

MEN'S WEEKEND INTERCLUB COMPETITION RULES - 1.1.2024

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Golf Wellington Interclub programme is to:

- Provide a strong competition for all levels of player in each Club, providing opportunity for players to represent their clubs playing competitive golf against other clubs.
- Prepare representatives for Provincial play
- Assist in the development of Junior players

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 Golf Wellington.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR RUNNING THE COMPETITION

The Golf Wellington Match Committee has the overall responsibility for the running of the Interclub Competitions and any decisions it makes are final and binding. The Match Committee will provide decision on all and any scenarios not covered by the Competition Rules or the Rules of Golf. Golf Wellington will ensure the General Manager is 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 unless otherwise approved.

CONDUCT

The Golf Wellington Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Process will be applied to all Golf Wellington 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 and to players and spectators alike.

CLUB UNIFORMS

It is required 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 four grades of Men's Interclub: Premiership (18 holes), Championship (18 holes) 18 Hole, Divisions 1 to 11, and 18 Hole Handicap, Division 12.

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 Golf Wellington. Entries to play in a grade will be called for by Golf Wellington and a listing of grade eligibilities will accompany such notice.

3. Player Eligibility - General

To be eligible to compete in a Golf Wellington Weekend Interclub Competition:

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

For Interclub, clubs may on application to Golf Wellington, 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 are 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 the Golf Wellington calendar.

Golf Wellington 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 Golf Wellington Match Committee, and after considerations will be issued and is final. Should an alternate date(s) be required due to postponement or cancellation this will duly be advised for the Premier and Championship grades. For the 18 Hole grade, divisions 1 to 12, a date will be agreed between teams and/or advised by Golf Wellington as required.

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 for the team ball match.

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 the 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 in 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, unless otherwise approved. This Rule does not apply to Watt Cup, Junior Pennants and the other Junior Competition fixtures.

9. Player Movement between Grades

a.) 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. Otherwise approval will be required from Golf Wellington, 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
- 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 Golf Wellington 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 a date where Div 1 – 12, 18 Hole grades play and the Premier and Championship grades do not, any movement down from the Premier and Championship teams of a player that played for either of these two teams in the match prior, will require approval.
- On a date where the Premier grade does not play, any movement down from Premier to Championship of a player who played for the Premier team in the match prior, will require approval.

b.) Where a team is playing on a standalone date in 18 Hole Div 1 to 12, not a full round (required as the number of Interclub teams increases vs. the finite nature of course capacity), players wishing to be part of this team who have played for a higher team in their previous Interclub match, will require approval. Players from a lower team will be free to play.

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 Golf Wellington 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 Golf Wellington Match Committee for approval of transfer. At the discretion of the 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 to be determined by the Match Committee.
- b. If a player has breached eligibility Rules 3b or 3c, the circumstances of such breach will be considered by the Golf Wellington Match Committee. 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 Golf Wellington Interclub competitions or appeal any ruling made by the Golf Wellington Match Committee, they should do so through their Club in writing within 5 days of the action that prompted the complaint or appeal. The Golf Wellington 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 Golf Wellington 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 Golf Wellington Board, for review. The Golf Wellington Board is to consider the circumstances surrounding the request and either refer it back to the Golf Wellington 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 earliest Tee Time in 18 Hole Div 1 to 12, other than by mutual agreement, is **8.00am**

The earliest Tee Time in 18 Hole Div 1 to 12, other than by mutual agreement, where teams from the Wairarapa, play teams from either Kapiti or Wellington (Miramar, Mornington, Karori, Ohariu) areas play, other than by mutual agreement, is **9.00am.**

All matches are morning tee off unless otherwise agreed or approved

The Host Club shall be responsible for up loading tee times onto the Golf Wellington 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 **5.3** 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 at the tee on the second hole of the match in the correct sequence automatically incurs a penalty of disqualification and loss of match. The disqualification applies to a singles or foursomes match; a player may join a match at the commencement of any subsequent hole to contest a team ball match.

14. Posting of Team Sheets

Each Club, respective Captain/Co Ordinator, is to post the team sheets showing all players in their playing order on the Golf Wellington 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 12.01pm 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 may be issued a warning. In the event of subsequent non-postings for that team, at the discretion of the Golf Wellington 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 Golf Wellington 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 Golf Wellington 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 in discussion and subsequent approval from the Golf Wellington General Manager.

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 another day.

Where more than two teams are involved (The Premier and Championship grades round robin) the matches will be rescheduled for another date as determined by the Golf Wellington Match

Committee; in the playoffs (again Premier and Championship grades) the matches will also be rescheduled on a day to be determined by the 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 10.2 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. This applies to the two singles players within a playing group whose scores also contribute to the team ball match.
- 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 their 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 by email, prior to the fixture, to the Golf Wellington Match Committee 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 **may** be required to produce medical evidence confirming that use is necessary.
- b. If the use is temporary the player **may** also be required to produce medical evidence if the condition is not obvious or requires the use for more than one fixture.
- c. If approved by the Golf Wellington Match Committee, final approval for use is required to be obtained from the Host Club, which approval will not be unduly withheld eg. if the course is unfit for cart or cycle use
- d. The motorised cart or cycle may be only used by the approved player and their equipment.

20. Measuring Devices.

Under the Rules of Golf 4.3a, Distance Measuring Devices are permitted.

4.3a.

1. Distance and Directional Information

Allowed

- Getting information on distance or direction (such as from a distance measuring device or a compass)

Not allowed

- Measuring elevation changes, or
- Interpreting distance or directional information (such as using a device to get a recommended line of play or club selection based on the location of the player's ball)