

## HALESWORTH GOLF CLUB GENERAL COMMITTEE

### RULES FOR TROPHY AND MONTHLY MEDAL AND STABLEFORD COMPETITIONS

#### 1. COURSE OPENING/CLOSURE

The opening/closure of the course will be at the sole discretion of the proprietors. Where the course is temporarily closed before or during a competition, due to weather or ground conditions, e.g. fog, frost, ice, snow, hail or thunderstorm, on the course being declared open by the proprietors, it will be for the Committee to decide, whether the competition shall commence or continue as the case may be. The general rule will be that, if the conditions prevent **safe play** for in excess of one hour, then the competition will be cancelled or abandoned.

#### 2. DESIGNATED PRACTICE AREAS

Practice before any stroke play competition, (or between rounds in the Club Championship), will not be permitted on any area of the competition course, except as provided for in the Rules of Golf.

Designated practice areas shall be as follows:-

- (a) the driving range
- (b) the practice putting green (outside the bounds of the 18<sup>th</sup> hole)
- (c) the practice chipping green adjacent to the club entrance driveway
- (d) the 9 hole Valley Course when not forming part of the competition

*Penalty for breach – disqualification from competition and forfeiture of entrance fee.*

Practice on the course is permitted for any match play competition including the summer and winter knock-out competitions.

#### 3. COMPETITION ENTRY RULES

1. The tee times allotted by the proprietors for all competitions must be strictly adhered to. In normal circumstances tee times will range from 8.00am to 10.30am in winter (October 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>), and from 7.30am to 10.30am in summer.

2. Competition entry sheets will be posted, normally on a Friday lunchtime, up to three weeks prior to the date of the competition. Members are invited to enter their own name only against a selected tee time. However, members may enter the name or names of other members, **but only at the express request of the member(s) concerned**. Telephone entries will be accepted via the professional shop.

The entry sheet will close at 12 noon on the eve of the competition after which time entries will not be accepted. However, members may turn up on the day and fill any gap on a 'first come first served basis'. Under such circumstances members should not expect to be facilitated.

3. Members wishing to play outside the allotted competition tee times will be permitted to do so subject to arranging an alternative tee time in the pro-shop and to entering their name(s) on the entry sheet before 12 noon on the eve of the competition. **No later entries will be accepted.**

4. Members who find that they are unable to play in a given competition will be permitted to withdraw, without penalty, ensuring their name is erased from the entry sheet, up to the closure time of the pro-shop on the eve of the competition.

5. No group will exceed three players, except for the last tee time, where the maximum will be four players. Where the last tee time is occupied by four players then the immediately preceding tee time(s) may also include four players. Under no circumstances will a four ball be permitted to precede a three ball within the allotted tee times.

*The penalty for breach of this rule will be disqualification of all players concerned with forfeiture of entry fee.*

6. Where a member fails to appear for a competition that member will be expected to pay the entry fee or to accept disqualification from a subsequent competition. *Where representations are made relating to exceptional circumstances the Committee may waive this penalty.*

#### 4. COMPETITION RULES

1. The rules of golf as laid down by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews and Local Rules for the time being in force, will be applied to all trophy, monthly medal and Stableford competitions. The penalties for breaches of these rules will be applied by the General Committee.

2. Where specific format, qualification or handicap rules apply to a particular competition these will be advised on the posted competition entry sheet.

3. Members must be on the appointed tee at least five minutes before the allotted tee time.

*Penalty for breach – medal - 2 strokes, Stableford – 2 points*

4. It is expected that once a scorecard has been issued it shall be returned by the participating member whether completed or not.

*Penalty for breach – disqualification from entry to a subsequent competition.*

5. It is expected that having started a round the member will complete. Walking from the course without completing a round can be disconcerting for other players in the group and is to be discouraged.

*Penalty for leaving the course before completion – disqualification from entry to a subsequent competition. Where representations are made relating to exceptional circumstances the General Committee may waive this penalty.*

6. Slow play is a major problem in the game of golf and is to be widely discouraged. It is accepted that, at amateur level, searching for balls is prevalent and cannot be avoided. However, members should always endeavour to ensure that following groups are not unnecessarily delayed. The rule to

be applied therefore is that where a group have lost a complete hole on the preceding group and the group behind are being held up then that group should be called through at the earliest opportunity.

*The General Committee will investigate any complaint regarding lack of courtesy in this respect and may apply a penalty to a maximum of disqualification from a subsequent competition for all the members involved.*

#### 5. WINTER RULES

Winter rules will apply to all competitions played between 1<sup>st</sup> November and 31<sup>st</sup> March, inclusive, annually. In addition, where course conditions dictate, the proprietors or the General Committee may declare the imposition of winter rules for any competition throughout the remainder of the year.

#### 5. DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES

Devices for measuring distances only, will be permitted in all trophy, medal and Stableford competitions. The use of a device capable of giving indication of gradient, wind speed or direction etc. will not be permitted.

*Penalty for breach – disqualification.*

#### 6. RIDE-ON BUGGIES

Members must walk the course in all trophy and monthly medal and Stableford competitions. However, where a member produces a current medical certificate supporting an injury or disability, the use of a ride-on buggy will be permitted. A copy of such certificate will be lodged in the Club Manager's office. Any member intending to use a ride-on buggy shall seek authority, before use, from the proprietors who will retain the right to prevent the use of ride-on buggies where course conditions or other issues demand.

#### 7. COMPETITION QUALIFYING STATUS

All trophy, and monthly medal and Stableford competitions will be regarded as qualifying competitions for the purposes of the handicap rules applicable except from the Sherwood Bogey which will be a non-qualifying competition, unless extreme course/weather conditions make this non-viable. Where such extreme conditions exist the decision as to whether the competition is to be a qualifier or not will be made by the Committee member(s) present and members will be informed before commencing their round. Where a competition has been declared 'non-qualifying' any member has the option of submitting a Supplementary Card under the rules governing such submission.

#### 8. COMPETITION RESULTS

Results of competitions will be posted, in normal circumstances, on the Tuesday following the event, along with subsequent handicap adjustments.