PART 6A

PGA TOURNAMENT

PROCEDURES

1. Association Tournaments

1.1 The Association is responsible for the negotiation, implementation and administration of national tournaments as set out in the Constitution, and whilst the Executive Committee shall ultimately approve these tournaments, the terms are binding on all regions. The right to accept or reject entries for National tournaments shall rest solely with the Executive Committee.

1.2 Regional Secretaries are responsible for organising and obtaining sponsorship for all regional tournaments open to all Members in the region or a certain class of Member e.g. Assistants' events.

1.3 The Regional Committee will determine the relevant levels of prizefund to be played for in a regional tournament.

1.4 The Chief Executive or his appointed deputy shall be responsible for organising and obtaining sponsorship for all Women's Section (WPGA) events open to all women Members of the Association and Assistants who are women.

1.5 The committee of the Women's Section (WPGA) will determine relevant levels of prizefund to be played for at a WPGA-approved tournament.

2. County PGA and Irish Branch PGA Tournaments

2.1 All County and Branch Associations will comply with these Tournament Regulations set out in this Part 6 of these Regulations.

2.2 Each County and Branch Committee is responsible for the implementation of a tournament schedule which supplements the overall schedule of tournaments administered by the national and regional administration of the Association.

2.3 Each County and Branch Committee will determine its own rules for eligibility for such events run under its jurisdiction allowing for the provision that all Members of the relevant County or Branch Association will be able to enter events subject to the format of the tournament making such entry permissible.

2.4 Each County or Branch Committee may, at their discretion, invite Members who are not Members of that County or Branch to play in Pro-Am tournaments run within that County or Branch provided that the total number of competitors in this category does not exceed 10% of the field. This 10% may include Full Members of The European Tour, The European Seniors' Tour, the Ladies' European Tour and Members of a recognised overseas PGA and Tours.
2.5 County and Branch PGA tournaments will not be permitted on any day when there is a regional tournament being played within that County or Branch, unless prior permission has been obtained from the relevant Regional Secretary.

2.6 Where County or Branch PGA events are authorised and scheduled against a regional event in another County, a player in the Top 50 of the Regional Order of Merit must obtain a written release from the Regional Secretary in order to compete in that County or Branch event.

2.7 County or Branch PGA tournaments will not be permitted on any day when there is a Regional Order of Merit, or Assistant's Order of Merit tournament, except in exceptional circumstances when prior permission must have been obtained in advance of the relevant County tournament from the relevant Regional Secretary.

2.8 County and Branch Associations shall be responsible for the organisation and administration of events staged within their boundaries for the Members of that County or Branch Association. However, it is important that these Associations advise the regional administration of their tournament calendar at the earliest practicable opportunity so as to:

(a) ensure the date is approved and is included in the regional calendar; and

(b) minimise the possibilities of organising a conflicting event.

3. **Conflicting Events Release**

3.1 For the purposes of this paragraph a Member is automatically entitled to enter any tournament organised or approved by the Association (an "Association-Approved Tournament") if:

(a) he finishes at the appropriate level to qualify from the Association Regional Order of Merit as determined by the region; or

(b) he is invited or nominated to enter.

3.2 In order to protect the sponsorship obtained by the Association, by providing the highest quality representative field possible at Association-Approved Tournaments, a Member must not play in a tournament which conflicts with any Association-Approved Tournament in which he is automatically entitled to enter unless he obtains a release from the Chief Executive or Regional Secretary (as appropriate) responsible for administering the tournament. A written release will be given in the following (non-exhaustive) circumstances:

(a) In the event that a Member has entered an Association-Approved Tournament and subsequently withdraws to enter a higher-ranking event, the Member must inform the organiser of the Association-Approved Tournament (i.e. at national, regional or County level) which will give that Member a release from playing in their tournament.
(b) A Tournament Professional is not required to seek approval to play in an Association-Approved Tournament or a European Tour tournament. However, if he has committed to play in an Association-Approved Tournament then he must abide by the normal procedures for withdrawing from a tournament as applied to all Members in such cases.

For the purpose of paragraph 3.2 "a higher-ranking event" is defined relative to a committee under whose auspices the relevant tournaments is administered:

National Events - Executive Committee:
   The Open Championship and events sanctioned by The European Tour and LET, or any other event considered to be of appropriate status (including Approved Tours).

Regional Events - Regional Committee:
   Events described above and National Association Events.

County Events - County Committee:
   Events described above and Regional Association events.

For the purpose of paragraph 3.2, a "tournament" means any golf event where more than four Members or professional golfers participate for Prize Money, and "Prize Money" means sums paid either in fixed appearance fees or for competition on the day.

3.3 The Association will endeavour to make available its top quality players in each region to compete in its tournaments. Each region will publish an annual tournament calendar, which will include a statement of those Members who are automatically entitled to enter tournaments, by reference to their place in the Regional Order of Merit (and it may also make special invitations or nominations). Those Members automatically entitled to play in a particular tournament must not play in a tournament not approved by the Association which conflicts with the Association tournament. Such a Member may obtain a release from either the Chief Executive or the Regional Secretary (depending on whether it is a National or regional tournament) if he wishes to enter a "higher-ranking event" which is described in the Rule.

4. Eligibility to Play in Regional Tournaments

4.1 Regional tournaments are open only to Members of the region under whose auspices the tournament is administered.

4.2 Regional Committees may, at their discretion, invite Members of the Association who are not Members of that region to play in Pro-Am tournaments run within that region provided that the total number of competitors in this category does not exceed 10% of the field. This 10% may include Full Members of The European Tour, The European Seniors' Tour, the Ladies' European Tour and Members of a recognised overseas PGA and Tours.
4.3 The above paragraphs do not apply to open tournaments approved by the Executive Committee or tournaments that are administered in conjunction with The European Challenge Tour.

5. **Levy**

5.1 A levy shall normally be imposed on the prize money or fees in all PGA and Women's Section (WPGA) tournaments. The size of the levy shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

6. **Film and Media Rights**

6.1 The television, radio, film and all other electronic media rights of all Members participating in events approved by the Association, or any other golf event run in conjunction with or under the auspices of the Association, shall be assigned to the Association.