

WOODSIDE GOLF CLUB

Competition Rules and Conditions

Both CONGU competition qualifying rules and those drawn up by the Woodside Members General Committee will apply to all competitions, unless otherwise stated.

Player handicap requirements for entry to club competitions are specified on the Competition Entry Sheets.

(a) Players with a current CONGU Competition Handicap, as indicated by a (c) alongside their name on the Handicap List posted on the Handicap Notice Board, are eligible to play in all club competitions.

(b) Players with a Club Handicap, but not a CONGU Competition Handicap, are eligible to play in specified club competitions, in competitions designated as “handicap qualifying” (e.g. the monthly 9-hole handicap qualifying competition), and in all team (non-handicap qualifying) competitions.

(c) Players without any handicap may only play in competitions designated as “handicap qualifying” (e.g. the monthly 9-hole handicap qualifying competition), and in specified team (non-handicap qualifying) competitions.

All players who are eligible to enter a competition will qualify to win the competition prizes. Please remember that it is the responsibility of each player to know his or her current competition handicap. Any player using an incorrect, higher handicap will be disqualified.

All Competition Entry Sheets will be removed from the notice board one day prior to the day of the competition. After that, any member wishing to play (Reserve List has precedence) in that competition **must** contact the Reception Desk and will only be allowed to play if a tee time is available within the competition reserved tee time slots.

Once the sheet has been taken down, players themselves will not be permitted to change their tee time within the block booked tee times, nor will players be permitted to scratch from the Saturday Competition and play in the same competition on the Sunday or vice-versa. Any member doing so will be disqualified. After removal from the notice board prior to the day of the competition, the sheet will be placed in the Scorecard Box to enable the Handicap Secretary to ensure that this rule is being complied with.

Juniors competing in Adult Competitions

Juniors aged 8-14 years are permitted to play in club competitions provided their parent/legal guardian accompanies them throughout the round.

Juniors aged 15-17 years are permitted to play in club competitions with written consent from their parent/legal guardian and provided they are accompanied by 2 adult members, excepting in singles competitions where the junior would be permitted to play with 1 adult.

N.B. This rule is included in the Club's constitution.

Dress Code

All players must ensure that they are dressed in appropriate golf apparel, including shoes. This does not permit the wearing of denim jeans, football/logoed shirts and shorts other than accepted golf shorts and this dress code will be strictly enforced.

Final Arbiter

If for any reason any of the Competition Rules are in dispute or if a situation arises which is not covered by the Rules, the Competition Secretary will determine the way forward and his/her decision will be final.

Scorecard Entries

The player's name, correct handicap, strokes received, gross score for each hole and the total gross score is the minimum required and **must be recorded on the scorecard**. Stableford points should be also recorded. Ladies playing in mixed 18-hole competitions should add 3 to their 'strokes received' entry in the "Strokes Rec'd" box.

It is the player's responsibility to ensure that all scores and calculations are correct before signature by the player and marker. **In accordance with the R & A Rules of Golf, an incorrectly completed card will result in disqualification.**

Players uncertain on completing a scorecard correctly should seek guidance from the Competition Secretary, Handicap Secretary or any other experienced member.

Thursday Competitions Playing Group Numbers

18 Hole Singles: No play outside the Competition's allocated tee times
Play shall be in a three ball wherever possible but two balls are permitted
No fourballs at any time

9 Hole Singles: No play outside the Competition's allocated tee times
Play shall be in a three ball wherever possible but two balls are permitted
The last tee time can be played as a fourball

Weekend Competitions

Pre-booked tee times are available on the Saturday morning for members wishing to enter these competitions. Members can also book their own tee times at reception for the remainder of Saturday or for Sunday morning. Members who book their own tee time must enter their name and tee time in the appropriate spaces provided on the Competition Entry Sheet. Other members may add their name at these tee times where there are spaces available.

Once the weekend competition sheet has been taken down from the notice board, it will not be permitted to scratch from the Saturday Competition and play in the same competition on the Sunday or vice-versa. Any member doing so will be disqualified.

These are qualifying competitions for handicap purposes, subject to CONGU qualifying rules. The winner of qualifying competitions will qualify for the 'Masters Cup' Competition, and points will be awarded in the "Race to the Masters". (See rules for the 'Masters Cup' competition).

a) Weekend Monthly Medal Competitions

Play shall be in groups of three wherever possible but groups of two are permitted. Groups of four are not permitted at any time.

Players finishing in the top eight positions in each month's competition will receive points, (10 points for the player finishing 1st, 9 for the player finishing 2nd, and so on down to 3 for the player finishing 8th). The Weekend League Medal is awarded to the player accumulating most points throughout the year.

b) Weekend Mid-Month Stableford Competitions

If by the Friday before the competition there are still vacant tee times amongst the pre-booked tee times the Club has the right to use them for other members/customers not in the competition.

Play shall be in groups of three wherever possible but groups of two are permitted. Groups of four should be avoided, but nevertheless are permitted at times outside the pre-booked tee times.

The Mid-Month Stableford League prize is awarded to the player with the best 8 results from a possible 12 played throughout the year.

c) Changes in Course Conditions over the Weekend

If the course changes between normal and temporary greens over the weekend then the Saturday course conditions will define the whole competition. Therefore, in the event of more than two temporary greens being in play on the Saturday, for Sunday players to be allowed to take part in the competition, the same temporary green conditions must be in play. If Sunday reverts to normal green conditions, then all Sunday competition players are excluded. Also, whilst the competition itself proceeds with appropriate prizes awarded, it is non-qualifying both for handicap purposes and 'Masters Cup' qualification.

The opposite scenario of normal greens on a Saturday and temporary greens on a Sunday means that the competition will already be qualifying for handicap purposes and all Sunday players entered will automatically be excluded. Wherever possible, Reception staff will make this clear to Sunday players although players themselves would do well to ask for confirmation following freezing conditions on the Saturday.

Failure to Finish or Play in a Competition

If a member consistently fails to finish all stipulated holes and/or fails to submit a scorecard, then the Competition Secretary will refer the matter to the General Committee for appropriate action.

Any cancellation of tee times that have already been booked in a competition should be notified to Reception no later than the day before the competition. Due notice will, of course, be taken of health issues should cancellation on the day be unavoidable. Again, if a member cancels repeatedly, the Competition Secretary will refer the matter to the General Committee.

The Sir Thomas Henry Cotton Masters Trophy ('Masters Cup')

The 'Masters Cup' is an Honours Board Competition comprising two 18-hole stroke play rounds of golf played on two consecutive days over a weekend in September. Entry to the competition is restricted to those members who have qualified over the previous 12 months. The winner is the player with the lowest aggregate nett score over the 36 holes. (See rules for the 'Masters Cup' competition).

Directors Cup

The Directors Cup consists of four rounds played alongside two pre-selected Thursday Medal and two pre-selected Weekend Medal competitions. The best two nett scores for each player are counted.

Lowest Gross Cup

The Lowest Gross Cup competition is restricted to members who have scored a lowest gross score in a Thursday or Weekend 18-hole stroke play competition over the preceding 12 months.

George Ross Scratch Cup

The George Ross Scratch Cup competition is open to all members who have a recognized CONGU competition handicap. The Trophy is awarded to the player with the lowest gross score.

Summer and Winter League Knockout Competitions – Masters Cup Qualification

Singles winners of these competitions will receive automatic entry into the 'Masters Cup'.

Prizes on the Day

A player scoring a two during a competition will receive a sleeve of balls. All players in a competition will have the opportunity of winning a bottle of wine in a draw to take place after the last group of players have started play. See below for full details of prizes.

Members wishing to acquire a club handicap

Members wishing to acquire a club handicap must submit the requisite number of 9-hole and/or 18-hole scorecards, such that a total of at least 54 holes have been played, in accordance with Clause 16 of the Council of National Golf Unions (CONGU) handicapping system. All scorecards must be marked by a member with a CONGU competition handicap. All completed scorecards must be posted in the Handicap box. At least one of these scorecards must be marked by a club official. This will allow the member the opportunity to meet an experienced member of the club who is familiar with the rules and etiquette of golf, and with the club's own local rules and traditions.

Adverse Weather/Course Conditions arising before and during a competition

Situations of adverse weather and course conditions that lead to the suspension or abandonment of a competition are addressed in Rule 6-8 of the Rules of Golf.

Other than for Honours Board Competitions there is no option to extend or reschedule a competition at Woodside in the event that it is cancelled or abandoned due to bad weather. Therefore, every effort will be made to run competitions as scheduled.

a) Unplayable and unsafe playing conditions:

Should the weather deteriorate significantly during play to cause concern for the safety of players e.g. fog, thunder and lightning, or the course becomes unplayable due to standing water, then the horn will blast continuously warning members that the competition is suspended and play discontinued immediately. This decision will be taken by either Club Captain or in their absence a responsible player i.e. committee member, Director or experienced member player.

b) Casual water on the course:

Players may take relief as in Rule 25-1b until the game is suspended. In the first instance the Green Keeper will determine whether the course is playable. In the absence of the Green Keeper a responsible member will make this decision. In the event the course is determined not to be playable the competition will be abandoned.

c) Preferred Lies and Winter Rules:

The committee may allow 'Preferred Lies' on all or part of the course at any time between the 1st October and 30th April inclusive in accordance with Appendix 1A-3 (Local Rules) of the Rules of Golf.

This allows players to mark, lift, clean and replace their ball without penalty. This rule only applies if the ball is on "a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less". It does not apply elsewhere on the course. The Club Captains will determine if and when the 'Preferred Lies' rule is to apply and notices will be posted to inform members. If during this period the "parts of the general area cut to fairway height or less" cease to be adequately well defined then competitions will no longer qualify for handicap adjustment. This decision will be taken by either Club Captain, or in their absence a Committee Member or Director of the Club.

Players are recommended to first phone reception (01477 532388) if the weather conditions are such that there appears to be a reasonable chance of a competition being cancelled or abandoned.

In the event of a competition being cancelled or abandoned:

(A) Individual Competitions:

If 15 or more players have completed the competition the competition stands and the winner and runner up prizes will be awarded as normal. Where the game is abandoned (CONGU Clause 18.7) the result becomes 'CSS=SSS Reduction only' with handicap adjustments made only for competitors with a Nett Differential of less than zero.

If fewer than 15 players complete the competition there will be no adjustment of handicaps, no prizes will be awarded, and players' entrance fees will be returned.

(B) Team Competitions:

If 12 or more players have completed the competition (i.e. 4 groups of three or 3 groups of four) the competition stands and the winner and runner up prizes will be awarded as normal. If fewer than 12 players complete the competition no prizes will be awarded, and players' entrance fees will be returned.

Draw for the winner of the wine:

A number will be drawn for the winner of the wine after the last group of players have started play. If the competition stands the winner of the wine will be the player whose position in the results table corresponds to the number drawn. If the competition does not stand the wine will not be awarded.

Other Competitions:

Occasionally other competitions may be arranged for which the above rules relating to handicap adjustment, prizes and the return of entrance fees do not apply. Players will be notified in advance of the competition when these rules do not apply.

Appendix: Competition entry fees and awards:

Entry fee: Unless otherwise specified the entry fee to a competition is £2 per player.

A. Thursday and Weekend Individual Competitions:

For all individual competitions with 15 or more entries:

- the winner of the draw receives a bottle of wine after publication of the results
- any player scoring a hole-in-two receives a sleeve of balls after publication of the results.

1. Prizes awarded for individual 18-hole competitions:

Winner: Award to the value of £25 or more
Runner Up: Award to the value of £20 or more

Prizes awarded for individual 18-hole competitions with less than 25 entries:

Winner: £15 voucher or equivalent
Runner Up: £10 voucher or equivalent

Awards are in the form of a trophy, a combination of medal and voucher, or voucher only, and are presented at the mid-year and end of year presentations.

In addition, for 18-hole competitions:

- Trophy Competition: the appropriate club trophy is engraved with the winner's name
- Medal Competition: a contribution is made to the corresponding League Medal and to the Directors' Cup award.
- Weekend mid-month Stableford Competition: a contribution is made to the annual Stableford League award.

2. Prizes awarded for Thursday individual 9-hole stableford competitions:

Winner: £15 cash presented after the competition results are published
Runner Up: £10 cash presented after the competition results are published

3. All individual Thursday and Weekend competitions with less than 15 entries:

In the event of an entry of less than 15 players to a competition there will be no entry fee and no prizes will be awarded. However, for an 18-hole competition, players (one third) may earn points towards entry to the Masters Trophy Competition. In addition, for a monthly Medal competition, players (one half) may earn points towards the corresponding League Medal.

B. Thursday and Weekend Team competitions:

All winner and runner up prizes for team competitions are presented at the mid or end of year presentations. The winner of the draw receives a bottle of wine after the results are published.

1. Prizes for team competitions with 36 or more entries:

3-Ball Texas Scramble:	Winners - £15 voucher each (total of £45) Runners Up - £10 voucher each (total of £30)
Stableford Better Ball Pairs	Winners - £20 voucher each (total of £40) Runners Up - £15 voucher each (total of £30) Players with a hole-in-two – Sleeve of balls
Greensome Pairs	Winners - £20 voucher each (total of £40) Runners Up - £15 voucher each (total of £30)

2. Prizes for team competitions with less than 36 entries:

3-Ball Texas Scramble:	Winners - £15 voucher each (total of £45) Runners Up – Sleeve of balls each
Stableford Better Ball Pairs	Winners - £15 voucher each (total of £30) Runners Up - £10 voucher each (total of £20) Players with a hole-in-two – Sleeve of balls
Greensome Pairs	Winners - £15 voucher each (total of £30) Runners Up - £10 voucher each (total of £20)

3. Prizes for team competitions with less than 24 entries:

3-Ball Texas Scramble:	Winners - £10 voucher each (total of £30)
Stableford Better Ball Pairs	Winners - £15 voucher each (total of £30) Players with a hole-in-two – Sleeve of balls
Greensome Pairs	Winners - £15 voucher each (total of £30)

4. Team competitions with less than 12 entries:

In the event of an entry of less than 12 players to a team competition there will be no entry fee and no prizes will be awarded.