



MOYVALLEY  
MEN'S CLUB

# Terms of Competitions 2022

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*Moyvalley Men's Club*

This document holds the Terms of Competitions for Moyvalley Men's Club competitions.  
This document will be in use until further notice.

4/25/2019

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# Table of Contents

1. The Rules of Golf.....	2
2. Etiquette .....	2
3. Eligibility .....	2
4. Entry to Official Club Competitions .....	4
5. Distance-Measuring Devices .....	5
6. Handicaps .....	6
7. Handicap Rules and Allowances .....	6
8. Times of Starting and Groups: (Rule 33-3).....	7
9. Adverse Weather Conditions - Safety Considerations .....	7
10. Adverse Weather Conditions - Time Sheets.....	7
11. Match Play .....	8
12. Time Sheet Etiquette .....	8
13. Teeing Areas.....	9
14. Pace of Play .....	10
15. Ready Golf.....	11
16. Score Cards: (Rule 33-5) .....	12
17. Close of Competitions .....	12
18. Non>Returns in Qualifying Singles Competitions .....	13
19. Disputes and Rules of Golf.....	13
20. Decision of Ties: (Rule 33-6) .....	14
21. Golfer of the Year .....	14
22. Open Draws .....	14
23. 2's Club.....	15
24. Motorised Buggies .....	15
25. Prizes and Prize Presentations.....	15
26. General Conditions the Competitions Committee reserves the right to;.....	15

## **1. The Rules of Golf**

1. The Rules of Golf as approved by R & A Rules Limited and the U.S.G.A and in addition the Local Rules as made and published by the Men's Committee shall apply to all competitions. (Players should familiarise themselves with these rules, particularly Rule 6 of the Rules of Golf: Player's Responsibilities).

## **2. Etiquette**

1. Competitors playing in an Inter-Club or Club Championship Match should, if practical, be extended the courtesy of being called through a slower group.
2. Players in a Club competition shall have priority over players who are not competing.
3. The maximum grouping allowed is four players, unless otherwise authorised by the Committee.

## **3. Eligibility**

1. Only players' who meet the eligibility criteria for certain competitions, as laid down by the Competitions Committee, may enter those competitions. (The Committee may waive restrictions in certain circumstances).
2. To be eligible to compete in a Singles Qualifying Competition at an Away Club, except for all events listed in the Golf Ireland Competition Regulations, a Member of a Golf Ireland Affiliated Golf Club must have returned at least three scores in a Singles Qualifying Competition at his Home Club, at any time on or after the corresponding date one year before the Singles Qualifying Competition at the Away Club.
3. Junior members shall be eligible to play in Men's Competitions in accordance with the Junior Eligibility Rules as set out by the Men's Committee and displayed on the Junior Notice Board and published on the Club website.

### **4. Participation in Adult Competitions by Juniors**

Once a Junior member becomes eligible for a senior handicap he or she must join the respective Men's and Ladies Clubs. A fee will be payable to cover the affiliation fees with the Golf Ireland and the management of handicaps.

Juniors can participate in Adult Competitions once the child has a full Golf Ireland affiliated handicap. There are some restrictions for Junior members in competing in these competitions:

- A minimum of 5 competitions must be completed each year to retain membership of the Men's or Ladies Club.

- Junior members (with full handicaps) can book and play in the allocated members' tee times subject to the proviso that 2 or more Junior members cannot book in any one fourball slot unless with the agreement of the participating adult member.
- A Junior member must have their handicap in the Men's or Ladies club for a minimum of 1 year before being eligible to enter the 4 designated "Major" competitions (Men's and Lady Captains Prizes, Balyna Cup, O'More Cup, )
- Junior members will be eligible to Win Major Competitions including Monthly Medals, Captain's Prize, President's Prize, O'More Cup, Club Championship, Balyna Cup once they have completed 12 months of junior membership and have submitted and have returned 20 handicap qualifying counting scores in conjunction with the guidelines of the WHS in maintaining a 'true reflection of a players playing ability

## **4. Entry to Official Club Competitions**

1. For all competitions requiring entry through the computer, each competitor must swipe his card or enter his name / number at least 10 minutes before his tee-off.
2. Before commencing play, competitors must ensure that their names are entered in the computer and the competition book as maintained by the Golf Pro or his designated assistant and the appropriate entry fee is paid as specified. Failure to comply with either entry or fee requirements means a player is not entered in the competition.
3. Persons in arrears (Annual Subscription and Competition Fees) will not be eligible to win prizes in any competition and cannot represent the Club in inter-club competitions while they remain in arrears.
4. The Committee will determine competition entrance fees and the manner of their application. Payment will be by made in the pro shop unless otherwise stated.
5. The use of a Golf Ireland Member Card is mandatory for members of clubs affiliated to the Golf Ireland for entry into all Open Singles Qualifying Competitions, which shall be by Computer Entry and uploaded to the CDH following close of Competition. All visitors must have a "C" handicap to be eligible to win prizes in Open, Semi Open and Invitational competitions.
6. Each competitor is required to enter their name, the date, and correct playing handicap on the scorecard. Failure to provide your name and correct playing handicap will result in disqualification. In instances where a printed label is available it is up to the member to ensure that the printed label is correct. Each such scorecard shall be deemed to have been correctly issued by the Committee pursuant to the first paragraph of Rule 33.5 of the Rules of Golf.
7. After play, ALL score cards for Handicap Qualifying Competitions, correctly completed and signed by both competitor and marker, must be returned as soon as possible through the computer and the competition box.
8. Reserving a starting time on the competition time sheet obliges a member to enter the competition of that day.
9. A competitor may not take more than one main prize in any competition. Novelty prizes such as nearest the pin, longest drive, etc are not generally considered as main prizes, unless otherwise specified prior to the competition commencing.
10. Competitions will be suspended/abandoned/cancelled only in exceptional circumstances. The decision to do so can be taken, at any time on the day of competition, by any two members of the Men's Committee or of the Competitions Committee. Where a competition is cancelled or abandoned, entry and green fees (where applicable) will be refunded. Where a competition is suspended and resumed there will be no refund.
11. On the day of competition the Golf Pro or Assistant will have authority to substitute or combine players or to take any other appropriate action which will facilitate the smooth running of the competition.

12. Where a player makes a late cancellation his playing partners must be informed immediately. Any player who fails to turn up without informing their playing partners in advance will be liable to sanction at the discretion of the Committee (See Clause 12.8).
13. To Win The Presidents Prize or The Captains Prize a player must have completed and returned at least 20 handicap qualifying counting scores in conjunction with the guidelines of the WHS in maintaining a 'true reflection of a players playing ability', and 3 singles qualifying club competition scores in Moyvalley Golf Club in the 12 Months prior to the above competitions.
14. To win the O'More Cup/Monthly Medal, Balyna Cup, or Club Championship, a player must have completed and returned 20 handicap qualifying counting scores in conjunction with the guidelines of the WHS in maintaining a 'true reflection of a players playing ability', and at least 2 singles qualifying club competition Cards in Moyvalley Golf Club in the 12 months prior to the above competition.
15. A Player must have completed and returned 1-10 card's that makes their WHS Index cannot win a prize in Club Competitions. A player must have completed and returned 11-19 cards that makes their WHS Index in order to win a Category Prize.
16. Where any issue or dispute arises in relation to any competition, the decision of the Competitions Committee will be made with full regard to the Rules of Golf, the Competition Conditions, and Equity. Such decision will be final.
17. Where any issue or dispute arises in relation to any competition, the decision of the Competitions Committee will be made with full regard to the Rules of Golf, the Competition Conditions, and Equity. Such decision will be final.

## **5. Distance-Measuring Devices**

1. In all competitions organised and run at Moyvalley Golf Club, a player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional function is actually used.

## 6. Handicaps

Handicaps will be operated and maintained in accordance with the World Handicapping System (WHS).

1. Players are reminded that failure to report all Qualifying Scores returned away from their Home Clubs (including 'No Returns' and Disqualified Scores) as required by the WHS could lead to the suspension of offending players' handicaps under the provisions of Clause 24 of the WHS Unified Handicapping System.

### Handicapping for Competitions

1. The Rules and allowances that shall apply for handicapping are those prescribed by the golf Ireland and set out in the WHS Unified Handicapping System. Players should familiarise themselves with the handicap system particularly Clause 8 – Responsibilities of the player. It should be noted that a player who fails to carry out any of the responsibilities imposed by the WHS is not entitled to a WHS handicap.

Handicaps will be operated and maintained in accordance with the World Handicapping System (WHS)

Players should return all scores from casual rounds at away clubs for verification. All handicaps are maintained under the remit of the WHS.

All handicapping queries should be forwarded to the Handicap Secretary at [moyvalleymensclub@gmail.com](mailto:moyvalleymensclub@gmail.com)

## 7. Handicap Rules and Allowances

1. The rules and allowances that shall apply for handicapping are those prescribed by the Golfing Unions and set out in the WHS Unified Handicapping System. Players should familiarise themselves with the handicap system particularly Clause 8 - Responsibilities of the Player. It should be noted that a player who fails to carry out any of the responsibilities imposed by the UHS is not entitled to a WHS® Handicap.
2. In all Club Competitions, including Semi-Open, Invitation, and Open Competitions, as organised by the Competitions Committee, the only handicaps acceptable and recognised for prize eligibility, shall be for players of affiliated golf clubs.

## **8. Times of Starting and Groups: (Rule 33-3)**

1. The player (s) shall start at the time laid down by the Competitions Committee, or if permitted by them, at the time reserved on the BRS (electronic) time sheet, or on the basis of pairing off upon arrival if there is no time sheet in operation.
2. Players shall not compete in a competition prior to the official start time, unless with advance permission from the Competitions Committee. Normal weekend starting time is 7.30 a.m. in the summer or the later set time shown on the booking system in the autumn, winter and early spring.
3. Players shall not compete in a competition after the last tee-time indicated on the time sheet, unless with advance permission from the Competitions Committee.
4. Competitors shall remain throughout the round in the group arranged by the Competitions Committee or booked on the timesheet (BRS) unless that Committee authorises or ratifies a change.

## **9. Adverse Weather Conditions - Safety Considerations**

Prior to commencing play, players should check with the Club Professional that the course is open and fit for play. The following regulations have been adopted for use when Adverse Weather Conditions exist:

1. In Foggy conditions there will be no play on the Course until such time that the course staff deem it safe.
2. If fog appears while playing the Course players must use their own judgement if they continue to play and should not continue to play if there is insufficient visibility or there is any danger to golfers, course staff and members of the public.

## **10. Adverse Weather Conditions - Time Sheets**

The following time sheet regulations apply when weather conditions are affected by fog:

1. If visibility is inadequate the Course will remain closed until visibility is acceptable.
2. If, within 45 minutes of the closure of the course, visibility is acceptable, then the time sheet for play will stand resulting in a time sheet delay.
3. Should the delay exceed 45 minutes the Committee may decide on a shot gun start to accommodate all players

## **11. Match Play**

The conditions under which Club Match Play Competitions are to be played shall be laid down by the Competition's Committee and displayed on the advance time sheets and draw sheets.

## **12. Time Sheet Etiquette**

When time sheets (including waiting lists) are in operation the following rules apply.

1. Players may reserve only one line i.e. a maximum of four name slots.
2. Players must reserve slots in members' names only, except in the case of Semi Open, Open and Invitation competitions.
3. In the case of Semi Open Competitions up to two name slots can be booked as a guest with the remaining slots booked in members names.
4. In the case of Open and Invitation Competitions up to three name slots can be booked as a guest with the remaining slots booked in members names.
5. Players shall not insert names in unallocated time slots.
6. Players shall not play unless they have an allocated time slot.
7. Players should be present at the 1st tee, and ready to play, five minutes before their starting time.
8. Reserving a time is a commitment to play with and mark the card for the other players in that time slot. Where a player makes a late cancellation his playing partners must be informed immediately. Any player who fails to turn up without informing their playing partners in advance will be liable to sanction at the discretion of the Committee. Failure to notify their opposition and partner(s) in the time slot in good time will allow the opposition or partner(s) the right to report them to the Competitions Committee.
9. Should a member of the Club be reported to the Competitions Committee for breach of Clause 12.8 the Competitions Committee has the right to discipline the offending member by informing that said member he will be ineligible to compete in the Club's next competition of a similar format. In the case of a second offence the competitor will be ineligible to compete in the Club's next two competitions of a similar format.

## **13. Teeing Areas**

1. The competition tees are those as indicated in the official competition entry book or on the computer entry screen or the competition notice or on the BRS system.
2. All golfer of the year qualifying (GOY) competitions are played off the white tees.
3. The stipulated round commences from the first tee and consists of playing the holes of the course in the sequence prescribed by the Competitions Committee, unless otherwise authorised by them.
4. In mixed foursomes competitions, the man shall tee off at the 1st hole unless otherwise indicated by the organising Committee.

## 14. Pace of Play

Slow Play will be penalised under Rule 6.7 of the Rules of Golf which states that the player must play without undue delay and in accordance with any pace of play Golf Ireland delines that the Committee may establish. The Competitions Committee has established the following pace of play Golf Ireland delines.

1. Be on time and ready to play at your designated tee time. Competitors must register (swipe in) at least 10 minutes before tee time and players should be present at the 1st tee, and ready to play, five minutes before their starting time. .
2. Be ready to play every shot when it is your turn.
3. Do not wait for greens to clear when they are beyond your range.
4. Leave your bag at the side of the green nearest the next tee.
5. Line up your putt while others are putting and be ready to putt in turn.
6. If you cannot score or improve your team's score on any hole, pick up.
7. First player to putt out should be ready to replace the flag.
8. Do not mark cards on or near the green. Mark at the tee-box while other players are teeing off.
9. Encourage your playing partners to keep up with the group in front.
10. If someone is slowing things down, TELL HIM.
11. WALK AS YOU TALK - Do not delay play for conversation.
12. If you are falling behind for any reason, invite the group behind through.
13. Keep just behind the group ahead, not just ahead of the group behind.
14. Play a provisional ball if you think your ball is lost outside a hazard, or out of bounds.
15. Find your own ball first before you go searching for others.
16. Call the players behind through when you have to search for a ball – not after 3 minutes are up. A ball not found within 3 minutes is lost and out of play (Rule 27).
17. See rules of Golf on slow play (Rule 6-7).
18. There should be no undue gaps between groups on the course.
19. REMEMBER: If your group is a hole behind, it is your fault.

## 15. Ready Golf

"Ready golf" is a commonly used term which indicates that players should play when they are ready to do so, rather than adhering strictly to the "farthest from the hole plays first" stipulation in the Rules of Golf.

"Ready golf" is not appropriate in match play due to the strategy involved between opponents and the need to have a set method for determining which player plays first. However, in stroke play formats it is only the act of agreeing to play out of turn to give one of the players an advantage that is prohibited.

While the Competitions Committee encourages "Ready Golf" in stroke play it is **IMPERATIVE** that players act sensibly to ensure that playing out of turn does not endanger other players.

There is no official definition of the term "Ready Golf", but examples of it in action are:

1. Hitting a shot when safe to do so if a player farther away faces a challenging shot and is taking time to assess their options
2. Shorter hitters playing first from the tee or fairway if longer hitters have to wait
3. Hitting a tee shot if the person with the honour is delayed in being ready to play
4. Hitting a shot before helping someone to look for a lost ball
5. Putting out even if it means standing close to someone else's line
6. Hitting a shot if a person who has just played from a greenside bunker is still farthest from the hole but is delayed due to raking the bunker
7. When a player's ball has gone over the back of a green, any player closer to the hole but chipping from the front of the green should play while the other player is having to walk to their ball and assess their shot.
8. Marking scores upon immediate arrival at the next tee, except that the first player to tee off marks their card immediately after teeing off

**REMEMBER ONLY PLAY WHEN IT IS ABSOLUTELY SAFE TO DO SO.**

## **16. Score Cards: (Rule 33-5)**

1. In the absence of the Competitions Committee issuing score cards containing the date and competitor's name, all competitors are required, by the Competitions Committee, to put their name, handicap, and the date on their own scorecards. Where the Competitions Committee issues stick on labels with the player's name, date and handicap it is the player's responsibility to ensure that the details contained therein are correct.
2. In the absence of the Competitions Committee specifically appointing a 'marker' to check and record a competitor's score, a fellow-competitor or another player may act as marker.
3. A competitor should not mark or alter his own scorecard. (The appointed marker is responsible for checking and recording the competitor's score and for any alterations to the recorded scores).
4. Scores should be recorded on the scorecards after each hole.
5. Scorecards must be marked and signed before entering the locker room or Clubhouse.
6. Returned scores must not be disclosed to a player who has not started in the competition.
7. All scores must be entered into the computer and the card returned to the Committee as soon as possible after the round, whether the round is completed or not.
8. In accordance with Rule 6.6C of the Rules of Golf no alteration (of any kind) may be made on a score card after the competitor has returned it to the Committee.
9. The Competitions Committee is responsible for the addition of scores and application of the handicap recorded on the score card (Rule 33.5).
10. Failure to enter a score in the computer for a Club 'singles' competition may result in the competitor being suspended from competing in his next 'singles' competition. In the case of a second offence the competitor may be suspended from competing in his next two 'singles' competitions (See clause 18).

## **17. Close of Competitions**

Scorecards for all competitions must be returned within 30 minutes of the last group in the competition having completed its final hole. The Penalty for returns posted after Close of Competition is Disqualification.

## **18. Non>Returns in Qualifying Singles Competitions**

The WHS UHS recommendations will be enforced. You can view these online on 'WHS Rules'. Players should be fully aware of Clause 8 of the WHS Manual - Responsibilities of the Player. In entering a competition, you are confirming that you are aware of your responsibilities as a player and comply with both the Rules of Golf and the WHS Rules.

Please note that it is the responsibility of each competitor to ensure that all competition cards in handicap qualifying competitions, whether or not complete, are returned to the competitions committee and to make such computer entries as may be required.

Sanctions for the non-return of cards are as follows:

### **1. First Non Return**

You will be asked to explain the reason you did not return your card and you will be suspended from the next singles competition.

### **2. Second Non Return**

Suspension from the next two singles competitions

### **3. Third Non Return**

One month suspension from singles Competition

### **4. Fourth Non Return**

Suspension of your WHS (GOLF IRELAND) handicap for one month

If for a genuine and unforeseen reason you have to terminate your round early you should submit a written explanation to the Handicap Secretary via the Honorary Secretary within three days with an email to [honsec.moyvalleymensclub@gmail.com](mailto:honsec.moyvalleymensclub@gmail.com) being the preferred option. Brief excuses written on Score Cards are not acceptable.

## **19. Disputes and Rules of Golf**

1. Any dispute or doubtful point on the Rules shall be referred to the Competitions Committee, as soon as possible, whose decision shall be final (Rule 34-3).

## **20. Decision of Ties: (Rule 33-6)**

1. Ties are decided by matching the tied scorecards to determine the winner based on countback, as approved by R & A Rules Limited.
2. For 36 hole competitions a tie is decided on last 18 holes and if still tied, proceed as for 18 holes matching below.
3. For 18 hole competitions ties are decided on the last 9 holes, then last 6--3--2--1 and if still tied, decided on last 3 holes--7--8--9 of the first 9.
4. If this procedure does not produce a result, then the winner will be determined by lot.
5. In the event of the Competitions Committee permitting play to start at the 10th tee, or 1st and 10th tees simultaneously, the last nine holes, for the purpose of deciding ties, will be from the 10th to 18th hole.

## **21. Golfer of the Year**

1. Golfer of the Year (GOY) competitions are those competitions designated as such from year to year in the Annual Fixtures Book and displayed on the club website.
2. GOY competitions shall be played from the White Tees and for the purpose of this competition the top twenty players will be allocated points from 20 to 1.
3. The Golfer of the Year shall be the player with the most Points from his best eight cards from the twelve designated qualifying competitions.
4. Ties shall be decided as follows: (a) Discard the card which has the lowest counting score and take the remaining cards. (b) If still a tie continue this procedure, if necessary, until only the best card of each player remains. (c) Then proceed as for 18 holes (See Clauses 20.3 and 20.4).

## **22. Open Draws**

1. The Competition Committee will have discretion in organising Open Draws for certain competitions throughout the year. They are usually but not confined to the following: Captain's Prize, President's Prize, O'More Cup, Balyna Cup and Monthly Medals (April, May, June, July, August, September and October).

## **23. 2's Club**

1. Only players that have correctly filled out their score card and returned it to both the computer and the competition box will be eligible to win the 2's monies.
2. If and only if the computer system is down will all returned cards be eligible.
3. In the event of a Hole in One, that player will receive half the pot, the other half being divided between the other 2's winners.

## **24. Motorised Buggies**

1. Motorised golf buggies may be used in all Men's Club Competitions
2. Players playing in Golf Ireland Inter Club Competition must abide by the terms set out in the GOLF IRELAND Competition Regulations

## **25. Prizes and Prize Presentations**

1. Prize winners are expected to attend our Annual Prize Presentation as a courtesy to our Officers, Members, and Sponsors whose generosity is much appreciated. If, due to exceptional circumstances, players are unable to be present to receive their prizes they should nominate another person to collect their prizes on their behalf.

## **26. General Conditions the Competitions Committee reserves the right to;**

1. Refuse any entry without assigning a reason.
2. Correct any mistakes made in the checking of scorecards.
3. Alter the published competition or conditions of competition if it is deemed necessary.
4. Cancel a competition due to insufficient entries or to postpone or abandon it at any stage in exceptional circumstances, if the Competitions Committee so decides.

# 1. Amendments