

## Whitehead Golf Club Ladies Competition Rules 2025

1. You **must** have your name on the BRS system in advance of play. For Thursday-only competition days (from April through to August), the ladies' reserved time slots become available @ 6pm on the Wednesday of the previous week. For Thursdays that have an 18-hole Singles competition, there will also be a Singles 9 hole competition. (If the 18-hole competition is Stableford, the 9-hole competition will be Stableford. If the 18-hole competition is Stroke, the 9-hole competition will be Stroke.)  
*N.B. to accommodate as many Club members as possible making use of our course, if there are several unused Thursday time-slots, these will be 'released' to other members on the Wednesday before a competition day.*  
For competitions on other days eg Sundays, BRS times will not be reserved for ladies on the system, so ensure you book your preferred time when those 'casual' slots become live.
  2. Alternate Day Self-Sub Competitions, both 9 and 18 holes, will be run in March. (You choose the day you wish to **compete** on, **but** you may **only** compete on **one** of the two designated days for either the 9 hole or 18-hole competition. You may of course play the 9-hole competition on the Sunday and the 18-hole competition on the Thursday, or vice versa.) For these March Self-Sub Competitions, anyone with an official Golf Ireland Handicap Index may play with you and 'mark your card'. N.B. there are no reserved ladies' time slots on BRS for March or September. These March competitions are usually non-qualifying & therefore will not count as cards towards eligibility for Lady Captain's or Lady President's Days.
  3. (i) Monthly Medals (see Fixture List) are played as Alternate-Day competitions (Sunday/Tuesday) to allow ladies who work more opportunities to return competition qualifying cards.  
(ii) For the Medal competitions there will be no reserved BRS times on either the Sunday or the Tuesday & anyone with a Golf Ireland Handicap Index may play with you & mark your card.  
(iii) For the July Alternate Day Cup competition, you **must only play with & only have your card marked by** another lady member with an official Golf Ireland Handicap Index. Only the Thursday of this Alternate Day competition will have reserved BRS times.  
(iv) Other ladies' Cup competitions will continue to be held as Alternate Day competitions during September. For these September Alternate Day ladies' Cup competition, there will be no BRS reserved times & you **must only play with & only have your card marked by** another lady member who has an official Golf Ireland Handicap Index.  
(v) Monthly Medals will continue to have a 'Two's' competition.  
(vi) All stroke competitions, outwith the 4 Majors, will be played as Par +7 maximum score competitions.
- N.B. As proposed & ratified at 2023 AGM, breach of competition Rules 3 iii or iv will result in disqualification from the competition but scores will still count towards to handicap.**
4. A lady playing in a competition may have her card 'marked' by a lady who is not playing in the competition.
  5. You may book a BRS tee-time on the day of a competition right up to your desired tee-time.  
*If you are booked on BRS on the day of a competition & subsequently are unable to play, you must remove your name from BRS & contact your playing partners to advise them that you are unable to play.*
  6. For Thursday competitions where draws are made, your name **must** be on the BRS system by **6pm on the Wednesday, the day before**. Draws will take place on that **Wednesday** evening and notification will be sent to your nominated BRS email address. (Ladies wishing to play in the 9-hole competitions on BRS Draw days, please advise M&H beforehand so the BRS draw can accommodate you.)

*For BRS Draw competitions, if you find on the day of the Competition you are available to play, you may use 3 'Wild Cards' over the course of the season. Check BRS to see where you can 'fit in' with an available 2-ball (with their agreement), write your name in 'Wild Card' folder in Locker Room & enter computer in usual way.*

7. If for any reason your playing partner does not turn up for your draw time, you may join the nearest available 2 ball to enable you to play in the competition. (If there is only a 3-ball available, then make 2 x 2 balls.)
8. On the day of the competition and **before** you play:
- (a) you **must sign into the competition** on the computer terminal in Pro Shop.
  - (b) you **must** pay your entry fee (£3 for 18 holes, £1:50 for 9 holes) in Pro Shop.

***Penalty for breach of (a)/(b): your score will not count towards competition as you have not actually entered the competition & any monies paid will be returned. You may use your card for Summer Ringer.***

***N.B. Your score will count towards handicapping***

You may wish to enter the 'Twos' competition, available for both 9- and 18-hole competitions, and now including Medal competitions. If so, pay £1 in Pro Shop.

- (c) ensure your **name, the date, name of competition, Handicap Index, Course Handicap & Playing Handicap are correctly recorded on your scorecard.**

In the event of not being able to 'sign into' the competition via Computer terminal at the Club, please sign the **Intention to Play** page in Sign-In Folder in Locker Room & put monies into brown envelope with date, name of competition & your name & deposit in wooden box.

9. (a) Players must be ready to play and start at their starting time. (Rule 5.3a).
- (b) ***The designated starting place of a competition is the 1st tee.***
- (c) On completion of play, you **must** enter your score into computer in Locker Room, ensure you have signed your card & that your marker has counter-signed it in the designated spaces & place card in wooden box in Ladies' Locker Room.

In accordance with Golf Ireland guidelines, if you do not enter your score into the computer upon completion of play, you **may** be liable to suspension from the following competition.

Please be mindful of the following:

Under the Rules of Golf, while playing a competition, you may only walk in off the course under the following conditions:

- bad light
- bad weather
- illness

If you do not complete out your round, if you do not finish the last few holes, when you are returning your score, you **MUST** record all the scores at the holes you did play. In Ireland, a minimum of 10 holes to be completed for an 18-hole score to be acceptable for handicap purposes.

When returning your score in the above circumstances, when you type in 'No Score' over the consecutive holes not played, the computer may bring up an option D.N.P. (Did Not Play) or D.N.S. (Did Not Score) at those holes. Choose this option for those holes not played/started.

**Please let me know if you have had to come off the course.**

10. (a) ***6 completed cards*** played over the designated competition course of the day must be returned to constitute a competition in which individual prizes are being given, except Lady Captain's Prize, Lady President's Prize, Club Captain's prize, Club President's Prize and Open Days when the Competition Committee's decision is final. ***(In the event of a competition not producing the necessary 6 returned cards, the competition will be declared null & void but scores returned will still count towards a player's handicap.)***

- (b) Playing Handicaps will be capped @ 36 for the 4 'Majors' (see Official Rules of Golf, Committee Procedures 5A 'Setting The Terms of the Competition') & **4 qualifying cards** must be returned by the given date on

fixture list to be eligible to compete for prizes on Lady Captain's & Lady President's Days.

**N.B. As announced at 2023 AGM, for any player with Whitehead as their Second Club, 2 competition qualifying cards must come from Whitehead qualifying competitions & the remaining qualifying competition cards may come from their Home Club.**

- (c) 2024 Ladies Committee agreed that from now on, for Lady Captain's & Lady President's Days, if you know in advance you will be unable to attend the Prize-Giving event, your score card that day will count for handicapping purposes only & will not be entered into the competition.
- (d) In Foursomes/Greensomes competitions, a minimum of at least 4 cards needs to be returned to make the competition viable.
- (e) For Medals & Self-Sub competitions, **1 completed card** constitutes a competition.

11. For designated Golf Ireland competitions such as the **Monthly Medal, Daisy Ferguson Greensomes**, you **must** have an up-to-date Medical exemption certificate from Golf Ireland **to be able to use a buggy**.

**N.B. All EAL competitions also require an up-to-date Medical exemption certificate from Golf Ireland to be able to use a buggy.**

12. **Ties** in all **18-hole strokeplay/stableford** competitions shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3, 1 holes and if still a tie, on the last 3, 6, 7, 8 of the first 9 holes.

13. In a Ladies-only competition, (9 or 18-holes) you **must only** play with and have your card marked/signed by a lady member.

***The only exceptions to this are: Monthly Medals, Self-Sub competitions, Winter League, a General Play card used for Summer Ringer or cards for handicap consideration.***

**N.B. As proposed & ratified at 2023 AGM, breach of competition of Rule 13 will result in disqualification from the competition but scores will still count towards to handicap.**

14. In **Match Play** competitions, players **shall share the responsibility** for the date and time of the match. Contact should be made immediately the draw is available and a **minimum** of 2 dates discussed. The name of the winner must be posted on the draw sheet by the last date allowed for that round. (Traditionally, the winner's name is posted by their opponent.) **No extensions** will be given.

The **entry fee must be paid** prior to the draw for the competition being made or **you will not be entered into the draw**.

15. **In the event of a tie** in any round, players shall continue to play until one or other has gained a hole, when the match shall be considered won. Shots shall be given according to handicap allocation in any tie hole played.

**M&H Committee 2025**

## RULES OF GOLF REMINDERS

### Rule 10.2 Advice a) Advice

During a round, a player must not:

- Give advice to anyone in the competition who is playing on the course,
- Ask anyone for advice, other than the player's caddie

### 3.2c Applying Handicaps in Handicap Match

(1) Declaring Handicaps. The player and opponent should tell each other their handicaps before the match. If a player declares a **wrong handicap** either before or during the match and does not correct the mistake before the opponent makes their next stroke:

Declared Handicap Too High. The player is disqualified if this affects the number of strokes the player gives or gets. If it does not, there is no penalty.

Declared Handicap Too Low. There is no penalty and the player must use the declared lower handicap to calculate the number of strokes the player gives or gets.

*Back-on-the-line relief from penalty area or for unplayable ball, Rule 14.3b:* The player must drop the ball on the line and the ball must come to rest within one club-length in **any direction** of where it first touched the line.

*Ball at rest moved by natural forces, Rule 9.3:* If a ball at rest is moved by natural forces **after** being dropped, placed or replaced and comes to rest in a different area of the course or out of bounds, the ball must be replaced and played from its original spot. A ball on the putting green must still be replaced if moved after being replaced.

### Rule 5.2, Practising on Course Before or Between Rounds

a) **Match Play:** a player may practise on the course before a round or between rounds of a match play competition

b) **Stroke Play:** On the day of a stroke-play competition: (ie a stroke or stableford competition)

- A player must not practise on the course before a round, except that the player may practise putting or chipping on or near his or her first teeing area and practise on any practice area.

- A player may practise on the course after completing play of his or her final round for that day.

*Penalty for Breach of Rule 5.2:*

*Penalty for first breach: General Penalty (applied to the player's first hole).*

*Penalty for second breach: Disqualification.*

## Other Points of Information

### Twos Competitions

- There is a 'twos' competition for all individual competitions (9 & 18 holes) including now Monthly Medals (£1 entry to be paid in Pro Shop)
- A 'hole in one' wins half the pot with the rest being shared by any '2's on the day. If there are no '2's on the day of a 'hole in one', all the pot goes to the 'hole in one'.
- If there are no 'twos', then the pot rolls over to the next twos competition.
- Your 'twos' money will be paid into your account in the Pro Shop.

### N.B.

If you are disqualified from the main competition, you are disqualified from the 'Twos'.

If you complete at least 10 holes in your round, a 'Two' will still count.

A 'two' can be achieved at any hole.

If you wish to submit a **General Play** score for **handicap consideration** outside of competitions, this is the guidance from Golf Ireland:

- **before you play, you must** text me to let me know of your intentions to play a casual round to count towards your handicap
- **before you play, you must** use the **Golf Ireland app** to **Sign In** a **Casual Round**
- after playing, **you must return your score** via the **Golf Ireland app** before midnight (when scores are processed by the handicapping dotgolf software)
- ensure your nominated marker 'accepts' your score on their Golf Ireland app via Messages tab
- **N.B. when wanting to return a score for handicap purposes using this Casual Round option, the course must be of Acceptable Score quality** i.e. suitable for qualifying conditions: if course is playing off winter mats and/or if the conditions are 'mark, lift, clean, place through the General Area' these are NOT qualifying conditions and you cannot use a Casual Round for handicap purpose

### Unsatisfied Scores

An unsatisfied score is when you create a digital scorecard to play a general round of golf to count towards your handicap index but then, for whatever reason, you do not return your score digitally. Golf Ireland will email you to remind you to return your score, but if you do not, they will impose a penalty score on your record. So please remember to return your general play scores promptly.