

CHLCGA

Cambs & Hunts Ladies County Golf Association

GENERAL COMPETITION CONDITIONS

All CHLCGA competitions will be informed by the Rules of Golf (R&A, USGA 2019) and the policies and guidance published by England Golf.

Key England Golf documents include the following:

- Hard Card (2020) - copies will be made available to all competitors via the county website and on the day of the competition.
- Policy on the Use of Golf Buggies (February 2018)
- GDPR Guidance (2018)
- Safeguarding children and young people: policy & procedures (2018)
- Safeguarding adults policy & procedures (2018)
- Guidance on the Equality Act 2010 and Golf (April 2018)

It is expected that all players will

- be familiar with the new rules of golf (2019)
- uphold the spirit and integrity of the game

All entries to the Association's competitions are subject to the approval of the Competitions Sub-Committee, who shall have the right to refuse entry without assigning a reason

All Competitions shall be open to female amateur golfers who are members of a club affiliated to the Association, with the exception that members shall only be eligible to compete in the County Championship or to play for the County Teams, if their home club is affiliated to the Association.

1. A player must provide a valid CDH number on the competition entry form so that handicaps can be verified via the CDH database prior to the start of the competition. An individual player will be responsible for informing the competition organiser on the day if their handicap has changed in the period immediately preceding the competition
2. An approved ball must be played
3. All ties to be decided on a count back over the last 18, 9, 6, 3 and 1 hole(s), except scratch trophies, which will be shared, unless stated otherwise in the individual competition conditions. Unless otherwise stated in the specific competition conditions a player may win more than one trophy, but not normally more than one prize
4. A player arriving late on the tee may be disqualified or penalised under Rule 5-3. The competition committee of the day (the committee) shall at its discretion apply Rule 5.3 and will take into consideration major traffic disruptions in individual cases

5. Inclement weather:
 - a. course unplayable
 - i. for interclub matches it is recommended that clubs hold a reserve day for such an eventuality
 - ii. for main competitions, the competitions committee will determine if it is feasible to arrange an alternative competition day
 - b. extreme weather conditions such as heat, high winds, predicted storms – a local health and safety risk assessment should be undertaken jointly by the competition organisers/match captains (home and away) in partnership with the club professional (or deputy) and/or the club manager. This risk assessment will inform any decision to cancel or postpone a fixture. This should be a local decision, not a county decision as weather conditions may vary. Advice may however be sought from the relevant officer
It is recommended that players should, where practicable, be informed at least 24 hours in advance of any potential postponement
6. If play in a competition is suspended due to inclement weather players may seek shelter and may be called off the course. If after a reasonable time, conditions have improved, then play should resume. If resumption is not possible, the committee reserves the right to alter the format of the competition in order to achieve a result
7. It is permitted to use a distance-measuring device in any competition, If, however, during a stipulated round, a player uses a device or artificial object to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect her play (e.g. elevation changes, wind speed etc.) the player is in breach of Rule 4-3
8. Any disputes on the day will be settled by the committee, whose decision shall be final
9. Pace of play: competitors are reminded that it is the duty of every player to keep up with the game in front, and not just keep ahead of the game behind. The committee will monitor the pace of play and will take action under Rule 5.6 if players are considered to be delaying play unduly. CHLCGA supports the principle of safe and responsible "ready golf" in stroke play competitions
10. Rules advisor(s) will be available for advice and decision making in all qualifying competitions, the semi-finals/finals of the Jean Wilkinson and Grace Norman competitions and the final of the Foursomes knock-out competition
11. Advice and other help (Rules 10.2 and 10.3): A player is permitted to use a caddie in any competition, except that CHLCGA does not permit caddies in junior events nor is it permitted to use a professional or assistant professional as a caddie. Rule 10.3b specifies what a caddie is allowed/ not allowed to do
12. Motorised golf buggies may be used by a player or caddie who can provide a valid medical certificate. In considering requests for use of motorised buggies CHLCGA will use the England Golf Transportation Policy as a reference guide to aid the decision-making. Key points are as follows:
 - a. a valid medical confirmation of a specific condition necessitating the use of a motorised buggy will be accepted from a practitioner registered with the General Medical Council, Nursing and Midwifery Council and Health and Care Professions Council
 - b. **short-term conditions:** a written request should be sent to the County Competition Secretary or Assistant County Competition Secretary, as appropriate, at least 1 week before the initial competition date and must be accompanied by a copy of a valid medical certificate or equivalent

- c. players with a **long-term condition** necessitating the need for a motorised buggy should submit a written request, with supporting evidence (*proforma available on request*) to the County Competition Secretary. If approved, permission for the use of a motorised buggy for a defined period, which may be indefinite, depending on the underlying condition and supporting evidence
 - d. where the certificated condition prevents the player from driving the buggy, a third party may be approved to undertake the driving
 - e. the player granted permission to use a motorised buggy will be responsible for checking availability, booking the buggy with the host club and complying with host club health and safety requirements and may be required to provide evidence of personal and third party insurance. Such requirements may also be applied to a caddie or other third party
 - f. permission to use a buggy may be refused/rescinded at any time should conditions on the course be deemed unsafe by the club or organiser of the competition
13. Players are expected to adhere to the dress code of the host club
 14. Entries must be sent to the designated competition organiser by the published closing date, which will normally be four weeks before the competition. Entries are to be sent singly or jointly for pairs competitions. Entries received after the specified closing date will not normally be accepted
 15. Entry fees must be paid direct to the Treasurer at the time of entry, either by BACS payment or by cheque made payable to Cambs & Hunts LCGA. The designated competition code(s) should be clearly indicated
 16. Entry fees will only be returned to players withdrawing from a competition after the closing date if a substitute can be found. Players wishing to withdraw from a competition must always inform the designated competition organiser who will advise as to the procedure to take
 17. Method of ballot for competitions over subscribed:
 - a. higher handicaps balloted out in the County Championship and Foursomes Championship
 - b. in all other competitions entries will be accepted on a 'first come' basis
 18. Players who reduce their handicap from a higher division to a lower division **before** the competition closing date will be ineligible to play in the higher division. If this happens **after** the closing date they can still play in the competition but must play off their new handicap and will only be eligible for the handicap (net) prize(s). If practicable, everything possible will be done to enable players to play in the correct division
 19. Players who increase their handicap from a lower division to a higher division **before** the competition closing date will be ineligible to play in the lower division. If this happens **after** the closing date they can still play in the lower division but must play off the upper limit of that competition banding. If practicable, everything possible will be done to enable players to play in the correct division
 20. Start sheets will normally be sent out by email as soon as possible after the closing date