



**General Principles of Golf
and
Competition Rules &
Conditions**

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General Principles of Golf and Competition Rules & Conditions

1. Introduction

This document contains the Definitions, General Principles, Members' Responsibilities, Weekend Golf Information and General Competition Rules & Conditions for Hazlemere Golf Club. Additional information regarding each section's individual competitions is also included in this document.

2. Definitions

2.1 Deleted.

2.2 Deleted.

2.3 **Junior Member:** a *Junior Member* is any non-shareholding member under the age of 18.

2.4 **Member:** a *Member* is any share holding adult member 18 years of age or over.

2.5 **Associate Member:** an *Associate Member* is any adult member 18 years of age or over who does not hold an 'A', 'B' or 'C' Share including Intermediate and 300 Club Members.

2.6 **Prime time:** *Prime Time* is the time designated on a weekend competition day during which only those players playing in the competition of the day may play.

2.7 **Qualifying Competition:** a *Qualifying Competition* is any competition played over a measured course in accordance with the Rules of Golf. Notice of the intended status of each competition shall be included on the competition notification.

General exceptions which invalidate a *Qualifying Competition* are:-

- when, to allow for the use of temporary, or alterative tees, the length of a Measured Course has been reduced or increased by more than 100 yards (91 meters),
- when more than two temporary greens, are in play,
- when a 'Local Preferred Lies' rule is in place to allow placement of a ball further than 6 inches from the original position of the ball on a closely mown area.

2.8 **Qualifying Round:** a *Qualifying Round* is a round of golf played under *Qualifying Competition* conditions.

2.9 **Reserved Tee Times:** *Reserved Tee Times* are Tee Times reserved for the exclusive use of certain pre-defined competitions, Mixed Club competitions, Club Matches or Society bookings.

3.0 **Twos:** gives a player the opportunity to enter a mini-competition which offers a cash prize to each player who achieves a two, or multiple thereof, during the main competition.

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3. General Principles

The following principles will apply to all four golfing Sections of Hazlemere Golf Club namely the Men's Section, Ladies' Section, Veterans' Section and Junior Section.

- 3.1 All aspects of golf will adhere to the principles of equity as stated in the Articles.
- 3.2 Equal access to golf is available to all golfing members of Hazlemere Golf Club and limited only by membership classification.
- 3.3 All Sections' competitions are of equal status.
- 3.4 The Golf Mark Standard accreditation must be maintained and the principles of the standard must be adhered to.
- 3.5 Social golf, competition golf and matches are allowed and encouraged.
- 3.6 Players may play with partners of their own choosing except in competitions where committee defined starting times and groupings for players are specified.

4. Members' Responsibilities

- 4.1 Players must check in at the Pro Shop, prior to starting their round, and confirm the tee time has been booked or the tee time is available. This applies to social golf, competition golf and matches.
- 4.2 Players must arrive at the teeing ground ready to tee off at the agreed time.
- 4.3 Players must play at a reasonable pace and slow play is not acceptable. A fourball should not take longer than 2 hours to play 9 holes.
- 4.4 Players must adhere to the Club's Dress Code.
- 4.5 Players must wear the relevant Team Colours when representing the Club in matches and competitions.
- 4.6 Players must adhere to the General Competition Rules & Conditions and to any specific Competition Rules & Conditions which apply to individual competitions.

5. Weekend Golf

- 5.1 Prime Time on Saturdays & Sundays is from 07:30 – 09:46 and only Men's & Ladies' competitions of the day can be played from the 1st tee during this period. If no Men's competition is being played then social golf can be played during this period.
- 5.2 Any player whose name is entered on the starting sheet during prime time on a competition day and who fails to be present for the stipulated time, without notifying the Pro Shop in advance, will be automatically ineligible for entry into the

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next two competitions (excluding a knock-out round). It is each individual's responsibility to be aware that their name has been entered on the starting sheet—the fact that someone else put their name up without telling them is no excuse.

5.3 Reserved Tee Times will be available for the following:-

- Men's competitions - Club Championship, Texas Scrambles, Captain's Day and Knock Out Finals,
- Ladies' competitions - Club Championship, Monthly Medals, B&T competitions, Ladies' Captain v Ladies' Vice Captain competition, Ladies' Captain's Drive In, Ladies' Captain's Day and Knock Out Finals,
- all Junior competitions,
- Mixed Club competitions, and
- Club Matches, however, due consideration for other competitions of the day must be taken when arranging matches.

5.4 If the 10th tee players are late getting round to the 1st tee then the 1st tee players have absolute priority.

5.5 Junior members cannot play before 12 noon at the weekend unless they are playing in a Club Match, Mixed Club competition, or competitions with committee defined starting times and groupings for players e.g. Club Championships and Knock Out Finals. However, on the **weekend before they wish to play**:-

- a Junior with a CONGU playing handicap of 15 or below can book a tee time from 10:42 onwards off the 1st Tee and between 08:00 and 08:40 off the 10th Tee,
- a Junior with a CONGU playing handicap of 16 and above, and playing with an adult member, can book a tee time from 10:42 onwards off the 1st Tee and between 08:00 and 08:40 off the 10th Tee,
- a Junior not playing with an adult in the group or a Junior with a Junior Club handicap cannot book a tee time before 12 noon at the weekend.

5.6 5 Day members may play at the weekend on payment of the relevant Green Fee.

6. General Competition Rules & Conditions

The following Competition Rules & Conditions apply to all four golfing Sections of Hazlemere Golf Club namely the Men's Section, Ladies' Section, Veterans' Section and Junior Section.

6.1 General

- All competitions are run in accordance with the R&A Rules of Golf.
- All competition handicaps and handicap allowances are as defined in the CONGU Unified Handicapping System (UHS).

6.2 Eligibility

- All golfing members of each Section, who hold an Active or Inactive CONGU handicap or a Junior Club handicap, are eligible to enter their Section's competitions unless restrictions are specified for an individual competition. Such restrictions (e.g. Juniors only, Veterans' only or handicap limits) should be stated

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on the competition entry sheet or posted nearby. Juniors with a CONGU handicap are eligible to play in adult competitions. However, for **adult** Board or Trophy competitions further restrictions apply as follows:-

1. Holding Members, Country Members and 300 Club Members are not eligible to enter any Board or Trophy competition.
 2. Players without 4 qualifying rounds or with an Inactive handicap are not eligible to enter **Nett** Board or Trophy competitions.
 3. Juniors with a Junior Club handicap are not eligible to enter any **adult** competitions.
- Where the 4 qualifying rounds rule applies the 4 qualifying rounds must have been played:-
 - in the 12 months prior to the competition date; or
 - in the 12 months prior to the 1st match in Knockout competitions.
 - For new members qualifying scores at their previous club are eligible for the 4 qualifying rounds rule providing a full handicap history from their previous club has been submitted to the Handicap Secretary by the relevant date. "Away" qualifying scores are eligible for the 4 qualifying rounds rule providing they have been submitted to the Handicap Secretary by the relevant date. Where qualifying scores are made in Countries that are not part of the CONGU Unified Handicapping System suitable evidence should be presented to the Handicap Secretary prior to the relevant date.
 - The Handicap Secretary will regularly post on the Notice Board, a list of those members with an Inactive CONGU handicap or who have not played in sufficient qualifying competitions to be eligible to enter a Nett Board or Trophy competition. It is the responsibility of the member to check his eligibility prior to entry.
 - 5 Day members, eligible to play in competitions at the weekend, must pay the relevant Green Fee.
 - 300 Club members eligible to play in competitions must pay the relevant Green Fee.

6.3 Competition Days, Starting Times & Groupings

- Players may play in competitions **on any competition day** as defined by the sections. However, where a competition is held over two days a player, or team of players, may only enter the competition once on one of the competition days.
- Players may play in competitions **at anytime during competition days** except for Juniors where restrictions apply at weekends – (see Section 5.5).
- Players may **determine their own starting times and groupings** except for specific 'drawn' competitions which have committee defined starting times and groupings for players e.g. Club Championships.
- Junior members with a CONGU playing handicap of 16 or more playing **in an adult competition** must play with at least one adult member in their group.

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6.4 Competition Entry

- Players book their own tee times with the exception of competitions with committee defined starting times and groupings for players.
- Before commencing play on the day of the competition a player must sign the relevant competitions book and pay the relevant competition fee. A player who fails to sign the relevant competitions book is deemed to have neither a score for the competition nor a score for handicap purposes. (See CONGU UHS Clause 8.6)
- Optionally, a player may also sign and pay for entry into the twos sweep.
- If requested a player must enter their name into the computer system to register their competition entry.
- Players can only play in one competition at a time unless the second defined competition is restricted to a subset of players.

6.5 Score-card Entries

- The player's name, correct handicap, handicap allowance, gross score for each hole and the total gross score or Stableford points must be recorded on the score-card.
N.B. It is the player's responsibility to record the correct handicap even if the correct handicap has not been posted on the relevant notice board. It is also the player's responsibility to self adjust downwards their handicap if they have played below their handicap in a qualifying competition and the handicap adjustment has not yet been posted on the relevant notice board.
- The score-card must be signed by the player and marker. The marker need not be playing in the competition but must hold an Active or Inactive CONGU handicap. A Junior member with a CONGU playing handicap of 16 or more **playing in an adult competition** must have their score-card marked by an adult member or Junior member with a playing CONGU handicap of less than 16. A Junior with an Active or Inactive CONGU playing handicap or a Junior Club handicap may mark any score-card in a Junior competition.

6.6 Score Entry

- If requested a player must enter the scores hole by hole into the computer system including No Return (N/R) scores.
- Completed score-cards, including No Return (N/R) score-cards, must be put in the relevant competition box.

6.7 Calculation of Results

- Stroke play competitions
 - In scratch competitions the winner is the player with the fewest number of strokes.
 - In handicap competitions the winner is the player with the lowest net score.
- Stableford Competitions
 - The winner is the player with the highest number of stableford points.
- Bogey & Par Competitions
 - The winner is the player who is most successful in the aggregate of holes.

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- Tie Resolutions
 - In handicap competitions Tie resolutions are determined by card count-back on the Back 9, 6, 3 and last hole(s).
 - In Strokeplay competitions the exact fractions of the applicable handicaps are deducted from the gross scores of the applicable holes.
 - In Stableford competitions the aggregate Stableford points of the applicable holes are used.
 - In scratch competitions tie resolutions may be decided by a play-off over a number of holes.

6.8 Course Setup

- For competitions that are held over more than one day the holes and teeing grounds may be differently situated on each day of the competition providing that, on any one day, all players play each hole and each teeing ground in the same position. (See R&A Rules of Golf Note to Rule 33-2)

6.9 Distance Measuring Devices

- In accordance with the R&A Rules of Golf (Rule 14-3) the Golf Committee has made a local rule allowing players to use devices that measure or gauge distance. Devices that measure wind speed, temperature or elevation are not allowed. Furthermore if a player is found using such a device they will be in breach of Rule 14.3 for which the penalty is disqualification regardless of whether such additional function(s) are actually used.