

# SMGA

## Southbridge Men's Golf Association Constitution and By-Laws

### Article I – NAME

The name of this Association shall be Southbridge Men's Golf Association.

### Article II – PURPOSES

1. To stimulate interest in golf at Southbridge Golf Club by bringing together a group of golfers desiring to form a men's golfing organization.
2. To promote and foster among the members a closer bond and fraternity for their joint and mutual benefit and to promote and conserve the best interest and true spirit of the game of golf as embodied in its ancient and honorable traditions.
3. To encourage conformance to the USGA Rule of Golf by creating a representative authority.
4. To maintain a uniform system of handicapping as set forth in the USGA Handicap System.
5. To provide an authoritative body to govern and conduct the club competitions.

### Article III – MEMBERSHIP

- SECTION 1:** Membership shall be available to members in good standing at Southbridge Golf Club and to non-members who will promote the Association's purposes.
- SECTION 2:** Membership shall be available to all men 18 years or older. There shall be a minimum of 10 members with a maximum membership of 500.
- SECTION 3:** Only golfers with a reasonable and regular opportunity to play golf with fellow members and who can personally return scores for posting may be members.
- SECTION 4:** Membership shall confer no voice in the operation of Southbridge Golf Club.
- SECTION 5:** Membership shall confer no special privileges in connection with Southbridge Golf Club.
- SECTION 6:** Membership in the Association is for a calendar year only, with all memberships expiring November 30th.
- SECTION 7:** Each candidate for membership shall be entitled to the rights and privileges of membership upon payment of current dues, unless, upon recommendation of the Membership Committee, The Board of Directors, by two negative votes shall disqualify the candidate.
- SECTION 8:** In the event any member of the club shall commit any act which reflects discredit or disrepute thereon or shall refuse or neglect to comply with rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Directors or duly appointed officers, such member shall be subject to suspension or expulsion after ten (10) days written notice and the right to be heard, by vote of two thirds of the Board of Directors at any regular meeting or special meeting called for such purpose.

**SECTION 9:** All membership fees and dues shall be established by the Board of Directors from time to time in such amounts as they deem to be adequate to operate and maintain the Association. Members shall not be considered active members, entitled to the full benefits of membership, until the current year's dues have been paid. All monies collected shall accrue to the benefits of the membership of the Association.

#### **Article IV – MEETINGS**

**SECTION 1:** The fiscal year for the Association shall be from December 1st through November 30th.

**SECTION 2:** The Annual Meeting of the Association shall be held between the 25<sup>th</sup> of October and the 5<sup>th</sup> of November. The President, at his own discretion or upon the written request of five active members, may call a special meeting of the Association. Reasonable notice of not less than five (5) days prior notice shall be given to the membership of the time, location and purpose of the special meeting.

**SECTION 3:** QUORUM: A legal quorum at any special or annual meeting shall be the active members present in person or by proxy. Each active member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote.

#### **Article V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**SECTION 1:** The Board of Directors shall consist of six (6) members in good standing of the Southbridge Men's Golf Association and the General Manager of the Southbridge Golf Club. The Board of Directors shall consist the elected Officers and the Tournament Chairman and the Blitz Chairman, both of whom shall be appointed by the President. The Board of Directors shall exercise all powers of management of the Association not specifically excepted by these By -Laws.

**SECTION 2:** The Board Directors 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 3:** In the case of any vacancy through death, resignation, disqualification, or other causes, the remaining directors, even though less than a quorum, may elect a successor by majority vote to hold office for the unexpired term of the director whose place shall be vacant, until the election of his successor.

#### **Article VI - OFFICERS**

Officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

#### **Article VII- DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

**SECTION 1:** **PRESIDENT:** The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and Board of Directors. In the absence of the President and the Vice President, the meeting shall elect its presiding officer. The President shall sign all written contracts and obligations of the Association, and perform such other duties as the Association or Board of Directors may assign.

**SECTION 2:** VICE PRESIDENT: The Vice President shall, in the absence or disability of the President, perform all duties devolving upon the President.

**SECTION 3:** SECRETARY: The Secretary shall give notice of all meetings of the Association and Board of Directors, and shall keep the records of the Association, a roll of membership, and a certified copy of the BY-LAWS and regulations current at all times. He shall furnish to the Treasurer the names of all persons elected and notify such persons of their election.

**SECTION 4:** TREASURER: The Treasurer shall collect all dues, pay all bills upon the certification of the proper authority, and keep the accounts of the Association. He shall make a financial statement at the annual meeting of the Association and any other time when directed to do so by the Board of Directors.

## **Article VIII - ELECTIONS**

**SECTION 1:** Election of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be held at the Annual meeting each year.

**SECTION 2:** At least two (2) weeks prior to the Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of five (5) members of the organization. At least one (1) week prior to the Annual Meeting, this committee shall submit to the Board and shall post upon the club bulletin board a list of the nominees. Names of other members in good standing may be nominated by members at the Annual Meeting.

**SECTION 3:** Each office shall be voted on separately. Those members receiving the greatest number of votes cast shall be declared to be elected. Voting shall be by voice vote unless, upon a motion, duly seconded and approved by the members present, voting shall be by written ballot. The Board shall appoint a committee of three (3) judges who are not members of the Board or candidates for election to supervise the election.

## **Article IX – COMMITTEES**

**SECTION 1:** The Board of Directors shall authorize and define the powers and duties of all committees. Chairman and members of all committees shall be appointed by the President, and the President shall be an ex -officio member of all committees except the nominating committee.

**SECTION 2:** Except as modified by the Board of Directors, all appointed committees shall function as recommended in the USGA Golf Committee Manual. The following such committees as the President may deem advisable or necessary:

Tournament Committee - To arrange and schedule with the management of any golf course as necessary and conduct all intra-club and inter-club competitions.

Handicap Committee - Composed primarily of members with the responsibility to establish a fair and proper system of handicaps in accordance with procedures set forth in the USGA Handicap Manual.

Membership Committee - To investigate and act upon all applications for membership and to recommend appropriate action to the Board of Directors.

Social Committee: To encourage and arrange social and entertainment features and events for special occasions.

**Article X - AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS**

The Board of Directors shall have the power to repeal or amend any of these By-Laws provided such action shall not be effective until approved by a majority vote of the members of the Southbridge Men’s Golf Association at a meeting held in accordance with the provisions contained herein.

**Approved and Adopted This Day, October, 26, 2016.**

**Patrick S. Graham, President:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ed Gascoyne, Secretary:** \_\_\_\_\_