

# Conditions of Competition



**Version 16.0**

**FEBRUARY 2021**

## **Local Rules Governing the Conditions of the Men's Section Competitions**

The Conditions of Men's Section Competitions has been established in accordance with Rule 33 of the R&A and Members must comply with them. These may be modified at the discretion of the Men's Section Committee. The Men's Section Committee may additionally lay down specific conditions for certain competitions.

Only male paid-up registered Members of the Men's Section of Chesfield Downs Golf & Country Club, with a WHS handicap index, may participate in competitions organised by the Men's Section.

Between November and March, the Men's Section is also the organising body for all Sections' weekend competitions at Chesfield Downs. If a competition is played on a weekend, then 5-Day members may enter on the payment of the requisite green fee.

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# Conditions of Competition

## A. Competition Booking, Entry, Starting Times and Groups

### General Competition Booking Responsibilities

- It is the member's responsibility to enter their name on the entry form on IG for individual competitions.
- For team competitions the member entering the names on IG, must inform his partner or partners of the date and starting time.
- For 'drawn' competitions, members indicate their preferred tee time zone on IG. Wherever possible, the Competition Secretary will endeavour to assign a tee time closest to the requested time as possible.
- However, once drawn, if the player cannot play at the allocated time, he **MUST NOT** move himself to another tee slot. Any member who moves their tee time without permission from the Competition Secretary or Men's Captain or without good reason **WILL** be disqualified from the competition.
- Repeat offenders will be asked to explain their actions to the Men's Captain and the Competition Secretary and may face a ban from Men's Section Competitions or will be only be able to enter future competitions via the Reserve List until further notice.
- **ONLY** the Competition Secretary, or the Men's Section Captain, can amend the tee times. Should an individual be unable to play at their allotted time, it is their responsibility to contact the Competition Secretary, or deputy, and request a tee time change. Whenever possible, the Competition Secretary will reassign an acceptable tee time for the member.

### Entry to Competitions Open for Booking

- If there are no available spaces in a competition you wish to play in then you can add your name to the competition's Reserve (Unallocated) list the same way you would do as if booking in for a competition.
- Whilst a competition remains open for bookings it will still be your responsibility to check for available spaces.
- If a space becomes available and you book it then we ask that you also remove your name from the Reserve list.
- For Midweek Competitions, player(s) must register their intent to play on IG or touchscreen **BEFORE** commencing their round. Failure to do so will result in disqualification from the Competition.

### Entry to Competitions Closed for Bookings

- Once a competition has been closed for IG or touchscreen bookings, only those on the Reserve list will be eligible for spaces that subsequently become available due to withdrawals.
- The Reserve list will remain open until the evening before the competition.
- If you want to add your name to a closed competition, then you must either:
  - Add your name to the reserve list via IG or the touch screen at the club; or
  - Inform the Competition Organiser on IG or via phone or text.

Please note that the Pro Shop **WILL NOT** make manual changes to tee times and they will, instead, inform you to contact the Competition Secretary.

- Prior to the competition date the Competition Secretary will review the Reserve list and if spaces are available he will notify those on the Reserve list on a strict first come first served basis.

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## Withdrawing from Competitions

- For competitions open for booking then you **MUST** remove your name from the system via IG or the Touch Screen system at the club. If you are unable to do either, you must inform the Competition Organiser on IG or via phone or text.
- For competitions that are closed for bookings then you must inform the Competition Organiser on IG or via phone or text.
- Please note that the Pro Shop **WILL NOT** make manual changes to sign up sheets and, instead, they will inform you to contact the Competition Organiser.

There is a '**No Show**' policy for those Members who fail to follow these rules for withdrawing from competitions (see Section U).

## B. Playing Groups

- If there are sufficient tee slots, individual competitions will be played as three balls. In these circumstances, unauthorised four balls are not permitted.
- In the event of late withdrawals/No-Shows, the Competition Secretary may ask players to move from their original tee time to ensure all players have the opportunity to enter the competition.

## C. Entry Fees

- If there is a competition entry fee this **MUST** be paid into the Competition Account via IG prior to the day of the Competition. Failure to pay the requisite fee, **WILL** result in disqualification and a ban from one competition may be applied (as per the '**No Show**' Policy).
- Competition fees are added to the Men's Section general fund and are used for purchasing prizes and for other running expenses of the Men's Section.
- 'Fun' competitions entry fees are used to purchase vouchers or awards, which are presented to the winning individual(s) or winning team(s) if there are sufficient funds. Any surplus is added to the Men's Section general fund.

## D. Prize Presentations

- Prizes will be awarded either at the end of the competition or at an arranged prize presentation.
- If there are less than 10 players participating in a competition then there will only be one prize awarded.
- If there are less than 10 members playing in a 'cup' competition, the 'cup' competition will be cancelled and prizes awarded as a fun competition.

## E. Eligibility for a prize, trophy, medal or other award

### Competition season from April to October

- Members will be eligible to receive a prize, trophy, medal or other award and be included in the results of a competition organised by the Men's Section provided if they have played in a minimum of three (3) Men's Section qualifying competitions in the previous 12 months **or**, ordinarily, six (6) for Majors (refer to section M).
- In cases of long-term illness, injury or absence, for example, serving in the Armed Forces abroad, the Men's Section Committee have the discretion to consider any individual case on its merits and vary the rules as necessary.

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## Summer & Winter 'Fun' Competitions

- Registered Men's Section members will be eligible to receive a prize, trophy, medal or other award and be included in the results of a competition organised by the Men's Section provided they have played in a minimum of three (3) Men's Section qualifying competitions in the previous 12 months.
- Members of the Ladies Section are also eligible to play in 'Fun' competitions organised by the Men's Section as long as they fulfil the same conditions.

## F. Tees

- Men will be played off white tees, if they are available, otherwise they will be played off of the yellow tees. In mixed competitions, the Ladies will play off the red tees. In winter Men will play off the yellow tees and Ladies will play off the red tees.

## G. Practicing Between Holes – Qualifying Stroke Play Competitions

- A player **MUST NOT** play any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole last played.
- If a practice stroke is played on or near the hole last played the player incurs a penalty of 2 strokes at the next hole.

## H. Match Play

- In the John Metzger Singles Match Play Competition, full handicap allowance is used.
- In the Pairs Match Play Competition, 90% of the difference from the lowest handicap allowance is used.
- In all Match play knockout competitions, players **MUST** play before the end date of the designated round, as indicated on the sheet on the notice board and the IG App.
- It is the responsibility of both players to arrange a date for the match, the top drawn player taking the lead in arranging.
- In rounds up to the quarter finals, failure to do so will result in both players being disqualified UNLESS a player can prove that there have been three attempts to arrange and that the other named player has failed to agree.
- Players are urged to contact the Competition Secretary, before the end date for the round, indicating any difficulties arranging their match.
- For quarter finals onwards, an extension to the end date will only be allowed if agreed with the Competition Secretary **PRIOR** to the end date of the round.
- In the event of a dispute, the Competition Secretary will decide the outcome. If the player is not satisfied then he may refer the matter to the Men's Section Captain.

## I. Four Ball Better Ball Fun Competitions (Pairs)

- Players can choose partners themselves and enter their names against a tee time.
- Alternatively, any player who would like to participate can enter their name and other players can add their name to make up a pair.
- Players are not guaranteed the time and partners they entered on the sheet. In the spirit of these competitions players may be requested to pair up with other teams to ensure that all competitors have markers and can participate in the competition.

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- In the event that a player's partner is unable to play, he may 'pivot' (Winter only). In these circumstances, the original pairing continues to play as their chosen pair. The lowest handicapper in this original pair becomes the partner of the 3<sup>rd</sup> player. The pivot player may only win a prize or an award with his original partner.
- Should only 2 players be available for a tee time then as a sporting gesture we trust the pair to mark and submit their score card correctly.

## **J. Team Competitions (Four Players)**

- Players can choose partners themselves and enter their names against a tee time. Alternatively, any player who would like to participate can enter their name and other players can add their name to make up a team.
- Players are not guaranteed the time and partners they entered on the sheet. In the spirit of these competitions players may be requested to join other teams to ensure that all competitors can participate in the competition.
- Should only three players be available then they must play as a three ball.

## **K. Mixed Competitions**

- Ladies will play off their own stroke index and par for individual, four ball better ball and three/four player team events.
- Ladies will play off their SSS of 72 for stroke-play competitions.

## **L. Competition Score Cards**

- Players are responsible for the correct completion, signing and submission of their score card including non-returns. As a courtesy to the Competition Organiser we request and expect the following to be completed on the scorecard:
  - Full Name and Handicap Index
  - Date and Tee Time
  - Competition Name
  - Marker Name
  - For Stableford competitions:
    - Points scored on each hole
    - Total points Out
    - Total points In
    - Total Points Scored in the box provided.
  - For Medal competitions:
    - Gross Strokes played on each hole
    - Total Gross Strokes Out
    - Total Gross Strokes In
    - NETT Stroke score in the box provided.

## **M. Using the IG App to Enter Scores**

- The correct way is as shown in the presentation below:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJsu6994AAM>
- You will be marking your own card and your playing partner's card.
- At the end you will be asked to sign as a Marker then as a Player.
- If more than one player is in the Competition, then you will mark each other's Card and upload a photo of the scorecard you have marked.

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- If you are playing in a competition and the other players are not, you keep your own score on IG and upload a photo of your scorecard which has been kept by a non-competition player.
- If, for any reason, a hole is not completed then an 'NR' should be entered as the gross score on the score card. The player should then continue to play and score as normal.
- For 4 Ball Better Balls and Team competitions, the marker enters completed scores for all players on IG. If a player does not complete a hole then an 'NR' should be entered onto the score card. Players names and the handicap index used must be written on the score card. Failure to complete a scorecard according to these conditions will result in disqualification from the competition. A photo of the scorecard should be uploaded to IG.
- In qualifying competitions, the player **MUST** enter all 18 holes into the IG app, if it is operational, with a NR for any hole not scored on.
- Under the rules of golf, Members who enter men's qualifying competitions are expected to complete all 18 holes and returning their score card to the organising committee. In the event of not returning a score card there should be an acceptable explanation given to the Competition Secretary. Not returning a score card, without an acceptable explanation, may result in disqualification and a ban from one competition (as per the No Show Policy). A disqualified round will **NOT** count towards the required matches to qualify for Major events.
- In the event players do not consistently complete scorecards correctly this will be highlighted to the player by the Committee. Continued violation may result in penalty or disqualification.
- For all Men's Section Competitions, a player's scorecard must be marked and signed by a Men's Section member with a valid handicap index. In mixed events it is acceptable for a scorecard to be marked and signed by a member of the ladies section. Cards signed by non-members of the section may result in disqualification from the competition, this will be at the Competition Secretaries discretion.

## **N. Disqualification Penalty and Discretion**

- It is the responsibility of the Men's Competition Secretary or his deputy to administer the competition which may result in the disqualification of a player or players.
- If the player is not satisfied with a decision, he may appeal to the Competition Secretary.
- If still not satisfied he may refer the matter to the Men's Captain.

## **O. Qualification for Men's Major Competitions**

- To qualify for entry into the Men's Section's Major competitions, Members must have played and completed a minimum of six (6) qualifying competitions in the previous twelve months or in the case of the course being closed for an extended period due, for example, to Covid19 the Committee will decide on whether to reduce this requirement.
- The Competition Secretary will access the IG software to ascertain qualification; this will be the only source of reference.
- If a player is disqualified in a completed round because he or his marker has not signed his card then this round will count for qualifying for a major.
- If the round is a nil return (N/R) then it will not count towards qualification. This could be because the score was not submitted or the round not fully completed.
- The player may appeal to the Competition Secretary should they not have played the necessary qualifying games (Armed Service, Medical reason supported by a medical certificate).
- The Competition Secretary's decision is final, subject to appeal to the Men's Captain.
- Men's major competitions are:

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- The Men's Section Club Championships (Gross & Net)
  - The John Metzger Singles Match Play Knockout
  - The Chris Fielder Pairs Match Play Knockout
  - The Braam Slabbert Singles Match Play Knockout
  - The Denis Flynn Memorial Trophy (mixed)
  - The Ron Coleman Cup.
- Please note that Social rounds submitted for WHS Index purposes **DO NOT** count towards Qualification for Men's Major Competitions.

## **P. Course Unplayable or Suspension of Play**

- If, for any reason, the Competition Secretary or his deputy considers that the course is not in a playable condition, then he may suspend play, reduce the holes played in the competition, or declare the competition void.
- A local rule for the day may be implemented for the day's competition (e.g. named bunkers out of play). In these circumstances, this **WILL** be communicated **BEFORE** play commences.
- For competitions played across multiple days (e.g. Midweek Medal and Trophy) players **MUST** play the course as it is set up on that day (e.g. if holes are closed or there are temporary tees and greens). After completion of the competition, the Competition Secretary will determine the status and format of the competition to make it fair to all entrants.

## **Q. Caddies and Buggies**

- The use of caddies is permitted in all competitions.
- The use of electric trolleys is permitted in all competitions, subject to the course permitting (for example adverse weather conditions).
- Buggies are **NOT** permitted unless for medical reasons which is supported by a medical certificate. This must be agreed with the Competition Secretary or the Men's Section Captain prior to play.
- If the course has a local rule for the day's competition, this rule will remain for **ALL** players in the competition (e.g. temporary tee/greens, trolley ban enforced).

## **R. Deciding Ties**

### **Individual Competitions**

- When one or more players / teams have the same score, the following rules (also referred to as 'Count Back') will determine the Winner:
  - The best net result on the last 9 holes (10-18).
  - The best net result on the last 6 holes (13-18).
  - The best net result on the last 3 holes (16-18).
  - The best net score on the 18<sup>th</sup> hole.
  - The best net score on stroke index 1.
  - The best net score on stroke index 2, etc.

### **Knockout Competitions**

- If the match is all square after 18 holes, the players will continue to play (from the first hole played and "sudden death" applies).
- The first player that wins a hole will be declared the winner.
- The handicap allowance will still apply for all the additional holes played.

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## **Men's Section Championship**

- There are specific conditions of competition for the Championship published as a separate document (see Men's Section website for details).

## **S. Order of Merit - Player of the Year**

- The Sections maintains 4 Order of Merit events: Summer weekend and midweek; Winter weekend and midweek.
- In the event of a tie, the player with the most first places will be the overall winner.
- If there continues to be a tie, the player with the most second places will be the winner continuing with third places etc, until a winner is declared.
- Points awarded for OOM Range from 15,13,11,10,9,8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1.

## **T. Distance Measuring Devices**

- For all play at this course a player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. (R & A Rule 14-3)
- Please refer to the local rules to ensure that you not in breach of Rule 14-3.

## **U. No Show Policy**

- The Men's Section Committee, in conjunction with the management of Chesfield Downs Golf Club, have a 'No Show Policy'.
- Please be aware that a 'No Show' presents problems for the committee members responsible for ensuring that the competitions run smoothly, it also inconveniences your fellow club Members and may spoil the competition for your drawn partners.
- The committee endeavours to allocate tee off times to accommodate as many Members as possible. Whilst there may be a good reason for your non-attendance, you are expected to inform the Club of your withdrawal in advance in order for us to accommodate other Members and to ensure that the 3 or 4 ball format is retained throughout the competition.
- A 'No Show' is defined as a person not playing in a competition in which they were entered without providing notification or justification to the Competition Secretary.
- In the event of a 'No Show' the person will be spoken to by the Competition Secretary and asked for reasons for the 'No Show'. In event of further 'No Shows' by the person the Committee reserve the right to implement bans from competitions. Bans for repeated infringement could include:
  - Single competition ban, e.g. a 'No Show' for a medal could result in a ban from the next medal.
  - Ban from playing competitions for one month.
  - Ban from playing competitions for two months.
- In all cases the person will have the right of appeal to the Competition Secretary and then to the Men's Captain.