

# MARYLAND STATE GOLF ASSOCIATION

10455 Falls Road  
Lutherville, MD 21093



## 2020 TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

Enclosed please find the 2020 State Team Championship 39-Team Bracket showing who plays whom in the first round on **Sunday, October 4, 2020**. **All matches should start at 11:30 AM unless an alternative time is agreed upon by both teams.** The time has changed to allow all players to finish before darkness later in the year.

The asterisk (\*) designates which team will be the home team for each match.

Winning teams should contact the MSGA (410-215-5469), or e-mail us at [knewland@msga.org](mailto:knewland@msga.org) to let us know the winner and the score.

**It is the responsibility of each winning team to call the appropriate teams in the bracket to determine which club will be the next opponent.** As always, the #1 two-man team with the Professional will play at the venue of the home club (designated with \*) and any required play-off will be between the #1 teams.

This year we have a total of 39 teams in the Championship. After each round, **THE UPDATED BRACKET CAN BE FOUND UNDER THE “PLAY” – “MEN’S GOLF” – “2020 MENS SCHEDULE” DROP DOWN MENU ON WWW.MSGA.ORG**

In the case of inclement weather on any scheduled date of matches, the following policy will be in effect: **Due to the difficulties in attempting to reschedule, please try to play all matches unless both courses are unplayable or, of course, if a dangerous situation exists. If one of the two courses is closed, all 12 players must play at the other venue rather than cancel due to one course being closed. Every reasonable effort must be made to complete matches in a timely fashion.**

The Board urges that all matches be played under USGA Rules. However, if extraordinary circumstances exist at a particular site, the host club is authorized to adopt a “preferred lies” policy. If such a policy is to be adopted, then the exact language outlined in the MSGA statement below should be used. This is the recommended language that is stated in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf. **In order to avoid confusion, copies of this statement should be distributed to all players.** If this exact language is not used, then the USGA will NOT resolve any dispute that might arise in connection with the match.

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Occasionally there are questions at various host clubs concerning whether or not visiting teams are required to pay for carts and/or required to take and pay for caddies. **We strongly recommend that prior to each match the participating clubs' professional staffs call each other to determine what the policy related to carts will be for that match.** Hopefully this will lead to a consistent policy for each set of matches.

We hope these guidelines will make it more convenient to know the teams that will play next and which club is the home team. We wish the best for all teams **and remind all of you that the only way this will work is if everyone makes their telephone calls promptly.**

The MSGA Board reminds all teams that in the “spirit of the competition” it is the intent of these matches that the makeup of each team is comprised of male amateur members who are actively involved with their respective Clubs and maintain up-to-date Handicap Indexes at that Club.

**For the 2020 season “actively involved”** will be defined as having at least 5 scores posted from that club. ***You must have at least 5 scores posted from the club you are representing in the past 12 month period.*** This requirement will be in place for the State Team Matches in the spring and the Senior Team Matches in the fall. A waiver of the “5 score rule” will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. If you have an exceptional circumstance please have your Head Golf Professional reach out to Kelly Newland at [knewland@msga.org](mailto:knewland@msga.org)

Board of Directors,  
Maryland State Golf Association

**Any violation of an eligibility issue (e.g., age, amateur status or handicap) will result in disqualification of the side involved and if the violation is egregious, the whole 12 man team will be disqualified.**

### **Strongly Recommended Statement**

#### **Local Rule: “Preferred Lies”**

When a player's ball lies in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less, the ball may be lifted cleaned and replaced without penalty. The player must mark the spot before lifting (see Rule 14.1) and the ball must be replaced on its original spot (see Rule 14.2).