



Members Handbook 2019

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Article I 2019 Membership

Section 1. Governance Team

- BAGG Committee (BC): Ghazzali Majeed, Raheel Merchant, Zaki Hassan
- Handicap Committee (HC): Bilal Rizvi, Mumtaz Husain
- Rules Committee (RC): Abdul Waheed, Ayaz Khan, Usman Qureshi
- Social Committee (SC): Faisal Jeddy, Ghufuran Ahmed, Taqi Hasan
- Tournament Committee (TC): Ahmed Shah, Hassan Firzok, Mir Baqar
- IT Advisor: Hassan Firzok

Section 2. General Members

- List of BAGG members can also be viewed on BAGG's website (www.bagg.rocks).

Aamir Akram	Baqi Khan	Mir Baqar
Abbas Rizvi	Bilal Rizvi	Mumtaz Husain
Abid Ali	Hasan Siraj	Nasir Cochinwala
Abdul Waheed	Hassan Firzok	Omair Ashfaq
Ahmed Shah	Faisal Jeddy	Raheel Merchant
Ahmer Khan	Faisal Husain	Salman Rashid
Ali Saeed	Faraz Hoodbhoy	Taqi Hasan
Arif Wahidi	Ghazzali Majeed	Usman Qureshi
Asad Akram	Ghufuran Ahmed	Yasser Khan
Asad Cochinwala	Jawad Tareen	Zaki Hassan
Atif Kazmi	Kamran Khan	Zubair Abu-Bakr
Ayaz Khan	Khurram Ismail	Mumtaz Husain

Article II Tournaments

During the course of the year BAGG Committee (BC) will organize tournaments to keep the group social while providing opportunities for members to be competitive. Key objective is to have maximum participation from the membership, so there will be always be interesting concepts and ideas to explore.

Section 1. Calendar

- A Tournament calendar will be created at the beginning of the year. Latest calendar can be viewed on BAGG's website (www.bagg.rocks).
- Tournaments to be held at the pre-announced venue.
- BC will have the discretion to reschedule or postpone tournaments in case of any unavoidable circumstances.

Section 2. Signing up

- Tournament details will be published on the website well in advance of the tournament.
- All sign ups will be done via BAGG's website prior to the deadline date. Reminder: Sign up early so that BC can work with the golf course for adequate number of tee-times.
- Player tee time information will be sent 48 hours prior to the tournament day.
- Any changes to tee-times will be to be done by the express permission of, at least, one BC member and notified no later than the tee-off of the players impacted by the change.
- BAGG tournaments are only for BAGG members. No guests are allowed in BAGG tournaments. Guest and new applicants are welcome to play in BAGG official rounds.

Section 3. Handicaps

- Handicaps for tournament will be based on the latest published NCGA handicap report.

Section 4. Scorecards

- BC will provide each player their scorecard prior to the start of the tournament. For team tournaments, each team will be provided their scorecards.
- BC will provide details on official score trackers and methodology to track scores prior to the start of the tournament.
- Each player in the foursome is encouraged to explicitly confirm the score after every hole to avoid errors or confusion.
- At the end of the round, all scorecards shall be signed and handed it over to BC. Players must confirm their scores are correctly noted before signing the scorecards.

Section 5. Rules clarifications and Dispute Resolution

- All players are encouraged to read the tournament guidelines and the rules prior to the start of the tournament.
- For tournament, any rules clarification, unresolved infractions, questions or complaints must be submitted to BC via email before midnight the day of the tournament. All matters will be publicly disclosed by BC via email to the group.
- BC will review all the issues and for those that merit a resolution, the matter will be submitted to BAGG Rules Committee (RC) for a decision. The issue will then be taken up by the RC for resolution. Outcome of the decision may result in changing the final scores/results.

Section 6. Tie Breakers

- All BAGG tournaments will follow the matching scorecard method prescribed under USGA rules Appendix I, Part B, Section 10 (c).
- For stroke play tournaments, this method of matching cards determines the winner on the basis of the best score for the last nine holes. If the tying players have the same score for the last nine then last six holes, last three holes and finally the 18th hole are considered. In case there's still a tie, both players will share the #1 position for that tournament.
- For match play tournaments, winner will be determined based on number of holes won (in case of 1-on-1 match play) or points earned (in case of Irish match play) in the last 9 holes, last 6 holes, last 3 holes, last hole and finally coin toss.

Section 7. Competing from Different Tees

- Some tournaments will have the option for players to select the tee to play from.
- In a situation like this, USGA method will be used to compute the correct handicaps based on players competing from different tees.

Article III Game Formats

BAGG Tournaments are based on various formats which are designed to keep the games interesting and exciting.

Section 1. Basic Formats

- **Stroke play:** In stroke play, every player (or team) completes all 18 holes and counts the total number of strokes and the player/team with the lower total net score (gross score minus handicap) wins.
- **Match play:** In match play, two players (or two teams) play every hole as a separate contest against each other. The player/team with the lower score wins that hole, regardless of how many shots the hole was won by. If the scores of both players or teams are equal the hole is “halved” (drawn). The game is won by the player/team that wins more holes than the other.

Section 2. Other Competitions

- **Scramble Format:** Scramble is a common format played in team tournaments in BAGG. It is generally played in a two person team. For each twosome, both players tee off on each hole. Each two some will decide which of the two shots to play. Following shall take place before playing the next shot: The ball should be marked. In case the original ball is played first and there is no marker for the second player to play his shot, the second person loses the ability to play that shot. Original ball can be lifted and cleaned before playing the next shot. They must do so without changing the lie and ball cannot be placed closer to the hole. At the option of the player, a ball can be dropped or placed, but it cannot be played from a place which is more than a club length away from the mark of the original ball. A lie cannot be changed by using the club length relief. If the original ball is in the rough, the next shot must be played from the rough, even if the fairway is within a club length. Same rule applies for hazards, etc. Players continue the same process for subsequent shots until reaching the Putting Green.

Where the tournament course has drop zones on some of the holes, if a twosome intends to utilize the drop zone, they will need to add a penalty stroke to their score and both players to play from the drop zone. The ball must be dropped in the drop zone. This rule does not apply to a lost ball. If there’s standing water or soggy area on course, a twosome can take a relief per USGA as nearest point of relief. Make sure the other twosome agrees with the drop and relief. Both twosomes will record the gross and net scores on the scorecard.

Putting Green ONLY: Mark the spot of the original ball. Original ball may be lifted and cleaned. A player should place his ball within 3 inches or less of the mark no closer to the pin. Players in a twosome can play in any sequence. Once the first putt is made, unless the ball is holed out, the player should mark the ball, lift it and let the other

player putt. If a player putts out (i.e. puts his ball in the hole) the hole is considered over. For that twosome, and then his partner's putt will not be counted.

The tournament organizers will provide official scorecards, with strokes assigned to each twosome on specified holes. In match play, the twosome with the lowest net score wins the hole. The hole is considered tied (or halved) if the net scores are equal. A match will be finished when a team has won enough holes that the other team cannot catch up for a tie or a win.

Handicaps in Scramble Tournaments: For a 2-person scramble: Take 35% of the lower handicap players course handicap and add it to 15% of the higher handicap players course handicap.

- **Alternate Shot or Foursome:** Alternate shot is a golf competition format in which two golfers play as partners, playing only one golf ball, taking turns playing the strokes. In other words, the two golfers alternate taking shots. Alternate shot is commonly known as foursomes and can be played as stroke play or match play. Penalty strokes do not affect the order of play in alternate shot. If a player hits a shot out of bounds on the tee box, the partner hits next from the tee box. If a player hits a shot into a water hazard, the partner will take a drop (if necessary) and hits. In fact, if a player hits a drive and thinks it might be lost, the partner would hit the provisional. The only time a player would hit twice in a row is if he had to replay a stroke for a rules violation, i.e. playing out of order or if the player is required to hit again without penalty (for example, if course's local rules require the player to replay the shot if the ball hits overhead wires). In match play, the partners on a side lose the hole if they play out of order. In stroke play, playing out of order results in the cancellation of the stroke and a penalty of two strokes, with the golfers required to replay the stroke. Failure to correct the error results in disqualification.

Example of Alternate Shot Play: Players A and B partner one another on an alternate shot team, or side. They decide among themselves who tees off first on the first hole and agree that Player A will hit the opening tee ball. So, on the first hole, A hits the tee shot. They walk to the ball, and Player B hits the second shot. The third stroke is played by Player A. Then Player B hits the fourth. They alternate hitting shots until the ball is in the hole. They also alternate hitting tee shots, in our example, Player A hits the drive on the first hole, on the second hole Player B will tee off; and so on throughout the round. Another way to remember the sequence is that the golfer who tees off on No. 1 is also going to tee off on all the odd-numbered holes; and the golfer who tees off on No. 2 will also tee off on all the even-numbered holes.

Handicaps in Alternate Shot: Per section 9-4 USGA Handicap Manual, in match play, the four golfers involved in the match determine their course handicaps. The partners on each side combine those course handicaps. The higher-handicapped side gets 50-percent of the difference between the combined Course Handicap of each side, and the lower handicapped side plays off scratch.

Side A-B with a combined Course Handicap of 15 competes against side C-D with a combined Course Handicap of 36. The higher handicapped side, C-D, receives 11 strokes ($36 - 15 = 21 \times 50\% = 10.5$ rounded to 11). Strokes are taken as assigned on the players respective stroke allocation table.

In stroke play, an alternate-shot side combines its two player course handicaps and divides by two. On side A-B, Player A has a Course Handicap of 5 and Player B has a Course Handicap of 12. Side A-B's combined Course Handicap is 17. Side A-B will receive 9 strokes ($17 \times 50\% = 8.5$, rounded to 9).

- **Best Ball:** Format requires at least two players on a team. During a Best Ball stroke-play format, each player on the team plays their own ball. The lowest score at the conclusion of the hole counts as the team score.

Handicaps in Best Ball: Per section 9-4 USGA Handicap Manual, men play with 90% of their course adjusted handicap.

- **Stableford:** Per USGA Rule 32-1b, Stableford is a hole by hole point scoring competition format. The scoring in Stableford competitions is made by points awarded in relation to a par score at each hole as follows:

Holes played in	Points
Net Triple Eagle	12
Net Double Eagle	8
Net Eagle	5
Net Birdie	2
Net Par	0
Net Bogey	-1
Net Double Bogey or worse	-3

The winner is the competitor who scores the highest number of points. Point allocations for each tournament using Stableford format will be announced prior to the tournament.

- **Net Irish Match Play:** Is based on a point system. Under this format, points are awarded per hole where an outright win on a hole for a single player constitutes 2 points. If 2 or more players are tied for the win, then they get 1 point. Players not in contention for winning the hole get 0 points.

Article IV Golf Rules

Section 1. Local Club Exceptions

All USGA rules apply in BAGG. Following local club exceptions are stated below:

- **Lost Ball or Ball Hit Out of Bounds:** BAGG will follow the new local rule outlined by USGA effective Jan 1, 2019. This option allows the player to drop in a large area between the point where the ball is estimated to have come to rest or gone out of bounds and the edge of the fairway of the hole being played that is not nearer the hole. The player gets two penalty strokes when using this relief option. Details can be found here: [Lost Ball or Ball Hit OB](#)
- **Disqualification:** All USGA rules that result in disqualification of a player from a tournament will automatically convert to a two-stroke penalty on the player. However, for the most egregious violations of golf rules or golfers conduct, at its discretion, the Rules Committee or the BAGG Committee can declare a player disqualified from a tournament.
- **Winter Rules:** Adverse conditions, such as heavy snow, spring thaws, prolonged rains, or extreme heat can make fairways unsatisfactory. When these conditions are so general throughout a course, the BAGG Committee may decide to use preferred lies (winter rules) to promote fair play and help protect the course.
A ball lying in the fairway may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, he must place it on a spot within 6 inches and not nearer the hole without improving the lie.
A player may place his ball only once, and it is in play when it has been placed (Rule 20-4). If the ball fails to come to rest on the spot on which it was placed, Rule 20-3d applies. If the ball when placed comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed and it subsequently moves, there is no penalty, and the ball must be played as it lies, unless the provisions of any other Rule apply.
If the player fails to mark the position of the ball before lifting it, moves the ball marker prior to putting the ball back in play, or moves the ball in any other manner, such as rolling it with a club, the player incurs a penalty of one stroke.

Section 2. Scoring and Submitting the Scores

- NCGA handicap (GHIN) system is to be used for posting scores and handicap calculations. Every member is responsible for posting their scores by logging in to NCGA website or NCGA app.
- In addition, players are expected to post their scores to the group via email or other similar mechanism within 24 hours of the golf round as long as the golf round was played under stroke play (no scramble, shamble or other multi-player format) and USGA golf rules were followed.

- For all tournaments, the Handicap Committee is responsible for entering all scores in the NCGA GHIN system unless it is communicated that players need to enter themselves.

Section 3. Equitable Stroke Control (ESC)

All scores submitted into handicap system are subject to the application of ESC. This mandatory procedure's purpose is to avoid recording a very high score on an individual hole which might inflate the handicap calculation. Equitable stroke control is a sliding scale system, based on the difficulty of the course and the current handicap of the golfer.

ESC is used when a player's actual or most likely score exceeds a maximum number, based on the table below, for the player's course handicap from the tees played.

Course Handicap	Maximum Number on any Hole
9 or less	Double Bogey
10 through 19	7
20 through 29	8
30 through 39	9
40 or more	10

Section 4. Incomplete Rounds

A player can post a round of 9 holes, 18 holes or an incomplete round score. Incomplete round score shall be posted per the following rules to comply with NCGA rules.

- If a player completes 6 or fewer holes, it is not an official round and no scores are posted.
- If a player completes 7-12 holes, the player must post only a 9-hole score (e.g. only front-9 is considered complete).
- If a player completes 13-18 holes, an 18 hole score to be posted. The player is to assign handicap-adjusted scores for the un-played holes as per the guidelines detailed on the USGA website.

If a player does not play a hole ... the score recorded for that hole for handicap purposes must be par plus any handicap strokes the player is entitled to receive on that hole. This score, when recorded, should be preceded by an "X";

A player who starts, but does not complete a hole or is conceded a stroke must record for handicap purposes the most likely score. The most likely score may not exceed the player's ESC limit.

Section 5. Pace of Play

At all-time players are expected to follow proper etiquette and adhere to the pace of play guidelines suggested by the golf course and listed on the BAGG website.

- In non-tournament games, to ensure pace of play, a player is permitted to pick up their ball when they have reached ESC for the hole.
- A maximum of 3 minutes are allowed to look for a lost ball. Other players may assist in searching for the lost ball but shall not hurry the player with ball search.
- During tournaments, pace of play enforcement will be deferred to the course marshal. It is imperative that we do not argue with the marshal. If the marshal makes a player or player(s) pick up their ball and/or skip a hole or holes, the following BAGG rule applies in a stroke play competition, the player(s) will be given a score of net penta-bogey for that hole and they are not allowed to complete the skipped holes later.

Section 6. GPS and Range Finders

Use of GPS and Range finder devices is permissible in official games and tournaments. In compliance with USGA rule, elevation change feature on Range finders must be disabled. The use of GPS and Range Finders should not affect the pace of play.