

# 9 Hole Qualifying Competitions

9 hole qualifying competitions were introduced by CONGU to enable players, who do not have the time or were unable to complete 18 holes, maintain a handicap which reflects their current playing ability.

9 hole qualifying competitions are open to all players but should not be a substitute for the 18 hole qualifying competition.

- A club must have an ILGU approved 9 hole SSS - see application form on [www.ilgu.ie](http://www.ilgu.ie) or email [carla@ilgu.ie](mailto:carla@ilgu.ie). Once completed, it should be returned to Carla Reynolds at ILGU Head Office (address at bottom of form). A 9 hole SSS Certificate will be issued.
- Applications may be made for more than one 9 hole SSS per Club.
- A 9 hole competition can be run concurrently with an 18 hole competition (with proviso that preferably 9 hole players mark each other's cards). When organising the 9 hole competition, make sure that two 9 hole players do not play with an 18 hole competitor.
- The BRS should be structured to facilitate both 9 hole and 18 holes players.
- Players can elect to play in a 9 hole competition at any time but must comply with the Club's conditions of entry.
- If playing a 9 hole qualifying competition in an AWAY club, players should ensure their EXACT handicap is used to calculate the playing handicap. The formula for calculating a 9 hole handicap allowance can be found on page 47 of the CONGU manual (point 22.3). If unable to enter an Exact handicap in the computer, it should be recorded on the scorecard.

## Differences between 9 & 18 Hole Qualifying Competitions

For 9 hole competitions:

- No CSS is calculated. The Stableford score for 9 holes is recorded and a neutral 18 points for the 9 holes is added to the 9 hole Stableford score to determine whether players have played within, or better than, their Buffer Zones. For handicap purposes, when a player fails to return a score within their Buffer Zone the points accumulated over the 9 holes played is doubled. Shot increases and decreases are calculated using the 9 hole SSS.
- No handicap adjustments are applicable for category 1 players. The Buffer Zone for categories 2 & 3 is 35-36 pts and for categories 4 & 5 is 34-36 pts.
- To compensate for the difference between Par and SSS, the Exact Handicap is used rather than the Playing Handicap for the number of "shots allowed". Refer to page 47 of the CONGU manual. The computer will allocate the correct Playing Handicap when the Exact Handicap is available.