

# Poston Butte Men's Golf Association

## By-Laws and League Rules

(Revised; 12/30/2022)

### **ARTICLE I - Name**

The name of this golf club will be Poston Butte Men's Golf Association (PBMGA).

### **ARTICLE II - Purpose**

To stimulate interest in golf at the Poston Butte Golf Club (PBGC) by bringing together a group of golfers desirous of forming a golfing organization.

Promote and foster among the members a closer bond and fraternity for their joint and mutual benefit. To promote and conserve the best interests and true spirit of the game of golf as embodied in its ancient and honorable traditions.

Encourage conformance to the USGA Rules of Golf by creating a representative authority.

Maintain a uniform system of handicapping as set forth in the USGA World Handicap System and requirements of the Arizona Golf Association.

Provide an authoritative body to govern and conduct club competitions.

Meetings to follow Roberts rules of order.

### **ARTICLE III - Membership**

**Section 1.** Membership shall be available to all men 18 years of age or older. Membership with the Arizona Golf Association (AGA) and a current GHIN is required.

**Section 2.** Membership in the club are individual and non-transferable, which is associated with PBGC, the privately owned and operated golf course.

**Section 3.** Only golfers with a reasonable and regular opportunity to play golf with fellow members and who can post scores may be members.

**Section 4.** Membership confers no voice in the operation of PBGC, clubhouses or any facilities of the course.

**Section 5.** Membership confers no special privileges in connection with any golf course.

**Section 6.** Memberships in the club are from January 1st, one year only, with all memberships expiring on December 31<sup>st</sup>

**Section 7.** The fiscal year for the club will be January 1 through December 31<sup>st</sup>

**Section 8.** The Board of Officers may confer honorary memberships upon those whom they feel have contributed to the advancement of golf. The unanimous affirmative vote of the Board shall be required to approve such action.

**Section 9.** In the event that any member of the club shall commit any act which reflects, discredits or disrepute thereon, or shall refuse or neglect to comply with the rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Offices, such member shall be subject to suspension or expulsion after ten days written notice and the right to be heard, by a vote of two-thirds of the Board of Officers at any regular meeting or special meeting called for such purpose.

**Section 10.** The annual meeting of the PBMGA shall be held on the 2nd Wednesday in the month of November. The Board of Officers shall provide for the holding of such other meetings as may be deemed necessary or desirable, and they shall call special meetings upon written request of the membership.

**Section 11.** A legal quorum at any meeting shall be four members present in person or by proxy. Any member, in good standing, may be entitled to present legislation or voice an opinion at any regular or special meetings of the membership, and to participate in all member events upon compliance with the rules and regulations stated in these by-laws. A member in good standing is herein defined as a member who is current in their financial obligation to PBMGA.

**Section 12.** All membership fees and dues shall be established by the Board of Officers from time to time in such amounts as they deem to be adequate to operate and maintain the club. Members shall be liable for dues. All monies collected shall accrue to the benefit of the membership. Dues are to be paid January 1<sup>st</sup>, no Later than January 7<sup>th</sup>. Members who have not paid their annual dues before the following Wednesday will not be eligible for golfing events or weekly prize money (this includes Hole-In-Ones). The Treasurer will notify the member of ineligibility.

**Section 13.** Members are allowed 3 (three) guests per year. Guests **CAN NOT** participate in the Hole-in-Ones.

#### **ARTICLE IV – Board of Directors**

**Section 1.** The Board of Officers shall consist of eight members in good standing of the PBMGA and they shall exercise all powers of management of the club not specifically excepted by these by-laws. The Board of Officers should include a Professional Advisor from PBGC, (a non-voting position). The officers shall be elected at the November annual meeting, take office the day of election, and serve for two years or until new officers are elected. Upon the occurrence of a vacancy, an interim election shall be held to fill the vacancy for the balance of the year.

**Section 2.** At least five weeks prior to the Annual Meeting, the Board of Officers shall announce any vacancies for the term of office beginning on the day of the meeting. Members in good standing may request or be nominated prior to the Annual Meeting. At least one week prior to the Annual Meeting, a list of all candidates shall be emailed to each member and a copy of such a list shall be posted on the club bulletin board.

**Section 3.** Voting shall be show of hands and emailed ballots, and those names receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared to be elected.

**Section 4.** The Board of Officers shall meet at such times and places as they may select, and a majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

**Section 5.** In the case of any vacancy through death, resignation, disqualification or other cause, the remaining officers, even though less than a quorum, may elect a successor by majority vote to hold office for the unexpired term of the officer whose place shall be vacant, and until the election of his successor.

## **ARTICLE V – Officers and Committees**

**Section 1.** The officers shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Member-at-Large, Rules and Handicap Chairman, and Tournament Chairman and their duties shall be such as their titles would indicate, or such as may be assigned to them respectively from time to time.

**Section 2.** The Board of Officers shall authorize and define the powers and duties of all committees. Chairs and members of all committees shall be appointed by the president and the president shall be an ex-officio member of all

## **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF OFFICERS**

**President:** It shall be the duty of the President to preside at meetings, which he shall hold as often as he sees fit and for purposes, he determines necessary in seeing that the business and activities of the league are conducted and handled in the proper manner. He will have the authority to appoint committees for the carrying out of delegated functions relative to the best intervals of the league membership. He will oversee all activities as needed to insure the successful operation of the league throughout the season.

**Vice-President:** It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to assume the duties of the President when the President is absent or temporarily unable to serve. It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to keep a recorded of the league business meetings. Reports in the form of minutes of previous meetings must be kept on file for future reference. The Vice President shall Monitor attendance during monthly meetings and notify members of upcoming meetings.

**Secretary:** The Secretary shall be delegated the responsibility of maintaining accurate membership records, recording and maintaining minutes of all meetings of the board, and post notices of all board and membership meetings.

**Treasurer:** It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to collect and maintain records of all money received. He shall disburse funds only with proper authorization and maintain a record of disbursements. A specific function will be to collect the stipulated yearly assessment from each member and maintain the necessary records, publish a monthly financial report, and have all checks (greater than\$500) co-signed by another bank-authorized board member. Member at Large: A member of PBMGA appointed by the President to represent the membership.

**Professional Advisor:** The Professional Advisor shall be a representative of PBGC. In order to best serve and represent all golfers, the Professional Advisor may make suggestions, advise, and enforce rules which, in its judgment are necessary or efficient management and the enjoyment of the PBMGA.

**Rules and Handicap Chairman:** It shall be the duty of the Chairman to arbitrate course playing rule disputes between members, to recommend rules to the league for approval, and to explain rules in general. Discussions will include officers, if necessary. The Chairman can appoint two members to assist.

Committee members will recuse themselves if they are invoked in the dispute. Disputes may not be rectified the day of the dispute.

Additionally, the Chairman has the responsibility to manage a fair and proper system of handicaps in accordance with procedures set forth in the USGA World Handicap System and requirements of the Arizona Golf Association.

Scores are entered into a secured mobile application during events. Handicaps are electronically calculated and controlled by software. The software will display player handicaps on printed score cards based on Tee selection.

**Tournament Chairman:** It shall be the duty of the Chairman to arrange and schedule, with the management of PBGC, inter-club competitions for each Wednesday play, that caters to all abilities. In certain circumstances, decide what Playing Handicap the player should use for specific rounds being played. The Chairman can appoint two members to assist.

## **ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS TO By-Laws**

**Section 1.** The Board of Officers shall have the power to repeal or amend any of these by-laws provided that each action shall not be effective until approved by a majority vote of the members of PBMGA at a meeting held in accordance with the provisions contained herein.

### **League Play**

League Play will be played at the PBGC on Wednesday mornings. Tee times are normally a shotgun start time, or scheduled tee times from 7:00 am. to 9:00 am., unless weather dictates an earlier or later start. Prior to League Play each member will receive an electronic invitation to play. The member can accept or decline the invitation.

If a member accepts the invitation and does not appear by the designated shotgun start time or scheduled tee time, without prior contact, he will receive one warning. Upon the second non-appearance, without prior contact, the member may be dropped from the league with no refunds. To be reinstated, the member must then ask for a review by the officers. The member should be present at the review to defend his position.

The cost to participate in the Wednesday game is \$10.00, (\$20.00 for 2 (two) day tournaments). Should there be a "skins" game, in addition to the regular scheduled game, the cost is an additional \$5.00. Participation in all team events requires all members to pay.

Prior to the PBMGA Club Championship members in good standing participating in the PBMGA Club Championship must have participated in at least 4 (four) Wednesday events from January 1st, present year, to the following year.

Due to weather or special conditions, the President may declare a postponement.

In the event the member voluntarily withdraws during play, green fees and games fees will not be reimbursed.

### **Teams**

Teams will be selected using the Golf Genius Software System, managed by PBGC.

### **Scorecards**

During play, one member of the foursome will enter each player's score using the Golf Genius. Another member will keep a scorecard to verify scores. Only one legible scorecard needs to be turned in with at least one signature.

### **Protests**

All rules' protests must be brought to the attention of the Rules and Handicap Chairman immediately following play.

When a rule is in question, if appropriate, two balls should be played in for the hole, with a score being kept for each one. The rules committee will make a ruling after the match. Both members must be present and consulted.

### **Tees**

Wednesday designated tee boxes are Combo Black/White, White, White/Red Combo (even numbered tees White) (odd number tees Red, Red, Combo Red/Green (even numbered tees Red) (odd number tees Green, and Green.

### **League Playing Rules**

Play shall be governed by USGA, unless modified by league or local rules. Any member not adhering to these rules should be reported to the Rules and Handicap Chairman.

You must play your ball at rest on the course as it lies. If a member deems his ball to be unplayable, he shall, under penalty of one stroke:

- Drop his ball from knee height, within two club-lengths of the spot where the ball lay, but not nearer the hole: or,
- Drop his ball from knee height behind the point where the ball lay, keeping that point directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind that point the ball may be dropped.

**Embedded Ball:** Any embedded ball in the general area of the course may be lifted and cleaned and must be dropped, knee height (not placed). The reference point for relief is a spot right behind where the ball is embedded.

The member has one club length from that in either direction, but no closer to the hole. The member can change surfaces if the club length relief allows the member to do so.

**Lift, Clean and Piece:** When determined prior to tee off that adverse conditions warrant, so a ball lying in any part of the general fairway, including the fringe area that is cut to fairway height or less can be lifted, cleaned and placed within one grip length no closer to the hole.

Abnormal course conditions include interference by animal holes, ground under repair, immovable obstructions, or temporary water.

**General Area:** Free relief with the reference point being the nearest point of complete relief. The member has one club length from that in either direction but no closer to the hole. Ball must be dropped from knee height. The member can change surfaces if the club length relief allows the member to do so.

**Putting Green:** Free relief with the reference point being the nearest point of complete relief not nearer the hole. The ball must be placed on that spot. Relief can be on the putting green or in the general area.

**Lost Ball:** One Stroke and distance penalty. Drop a ball at the point nearest to where the ball was last sighted. **Exception:** when it is agreed that a ball is lost in abnormal ground conditions, a ball may be dropped without penalty within one club length from the nearest point of relief, which avoids interference, but not nearer the hole.

If a ball or stance is on a cart path or an area that is being used as a course cart path (dirt, paved or gravel areas where carts travel a consistent path - not matted grass areas), the nearest point of relief must be established and the ball may be dropped within one club length and not nearer the hole, without penalty. Full relief must be taken from cart path; no partial relief.

**Bunkers:** Governed by USGA Rule 12. Loose impediments around the ball can be moved. An area of grass along the perimeter of the trap is considered "grass" and not sand.

If a ball is deemed unplayable in the bunker, the member may:

- For a two-stroke penalty, take back-on-line relief outside of bunker. No nearer the hole.
- If a Player deems his ball is unplayable, he must confirm with a member of his foursome for confirmation to proceed with a drop. He may drop a ball laterally no closer to the hole and incur a two-stroke penalty.
- A ball imbedded at the top of the trap or in a footprint may be dropped in the trap and the player is assessed a 1 stroke penalty.

**Hitting another member's ball when putting:** two stroke penalty.

**Hitting the wrong ball** is a two-stroke penalty per stroke. There is a maximum of four penalty strokes. Even if you find your original ball, you must continue the hole with the ball you hit in error. Please do not continue to look for your ball. As a courtesy, you should always mark your ball and check your mark before hitting the ball.

**Putting ball:** A ball lying on the putting green may be lifted and cleaned or replaced with a putting ball without penalty.

**Sprinklers by green:** If your ball is within two club lengths of the obstruction and the obstruction is within two club lengths of the green, you get relief from that obstruction. Mark the spot where your ball will just clear the obstruction, then mark one club length from that spot, no closer to the hole. Drop within that club length and the ball is in play, no penalty.

**The drop area for hole 17** is the red tee box and is a yellow slaked island. Subsequently, you must continue teeing on original tee box or continue dropping a ball in drop zone until your ball lands on the island. If your ball hits the green but still goes into the water, you cannot drop on the island

**All drains and the surrounding large rocks** in the rough and red rocks, shall be played as Ground Under Repair. Drop your ball on the red rocks or rough, no closer to the hole, and your ball is now in play, No penalty strokes.

**A lost ball or ball hit out of bounds is** a stroke and distance penalty. You may declare and hit a provisional ball if you believe the original shot might have gone out of bounds or will be lost. If the original ball is not found, or the original ball is out of bounds, the provisional ball lays three, and you are hitting a fourth shot.

If you did not hit a provisional and your original ball is out of bounds or lost, then go to the nearest fairway to where you believe the ball crossed out of bounds or was lost, no closer to the hole, drop your second ball, you are now lying three (stroke and distance), and hitting your fourth shot.

To avoid slow play, a member cannot go back to the spot where he previously hit once this decision is made. This rule is in effect from the tee through the green. All out of bounds must be counted.

**The red rocks or Lava rocks are in play.** You may pick up rocks and stones behind your ball, but you cannot sweep away all the small rocks.

**Some areas of rough can be wet** If your ball embeds and plugs in wet areas, you can pick up your ball, clean it, and drop in the rough within one club length, no closer to the hole. There is no penalty stroke.

**The lake on hole 10 is a red staked penalty area.** If your ball goes into the lake, it is a one stroke penalty. Drop your ball within one club length of where the ball crossed the red line between stakes. If your ball lands between the red stake and lake and is playable, you may ground your club in the hazard and hit your second shot, no penalty.

**Hole 12:** The desert area short of the wall and short of the 12" green is in play. There is no free drop if your shot is too close to the wall for a free swing. Either play it out sideways or take an unplayable lie. An unplayable lie you can go back two club lengths no closer to hole. Add one penalty stroke.

## Revision History:

Date	Prepared By	Comments
04/22/18	Unknown	Original
09/14/20	Jeff Lovejoy	Complete Revision
06/17/21	Jeff Lovejoy	League Champion Participation, Art. VI, section 1
10/13/22	Mike Mitschke	<p><b>Art. II</b> Add Roberts Rules, <b>Art. 3 Sec 1</b> remove min/max memberships rqmt. <b>Sec 6</b> remove Nov (2) chg to Jan1, Dec 31 respectively, <b>Sec 12</b> remove Nov. add January. <b>Art.IV Sec 1</b> Remove five and replace with eight officers. <b>Sec1</b> add officers: member at large, rules and handicap chairman, tournament chariman. <b>Art VI League Play:</b> Revise cost from \$5 to \$10 (2 day play)\$10 to \$20. removed \$1 for hole in one. Added Masters Tournament removed Nov.added Jan. <b>Tees</b> striked Masters ref. Added red, red/green,and green tees.</p>
10/16/22	Mike Mitschke	Spelling corrections, League Play – Bunkers: strike first two lines add Governed by USGA Rule 12. Add verbiage for lateral drop if ball unplayable.
10/31/22	Mike Mitschke	Sec 12 changed January 15 <sup>th</sup> to January 7 <sup>th</sup> . Remove proposed game fee increase \$5 to 10. To be tabled at a later date. League Play 4 <sup>th</sup> paragraph, change date January 15 <sup>th</sup> to January 1 <sup>st</sup> . Added Combo Black/White, Remove redundant Bunkers statement. Add third bullet to Bunkers section.
12/30/2023	Mike Mitschke	Revised Rules and Handicap Chair section. Removed paragraph regarding handicap training. Inserted automated handling of handicaps by software. Score entered electronically get posted to handicaps.
2/10/2023	Mike Mitschke	Remove Masters tournament from requirement for Members to play in four previous Wednesday events. Only applies now to Club Championship.



