

Pro-Duffers U.S.A. 2026 National Tournament (38th Annual)

Washington, DC Sept 17th- 20th, 2026

National Tournament Rules

1. Pace of Play Policy — 2026 Pro-Duffers National Tournament

- a. **Pace of play is critical for this year's tournament.** We are playing on **public courses** with tee times scheduled immediately after our rounds, and we must finish on time.
- b. **Your round MUST be completed in 5 hours and 15 minutes.** If your group is still on the course after **5:15**, you will be **removed from the course**, and your remaining holes will be scored as **triple bogey per hole**.
- c. To help keep groups moving, **DC Pro-Duffers volunteers will be stationed on the course.** Their job is to monitor pace and move groups along as needed.
- d. You **must keep up with the group in front of you** at all times. Falling behind is not acceptable.
- e. We are enforcing a **triple-bogey max** on every hole. If you lye at double bogey, **do not putt for triple — pick up your ball and move on immediately.**
- f. **Failure to clear the course within the 5:15 limit may result in additional fees being charged to the Pro-Duffers, so your cooperation is essential.**
- g. If **one player in your foursome is consistently slowing the group down**, notify a marshall or DC Pro-Duffers volunteer right away so we can address it.

2. U.S.G.A. rules shall govern all play with two (2) exceptions:

- a. **Use no more than 3 minutes searching for balls.**
- b. **Pick up on triple bogey. If you're hitting for double bogey from off the green and don't hole out, pick up and record triple bogey.**

3. **Putt out all putts up to triple bogey.** If you are putting for double bogey and miss, pick up and record a triple bogey

4. Stakes on course supersede lost balls.

5. The ball will be played down. No rolling or fluffing of the ball.

6. If you are not sure of a rule, play two (2) balls. The ruling from the National Tournament Director is final.

7. Please record all scores in **Golf Genius app** and keep a backup scorecard. Turn in score cards to the golf course staff immediately after play in Pro Shop. **Score cards not turned in within 10 Minutes after completion of the round, will be disqualified.** To complete cards: Total your eighteen (18) hole score, signed by the player, and attested by one member of the Group.

8. Ties will be determined by using Saturday's card, score on hardest holes until decided.
9. **Play ball as it Lies all through the course including Bunkers**
10. **The Handicap Committee MAY assign a Tournament Index** that is lower than your Handicap Index if the entrant has: 1) a lack of sufficient score history 2) A past player Nationals Pro Duffer History index', 3) has a lower index in the past 12 months. 4) Has had a **soft cap indicator placed on their index by USGA**. 5) Has an inactive GHIN handicap. 6) No GHIN Handicap established – player will be assigned a zero.
11. **The maximum handicap for the championship is 22.** You may keep an index higher than this but will be reduced to these maximum indexes for the tournament. We want to promote all Pro Duffers strive to play the best golf possible. **All Handicap rulings from the National Tournament Director are final.**

Two (2) – Person Match Play – Best Ball (Thursday Warm-Up Round)

The pairings sheet will indicate the 2 playing partners. **Your cart mate is your partner.**

Each golfer plays their own ball; the winner of the hole is determined by the lowest score of either of the partners. Putts may be conceded after hole winner is determined. The team with the lowest score wins. The winning team receives \$40.00 (from registration fee). *Note: In case of a 3-some, the winner will be the one with the lowest score \$30.00 or split between ties.*

To Speed Up Play:

Best Ball Round: Pick up when hole winner is determined or when triple bogey.

Fri & Sat Rounds: **Pick up on Triple bogey**

Tee Box Assignments				
	Oak Creek	Potomac Shores	Northwest	Lake Presidential
Under 70 Men Under 70 men guest	Green Tees	Gold Tees	White Tees	White Tees
Seniors, Under 70 Women	White Tees	Silver Tees	Green Tees	Silver Tees
Men's Super Seniors - Women Seniors	Black Tees	Jade Tees	Gold Tees	Orange Tees

Tee Boxes subject to change at discretion of tournament director.

Super Seniors – Rocky Jefferson Flight: The flight championship will be determined by playing 9 holes per day. However, for a player to compete for a national championship or have their score counted for the Chapter Championship they must complete 18 holes per day.

We will have Two (2) National Champions this year. Low Gross and Low Net.

Gross Skins will be played Friday and Saturday within flights for all participants

Chapter Championship as follows:

1. Seven (7) Lowest Net Scores taken EACH DAY and combined for the 2-Day total.
2. Teams with less than 7 players cannot qualify to compete for the chapter championship.

The Tournament Director reserves the right to make changes throughout the championship.

Handicap & Tournament Committee: Anthony Toney, Welby Ina, Troy Belton
