

# Competition Rules & Guidelines 2020

All players are expected to adhere to competition rules which are designed to ensure fair-play, improve player etiquette and enhance competitiveness.

For the purposes of this document “he” is deemed to mean “he” or “she”

## General Competition Rules

- The committee reserves the right to alter, postpone, or abandon any competition.
- The competition secretary and committee are responsible for drawing up and interpreting conditions for all competitions. Their decision is final in all matters relating to competitions.
- Course etiquette is always to be adhered to. Please replace divots, repair pitch marks, and rake bunkers.
- If the number of participants in a competition is below 30, the competition will be abandoned. No prizes will be awarded, and the Entry Fees will be refunded.
- Ties in all competitions shall be decided as follows: last 18, 9, 6, 3, 2, 1 hole.
- In match play, if level after 18 holes – thereafter sudden death (starting at the 1<sup>st</sup> hole, and shots apply in sudden death)
- Persons in arrears (Annual Subscription and Competition Fees) will not be eligible to win prizes in any competition.
- **Timesheet Infringements:** The BRS timesheet booking module allows members to book online through the club website or at the Club. **The system is in place to manage timesheets for both competition and casual golf.** Members who remove their names at the last minute or hold timeslots on timesheets for other players without intending to play themselves may be sanctioned by excluding them for booking into specific competition/s on BRS and on Club Systems.

- The player must record his name, handicap and the competition date legibly on the scorecard. Where a printed label is provided it should be attached to the scorecard however, it is the player's responsibility to ensure that the details on the label, handicap etc. is correct.

Before commencing your round, please complete the following steps:

1. Pay the entry fee in the pro-shop before going to first tee.
  2. Sign in the competition book (if computer in clubhouse is down).
  3. Enter the competition on the computer (**Penalty for breach of rule: Disqualification**).
- Score cards must always be exchanged before play. A player may not mark his own card. **Penalty for breach of Rule: Disqualification.**
  - On completion of your round, enter your score in the computer and then put your signed scorecard in the slot for score cards beneath the computer monitor within 15 minutes of leaving the last hole of the competition. **Penalty for breach of Rule: Disqualification (Rule 3.3b)**
  - Players are responsible for the proper return of their scorecards. This card should have the date, competition details, handicap, signatures and the gross score for stroke play, four ball, foursomes and preferably the points filled in for each hole to assist in the efficient processing of cards.
  - Members must ensure that scorecards are signed by a fellow member of New Forest Golf Club in all members' competitions.
  - Players are also responsible for checking the details of conditions of play on club notice board prior to competitions.
  - Golfing Union of Ireland Rules regarding Amateur Status applies in all competitions.
  - If you play in a competition at an away club, and your score is better than CSS, you must cut your handicap immediately. All players are responsible for their own handicaps. If you play with an incorrect handicap, you will be disqualified from the competition.
  - Players who do not return their score cards after competitions impact on the CSS calculation and this affects all players' handicap adjustments. Clauses 23 and 24 of the UHS gives Handicap Committees discretion to deal with players who persistently submit incomplete cards or make Non>Returns, if it considers they are attempting to build a handicap. Players failing to return scorecards

on completion of their round cause the Handicap Committee additional work and the club would be entitled to suspend a player's right to compete in club competitions for a specified period or for more persistent offences suspend his handicap for an appropriate period. (Clause 17 Dec.1 (p) CONGU Unified Handicap System).

- **Match Play Competitions:** The Entry Fee must be paid before a player(s) begins their first match. The onus is on both players to contact and agree a suitable date with each other in a timely manner. All matches must be decided with a result posted on or before the final date on the draw-sheet for each round. The Competitions Committee may disqualify the player(s) if they fail to post a result on or before the final date. No extensions will be allowed however the Competitions Committee may in very exceptional circumstances grant an extension of seven days to extend the completion date of any round. Semi Finals must be completed before the date allocated.
- **Captain's Prize:** Winner of the Junior and Student members section will be based on scores returned in the qualifying round. Junior and Student members may play the final 18 holes but cannot win the main (1st) prize. Full members must have competed in at least four (4) qualifying competitions in the club in the current calendar year to qualify for the final.
- **Category Prizes:** In qualifying singles competitions category prizes will be awarded in handicap categories

Cat 1: 0-10

Cat 2: 11-17

Cat 3: 18-28

Cat 4: 29-36 \* A Prize will be given to Category 4 entries if there is are enough entries.

- **CONGU Handicap Categories:** For handicap adjustments the CONGU categories will be adhered to.

Cat 1: 0 – 5

Cat 2: 6 – 12

Cat 3: 13 – 20

Cat 4: 21 – 28

Cat 5: 29 – 36

Cat 6: 37 – 54

- **Motorized Golf Carts** may be used in all competitions. Booking is essential to avoid disappointment.

## Non-Return Policy

Decision 2(c) UHS

### Dec.2(c) Status of Incomplete Cards and ‘No Returns’

- All cards must be returned in *Qualifying Competitions*, whether complete or not.
- It is expected that every player who enters an 18-hole *Qualifying Competition* intends to complete the round.
- Since an incomplete card and a ‘No Return’ may have the effect of increasing a player’s handicap, the club would be justified in refusing to accept a card or record a *No Return* when the player has walked in after playing only a few holes.
- Cards should not be issued to players when there is obviously insufficient light for them to complete the round.
- Sympathetic consideration should be given to players who have had to discontinue play for any cause considered to be reasonable by the organizing Committee.

- Clauses 23 and 24 of the *UHS* give clubs the discretion to deal with players who persistently submit incomplete cards or make ‘No Returns’ if they consider they are attempting to “build a handicap”.

NR: A Non-Return of a Score Card in a Qualifying Competition, i.e. player fails to return the score card having entered a qualifying competition.

"NR": The term/expression most often used when referring to failure to return a score for maybe one or more holes in a qualifying competition. The correct term for such is a DQ, i.e. Failure to Hole Out as in Rule 3-2 (Rules of Golf), which leads to DQ in the competition but produces a 0.1 in Handicap Adjustment.

**The responsible player/member if he is returning a NR or "NR" will notify the Committee either by a call or writing a note on the score card.**

All players at some time possibly register a NR (incomplete card). Reasons could be:

- an injury / sudden illness to the player
- assisting an injured player on the course
- an emergency domestic call or urgency

Such may be treated sympathetically as in 2(c) (e) above and not apply any disciplinary or sanction measures.

- At the annual handicap review the GUI will add to a players’ handicap, the amount of point ones (0.1’s) deducted over the year if a non-return is a regular occurrence.

Sometimes/often a "NR/s" affects the CSS e.g. one hole not played/finished/score entered but when adjusted under Clause 19 (Nett Double Bogey) it contributes to the CSS, unknown to the player, and such may bring him into the Buffer Zone or indeed a downward adjustment rather than the desired / expected 0.1.

Decision 2(c) covers an explanation of "NRs" and how to treat such by a Handicap Committee.

**New Forest Sanctions for NR's is as follows,**

- if a player "X" registers a "NR" they will be disqualified from the competition.
- if "X" registers a second "NR" within a short interval the competition secretary will speak to him, ask for reasons, and indicate his responsibilities re Dec 2 (C)
- if "X" repeats, a more serious sanction will follow (e.g. Possible suspension for competing in Inter club matches for New Forest)
- if non-compliance continues the player will not be allowed to enter competitions in the club for a period from one month to two months depending on how serious the "NRs" are in the view of the Committee (this is a Disciplinary Measure)
- if after the period of a Disciplinary Measure breaches continue then the Committee may apply Clause 24

**Competition Entry Times & Fees**

- Competition time is all day on the day of the competition.
- Due to the increase in the number of members, the committee and management have decided the following times are now members' core competitions times only.
  1. Saturday 07:30am – 09:30am
  2. Sunday 07:30am – 11.00am.
- Members who are playing in the competition during the above tee times will have priority over members who choose not to play in the competition.
- The format for the weekend members' competition is as follows:
  1. Saturday will be either a qualifying stableford / stroke sweepstake competition.
  2. Sunday will be either a qualifying stableford or stroke play competition.
  3. Monthly Medals will be played on Saturday & Sunday. Members have a choice of tee to play from. Entry is allowed from blue tees & white tees in the same weekend.

4. Qualifying rounds for Captain's prize will be on a Saturday and Sunday with the final being played on the following Sunday.
  5. President's prize will be played on Saturday on Sunday and there will be a 9-hole playoff on the Sunday.
- The entry fees are as follows:
    1. Majors: €15.00
    2. Monthly Medals: €10.00
    3. Weekend Competition: €8.00
    4. Saturday Sweepstake: €8.00
    5. Opens Competitions: €8.00
    6. Matchplay €10.00 (Singles) €20.00 (Team)
    7. Two's Club €2.00 (Optional for all members competitions)

**New Forest Majors and Monthly Medals competitions:**

- Majors: Captain's Prize & President's Prize
- Monthly Medals: April, May, June, July, August, September
- **To win the Captain's Prize and the President's Prize; a member must have completed and returned at least 4 single qualifying club competitions in New Forest Golf Club in the current calendar year.**

## Prizes and Presentations

- Prize winners are asked to attend Presentations or make suitable alternative arrangements for prizes to be collected at the presentation.
- All members winning Twos will have the prize automatically added to their GUI card.
- Where a prize winner cannot attend at presentations, arrangements should be made for the attendance of a substitute representative and should be notified in advance to the Committee.
- Prizes not collected within 21 days of competition will be forfeited and redistributed at the discretion of the Competition's Committee.

## Singles Match Play, Four Ball & Mixed Foursomes Match play

- Singles: Current Handicap for all match play competitions with the full difference
- Four Ball: 90% of the difference with the lowest going to scratch
- Foursomes: Half the combined difference of current handicaps.
- Deadline dates will be strictly enforced.
- Failure to play the match within the allotted time will result in the disqualification of both players / parties unless prior agreement has been obtained from the Competition Secretary.

## Slow Play

- Please avoid slow play.
- The Competition Committee will monitor all reports of slow play.
- If a match fails to keep its place and loses more than one clear hole on players in front, it should allow the match following to pass.
- Players in a competition shall have precedence both in starting and through the green over players playing ordinary matches.