



MALAYSIAN GOLF ASSOCIATION (PSM 0193/98)

Ref: MGA(General)F078/0676/09

11th January 2010

All Presidents / Captains / CEOs / General Managers / Managers
Malaysian Golf Association Affiliated Clubs / Associations / Societies

Dear Sir/Madam,

UPDATES FROM MALAYSIAN GOLF ASSOCIATION

Greetings from the Malaysian Golf Association

New Year's Day is an opportunity for us to reflect past events and look forward with the hope for better year ahead. Despite the gloomy economics situations, golf has much to rejoice in 2009; the MPGA saga has finally been settled, MGA received the much needed fund from the government, our applications to reduce and/or waive the duties on buggies and golf machineries will most probably be approved, golf has finally been recognized by the sports leaders after its inclusion in the Olympics in 2016, a highly successful 48th Maybank Malaysian Open with more than 60,000 crowds congregating at Saujana and state junior clinics which has been attended by more than 1000 juniors in its second year.

On that positive note, we are pleased to forward herewith the updates on MGA portfolios as guidelines to our Affiliates and Event Organizers for 2010. Your cooperation to follow these guidelines is appreciated.

A. CONDITIONS FOR HOSTING THE STATE AMATEUR TOURNAMENTS

1. Golf Rules Applicable

All competitions must be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Golf issued by the R&A Rules Ltd.

2. Amateur Status

The Rules of Amateur Status issued by the R&A Rules Ltd must be complied with, particularly with regard to the retail value of the prizes awarded.

2.1 Caution – Forfeiture of Amateur Status.

Insert a statement in the 'Entry Form' stating that those who win prizes exceeding the limits as stated in the Rules of Amateur Status will have their Amateur Status forfeited. (Maximum Value £ 500 pounds sterling)

2.2. **Report**

To report any breach of Amateur Status with particulars of the affected Golfers and the values of the prizes.

3. **Referees**

- i. There should be at least two qualified referees to adjudicate the Rules of Golf for tournaments that have more than 60 players.
- ii. Clubs are required to write-in to MGA to request for qualified referees whose allowances and other expenses will be borne by the Club.
- iii. **For State Amateur Opens, MGA will provide the 2nd referee, however the Club needs to take care of their F&B and accommodation if required depending on the location where the referee come from.**
- iv. The Tournament Director (TD) **must** be a qualified Rules Official and will be appointed by MGA. (The TD will also double-up as Chief Referee).

4. **Tournament Rules & Conditions.**

Draft Tournament Rules and Conditions of Play and Local Rules should be forwarded to MGA for approval at least 8 weeks before the date of the competition.

5. **Eligibility / Handicap Index.**

Accept participants with a current and valid NHS USGA Handicap Indexes only. Participants with Club Handicap can be accepted, but they must be informed that they can only play for gross prizes.

6. **Results.**

The full results of the competition should be submitted to MGA within two weeks of the close of the competition.

7. **Usage of Logo**

i) **MGA Logo**

The usage of MGA logo is strictly allowed for advertising purposes i.e. shirts, caps, banners, posters etc for the duration of the event.

ii) **NFC & Belia Benci Dadah Logos**

The usage of these logos is compulsory for all events.

Please download the logos from our website, www.mgaonline.com.my under Information page.

8. **National Anthem**

'Negara Ku' our National Anthem must be played during the Opening and Closing ceremonies.

9. **Slots for MGA National Squad**

10 complimentary slots must be given to MGA National Players.

10. **MGA Representative**

An MGA representative **must** be included in the Organizing Committee.

Each State Association/Host Club is entitled to RM 5,000.00 for Men & RM 2,000.00 for Ladies State Amateur Opens. When a combined event is held, an allocation of RM 7,000.00 will be given to the State Association or Host Club. **To be eligible for the funds, all State Associations or Host Clubs must comply with all the requirements from Para. 1 to 10.** The subsidy will only be paid after receiving the Tournament Report by the Tournament Director.

B. **SANCTIONED CLUB/PRIVATE TOURNAMENTS**

Any Golf Club hosting club/private competitions must ensure that the tournament organizers have obtained sanction from MGA and License from the Commissioner of Sports before allowing them to proceed with the events on the actual date(s). **Sanction and License procedures are posted on our website under the Competitions & Rules Page listed under the Information menu.**

We appreciate your kind cooperation to the request and hope that competitions are organized in compliance with the above guidelines.

C. **R&A WORLD AMATEUR GOLF RANKING**

Please take note that the following National, State Championships (Men) and Club Opens are included in the R&A World Amateur Golf Ranking:

Malaysian Amateur Open	Melaka Amateur Open
Malaysian Amateur Closed	Kelantan Amateur Open
Malaysian Junior Open	Johor Amateur Open
Malaysian National Trials	Perak Amateur Open
Negeri Sembilan Amateur Open	Pahang Amateur Open
Selangor Amateur Open	Penang Amateur Open
KL Amateur Open	Sarawak Amateur Open
Kedah Amateur Open	Sabah Amateur Open
Perlis Amateur Open	RJCC Invitational
Terengganu Amateur Open	Saujana Amateur Open
Sarawak Chief Minister's Cup (Junior)	Sabah International Junior Masters
Faldo Series Malaysia Championship	Karambunai Amateur Open
Starhill Golf & Country Club Amateur Open	

You may use the logo of **R&A World Amateur Golf Ranking** for your promotional purposes which can be downloaded from our website under Information, Competitions & Rules page. Clubs can now submit their club's open events to be included in the R&A WAGR. Letter of invite has already been sent in October 2009. A copy can be found on our website.

D. NATIONAL TEAM

The National Trial 2010 will be held concurrently with the Selangor Amateur Open 2009 at Kelab Rahman Putra from January 26-27, 2010 for the ladies and January 26-28, 2010 for the men. Details of these two events can be found on our website.

The selection of athletes to the National Team will be based on the scores of the Trial and their past performances. The selected athletes will be absorbed to either Elite or Pelapis Squad based on their scores and age.

E. NATIONAL JUNIOR GOLF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

i. State Junior Clinic

The 2009 MGA State Junior Clinic was successfully organized throughout Malaysia. The 2010 schedules will be posted on the website. Please refer to your State Representatives for further details.

ii. Junior Club/NHS

MGA will start recruiting juniors to join MGA Junior Club. Those who are registered with us will be accorded free handicap.

iii. Order of Merit

MGA will provide an Order of Merit (OOM) for the juniors to rank them accordingly.

iv. Junior Team

An Under-11 Team consisting of 4 boys and 4 girls will be selected from SportExcel events. This will be our 2nd Back Up Team.

F. NATIONAL HANDICAPPING SYSTEM (NHS)

i. Virus

Clubs in the NHS are recommended to install anti-virus software to prevent the data from being corrupted. The Virus Prevention Action Plan can be downloaded from the website under Notice to MGA Affiliates.

ii. Uploading

Effective 1st June 2008, data can be uploaded to the server on a weekly basis i.e. every Friday from 9.00am to 6.00pm. This is necessary to ensure that all clubs can complete the Month End Processing (MEP). The schedule of the 2010 MEP can be found on our website.

iii. Billing

The invoices will be billed on a yearly basis in January. The rates are as follows:

More than 600 members: RM7,200.00 per year
Less than 600 members: RM1.00 per card per month

If payment is not made for more than 2 quarters, the cards will not be sent to the affected clubs.

iv. New Software

We are currently developing a tournament software which will be incorporated with the current NHS software. The software will be offered to NHS clubs on a minimal charge after it is fully tested.

v. Data Expunge

- i. All 2006 and earlier NHS Data will be expunged at our end.
- ii. Records of NHS Data will be maintained for 2007, 2008 and 2009 (3 years) and the current year.

G. COURSE AND SLOPE RATING

We strongly recommend that your golf course be re-rated for an up to date Course and Slope Rating so as to reflect accurate Handicap Indices for your members and handicap differentials for golfers who play on your course. As recommended by the USGA, newly constructed golf courses change rapidly in the first few years and should be re-rated at least every three (3) years for a period of nine years. USGA also recommends that a course must be re-rated at least every ten (10) years, even if it has not been changed in any way. A course must no longer use its USGA Course Rating and Slope Rating if its ratings are more than 10 years old.

The Committee has waived all rating charges effective 1st January 2010. However, the Host Club must take care of all expenses pertaining to the rating exercise. For more details, please contact the officer in charge, Mr Sobaan Ramlu. The current charges for the course and slope rating can be viewed from our website.

H. WEBSITE

The website is constantly updated with news of the Association and the golfing public at large. Any affiliates who wish to include their news on the website may write officially to MGA. Besides news on competitions, affiliates can also advertise their products/packages to the website which is chargeable. However, a complimentary page has been dedicated to each affiliate free of charge. Please take advantage of this to promote your club through our website.

I. AMATEUR STATUS

The updated list of forfeiture and reinstatement has been circulated to all affiliates and event organizers. We would like to remind that any amateur golfers accepting a prize over the prescribed limit of £500 or RM3,500.00 maybe liable for forfeiture. Amateur golfers are also not allowed to play for cash money of any amount.

J. **FIXTURES**

The 2010 Fixtures are confirmed and can be downloaded from our website. The dates of the events are subject to change. Affiliates who wish to host any of the state events which has not been taken, please write in officially to MGA.

K. **BHI INSURANCE**

We would like to encourage our affiliates to promote the BHI insurance scheme to the members. Visit our website for more information.

L. **ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION**

- i. An Affiliated Club with a club membership shall pay annual subscription based on the number of holes on its golf course on the 31st day of December of the previous year on the following scale:
 - Club with up to 9 holes - RM400.00
 - Club with up to 18 holes or Club with up to 9 holes but with 1000 members or more - RM1,000.00
 - Club with up to 27 holes - RM1,500.00
 - Club with more than 27 holes - RM2,000.00
- ii. An Affiliated Club, without membership shall pay an annual subscription based on the number of holes on its golf course on the 31st day of December of the previous year on the following scale:
 - Club with up to 9 holes - RM400.00
 - Club with up to 18 holes - RM800.00
 - Club with more than 18 holes - RM1,000.00

M. **JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT FUND (JDP)**

An affiliated Club shall pay an annual fund for Junior Development Program as follows:

- Club with up to 9 holes - RM300.00
- Club with up to 18 holes - RM600.00
- Club with up to 27 holes - RM900.00
- Club with up to 36 holes or more - RM1,200.00

N. **MAYBANK MALAYSIAN OPEN (MMO) 2010**

The Maybank Malaysian Open 2010 will be held from March 4-7, 2010 at Kuala Lumpur Golf & Country Club. As part of the event, and to ensure the tournament success, the organizing committee requires lots of volunteers and secretariat staff to ensure a smooth organization. We are looking for volunteers to be on duty as Marshalls, scorers, starters and media crews. As this will be purely on a Voluntary basis, you will be provided with meals, shirts and a cap. After completion of the event you will get to play in the Volunteers Game at the Championship course. If any of your club members/staff are interested to serve as a volunteer, please get the Form from the website and submit it before Friday, February 5, 2010 either by post or fax.

O. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

President	Datuk Robin Loh Hoon Looi
Vice President	Haji Mohd Yaacob Mohd Kassim
Vice President	Low Teck San
Hon Secretary	Zulkifli Dato' Ismail
Hon Treasurer	Andrew Bryan Perera

State representatives:

Johor	Lt Col (R) Mohd Jamal Salleh
Kedah	Yuzmi Mohd Yusoff
Kelantan	Haji Ahmad Bahri Haji Hassan
Melaka	Mohd Rom Muslim
Negeri Sembilan	Shanjoy Roy Choudhury
Pahang	Dato' Mohd Hasnulhisham Yaakob
Penang	Major (R) Ng Goot Seong
Perak	Chin Chee Keong
Perlis	Husin Hasan
Sabah	George BH Bandusena
Sarawak	Brian Chien Chai Ung
Selangor	Abdul Majid Md Yusof
Terengganu	Khalid Emran Yusof
Wilayah Persekutuan KL	Thein Chin Fatt

Appointed Members:

Ir Quek Swee Kim
Capt. William van Geyzel
Kuldip Seine
Lee Tuck Chew

P. **MANAGEMENT STAFF**

The following are the current MGA staff:

Mr. V. Ravindran	General Manager
Puan Sara Ismail	Senior Manager
Mr. Sobaan Ramlu	Assistant Manager (NHS/CSR/Office Maintenance)
En Razlan Alias	Assistant Manager (National Team Management / Competitions & Rules)
En Bambang Sumanteri Osman	Operations Executive (the National Junior Development Program / Competitions & Rules)
Miss. S. Revathy	Accounts Assistant
Miss Mazura Ghazi	Administrative Executive
Mr. V Gunalen	Coach (Men Squad)
En. Faridil Atras	Coach (Ladies Squad)
Vacant	Accounts Executive
Siti Nurbadriah Mustapa	Administrative Assistant
Che Rosliza Che Sulaiman	Receptionist cum Administrative Assistant

Q. **FORE!**

Please be informed that we have engaged Life Media Communications to publish our FORE! page monthly in the Tee Times, a golf supplement of New Straits Times every first Friday of the month.

R. **EXCELLENCE CENTRE FOR GOLF**

We will be collaborating with UKM and UUM to establish an Excellence Centre for Golf where all former and current athletes will be able to further their studies at these two universities while at the same time pursuing their lifelong dreams of becoming the country's top champions.

Other information related to MGA's activities, rates, events etc are posted on the website at www.mgaonline.com.my. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support towards MGA activities in 2009 and we look forward to the same for 2010.

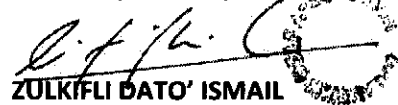
If you need further details on any of the above subjects, please do not hesitate to contact our General Manager, Mr V Ravindran.

Lastly, we would like to wish you Happy New Year!

With Best Regards.

Yours sincerely,

For Malaysian Golf Association,


ZULKIFLI DATO' ISMAIL

Honorary Secretary

c.c. All Committee Members & State Representatives