

## GWENT GOLF UNION

### INTER-CLUB TEAM TOURNAMENT RULES 2024

#### 1. RULES

- A. The tournament shall be played between clubs affiliated to the Gwent Golf Union.
- B. The Club teams shall be divided into Divisions and shall play home and away matches against all other Clubs in the same Division. For clubs with more than 1 team they shall be identified in numerical order based on each team's position in the league at the start of the season.
- C. The allocation of Club Teams to Divisions shall be decided by the Union. At the end of the Tournament the two lowest teams shall be demoted from each division even when other teams may have failed to make a full season's matches and so been removed mid Tournament. Promotions shall then be made from the top of each division to make up the full number of teams in the divisions above.
- D. In all Divisions the form of play shall be Singles Matchplay, and each team shall consist of 5 players, although if 5 players are not available a minimum of 3 players shall constitute a team. Each individual game shall be played over eighteen holes, but in the event of a course not being in full play, the number of holes constituting a match shall be left to the discretion of the home club.
- E. Players may not be nominated or play in League teams for more than one club in any season.

#### 2. SCORING

- A. The winner of each game shall be credited with one game point. Should a game be halved, each side will be credited with a half game point. Two match points will be awarded to the winning team or a total of 1 match point each should a match be halved.
- B. At the conclusion of the Tournament the Division winner shall be the team with the highest number of total points. In the event of a tie on total points then the team with the most match points shall be deemed the winner. In the event of the teams being tied on both total and match points the winner shall be decided by the aggregate score between the two teams involved in the tie. If there is still a tie then a play off will be held, each Team Captain shall nominate a player who will play in a sudden death play-off should the games scores be equal on the completion of the play-off match.
- C. Immediately following a match the **HOME CLUB** must return full details of the match to the League Secretary. Home teams failing to submit the result on the recognised result card/sheet within **48 hours** following the match will, at the discretion of the Secretary, suffer a deduction of one game point from their total points won during the season. This will also apply to advising the League Secretary of **postponed matches**. Scores must be returned to the Secretary complete with a list of all players. Failure to do this may result in no score to both teams. Cards/sheets not **FULLY** completed will, at the discretion of the Secretary result in a 1 point penalty to the **HOME club**.

#### 3. NOMINATED PLAYERS/CONTACT LIST

- A. Before the season starts each club shall forward a list of nominated players to the League Secretary. Clubs shall nominate each team entered except for the lowest team. If no nominations are received the team playing the first match is deemed to be nominated.
- B. A nominated player is not permitted to play in a lower team and can play in each higher team twice and still remain eligible for their nominated team. On playing a third match for each higher team the player then becomes a nominated player for that higher team.

- C. E.g. A nominated 4<sup>th</sup> team player can play 2 games for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> teams and still remain eligible for the 4<sup>th</sup> team.
- D. Of the 5 players nominated at least 3 must play in each of the first THREE matches of the season. This can be any three of the nominated players in each of the first three matches. If any of the first three matches are cancelled due to a weather related issue then this ruling will either be carried over to the next games or be in place for the fixture at the rearranged date. This will be decided in advance by the team in question. The penalty for not fielding 3 nominated players in any of the first three matches is 1 game point on the day of the match for each player below the three required. The deducted points will be passed on to the offending teams opponents on the day. The only exception to this ruling will be associated with selection for National Team Honours and must be discussed with the League Secretary before the match. Then provided the League Secretary is in agreement, another player could substitute.
- E. On submission of the nominated players list, clubs shall provide contact details (phone and email) for a person directly associated with the team. Those contact details, where possible will be circulated to all other team contacts in the Tournament. All nomination and result sheets must contain both forenames and surnames.

#### 4. FIXTURES DATES and POSTPONEMENTS

- A. Proposed provisional match fixture lists shall be compiled by the League Secretary based on the previous year's results and the days on which teams played their home matches during that year. Those proposals will be submitted to Clubs at the beginning of October for them to confirm or change the home match dates. They must then be return to The League Secretary by the end of October. The fixture lists will then be finalised and fully issued at the end of November.  
Should there be a failure to reach agreement on dates, matches will be played on a date decided upon by the Council.
- B. Division 1 matches are pre-scheduled on Thursdays.
- C. Fixtures may only be postponed if the home team deems the course unfit for the match to be played.
- D. All matches must be played. Should a club fail to provide a team on the agreed match date that team will be subject to a 2 point penalty and the match must then be played on a rescheduled date as defined by the League Secretary. Should the team fail to play that rescheduled fixture the team will be removed from the Tournament.
- E. The agreed match dates will be those given on the fixture sheets as issued by the League Secretary. The only deviation from those dates will be if those sheets have conflicting dates for the same match. In that case the match will be rescheduled by the League Secretary.
- F. A Club may request a change of date due to exceptional circumstances which could affect the club as a whole. Any problems of this nature must be discussed with the League Secretary in good time prior to the fixture date. Failure to have a good side available is not an exceptional circumstance.
- G. In the event of a course being unfit for play every reasonable effort must be made to inform the visiting team to avoid unnecessary travel and waste of time. Following that decision, the League Secretary must also be informed in order for him to set a re-match date.
- H. Clubs unable to field a full 5 players must advise the opposition as soon as practicable.

- I. Postponed match rescheduled dates will be defined by the League Secretary for the end of the season on the day of the week that the home team normally plays its matches. Teams may play the match before the defined date by joint agreement if desired.
- J. The period of the tournament shall run from nominally the 1<sup>st</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> July.
- K. In the event of a Club having more than one team in a Division the home and away fixtures must be completed prior to playing another club. Should any of these matches be postponed due to course unfit for play then they must be rescheduled and played before the end of May.

#### 5. MATCH DAYS

- A. Before each match starts, Team Captains will exchange teams and order of play.
- B. To participate in a league match, players must be ready to play no later than 6.15pm. The nominal start time will be 5.30pm.
- C. All players must play with a ball conforming to current R&A regulations.
- D. All players are required to play with the dress code of the home club both on and off the course. Failure to do so will result in loss of points. Any player desiring to wear anything other than full length tailored trousers and a casual shirt with collar when on the course must verify that it is acceptable to the home club. This is the responsibility of the player.
- E. Matches in which play has been commenced and not completed on the day due to adverse weather conditions must be concluded in the following manner:-
  - Any game producing a result shall not be replayed, and the result will count in arriving at the final match result.
  - Remaining games must be continued on a mutually convenient date(s) between the same players commencing on the tee immediately following the last completed hole of the interrupted game.
  - In the event of none of the games being completed, then the match is deemed to have been postponed and must be replayed with not necessarily the same players.

#### 6. OTHER

- A. All disputes arising under these rules shall be adjudicated upon by the League Secretary whose decision shall be final. Failure of any Club to work to the rules or within the spirit of the game may forfeit its place in the tournament.
- B. For the use of caddies and buggies. We like to promote the traditional way that singles matches have always been played, that is two players walking the course. However, a caddy can be used if desired. A buggy can only be used if and when there is a genuine medical reason.
- C. Following the final week of scheduled fixtures, it is the responsibility of every team to check and verify the score as published is correct. This must be completed within 2 weeks of the last scheduled week of play.

#### DEFINITIONS

Match :- League Fixture played between 2 teams

Game :- Individual singles within the match