

Men's Golf Association Newsletter

Mid-Season 2020

President's Update (Gary Cassita)

Hello again guys. I hope everyone is staying healthy and safe in these crazy times. Throughout it all, the MGA board has tried to make the day to day trials of this COVID craze as painless as possible. I personally would like to thank each and every member for their patience and also their concern for their fellow members. You guys have shown what it means to be part of fellowship. Your compassion and care has not gone unnoticed. With any luck, we will get back to some semblance of what we had before all this started sooner rather than later. Through it all, Bill Hagel and Joe Rycalski along with the weekly games Official Scorers have and will continue undaunted, to provide a great schedule of events, highlighted by the soon to commence finals of the Match Play Championship. I am sure the trash talking among the competing finalists has already started! So, if you see one of the BODS in your travels, please thank them for what they do because you just would not believe how much they have agonized over being able to provide for this league in a safe environment.

Until the next installment, keep it in the short grass, play well and stay safe.

Gary

The Forest (Charlie Garaventa - GM / F&B Director)



Hello gentlemen! What a crazy year it has been and it looks like things aren't going to change anytime soon. We are still adapting every day to the ever, changing requirements, not only in the restaurant but also on the course. With all the rain we have had the last few weeks, I want to thank you for your patients regarding the tee boxes and longer than normal fairways and rough. Stephen has been diligent at trying to mow the course, but with the weather, it has been challenging. Thank you for adhering to our face covering policy. In the long run it is safer for guest and employees. I know it has been hot outside, but I want to thank you for enjoying your lunch and beverage on the patio. We are working on details for this year's member guest for all who are interested. Information will be available shortly. The support from the entire MGA towards CFN and it's employees has been greatly appreciated. These are trying times and we will get through this. As I told you in the past, I am always here for you and if there are any issues, concerns or recommendations, my door is always open.

Charlie

Men's Golf Association Newsletter

Mid-Season 2020

Status of the Game *(Joe Rychalski)*

Through June, we've completed 7 Wednesday MGA rounds in spite of the usual unpredictable weather and the COVID pandemic. Although COVID has tested us administratively and as golf enthusiasts, it by no means has defeated us. It has challenged us to make changes and rules that would allow us to play our tournaments, while keeping our membership and those around us as safe and healthy as possible. In addition, league members have been proactive in their own way with such innovations as the "Cone of Covid" shower curtain concept, The envelope process is working as well as it can but truly, MGA is all about camaraderie and we all miss the post round gathering at the bar waiting for game results over a liquid refreshments or two. I think I can speak for everyone when I say.....We are all hopeful that things will get better and that at some point get back to the way things were.

Administratively, the league has a great crew of Official Scorers who are sharing the duties of running the weekly games and coming up with new ideas to make the games schedule more interesting. Special thanks go out to all of them (Bill Hagel, Bob Axelrod, Keith Blankenbicker, Dave Will, Dave Andrews and Joe Rychalski) for a job well done. The new games format added this year's schedule are:

- "flighted" games where foursomes are composed of A&B players off the front tees and C&D players off the back tees allowing players of equal ability to compete against each other.
- Additional against "the field" and "two man" teams format.
- "Lone Ranger" format that was enjoyed during the off-season.

Personally, I appreciate everyone's patience in regard to the process. Some even give me a good-natured ribbing (Pocaro and Zimmerman) about the number of emails sent out. It's all done with wanting to communicate thoroughly and effectively with league members in regards to things that matter to each member like (1) scoring (2) money and (3) points. Last but not least, I want to thank Co-Director Bill Hagel for all that he's done (I.e. Website, MGA Championship and the ever present rules questions).

We've got a great group of guys in the MGA and without question a one of a kind situation that's for sure. I have no doubt that we have the largest, most involved Men's golf league in the area in regards to activities and competition, not to mention a quality golf course to play and care for. Truly, a WIN / WIN for all of us.

Hit'em straight.

Joe

Men's Golf Association Newsletter

Mid-Season 2020

Treasurer's Report (June 30,2020) (John Lane)

The CFN MGA has \$14,266.71 on hand. We started the year with \$2,589.61 before before the 2020 dues and MGA Cup fees were received.

It seems like a long time ago but on Opening Day, March 11 we had \$14,584.61 in the bank and we rolled out the red carpet with a nice deli spread and a couple kegs of for a total cost of \$2,358. I believe we had the most ever number of players on record for Opening Day. Unfortunately, then COVID hit and set us back on on heels and we shut down from March 11th until May 13th following the best advise to keep our league members safe.

Our cash fund balance includes monies for competition where 100% of the prize money is to be distributed such as the new MGA Championship and the season long MGA Cup. The Hole - In - One account balance is \$465 with 155 members paid. .Additional funded keg and/or appetizer days can be scheduled as soon as it is safe and allowable to host such events. Likewise, there should be sufficient cash on hand to cover the cost of the annual Awards Dinner and year end cash awards.

It has been great to see everyone coming out to play in the MGA events since we restarted. The number pf players from week to week has been phenomenal as is everyone's adherence to masks and social distancing protocols. We all look forward to hoping getting COVID behind us and returning to our post round gatherings.

John

Statistics From Around The League / Skins (Bob Axelrod)

In 2019, we had 153 members with 92 participating in skins (60%). In 22 rounds, we had a total of 231 skins won, worth \$4,769.

In 2020 to date, we've had 155 members with 101 participating in skins (65%). In 7 rounds through 6/24, we've had a total of 64 skins won, worth \$1,899 by 43 different golfers. Top skins winners so far:

- Dan Kinard \$135
- Jeff Palmer \$117
- Bob Axelrod \$107
- Scott Martin \$10

Skins Comparative:

2019	2020
15 skins won with pars	64 skins all won with birdies
211 skins won with birdie	35 skins won in flight 1
5 skins won with eagle	29 skins won in flight 2
214 skins played from white tees	56 skins won from white tees
17 skins played from green tees	8 skins won from gold tees
Hole #8 most skins (19)	Holes # 8 &10 most skins (6)
Hole # 14 2 nd most skins (18)	Holes # 5 & 18 2 nd most skins (5)
Holes #7 & 3 rd most skins (17)	Hole # 14 fewest skins (1)
Hole #11 most skins won w/ eagle	All holes with a least 1 skin
Holes #3 & 17 most skins w/ par	

Bob

Men's Golf Association Newsletter

Mid-Season 2020

League Play Highlights (Bill Hagel)

First Annual MGA Championship

The inaugural MGA Championship, a two-day flighted event, was held on July 10 & 11. There were 5 flights in the competition. Players in each flight had handicaps within 4-5 strokes of one another, except for the Owl Flight, where we could not achieve that range. The event was a cumulative gross stroke play competition. The Owl Flight was a cumulative net stroke play competition (65% handicap). The lowest score in any flight playing from the white tees (Eagle, Hawk and Falcon Flights) would be crowned the 2020 MGA Champion.

Eagle Flight Results

Congratulations to Chris Warner, who shot 73-76-149 to become the 2020 MGA Champion. After a 73 in round 1, Warner lead Rich Keith by one-stroke and low handicapper Scott Murdock by 4 strokes. Second round scores were higher, but Warner carded a 76 to best a couple of 79s by Keith and Murdock and win by 4 strokes.

Player	Rd 1 Score	Rd 2 Score	Total Gross Score	Winnings
Chris Warner	73	76	149	\$100.00
Richard Keith	74	79	153	\$60.00
Scott Murdock	77	79	156	\$40.00
Mark Schaffer	78	83	161	\$0.00
Chuck Wilson	79	82	161	\$0.00
Dave Andrews	83	82	165	\$0.00
Bob Deuvall	87	79	166	\$0.00
Mike Whittemore	87	83	170	\$0.00

Hawk Flight Results

Bill Hagel took command in the first round for a 3 stroke lead over Ron Martin and Andy Annesi. In round 2, Hagel seemed in control until a disastrous 11th hole, shrinking his 6 stroke lead to just two strokes. Hagel gathered himself for 5 straight pars until he tripled the 17th, against Martin's par. The lead was back to two going to the 18th. Martin just missed a birdie putt and Hagel had a tap in for bogey that secured the flight by 1 stroke. Tom Handler carded a 77, the flight's low round of the day, to snatch 3rd place only 2 strokes back.

Player	Rd 1 Score	Rd 2 Score	Total Gross Score	Purse
Bill Hagel	75	82	157	\$137.00
Ron Martin	78	80	158	\$82.00
Tom Handler	82	77	159	\$55.00
David Will	84	89	163	\$0.00
Andy Annesi	78	86	164	\$0.00
Bob Coulter	81	83	164	\$0.00
Dennis Brobst	81	85	166	\$0.00
Bradley Seipel	85	81	166	\$0.00
Joe Rychalski	79	88	167	\$0.00
David Jacknowitz	79	99	178	\$0.00
John Carbone	99	92	191	\$0.00

Men's Golf Association Newsletter

Mid-Season 2020

Falcon Flight

Tony Mielke and Lee Noury were at the top of the leaderboard after posting opening 84's, two strokes ahead of rival competitors Tom LoCicero's and Mike Mooty's who had dual 86's. In round 2, someone was bound to break out of the pack and it turned out to be LoCicero, but not until the back nine. After a horrific front nine with 5 doubles, LoCicero found another gear with birdies on 14 and 16, shooting a scorching even par 36. Meanwhile, Mielke, Mooty and Noury couldn't match LoCicero's back nine magic and fell back. Dan Kinard, scored the flight's low round of day 2 with an 80 and vaulted from 7th place to 2nd and runner-up finish.

Player	Rd 1 Score	Rd 2 Score	Total Gross Score	Purse
Tom LoCicero	86	83	169	\$137.00
Dan Kinard	91	80	171	\$82.00
Tony Mielke	84	88	172	\$55.00
Lee Noury	84	91	175	\$0.00
Paul Smith	87	91	178	\$0.00
Michael Mooty	86	92	178	\$0.00
Charlie Montesano	87	95	182	\$0.00
Gary Cassista	96	92	188	\$0.00
Buzz Levine	95	96	191	\$0.00
Bernie Denno	102	106	208	\$0.00
Carmine Orciuolo	108	WD	WD	\$0.00

Condor Flight

In the Condor Flight, Olin Darnell held the overnight lead after a first round 85, with league statistician Bob Axelrod looming one stroke behind at 86. The Big O scored pars on the tough 2nd and 8th hole, along with all pars and bogeys on the back nine for a very steady round. On Saturday, ex-MGA president Keith Blankenbicker continued his steady play highlighted by a birdie on the 5th hole en route to posting an 86. Sunday's round was a struggle for the rest of the flight and Blankenbicker lapped the field winning by 5 strokes. Darnell finished in second by one stroke over Ralph Cournoyer.

Player	Rd 1 Score	Rd 2 Score	Total Gross Score	Winnings
Keith Blankenbicker	87	86	173	\$100.00
Olin Darnell	85	93	178	\$60.00
Ralph Cournoyer	87	92	179	\$40.00
Gary Sunderland	90	90	180	\$0.00
Bob Axelrod	86	97	183	\$0.00
Barry Breitenbach	92	93	185	\$0.00
David Little	95	98	193	\$0.00
Al Donzanti	95	WD	WD	\$0.00

Men's Golf Association Newsletter

Mid-Season 2020

Owl Flight

In the Owl Flight, Richard Fry jumped out to a 4-stroke 1st round overnight lead on the strength of pars on the 1st, 5th, 13th and 17th holes. On Sunday, Al Harris turned the tide with 4 net birdies of his own and a huge par on 18 to make up the four stroke deficit to tie Fry for the Owl Flight championship. David Miller recovered from a disastrous 8 on the 17th hole to par the 18th and take third place by one stroke over Tom Brandt.

Player	Total Gross Score	Rd 1 Net Score	Rd 2 Net Score	Total Net Score	Winnings
Richard Fry	183	75	84	159	\$100.00
Albert Harris	185	79	80	159	\$60.00
David Miller	192	81	85	166	\$40.00
Tom Brandt	193	82	85	167	\$0.00
Charlie Daimler	195	91	78	169	\$0.00
Bill Learn	218	91	93	184	\$0.00
John Clyne	220	101	83	184	\$0.00

MGA Championship Tournament Summary

Great competition and camaraderie made for a great tournament. Other than some sticky weather, the MGA Championship tournament committee is appreciative of how everything went and we hope the players feel the same. As always, we strive for perfection and welcome input on how we can make the tournament better next year. Congratulations to all flight champions!

League Play Highlights (Tom Stepnowski)

MGA Match Play Championship (as of July 25, 2020)

FLIGHT A



Men's Golf Association Newsletter

Mid-Season 2020

FLIGHT B



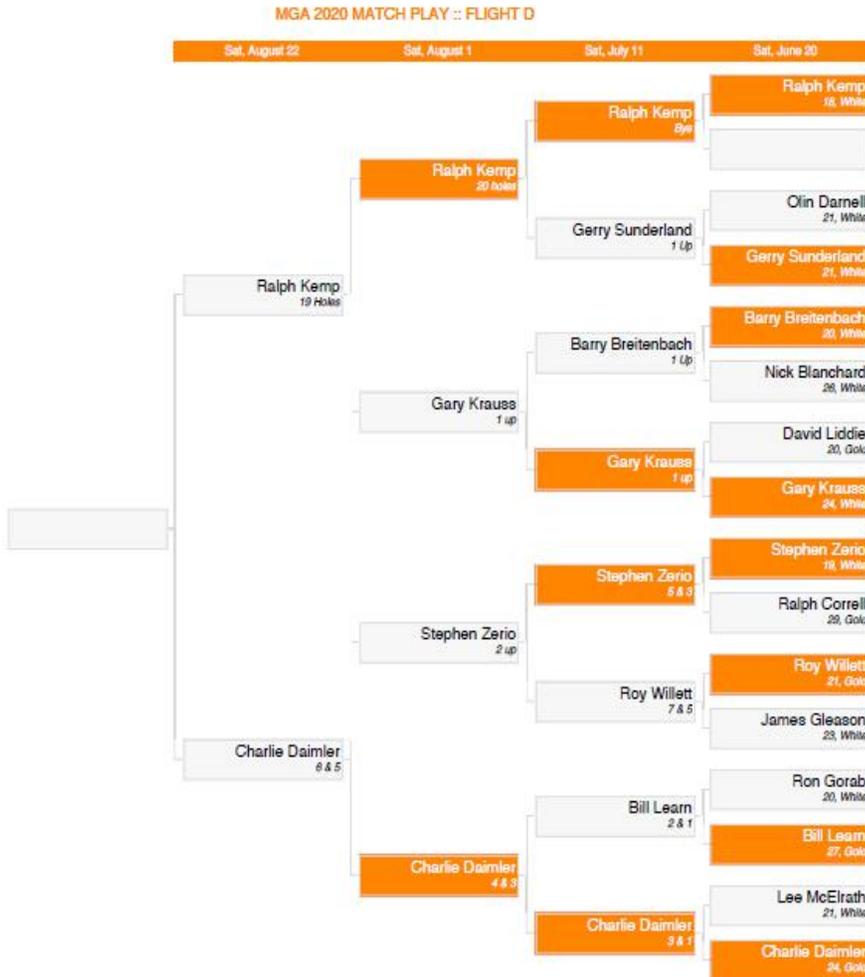
FLIGHT C



Men's Golf Association Newsletter

Mid-Season 2020

FLIGHT D



MGA Match Play Championship Summary

There's been great competitive play all around as the tournament approaches the finals of each flight. Things really heated up in the semi finals as the competition narrowed and the stakes became more intense.

In Flight D, Gene Kemp outlasted Gary Krauss winning his match winning the match on the 19th hole. Charlie Daimler shot his low round of the year with a 85, stunning Steve Zerio 6 & 5.

In Flight C, Bob Axelrod cruised to his 3rd straight win in besting Mike McCann 6 & 5 while the other semi final between Dave Huber and Lee Noury was a back and forth tight match with Dave winning on the 18th hole 1 up.

In Flight B, Marc Popkin stormed back to overtake Dave Jackowitz on the 18th hole winning 1 up, while Mark Talbot held off John Gale 4 & 3 to advance.

In Flight A, Bill Hagel's par on the 17th hole proved to be enough as he held off a hard charging Scott Murdock 2 & 1.

Finally, Dave Will was el fuego shooting a mind bending 71 (which would have been shooting his age if it were 2011!) in dispatching Mike Whittemore 5 & 4 as Mike's strong 75 wasn't enough on this day. Sometimes you just have to tip your cap to the opponent.

After the Flight Finals, the winner of Flight A will play the Winner of Flight C. The winner of Flight B will play the Winner of Flight D. These matches and the Championship and Third-Place matches are played at 80% handicap.

Good luck to all the finalists in their upcoming matches.

Tom

Men's Golf Association Newsletter

Mid-Season 2020

The Rules Freak – FAQ's (By Bill Hagel)

Now that I am getting a bit of a reputation of knowing the rules of golf (notwithstanding my 62% grade I recently got on the online USGA Rules Quiz for Rule 8 – *it was hard!!!*), I am often approached with rules questions usually based on situations encountered in recent rounds. Without naming names – here are a few of the real-life questions I have been asked over the past couple of months.

Marking, Lifting and Replacing Your Ball (ref. Rules 14.1 & 14.2)

Q - What is the proper way to mark ?

Q - Can you throw your mark down on the green near the ball ?

Q - What is the proper way to move my marker if it interferes with someone's play ?

First thing we need to know is "What can be used as a ball marker"? We find the answer to this in the Rules Definitions – under Ball Marker (definitions are listed alphabetically so even Jeff Palmer can find what he's looking for). Bottom line is – **the ball marker must be an "artificial object"** – so technically it cannot be a leaf, a bug, a slice of apple, or anything natural. But it can be your putter head (as long as the ball is replaced before you move the putter). I'm still trying to get an answer from the USGA on a seashell – but by strict definition, that is not artificial.

Now as far as throwing your marker down near the ball – ahhh no – cannot do that. Rule 14.1a states that you must "place" a ball marker right behind or right next to the ball. The ball may be marked in any position around the ball – as long as it marked right next to it, AND – the ball must be replaced in

the same position from where it was marked. So, all you who think it is some advantage to place your mark in front of your ball (legal) but then replace your ball in front of the marker (not legal) – you are risking a two-marking stroke penalty in stroke play or loss of hole in match play gained by "*Playing from a* your ball in that manner?"

Finally – when your ball or ball marker interferes with another player's line (his call, not yours) - always mark your ball first – line up your putter head to some immovable object (such as a tree) as a location reference, and move the mark. When replacing the mark, just reverse the process (and make sure you use the same reference object). Replace the mark – then replace the ball.

Ball Moves in the General Area, Penalty Area, or Bunker (ref. Rule 9)

Q - Is there a penalty if you accidentally move you ball on the fringe of the green or in the fairway ?

Q - What if your ball moves in the General area, Penalty Area or Bunker ?

Ever since the USGA removed the penalty for accidental movement of the ball when it is on the green, there seems to be a bit of confusion among the troops on this question. To be clear, the USGA DID NOT remove the penalty for an accidental movement of the ball just about anywhere else except the green. If your ball moves in the General Area, Penalty Area or Bunker, the first thing you need is to determine what caused the ball to move.

The Rules list only four possible causes for a ball at rest to move:

1. Natural forces
2. The Player
3. Your opponent in Match Play
4. An outside influence (including any other player in stroke play).

Men's Golf Association Newsletter

Mid-Season 2020

It has to be “*known or virtually certain*” (look this up in the Definitions section of the rules) that the player, opponent or outside influence caused the ball to move. In the absence of this standard – the ball is treated as having been moved by natural forces (which includes gravity). However, for our purposes, let's assume you moved it – accidentally nudging the ball with your club during your set up.

Here is what you should do:

- Let your opponent or fellow players know what happened and that you are going to replace your ball to the original spot.
- Replace your ball to the original spot
- Add a 1-stroke penalty to your score on that hole.

Whoa, you say, wait a moment Watson, one stroke? Then why was Jon Rahm recently assessed a two-stroke penalty when his ball moved. Not a bad question Sherlock. Rahm was given a two stroke penalty because he didn't *replace* his ball to the original spot after it moved, therefore he played from a Wrong Place – which incurs the General Penalty (two strokes in Stroke Play or loss of hole in Match Play). So – in our situation – if you nudge your ball and do not replace it – the penalty is two strokes instead of one (it's not 3 strokes because of Rule 1.3c(4) on multiple breaches) you can look that up if your that curious.

Some Exceptions: There is no penalty if you move your ball in the teeing area prior to putting your ball in play on that hole. There also is no penalty if you by accident move your ball while searching for it – even in a penalty area or a bunker, as long as the player is taking reasonable actions to find the ball. If you move your ball during a search, replace it on the original spot (estimate the spot if not known).

Improving Your Lie (*Ref. Rule 8*)

Q: Can a player step behind his ball to smooth or pat down the turf?

No, No, No, No...unless they are in the teeing area. BUT, doing so in the General Area, Penalty Area or in a Bunker (unless you are invoking our famous local Dave Will Rule, see below) is *improving your lie* – and a two stroke penalty (or loss of hole in Match Play).

Other things you cannot improve - any of the “conditions affecting the stroke” (see rule 8.1) – these are the lie (as discussed), the stance, the area of intended swing, the line of play or the intended relief area before dropping a ball.

How about.....

Q - “can I move my ball away from tree roots”?

A- YES you can, it's called taking relief from an unplayable ball position and it will only cost you a 1-stroke penalty.

Q - “can I fix raised turf, like a ball mark, or an uneven lie on the fringe of the green so I can putt instead of chip my ball”?

A - NOT without incurring the general penalty because that is improving your line of play. You can fix a ball mark on the green even if you are off the green but you can't fix a ballmark on the fringe until after you play your shot.....and please do.

Or.....

Q - “Can I brush sand or loose dirt from the fringe ?

A - NO, *sand and loose soil are not loose impediments off the green (however you can remove sand and loose soil on the green under Rule 13.1c).*

Men's Golf Association Newsletter

Mid-Season 2020

And finally there's the occasional.....

Q: What exactly is the Dave Will Rule ?



A - It is a local rule to the MGA named after its creator Mr, Dave Will (see above). It was first invoked when the renovated bunkers opened for play after hurricane Florence and again with the onset of COVID and the rake removal safety precautions.

The Rule states:

If your ball enters a bunker or waste area and comes to rest in an abnormal condition (i.e., foot print, tire track, animal track) you are allowed to lift the ball, improve that condition and play the ball from where it originally came to rest (you cannot take it to another part of the bunker as that would be improving your lie, say, if there was a steep lip /face in front of you). If your ball comes to rest in a mark CAUSED by your ball (i.e. fried egg, buried lie)that ball must be played as it lies. YOU CAN NOT LIFT, CLEAN AND PLACE UNDER THESE CONDITIONS.

That's it for now. Hopefully, these "play" scenarios and accompanying rules applications are helpful.

Bill

Employee Spotlight - Amy Pullano

With so many fantastic "can do" CFN employees, the MGA wants to close out each newsletter with a heartfelt THANK YOU to a specific employee for outstanding commitment through their service, dedication and professionalism.



Amy Pullano grew up in Susquehanna PA, with her family. After graduating from Susquehanna Community High School, Amy wanted to pursue a health care career so she attended and graduated from a business school where she concentrated her educational focus in an medical services curriculum. Upon graduation, Amy began her career at a local hospital as a Surgical Technician. In October of 2017 and feeling the lure of the warmer Southeast, Amy relocated to Wilmington, an area she had gained a fondness for through family vacationing here. Once in the area, Amy encountered a glitch to her career planning goals when she realized the shocking entry level pay scale for medical services could not support her needs. That's brings us to Cape Fear National where she (1) loves coming to work, (2) her relationships with the members and (3) the Forest employees and overall staff attitude. In her free time, Amy enjoys the beach and hanging out with her dogs and her boyfriend AND NOW FIANCEE.....CJ.

Thank You Amy for all that you do.

MGA BOARD & MEMBERS