

WHITTLESEA GOLF CLUB

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Website: www.whittleseagolfclub.com.au

Board:

Office Bearers:

President: Brian Thompson
Vice President: Wayne Martin
Captain: Michael Bland
Secretary: Janine Lunny
Treasurer: Michael Hynes
Board members: Doug Grassick, John Mizzi

Committee Chairpersons:

Match: Michael Bland
Works: Wayne Martin **House, Social:** John Mizzi
Marketing: **Finance:** Michael Hynes

**AT ALL TIMES Members will afford the President and Captain
the COURTESY OF THE TEE**

Ladies Committee:

President: Janine Lunny
Captain: Wendy Boardman
Secretary: Aileen Dundon
Vice President: Liz Lewis
Vice Captain: Jenny McKeon

Office Manager – 9716 2066

Course Superintendent: Brad Tucker

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PLAYING THE GAME OF GOLF

ETIQUETTE:

- Players should at all times play without delay.
- No one shall move, talk or stand close to, or directly behind a ball or the hole when a player is addressing the ball or making a stroke.
- The player with the best score on the previous hole has the honor of teeing off first. If there is no outright winner of a hole, then the order of play does not change from the previous tee.
- The player who has the honor shall be allowed to play before his opponent or fellow competitor tees his/her ball. (Refer to Slow Play on Page 11). In most modern stroke games one can play **ready golf** and not wait for the best score on the hole to tee it up first
- No player shall play until the players in front are out of range.
- Players searching for a ball should allow other players coming up to pass them; they should signal to players following them to pass and should not continue until those players are out of range. (Refer Slow Play on Page 11).
- Through the green a player should ensure that any turf cut or displaced by him/her is replaced at once, pressed down and/or filled.
- Players should ensure that when placing the flagstick, no damage is done to the putting green and that neither they nor their caddies damage the hole by standing close to the hole, or while handling the flagstick. The flagstick should be replaced properly in the hole before the players leave the putting green.
- When the play of a hole has been completed, players should leave the putting green immediately and mark their cards at the next tee. A player who has incurred a penalty should indicate the fact to his opponent or marker as soon as possible.

MEMBERS:

This is your club and the fundamental rule of your club is "Consideration for one's fellow members". In heeding the information and advice contained in this syllabus, not only will you gain considerable pleasure from the time you elect to spend on the course and/or in the clubhouse, you will be adding to the pleasure and comfort of your fellow members. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you".

PLAYING THE GAME OF GOLF cont.....

NEW MEMBERS:

Any member who nominates a new member should introduce him or her to their respective President or Captain and ensure the new member is acquainted: with the etiquette, rules of golf and the rules of the club. Every effort should be made to play with their nominee in the first games at the club.

MEMBERS' PROPERTY:

The Whittlesea Golf Club shall not be held liable for any loss of or damage to the property of any member in or on the premises.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS (Non-Members):

1. The maximum number of guests per member per day for the purpose of playing golf in competition is three (3).
 2. Members may subject to the prior approval of either the Captain, President or Secretary, introduce up to twelve (12) guests per day (not including Guest Days) for the purpose of playing golf in competition.
 3. Members introducing guests shall be responsible for ensuring their green fees are paid.
 4. Guests shall pay Green Fees unless otherwise stated.
 5. On designated "Guests Days" all guests introduced by a member shall pay the appropriate fee set by the Board which includes the Green Fee and Competition Fee. A guest without an Australian handicap will be assigned a handicap considered appropriate by the host member with 18 being the maximum.
 6. A guest on normal competition days may enter the daily competition if they hold an Australian Handicap and pay the Competition Fee
 7. A guest playing prior to 11.30 am must be accompanied by at least one member unless an exemption is approved by the Board prior to playing.
 8. Guests are not eligible to win a designated "Major Event". (can win Whittlesea Open)
 9. Restricted Members may not introduce visitors with any other rights than those enjoyed by themselves.
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PLAYING THE GAME OF GOLF cont.....

MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. All members must be financial before entering any club competition.
2. Members must know the conditions of play before commencing any round of golf.
3. All members must book their playing time on the sheet provided in the Pro Shop (up to 14 days in advance).
4. All members must report to the Professional at least fifteen minutes prior to their hit off time.
5. All members must follow directions given by the Tee master in respect of the composition of groups and hit off times.
6. Members who fail to hit off within the designated competition times may, at the discretion of the Match Committee, have a two stroke penalty applied.

MEMBERS' ON-COURSE RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. The player is responsible for knowing the conditions and the rules under which the competition is to be played.
 2. The lowest handicapped player in each group is the Captain of the group and is responsible for maintaining etiquette and procedure, including starting and finishing times.
 3. Players are requested to pick up as soon as a hole is lost in Par or a point cannot be scored in Stableford.
 4. A single player or a group of more than four, except in foursomes, is not a match, and accordingly they have no rights and must give way to all matches of any description and if in competition are liable to disqualification unless permission is obtained from the Match Committee or tee master beforehand.
 5. Players are not to retrieve golf balls from the hole by the use of the head of the putter. Use of the club head in this way will cause unnecessary wear-and-tear to the hole's edge and inconvenience the following members.
 6. Members please note the "Local" and "Temporary Local Rules" and penalties posted on notice boards in the clubhouse and pro shop.
 7. Players may visit the spike bar or kitchen for refreshments after completing their 9th hole but will lose their position on the 10th tee if the players ahead are out of range and the players following are ready to use the tee.
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PRACTICE:

The use of more than one ball during a practice round is not permitted. All members using the practice fairway are required to give way to any golfers who need to play a shot from this area. Your courtesy could prevent a serious accident.

DRESS REGULATIONS

Members are reminded that they should be correctly attired in the Clubhouse and on the course at all times. The requirement for the dress of male members and visitors is that their attire be neat and tidy ie. shirts with collars, slacks or walk shorts of reasonable length. In terms of dress code members must set an example.

The following are not acceptable:

1. Tracksuits and tracksuit tops.
2. Singlets
3. Thongs, moccasins and Workboots.

It is the responsibility of each member to ensure that they and their guest(s) observe the club's dress standards. The Board will determine decisions pertaining to dress regulations.

CLUBHOUSE:

Members and their guests must observe dress requirements and orderly conduct within the Clubhouse according to rules laid down by the Board.

BAR:

Children under the age of 18 years may be admitted to the Clubhouse in the company of an adult. An adult must make any bar purchase.

PROOF OF AGE:

Proof of age must be able to be produced if requested. Junior members under the age of 18 years are permitted in the bar area, but may not purchase or consume any alcoholic liquor.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

1. Leave of absence (LOA) is a period of time when a member's rights are suspended but become fully restored at the conclusion of the absence period.
2. This period will normally cover a number of months up to a maximum of 6 months. Under exceptional circumstances the Board may consider a longer period up to 12 months.
3. LOA is normally applied for by a member when illness, injury or some other unforeseen circumstance prevents the member from enjoying the privileges of membership.
4. LOA will not be granted retrospectively.
5. LOA will not be granted to members who are in financial arrears.
6. The period of LOA creates an Annual Fee Credit which is applied in the following annual billing period.

Note: Please use the Application Form available from the Club office.

COMPETITION DAYS & MEMBER RESERVED TIMES

Saturday	approximately 7:00am to 12:53pm
Sunday	11:30am to 12:53pm (members may enter competition of the day from 7am)
Wednesday	7:00am to 9:16am (men) 9:30am to 10:00am (ladies) 10:20am to 12:53pm (men)
Public Holidays	7:00am to 12:30pm
Special Days	Refer to notices in clubhouse/Pro Shop

- Commencement times may vary with daylight savings.
 - Designated Tee Times for special events will be decided by the Match Committee.
 - If members do not reserve a tee time this may be used by green-fee players.
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ENTRY TO CLUB COMPETITIONS

1. Financial members with a current handicap may enter any appropriate competition scheduled by the club provided the competition fee is paid before they commence play.
2. Players are required to enter their names on the time sheet provided in the Pro Shop and to report 15 minutes prior to their chosen hit off time. If a player is not able to arrive on time they must ring the Pro Shop and cancel their bookings as early as possible. This common courtesy will allow members to have full groups. Penalties may be applied to those who fail to cancel.
3. On all days the Tee Master and his/their instructions are to be followed by all members at all times. Failure to be on the tee at the nominated time may incur a two stroke penalty.
4. All competitors shall enter the competition of the day from the Proshop where payment of the current competition fee will result in the issuing of a personalized score card recording the players name, daily handicap and details of the type of competition being played.

ENTRY TO CLUB COMPETITIONS cont.....

5. The following handicap grades generally apply:

A Grade *Scratch - 10*

B Grade *11 - 18*

C Grade *19 - 36*

At the completion of the round members **MUST** record their hole by hole results on the touch screens provided in the clubhouse and place their signed scorecard in the receptacle slot even if a DNF result is recorded. **All cards including incomplete cards must be returned.** The Pro Shop does not accept score cards after 6pm on the day of competition.

Cards not signed by both player and marker and not lodged within 15 minutes of completing the round render the competitor liable to disqualification (Rule 6-6b)

6. A protest in connection with any competition or match shall be made in writing as soon as possible on the day of competition to the Captain, or a member of the Match Committee. **(Verbal protests are not acceptable)**. Such protests shall be dealt with as soon as possible by the Match Committee representative whose decisions shall be final.

USE OF MOTORISED GOLF VECHILES (Ride-on Carts or Motorbikes)

Users are requested not to drive these vehicles on tees or within 10 metres of any green unless there is no other way of getting to the next tee.

- Drive only along the sides of fairways, not on fairways.
- Tyre tracks will damage or at worst kill grass.
- Passengers are requested to walk to their ball. The least amount of motorised traffic on the fairways the better.

Any users of these vehicles seen not to comply with these basic rules may be asked to leave the course.

SLOW PLAY

Slow Play (Rule 6-7): The Match committee may, in the conditions of the competition, lay down the pace of play guidelines. If a player unduly delays play, the penalty for a first offence in Stroke Play is one stroke. If there is doubt about finding your ball, hit a provisional ball immediately. Before assisting to look for the ball, the other players in the group shall hit their next shot, call up the group following, then assist in the search. Save Time! Mark your card after you have hit off from the next tee. Your position in the field is directly behind the group in front of you, not in front of the group behind.

LOCAL RULES, TEE OFF & TIES

LOCAL RULES: See scorecard.

TEMPORARY LOCAL RULES: Check the notice board located in the Competition Room of the Clubhouse and outside the Pro Shop.

TEE OFF:

Play at all times must commence from the first tee, unless otherwise instructed. On a day when the competition under the control of the Match Committee is in progress, a member not taking part may only play where directed by the Tee Master.

The Tee Master has sole discretion as to the order of play and may make adjustment to the event starter sheets if required.

TIES:

In all events where a tie occurs it shall be resolved by the Match Committee using a countback, except that a play off will be used to determine the winners of the Star Medal and the **gross winner** in all grades of the Club Championships. It will be over four holes: the 1st, 16th, 17th and 18th in that order. If there is still a tie there will be a "sudden death" play-off over the same four holes.

EXTREME CONDITIONS & COMPETITION POLICY

The Whittlesea Golf Club Extreme Conditions (eg Weather) Policy has been introduced to provide guidance to members and guests in relations to playing conditions which might impact on the health and well-being of players on the golf course.

The Extreme Conditions Policy addresses issues of extreme heat, lightning and strong winds or approaching danger. It also applies when greens become unplayable due to heavy rain or other circumstance and suspension of play is necessary.

Extreme Heat

Heat Policy:

"Should the forecast temperature predicted for Humevale at 4.00pm on the evening before the day of competition be 38 degrees or more the competition times for that day will be adjusted such that start time will be 7.00 am to 8.50 am only."

No competition entries will be accepted outside these times.

- The course will remain open for members' play but not in the competition if outside the 8.50 am closing time
- The Office Manager, and in his/her absence the Golf Professional will inform the members of the modified competition times at or after 4.00 pm on the day prior to the competition.
- Time sheet bookings will remain so that all members who have booked will be assured of their game if they have a time within the modified competition times. Otherwise to play in the competition you will need to phone and make a booking within the limited time available. (should provide for approximately 136 players)
- Sunday tee times will be limited due to Social Group bookings.
- Should the event for the day be of a significant nature eg. Medal, the event will be transferred to a date to be determined.
- Should the forecast temperature at 4.00pm as above be 42 degrees or more the course will be closed.

Rationale:

1. The Club has a duty of care to its members and seeks to take a reasonable approach to days of extreme heat.
 2. The Club is cognizant of advice given by Golf Victoria and Sports Medicine Australian and expressed in the Golf Victoria Heat Policy.
 3. The Club is concerned for the health and well-being of all of its members.
 4. The average age of competition fields is more than 60 years of age.
 5. The Club is concerned for any possible litigation arising out of a heat-related situation.
 6. Cancellation of the competition of the day is advice from the Club that it considers that it is too hot for play.
 7. Members who play on days of extreme heat do so at their own risk. Members are advised to take appropriate actions to prevent heat stress.
 10. The Club reminds all players about the appropriate measures to be taken to avoid heat stress, heat stroke, heat cramps and heat exhaustion.
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11. Members will have certainty and will know from the forecast at 4.00 pm what to expect on the following day.
12. Members are advised that on days of extreme heat, course staff might be involved in additional watering of greens and other areas susceptible to heat stress particularly during the morning and later in the day.

Lightning

The Rules of Golf acknowledge that lightning on golf courses has caused deaths and injuries and urges golf clubs to take precautions for the protection of golfers against lightning. Rule 6-8b and Appendix 1-5 make provision for "Suspension of Play due to a Dangerous Situation". Such provision permits the Committee to suspend play or for players to discontinue play if they believe that there is a danger from lightning.

When play is suspended by the Committee all players should discontinue play immediately. The Committee will determine when play is to resume. Failure to discontinue play on the advice of the Committee will result in disqualification.

Players who discontinue play without specific Committee permission must report to the Committee as soon as practicable. This can include a note left with your score card. No penalty will be applied if the reason is satisfactory. Otherwise the player will be disqualified.

Policy:

"Should lightning be in the immediate vicinity of the golf course the Committee will consider the risk and if the situation is considered dangerous will, in the interests of the health and safety of the players, suspend play".

Strong Winds

Members are advised and reminded of the dangers of limbs falling from trees on days of extreme winds (50 kph or more). Members are advised to be aware of the forecast of strong winds and give consideration to their own personal safety while out on the course.

Policy:

“Should the forecast at 4.00pm on the day before a competition be for winds likely to exceed 50 kph members will be reminded of the possible dangers of falling limbs or trees. Should a situation arise where the Match Committee considers such strong winds to be a danger to members, play will be suspended.”

Approaching Danger

On days of extreme fire danger or other potential threat situations the Club will monitor Emergency Services advice and act accordingly

Course Unplayable

If the Committee considers that for any reason the course is not in a playable condition or that there are circumstances that render the proper playing of the game impossible it may order a temporary suspension of play or cancel all scores for the round.

On advice from the Committee of a situation which warrants suspension of play players may discontinue play immediately or continue to play out the hole provided they do so without delay. Play must be discontinued after the completion of the hole.

Siren Notification Procedures

Suspension of Play

Suspension of play will be signaled by Three (3) blasts (repeated) of the siren. Play may continue to the completion of the current hole, or alternatively balls may be marked if completion is not practicable. Players should return to the Clubhouse until further notice and await advice on resumption.

Emergency Evacuation

One (1) continuous blast of the siren. Players should cease play immediately and return to the Clubhouse.

Resumption of Play

Two (2) short blasts of the siren. Players should return to their positions immediately and resume play.

NOTE The Match Committee will assume the responsibility for any decisions relating to competitions and this policy. Any actions that affect the state of play, should they be required, will be conveyed to members via various media (eg. Team App) and/or the Competition Steward/ Club professional.

HANDICAPPING

1. All matters relating to handicapping are to be referred to the Match Committee in writing in the first instance
2. It is the player's responsibility to determine any alteration to their handicap prior to the commencement of each round. In all competitions the player must play off the handicap and the tee markers as displayed on the Whittlesea score card.
3. Players who fail to return a Score (DNF) or Score Card for their round will find their status in Golf Link recorded as "*No Score – Not Approved*". A handicap will lose its status in the event that a player should accrue in their most recent 20 Actual Scores five (5) or more entries with a status of "*No Score – Not Approved*". Such a handicap will be known as a "**Provisional GA Handicap**".
4. If you fail to complete your round due to any of the following reasons: illness, injury, lightning or other emergency; a short statement with the time you ceased play and circumstances should be added to your score card when returned to the competition room. The status could then be noted as "*No Score – Approved*".
5. When a person plays within a competition field, but does not actually enter the competition ie. does not pay the applicable competition fee, their score will not be used for handicapping purposes. This decision was ratified at WGC Board meeting held on 18th April 2012 after consultation with Golf Australia.

Read more: <http://www.golflink.com.au>

GENERAL

CAR PARKING:

In consideration of others, members are requested to strictly observe the marked areas by parking within the marked places.

Members must not use the areas reserved for service staff and deliveries immediately in front of the Club House.

COURSE CLOSURE:

Please note that the course may be closed on the following dates:

Greens Renovation	TBC
Ladies Bowl	TBC
Men's Pennant	TBC

COMPLAINTS:

All complaints shall be made in writing to the Secretary of the Whittlesea Golf Club who will submit them to the Board. Verbal complaints or abuse to any Board, committee member or employees are not permitted.

RECIPROCAL RIGHTS

As a member of Whittlesea you are entitled to reciprocal playing rights with the following clubs:

Victoria:

Bright Golf Club	Bright, 3741
Cohuna Golf Club	Cohuna, 3568
Hamilton Golf Club	Hamilton, 3300
Melton Valley Golf Club	Melton, 3337
Mt. Beauty Golf Club	Mt. Beauty, 3699
Neangar Park Golf Club	Bendigo, 3550
Valley View Golf & Country Club	Kyabram, 3620
Strathallan Golf Club	Bundoora, 3083

New South Wales:

Bankstown Golf Club	Milperra, 2214
Barham Golf Club	Barham, 2732
Deniliquin Golf Club	Deniliquin, 2710
Tocumwal Golf Club	Tocumwal, 2714

Queensland:

Wantima Golf Club	Brendale, 4500
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South Australia:

Berri Golf Club	Berri, 5343
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Tasmania:

Devonport Golf Club

Devonport, 7304

If it is your intention to visit one of these clubs please observe the following:

1. Take your Golfink card or a current handicap certificate signed by a Match Committee Member or the Professional.
2. Call the club before you leave home to ensure that it is alright to play on the day you have designated.
3. A playing fee may apply – varies from club to club.
4. Remember you are an ambassador of Whittlesea Golf Club and as such ensure that you follow the rules and regulations of your host club. It is a privilege to have a reciprocal agreement with these clubs and it is important that everyone strives to maintain the relationship which has been established.

MAJOR EVENTS

Stroke Play and Match Play events including Summer Cup, Winter Cup, Club Championship, Humevale Shield, Singles & Pairs Match-Play, and Star and Meteor Medal play-offs (and qualifying Monthly Medals) are all Major Events- see pages 20/21). These events are played as an overlay on the normal daily competition.

On Major Event days all players (including guest) who register whether it's a major event or not are eligible to win the daily competition awards but only club members of either gender may win the major event. In all these events a member must have returned at least four singles entry competition cards at Whittlesea during the three months immediately preceding, to be eligible to win the event

MEN'S CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP:

Restricted to full male members where the following rules and regulations apply:

1. A member must not be deemed to be in arrears with fees or levies due to the club.
 2. There are no Qualifying rounds required to win the Gross Club Champion
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3. Competitors using ride-on motorized golf carts or motorbikes are ineligible to win this event except where a medical certificate applies.
4. Club Championship fees will be paid each week as for normal daily competitions but at a higher rate. The championship will be determined over 72 holes for A grade and 54 holes of gross stroke play for Juniors and all other grades. Before the last round the top players will be seeded to play together and must play at the designated tee times. In addition there will be a concurrent aggregate nett competition.
5. The following grades will apply:

A Grade	0 - 10	C Grade	19 - 36
B Grade	11-18		

The Grade that a player competes in will be determined by their handicap on the first day of the club championships. On all other days members shall play off their handicaps of the day.

MATCHPLAY (see p 53 for description of how to play)

All **Match Play** events must be completed within the time and dates laid down for each round. No extension of time will be given under any circumstances. Matches can be played on any day of the week including on competition days, but whilst playing match play you are unable to win the competition of the day. Players are requested to make themselves familiar with the conditions and rules of match play in the R & A Rules of Golf.

GOLF COMPETITIONS AND HOW THEY ARE PLAYED

These notes are intended to assist in the general concept of how various competitions are played. They must be read in conjunction with Rules of Golf and in particular the Match Committee shall lay down the conditions under which a competition is to be played (Rule 33-1)..

GENERAL:

Golflink will accept two or more players as a valid competition but at WGC there must be a minimum of 10 players for a voucher to be awarded. For numbers less than 10, prizes will be golf balls, awarded on a sliding scale:

2- 30 players
31 – 44 players
45 or more players

1 Grade Only
2 Grades Only
3 Grades

STROKE (MEDAL):

The score at each hole is entered on the scorecard, totaled and the player's full handicap deducted. The player who completes the stipulated round in the fewest strokes will be the winner.

PAR:

In Par play the score is entered on the card in the same way as in stroke play . with the exception that where the score exceeds par for the hole, after allowing for handicap stroke (if the player is in receipt of one) the score need not be written in. It is custom that when a player is beaten by par, the ball shall be picked up. This helps speed up play. After entering the stroke score on the card, the result is marked in the column provided with a "+" for a score better than par (after handicap adjustment, a "0" for a score equal to handicap adjusted par, and "-" for a loss (also called a "wipe"). At the end of the round the plus and minus signs are added and the nett result written in as so many "up", "down" or "all square". A player is allowed his full stroke handicap and the strokes are taken at holes as indicated on the card.

Where the handicap is more than 18, two strokes will be taken in the same order as followed for a less than 18 handicap.

GOLF COMPETITIONS AND HOW THEY ARE PLAYED cont.....

PAR BISQUE:

This is an interesting variation of the Par competition described above. In this event you allocate your handicap total as you see fit, hole by hole. **BUT YOU DECIDE HOW MANY SHOTS TO SACRIFICE AT EACH HOLE AFTER YOU HAVE PLAYED THE HOLE. NB: THIS EVENT IS NOT USED FOR HANDICAPPING PURPOSES.**

BONUS PAR

This is a further variation of the Par competition described above. In this event you can record a double plus (++) on a hole where the score is two strokes better than handicap adjusted par. In all other aspects the normal rules of Par apply.

STABLEFORD:

This system of scoring points was introduced by Dr. Stableford of Liverpool Golf Club in 1931 and has become very popular. The method of playing a Stableford competition is for the player to take strokes at holes as in a Par competition using full handicap and to score points on the nett results at each hole. At the end of the round all points scored are added up and the player having the highest number of points is the winner.

If the nett score for the hole is par, two points are scored. Points increase with each stroke under, or reduce with each stroke over the player's nett par.

FOUR BALL BEST BALL V PAR:

Two players as partners each taking strokes at holes as in a Par Competition. If one of the partners wins a hole and the other halves it, only the win is counted. If one halves a hole with par and the other loses it, only half is counted and so on. Plus, and minus signs are added at the end of the round and recorded as an ordinary par competition.

In a Fourball handicap event care must be taken to mark the scores of each player on a separate card, with each player's stroke score recorded. It is thus possible for the scores of both players to be used for handicapping when entered on touch screen. The software quickly produces a Team result for the 4Ball event.

GOLF COMPETITIONS AND HOW THEY ARE PLAYED cont.....

FOUR BALL BEST BALL V STABLEFORD:

Played in exactly the same manner as above except that the better ball of the partnership will be credited with points instead of plus, half or minus.

FOUR BALL MULTIPLIER:

This is a variation of the Four Ball Stableford team event described above. In this event both partners scores are recorded and combined by multiplying; 2 points and 3 points becomes 6 points for the team. **NB: THIS EVENT IS USED FOR HANDICAPPING PURPOSES.**

FOURSOMES:

Two players play as partners and use one ball. The partners strike off alternatively during the play at each hole. Scoring is

done as for a stroke round and the total is subject to a deduction of half the partners aggregate handicap.

Note: If either player incurs a penalty stroke it does not alter the rotation of play. In a foursomes stroke play competition which consists of more than one stipulated round the order of play may be changed between rounds unless the Committee has laid down as a condition of play that the original order of play must be preserved throughout the competition.

All the foregoing competitions are forms of stroke play and subject to the Rules governing stroke play. Special rules for Par and Stableford competitions are set out in Rule 32. Rule 31 covers the special rules for Fourball, Par and Stableford competitions. Foursomes may be played under either stroke play rules or match play conditions and Rule 29 applied. In addition to the competitions listed above many clubs conduct competitions which are not specifically covered in the Rules of Golf.

Some of the popular types of play are listed below together with suggestions regarding methods of conducting these events.

It cannot be too strongly emphasised however, that since these competitions are covered by the Rules of Golf, the

GOLF COMPETITIONS AND HOW THEY ARE PLAYED cont.....

Committee will carefully lay down and publish the Conditions and except in the most exceptional circumstances, give a decision on any query submitted, when play is conducted otherwise than in accordance with the rules.

MATCH PLAY

In Match Play the game is played by holes, rather than by calculating the total number of strokes. The hole is won by the player who holes the ball in the least number of nett strokes. The match is won by the player who is leading by a number of holes greater than the number of holes remaining. In WGC.events the maximum handicap to be used is 34 and the lowest marker is to play from scratch; this player then applies the difference in strokes between respective handicaps. These strokes are allocated on the hardest holes according to the Match Play Index printed on the scorecard. Events which end up all square shall continue hole by hole until one side wins a hole. Handicap strokes will apply as if the match commenced a new round.

MIXED FOURBALL BEST BALL V PAR OR STABLEFORD:

These games are played as described previously except the lady plays from her own tees, uses her own scorecard, local rules, etc. The result is only transferred to her partner's card when her score for the hole is better than his. Care must be taken when checking the card to refer to the ladies card when dealing with holes halved or won by her.

There are some variations to this depending on the Club. In some instances the lady plays off her full handicap using the ladies card as described above. In other cases, on 7/8 handicap using the ladies card. Again, she may be on full handicap and using the men's card. There are also exceptional instances where ladies play from a $\frac{3}{4}$ handicap and the men's card is used. These last two methods are the least satisfactory.

MIXED FOURSOMES:

Mixed Foursomes are played in the same manner as foursomes except that the ladies use their own tees and observe their own local rules when it is their turn to play.

The Committee will lay down as a condition of play whether the male or female is required to play from the first tee, and in competitions played under stroke conditions, and consisting of more than one stipulated round, whether this order is to be preserved.

CANADIAN FOURSOMES:

Played as above except that both players play tee shots at every hole and afterwards continue with whichever ball they nominate.

GOLF COMPETITIONS AND HOW THEY ARE PLAYED cont.....

AMERICAN/PINEHURST FOURSOMES:

Both players play tee shots at each hole, then play a second stroke with their partner's ball. One ball is then selected and play proceeds as in foursomes with the owner of the ball selected playing the third stroke. Handicap allowances is $\frac{3}{8}$ of aggregate stroke handicap for stroke competition and it is the same for Par or Stableford. This event is sometimes called "Chapman's Foursomes".

AMBROSE:

Played usually with four players using $\frac{1}{8}$ of the total of the four players handicaps. All players hit off and the best ball is selected. Each of the other players drop a ball within one club length of the

chosen ball and play their second stroke with the player whose ball is chosen playing last. This procedure is repeated until players reach the green where the players play from within one putter head length of the chosen ball. If played as a three ball, handicap allowance is $\frac{1}{6}$ and if two ball $\frac{1}{4}$ of the combined stroke handicap. This competition is also known as "Scramble".

Another variation to this format requires that the player whose ball is chosen will not play a stroke from this spot.

