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## NIMAGA NOTES APRIL 2015

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### And it starts...

After a small hiccup and a little snow and rain, the season finally got under way at Countryside and White Pines. It was a beautiful day and, even in soggy conditions, some great golf was played!!

### TOURNAMENT RESULTS

#### **April Spring Thaw**

Palmer Gross- George Weber\*

Palmer Net- David Ogoli

Player Gross- Michael Woulfe\*

Player Net- Jim Neceda\*

Trevino Gross- John Serola

Trevino Net- Nick DiCosola\*

\*- Won in Playoff

### PRESIDENTIAL PRESS

A big thank you to the members who helped out at the Spring Thaw - David Ogoli, Sal Lombardi, Sr., Robert Yedinak and Michael Woulfe. Please remember none of the directors get paid or discounts. NIMAGA is a not for profit organization, unlike the other area tournament groups who are in the business of making money and promoting golf. We are volunteers, so please take a moment to thank a director.

To those new and those that are veterans, if you are late mailing your entry please let Tim or JJ know as a courtesy. Most courses want every available tee time, so we need accurate counts to have spots for everyone. If you see an opening, and can play, please reach out to a director. We have for the most part the largest men's amateur golf fields in the area.

On the day of the event, please get to the course at least 20 minutes prior to your tee time, especially if you are at the end. We have a rule against twosomes and nothing is worse than taking a cart and driving out to the next hole to ask someone to stay back.

We have skins at almost all events. If you can't find the member handling the envelope, disclose on the first tee to your foursome that you are in so it can be settled up after the round. If you

get a birdie stick around after the round we would always prefer to pay out rather than mail out.

Please remember when your round is over to get into the clubhouse and record your official scorecards with your foursome. We need to finalize results as quickly as possible in case of ties at the top. If your score is at the top or even second best, please do not leave. We try to do sudden death playoffs, and if you are not present, you may forfeit your chance at winning.

I hope to see you at Makray, Tanna Farms or Mill Creek.

Frank R. Fiarito  
NIMAGA President

### **HANDICAP RULE EXPLANATION**

In an effort to establish and maintain parity in NIMAGA Tournaments a handicap policy has been established by the Board of Directors. All members will have a USGA Handicap and a NIMAGA Tournament handicap which will be calculated from participated NIMAGA Tournaments "Only". The NIMAGA Tournament Handicap will be based solely on golf scores that are recorded in regular NIMAGA Tournaments, including Mid-Week Tournaments, the Seniors Tournament and the NIMAGA Players Championship. The tournament handicap is calculated at 96% and takes the best 3 scores of 6 tournament rounds played to establish the NIMAGA Tournament handicap. The member will use the lower of the two handicaps (USGA or Tournament) when playing in NIMAGA Tournaments and is identified with the letter "t" next to the member's handicap in the Tournament Pairings Sheet (i.e. 16t).

### **CHARITY GOLF OUTING**

Water For People brings together local entrepreneurs, civil society, governments, and communities to establish creative, collaborative solutions that allow people to build and maintain their own reliable safe water systems. Empowering everyone transforms people's lives by improving health and economic productivity to end the cycle of poverty.

The ISAWWA is having a golf outing to support Water For People at Heritage Bluffs Golf Course on May 14<sup>th</sup>. The format will be a 4-man Scramble, and includes lunch and prizes.

If you are interest or would like more information, please contact Chris Ulm at 815-744-4200 or [Chris.Ulm@Starnd.com](mailto:Chris.Ulm@Starnd.com).

You can also register at [www.isawaa.org/event/WaterForPeoplegolfouting](http://www.isawaa.org/event/WaterForPeoplegolfouting)

### **Rules Corner**

A Baker's Dozen of Rules refreshers for the new season-

#### *1. Lateral Water Hazard (Red)*

Option 1 – Play it from the hazard

Option 2 – Replay the shot from the original position incurring a stroke and distance penalty

Option 3 – go to the point where the ball last crossed the margin of the hazard and drop within 2 club lengths, no nearer the hole. One-shot penalty.

Option 4 – Go to the opposite side of the hazard, equidistant from the hole and drop a ball within 2 club lengths. One shot penalty.

Option 5 – Drop a ball behind the water hazard, keeping the point at which the original ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard, directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind the water hazard the ball may be dropped. One shot penalty.

## *2. Water Hazard (Yellow)*

Option 1 – Play it from the hazard

Option 2 – Replay the shot from the original position incurring a stroke and distance penalty

Option 3 – Draw a line from the hole to where the ball last crossed the margin of the hazard and drop anywhere behind that point keeping the point between you and the hole. You would incur a 1 shot penalty

## *3. Lost Ball or Out-of-Bounds*

After looking for a maximum of 5 minutes, you must go back to where the shot was originally played from, and replay, incurring a stroke and distance penalty. You may also hit a “provisional” ball if there is a reasonable assumption that you have hit your ball out of bounds.

## *4. Unplayable Lie*

Option 1 – Take 2 club lengths relief no closer to the hole and assess a 1 stroke penalty

Option 2 – Replay the shot from the original position incurring a stroke and distance penalty

Option 3 – Take the ball back as far as you want keeping the point where the ball lays between you and the hole incurring a 1 shot penalty

## *5. Improving Your Swing Path*

You cannot bend, break or hack anything growing or fixed if it improves you lie, your stance, or your area of intended swing.

The penalty for doing so is loss of hole in match play, or a 2 shot penalty in stroke play.

## *6. Removing Objects in a Bunker*

You may not move or remove any loose impediments in the bunker unless they are foreign to the area. Example – you may remove a candy wrapper but not a pine cone or tree branch

## *7. Casual Water*

Find your nearest point of relief no closer to the hole where neither you or your ball lie in water that can be seen without pressing your feet up and down. You may then drop your ball within 1 club length from that point no nearer to the hole at no penalty

## *8. Grounding Your Club in a Hazard*

Practice swings may be taken inside a hazard as long as you don't touch the ground, sand or water with your club. The top of the grass may be touched during a practice swing. The penalty for grounding your club is loss of the hole in match play or a 2 shot penalty in stroke play.

### *9. Accidentally Moving Your Ball*

There is a 1 stroke penalty for accidentally moving your ball and it must be replaced in its original position before hitting. There is another 1 stroke penalty for hitting the ball from the wrong place if it is not replaced. There is no penalty for accidentally moving the ball when on the tee.

### *10. Removing Loose Impediments*

If, in moving loose impediments, you accidentally move your ball, you must return the ball to its original position and penalize yourself one stroke

### *11. Ball on a Cart Path*

You are entitled to free relief.

Step 1 – Determine the “nearest point of relief”. This is the point where the ball would lay affording the player both swing and stance from the cart path.

Step 2 – you are entitled to 1 club length relief from the point where the ball would lie once full relief is taken (swing and stance).

Step 3 – After dropping, the ball may roll up to 2 club lengths no closer to the hole.

\*\*\*If you choose to take relief, you must take full stance and swing relief. If you do not, there is a two stroke penalty under rule 20-7- Playing from the Wrong Place.

### *12. How to Drop the Ball*

After determining the nearest point of relief, you may stand outside the drop area, no closer to the hole, and extend your hand to the side dropping the ball from shoulder height. The ball may roll up to 2 club lengths no closer to the hole. If the ball rolls farther than that you must re-drop. If after dropping 2 times the ball continues to roll past 2 club lengths, you must place the ball where it first touched the ground.

### *13. Hitting the Wrong Ball*

The penalty for hitting the wrong ball in match play is loss of hole. If both players hit the wrong ball, only the first player to do so would be penalized as that would be the end of the hole.

The penalty for hitting the wrong ball in stroke play for either player is 2 strokes and the original ball must be replayed from its original position.

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If I've got a swing, I've got a shot. ~Bubba Watson

No-one will ever have golf under his thumb. No round ever will be so good it could not have been better. Perhaps this is why golf is the greatest of games. You are not playing a human adversary; you are playing a game. You are playing old man par.

- Bobby Jones

This is a game of misses. The guy who misses the best is going to win.

- Ben Hogan