

THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOLF ASSOCIATION (INC)

M E M O R A N D U M

MEMO TO: All Clubs
FROM: Greg B Fitzhardinge
DATE: 13 May 2009
SUBJECT: DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES

Please be advised that the WA Golf Association Match Committee has reviewed the use of Measuring Devices in WAGA events and GMJGF events and has decided to allow the use of GPS devices only in specific events.

The WA Golf Association will now allow, as part of the conditions of hosting a Paxton Average or Stephen Leaney Junior Stoke Average event, clubs to allow the use of Measuring Devices (GPS only) when hosting one of these events.

Please note that at this stage Measuring Devices will still be prohibited in all State events conducted by the WA Golf Association or GMJGF. These include but are not limited to – the **WA State Amateur, WA State Junior Amateur, Mandurah Easter Amateur Open, WAGA Pennants and State Sand Greens Championship.**

In order to allow Distance Measuring Devices to be used in any Paxton Average or Stephen Leaney Junior Stroke Average event the following wording **must** be included in the local rules of the competition –

“In this competition a player may obtain distance information by using a global positioning system (GPS) device that measures distance only. If during a stipulated round a players uses any other distance measuring device or a GPS device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play eg. gradient, wind-speed, temperature etc. the player is in breach of Rule 14-3 for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional functions are actually used.”

Furthermore the WA Golf Association is in favour of all clubs allowing the use of Measuring Devices in club events. If a club decides to allow them in competition it is a club decision to restrict the device to GPS only or allow any measuring device.

However it must be pointed out that the only devices that can be used are devices that measure distance only. Any device that has the capability of measuring other factors such as wind and / or gradient is not permitted – even though the facility is non-operational for the duration of the event.

In order to allow Distance Measuring Devices to be used in competitions the following wording **must** be included in the local rules of the competition -

“(In this competition), (In all competitions), (For all play at this course) a player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. However if during a stipulated round a players uses a distance measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other

conditions that might affect his play eg. gradient, wind-speed, temperature etc. the player is in breach of Rule 14-3 for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional functions are actually used.”

The above information and wording will be included on the WAGA website. A further review will be undertaken early in 2010.

Should you have any queries please refer them to either the Tournament Manager Clayton Bell or myself.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Greg B Fitzhardinge'. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial 'G' and a long horizontal stroke.

Greg B Fitzhardinge
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR