

MIDDLESBROUGH GOLF CLUB LADIES SECTION RULES AND CONDITIONS OF PLAY

The Rules and Conditions of Play set out below are for competitors in Ladies' Competitions.

GENERAL

- 1 All competitions are limited to amateur players and are to be played in accordance with the current Rules of Golf published by R & A Rules Ltd and the Local Rules of Middlesbrough Golf Club (MGC).
- 2 The Ladies Committee shall arrange all Ladies Competitions and shall determine all the conditions that apply.
All Committee decisions are final.
- 3 All competitions / matches must be played from the Red Markers and start from the first tee unless the format determines otherwise (e.g. Shotgun starts)
- 4 No player is eligible to enter a competition after 31st March until her Annual Membership Subscription has been paid.
- 5 Playing Groups are made of three players (with the exception of specific Four Ball competitions) in accordance with the time sheet and the format of the day. Play will commence from the first tee.
- 6 Competitors must ensure entrance fee is paid and registration is made before play commences.
- 7 All competition score cards must be marked by a lady member with a CONGU handicap or an official Club Handicap
- 8 Qualifying Competitions for handicap purposes will be played in accordance with the current CONGU Unified Handicapping System.
- 9 England Golf (formally EWGA) Medal Competitions will be played in accordance with current England Golf (EG) Rulings.

- 10 Buggies may be used in competition, (including EG Medals played at Club level), **with the exception** of:
- a) Ladies Club Championship, 36 hole competitions.
 - b) Yorkshire Ladies County Golf Association Inter-Club Team Matches. Permission may be granted if, prior to the commencement of the matches, application is made to the Yorkshire Committee on presentation of a current medical certificate of disability.
 - c) In EG Championship competitions, players must walk unless a golf buggy is permitted by a member of the EG Amateur Championship Committee on the production of a current valid medical certificate. See EG policy on use of Golf Buggies & “Transportation Policy”.
 - d) In respect of YLCGA and EG Championship competitions the buggy may only be used by the person named on the certificate and may only carry the player and her equipment (and caddie if applicable).
- 11 a) On any day of a Stroke Play Competition, a player cannot practise on the Competition Course except within marked practice areas.
- b) On any day of a Match Play Competition, a player may practise on the Competition course before a round.
- 12 A player may leave the course between rounds of a 36 hole competition, but must be on the tee, ready to play, at their designated time. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.
- 13 **Distance Measuring Devices (DMD):**
MGC ruling is that a player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only.
DMD’s that are designed to gauge or measure other conditions are not allowed and the penalty is disqualification.

PLAYERS RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1 It is the duty of all competitors to know the Etiquette & Rules of Play and to report as soon as possible to the Committee any irregularities of play by participants in competitions.
- 2 When entering other players' names on the timesheet players must ensure they inform all the other players concerned.
- 3
 - a) In all qualifying and non-qualifying competitions, registration and payment of entry fees are made in the Professional's Shop prior to the commencement of play, unless instructed otherwise. Failure to do so will lead to disqualification.
 - b) Players must enter final scores in the computer located in the Members Bar immediately after play (if in operation). For competitions which are not live on the computer, the completed cards must be put into the appropriate Competition Box in the Ladies Locker Room. Failure to do so will lead to disqualification.
 - c) Entry fees for drawn competitions, exchanges & outings that require payment in advance must be paid for at the same time as a players name is entered on the competition entry sheet.
- 4
 - a) It is each players responsibility to ensure the current handicap has been entered on the score card.
 - b) It is the responsibility of the individual player to ensure that score cards (qualifying/non-qualifying), whether completed or not, are returned to the Club and the Handicap Secretary informed. All qualifying scores returned away from home should be reported as soon as possible, advising
 - Date of the competition,
 - Venue,
 - Standard Scratch Score and CSS, together with the following:
 - i) After a Stroke Play Competition, the gross score returned and any Stableford/Nett Double Bogey Adjustment.
 - ii) After a Par Competition, the Par of the course and the score versus Par.

- iii) After a Stableford Competition, the Par of the course and the number of points scored.
 - c) If a player suspects her handicap should be reduced following an away score, it is advisable to play off the lower handicap until the score has been verified.
If a player does not know her exact handicap she should reduce her playing handicap by a further 0.5.
Playing off too high handicap will result in disqualification.
 - d) If a player suspects her Handicap should be reduced (e.g. following a recent away score) it is advisable to play off the lower handicap until the score has been verified.
Playing off too high handicap will result in disqualification. (Refer to current handicap list.)
- 5
 - a) Players must be on the teeing ground ready to play at their designated tee time in accordance with the clock on the first tee. Players must not tee off before their designated time unless instructed to do so by the Professional or a member of the Committee.
 - b) If a player is late but ready to commence play within, but no later than, 5 minutes after her starting time the penalty is loss of the first hole in Match Play or two strokes at the first hole in Stroke Play.
- 6
 - a) Players drawn together to play at a given tee time have an agreement to play.
Failure to play at the allotted time is disqualification from the competition.
 - b) If there are valid reasons for a player being unable to play at an allotted tee time, details should be reported to a member of the Ladies Committee or Professional as soon as possible and a later tee time may be granted.
N.B. Play must commence from the first tee. Ladies may not join the group elsewhere on the course.
 - c) Players have a responsibility to inform their playing partners before the allotted tee time if they cannot play.
Failure to do so will result in the offending player(s) being ineligible to play in the next two competitions.

- d) On competition day, play must not be delayed due to inclement weather when the course is open.
- 7 Players must play without undue delay and maintain the pace of play in accordance with guidelines set by the Committee.
- a. Foursome and Threesome Competitions – approximately 3.5 hours.
 - b. Fourballs – approximately 4 hours
 - c. If a match fails to keep its place on the course and loses in distance more than one clear hole from those in front, players **must** invite those playing behind to come through. This applies to all matches and competitions, including finals.

NOTE – Matches DO NOT have automatic priority.

- 8 Any slow play should be reported to the Committee by player(s) immediately after play and **must** be substantiated either by e-mail or writing by providing the date, time, name of competition, applicable hole number(s), names of slow players and witnesses of slow play. The Committee will consult with all parties involved before reaching a decision.
The Committee's resulting decision will be final.

COMPETITION HOSTESS

The role of the Hostess on competition day is to ensure that all ladies who wish to play are able to do so.

However:

- a) Please check the timesheet for available time slots before contacting the Hostess.
- b) Please inform the Professional or Hostess by telephone of your intention to play by 11 a.m. at the latest on the day of the competition.
- c) If on the day of the competition you need to cancel, you must contact the Professional's Shop.

COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Details of all competitions organised by the Ladies Section are contained in a folder entitled 'Competition Rules' located in the Ladies Locker Room.
2. For all competitions over one round, organised by the Ladies Section, 30% of the expected field have to play 18 holes to constitute a valid competition. Otherwise, the competition shall be carried over to such a date as may be fixed by the Ladies Committee, or the competition shall be declared null and void.
- 3 For EG Medal Competitions, should only one player enter, her score must be recorded and count for medal and handicap purposes.
- 4
 - a) All competition score cards must be marked by a lady member with a CONGU handicap or an official Club Handicap
 - b) New members without a handicap may not enter competitions until they have been allotted a CONGU handicap or an official Club Handicap
N.B. At the discretion of the Ladies Committee holders of Club Handicaps may enter certain competitions.
 - c) New members joining MGC from another club will be eligible to win major trophy prizes providing they hold a competitive CONGU handicap. A copy of their previous playing record should be reviewed by the Competition & Handicap team.
 - d) Ladies with non competitive handicaps are not permitted to enter any official competition.
However they may play in handicap qualifying competitions (medal, par, stableford) in order to revalidate their handicap (see Handicap requirements 2).

No entry fee is payable under these circumstances.
- 5 In all competitions which require a replay, players must play off their current handicap.

6 Markers required in competitions will be appointed by the Committee/Competition Secretary.
A referee will only be required for the Semi finals and Final of the Club Championship

7 Match play score cards do not qualify for handicap purposes.

- 8 a) Caddies can be used in Match play finals only.
- b) A player intending to use a Caddie must inform her opponent at least 5 days before play.

9 **Knockout Competitions.**

- a) In Knock-out Competition no player can be substituted after the commencement date of the first round.
- b) In the event of a drawn match, a replay over 18 holes is preferable. If this is not possible and all players are unanimous, sudden death is acceptable.

This must be decided before the match commences.

- c) Once opponents for a round are known, each individual/pair should make contact with their opponent(s) as soon as possible and offer three dates. If these dates are not suitable, it is up to the players to reach an amicable agreement.
The match must be played by the closing date for the round.
- d) No extension of the closing date will be allowed other than for course closure. One day will be allowed for every day the course is closed IF REQUIRED.
- e) If no name(s) appears on the competition sheet on the last date stated for playing the match both players will be disqualified.
Any appeal against this ruling should be made in writing to the competition secretary as soon as the situation arises. A decision will be made by a quorum of Ladies 'Committee members (which should include the Captain whenever possible).
- f) Match play competitions may not be played on Tuesdays.

HANDICAP REQUIREMENTS

NEW MEMBERS

- 1 New members without a handicap must submit a number of cards over 9 or 18 holes, to a total of 54 holes in all, at MGC. The cards must be marked by a responsible person. There is no limit to the number of cards submitted in a week but cards should be submitted within 6 months.
- 2 New members without handicaps are not permitted to enter official competitions until they have been allotted a CONGU handicap. New members may be allocated a Club Handicap (37 – 54) if their scores do not achieve the minimum standard required to be allocated a 36 handicap. Holders of Club Handicaps are subject to certain restrictions (Appendix B)
- 3 The Handicap/Competition Team should review the initial qualifying scores returned by all members to whom a handicap has recently been allotted.
If the Handicap/Competition Team feels an adjustment is required this must be administered in accordance with Unified Handicap System Clause 23 (General play).

COMPETITIVE/ NON COMPETITIVE HANDICAPS

- 1 All members are required to maintain their handicap by returning at least 3 18 and/or 9 hole qualifying scores per year. Qualifying score cards are returned in qualifying competitions and/or supplementary score cards. Failure to return 3 scores per year will render a handicap non competitive.
- 2 A player requires 3 scores to regain a competitive handicap by playing in 18 or 9 hole qualifying competitions or by returning supplementary scores or a combination of both. Those with non competitive handicaps are not allowed to win trophies, prizes or enter external competitions.
- 3 Cards submitted to regain the competitive status of a handicap will be reviewed by the Handicap/Competition team before the handicap is issued.

SUPPLEMENTARY SCORES

- 1 Supplementary Scores are for players who wish to maintain a handicap but have difficulties in returning sufficient cards in qualifying competitions in the period between Annual Reviews.
- 2 A Supplementary Score is an authenticated score over 18 holes. The format may be Stroke(medal) play or stableford format or 9 holes (stableford) under competition play conditions over a measured course. See Appendix 'A'
The format should be stableford and may be played on any day of the week except Tuesday.
- 3 Supplementary Scores may be submitted from an away club of which the player is a member subject to the conditions in Appendix 'C'
- 4 A maximum of ten Supplementary cards can be returned annually from January 1st to December 31st 5. Only one Supplementary Score can be returned per week.
- 6 The Supplementary Score Book must be signed by the player before commencement of play.
Failure to do so will lead to the card being invalid.
- 7 Supplementary cards can be signed by any member with a CONGU handicap or official Club Handicap.
- 8 The completed card should be placed in the appropriate box and will be entered onto the handicap record
- 9 Standard scratch will always be 73 and any handicap adjustments will be made in respect of this including stableford/ net double bogey adjustments where appropriate.
- 10 If a player signs the book for a supplementary card but doesn't return the card 0.1 will automatically be added to their handicap

NINE HOLE COMPETITIONS/HANDICAPS

- 1 Nine hole Qualifying Competitions allow players who wish to maintain a handicap, but are unable to play 18 hole qualifying competitions for various reasons. To maintain a competitive CONGU Handicap a minimum of three 9 Hole qualifying cards need to be submitted in a year.
- 2 The qualifying course for this competition is holes 1 – 9. If any of these holes are closed (e.g. 6-8) the competition is not valid.
- 3 The format for play is Stableford.

- 4 A specific 9 Hole handicap and card will be used for this competition
- 4 A handicap will be calculated using the 9 hole stableford score plus the appropriate number of points to equate the 9 Hole score to an 18 hole score which will be used **for Handicap purposes only**.
The points added are related to the number of points gained over the 9 Holes of the competition.
- 5 No standard scratch score will be calculated for the competition.
- 6 The competition is open to all ladies of all categories. Ladies in Category 1 (0-5) may enter but the score will not count for handicap.
- 7 The player must identify, in the professionals shop, before commencing play that she is entering the 9 hole competition.
- 8 A lady entering the 9 hole competition can play with partners who are entering the 18 hole competition and may mark their card.
If however she is only playing 9 holes and is leaving the course she should ensure her card is signed by her marker and that she signs the card she has been marking as per the normal rules of golf.

APPENDIX A

STANDARD COURSE CONDITION REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPETITIONS & SUPPLEMENTARY SCORE CARDS

In order for a score to count towards handicap in a competition or a supplementary card the following conditions must be in place.

- The competition must be played over 18 holes or 9 Holes over a measured course.
- There should be no more than two temporary greens.
- The course should not be shortened by more than 100 yards in total.
- No single hole should be shortened by more than 30 yards.
- Pick & place is allowable from October 1st to April 1st. If, at any other time, pick & place is imposed due to adverse weather or course conditions permission must be sought from the Yorkshire Scratch Advisor for the competition to remain valid for handicap purposes

Permission can be obtained for the club (men's & ladies sections) but must be obtained before any play commences in the competition.

Winter Rules

Any local rules governing play on the course, e.g. winter rules, which alter these playing conditions, will mean the competition or any supplementary cards cannot count towards handicap.

APPENDIX B

MIDDLESBROUGH GOLF CLUB LADIES' SECTION

CLUB HANDICAPS (37 TO 54)

1. 'Club Handicaps' will be accepted into the Ladies Section of Middlesbrough Golf Club. This was felt to be a good move in order to attract, promote or retain membership of ladies and thus strengthen the Section in the long term.
2. As these handicaps do not carry 'c' status, they will not be eligible to win any Cup or Trophy. The lack of 'c' status will automatically preclude them from entering any competition away from Middlesbrough Golf Club, or any Open Competition at Middlesbrough.
3. Entries will be entered into a separate division for the club sweep or, if applicable, as part of a team to encourage participation within the Ladies Section.
4. Ladies' Tuesday Timesheet – One Club Handicap golfer will be allowed to play within any three ball competition tee time; and two Club Handicap golfers will be allowed to play within any four ball competition tee time. If the 4 ball timesheet is for a Trophy/Qualifier where the Club Handicap is not eligible, the single club handicap player rule will apply. However, in the case of a player who has previously held a CONGU Handicap this limit will not apply.
5. Players with a club handicap will be allowed to play together in the competition format of the day after 11.30am.
6. Players with a Club Handicap should be aware that their entry might not be eligible for every competition (YLCGA foursomes, Trophy Competitions, Coronation Foursomes, E.G. Medals, etc). The status of the competition for Club Handicaps will be indicated on the notice board on the day of the competition.
7. Those allotted a Club Handicap must also be aware that they should immediately invite any faster moving players through, irrespective of the number in the group or the format of play, in order to promote the enjoyment of the game for all.
8. Once the Club Handicap player reaches a suitable standard, they will be assessed for eligibility to hold a traditional CONGU handicap of 36 or less. Once the 36 handicap is achieved their playing status will be as all other players.
9. Any lady who currently holds a CONGU handicap may consider moving to a Club Handicap if she wishes but should be aware of the restrictions above. A player may only hold one handicap (either CONGU or Club)

APPENDIX B

COMPETITION GUIDELINES FOR CLUB HANDICAP COMPETITIONS

In order to encourage new golfers to become experienced and offer experienced golfers who wish to take up the offer of a club handicap but still remain competitive a competition will be run alongside the weekly competition.

Rules of Play

- The ladies will be able to play in competitions under the guidelines laid out for Club Handicaps.
- The ladies will be able to play in monthly medals, pars, stableford competitions but will play within their own division for their own prize.
- The entry fee will be half the entry fee of the regular competitions and will be paid out pro rata to the number of competitors in each competition.(either 1 or 2 prizes
- Ladies will be able to play in Trophy competitions but will not be able to win the trophy but their score will count for handicap.
- On competition days when the format will not facilitate individual competition eg scramble, shotgun, competitions those ladies with club handicaps will be encouraged to join in with the main competition. Only one player will be allowed/team and the team will be allowed to compete and win a prize.
- Ladies with club handicaps will be allowed to play at any time on the time sheet within the guidelines laid down for Club Handicaps
- If they wish to play outside the designated competition times (after 11.30) and not in the competition they must still play in the format of the day.

APPENDIX C

MIDDLESBROUGH GOLF CLUB **SUBMITTING A SUPPLEMENTARY SCORE**

The handicapping system is based on the principle that players will return enough scores to provide evidence of their current ability.

For some members this may be difficult for a variety of reasons e.g. work or family commitments, difficulty of obtaining an acceptable tee time, a declining desire to play regular competitive golf.

Supplementary scores provide players in these or similar situations an alternative format to submit cards for handicap purposes in addition to normal competition play.

RULES FOR SUPPLEMENTARY SCORES IF MIDDLESBROUGH GC IS YOUR HOME CLUB

A member may return a supplementary score for handicapping purposes in compliance with the following conditions.

- A Supplementary score can be submitted from any affiliated club of which they are a member.
- An acceptable score is an authenticated score over under Competition Play Conditions over a measured course (see Rules for competition play)
- The format may be Stroke(medal) play or Stableford.
- The card can be either on an:
 - 18holes Measured course (Stroke or Stableford format) or Designated 9 Hole Course (Stableford format).
- Up to a maximum of 10 supplementary scores may be returned annually from January 1st to December 31st (this is different for Category 1 players).
- Only one supplementary score can be returned per week (Monday to Sunday).
- A player intending to submit a supplementary score must sign the appropriate book before going out to play. (The book is usually out, on the desk to the right, in the cubby hole in locker room).
- The standard scratch score will always be 73 and any handicap adjustments will always be made in respect of this.
- Stroke play returns will be subject to the Stableford/Nett double bogey adjustment as normal.
- The score will be entered on the handicap record.
- If the player signs the book for a supplementary card but doesn't return the card 0.1 will automatically be added to their handicap.

SUPPLEMENTARY SCORE FROM AWAY CLUB

If you want to submit a supplementary card from an away club you must:

- Be a member of that club
- Register intent at the away club before you play in the way determined by that club.
- Return the card to the away club.

- Ensure you comply with the away clubs procedure for supplementary scores and that you inform them you want your score returning to Middlesbrough GC as soon as possible. It is your responsibility to ensure this happens.
- The away club **MUST ENTER** the card via their computer (CDH system) to return it to Middlesbrough GC.
- If you return a card in this way please e mail me to give me the details as soon as possible. pamela.bruce1@btinternet.com
- The away club should retain the card but you should bring a copy back and put it in the usual box in Ladies locker room.
- Remember you can't submit a card if you have played the course previously the same day (practice on course rule).

You cannot submit a supplementary score in a non qualifying competition.

PLEASE NOTE (extract from CONGU Handbook)

Clubs should be aware of players trying to build handicaps using supplementary scores; and may refuse to accept them under Clause 21.11, or adjust the handicap under Clause 23B.

SUBMITTING A SUPPLEMENTARY SCORE IF MIDDLESBROUGH GC IS NOT YOUR HOME CLUB

- If you are a member of Middlesbrough GC but Middlesbrough GC is not your home club and you wish to submit a supplementary score to your Home Club please follow the procedure below.
- Ensure you sign the Supplementary Score book before play (refer to the above rules for home players.)
- Place your completed card in the brown box located in the alcove in the ladies locker room.
- Either e mail me pamela.bruce1@btinternet.com or leave a note pinned to the notice board to tell me there is a card in the box. I will then enter it into the CDH system to pass the information to your home club.

Please note the information below regarding your handicap responsibilities

- If a supplementary score returned is below par and you think it may mean a reduction in your handicap it is your responsibility to play off the lower handicap.
- A Handicap cut (or potential cut) will come into force immediately not when the card is entered on your handicap record.
- A player cannot raise their handicap themselves even if they know a supplementary score will result in a handicap increase.
- You cannot be disqualified for playing off a lower handicap but you **will** be disqualified if you play off a higher one.

REMEMBER YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PLAYING OFF THE CORRECT HANDICAP.