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**Terms of Competitions - 2023**

1. **General**
2. The Rules of Golf together with any Local Rules in force will apply in all competitions and must be strictly observed.
3. It is the responsibility of the player to obtain and understand the Rules. Local Rules are published on the scorecard and on the Website.
4. **Eligibility to Enter Competitions**
5. To be a competitor in any or all closed Club Competitions you must be either: -
6. A full playing Member, including Honorary Life Member and Honorary Member of Wenvoe Castle Golf Club (WCGC).
7. A young Player aged 18 -35 who are members of WCGC.
8. A junior Member of Wenvoe Castle Golf Club
9. For entry into the Men’s Club Championship the player, must agree to the specific rules of that competition and commit to represent WCGC at the Welsh Tournament of Champions should he win the Club Championship.
10. To win a prize in any WCGC “Open” competition the “competitor” must be a full playing member of an affiliated golf club and hold a valid handicap index with their home club, or a valid WCGC handicap index.
11. Not more than one Junior Member may play in any group in a singles event. In Better ball or Foursomes Competitions a Junior Member cannot be partnered by another Junior Member. Junior members may not enter or benefit from any related Sweepstakes.
12. At the discretion of the Club Management Committee Junior Members may be precluded from entering specified competitions.
13. No member shall enter or be declared the winner of a club competition or win a competition prize unless they have a valid handicap index.
14. No Member shall enter or be declared the winner of a Board Competition unless they have completed five qualifying cards after obtaining their initial handicap index.
15. Juniors may enter adult competitions but not seniors’ competitions which are age restricted to those 55 years old and above
16. **Entry Requirements**
17. Entrants must register their intention to enter a competition prior to commencing their round by either signing into the computer in the lobby or using the app.
18. The appropriate entry fee must be paid via the competition account prior to commencing the round.
19. Failure to do either or both of i or ii above will result in disqualification.
20. All prize monies in Competitions, excluding sweeps, to be paid into the winners Pro Shop account or Vouchers when applicable.

R and A Rule 3b Handicap Competitions.

1. For match play competitions competitors must ensure their names are entered in the competition book and pay the appropriate entry fee before the draw takes place. Competitors failing to comply will not be included in the draw. Once the draw has taken place no substitute in a pairing will be allowed.
2. **Organisation of Competitions**
3. Whenever possible, all competitions should commence at the first tee (from the markers designated for the competition) unless there are extenuating circumstances.

1. Stroke play competitions will be played in groups of three or four players except in extenuating circumstances.
2. All Scores must be returned and verified by both player and marker. The scores must be entered electronically as soon as possible at the end of play (latest 7pm). However, the scorecard is the sole responsibility of the player.
3. Failure to return a score will result in disqualification. If a player fails to complete a round without good reason and submit their score the player may be suspended from entering a subsequent competition. Similarly repeat offences will be considered for suspension from the next three competitions.
4. In the event of a tie occurring in a stroke play competition the winner will be determined by matching score cards. The winner will be decided by count back over the back nine holes initially, the player with the best score on the last nine holes shall be declared the winner and if this does not produce a result the scores of the last six holes, then last three holes, then last two holes and finally the last hole will be taken in to account. If this fails to determine a winner, the procedure will be repeated with the scores over the front nine holes. In all calculations the appropriate proportions of handicaps will be applied.
5. **Match Play Competitions**
6. In match play competitions a draw will be made, and a date stipulated by when each round must be completed. No extension of the stipulated period will be allowed and competitors failing to play a match by the stipulated date will be disqualified.
7. Competitors will make their own arrangements as to the date and time of play and competitors are equally responsible for contacting their opponents.
8. In circumstances where competitors are unable to agree a date and time of play, the match will be deemed to be played at 17.00hrs on the last day of the stipulated period. If only one competitor or pair is present at that time on the final day, then they will be declared the winner. They must then have their attendance verified by the Club Secretary or the Club Professional (or in their absence a Club member) and confirm that they are putting their names through as the winners on the draw sheet.
9. If having mutually agreed a date and time to play a match an opponent(s) withdraws or is not present for play at the mutually agreed date and time the competitor(s) will have the right to claim the match. Alternatively, competitors may agree to play the match on some other date and time providing it is within the stipulated period.
10. Failure by the winners of a match to ensure their names have been put forward on the draw sheet will result in disqualification from the competition.
11. All finalists must be available to play on Finals Day and failure to do so will result in forfeiture of the match. In this regard competitors should not enter the competition if it is known that they will not be available on both Finals Day. In the event of a player reaching more than one final then arrangements will be made to play one of the matches on the Sunday following (Second Finals Day). Should finalists be in more than two finals they have until the Sunday following second finals day to play their match.
12. Up to and including the finals of all men’s competitions, except for the Men’s’ Club Championship and the Ladies Club Championship, the Ladies Silver Salver and the Ladies Bronze Championship where the rules are set out below, if a match finishes all square the result will be decided by ‘sudden death’ commencing at the first hole.
13. Up to and including the finals of the Dr & A. M. Jones Trophy, the Mary Fellows Bowl, the Blod Lewis Cup, and the White Cup Foursomes, if a match finishes all square after 18 holes, the result will be decided over a minimum of three extra holes commencing at the first hole, after which sudden death rules will apply.
14. **Men’s and Ladies Club Championships**
15. The qualifying competition for the Men’s Club Championship is a 36-hole stroke play event played over two days and for the Ladies Club Championship an 18-hole stroke play event restricted to members whose home handicap index is with WCGC. Both the Men’s Championship and the Ladies Championship are not restricted and are open to players of all handicaps.
16. Players must not ride on any form of transportation during the stipulated round unless authorised by Committee, such authorisation would normally require a Medical certificate or a letter from a doctor. (see Rule 4.3 local rule) penalty for breach of rule is as shown in Rules of Golf Committee Procedures paragraph 8 G6.
17. The 8 qualifiers for the match play stages of the Men’s Championship will comprise of those players recording the best eight aggregate gross scores. In the event of a tie for the eighth qualifying place the result will be determined by the order of the scores. In the event of the same score over thirty-six holes the order will be resolved by matching a count back of scores over the last eighteen holes played. If this still produces a tie then count back will applied on the last nine holes, then six holes, then three holes, then two holes and finally the last hole. If this still fails to produce a result the count back procedure will be repeated using the scores on the first eighteen holes to determine the winner.
18. The 8 qualifiers for the match play stages of for the Ladies Championship will comprise the current Ladies Club Champion (Seeded No 1) together with the players recording the best seven gross scores over eighteen holes on the day of the qualifying competition. In the event of a tie for the eighth qualifying place the result will be determined by matching scores over the last nine holes, then six holes, then three holes, then two holes and finally the last hole. If this still fails to produce a result the count back procedure will be repeated using the scores on the front nine holes to determine the winner.
19. For all the Ladies Knockout Competitions there must be a minimum number of entrants to complete a full quarter final. (i.e., eight pairs or eight singles)
20. The draw for all the seeded match play stages will be in accordance with the Rules of Golf.
21. The finals of both the Men’s and Ladies Championships will be played over thirty-six holes on Finals Day. If the match finishes all square the result will be decided by ‘sudden death’ commencing at the first hole.
22. **The Dragon Trophy and Ladies Bronze Championship**

 The Dragon Trophy qualifying competition is an 18 - hole stroke play event for Men with no handicap restriction. Full handicap allowance will be used during the stroke play qualifying and match play stages. The qualifiers for the match play stages will comprise those eligible players recording the best eight net scores. The draw will then be determined by the order of the scores. In the event of the same net qualifying scores count back will be on the last nine holes, then six holes, then three holes, then two holes and finally the last hole. If this still fails to produce a result the count back procedure will be repeated using the scores on the front nine holes to determine the winner.

1. **The Ladies Bronze Championship**

 An eighteen holes stroke play event for Ladies with handicaps index of 20.5 – 54 inclusive. The qualifiers for the match play stages will comprise those eligible players recording the best eight gross scores in the Ladies Championship Qualifying competition. The draw will then be determined by the order of the scores. In the event of the same qualifying scores count back will be on the last nine holes, then six holes, then three holes, then two holes and finally the last hole. If this still fails to produce a result the count back procedure will be repeated using the scores on the front nine holes to determine the winner.,

The final of the Dragon Trophy and the Ladies Bronze Championship will be played over eighteen holes on Finals Day. If the match finishes all square the result will be decided by ‘sudden death’ commencing at the first hole.

1. **Ladies Silver Salver**

 The Ladies Silver Salver is an 18 - hole Singles Match Play Scratch competition played between Ladies with a handicap index of up to 20.4 on the day the entry to the competition closes. An unseeded draw takes place to determine opponents. In the event of halved matches these are decided by “sudden death” commencing on the first hole

1. **Winter League**

   The Winter League commences on the first Sunday in October and is a Matchplay Pairs competition played over sixteen holes and qualifying rounds within two groups. The top four from each group go through to the Winter League Finals, the next four go through to the Neal Peake Memorial Plate finals. The quarter, semi and Finals are Matchplay pairs over eighteen holes

1. **Handicap Allowances**
2. Imposing a limit on the handicap index is against the spirit of the game and therefore players will play off full handicap index in all competitions.
3. In competitions played off different tees where an adjustment to playing handicaps is required, any additions or deductions will be known before play commences.

The following handicap allowances will be used (based on course handicap)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Format of Play** | **Type of Round** | **Recommended Handicap Allowance** |
| **Stroke Play** | Individual | 95% |
|  | Individual Stableford | 95% |
|  | Individual Par / Bogey | 95% |
|  | Individual Maximum Score | 95% |
|  | Four Ball | 85% |
|  | Four Ball Stableford | 85% |
|  | Four Ball Par / Bogey | 90% |
|  |  |  |
| **Match Play** | Individual | 100% |
|  | Four Ball | 90% |
|  |  |  |
| **Other** | Foursomes | 50% of combined team handicap |
|  | Greensomes | 60% low handicap + 40% high handicap |
|  | Best 1 of 4 Stroke Play | 75% |
|  | Best 2 of 4 Stroke Play | 85% |
|  | Best 3 of 4 Stroke Play | 100% |
|  | All 4 of 4 Stroke Play | 100% |
|  | Scramble (4 players) | 25%/20%/15%/10%from lowest to highest handicap |
|  | Scramble (2 players) | 35% low / 15% high |
|  | Best 1 of 4 Par / Bogey | 75% |
|  | Best 2 of 4 Par / Bogey | 80% |
|  | Best 3 of 4 Par / Bogey | 90% |
|  | 4 of 4 Par / Bogey | 100% |

1. **Suspension of Play**
2. **What you must do when committee suspends play Rule 5.7b**
3. Immediate suspension (such as when there is imminent danger). If the committee declares an immediate suspension of play you must stop play at once, mark your ball and you must not take another stroke until the committee resumes play.
4. Normal suspension (such as unplayable course conditions.) If players are between two holes, you must stop play and must not tee off to begin another hole until the committee resumes play. If any player in your group has started a hole you may choose either to stop play and mark your ball, or to play out the hole. Play must not resume until the committee gives the go ahead.

**Penalty For Breach of Rules 5.7b: Disqualification**

1. **What You Must Do When Play Resumes Rule 5.7c**

You must resume play at the time set by the committee and from where you stopped play on a hole or, if between two holes, at the next teeing area.

**Penalty For Breach of Rule 5.7c Disqualification**

1. **Local Procedure**

A suspension of play for a dangerous situation will be signalled by one prolonged note of the siren.

All other suspensions will be signalled by three consecutive notes of the siren.

In either case, resumption of play will be signalled by two short notes of the siren.

1. **Practice**

Practice on the day of a stroke play competition will be limited to practice from within the defined practice areas between the 12th and 18th holes, alongside the eighth hole, the chipping and putting areas adjacent to the main car park and the old ninth green and bunker when this hole is not in play.

1. **Disputes and Decisions**

The Handicap Committee will be responsible for resolving any disputes arising during a competition except where a referee has been appointed for a match and whose decision will be final.

1. **Changing The Terms of Competitions**

The committee reserves the right to amend the terms of competitions at any time including the right to arrange and / or alter starting time or change the competition format. The decision of the Committee is final in all matters.

1. **Consequences of non-compliance**
2. Where a player fails to comply with the Terms of Competitions, they may risk disqualification.

Where an offence is not punishable by disqualification from the competition, they may risk

sanctions. This can include

1. Receiving a verbal warning
2. Receiving a temporary ban to enter future competitions.

Any actions that may be undertaken under i.or ii. above are at the discretion of the committee.

1. Under the rules of WHS any Non-Return of of a score (NR) will be investigated and this may result in a penalty score being applied. Repeated failure to return a score can result in suspension of a player’s handicap.

 Management Committee

 January 2023