

# CONSTITUTION GEORGIA SECTION, PGA OF AMERICA

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“ABOUT US” TAB.**

## ARTICLE I

### Names, Boundaries, Purpose

**Section 1.** This organization shall be named “The Georgia Section of The Professional Golfers’ Association of America,” and shall be referred to here forth as the “Section.” The Professional Golfers’ Association of American shall be referred to here forth as the “Association.” The geographical location of this Section is the entire State of Georgia. It is composed of the Georgia Section PGA of America, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation, and organized under the laws of the State of Georgia with any additional corporations, trust funds or committees, which may be established under this Constitution.

**Section 2.** The purpose of the Section shall be to promote the enjoyment and involvement in the game of golf within the Section, and to contribute to its growth by providing services to golf professionals and the golf industry in the Section.

The Section will accomplish this purpose by enhancing the skills of its professionals and the opportunities for amateurs, employers, manufacturers, employees, and the general public within the Section

In so doing, the Section will elevate the standards of the professional golfer’s vocation, enhance the economic well-being of the individual member, stimulate interest in the game of golf, and promote the overall vitality of the game within the Section.

**Section 3.** The scope of this Constitution is intended to encompass, but not exceed, that area of jurisdiction granted the Section by the Association, and shall not conflict with the Constitution, By-Laws or Regulations of the Association.

## ARTICLE II

### Membership

**Section 1.** Members of the Section must also be a member of the Association and conform to all membership requirements set forth by the Association.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **Organization**

**Section 1a.** The Board of Directors may exercise the power to create and charter Chapters within the Section boundaries. Such Chapters shall be subordinate to the Section and may conduct business in accordance with the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Section, which shall not be inconsistent or at variance with the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Association.

**Section 1b.** A Chapter of the Section shall be named “The \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter of the Georgia Section PGA.” The members of the Chapter must be Section members or apprentices.

**Section 1c.** The Section may also recognize Divisions (i.e. Assistants’ Division, Seniors’ Division, etc.) that shall be subordinate to the Section and shall conduct business in accordance with the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Section, which shall not be inconsistent, or at variance with the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Association. The members of the Divisions must be Section members or apprentices.

**Section 1d.** The Section shall manage its financial affairs in a fiscally sound manner and shall be responsible for its financial obligations and those of its Chapters and Divisions.

**Section 2a.** The Officers of the Section shall include: President, Vice-President and Secretary.

**Section 2b.** The Chief Executive Officer shall be the Section Executive Director who shall be selected by the Board of Directors.

**Section 2c.** Between meetings of the Board of Directors, the President, Vice-President and Secretary shall constitute an Officers’ Committee, which shall be authorized to act for the Section in accordance with the By-Laws, Regulations and Policies adopted by the Board of Directors.

**Section 3a.** The Board of Directors shall be composed of the three Officers, seven At-Large Directors, the President of each chapter, the Assistants’ Division President, the Seniors’ Division President, the Honorary President and the Association District Director (if member of the section).

**Section 3b.** The Board of Directors shall conduct its business and shall be responsible for the management of the section in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations. Between Annual Meetings the Board of Directors shall have full authority in all matters, including the power to interpret the Constitution and By-Laws and to give

direction in cases not provided for therein. In matters involving emergencies, for the good of the Section, the Board of Directors shall have complete and final authority.

**Section 3c.** The Board of Directors shall conduct its business in accordance with the By-Laws.

**Section 4.** The Section Constitution may be amended by the following procedure:

1. Resolutions to alter, amend or repeal the Constitution must be presented in writing to the Secretary of the Section a minimum of 30 days prior to an Annual Meeting. The Secretary shall submit to the membership resolutions no later than 10 days prior to an Annual Meeting.
2. A two-thirds affirmative vote by the membership attending the Annual Meeting is required for passage of a proposed amendment.
3. All amendments to the Constitution shall become effective when adopted or at the time specified in the Amendment Resolution.

**Section 5.** The Section shall indemnify every person who was or is a party or was or is threatened to be made a party to any action, suit or proceeding whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative by reason of fact that he/she was or is a Director, Officer, employee or agent of the Section against expenses, judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement.

**Section 6.** All disputes or issues regarding the interpretation of this Constitution shall be interpreted and resolved by the Board of Directors whose decision shall be final.

**Section 7.** The Section shall use its funds only to accomplish the objectives and purpose specified in the Constitution and no part of said funds shall inure or be distributed to the Members of the Section. On dissolution of the Section, any funds remaining shall be distributed to one or more regularly organized and qualified charitable, educational or philanthropic association selected by the Board of Directors.

**Section 8.** Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order. There shall be no proxy voting at any meeting of the membership.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Meetings**

**Section 1.** There shall be one annual meeting of the membership, a Spring Meeting, the date to be set by the officers. There shall also be a Fall Education Seminar and general membership meeting, the date to be set by the officers.

**Section 2.** Special meetings may be called by the Board of Directors or by a petition signed by fifty-one (51) percent of the membership. Written notice of a special meeting shall be mailed not more than thirty (30), nor less than fifteen (15), days prior to the meeting.

**Section 3.** Notice of the Spring Annual Meeting shall be given, via email, to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior thereto. Notice for the Fall Education Seminar and general membership meeting shall be reasonable and timely and shall be given to the membership via email, prior thereto.

**Section 4.** A quorum for the conduct of business at an Annual or Special Meeting of the Section shall consist of ten (10%) percent of the members eligible to vote at the date of the meeting.

**Section 5.** The President and Vice-President shall serve as delegates to the National Annual Meeting of the Association and the Association shall pay their expenses. The Secretary shall serve as an alternate delegate to the National Annual Meeting and the Association shall pay his expenses. The Board of Directors may, from time to time, approve others to attend the Annual Meeting and authorize payment for a portion of their expenses. Any other member of the Section may attend the National Meeting at his own expense. These individuals shall be observers during the formal sessions and have no voting rights. The Executive Director shall attend the Annual Meeting and the Association shall pay his expenses.

**Section 6.** All business shall be determined by a majority vote, except that Amendments to the Constitution shall be determined by a two-thirds vote of the eligible voting members present.

**Section 7.** At all Georgia Section business meetings and education seminars, appropriate business attire is required. This includes jacket and tie for gentlemen and suitable business attire for ladies. In the event an education seminar or meeting does not require this type of attire, members will be notified in advance.

# **BY-LAWS**

## **GEORGIA SECTION, PGA OF AMERICA**

### **ARTICLE I**

#### **Definitions**

**Section 1.** The definitions of the PGA Recognized Facilities, Employment Definitions, and other definitions shall be consistent with the Association by-laws Article I Sections 1-3.

### **ARTICLE II**

#### **Code of Ethics**

**Section 1.** The Association Code of Ethics and all applicable definitions, procedure, and penalties are set forth in Article II of the Association Bylaws.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **Apprentices**

**Section 1.** Section Apprentice status may be granted to those persons who have been accepted as Association Apprentice registrants. (See Association By-Laws Article III).

### **ARTICLE IV**

#### **Election to Membership**

**Section 1.** In order to be eligible for election to membership in the Association, an individual must satisfy the requirements as outlined in the Association By-Laws Article IV.

### **ARTICLE V**

#### **Classes of Membership**

**Section 1.** Members shall be classified as Active or Non-Active based on their employment status, standing with the Association and length of membership in the Association. Classes of membership are outlined in the Association By-Laws Article V.

### **ARTICLE VI**

#### **Rights of Membership**

**Section 1.** Members of the Association shall have all rights of membership as outlined in the Association By-Laws Article VI.

**ARTICLE VII**  
**Review of Membership Issues**

**Section 1. Section Board of Control**

The Section Board of Control shall be composed of the Officers Committee. The immediate past president of the Section may serve in the absence of any one of the officers. A quorum shall consist of three members of the Board of Control. All actions and appeals from the Section Board of Control to the National Board of Control, where applicable, shall be in accordance with Article VII Sections 2, 3, and 4 of the PGA of America Constitution.

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**Professional Golf Management Program**

**Section 1.** Members of the Association shall be required to satisfy the requirements of the Association's Professional Golf Management Program as outlined in the Association By-Laws Article VIII.

**ARTICLE IX**  
**Obligations**

**Section 1. National Obligations**

Members and apprentices of the Section shall be obligated to the dues and fees of the Association in accordance with Article X Section 1 of the Association By-Laws.

**Section 2. Section Obligations**

Members of the Section shall pay annual dues to the Section as follows:

Master Professionals	\$325.00
Class "A" Members except A-3 and A-8	\$325.00
Class A-3	\$100.00
Class A-8	\$275.00
Life Members	\$100.00
Inactive Members	\$125.00
Class F	\$325.00

Apprentices of the Section shall pay annual fees as follows:

Apprentice (Non-Member Head Professional)	\$250.00
Apprentice (Assistant Professional)	\$175.00

### **Section 3. Timing of Dues and Fees**

The annual dues of the Section shall become due and payable in accordance with and on the dates specified by the Association.

### **Section 4. Change in Dues**

Any change in annual dues of the Section shall be set forth by the Section Board of Directors, brought to the membership for a vote and then published in these By-Laws.

## **ARTICLE X Reporting Requirements**

**Section 1.** Members and Apprentices shall be required to complete certain reporting requirements of the Association such as employment reporting, membership classifications questionnaires and Association surveys as outlined in the Association By-Laws Article XI.

## **ARTICLE XI The Officers**

### **Section 1. Authority of Officers**

The Officers of the Section shall be comprised of the President, Vice President and Secretary. They shall be responsible to the membership and the Section Board of Directors for the proper performance of their respective duties. Any revision of policy, and all contractual authority which is neither routine nor specifically granted, shall be executed by the membership, through the Section Board of Directors.

### **Section 2. Term**

The Officers shall be elected for a term of two years and shall not hold said office more than one consecutive term.

### **Section 3. Removal From Office**

An Officer may be removed from office by a majority vote of the Section members voting at the Annual Meeting or a special meeting.

### **Section 4. The President**

- (a) The President shall be chief operating officer of the Section and subject to the control of the Section Board of Directors, shall perform all duties customary to that office.

- (b) Preside at all meetings of the Section and of the Section Board of Directors.
- (c) Supervise and control all the affairs of the Section in accordance with policies and directives approved by the Section Board of Directors.
- (d) The President shall appoint such committees, standing and otherwise, as shall in his judgment be necessary, and to designate the Chairman thereof.
- (e) The President may appoint an Advisory committee composed of persons who are not golf professionals. Their appointments are subject to the approval of the Section Board of Directors, and their recommendations must be presented to the Section Board of Directors for final acceptance or rejection.
- (f) The President shall instruct the Chairman of all the Committees as to their respective responsibilities and authority. They shall furnish a written report to the Secretary thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Spring Meeting.

### **Section 5. The Vice President**

- (a) The Vice President shall keep or cause to be kept the accounts of the Section and shall collect or direct the collection of all monies belonging to or due the Section and shall deal with the same under the direction of the Section Board of Directors.
- (b) The Vice President shall have authority to sign all checks and withdraw funds of the Section, but may delegate this authority to the Executive Director, Secretary or President.
- (c) The Vice President shall submit a complete written financial report to the Section Board of Directors and to the membership annually.
- (d) To direct that all officers or employees of the Section who are authorized to withdraw funds of the Section shall be bonded in the amount specified by the Section Board of Directors.

### **Section 6. The Secretary**

- (a) The Secretary shall keep or cause to be kept a roll of all members and apprentices, and take care of all correspondence and papers pertaining to the Section.
- (b) The Secretary shall keep or cause to be kept the minutes of all Section membership meetings and all Section Board of Directors meetings.
- (c) The minutes of these meetings are to be distributed to the Section Board of Directors no later than ten (10) days prior to an Section Board of Directors meeting and distributed to the membership no later than ten (10) days prior to an Annual Meeting.
- (d) The Secretary shall issue the notice of such meetings, giving at least thirty (30) days notice of any membership meeting, and whenever possible, at least seven (7) days notice of any Section Board of Directors meeting.

- (e) The Secretary shall serve as Parliamentarian at all Section and Section Board of Directors Meetings, and shall preside at such meetings in the absence of the President unless the President designates another elected officer to serve in this capacity. In the absence of the Secretary to so serve, the President shall designate another individual to so serve in this capacity.
- (f) The Secretary must record any Amendments to or changes in the Association and Section Constitution and By-Laws, and report such Amendments or changes to the Section Membership.

## **Section 7. Vacancies**

- (a) In the event of the absence or temporary disability of the President, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President. If the President resigns, dies or becomes totally incapacitated, the Vice President shall succeed him.
- (b) In the event of the absence, disability, resignation, death or total incapacitation of the Vice President, the Section Board of Directors shall have the option to replace the Vice President for the remainder of the Vice President's unexpired term. The Section Board of Directors shall appoint either the person who is currently holding the office of Secretary or appoint another individual. Any such appointment must receive a majority vote of the Section Board of Directors. A person so elected would serve until an election may be held at the next Annual Meeting.
- (c) In the event of the absence or disability of the Secretary, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the Secretary. If the Secretary resigns, dies or becomes totally incapacitated, a member of the Section shall fill the position appointed by a majority vote of the Section Board of Directors. A person so-elected would serve until an election may be held at the next Annual Meeting.

## **Section 8. Officers Committee**

Between meetings of the Section Board of Directors, the President, Vice President and Secretary shall constitute an Officers Committee, which shall be authorized to act for the Section in accordance with established policy.

## **ARTICLE XII**

### **Section Board of Directors**

#### **Section 1. Composition**

The Section Board of Directors shall be composed entirely of Georgia Section Members in good standing and include:

President (1)

Vice President (1)

Secretary (1)

Chapter Presidents (3)  
At-Large Directors (7)  
Honorary President (1)  
Assistants' Division President (1)  
Seniors' Division President (1)  
Any National Board of Directors Member (1)

## **Section 2. Terms**

- (a) The President, Vice President and Secretary shall not be eligible to hold said office for more than one consecutive two year term.
- (b) The At-Large Directors shall be elected at the Section's Annual Spring Meeting, and can come from any of the Chapters. The term of these directors shall be three (3) years.
- (c) The Honorary President will be the immediate Past President who shall become Honorary President automatically. In the event of the death, disability, moving from the Section, or resignation of the Honorary President, the office shall be filled by the most current Honorary President that is a member in good standing of the Section.
- (d) Any Georgia Section member currently serving in the capacity of Association District Director shall automatically serve on the Section Board of Directors. Association District Directors shall be elected to a three (3) year term in accordance with Article XIV Section 6 of the Associations By-Laws.
- (e) The Assistants' Division President, who must be a Class A-8, will be elected by the Assistants' Division at its Annual Meeting and serve on the Section Board of Directors.
- (f) The Senior Division President, who must be Class A, MP, or LM member, will be elected by the Senior Division at its Annual Meeting and serve on the Section Board of Directors.

## **Section 3. Powers and Duties**

- (a) The Section Board of Directors shall have complete and final authority over the programs of the Section including the Tournament Program. It shall have the authority to alter, amend, or disregard any provisions of the Section's existing regulatory document entitled, "Tournament Regulations."
- (b) All orders or regulations made by the Section Board of Directors shall be binding unless set aside by a majority vote at an Annual Spring Meeting.
- (c) Section Board of Directors, by two-thirds vote, may adopt or amend the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations and Corporate Charters for the governance of the Section when such action is not at variance with the Constitution.

## **Section 4. Meetings**

- (a) The Section Board of Directors shall meet in regular session a minimum of four times per year. These meetings should be quarterly with one of these immediately prior to the Annual Spring Meeting.
- (b) At all meetings of the Section Board of Directors, a majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

## **Section 5. Resignations and Vacancies**

- (a) Any Section Board of Directors member may submit a written resignation which shall be reported at the next meeting of the Section Board of Directors, at which time the President shall declare a vacancy.
- (b) In vacancies in any of the officer positions, Article XI Section 5 applies.
- (c) In vacancies of At-Large Director positions, the remainder of the term shall be filled by a member of the Section elected by a majority of the Section Board of Directors.
- (d) Vacancies in chapter positions shall be filled in accordance with Article XXIV Section 6.
- (e) A vacancy in the Assistants' Division President's position shall be filled by a majority vote of the Assistants' Division Executive Committee.
- (f) In addition, in the event any board member fails to attend three of any five consecutive meetings, he shall be deemed to have vacated the position and a replacement shall be elected. Extraordinary circumstances can be appealed to the Section Board of Control.
- (g) A vacancy in the Seniors' Division President's position shall be filled by a majority vote of the Senior Division Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE XIII Committees**

### **Section 1. Appointments**

Within thirty (30) days after the Annual Spring Meeting, the President shall appoint Chairmen of the Committees as deemed necessary.

### **Section 2. Reporting**

- (a) All Chairmen shall report to the Section Board of Directors as may be necessary from time-to-time.
- (b) All actions taken by each committee must be approved by the Section Board of Directors and/or the Officers Committee.
- (c) The Chairman of each Committee shall, prior to each Annual Spring Meeting, submit to the President a written report of the activities of the Committee during the preceding period.

- (d) The Chairman shall further present a report to the members at the Annual Spring Meeting.

## **ARTICLE XIV**

### **Selection of District Director**

#### **Section 1. Nominations**

From time to time, the Section shall select a District Director consistent with Article XIV, Section 6 of the Association Bylaws. The Nominating Committee shall notify the Secretary of any nominations for this position or of anyone desiring to seek the position of District Director - District #13. The Secretary will make this information available as soon as possible to the membership. The candidates shall then have the opportunity to conduct a campaign if so desired.

#### **Section 2. Election**

The election of District Director from the Georgia Section will be conducted at the Section's Annual Spring Meeting of the year preceding the induction of that District Director at the Association's Annual Meeting.

#### **Section 3. Section Board Member**

The District Director (Georgia Section member) shall be invited to attend and be a regular voting member of the Section Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE XV**

### **Executive Director**

#### **Section 1. Duties and Responsibilities**

- a. The Section Executive Director shall be the Chief Executive Officer and Administrator of the Section.
- b. The Executive Director, acting pursuant to policies, rules and directives prescribed by the Section Board of Directors, shall be responsible to the Officers for the day-to-day operations of the Section.
- c. The Executive Director may represent the Section on behalf of the Officers before other organizations and general public.
- d. The Executive Director may speak for the Section, and shall keep the Officers and Section Board of Directors advised of such statements.

## **ARTICLE XVI**

### **Amendments**

#### **Section 1. Revision by Section Board of Directors**

The Section Board of Directors, by two-thirds (2/3) vote, may adopt or amend the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations and Corporate Charters for the Governance of the Section when such action is not a variance with the Constitution.

#### **Section 2. Revision by Membership**

A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote by the membership attending the Annual Meeting is required for passage of a proposed amendment. Resolutions to alter, amend or repeal the Constitution must be presented in writing to the Secretary of the Section 30 days prior to an Annual Meeting. The Secretary shall submit to the membership resolutions no later than 10 days prior to an Annual Meeting.

#### **Section 3. Effective Date**

All amendments to the By-Laws shall become effective when adopted or at the time specified in the Amendment Resolution.

## **ARTICLE XVII**

### **Tournament Regulations**

The Section's current and approved Tournament Regulations are to be considered a part of the Section's By-Laws and for convenience is printed separately on page 149 and updated as needed throughout each year online at [www.georgiapga.com](http://www.georgiapga.com).

## **ARTICLE XVIII**

### **Past Presidents Committee**

#### **Section 1. Composition**

All Past Presidents of the Georgia Section, PGA of America in good standing are automatically members of this advisory committee, unless specifically denied such membership by the Section Board of Directors.

#### **Section 2. Function**

It shall be the function of this Committee to advise the Officers and Section Board of Directors with respect to matters of Section business and to make recommendations for the betterment of the Section.

### **Section 3. Section Board of Directors Meetings**

Members of the Past Presidents Committee shall have an open invitation to attend the Section's Board of Directors Meetings, but shall not have a vote at these meetings.

## **ARTICLE XIX Seniors Division**

### **Section 1. Organization**

The Senior Golf Professionals, within the Section, are hereby encouraged and authorized to create a Senior Organization, which shall schedule Senior Events and conduct the Seniors Championship, Senior Open, and assist in conducting the Senior-Junior Championship. The Seniors Championship shall have an annual contribution to its purse of \$1,500 from the Georgia Section, PGA.

### **Section 2. Seniors' Division President**

The Seniors' Division shall annually elect a President to represent them on the Section's Board of Directors. This person must be a Class MP, A, or LM member of the Association. This term of office is for one (1) year only.

### **Section 3. Authority**

The affairs of the Senior Organization are subject to approval of the Tournament Committee and the Section Board of Directors and shall not be at variance with the Tournament Regulations or the Constitution and By-Laws of either the Section or the National PGA.

## **ARTICLE XX Assistants Division**

### **Section 1. Organization**

The Assistant Golf Professionals within the Section are hereby encouraged and authorized to create an Assistants Division, which shall schedule Assistant Events and assist in conducting the Assistants' Championship and the Professional-Assistant Championship. The Assistants' Championship shall have an annual contribution to its purse of \$1,000 from the Georgia Section, PGA.

## **Section 2. Representation on Section Board of Directors**

The Assistants' Division shall annually elect a President to represent them on the Section's Board of Directors. This person must be an A-8 member of the Association. This term of office is for one (1) year only and if this representative changes classification, he will lose his position on the Section's Board. A replacement to the Board would be elected by a majority vote of the officers of the Assistants' Division.

## **Section 3. Authority**

The affairs of the Assistants' Division are subject to approval of the Tournament Committee and the Section Board of Directors and shall not be at variance with the Tournament Regulations or the Constitution and By-Laws of either the Section or the National PGA.

# **ARTICLE XXI**

## **Awards**

### **Section 1. Section Awards**

The Awards Committee will annually select and present the following Section Awards:

PGA Professional of the Year  
Teacher of the Year  
Horton Smith Award  
Bill Strausbaugh Award  
Junior Golf Leader  
Merchandisers of the Year (Public, Private & Resort)  
Growth of the Game  
Player of the Year  
Gregg Wolff Award  
Assistant Professional of the Year  
Salesperson of the Year

And other awards that may be determined appropriate  
Presentations will be made at the Section's Annual Awards Banquet.

### **Section 2. Criteria**

(a) The criteria used for selection of the Section Awards will be the same used for selection of the National Awards.

- (b) The criteria for selection as Assistant Professional of the Year shall parallel the criteria for the Section's Professional of the Year Award, plus input from the Assistants' Division and recommendations from head professionals.

### **Section 3. Excellence in Education**

The Education Committee will at the end of each recertification period, submit a list of names of those professionals who have doubled the required amount of hours in the given period. These professionals will be eligible to receive the Section's Excellence in Education Award.

### **Section 4. Distinguished Service Award**

Any Georgia PGA member may nominate any individual for the Distinguished Service Award. The individual is to have had a significant impact on the game of golf within Georgia, by promoting interest and involvement, and/or through service to the game. Those elected shall have displayed humanitarian qualities including integrity, good sportsmanship, as well as a love and enthusiasm for the game of golf. In order to be elected, a two-thirds affirmative vote of the board members present shall be required.

### **Section 5. President's Award**

The President's Award is presented annually to a Section member based on the following:

- Overall promotion of golf
- Level of impact on the game of golf
- Ability to inspire fellow professionals
- Level of professional expertise
- Must be a PGA member or registered PGA apprentice
- Current Section board members are NOT eligible to win this award

It is the goal of the committee to identify and recognize those professionals who are a credit to the game and profession through their day-to-day efforts during their career and have not necessarily been involved in section leadership as is required for all other awards.

## **ARTICLE XXII Honorary Members**

**Section 1.** Any member may submit in writing to the Nominating Committee at least 60 days prior to the Annual Spring Meeting the name of any individual to be elected an Honorary Member. Such nominees shall be individuals who are not PGA Members and have made unselfish contributions to the Georgia Section, PGA. At the Annual Spring Meeting, the nominating Committee may

present a list of not more than three (3) individuals to be elected Honorary Members. A 2/3 affirmative vote of those voting is required for election. Those so elected shall have the title “Honorary Member, Georgia Section, PGA of America” and shall hold such title until the next Annual Spring Meeting at which time they may be re-elected.

## **ARTICLE XXIII**

### **Lifetime Honorary Members**

**Section 1.** The Section Board of Directors, from time-to-time, elects individuals to the title “Lifetime Honorary Members, Georgia Section, PGA of America.”

Election of a Lifetime Honorary Member is limited to people who are not PGA members, and have made unselfish contributions to the Georgia Section PGA and the game of golf over an extended period of time.

Election of a lifetime Honorary Member requires a unanimous vote of the Board members present at any meeting of the Section Board of Directors. A person thus elected will hold this title for life.

## **ARTICLE XXIV**

### **Chapters**

#### **Section 1. Purpose**

For more convenient management, improved communications and provision of an opportunity for a greater number of Section members to become active in the organization, establishment of the following Chapters of the Section is authorized:

Central    East    North

#### **Section 2. Territory**

The Territories of the Chapters shall be as indicated on map in the Membership Directory.

In the event PGA Members at a facility desire to move to a chapter other than as indicated by county, they must submit their request in writing to the Section Secretary. The Secretary shall then inform the facility’s current chapter, along with the proposed new chapter of the request. If both chapters agree to the change, the proposed change is submitted to the Section Board of Directors for approval.

### **Section 3. Constitution and By-Laws**

Each Chapter shall adopt a Constitution and By-Laws, which shall not be inconsistent with Constitution and By-Laws of the Association or Section, nor with any rules, regulations, or policies of either.

### **Section 4. Jurisdiction**

- (a) The jurisdiction of the Chapters shall extend only to the discussion and action taken concerning matters, which pertain solely to their geographic area or the members located within those boundaries. The Chapters shall exercise only those powers authorized within those boundaries. The Chapters shall exercise only those powers authorized herein or by the Section Board of Directors and their actions shall be subject to review by, and approval of, the Section Board of Directors.
- (b) The Section Board of Directors shall have the complete authority to withdraw the authorization of any Chapter.
- (c) Additional Chapters may be organized with the consent of the Section Board of Directors. Any additional Chapter must have, as a prerequisite to its formation, a petition signed by at least ten (10) members of the Section employed at approved golf facilities within the proposed boundaries.

### **Section 5. Responsibilities**

- (a) Each chapter shall manage its own affairs, direct its own tournament schedule, hold a Chapter Championship, plan and carry out special events, and manage its own financial affairs.
- (b) On an annual basis, each Chapter is responsible for offering at least one education program for a minimum of one (1) member service requirement.
- (c) A copy of the minutes of all Chapter meetings shall be given to the Section Secretary within thirty (30) days after each meeting, and these minutes shall be submitted prior to the next Section Board of Directors meeting for approval.
- (d) A chapter shall maintain complete accounting records, which will be available for inspection and audit by the Section.
- (e) A chapter shall submit its activities calendar to the Section, and shall not have conflicting dates with Section activities, unless given Section Board of Directors approval.

- (f) All activities of the Chapter are ultimately supervised by the Section, with final approval and authority controlled by the Section's Board of Directors.

## **Section 6. Chapter Officers, Elections, Terms**

- (a) Each Chapter shall hold their Annual Meeting at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Spring Meeting in the Section. Elections, resolutions, motions, and all other business to be presented at the Section meeting, shall be drawn up at this time. The Chapter President shall submit a written report of this Chapter's activities to the Section Secretary at least 15 days prior to the Annual Spring Meeting of the Section.
- (b) Election of Officers
- i. The officers of the chapter shall be elected at a Chapter Annual Meeting by a majority of those voting.
  - ii. Each chapter shall elect a President and Secretary/Treasurer.
  - iii. The terms of office for each officer shall be two years.
  - iv. Officers may not be elected to serve consecutive terms for the same office.
  - v. The Chapter Secretary/Treasurer may be elected President immediately following the completion of his/her term of office.
  - vi. The Chapter President may be elected to office immediately subsequent to the expiration of two (2) years following the last completed term of office.
- (c) Following is the schedule of the years in which chapters elect their officers:
- |      |          |                  |
|------|----------|------------------|
| i.   | Central: | 2011, 2013, 2015 |
| ii.  | East:    | 2010, 2012, 2014 |
| iii. | North:   | 2010, 2012, 2014 |
- (d) Should any Chapter officer resign his position or otherwise be unable to complete his elected term, the remaining members of the Chapter Board of Directors shall elect a replacement to complete the term.
- (e) The Chapters Board of Directors will be made up of these two (2) officers elected at the Chapter Annual Meeting, plus the Chapter's Honorary President (immediate Past President) and any at-large Section Directors if they are also members of the Chapter, plus two (2) directors from the Chapter.

# **ARTICLE XXV**

## **Guidelines for Elections**

### **Section 1. Nominations**

The Section's Nominating Committee may forward to the Section the names of all candidates for office (Section Officers, At-Large Directors, and District Director) at least sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Spring Meeting. The Section shall forward to the membership, the names of all candidates for office (Section Officers, At-Large Directors, and District Director) at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Spring Meeting.

### **Section 2. Nominations from the Floor**

If there are fewer than two nominations for any office at the time of election, oral nominations for such office may be made from the floor of the Annual Spring Meeting.

### **Section 3. Majority Vote**

Candidates for offices elected at the Annual Spring Meeting of the Section (officers and at-large directors) may be proposed by the Nominating Committee and shall be elected by a majority vote. In the event there are more than two nominees for any office and no one receives a majority of votes on the first ballot, the two individuals receiving the most votes after the first ballot shall be placed in a run-off. The individual receiving the majority of votes cast in a run-off shall be the winner.

### **Section 4. Election Procedure**

#### **Candidates for Section Secretary, District Director or any other Officer Position**

- After committing to run for an officer position, a biography and up to a one page letter promoting you must be given to the GPGA Executive Director at least 15 days prior to the annual meeting. All materials are subject to approval by the Chairman of Nominating Committee: not to be unreasonably withheld. This information will be posted on the GPGA website, e-mailed to the membership and put in the hard copy of the Annual Meeting Booklet, if printed.
- Any other information and promotion of yourself is your responsibility. The Section Office will not send additional emails on your behalf nor will the Section provide email addresses or mailing lists for personal use.
- A Candidate may not bring paper materials or any other promotional items to the Annual Meeting for distribution to individual members.

- At the Annual Meeting, a Candidate for an Officer Position will be granted up to 5 minutes to address the membership. In the 5 minutes, a Candidate may include one introductory speaker on his/her behalf. However, due to time constraints, the 5 minute rule will be strictly enforced.
- While other Candidates are speaking, you will be escorted out of the room until it is your turn to speak.
- Current Section Staff will not publicly endorse any individual Candidate.
- Current Section Officers will not publicly endorse any individual Candidate.
- A Candidate may not reference a current Section Staff member or a current Officer as part of written or verbal communication promoting their campaign.
- A Candidate may not reference a PGA National Board Member, Officer or Staff Member as part of written or verbal communication promoting their campaign.
- After speeches are completed, all Candidates shall be part of a pre-determined Question & Answer Forum in front of the membership. The questions will be given to each candidate two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting. The questions will be determined by the Officers of the Section.

### **Candidates for an At-Large Director Position**

- After committing to run for an At-Large Director Position, a biography and up to a one page letter promoting you must be given to the GPGA Executive Director at least 15 days prior to the annual meeting. All materials are subject to approval by the Chairman of Nominating Committee: not to be unreasonably withheld. This information will be posted on the GPGA website, e-mailed to the membership and put in the hard copy of the Annual Meeting Booklet, if printed.
- Any other information and promotion of yourself is your responsibility. The Section Office will not send additional emails on your behalf nor will the Section provide email addresses or mailing lists for personal use.
- A Candidate may not bring paper materials or any other promotional items to the Annual Meeting for distribution to individual members.
- At the Annual Meeting, a Candidate for an At-Large Position will be granted up to 5 minutes to address the membership. In the 5 minutes, a Candidate may include one introductory speaker on his/her behalf. However, due to time constraints, the 5 minute rule will be strictly enforced.

- While other Candidates are speaking, you will be escorted out of the room until it is your turn to speak.
- Current Section Staff will not publicly endorse any individual Candidate.
- Current Section Officers will not publicly endorse any individual Candidate.
- A Candidate may not reference a current Section Staff member or a current Officer as part of written or verbal communication promoting their campaign.
- A Candidate may not reference a PGA National Board Member, Officer or Staff Member as part of written or verbal communication promoting their campaign.
- After speeches are completed, all Candidates shall be part of a pre-determined Question & Answer Forum in front of the membership. The questions will be given to each candidate two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting. The questions will be determined by the Officers of the Section.

## **ARTICLE XXVI**

### **Headquarters Office**

The Section Board of Directors may, at its discretion, arrange for the rental of space and/or construction of a building or buildings to serve as the Headquarters Office of the Section, as a clubhouse at an eventual Section, PGA Golf Club or such other activities of the Section as may require such facilities and shall have complete authority and discretion in acquiring the site, arranging the construction and financing, or taking any other action, which, at its discretion, may be necessary to carry out the intent of this article.

## **APPENDIX**

### **Annual Meeting**

#### **Section 1.**

The following order of business shall be observed at the Annual Spring Meeting of the Section:

1. Roll Call
2. Reading of the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting
3. Reading of the minutes of Executive Committee and Officer meetings since the last Annual Meeting
4. Report of the Committees
5. Report of the Secretary
6. Report of the Vice-President
7. Report of the President
8. Report of the District #13 Director
9. Consideration of old business
10. Proposed Resolutions
11. Elections of Officers
12. Oath of Office
13. Consideration of new business
14. Adjournment

#### **Section 2.**

A former President of the Section shall administer the following oath to all members of the Board of Directors of the Section:

“I, \_\_\_\_\_, as a member of the Board of Directors of the Georgia Section, Professional Golfers’ Association of America, do hereby affirm that I shall at all times adhere to and uphold the Association’s and Section’s Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, and that I shall otherwise conduct my activities in a manner that shall be in keeping with my position as an Officer/Member of the Board of Directors of the Section and which shall reflect credit upon the Association, the Section and its Members.