

## HALESWORTH GOLF SENIORS' SECTION COMPETITION RULES

(commencing 01/04/23)

### 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, flooding or a thunderstorm, or immediately before the start of a competition the course being declared open by the Proprietors, it will be for any member of the CLUB COMMITTEE or SENIORS' COMMITTEE to decide, whether the competition shall commence or resume as the case may be. The general rule will be that, if the conditions prevent **safe play** for in excess of one hour, the competition will be deemed cancelled or abandoned.

### 2. DESIGNATED PRACTICE AREAS

Practice on the day of the competition before any stroke play/stableford competition (or between rounds in the Seniors' Club Championship) will not be permitted on any area of the course, except as provided 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 18th hole),
- (c) the practice chipping green adjacent to the Club entrance driveway, and
- (d) the 9-hole Valley Course when not forming part of the Competition.

*Penalty for Breach - disqualification from the Competition and forfeiture of the 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

i) tee times allocated by the Proprietors for all competitions must be strictly adhered to. In normal circumstances tee times will range from 08.32 – 11.28 in winter (December – January when sun rise is after 8am) and from 07.28 - 10.40 in summer.

ii) Competition entry will open on IG, at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the competition. This will be extended to at least three (3) weeks for some competitions when teams are drawn and/or tee times are allocated. Seniors are invited to enter their own name only (in most but not all competitions it is possible to select a tee time). Seniors, however, may enter the names of other members **but only at the request of the Senior Members concerned**. Entries may be accepted via the professional shop.

Entries will normally close at 9am on the day of the competition after which time entries will not normally be accepted. Senior Members, however, may turn up on the day and fill any gap on a 'first come first served' basis. The competition organizer must be advised of any late entries (as it would be no longer possible to enter through IG).

iii) Members wishing to play outside the allocated competition tee times may be permitted to do so subject to arranging an alternative tee time (within thirty minutes of the allocated slots) and contacting the competition organizer before the day of the competition. Allowance beyond this may be permitted in exceptional circumstances for trophy competitions with the approval of the Seniors' Captain. Members who are not in the competition are not allowed to play in tee times reserved for the competition without agreement from the competition organizer.

iv) Members who find that they are unable to play in a given competition are permitted to withdraw, without penalty, ensuring that their name is removed from the entry list before the closure of entries to the competition.

v) Unless otherwise specified no group shall exceed three (3) players.

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

vii) Entry fee for monthly Medal and Stableford competitions is £2.50 and £1 per player for non-trophy competitions; for trophy competitions entry fees vary; see below.

#### **4. SENIORS COMPETITION RULES**

i) 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 knockouts, trophy, monthly medal and Stableford competitions including non-qualifiers. The penalties for breaches of these rules will be applied by the Seniors Committee.

ii) Where specific format, qualification or handicap rules apply to a particular competition these will be advised under competition rules in IG.

iii) Senior Members should be on the appointed tee at least five (5) minutes prior to the allowed tee time.

*Penalty for Breach - Medal - 2 strokes; Stableford - 2 points at the discretion of the Seniors Captain.*

iv) It is mandatory that score cards shall be signed by marker and player and returned by the participating Senior Member whether completed or not. (An upload of a photo of the score card may be the requirement of the competition at times). When possible, participants should enter scores on the touchscreen.

*Penalty for Breach - Disqualification and/or disqualification from entry to a subsequent competition. Where representations are made relating to exceptional circumstances the Committee may waive this penalty.*

v) It is expected that having started a round the Senior Member will complete the round. Walking from the course without completing a round can be disconcerting for other players in the group and is discouraged. However, there may be acceptable reasons for leaving the course.

*Penalty for leaving the course before completion - disqualification from entry to a subsequent competition. Where representations are made relating to exceptional circumstances the Seniors Captain or delegate may waive this penalty.*

vi) Slow play is a major problem in the game of golf and is to be widely discouraged. It is accepted that at an amateur level, searching for balls is prevalent and cannot be avoided but should be within the Rules of Golf (3 minutes). Senior Members, however, should always endeavor to ensure that the following groups are not unnecessarily delayed. The rule to be applied therefore is that where a group has lost a complete hole on the preceding group and the group behind is being held up then that group shall be called through at the earliest opportunity.

The Seniors' 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 Senior Members involved.

#### **5 WINTER RULES**

Winter Rules will apply to all competitions between November 1st and March 31st inclusive,

annually. In addition, where course conditions dictate, the Proprietors or the Seniors' Committee may declare the imposition of Winter Rules for any competition throughout the remainder of the year.

## **6. 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 only be allowed for distance measuring, where gradient has not been applied (Tournament mode).

*Penalty for Breach - Disqualification*

## **7. RIDE ON BUGGIES**

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

## **8. COMPETITION QUALIFYING STATUS**

To be eligible for prizes in qualifiers and trophy competitions competitors must have completed a combination of three previous qualifying competitions in the previous 12 months. For some competitions the completion of five qualifying competitions is required (see details of each competition below) There are maximum handicap allowance in some competitions (see below for details).

All individual trophy, monthly medal and stableford competitions will be regarded as qualifying competitions under the WHS, unless course/weather conditions make this non-viable. Where such extreme conditions exist the decision as to whether the competition shall be a qualifier or not will be made by the Seniors' Committee member(s) present and Senior Members will be informed before commencing their round if possible. Where a competition has been declared 'non-qualifying' any Senior Member has the option of submitting the card as a pre-registered round under the rules governing such submissions.

## **9. COMPETITION RESULTS**

Results of competitions will be posted on IG and/or sent to all participants in normal circumstances within 48 hours of the event. Handicap adjustments will be available the day following the competition and can be seen in IG.

## **10. CHANGES TO NORMAL PLAYING PROTOCOL**

If national or local events result in a change to normal playing protocol, the Senior's Captain in consultation with others on the Senior's Committee can make temporary adjustments to Seniors' Competitions Rules.

## **11. PLAYING HANDICAPS**

Unless otherwise stated below all qualifiers and individual non-qualifying competitions (Stablefords and Medals) will have a handicap allowance of 95% of course handicap.

## 12. TEES

Unless otherwise stated below all monthly Stableford and Medal Qualifiers from March to October will be played off white tees and from November to February off yellow tees.

## 13. DIVISIONS

Monthly qualifiers and individual competitions will be in split into divisions which may change (infrequently) at the discretion of the Seniors' Committee.

### INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION PARAMETERS

#### Senior Club Championship

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday

Conditions      Handicap and gross competition only open to those with an active Competition Handicap and have played five (5) qualifying rounds in the preceding 12 months. Maximum playing handicap 24. Playing handicap 90% of course handicap.

Entry Fee                      £5

Format                          Medal over Blyth (white tees) and Valley (yellow tees) courses. Count back on Valley. Gross and net prizes.

Playing order; lowest handicap first starting at 8.00 or earlier (second round starting hours later).

#### Memorial Trophy

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap

Conditions                      Handicap competition only open to those with an active Competition Handicap and have played five (5) qualifying rounds in the preceding 12 months. Maximum playing handicap 24. Playing handicap 95% of course handicap.

Entry Fee                      £5

Format                          Medal off white tees. Prizes for net plus any exceptional gross scores not gaining a net prize.

#### Spring Trophy

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap.

Conditions                      Handicap competition only open to those with an active Competition Handicap and have played five (5) qualifying rounds in the preceding 12 months. Maximum playing handicap 24. Playing handicap 95% of course handicap.

Entry Fee                      £5

Format Stableford off white tees. Prizes for net plus any exceptional gross scores not gaining a net prize.

### **Blyth Trophy**

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap of 18 or less.

Conditions Handicap competition only open to those with an active Competition Handicap and have played five (5) qualifying rounds in the preceding 12 months. Maximum playing handicap 18. Playing handicap 95% of course handicap.

Entry Fee £5 including 50p for twos

Format Medal off white tees. Prizes for net plus any exceptional gross scores not gaining a net prize.  
Note: no entrants are allowed from members playing of a course handicap of greater than 18.

### **Wolfe Cup**

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap of 19 and above.

Conditions Handicap competition only open to those with an active Competition Handicap and have played three (3) qualifying rounds in the preceding 12 months. Maximum playing handicap 28. Playing handicap 90% of course handicap.

Entry Fee £5

Format Stableford off yellow tees. Net prizes

### **Gilson-Wright Salver**

Open to all male Club members over 70 years old with an active Competition handicap. Non-qualifier. Full course handicap

Entry Fee £5

Format Stableford off red tees (odd numbered holes) and yellow tees (even numbered holes) using yellow stroke index. Net prizes plus a prize for best score for male Club member over 80 years old.

### **Charity Shield**

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap. Qualifier off yellow tees. 95% handicap allowance.

Captain to choose Charity to be supported.

Entry Fee £5 minimum

Format Stableford off yellow tees. Senior's Captain to decide prizes.

### **Eddy Metcalfe Rose Bowl**

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap.

Entry Fee                    £3 per player

Format                        Greensomes Stableford, partners to be drawn (lower handicap, 1 higher handicap) off yellow tees. Maximum handicap of 28 for each pair.

Entry for this competition will be closed prior to the competition date for the draw to be made. Members not entered by this date may become reserves.

### **Enticknap Cup**

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap

Partners to be drawn 1 low, 1 middle and 1 high handicap

Entry for this competition will be closed prior to the competition date for the draw to be made. Members not entered by this date may enter as reserves.

Entry Fee                    £3

Format                        Texas Scramble, medal play off yellow tees. Handicap allowance 30%/20%/10% from lowest to highest. All players must have to 4 drives to count.

### **Richard Whiting Memorial Trophy**

Open to all Club members who have reached their 55th birthday and members of the Ladies section with an active Competition handicap, plus invited guests from Rookery Park and Bungay.

Entry Fee                    £5 per pair

Format                        Foursomes Stableford, partners by choice, white and red tees. 50% of combined handicaps. Maximum handicap 28 for Seniors and 36 for Ladies.

### **Holton Shield**

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap.

Entry Fee                    £5 per team

Format                        Greensomes Stableford. Teams must have 1 lower handicap and 1 higher handicap) off yellow tees. Playing handicap is 60% of lower handicap and 40% of higher handicap. Maximum handicap of 28 for each pair. Partners NOT DRAWN.

### **Wenhaston Trophy**

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap.

Entry Fee                    £5 per team

Format Foursomes Stableford off yellow tees. Partners drawn. Playing handicap is 50% of combined handicaps. Maximum handicap of 28 for each pair.

Entry for this competition will be closed prior to the competition date for the draw to be made. Members not entered by this date may become reserves.

### **Metfield Mug**

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap.

Entry Fee £5 per team

Format Greensomes Stableford off yellow tees. Playing handicap is 60% of lower handicap and 40% of higher handicap. Maximum handicap of 28 for each pair. Partners NOT DRAWN

### **Pearce Trophy – Run by Lady Captain**

Open to all Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap and members of the Ladies Section with an active Competition handicap.

Entry Fee £3

Format 2 seniors and 1 lady member

Team of 3 - 2 balls to count. Stableford off yellow and red tees

### **Medal of Medals**

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap who have won a Seniors' medal in the current year.

Playing Order Drawn

Entry Fee nil

Format Medal off White Tees

### **Stableford of Stablefords**

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap who have won a Seniors' Stableford in the current year.

Playing Order Drawn

Entry Fee nil

Format Stableford off white tees

### **Summer Fourball Knock-Out**

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap

Not Drawn Choose your own team

Entry Fee                    £10 per pair

Format                        4 ball better ball knock out yellow tees. Shots given will be 75% difference of full handicap for each player from lowest handicap. Maximum handicap 28.

Entry for this competition will be closed approximately 1 week prior to the competition commencement for the draw to be made. Members not entered by this date may not play in the competition.

### **Summer Knockout**

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap

Entry Fee                    £5

Format                        Singles Matchplay off white tees (unless agreed otherwise). Strokes given 90% difference from lowest handicap. Maximum handicap 28.

Entry for this competition will be closed approximately 1 week prior to the competition commencement for the draw to be made. Members not entered by this date may not play in the competition.

### **Winter Foursomes Knock out**

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active Competition handicap

Partners                     Pick your own

Entry Fee                    £10 per pair

Format                        Matchplay off Yellow Tees. Playing handicap is 50% of combined handicap. Shots given are full difference between pair's playing handicaps. Maximum handicap 28.

Entry for this competition will be closed approximately 1 week prior to the competition commencement for the draw to be made. Members not entered by this date may not play in the competition.

### **Winter Singles Knockout**

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active handicap

Entry Fee                    £5

Format                        Matchplay off Yellow Tees. Strokes given is 90% difference from lowest course handicap. Maximum handicap 28.

Entry for this competition will be closed approximately 1 week prior to the competition commencement for the draw to be made. Members not entered by this date may not play in the competition.

### **Quaich Knockout**

Open to all male Club members who have reached their 55th birthday with an active handicap



Entry Fee                    £5

Format                        Medal Matchplay off white tees with 90% difference from lowest course handicap. If a play-off is required, it is played over holes 1.2 and 10 (with 15% difference from lowest handicap). Maximum handicap 28.

Entry for this competition will be closed approximately 1 week prior to the competition commencement for the draw to be made. Members not entered by this date may not play in the competition.

Compiled by Richard Fernley with contributions from John Ashton, Tom Fletcher, John Meggison and Dave Tower.

23/03/24