-the-year! Stay tuned ;-)

Whatever the circumstances that led to Firzok being in the final; once there, he did not look back. He put on a show in the final that left Nasir and Ghazzali scratching their heads in attempts to try and compete and not let him run away with the win. This was not to be the case with 3 gross birdies in the first 8 holes, the match was concluded on the 13th hole with Firzok pocketing his second win of the year and his first major win after joining BAGG. We congratulate *Hassan Firzok* on joining a very distinguished field of major winners in BAGG!

## BAGG Handbook

Thanks to the collaborative effort between Rules Committee and BC, the final version of BAGG Handbook for the year 2017 was published in March. This helps in creating short 1-pagers for tournament that only refer to the handbook and not create a new rules document for every tournament.

## BAGG vs EBG

After some initial hiccups in negotiations with EBG that threatened cancellation of this tournament, BC'17 was able to get this tournament back on track working with EBG Executive Committee. The tournament is now confirmed to be held on May 13th, at Santa Teresa Golf Course, which serves as a pseudo-home course for most BAGGsters! The format provided by EBG is 2-point based hi-lo. Both sides have 22 players confirmed.

BAGG side will be Captained by Ghazzali Majeed with Faisal Hussain as his Vice Captain. Go BAGG!



## “BAGG Stroke Play & NCGA Qualifier”

Another tournament that ended in a nail biting finish, where Mir came out victorious on the 18th hole against a very formidable gross score of 73(-6) by Firzok. Going into the 17th hole Mir was tied with Firzok at -6. However, nerves-of-steel-Mir with his patented banana drives showed complete control over his game and played the last two holes strategically, avoiding hazards and mis-hits to win the tournament with a score of -8! Congratulations Mir Baqar for a very well deserved win!

This tournament doubled up as BAGG's NCGA qualifier to select a 4-person team to represent BAGG in NCGA Associate Club Championship tournament. Since this NCGA tournament imposes a handicap limit of 18.4, in addition to regular tournament results based on individual handicaps, a second set of results were published with maximum handicap of 18.4. Firzok, Ahmer, Mir and Mumtaz earned the top 4 positions with capped handicaps to represent BAGG.