

## **HOW DO I JOIN A LEAGUE AND OTHER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

### ***What is the first step to joining a League?***

You must be a member of the National EWGA. You may join online at [www.ewga.com](http://www.ewga.com) or at the Tee-Off Dinner March 16, 2010. Make sure to choose Long Island as your chapter.

The *first* available time to join a league for the new season is at our Tee-Off Dinner. The website now has information for registration for this event. At the Tee-Off you will fill out a league application and sign a waiver.

If you are unable to attend the Tee-Off, the application and relevant information will be available on the website the day *following* the Tee-Off. You may download the forms and fill out the league application (following instructions on the application instruction sheet), sign the Release & Indemnification Form and mail them together with your check to the designated person.

### ***Can I join online or pay with a credit card?***

No. Although you may join National EWGA and sign up for outings and events online with a credit card, you may only join league(s) by completing the application and signing the waiver and submitting them with a check for the total amount due.

### ***How do I know which league is right for me?***

In 2010 we will be offering 13 leagues. Descriptions of playing level, day/time league meets and other pertinent information can be found by clicking each league's name listed under "League Play."

### ***What is the fee for joining a league?***

There is a yearly administrative fee of \$60, which is non-refundable. This fee covers part of the cost of our pre-season league meetings, End of League Season Dinner, trophies and other incidental costs.

Last year we reduced the security deposit requirement and now accept a one-time security deposit of \$50 to join an unlimited number of leagues. This fee will roll over year to year. A full \$50 refund will be payable to any member upon resignation from League play provided all greens fees for any No Shows or Late Cancellations have been paid. To the extent that any interest is earned on the security deposit, it shall be

regarded as additional service cost payable to the Chapter and members will not be entitled to payment of such interest. You hereby acknowledge that the Chapter is not under any obligation to pay interest on any security deposit held in connection with the leagues, regardless of the length of time it is held.

This new procedure requires our members to be cooperative. Abuses of the system will result in a change of this process. If a member is a no show or cancels past the deadline, said member will be responsible for paying the greens fees to a designated person. Tee times will not be assigned to the member until the greens fees are received.

***How do I join additional leagues after submitting my application?***

Contact the Membership Captain of your primary league and she will take you through the steps involved. There is no additional payment required.

***What are the dates of league play for 2010?***

Leagues will begin playing the week of May 4<sup>th</sup> and officially continue for 20 weeks, through the week of September 14<sup>th</sup>. There are some notable exceptions:

*Match Play Leagues have their own schedules outlined in its course description and the League Handbook*

*Travel League continues to meet through the end of October*

Occasionally a course has a commitment on a day/time that League normally meets. In that event, every effort is made to substitute a date for League Play.

***Do I have to play every week (or the same time every week)?***

No. You will request tee times for each date and time according to you own availability. Instructions regarding tee time requests and all pertinent league information will be sent to you in an e-mail welcoming you to each league you join. You are requesting a tee time for yourself only. If you would like to play with a friend, you must each make a separate request to that effect. We are happy to honor such requests, but also encourage members to play with different people as often as possible to enhance the "league" experience. You are responsible for paying your own greens fees upon arrival at the course.

***Do I need to have a handicap to play in a league?***

Handicaps are NOT required to play in the three beginner leagues, although we do encourage all members to begin establishing a handicap. Please note that you may only enter scores from rounds played at USGA sanctioned courses.

Handicaps ARE required for all other leagues and specific handicap requirements are outlined in the league description for each league. You may participate in a league requiring a handicap while beginning to establish a handicap.

Included in your membership is the Golf Life Management System (GLMS), a handicap system, which is accessed at [www.ewga.com](http://www.ewga.com). We encourage ALL members to utilize this service. If you choose to use GHIN, you *are required* to inform us of your GHIN number so your handicap can be monitored. If we cannot verify your handicap, you are ineligible to win prizes. If you have any questions or concerns regarding handicaps, please contact Suzanne Garcia, the Rules & Handicap Chair, at [sgarcia@optonline.net](mailto:sgarcia@optonline.net).

***What if I am an experienced player without an established handicap?***

You may join an intermediate/advanced league, but you must immediately begin establishing a handicap. Our Rules & Handicap Committee tracks this and trophies will not be awarded to anyone who has not maintained a handicap during the season.

***Can I join a league if I've never played on a golf course?***

While we have beginner leagues available, we strongly urge all members to take advantage of the numerous clinics we offer and develop a relationship with a golf pro to bring your game to a comfortable level before playing in a league. You'll find the game of golf has many aspects to it and knowledge of the rules and etiquette plays a very large role.

***What are these "mandatory" seminars I must attend?***

All new members must attend a Rules & Etiquette Seminar and a Handicap Seminar conducted by our Rules & Handicap Committee Chair. There are dates to choose from before the start of the season and during the season for those who join later. These dates will be announced.

All new members of a beginner league must attend the Pre-Season Meeting which will cover all rules and guidelines for league play. The dinner meeting will be held on Monday, April 12, 2010 and details will

be announced. We offer two dates to play 9 holes with a mentor at Harbor Links Executive Course, April 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. This is available for NEW members who are beginner golfers joining either the Harbor Links Beginner or Cantiague Beginner Leagues. There will also be a mentor night on April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Harbor Links Championship Course for those members who feel ready to move up to a more advanced league.

New member breakfast meetings followed by 9 holes of golf with a mentor are also scheduled for Peninsula, April 17<sup>th</sup>; Heatherwood, May 8<sup>th</sup>; Cherry Creek, May 22<sup>nd</sup>; Heartland, June 5<sup>th</sup>. All new members of intermediate/advanced leagues will be invited to join their league committee members following the first few weeks of league play. Experienced members will aid you in learning the “ins and outs” of league play as they welcome you to our organization. The newly formed Suffolk Match Play League will send out notification regarding a pre-season meeting that hasn’t been scheduled yet.

If you are unable to attend ANY of these meetings, you must contact the League Chair and arrangements will be made to ensure you are eligible to participate in league play. This may include being mentored during a 9-hole round.

***What is the most important thing to know about league play?***

How to relax and have fun!! Yes, we are a large organization and have rules to follow, but this is all in an effort to provide the most enjoyable experience possible for all our members. The opportunities are endless for playing golf in a welcoming and accepting environment, making new friends, socializing and networking. Take advantage of all the benefits your membership offers.

Please remember that we are an ALL-VOLUNTEER organization and have many time constraints placed on us. We do our best to respond to all questions and concerns in a timely fashion and strive to serve our members to the best of our ability.