Enniscorthy Golf Club
Terms of Competitions

The Rules of Golf

1. The Rules of Golf as approved by the R & A and U.S.G.A, as may be amended from time to time, in addition to any Local Rules as made and published by Enniscorthy Golf Club, shall apply to all competitions held in Enniscorthy Golf Club. It is the responsibility of all players to ensure that they are familiar with, and apply, these Rules while participating in any competition held in Enniscorthy Golf Club.

Handicapping

2. Handicaps will be operated and maintained in accordance with the current CONGU Unified Handicapping System (UHS).

3. All AWAY scores, including No Returns, in qualifying & non-qualifying competitions must be returned to Enniscorthy Golf Club. 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 UHS could lead to the suspension of offending players' handicaps under the provisions of Clause 24 of the CONGU Unified Handicapping System.

4. 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 CONGU® Handicap.

5. It is expected that every player who enters a *Qualifying Competition* intends to complete the round.

6. In all Club Competitions, including Semi-Open, Invitation, and Open Competitions, as organised by the Competition Committee, the only handicaps acceptable and recognised for prize eligibility, shall be for players of affiliated golf clubs.

Eligibility

7. From April 1st each year only fully paid up members, or members who have an agreed payment plan in place, will be eligible to participate in any competition held in Enniscorthy Golf Club. This restriction also applies to any players who wish to represent Enniscorthy Golf Club in any inter-club team competition.

8. Players are not permitted to sign a scorecard for handicap purposes during designated competition times.

9. 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). In addition the following restrictions apply to certain categories of member, as outlined in Section 20 of the constitution of Enniscorthy Golf Club;

a) Five Day Members are not eligible to play in Enniscorthy Golf Club competitions held on a Saturday or Sunday other than Semi-Open and Open competitions. In addition they are not entitled to participate in club match play competitions. Five Day members are not entitled to represent Enniscorthy Golf Club in any inter-club team competitions.
b) Distance Members are eligible to play in all club competitions with the exception of the Captain's Prize, the President's Prize and club match play competitions.
c) Overseas members are eligible to play in all club competitions with the exception of the Captain's Prize, the President's Prize and club match play competitions.
d) Intermediate members are eligible to play in all Men's Club competitions.
e) Senior Intermediate members are eligible to play in all Men's Club competitions.
f) Student members are eligible to play in all competitions with the exception of the Captain's Prize, President's Prize, Bloomfield Cup and Golfer of the Year.
g) Junior members
   (a) aged 12 and older with a handicap of 18 or less are eligible to play in all competitions with exception of all Monthly Medal's, Captain's Prize, President's Prize, Bloomfield Cup, Golfer of the Year and club match play competitions.
   (b) aged 12 and older with a handicap of 9 or less are eligible to play in all competitions with exception of Captain's Prize, President's Prize, Bloomfield Cup, Golfer of the Year and club match play competitions.

10. To be eligible to compete in a Singles Qualifying Competition at an Away Club, except for all events covered by the GUI Competition Regulations, a Member of a GUI Affiliated Golf Club must have returned at least three scores in Singles Qualifying Competitions at his Home Club, at any time on or after the corresponding date one year before the Singles Qualifying Competition at the Away Club.

11. The use of a GUI Member Card is mandatory for members of clubs affiliated to the Golfing Union of Ireland for entry into all Open Singles Qualifying Competitions, which shall be by Computer Entry and uploaded to the CDH following close of Competition.

12. Unless stated otherwise, for all team competitions (including four ball, foursomes, two person team, three person team, four person team) for which competition is being run over more than one day it is permissible for a player to enter on each day of competition, however a team cannot enter a competition more than once i.e. team members may play more than once but a team consisting of same set of players cannot do so.

13. Unless stated otherwise, for singles competitions played over more than one day a player is not permitted to enter competition more than once.

Adults and Junior Members Playing Together

14. One of the reasons for the popularity of golf is that the game is not restricted either competitively or socially by skill, age or gender. Golf can be enjoyed and keenly contested by players from and between any number and/or apparently diverse groups. That this diversity, almost unique to golf, is encouraged is essential to ensure the continuity of one of the most endearing traditions of the game. Every effort must be made to promote this mix of physical and technical ability.

    Responsible interaction between adults and juniors helps bring mutual respect and understanding and helps the standards of the club to be understood and maintained. Nevertheless, when playing golf with juniors, adults should always be aware that certain age-related differences do exist and should conduct themselves in a manner that recognises this.

    As outlined at 9 (g) above certain junior golfers are eligible to compete in a number of adult competitions alongside adult golfers. On occasion a situation may arise where a single junior member is scheduled to participate in a competition alongside a single adult member; this is a situation which should be avoided. In such a situation the pro-shop or competition committee will require that another member joins the group for the duration of the competition round. Please note that Adult and Junior members playing together who are family members are not subject to this requirement. In addition situations where there is a mix of adult and junior members playing together in groups of three players or more are also excluded from this requirement.

Method of Entry & Score Card

15. Members are responsible for their name being entered on the competition entry sheet.

16. Reserving a starting time on the competition time sheet obliges a member to enter the competition of that day. Casual golf is not permitted until after the competition(s) time sheet has closed and while playing casual golf players must play from the Yellow tees.

17. No player is permitted to remove their name from a weekend competition timesheet within 24hrs of their allotted tee time unless exceptional circumstances require it. Any player removing their name within 24hrs of their allotted tee time, or who fails to turn up, and who fails to provide a valid reason for doing so, will be obliged to pay a fine equal to relevant competition fee for competition in question to pro shop before being permitted to play in another competition.

18. Time sheets are monitored for continuous changes and non-attendance. Any player who regularly removes their name at short notice or fails to turn up will be liable to further sanctions at the discretion of the Men's Golf Committee.

19. No player may play in competition outside of designated competition time without the express permission of the Honorary Competition Secretary.

20. Entry fee for competition must be paid in Pro-Shop or to designated person as organised by the relevant committee before commencing play in the competition.

21. Players entering Qualifying Competitions are obliged to make their entry on the relevant computer provided by competition committees for that purpose.

22. A player who fails to enter a *Qualifying Competition* in the required manner is deemed to have neither a score for the competition nor a score for handicap purposes.

23. Each competitor is required to enter their name, the date, and correct playing handicap on the scorecard. In instances where a printed label is available it is up to the member to ensure that the printed label is correct.

24. After completion of the designated round score cards for Handicap Qualifying Competitions must be fully completed and signed by both competitor and marker.

25. Failure to adhere to paragraph 23 and 24 will result in disqualification of player in question under Rule 3.3b.

26. **All scorecards for qualifying competitions must be returned** as soon as possible after completion of the designated round and scores entered on the designated computer and placed in the appropriate collection area. Under Clause 23 and 24 of the UHS the Competition Committee may apply a sanction to any player who regularly fails to return a card for a qualifying competition. When deemed appropriate by the Committee these sanctions may include the suspension of a player's handicap for a pre-determined period.

27. A player should raise any Rules issues with the Competition Committee before returning his or her scorecard.

28. In accordance with Rule 3.2 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 Competition Committee.

29. All competitions will be deemed to be closed once results have been publically announced and no further alteration of final result will be permitted, unless it is to rectify an error made by the Competition Committee.

Decision of ties

30. In match play if a match is tied after the final hole, the match is extended one hole at a time until there is a winner.

31. In stroke play, in the absence of the computer system the count back will be applied as follows:

- 18 holes - last 9-6-3-1, if still no resolution last 6-3-1 of front 9 holes
- 14/15 holes – last 7-6-3-1
- 9 holes - last 6-3-1

32. The Competition Committee may announce a different method of deciding ties for any given competition.

33. If any of the above count back methods do not provide a resolution then the result will be decided by lot.

Disputes and Rules of Golf

34. Any dispute or doubtful point on the Rules of Golf must be referred to the Competition Committee as soon as possible after completion of the round and before the competition has been closed as outlined above. The decision of the Competition Committee, which will be made in accordance with the Rules of Golf, the Terms of Competition and Equity, will be final.

Prizes and Presentations

35. Prize-winners are asked to attend presentations or make suitable alternative arrangements for prizes to be collected at the presentation.

36. 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.

37. Prizes not collected within 28 days of competition will be redistributed at the discretion of the Committee.

Club Match Play and Golfer of the Year Competitions

38. The particular competition rules in relation to club match play and golfer of the year competitions will be as posted on the appropriate noticeboards at commencement of these competitions.

Use of Golf Buggies

39. Buggies may be used in competitions when course conditions permit. When medical certificate only restriction applies players without a medical certificate are not permitted to use a golf buggy. The buggy may be used only by the person named on the certificate and may only carry his equipment and caddie.

40. Where a player, caddie or other third party is permitted to use a golf buggy by the Committee, the user must agree to the terms and conditions of use:
    - Any person operating a golf buggy must do so with the utmost courtesy, care and consideration for the safety and convenience of others and in accordance with any relevant golf buggy operating guidelines;

- A golf buggy must not impede or interfere with normal pedestrians or vehicular traffic flow on roadways, ramps and pavements;
- A player who has been granted permission to use a golf buggy (or any caddie or other third party who has been permitted to drive the golf buggy) must always remain seated while in the golf buggy when the vehicle is in motion;
- Drivers of golf buggies must comply with directional signs and not use prohibited areas;
- A player who has been granted permission to use a golf buggy (or any caddie or other third party who has been permitted to drive the golf buggy) must accept responsibility for any losses or injury sustained as a result of his or her fault whilst using a golf buggy; and
- A player, caddie or any other person intending to use his/her own buggy must – having been so permitted by the Committee – have adequate personal and third party insurance. The Committee may require the buggy owner to stipulate to this in writing.

Pace of Play & "Ready Golf"

41. The Competitions Committee would remind all players of their obligations regarding pace of play. Some points to note in this regard are as follows;
    - Be on time & ready to play at your designated tee time.
    - Be ready to play every shot when it is your turn.
    - Do not wait for greens to clear when they are beyond your range.
    - Leave your bag at the side of the green nearest the next tee.
    - Line up your putt while others are putting and be ready to putt in turn.
    - If you cannot score or improve your team's score on any hole, pick up.
    - First player to putt out should be ready to replace the flag.
    - Do not mark cards on or near the green. Mark at the tee-box while other players are teeing off.
    - Encourage your playing partners to keep up with the group in front.
    - If someone is slowing things down, TELL HIM/HER.
    - WALK AS YOU TALK - Do not delay play for conversation.
    - If you are falling behind for any reason, invite the group behind through.
    - Keep just behind the group ahead, not just ahead of the group behind.
    - Play a provisional ball if you think your ball is lost outside a hazard, or out of bounds.
    - Find your own ball first before you go searching for others.
    - 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.
    - There should be no undue gaps between groups on the course.
    - **REMEMBER: If your group is a hole behind, it is your fault.**

42. In addition Men's Golf Committee has adopted the principle of "**Ready Golf**" to be used for all competitions held in Enniscorthy Golf Club. "Ready Golf" can include some of the following;

- 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
- Shorter hitters playing first from the tee or fairway if longer hitters have to wait
- Hitting a tee shot if the person with the honour is delayed in being ready to play
- Hitting a shot before helping someone to look for a lost ball
- Putting out even if it means standing close to someone else's line
- 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
- 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
- Marking scores upon immediate arrival at the next tee, except that the first player to tee off marks their card immediately after teeing off

Code of Conduct

43. Dress Code

All members and visitors are expected to abide by the following dress code.

- Shirts must be worn at all times.
- Collarless and/or sleeveless shirts or T-shirts are considered not acceptable.
- Football/Rugby style shirts are not acceptable.
- Round/crew neck golf shirts are acceptable.
- Track-suit/jogging bottoms and hoodies are not acceptable.
- Cut down or torn and ragged end denim trousers/shorts are not acceptable.
- Short must be tailored, no cut off denims, beach shorts, football shorts.

PLEASE NOTE THE OFFICIAL STARTER, COURSE RANGER, THE STAFF IN THE PRO-SHOP AND THE BAR MANAGER MAY REQUEST THAT INAPPROPRIATE ATTIRE BE CHANGED.

Etiquette

This is a guide to try and ensure that every golfer is given the chance to enjoy the game of golf while upholding its rules and traditions along with caring for the course. Please consider the points listed below.

44. Respect

- Respect the course – leave the course as you would like to find it by repairing pitch-marks, replacing divots and raking bunkers.
- Respect your fellow players – be sportsmanlike and polite and avoid distracting them.
- Respect the game – by knowing the Rules and Etiquette of golf.

45. Safety

- Prior to playing a stroke or making a practice swing, please ensure that no-one is standing close by or in a position to be hit by the club or ball.
- Players should not play until the players in front are out of range.
- Do not play to an area where green-staff are working until they indicate that it is safe to do so.
- Shout 'Fore' immediately if there is a danger of a ball hitting someone.
- Players should discontinue play under Rule 5.7a if there is a danger of lightning.

46. Mobile Phone Policy

    - The use of mobile phones on the course is permitted for emergency only.
    - Mobile phone use in the bar is not permitted. Please move to lobby/balcony to receive calls.

Serious Misconduct

47. All players are forbidden to enter onto any of the lands bordering the golf course to retrieve lost golf balls. Any player found to be in breach of this instruction will be disqualified from competition in question and may be subject to further sanction at the discretion of the Competition Committee & Men's Golf Committee.

48. In accordance with Rule 1.2a of the Rules of Golf the Competition Committee are also entitled to disqualify a player from a competition(s) for serious misconduct for acting contrary to the spirit of the game. Some examples of actions by a player that are likely to be considered serious misconduct include, but are not limited to:

    - Deliberately causing serious damage to a putting green.
    - Disagreeing with the course setup and taking it on himself or herself to move tee-markers or boundary stakes.
    - Throwing a club towards another player or spectator.
    - Deliberately distracting other players while they are making strokes.
    - Removing loose impediments or movable obstructions to disadvantage another player after that other player has asked him or her to leave them in place.
    - Repeatedly refusing to lift a ball at rest when it interferes with another player in stroke play.
    - Deliberately playing away from the hole and then towards the hole to assist the player's partner (such as helping the player's partner learn the break on the putting green).
    - Deliberately not playing in accordance with the Rules and potentially gaining a significant advantage by doing so, despite incurring a penalty for a breach of the relevant Rule.
    - Repeatedly using vulgar or offensive language.
    - Using a handicap that has been established for the purpose of providing an unfair advantage or using the round being played to establish such a handicap.

49. It is open to a player who witnesses such serious misconduct to bring it to the attention of the player concerned however they are not obliged to do so. Any such instances of

suspected serious misconduct should be reported to the Pro shop or to any member of Men's Golf Committee or Competition Committee as the earliest opportunity.

50. Should the Competition Committee decide that a player is guilty of gross misconduct as outlined above they may also be subject to be Complaints and Disciplinary Procedure as outlined in Section 23 of the Constitution of Enniscorthy Golf Club and further sanctions may apply.