

Laytown and Bettystown Golf Club

Terms of Competitions 2023

Table of Contents

Terms of Competition (Committee Procedures Section 5A)

- 01. The Rules of Golf**
- 02. Handicapping**
- 03. Eligibility**
- 04. Method of Entry and Score Card:(Rule 3.3b)**
- 05. Times of Starting and Groups**
- 06. Match Play**
- 07. Timesheets**
- 08. How Ties Will Be Decided**
- 09. Motorised Buggies**
- 10. Player Conduct: (Rule 1.2)**
- 11. Pace and Order of Play: (Rules 5.6 and 6.4)**
- 12. Prize Presentations**
- 13. Prizes**
- 14. Close of Competitions**
- 15. General Terms**

Terms of Competition (Committee Procedures Section 5A)

The following Terms of Competition under which Club Competitions (Counting, Non-counting and Club Match Play) are to be played have been drawn up by the Competition Committee and approved by the Men's Club Committee. Members are advised to understand and obliged to comply with them.

01. The Rules of Golf

1.01 The Rules of Golf as approved by the R & A and U.S.G.A, as may be amended Laytown and Bettystown Golf Club, shall apply to all competitions held at Laytown and Bettystown Golf Club. It is the responsibility of all players (both

members and visitors) to ensure that they are familiar with, and apply, these Rules while participating in any competition held at Laytown and Bettystown Golf Club.

02. Handicapping

2.01 Handicaps will be operated and maintained in accordance with the “World Handicap System” (WHS) in conjunction with any applicable guidance issued by The Council of National Golf Unions (CONGU).

2.02 All AWAY scores, including No Returns, in Acceptable Score Competitions must be returned to the AWAY club for uploading to the Golf Ireland Clubhouse. To submit a General Play score a General Play Score Intent must be submitted in advance and then the General Play must be submitted on the same day. Failure to do so as required by the WHS could lead to disciplinary procedures such as the application of a Penalty Score and/or suspension of offending players' handicap index (refer to Rule 7, Guidance on the WHS Rules of Handicapping as Applied within GB&I). <https://www.golfireland.ie/handicap-system>.

2.03 It is expected that every player who enters an Acceptable Score Competition intends to complete the round.

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

03. Eligibility

3.01 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 at Laytown and Bettystown Golf Club. This restriction also applies to any players who wish to represent Laytown and Bettystown Golf Club in any inter-club team competition.

3.02 The Committee may make Terms of Competition that restrict who is eligible to play in the competition. Only players who meet the eligibility criteria for certain competitions, as laid down by the Competition Committee, may enter those competitions. (The Committee may waive restrictions in certain circumstances). In addition, the following restrictions apply:

3.03 Members must have three (3) 18-Hole Competition Scores played at Laytown and Bettystown Golf Club in their Handicap Record in the current calendar year to be eligible to qualify for the Captain's Final Day (for clarity, the Captain's Qualifier event does not count toward these three scores).

3.04 Members must have a fully developed handicap index (i.e. have at least 20 scores in their scoring history) to be eligible to win a Major. In the event a winner does not have a fully development handicap index they will be demoted to 2nd place.

3.05 Five Day members are not eligible to play in Laytown and Bettystown Golf Club competitions held on a Saturday or Sunday other than Open competitions. In addition, they are not entitled to participate in club match play competitions with the exception of "The Wickham Trophy", "Club Championship" or "McDonnell Cup".

3.06 Overseas members are eligible to play in all club competitions with the exception of the Captain's Prize, the President's Prize, the Professional's Prize and club match play competitions.

3.07 Intermediate and Provisional members are eligible to play in all competitions with the exception of the Captain's Prize, President's Prize and the Professional's Prize.

3.08 Junior members

3.08.01 Boys with a handicap index of 19.9 or lower can play in all Men's competitions but cannot win first or second prizes in the following competitions:

Captain's Prize, President's Prize or Professional's Prize,

3.08.02 Boys with a handicap index of 9 or lower can play in all Men's competitions and book a timeslot a week in advance similar to adult members. For clarity, boys with a handicap index of 9 or lower cannot win first or second prize in the following competitions:

Captain's Prize, President's Prize or Professional's Prize,

3.08.03 Boys with a handicap index between 10 and 19.9 may only put their names on the timesheet for Adult Competitions 24 hours before the competition starts,

3.08.04 Boys with a handicap index of 20 or greater may book a timeslot 24 hours in advance of the competition but may only play after 12pm in designated competitions (see Men's noticeboard for details).

3.09 The use of a GI Member Card number is mandatory for members of clubs affiliated to the Golfing Ireland for entry into all Open Acceptable Score Competitions, which shall be by Computer Entry and uploaded to the Central Database of Handicaps (Golf Ireland).

04. Method of Entry and Score Card:(Rule 3.3b)

4.01 Members are responsible for their name being entered on the competition timesheet.

4.02 No player is permitted to remove their name from a competition timesheet within 2 hours of their allotted tee time unless exceptional circumstances require it. Any player removing their name within 2 hours 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 the relevant competition fee for the competition in question before being permitted to play in another competition.

4.03 Timesheets 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 Competition Committee and the Men's Club Committee.

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

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

4.06 Players entering Competitions are obliged to make their entry on the Club Computer System provided by the Competition Committee for that purpose.

4.07 A player who fails to enter a Competition in the required manner is deemed to have neither a score for the competition nor an Acceptable Score for handicap purposes.

4.08 It is the responsibility of each competitor to enter their name and the date 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.

4.09 After completion of the designated round, score cards must be fully completed and signed by both competitor and marker before entering the Clubhouse. In adverse weather conditions, scorecards may be checked, marked and signed in the area outside the locker room.

4.10 Failure to adhere to paragraph 4.08 and 4.09 will result in disqualification of player in question under Rule 3.3b of "The Rules of Golf", as defined by the "Royal and Ancient Golf Club" of St Andrews.

4.11 All scorecards for Acceptable Score competitions must be returned as soon as possible after completion of the designated round and scores entered on the designated Club Computer System and placed in the appropriate collection area.

Under Rule 7 of CONGU Guidance on the WHS Rules of Handicapping as Applied within GB&I, the Competition Committee may apply a sanction to any player who regularly fails to return a card for an Acceptable Score competition. When deemed appropriate by the Committee these sanctions may include the suspension of a player's handicap for a predetermined period and/or a penalty score being applied.

4.12 Failure to enter a score in the Club Computer System for a Club 'Singles' Competition may result in the application of a Penalty Score and/or the competitor being ineligible to compete in the Club's next "Singles" Competition. This is a matter for the Competition Committee to determine. In the case of a second offence, the competitor will be ineligible to compete in the Club's next two "Singles" Competitions. The Committee is entitled to suspend a player's right to compete in Club Competitions for a specified period or, for more persistent offences, to suspend a handicap for an appropriate period.

If there is a genuine reason a player could not enter their scorecard in the computer, a written explanation should be sent by email to the Handicap Secretary (honcompsec@landb.ie) within three days detailing the circumstances.

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

4.14 In accordance with Rule 3.3 of the "Rules of Golf", as defined by the "Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews, no alteration (of any kind) may be made on a score card after the competitor has returned it to the Competition Committee. Returned to the Competition Committee is defined in our case as entering your card in the Club Computer System AND putting your card in the Competition Box.

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

4.16 Stroke Competitions will be set as Maximum Score Format, unless otherwise decided by the Competition Committee. The Maximum Score for acceptable score competitions is 5 above the par of the hole.

Scoring in Maximum Score

- (1) Player's Score on Hole. A player's score for a hole is based on the player's number of strokes (including strokes made and penalty strokes), except that the player will get only the maximum score even if the actual score exceeds the maximum.
 - A player who does not hole out under the Rules for any reason gets the maximum score for the hole.

- To help pace of play, players are encouraged to stop playing a hole when their score has reached the maximum.
- The hole is completed when the player holes out, chooses not to do so or when his or her score has reached the maximum.

(2) Score Entered for Each Hole. To meet the requirements in Rule 3.3b for entering hole scores on the scorecard:

If Hole Is Completed by Holing Out

- When Score Is Lower Than Maximum. The scorecard must show the actual score.
- When Score Is Same as or Higher Than Maximum. The scorecard must show either no score or any score at or above the maximum.

If Hole Is Completed Without Holing Out

- If the player does not hole out under the Rules, the scorecard must show either no score or any score at or above the maximum.

05. Times of Starting and Groups

5.01 The player shall start:

5.01.01 At the time laid down by the Competition Committee, or if permitted by them:

5.01.02 At the time reserved on the advance timesheet in the absence of 5.01.01,

5.01.03 In turn, on the basis of pairing off upon arrival in the absence of 5.01.01 or 5.02.02.

5.02 Players shall not compete in a competition prior to the official start time, unless with advance permission from the Competition Committee.

5.03 Players shall not compete in a competition after the last tee-time indicated on the timesheet, unless with advance permission from the Competition Committee.

5.04 Competitors shall remain throughout the round in the group arranged by the Competition Committee unless that Committee authorises or ratifies a change or unusual circumstances occur on the course such as an emergency with a fellow player.

5.05 When a competition start time is delayed due to adverse weather conditions, any tee time before the revised competition start time will be forfeited. Any impacted players wishing to play in the competition will need to re-book into any available tee-time post the revised competition start time.

06. Match Play

6.01 The conditions under which Club Match Play Competitions are to be played are as follows:

6.01.01 All Matches are to be played in Laytown and Bettystown Golf Club, played over 18 holes starting at the first hole.

6.01.02 All players should put a contact number beside their name on the appropriate sheet as soon as possible after the draw has been published,

6.01.03 While either player(s)/team can initiate contact to arrange a match, the player/team at the top on the draw should take responsibility to ensure contact is made at least two weeks prior to the final date for playing the match,

6.01.04 If agreement cannot be reached, the player(s)/team at the top of the draw will give three dates to the opposition. One of these must be accepted. (Note: One date should be at the weekend, and another in the evening,

6.01.05 The three dates should be spread over a minimum of seven days,

6.01.06 A mutually agreed time must be arranged and booked on the timesheet through the Tee Time Booking System (BRS Golf) or the Pro-Shop,

6.02.07 Delayed on the Day: In the absence of prior arrangement a grace period of 15 mins will be allowed on the day if the timesheet permits. Penalty: Loss of Match,

6.01.08 If the two Players cannot mutually agree a date for the match, the match date is automatically designated as the date on which the deadline falls. In any event, if the match has not concluded by the deadline date and where a walkover has not been given, both players are eliminated,

6.01.09 Handicap Strokes: All shots given/received will be in accordance with the hole indices on the current L&B Scorecard. Should extra holes be required handicap strokes apply in the same manner in extra holes as they did during the original 18 holes,

6.01.10 Results must be entered on the notice board and into the Club Computer System in the Locker Room by midnight of the last day of each round. If for any reason a result cannot be entered, on the notice board and/or the Club Computer System, the result can be emailed to honcompsec@landb.ie before midnight of the last day of the round,

6.01.11 Matches must be arranged and completed on or before the deadline date for each round and no extensions will be allowed. Penalty: Disqualification of both player(s)/teams.

07. Timesheets

7.01 When timesheets are in operation, players:

7.01.01 may reserve only one line, (i.e. a maximum of four name slots).

7.01.02 may not have the word partners or numbers displayed, (full and complete names only to be used). Exception: Opens & Invitations where “Guest with First Name Last Name” can be used,

7.01.03 shall not insert names in unallocated time slots, (i.e. in buffer time slots),

7.01.04 shall not play unless they have an allocated time slot (i.e. may not cut in between groups),

7.01.05 should be present at the 1st tee, and ready to play, five minutes before their starting time,

7.01.06 must notify their opposition and partner in the time as laid down by the Competition Committee if they are withdrawing from the timesheet, especially if the withdrawal leaves fellow competitors without opposition, or in the case of a team event leaves a member without a partner. (Reserving a time is a commitment to play with or mark for the other players at that time slot). Failure to notify their opposition and partner in the time as laid down by the Competition Committee in 7.03 below, or without reasonable explanation, will allow the opposition or partner the right to report a breach of the rule to the Competition Committee for disciplinary action.

7.02 Should a member of the Club be reported to the Competition Secretary for breach of Rule 7.01.06 the Competition Committee has the right to discipline the offending member by informing that said member he will be ineligible to compete in the Club’s next competition (of a similar format). In the case of a second offence the competitor will be ineligible to compete in the Club’s next two competitions (of a similar format).

7.03 A member who withdraws his name from a timesheet within 2 hours of their tee time, or fails to show on the day of the competition without a reasonable explanation, will have the entry fee for the competition deducted from his Competitions Purse (see Clause 4:02).

08. How Ties Will Be Decided

8.01 The manner in which ties are to be decided will be by matching the tied score cards to determine the winner based on count-back, as approved by Royal & Ancient Rules Limited. Matching Scorecards is also known as Scorecard Count-Back. See 5.A of committee procedures within the official rules of golf for full details.

8.02 For 36 hole competitions, decided on last 18 holes and if still tied, proceed as per 18 hole matching below.

8.03 For 18 hole competitions, decided on last 9 holes--6--3--1 and if still tied, decide on last 6--3--1 of first 9.

8.04 For competitions over less than 18 holes, decided on last 9 holes--6--3--1.

8.05 If this procedure does not produce a result, the winner will then be determined by lot. In the event of the Competition Committee permitting play to start at any tee other than the 1st tee the last nine holes, for the purpose of deciding ties, will be from the 10th to 18th hole.

09. Motorised Buggies

9.01 Motorised golf buggies may only be used with the permission of the Competition Committee and provided the player is in possession of a current medical certificate of disability signed by the Medical Doctor, Physiotherapist or Physical Therapist.

9.02 If a player uses their own buggy, a copy of the relevant insurance certificate must also be submitted.

9.03 The buggy may only be used by the person named on the certificate and may carry only their equipment and caddy. The buggy can be shared with another player in the group as long as that person is in possession of a current medical certificate of disability signed by a Medical Doctor, Physiotherapist or Therapist. (Penalty for breach - Disqualification of the offending player or players).

10. Player Conduct: (Rule 1.2)

10.01 All players are expected to play by the Rules and within the spirit of the game. In addition:

10.01.01 Competitors playing in an Inter-Club match or an internal Club Match should, if practical, be extended the courtesy of being called through by a slower group.

10.01.02 The maximum grouping allowed on the Course is four players, unless otherwise authorised by the Competition Committee.

11. Pace and Order of Play: (Rules 5.6 and 6.4)

11.01 All players. should play at a prompt pace throughout the round, in accordance with Rules 5.6a and 5.6b of the Rules of Golf, including the time taken to:

11.01.01 Prepare for and make each stroke,

11.01.02 Move from one place to another between strokes, and

11.01.03 Move to the next teeing area after completing a hole.

11.02 A player should prepare in advance for the next stroke and be ready to play when it is their turn. It is recommended that the player make the stroke in no more than 40 seconds after the player is (or should be) able to play without interference or distractions. The player should be able to play more quickly than that and is encouraged to do so.

11.03 Depending on the form of play, there are times when players may play out of turn to help the pace of play:

11.03.01 In match play, the players may agree that one of them will play out of turn to save time. (Rule 6.4a),

11.03.02 In stroke play, players may play "ready golf" in a safe and responsible way (Rule 6.4b).

11.04 Slow play may be penalised under Rule 5.6. (Penalty for first breach: One penalty stroke. Penalty for second breach: General Penalty. Penalty for third breach: Disqualification).

11.05 Members must "clock in" and "clock out" when required to do so.

11.06 Your position on the course during competitions should be directly behind the group of players in front of your playing group rather than directly in front of the playing group behind your playing group.

11.07 If your player group has lost more than a hole on the player group in front of your player group, then the player group behind you should, if practical, be extended the courtesy of being called through by a slower player group.

12. Prize Presentations

12.01 Prize winners are expected to attend Prize Presentations as a courtesy to our Officers, Sponsors and Members whose generosity is much appreciated. If, due to

exceptional circumstances, players are unable to be present to receive their prizes they should nominate another person to collect their prizes on their behalf.

13. Prizes

13.01 The criteria for determining the number and level of prizes in competitions are settled by the Competition Committee. For certain designated Singles Competitions, Class Prizes and Forward Tee Prizes will be awarded on the following basis or as may be determined from time to time by the Competitions Committee:

13.01.01 Class 1: Handicap Index +5 to 10.3,

13.01.02 Class 2: Handicap Index 10.4 to 15.6,

13.01.03 Class 3: Handicap Index 15.7 to 54,

13.01.04 Advanced Yellow Tees: Handicap Index 19.5 to 54 and over 65 years of age.

13.02 A gross prize will be awarded in Designated Singles Competitions for the best gross score of the day.

13.03 A player shall receive only one prize in the Competition of the Day, including the Peter Lyons Cup (Best Nett Score) and Shield (Best Gross Score).

14. Close of Competitions

14.01 In all competitions, players are responsible for ensuring that they promptly return their Scorecards after completing their round. Competitions will close 30 minutes after the final group has completed the last hole, unless stated and published otherwise by the Competition Committee. (Penalty for returns posted after Close of Competition = Disqualification).

14.2 The result of a competition is final when it has been posted on the Club website and on the Notice Board in the Men's Locker Room. If an issue arises after the publication of the results which warrants the disqualification of a prize winner under Rule 20.2e or by virtue of an administrative error, a new result will be published.

15. General Terms

15.1 For details of practising on the Course, before or between stroke play rounds (Rule 5.2b), refer to the conditions applying under the Club's Local Rules.

15.2 The Competition Committee reserves the right to:

15.2.1 Refuse any entry,

15.2.2 Correct any mistakes made in the checking of scorecards,

15.2.3 Alter the type of Competition or the 'Terms of Competition' in advance of the start of the Competition if it is deemed necessary, and provided it is advised in advance to those competing,

15.2.4 Cancel a Competition due to insufficient entries, to postpone or to abandon it, or to suspend it for a period, at any stage, due to exceptional circumstances, in the event of the likelihood of play resuming, if it so decides.

15.3 All queries are to be directed to the Competition Secretary via email at honcompsec@landb.ie.