

# Weekend Interclub Competition Rules

## PURPOSE

The purpose of the WGI Interclub Competition is to:

- Provide a strong competition for the lower handicapped players in each Club and prepare representatives for Provincial play
- Assist in the development of Junior players
- Provide competition between Clubs for those players who seek competitive golf

## INTENT

The intent is for all Interclub competitions to be played in accordance with the rules and the spirit of the game, embodying fair play and fair competition, and to promote the game of golf.

## APPLICATION

These Rules apply to all Men's Interclub Competitions conducted by WGI

## RESPONSIBILITY FOR RUNNING THE COMPETITION

The WGI Match Committee has the overall responsibility for the running of the Interclub Competitions and any decisions it makes are final and binding. The WGI will ensure it has a representative on duty and able to be contacted during all rounds of the competition.

The Host Club is responsible for the running of the competition on the day and should ensure that the course is appropriately marshalled and an appropriate pace of play is maintained. The Host Club is also responsible for the posting of match results, on the day of competition. Refer Hosting Guidelines document.

## GENDER ELIGIBILITY

The Men's Interclub Competitions are to be contested by male players and the Women's Interclub Competitions are to be contested by female players.

## CONDUCT

The WGI Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Process will be applied to all WGI Interclub competitions and associated activity, not restricted to but including during the course of a match, on the Club premises or grounds or in general public.

## CLUB UNIFORMS

It is expected that each Club will ensure that its teams will be dressed in a team uniform and that the standard of dress complies with the dress standard of the host club.

## GENERAL RULES

### 1. Grades

There will be three grades of Men's Interclub: Premiership (36 holes), Championship (18 holes) and 18 Hole, Divisions 1 to 11.

### 2. Eligibility

Eligibility of a Club to enter a team in a grade/competition will be determined by the placings of teams in the previous year and by the requirements of running the competitions as determined by the WGI. Entries to play in a grade will be called for by the WGI and a listing of grade eligibilities will accompany such notice.

### 3. Player Eligibility

To be eligible to compete in a WGI Weekend Interclub Competition:

- a. The player must be a financial member with full playing rights at a Club within the WGI jurisdiction, and comply with the eligibility Rules of each Grade
- b. The player must not participate in the Premier competition of any other district
- c. The player must not make themselves available in the same calendar year for selection in any other District's representative teams;
- d. If a player is selected for another District's Representative team or plays in another District's premier competition in the same calendar year, the eligibility provisions may be applied retrospectively

For Interclub, clubs may on application to WGI, combine resources and field composite teams provided one Club takes responsibility for the team and for hosting fixtures

### 4. Entries

All entries are to be accompanied by the Entrance Fee for each team. Should a team not be accepted or is withdrawn prior to the draw being finalised, such entrance fee for that team shall be refunded. Entry fees and due prior to round 1 of the competition(s)

### 5. Scheduling

Weekend Interclub is primarily a Saturday competition and it is a condition of entry that participating Clubs make their courses and facilities available whenever a fixture is scheduled for their course. All matches are to be played on the scheduled days and venues as published in WGI calendar.

WGI will use its best endeavours to ensure fixtures assigned to any courses are as reasonable and as balanced to the requirements of the Club, as is possible.

### 6. Draw

The draw for the year's Interclub matches will be made by the WGI Match Committee, and after considerations will be issued and is final. For the grades that have playoffs (Premiership and Championship), the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the playoffs will serve as the reserve day for the round robin competition and a date will be set as a reserve for the playoffs. For the 18 Divisions 1 to 11 a date will be set as a reserve day.

## 7. Conduct of Matches

In all 18 Hole matches that involve a team ball match also, the singles shall take precedence and matches will be played as two singles matches with best score from each team pairing advancing to the team ball match.

In the event a player concedes a hole or a match prior to a hole being completed, the player receiving the concession shall continue to play the hole until it is completed by either being conceded the shot or by holing the ball

In the event a singles match is completed or both singles matches are completed but the team ball is still alive, the players shall proceed as if the singles were still alive with the Rules of Golf for this competition being applied accordingly.

In the event of a singles match and the team ball being completed, with second singles match being alive, a player from the completed singles match may act as a caddie for another member of the team provided they do not continue to play a ball and the opponent is advised.

## 8. Playing in more than one Programmed Fixture

No player may play for more than one programmed Interclub fixture over a weekend or more than one Interclub Team in the same competition round, whether played on the programmed date or at another time. This Rule does not apply to Watt Cup, Junior Pennants and the other Junior Competition fixtures.

## 9. Player Movement between Grades

Where all grades are competing on the same date, movement between teams will be;

- Where a player has played at position 7, 8, 9, or 10 in the team from which he is wishing to move down from, in the most recent round and for the majority of appearances in this team, he is free to play in the next lower graded team of his club.
- Where a player has played at positions 1 to 6 either in his last appearance or for the majority of his appearances in the team he wishes to move down from, the club will be required to apply for approval to WGI by e/mail for the player to move down. This approval must be requested by the Wednesday (or earlier) preceding the round for which the approval is being sought.
- On the two dates where Div 1 – 11, 18 Hole play and the Premier and Championship grades do not (round 6, 25<sup>th</sup> March and round 8, 22<sup>nd</sup> April) any movement down from the Premier and Championship teams that played on the 11<sup>th</sup> March and the 1<sup>st</sup> April will require approval.
- On the date when a club is hosting a round of Otaki Cup and their Premier team is not playing, movement down of any players who played in the previous Otaki Cup round will require approval.

Majority is 51% or more games.

Granting of approvals will be based on playing ability, previous results & scores and the club's ability to realistically field teams.

The WGI match committee reserves the right to review excessive movements between teams and restrict where appropriate.

## 10. Transfers Between Clubs

Any player who has already in that year played Interclub for one Club or has been on the Team List for a match in any class of Interclub, wishing to transfer and play for another Club, shall obtain written clearance from his original Club and then make application to the WGI Match Committee for approval of transfer. At the discretion of the WGI Match Committee, there may be up to a three game stand down period imposed for such transfers.

## 11. Contravention of Eligibility Provision

- a. If a player plays in contravention of Rule 3 or Rules 8 to 10, or the General Eligibility Rule, the player shall be disqualified from the single and team ball or foursome matches as applicable, with the points for those matches being awarded to the opposition. The team for which the player plays may receive an additional general penalty of one point.
- b. If a player has breached eligibility Rules 3c or 3d, the circumstances of such breach will be investigated by the WGI Match Committee and if it was known or should have been known that the player concerned was intending to be available for another Districts Representative team, an additional penalty of the team being disqualified from that year's and the subsequent year's competition may be applied.

## 12. Complaints and Appeals (excluding Code of Conduct)

If any Club or Team wishes to lodge a complaint against another Club or Team in the WGI Interclub competitions or appeal any ruling made by the WGI Match Committee, they should do so through their Club in writing within 5 days of the action that prompted the complaint or appeal. The WGI Match Committee will:

- a. Acknowledge the complaint to all parties and investigate the circumstances of the event
- b. Confirm to the clubs involved whether there is a case to answer
- c. Review and adjudicate, seeking information from all parties as required which may mean that Club representatives will be requested to appear before the WGI Match Committee
- d. At its discretion take into account any pertinent information, rule on the complaint and notify Clubs of the decision

Should a Club believe that the process was unfair or the decision manifestly incorrect or the penalty grossly unfair, it may make an appeal to the WGI Board for a review. The WGI Board is to consider the circumstances surrounding the request and either refer it back to the WGI Match Committee for review or dismiss the request. Any decision from such a review is final and binding.

## 13. Tee Times

Host Clubs have a responsibility to ensure that tee times are allocated to take into account travelling times of the visiting team and that all Interclub players finish their matches in daylight. The Host Club shall be responsible for uploading tee times onto the WGI website for the match **no later than 7 days preceding** the match and posting of that time is binding on both teams.

Players shall be ready to commence play at the time set down. In the event of a player not being ready to start, the Starter shall direct play to commence. In accordance with rule 6-3 in the Rules of Golf, provided the player arrives at the starting point within 5 minutes after the start time, the

penalty is loss of hole. Failure to join play on the second hole in the correct sequence automatically incurs a penalty of disqualification and loss of match. The disqualification applies to the singles or foursomes match; a player may join the match at the commencement of any subsequent hole to contest the team ball.

14. Posting of Team Sheets

Each Club is to post the team sheets showing all players in their playing order on the WGI web site for each of its teams contesting a fixture in the upcoming weekend **by 12.00pm midday the Thursday** immediately prior to the weekend. The teams for each fixture will be opened for viewing on the website at 3.00pm on that Thursday.

Should a Club have not entered a team on time, the fixture will not be opened for viewing until received, and the Club will be issued a warning. In the event of subsequent non-postings for that team, at the discretion of the WGI Match Committee, the team may be penalised one or more competition point for each occurrence.

15. Posting of Results

Reiterating the General Condition, the Host Club or designated "host" team, shall ensure the results are uploaded onto the WGI web site on the **SAME** day as the match was played. This requirement forms a key part of any media opportunities for publishing results etc.

16. Pace of Play

All Clubs will provide to WGI and notify teams on competition day, the time the club considers is normal for a round of golf, four players playing singles and two pairs playing foursomes (Premier grade only). With allowance for weather conditions, course setup, disputes and ball searches, play should be completed within 30 minutes of this optimum time. Any match in excess of this is unacceptable and may be subject to sanctions.

Marshalling of the pace of play is the responsibility of the host club.

17. Weather or Light Interruptions

In the event bad weather makes play impracticable prior to play commencing, an Interclub match may be postponed by the Host Club. If there is any doubt, the Host Club must seek confirmation from the WGI member designated to be on duty.

If play has commenced, play shall be suspended in accordance with the Rules of Golf.

If play is unable to recommence on the same day, or if both teams agree, on the following day the match will be abandoned. The match will be then rescheduled for the reserve day

Where more than two teams are involved (The Premier and Championship grades round robin) the matches will be rescheduled for the reserve day; in the playoffs (again Premier and Championship grades) the matches will be rescheduled on the reserve day or other to be determined by the WGI Match Committee.

For any postponed or abandoned matches that are to be rescheduled a new Team sheet shall be submitted as if the matches had not been played, subject to normal eligibility rules.

18. Advice

- a. The Rules of Golf 8-1 applies. A player in the same group playing a singles match may not give or receive advice from the other team member in that group.
- b. If a player has a caddie, the caddie may provide assistance as permitted by the Rules of Golf.
- c. Each team may appoint one person who may give advice, including pointing out a line for putting, to members of that team. That person is to be made known to the opposing team prior to play commencing.

19. Ride on Motorised Carts or Cycles

The use of motorised ride on carts or cycles will only be permitted for a medically unfit player. Players must apply prior to the fixture to the WGI for approval to use a motorised cart or cycle and all cases will be considered on merit.

- a. If the use is of a permanent or long term nature, the Player will be required to produce medical evidence confirming that use is necessary.
- b. If the use is temporary the player may be required to produce medical evidence if the condition is not obvious or requires the use for more than one fixture.
- c. If agreed to by the WGI Match Committee, final approval for use is required to be obtained from the Host Club which approval will not be withheld unless the course is unfit for cart or cycle use
- d. The motorised cart or cycle may be only used by the approved player

20. R & A and USGA Local Rule. WGI adopts the NZ Golf recommendation;

***“Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1 are modified as follows:***

***When a player’s ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment.***

***The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1.***

***This Local Rule applies only when the player’s ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental.***

***Note: If it is determined that a player’s ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new location. A ball-marker moved in such circumstances is replaced.***

21. Measuring Devices. WGI adopts the following R and A guideline, as a Local Rule for WGI run events.

***5. Distance-Measuring Devices (Rule 14-3)***

***During a stipulated round, the use of any distance-measuring device is not permitted unless the Committee has introduced a Local Rule to that effect (see Note to Rule 14-3 and Appendix I; Part A; Section 7) .Even when the Local Rule is in effect, the device must not be used for any purposes that are prohibited by Rule 14-3, including but not limited to:***

- *the gauging or measuring of slope;*
- *the gauging or measuring of other conditions that might affect play (eg wind speed or direction);*
- *recommendations that might assist the player in making a stroke or in his play (eg club selection, type of shot to be played, green reading or any other advice related matter); or*
- *calculating the effective distance between two points based on elevation changes or other conditions affecting shot distance*

*A multi-functional device, such as a smartphone or PDA, may be used as a distance-measuring device, but it must not be used to gauge or measure other conditions, where doing so would be a breach of Rule 14*