

World Handicap System – Terms & Conditions for Competition Play for the 2023/24 Season

With the introduction of the WHS on 2/11/20 we are required to examine and revise the terms and conditions that apply to the competitions we run both as internal (members only) and external (open to visitors). These terms and conditions will be kept under review by the WHS Committee and any changes will be considered and dealt with as they arise.

The General Committee has now agreed that the following should apply from 01/01/2023:

Club Competitions for Members only (Internal)

1. The maximum **Handicap Index** a player can use for any **Trophy Competition** will be 28.0 for Men and 40.0 for Women.
2. The maximum **Handicap Index** a player can use for a **Monthly Medal or Stableford Competition** will be 54.0 for both men and women
3. A player (home or away) will need to have a **minimum of 3 qualifying competition rounds** on their playing record in the 12-month period prior to the date of the competition. Without this they can play in the competition and **use the round as a qualifier** but cannot win the competition or any prize. (In this case no entry fee will be payable)
4. For the purposes of competitions, the following **Divisions** will apply for the apportionment of winnings:
 - Men - Division 1 CH 0-16, Division 2 CH 17-54
 - Senior men – Division 1 CH 0-20, Division 2 CH 21-54
 - Women – Two Divisions will be equalised based on the CH of those playing the competition

Club Competitions open to visitors (External)

The Club currently has 2 External Competitions, the **Seniors Am Am** and **Womens Am Am**, both in October each year.

1. There will be a **Handicap Index maximum of 28.0 for men and 36.0 for women**
2. A player with a higher Handicap Index will be able to participate but will be limited to the maximum allowed by the format of the Competition.
3. Players will be required to provide evidence that they have completed a **minimum of 3 qualifying competition rounds in the 12 months** immediately prior to the date of the Competition.

General Conditions

1. Players should note that the **Handicap Index** may produce a higher or lower **Course Handicap** dependent upon the tee set being used on the day.
2. The Handicapping system will then use this to calculate a **Playing Handicap for the Competition** using the **Handicap Allowance** appropriate to the format of the Competition. (See chart below)
3. There are various **acceptable circumstances** that may result in a round not being completed and some holes not being played. For example, due to:

- Fading light or bad weather,
- Player injury or illness,
- A match finishing before the final hole, or
- A hole being declared out of play by the Committee for maintenance or reconstruction purposes

Where the minimum number of holes has been completed and the reason for a player not playing a hole is valid, the player must use the following table to produce either a 9-hole or 18-hole score:

Number of holes played	Scaling up	What score(s) to record for holes not played
At least 7 holes	Scale up to 9 hole score	Add <i>nett par</i> (or equivalent stableford points)
At least 14 holes	Scale up to 18 hole score	Add <i>nett par</i> (or equivalent stableford points)

If the reason for a player not playing a hole, or holes, is considered invalid, the Handicap Committee may consider applying a **penalty score sanction on the WHS Platform of Course Rating + Course Handicap**

Handicap Allowances for Competition Formats

The following **handicap allowances** are mandatory:

PLAYING HANDICAP: ALLOWANCES TABLE

FORMAT OF PLAY	TYPE OF ROUND	RECOMMENDED HANDICAP ALLOWANCE
STROKEPLAY	Individual	95%
	Individual Stableford	95%
	Individual Par/Bogey	95%
	Individual Maximum Score	95%
	Fourball	85%
	Fourball Stableford	85%
	Fourball Par/Bogey	90%
MATCHPLAY	Individual	100%
	Fourball	90%
STROKEPLAY	Foursomes	50% of combined team handicap
	Greensomes	60% low handicap + 40% high handicap
	Pinehurst/Chapman	60% low handicap + 40% high handicap
	Best 1 of 4 Stroke Play	75%
	Best 2 of 4 Stroke Play	85%
	Best 3 of 4 Stroke Play	100%
	All 4 of 4 Stroke Play	100%
	Scramble (4 players)	"25%/20%/15%/10% from lowest to highest handicap"
	Scramble (2 players)	25% low/15% high
	Total score of 2 match play	100%
	Best 1 of 4 Par/Bogey	75%
	Best 2 of 4 Par/Bogey	80%
	Best 3 of 4 Par/Bogey	90%
4 of 4 Par/Bogey	100%	



The **Handicap Index applicable in the Club Championships** played over 2 rounds (36 holes in total) will be as follows:

- The Men's Championship takes place on consecutive days and therefore the same **Handicap Index** will apply to both rounds
- The Women's Championship is not played over consecutive days and therefore the second round will be subject to any **Handicap Index** changes produced by play in the first round
- The Seniors Championship is played over consecutive Mondays and the rules as in (b) above will apply to **Handicap Index** changes.

Definitions

Handicap Index (HI)

This is your handicap held at England Golf based on the best 8 of your last 20 scores submitted in competition or general play rounds.

Course Handicap (CH)

The handicap that applies on a specific course and set of tees. This can be identified by using the course slope rating chart. The more difficult the course the higher your CH will be

Playing Handicap (PH)

The handicap that applies ONLY in competitions on a specific course and set of tees and is designed to ensure that all players have a fair and equal game when competing against others

$$CH \times HA = PH$$

Handicap Allowance (HA)

The percentage applied to the CH to give you a PH in any competition. Different types of competition have specific Handicap Allowances

WOMENS SECTION

Alternate Day Trophy Competitions

Trophy competitions are played over alternate days to enable as many players as possible to participate.

- The alternate day should be within 7 days of the main day where possible
- Players may not compete for the Trophy on both the main and alternate day and must indicate before they play if their score is to count for the Trophy. However, indicating which day will be flexible with an emphasis on inclusivity. A player may play in both and can return a general play score for handicap purpose in the one that doesn't count
- All complete scores from 18-hole competitions are now eligible to qualify for the England Golf Women's Medal so it is no longer necessary to designate either day as an EG Medal qualifying round, both rounds are included in the Race to Woodhall Spa.
- Alternate days are treated separately for handicapping purposes with the PCC adjustment for each day being applied and handicaps adjusted accordingly

Order of Merit

The Order of Merit is a cumulative competition running throughout the year from 1st **January to 31st December**. Only performances in 18-hole qualifying competitions are taken into account. The **best 8 scores** are used to calculate the Order of Merit winner.

Points are awarded depending on how many women take part and their position in the competition. Thursday and weekend competitions are aggregated to give a combined position.

For example, if 32 women take part and you come first you get 32 points, 31 points for second and so on.

The qualifying competitions for the Order of Merit are as follows:

- 1 Pros Winter Trophy
- 2 February Stableford
- 3 Garden City trophy
- 4 March Medal
- 5 The Sorrento Classic
- 6 April Medal
- 7 Spring Classic
- 8 MJC Computer Trophy
- 9 May Medal
- 10 Mamod Trophy
- 11 June Medal
- 12 Samantha's Trophy
- 13 June Rose Bowl
- 14 July Medal
- 15 Artic Spa Round 1
- 16 Artic Spa Round 2

- 17 August Medal
- 18 MJC Group Trophy
- 19 Boots Opticians Stableford Trophy
- 20 Boots Opticians Scratch Trophy
- 21 September Medal
- 22 Classic 1
- 23 Classic 2
- 24 October Medal
- 25 November stableford
- 26 Turkey Trot

Summer Eclectic – Rules of the Competition

1. The competition will begin on **1st April** and will end on **30th September**
2. An Eclectic score will not be accepted until the entry fee has been made
3. The competition will be played in 2 divisions. The divisions will be determined based on an equalisation of those participating. Once determined the divisions will be communicated before the competition starts
4. Scores to count for the lady's eclectic will be from qualifying 18-hole competitions only and will be automatically submitted for those women participating onto the Club v1 eclectic sheet
5. As the player is submitting a qualifying score their Handicap Index may change during the course of the Eclectic competition which in turn will affect overall scores. The division that a woman starts in will be the one used for determining the winners of each division.
6. Scores must be completed and signed by the player and marker with correct entries in Column A (player) and Column D (marker)
7. The marker does not need to be a player in the Eclectic competition but should possess a Competition status handicap
8. If a score is to count, the hole must be played out to completion, no 'gimmies' are allowed
9. Score cards will only be accepted when the full course is in play
10. If temporary greens or tees are in play the Eclectic competition will be suspended for that day
11. The Rules of Golf will apply throughout the competition

Champion of Champions

The following will qualify a woman to be entered into the end of season Champion of Champions

- The aggregate winner of a qualifying competition (9 hole and 18 hole)
- The winner of the monthly medal on both days are these are now to be considered as separate competitions by England Golf
- The winner of the Lady Captains' singles competition
- The winners of the Lady Captains' pairs competition

- For competitions where there is an age limit to winning the trophy, the trophy winner and where different the overall winner will both qualify

MENS SECTION

Order of Merit

1. The Men's Order of Merit competition runs from the **1st January to the 31st December**
2. Singles Strokeplay and Stableford competitions which are open to all members, between 1st January and 31st December, count towards the Order of Merit plus the Arctic Spa Club Championship played in July (overall result of the two rounds of this competition).
3. Points are awarded according to the number of entries to the competition. If there are 50 entries, the winner receives 50 points, second receives 49 etc.
4. The Order of Merit is based on a player's BEST 10 results in the Season.
5. In the event of a tie, there will be a countback based on the best 9 results, best 8 etc, until the tie is resolved.
6. If a competition is postponed due to bad weather, the rearranged date will count only if it is played within the overall dates listed above.
7. Order of Merit standings will be posted on the noticeboard approximately monthly through the year.

Champion of Champions

The following will qualify a man to be entered into the end of season Champion of Champions

- The aggregate winner of a qualifying competition (9 hole and 18 hole)
- The winner of the Men's Captains' singles competition
- The winners of the Men's Captains' pairs competition
- For competitions where there is an age limit to winning the trophy, the trophy winner and where different the overall winner will both qualify

SENIORS' SECTION

Order of Merit

1. Senior Order of Merit competition runs from **January 1st** to **December 31st**.
2. The competitions that qualify for the Order of Merit will be all Singles Strokeplay or Stableford competitions which are open to all members plus the Glenister Classic in September (overall result of the two rounds of this competition).
3. Points are awarded according to the number of entries to the competition. If there are 50 entries, the winner receives 50 points, second receives 49 etc.
4. The Order of Merit is based on a player's **best 10** results in the Season.
5. In the event of a tie, there will be a countback based on the best 9 results, best 8 etc, until the tie is resolved.
6. If a competition is postponed due to bad weather, the rearranged date will count **only** if it is played within the overall dates listed above.
7. Order of Merit standings will be posted on the noticeboard approximately monthly through the year.

Veterans Order of Merit

1. There is a separate competition for a Veterans' Order of Merit (the George Steadman Trophy). This will operate under the same rules, for Seniors who are 70 years or older on 1st January of this year.
2. Veterans are also eligible for the main OoM competition: if a Veteran wins the Seniors OoM, the Veterans Trophy will be awarded to the second placed Veteran.

Winter Eclectic – Rules of the Competition

1. The competition will begin on the **second Thursday of November** and will end on **third Thursday of February**
2. An Eclectic card will not be accepted until the entry fee has been made
3. A player must use a full (100%) Course handicap based upon their Handicap Index using the yellow tees slope rating
4. If the player submits qualifying scores the Course Handicap can change during the Eclectic competition
5. Score cards can only be submitted on any Monday or Thursday within the dates listed above providing a Seniors club competition is not in progress
6. Cards must be completed and signed by the player and marker with correct entries in Column A (player) and Column D (marker)
7. The marker does not need to be a player in the Eclectic competition but should possess a current Handicap Index status
8. If a score is to count, the hole must be played out to completion, no 'gimmies' are allowed
9. Score cards will only be accepted when the full course is in play
10. If temporary greens or tees are in play the Eclectic competition will be suspended for that day

11. A player may register an intention to submit a General Play card instead of an Eclectic card but he will not be allowed to enter this score into the Eclectic competition
12. A player will not be allowed to submit an Eclectic card if he chooses to take part in any other competition such as a singles or doubles match on that day
13. The Rules of Golf will apply throughout the competition

Champion of Champions

The following will qualify a senior man to be entered into the end of season Champion of Champions

- The aggregate winner of a qualifying competition (9 hole and 18 hole)
- The winner of the Senior Men's Captains' singles competition
- The winners of the Senior Men's Captains' pairs competition
- For competitions where there is an age limit to winning the trophy, the trophy winner and where different the overall winner will both qualify

OPEN COMPETITIONS

There is the intention to include club open competitions this season which will be open to anyone in the club to enter provided they meet the requirements outlined in Club Competitions for Members only (Internal) on page 1.

For these competitions:

- Men will play from the white tees
- Seniors will play from the yellow tees and
- Women will play from the red tees (no handicap adjustment to be made)
- The winner will be the player with the lowest score regardless of which section they represent

MIXED COMPETITIONS

Course adjustment shots

When mixed golf is played, or for that matter any golf where different tees are used for the same competition, an adjustment needs to be made to reflect this.

The adjustment depends on the type of golf being played. If playing a medal or matchplay the adjustment is based purely on the course rating. Whereas in stablefords, it is based on a combination of course rating and also Par for that set of tees.

Handicap adjustments are applied to the PH after calculating any handicap allowance fraction for the competition format

Competition name	Format	Handicap rules
Seniors v Women	Match play Pairs better ball stableford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men off whites, women off reds. • Use own stroke indices • 90% handicap difference off lowest handicap • Women 2.3 course adjustment shots.
Pitt Trophy	Greensome Pairs Stableford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men off yellows. Women off red. • Use men's stroke index. • 40% higher handicap / 60% lower handicap • Women 4 course adjustment shots.
Roy Crowe Trophy	Pairs better ball stableford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men off yellows, women off reds. • Use own stroke indices • 85% of Course handicap • Women 4 course adjustment shots.
Bill Yardley trophy	Greensome Pairs Stableford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men off yellows. Women off red. • Use men's stroke index. • 40% higher handicap / 60% lower handicap • Women 4 course adjustment shots.
Gittins Transport Trophy	Greensome Pairs Stableford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men off yellows. Ladies off red. • Use men's stroke index. • 40% higher handicap/60% lower handicap. • Ladies 3 course adjustment shots.
Hire It Team Trophy	Pairs better ball stableford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men off whites, women off reds. • Use own stroke indices • 85% of Course handicap • Women 3 course adjustment shots.
Mixed Pairs	Pairs better ball stableford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men off whites, women off reds. • Use own stroke indices. • 85% of Course handicap • Women 3 course adjustment shots.
Scetrini Cup	Pairs better ball stableford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men off yellows, women off reds. • Use own stroke indices • 85% of Course handicap. • Women 4 course adjustment shots.

Calculating adjustments for mixed tee competitions

Strokeplay

Tees	Course rating	Adjustment
White	68.4	0
Red	70.7	2.3
Yellow	67.0	0
Red	70.7	3.7

Stableford

Tees	Points to play to handicap*	Adjustment
White	40	0
Red	37	3
Yellow	41	0
Red	37	4

Points to play to handicap is $36 - (\text{Course rating} - \text{Par})$

Whites $36 - (68.4 - 72) = 39.6 = 40$

Yellows $36 - (67.0 - 72) = 41$

Reds $36 - (70.7 - 72) = 37.3 = 37$

Types of Mixed Competitions

1. Greensomes

Both players hit a tee shot. The best tee shot is then selected and alternate shot played until the competition of the hole

Adjustments - 40% of the higher players course handicap and 60% of the lower players course handicap (if course handicaps are equal - half the combined total) plus for women 3 or 4 shots depending if men off whites or yellow

2. Pairs Betterball Stableford

Team of 2 players each playing their own ball with the best score on each hole to count for the pair

Adjustment - 85% of Course handicap, plus for women 3 or 4 shots depending if men off whites or yellow

3. Match play – pairs

Adjustment - 90% of CH plus for women adjustments of 2.3 or 3.7 to give playing handicap, depending if Men off whites or yellows. Then the usual strokes taken relative to lowest PH.

Mixed competitions (women and senior men) Trophy competitions

Greensome Pairs Stableford

Pitt Trophy

Bill Yardley Trophy

4BBB

Roy Crowe Trophy

Scetrini Cup

Match play

Seniors v Women – number of matches won