



**2018 LPGA Women Who Play  
Championship Participant Information – Stroke Play**  
[championship.lpgawwp.com](http://championship.lpgawwp.com)

The LPGA Women Who Play Championship is an amateur competition conducted under the direction of the LPGA Women Who Play Headquarters. The competition is in three stages:

1. **Chapter Championship** – 18 holes of stroke play to be completed at the Chapter level between March and July (please refer to the dates on the Championship calendar).
2. **Semi-Final Championship** – 18 holes of stroke play. Check Semi-Final Championship Schedule online at [championship.lpgawwp.com](http://championship.lpgawwp.com) for specific dates and locations.
3. **LPGA Women Who Play Championship Finals** – 36 holes of stroke play at Innisbrook Resort, Palm Harbor, FL on October 12-13, 2018.

**Eligibility:** Entries are open to all Chapter members in good standing who are female amateur golfers\* and have a verifiable USGA Handicap Index. Players with a **local Index exceeding 40.4** at the time of registration into the Chapter Championship are required to use a Course Handicap of a 40.4 Index player.

\*LPGA Women Who Play Gender Policy applies.

**LPGA Women Who Play Member-in-Good-Standing:** Prior to registration into the Chapter Championship, registrants must be Chapter members with current membership processed and on record at Headquarters. In addition, dues must be paid current at the time of registration into the Championship Series and at any level of advancement in the competition.

**Handicaps:** Players must have an established USGA Handicap Index and have an equivalent of two (2) 18-hole scores posted to their Handicap record in the current year prior to the Handicap cut-off date for their respective Chapter Championship. Players with less than the minimum requirements posted in 2018 **will not be eligible to compete**. To establish a USGA Handicap Index, a player must post the minimum equivalent of five (5) 18-hole scores prior to the next Handicap revision date.

**Amateur Status:** All players must conform to the USGA Rules of Amateur Status as specified in the USGA Rules of Golf. By her application, the player verifies that she has not received remuneration other than as specified as acceptable by the USGA "Rules of Amateur Status". Refer to the USGA Rules of Golf for the definition of an amateur golfer.

**Rules of Golf:** The USGA Rules of Golf will govern play. It would be advisable to carry a copy of the current USGA Rules of Golf in your golf bag. The Committee in charge of the competition will settle all disputes. Please see the LPGA Women Who Play Hard Card for additional Conditions of Competition.

**Format:** Stroke play competition will be conducted on both a gross and net score basis. Net winners are determined by subtracting their course Handicap from a player's gross score. A player cannot be both a Gross and Net winner in her flight. If a player qualifies for both Low Gross and Low Net, Low Gross prevails. For all other places in the flight, the higher standing prevails. For example, if a player is third low gross and second low net, the second low net prevails.

**Flights:** All competitors meeting eligibility requirements will be placed in one of the following flights based on their verifiable USGA Handicap Index at the time of Handicap verification for the Chapter Championship.

The flights are as follows:

<b>Championship Flight</b>	0 – 10
<b>First Flight</b>	10.1 – 17
<b>Second Flight</b>	17.1 – 24
<b>Third Flight</b>	24.1 – 32
<b>Fourth Flight</b>	32.1 – 40.4

At any time during the Championship Series, Association Headquarters and/or the Tournament Operations (TOPS) Committee reserves the right to adjust a player's Handicap Index if her performance is not reflective of her Handicap, or the player has failed to post all acceptable scores, or is otherwise not observing the spirit of the USGA Handicap System.

Updated Handicap Indexes will be required at every level of competition. Advancing players will be placed in respective flights based on their Handicap Index prior to the next level of competition. The Index must be up-to-date by the effective date published for each level of competition. Competitors at all levels of the Championship will be responsible for ensuring that their verified Index is supported by printed verification based on the published Handicap verification date. If a competitor's Index increases above 40.4 subsequent to the Chapter Championship or Semi-Final level, they must play with a Course Handicap equal to that of a player with a 40.4 Handicap Index.

**The USGA Handicap System Section 6-5, Player Belonging to More Than One Golf Club** – If a player has a different Handicap Index at different clubs, despite posting all scores at all clubs, the Committee in charge of the competition may require the player to use the lowest Handicap Index when competing with players from more than one club.

**Entries: Registration, Fee and Closing Date:** All players must enter the Championship by completing the official online Entry Form. The LPGA Women Who Play Championship Entry Fee and applicable local Chapter tournament fees are payable by each player to the Association. Entry fees are refundable up to the close of registration by notifying the Chapter Championship Director. After the close of registration, entry fees are non-refundable. Refund policies for tournament fees at the Chapter level are determined by the Chapter and by Headquarters for Semi-Final and Championship Finals levels.

**Qualifying Location:** Registrants must compete in the Chapter Championship where they pay Chapter dues. Members of more than one Chapter may compete in more than one event but can only represent the first Chapter in which they won Low Gross or Low Net in their flight or First or Second place in the Scramble Division. Winners at the Chapter level must compete in the Semi-Final Championship designated for their Chapter.

**Player Meeting:** A rules meeting for players will be held at each level of competition. Knowledge of the rules and conditions of play are the responsibility of the player. Attendance at the meeting is strongly recommended. At the Championship Finals level, it is strongly recommended that caddies attend the rules meeting.

**Pace of Play:** Players shall play without undue delay. It is a stated goal of the Association to complete all Championship rounds in 4 hours and 30 minutes or less. Refer to "Pace of Play Policy" and the "2018 LPGA Women Who Play Championship Conditions of Competition" for more details.

**Yardages:** The following are yardage and Slope ranges for each flight:

**Championship Flight (Annika Tee):** 5400-5700 yards; Slope 120-130

**First and Second Flights (Inkster Tee):** 4900-5400 yards; Slope 115-125

**Third and Fourth Flights (Lopez Tee):** 4500-4900 yards; Slope 110-120

The Committee in charge will make every effort to have three sets of easily identifiable competition tees for each flight. At the Chapter level, creating three sets of tees may be difficult. A Chapter Championship may revert to two sets of tees. When this is the case, Championship Flight remains the same. First, Second, Third and Fourth Flights would play from 4800-5300 yards; Slope 115-125.

**Personal Appearance:** Proper golf attire is required at all levels of the Championship. Players must be neat in appearance with respect to personal grooming and clothing. Bermuda shorts or their equivalent and golf type shirts, preferable with collars are required. Jeans are not permitted. Stricter policies established by contracted clubs will supersede the LPGA Women Who Play policies (i.e. spikes, collars, etc.).

**Personal Conduct:** By submitting an entry for any LPGA Women Who Play competition, players understand that their participation is at the sole discretion of the Headquarters. A contestant may be disqualified from the competition at the discretion of the Committee in charge at any time before or during the competition. Incidents of unbecoming conduct or actions deemed to be detrimental to the image of the LPGA Women Who Play are grounds for such disqualifications.

**Spectators:** Spectators, including family and friends, may follow the players provided it is permitted by the golf club. They must remain on the cart paths and/or at least 15 yards from players and are not permitted on the tee boxes, fairways or putting greens. Spectators are cautioned not to talk to players as such conversation may be construed as giving advice. Spectators will not be allowed to use carts on the competition course. Those with special needs must contact the TOPS Committee for accommodations.

**Awards and Prizes:** Chapters are responsible for providing awards and/or prizes at the Chapter Championship. Chapters shall recognize and award prizes for 1<sup>st</sup> Place Low Gross and Low Net in each flight and the two (2) Low Net Scramble Teams. All other places may be awarded at the Chapter's discretion. Awards for the Semi-Finals and Championship Finals will be provided by the Association.

**Automatic Advancement from Championship Finals:** The 1<sup>st</sup> Low Gross and 1<sup>st</sup> Low Net winner from each Stroke Play flight at the Championship Finals will receive automatic advancement to the Championship Finals in the

following year. The Low Gross winner of the Championship Flight (LPGA Women Who Play Champion) receives a three-year exemption to the Championship Finals.

**Acceptance of Places, Notice of Withdrawal:** Upon completion of the Chapter Championship qualifying round or Semi-Final Championship round, 1<sup>st</sup> place winners receive automatic advancement to the next level of play. If she is UNABLE to compete in the next level of competition, a competitor must complete the **Decline to Advance Form** within three (3) days of her qualifying event.

The Director in charge of the competition will offer an opportunity to advance to the next eligible competitor. The order of advancement is based on the final results of the day at the Chapter/Semi-Final competition. Scoring is not recalculated if gross or net winner cannot advance. If the low gross player in any flight withdraws, the competitors will advance based on the next low gross score, regardless of how the awards were given. The same applies to low net winners.

If a qualifier withdraws outside of the 3-day window, she must promptly notify the Headquarters in order to ensure an alternate a fair opportunity to play. Failure to comply may result in disqualification from future LPGA Women Who Play competitions.

**Posting of Competition Scores:** To be eligible to compete, all players advancing at any level of the Championship must post tournament scores from the previous competition before the revision date for the next competition.

**Appeal Process:** Appeals on any questions, actions taken, or decisions regarding the LPGA Women Who Play Championship shall be made in writing (electronic or paper) to the LPGA Women Who Play TOPS Committee. Decision of the Committee are FINAL. There is no further appeal process.