



# **Heydon Grange Golf & Country Club**

## **Rules & Procedures for Men's & Mixed Competitions**

**Version 2.0**

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**Copies available from the Club, Competition Secretary or via  
the members' website at**

**<http://www.heydongrange.org.uk/mens/rules>**

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# 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This document sets out the rules and procedures governing official Men's and Mixed competitions at Heydon Grange Golf & Country Club. It does not apply to ladies or seniors events, fun competitions or the roll-up.
- 1.2 For the avoidance of doubt, this document applies to:

Non-drawn competitions:

- Men's monthly medals;
- Men's monthly mid-week medals;

Drawn competitions:

Men's knock-outs	Peacock Trophy, Skylark Summer Pairs and Winter Singles Knock-out
Mixed knock-outs	Summer Pairs Knock-out, Chishill Vase Winter Pairs
Men's Trophies	Barn Trophy, Blenheim Bowl, Captain's Bowl, Club Championship, First Class Shoot-Out, Heydon Masters, Ian Waters Memorial Trophy, Lakeside Trophy, Linton Trophy, Medal & Trophy Winners' Shield, Nick Willys Trophy, Three Counties Plate, Secretary's Salver, Spitfire Salver, Sprayavia Trophy
Mixed Trophies	Countywide Trophy, Grange Trophy, Granta Rummer Trophy, Hallmark Trophy, Junior Trophy, Lucy & Natalie Godfrey Trophies

Other official competitions may also be run and these rules apply unless otherwise stated.

- 1.3 If the application of any of these rules comes into conflict with the rules of golf, the latter will of course take precedence.
- 1.4 These rules are consistent with the 'Rules/Regulations of Play' set out in the Heydon Members Fixture Booklet. However in case of conflict, the rules defined here take precedence.
- 1.5 Any questions regarding these rules should be referred to the Competitions Committee who will ensure that they are up-dated as necessary to reflect additions and modifications as necessary.
- 1.6 The Competitions Committee comprises the Competitions Secretary, Handicap Secretary, Captain and Vice-Captain plus any assistants. They will consult with the Ladies Committee concerning matters which affect mixed competitions.
- 1.7 Draws, entry requirements, deadlines and competitions dates etc are posted on the club notice board and members' website at <http://www.heydongrange.org.uk>. You can also register there to receive emails of competitions information. Whilst the

web and email are provided as services to members, the club notice boards remain the definitive source of information concerning club competitions.

- 1.8 Throughout this document use of the term “Competitions Secretary” could alternatively mean a delegated assistant (including anyone carrying out starter’s duties).

## **2 Competition eligibility**

- 2.1 In order to qualify for entry to any competition, a player must be a member of Heydon Grange Golf & Country Club and must hold a valid competition handicap. If you do not yet hold a handicap, you should consult the handicap secretary who will either arrange with you for the transfer of your handicap from a previous club or advise you how best obtain a competition handicap.
- 2.2 If you have a club handicap which is not a competition handicap (previously defined as ‘inactive’ by England Golf), you will be able to enter competitions (eg for handicap purposes) but will not be eligible to win them.
- 2.3 Five day men members are eligible to enter all men’s competitions except knock-outs, the Club Championship, The Heydon Masters and the Three Counties Plate provided that:
- they have submitted 3 competition cards for handicap purposes in the preceding 12 months;
  - they are familiar with these competition rules and procedures;
  - they pay a weekend green-fee on the day as necessary.

Five-day members are not eligible to enter mixed trophies.

- 2.4 Junior members are eligible to enter all Men’s and Mixed competitions with a maximum handicap of 28 except where handicap limits apply.
- 2.5 Players who are members of more than one club and have their handicap held at another club (‘away’ handicaps), may enter all club competitions. However, the Competitions Committee reserves the right to apply Rule 23.9 of the CONGU Unified Handicapping System which allows for the adjustment of playing handicaps of those players with ‘away handicaps’ on a competition by competition basis.
- 2.6 In the case where a club competition provides entry into a county or other competition (eg Cambridge Evening News Foresomes) where players/teams represent only their home club, away players may enter the Heydon competition for the purposes of prize money only but will not qualify to represent the club subsequently. This would normally be the second placed player or team.

### 3 Competition entry

3.1 **Drawn competitions:** The entry process is as follows:

- A page is allocated for that competition in the Competitions Entry Book (held by the Men's notice board in the club house).
- From its opening in the Competition's Entry Book until the dead-line, eligible members may enter the competition. After the entry dead-line, no further entries will be allowed other than for reserve players.
- Following the dead-line, a draw sheet is posted on the notice board (and circulated by email) showing the tee time and playing partners of all entered competitors. This will be posted normally 2-3 days in advance of the competition.

3.2 There are two actions you must do in order to validly enter a competition prior to the entry dead-line:

- complete your entry in the Competitions Entry Book;
- submit your entry fee via the envelopes provided by writing your details on it, including the entry fee and placing it in the Competitions Entry Box (which is normally placed below the entry book).

3.3 All valid entries must include (at least) the correct entry fee which is indicated on the relevant page of the Competitions Entry Book.

3.4 **Non-drawn competitions:** Medal and mid-week medals competitions are not drawn competitions and you can enter in advance or on the day. In any event, you must complete a valid entry (according to paragraphs 3.2-3.3) prior to starting your round. There are no exceptions.

3.5 Other points relevant to competition entry:

- On no account can the draw once posted be altered other than under the authority of the Competitions Committee.
- If you wish to enter several competitions, you may include more than one competition fee in a single entry envelope but you must mark the envelope clearly.
- Please seal the envelope carefully – it is not unusual to have lots of loose change in the competitions entry box which makes it difficult sometimes to work out who has paid correctly.
- Any additional monies in envelopes over and above the required entry fees will be donated to the Captains' Charity.
- Take care not post entry envelopes in the 'General Play' box by mistake. This is not a valid entry!

## **4 Reserves**

- 4.1 If you wish to enter a drawn competition after the dead-line, you may do so by adding your entry in the Competitions Entry Book and submitting your entry fee in the normal manner. However, you will only be able to enter at the discretion of the Competitions Secretary.
- 4.2 To be considered for entry, all reserves must attend on the day of the competition and make themselves known to the Competitions Secretary or official starter at least 15 minutes prior to the first tee time (ie normally by 8:15am). If you do not turn up, you will not have your entry fee returned. If you do turn up but fail to get into the competition, you will have your entry fee returned.
- 4.3 Wherever possible, the Competition Secretary will alert reserves in advance if he knows that a space will be available.
- 4.4 It is entirely at the discretion of the official starter or Competition's Secretary as to if and how reserves are to be included in the playing order on the day.

## **5 Withdrawing from drawn competitions**

- 5.1 To validly withdraw from a drawn competition before the entry deadline, an entrant must cross out their entry in the entry book.
- 5.2 To validly withdraw from a drawn competition after the deadline, an entrant must tell the Competitions Secretary in person either face to face or on the telephone (but not by leaving voicemail or answerphone messages) at least 1 hr prior to the first tee time.
- 5.3 Anyone who withdraws from a competition will not have any submitted entry fees returned.
- 5.4 Only in extenuating circumstances will any other form of withdrawal from a competition be accepted – this is entirely at the discretion of the Competitions Secretary.
- 5.5 Anyone withdrawing within 1hr of the first tee time will receive a 2 competition ban (section 12).

## **6 Late attendance at competitions**

- 6.1 It is the responsibility of each player to be on the first tee at least 5 minutes prior to their tee time to attend the Official Starters briefing.
- 6.2 If a player is not present to tee off at his allotted tee time, they are deemed to be late on the tee.

- 6.3 If a player is late on the tee, he (or his team) will receive penalties as follows:
- a 2 shot penalty in medal play;
  - a 2 point penalty in stableford format (applying to the complete round);
  - a two hole penalty in bogie format (applying to the complete round).
- 6.4 If a player's group has teed off and he arrives late on the tee prior to the next group's tee time, he may tee off and catch up his group (subject to the above penalty).
- 6.5 If a player's group has teed off and he arrives after the next group's tee time, he is disqualified and will receive a two competition ban (section 12).
- 6.6 The official starter's decision is final as to determination of 'lateness on the tee' and the application of penalties or disqualification.
- 6.7 Refer to section 10 concerning procedures for knockout competitions.

## **7 Marking of cards**

- 7.1 A competitor must have his card marked only by a fellow competitor who is not an immediate family member or partner unless permission is granted by a member of the Competitions Committee before the start of play. This applies to medals and trophies. If the draw in a competition comes into conflict with this rule (eg 3-ball including husband and wife), this rule shall be deemed to be waived.
- 7.2 Failure to observe this rule results in disqualification from the competition.

## **8 Submission of cards**

- 8.1 A valid round of golf in a competition does not finish until a valid card is submitted to the Competitions Committee.
- 8.2 To do so, you must, on completion of your round, place a valid card in the competitions entry box. A valid card includes all of:
- the name and date of the competition;
  - your name and full handicap;
  - your correctly recorded gross score on every hole (or a dash to indicate no score recorded);
  - signatures by yourself and your marker.

Please also indicate your marker's name clearly so that the Committee may consult with them should any query be raised.

- 8.3 You are reminded that, under the rules of golf, the player is only responsible for recording the correct gross score on each hole. Addition of gross scores, application of handicaps, calculation of stableford points etc is the responsibility of the Competitions Committee.
- 8.4 Each player is responsible for submitting their own card. Under no circumstances will a card be returned to a player after it has been placed in the Competitions Entry Box until it has been processed by the Competitions Committee.

## **9 Walking off the course**

9.1 Walking off the course leaving playing partners to make alternative arrangements for the marking of cards is extremely poor etiquette and un-fair both to playing partners and to others in the competition. Other than in the case of lightning etc (see 9.4 below) there are very few circumstances – all exceptional – where a competitor's walking off the course will be tolerated:

- in the case of a physical injury or medical condition;
- in the case of an unforeseen personal emergency;
- in the case of extreme weather conditions where ALL players in the playing group decide to walk in.

Having a poor round yourself for whatever reason is not sufficient grounds to walk off the course – you are still able to mark your playing partner's card.

- 9.2 Whilst 'No Returns' are to be discouraged (since they potentially impact the competition standard scratch), players are at liberty to 'No Return' if they wish. However, anyone walking off the course during a competition (trophy or medal) without good reason will incur a two-match ban (section 12).
- 9.3 Any such incidents should be brought to the attention of the Competitions Secretary who will discuss with other Competitions Committee members as appropriate.
- 9.4 In the case of lightning (of the threat of it) players should use their own judgement as to the safety of continuing to play. Normally, such circumstances cause the competition to be halted temporarily or abandoned.

## **10 Additional measures: knock-outs**

- 10.1 Each side is jointly responsible for arranging matches.

- 10.2 In any one round, each side must be able to make themselves available for the fixture on at least two week-end days prior to the dead-line.
- 10.3 If neither side is able to play by the deadline for that round, they must consult with the Competitions Secretary as soon as possible. Only in the case of extenuating circumstances, will an extension to the dead-line be granted.
- 10.4 In the absence of any extenuating circumstances, either the tie is decided by the toss of a coin or both sides will have to withdraw. A team may only progress via the toss of a coin once only during a specific knock-out competition.
- 10.5 If a side is up to 15 minutes late on the tee, the other side may claim a two hole penalty (ie they start 2-up on the first tee).
- 10.6 If a side is more than 15 minutes late on the tee, the other side may claim the match.
- 10.7 Disputes concerning lateness on the tee can only be up-held if the tee time is booked in the diary at the Pro shop.
- 10.8 Players are reminded that, under Rule 33-1 of the Rules of Golf, match-play rounds in official competitions cannot be combined simultaneously with official stroke-play events. In such cases, the players would be disqualified from the stroke-play event and the match-play event would be declared null and void.

## **11 Additional measures: medals**

- 11.1 Unless otherwise indicated on the notice board, booking of tee times and playing partners for medals is the player's responsibility (they are not drawn competitions).
- 11.2 Between 8:00am and 10:30am, weekend medal entrants must not play in groups of more than three players (irrespective of how many of the group are entered in the medal) unless permitted by the Competitions Secretary. Penalty is disqualification of all players.
- 11.3 Your attention is drawn to section 7 of these rules concerning who may mark a player's card.
- 11.4 The splitting of medal fields into one or more divisions, their minimum size, the allocation of prize money, Order of Merit points and qualification into the Medal & Trophy Winners Competition is determined and reviewed as required by the Competitions Committee. Current rulings are posted at the Club and with the medals program on the club web-site.

## **12 Competition bans**

- 12.1 Competition bans can be imposed on players under the following circumstances:
  - Failure to withdraw/turn up for a drawn competition;

- Walking off the course (section 9);
  - As part of other disciplinary procedures.
- 12.2 Bans imposed as a result of mid-week medals mean the competitor is unable to enter any subsequent competitions for which they are eligible (eg men's or mixed).
- 12.3 Bans imposed as a result of monthly medals or men's/mixed trophies mean the competitor is unable to enter any subsequent week-end competition for which they are eligible (ie mid-week medals do not count).
- 12.4 Bans received by Ladies apply only to future mixed competitions (not future ladies events).
- 12.5 In the event that a player has a ban imposed, the Competitions Secretary will inform them of the ban and a notice will be posted on the notice board.
- 12.6 No entry fees will be returned for competitions from which a player subsequently becomes banned.

## **13 Appeals**

- 13.1 Whilst they are happy to learn of extenuating circumstances concerning the applications of these rules and associated penalties, the Competition Committee's decision is final in all cases.