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GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR ALL GUI AND PROVINCIAL INTER-CLUB EVENTS

The following General Regulations apply to all Inter-Club and Championship competitions conducted by the Golfing Union of Ireland and its Provincial Branches. These must be read, as appropriate, in conjunction with:

a) the specific terms of competition for all Inter-Club competitions, as set out below
b) the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf (which contains the full text of all Model Local Rules referenced hereafter),
c) the Local Rules of the housing club (in the case of matches at which a Union/Branch official is not present) and any additions or amendments published by the GUI/Provincial Branch at the golf course where applicable, and
d) the Modified Rules of Golf for Players with Disabilities, which apply to all events conducted by the Union and its Branches.
e) the Modifications permitted in the document entitled Qualifying Competitions Guidelines for Golf Clubs (click here to view).

Part A – General Local Rules (and Regulations which carry penalties)

1. Transportation:
1.1 During a round, a player must not ride on any form of motorized transportation except as authorized or later approved by the Committee.
1.2 Penalty for Breach of Local Rule: The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which there is a breach of this Local Rule. If the breach occurs between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.
1.3 The Union’s Transportation Policy sets out the manner governing the use of buggies.

2. Advice in Team Competitions:
2.1 Each team may name one advice giver only whom players on the team may ask for advice and receive advice from during the round. The team must identify each advice giver to the Committee before any player on the team begins his or her round. Exception: Where matches are split between two venues (i.e., three at home and two away) a team may have one advice giver only in each venue. The following clauses apply to each advice giver in this specific circumstance.
2.2 The team may change its advice-giver during a round, but must tell the Committee or opposing team when doing so.
2.3 The advice giver must not point out a line of play on the Green or walk on the Green when the ball of a team player lies on the putting green.
2.4 In Team events where the age limit is under 18 or below, Professional golfers are not permitted to be advice givers. (Exception: Leinster Under-15 Inter-Club Championship.)
2.5 Penalty – The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which he or she is helped by an advice giver/non-sanctioned individual contrary to the provisions of this Rule. If the breach happens or continues between two holes, the player gets the general penalty for the next hole.

3. Caddies:
3.1 There are no caddies permitted in any events.
3.2 Penalty for breach – The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which he or she is helped by a caddie. If the breach happens or continues between two holes, the player gets the general penalty for the next hole.

4. Anti-doping:
4.1 Sport Ireland’s anti-doping regulations apply to all competition activities organised by the Golfing Union of Ireland, and the applicable provisions therein are available here.

5. Local Rule to be used for bunkers:
During the COVID-19 Pandemic, public health advice remains to remove where possible communal touchpoints from the golf course. For as long as this advice remains, golf clubs should avoid providing rakes for the bunkers. In these circumstances and where bunkers remain in play, the following Local Rule is recommended for all inter-club matches:

When a player’s ball lies in a bunker, the player may take free relief once by placing the original ball or another ball in and playing it from this relief area:
- Reference Point: Spot of the original ball.
- Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point: Within six inches of the reference point, but with these limits:
  - Limits on Location of Relief Area:
    - Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and
    - Must be in the bunker.
- The player may clean his ball, but is not allowed to improve the conditions affecting the stroke including smoothing the sand, before placing the ball. In proceeding under this Local Rule, the player must choose a spot to place the ball and use the procedures for replacing a ball under Rules 14.2b(2) and 14.2e.
6. Submission of Teams including sudden illness or other emergency

6.1 Provincial Section: Where no Branch Official is present, Team Captains of the two teams about to engage in a match must exchange, simultaneously, their team sheets complete with required details, including proof of eligibility (e.g. Cups and Shields Report) not less than 30 minutes before the start of the match. Where a Branch Official is present, Team Captains must hand their team sheets complete with the required details to the Branch Official in Charge not less than 30 minutes before the start of play. In order to ensure compliance with this requirement at provincial level, Branches are empowered to disqualify teams who do not fulfil these requirements (see specific provincial requirements for further details).

Note 1 - While the team captains would normally physically exchange team sheets and handicap information, in the circumstances, we advise against this. It is instead recommended that team captains use their phones to text or email a photograph of the documents to each other prior to the match – or some other alternative form of information sharing that does not include sharing of the physical documentation.

Note 2 – As the Connacht Branch require submission of all winning team sheets after the match, the requirements of Team Captains in Connacht are met by complying with the instructions on the Official Team Sheet. The context of No Branch Official being present does not therefore apply to Connacht either here or in Rule 8 below.

6.2 National Section: The order of play for the semi-finals, with the names of reserves, must be handed to the Union official in charge at the time designated in advance by the Championship Committee, and for the Final not later than one hour after play in the particular semi-final has concluded.

6.3 No alteration may be made in the list handed in except in the case of sudden illness or other emergency deemed sufficient justification for such an alteration by the Championship Committee.

6.4 In a competition where teams consist of no more than five players, whether singles or pairs in format, a Team Captain may nominate two reserves. In a pairs competition (foursomes, four-ball, etc.) where teams consist of at least ten players, a Team Captain may nominate two reserve pairings.

6.5 Reserves taking the place of players after the team has been submitted shall be placed in the same position in the team as that occupied by the player who has taken ill or has been withdrawn. In competitions covered by this rule involving pairs, a Team Captain also has the option of placing a nominated reserve pair in the same position as that occupied by a pair where one member of that original pair has taken ill or been withdrawn with sufficient justification in the view of the Championship Committee.

6.6 The penalty for breach of any of the foregoing clauses is disqualification, including where it is found that false representations have been made to provide sufficient justification for the substitution of players or the order of play.

6.7 For when handicaps are ‘declared’ following the submission of team sheets, see 11.3 below.

Part B – General Terms of Competition (including eligibility and protests)

7. Eligibility

7.1 Each team member must be a member of the Club from which he is selected. They must be of Amateur Status as defined by the R&A Rules Ltd. and the holder of an official handicap under the CONGU Unified Handicapping System (or similar internationally-accepted standard).

7.2 He/she must be ordinarily resident in Ireland on and from 31st day of March in the year of the Tournament or alternatively if not so resident be a member of a club affiliated to the Golfing Union of Ireland which shall be his home club. In this context a member is one who is included in the numbers returned to the Union by his club for the purposes of payment of the Union subscription. For the purpose of this rule absence on the relevant date for educational purposes, secondment, temporary employment or service with the security forces shall not disqualify. (Exception: In the Irish Schools Junior and Seniors Championships, students who are resident in Ireland for the duration of an academic year are eligible to compete on behalf of their school.)

7.3 Any competitor currently disqualified from participating in any Union or Branch Championship shall not be eligible to represent a participating club during the period of his disqualification.

7.4 Whilst the players on a team may be changed no player shall play for more than one club in any one of these Tournaments during the season.

7.5 Underage limits: Where an underage limit (e.g. Under-18, Under-16, etc) is specified in the Terms of Competition, a player will only be considered eligible if they turn the specified age on 1 January in the year of the event or any time after this date. E.G. In an Under-18 event, a player who turns 18 on 1 January in the year of the event or at any time after that date is eligible to compete.

7.6 Overage limits: Where an overage limit (e.g. 18 and over in the case of the Pierce Purcell Shield, etc.) is specified in the Terms, a player will only be considered eligible if he has turned the specified age, or is over that age, prior to 1 January in the year of the event.
8. Disqualification & Protests:

8.1 Where no Branch Official is present, the result of all matches will become official one working day after the conclusion of the match.

8.2 A team that is found to field an ineligible player will be disqualified from the competition, irrespective of when this breach is discovered.

8.3 While every effort is made to verify eligibility, to facilitate the completion of the competition in a timely manner, the following principles will be followed where it is required to disqualify ineligible teams:

(i) A defeated team will be reinstated ONLY where any protests by said defeated team are lodged in writing (e.g. by email) prior to the match result becoming official (see 8.1 above). A protest will only be entertained after this time if the conditions set out in Rule 20.1b (3) of the Rules of Golf are satisfied — ie, the defeated team were presented with handicap information which was inaccurate. (For what happens when handicap information is not presented on the evening, see No.6 above and the specific administrative requirements of each Branch below (Nos 16-19).

(ii) In this regard it is essential that all team captains fulfil the requirements of 6.1 above and any specific administrative requirements of the Provincial Branches listed below.

8.4 Teams re-admitted as a result of any such adjustments must comply with the requirements of the controlling body in all cases to fulfil replacement fixtures, if necessary, at short notice. Where these requirements are not fulfilled by such re-admitted teams, they will not progress in the competition.

8.5 For Connacht results, the provisions of Rule 16 and instructions issued on the Official Team Sheet apply.

9. Entries

9.1 The entrance fee shall be decided from time to time by the Board of the Golfing Union of Ireland or Provincial Council as applicable, who at all times reserve right of entry into Inter-Club competitions run under their respective auspices.

9.2 Entry, accompanied by the fee, must be made with the authorised official of the Province in which the Club is situated. In such applicable, who at all times reserve right of entry into Inter-Club competitions run under their respective auspices.

9.3 For 2020, in the AIG Cups and Shields competitions, matches will be initially played on a home/away basis with the team drawn at home hosting three matches and the team drawn away hosting the other two.

10. Format

10.1 The Tournaments governed by these Terms, with the exception of competitions conducted only in one province, will have one set of Provincial Sections and one National Section. Each Provincial Council will be the controlling body for its Provincial Section and will prescribe the regulations of play. Each club entered in the Tournament shall play in the Provincial Section in its own Province. The Provincial winners in each Tournament shall then represent the Provincial in the National Section.

10.2 In both of the Provincial and National Sections, Championship Committees shall be appointed to take responsibility for the organisation and management of the Tournaments in the relevance Section.

10.3 Unless otherwise stated in the specific Terms of an event, the length of a round is 18 holes.

10.4 For 2020, in the AIG Cups and Shields competitions, matches will be initially played on a home/away basis with the team drawn at home hosting three matches and the team drawn away hosting the other two. In such a case:

i) Matches must be arranged and completed on or before the deadline date for each round. If the two teams 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 teams are eliminated, with the sole exception to this provided for in ii) below.

ii) Only in the event of failing light, a flooded course, or danger to life from lightning, or the reinstatement of a Team due to the late disqualification of their opponents in the previous round. Matches not begun or not completed must be concluded within the following 48 hours. For Matches which had begun, on the suspension of play, golf balls shall be marked where they lie, and play shall recommence from where the balls were marked, when play was suspended.

(iii) If one venue is rendered unplayable, this does not mean the other Venue also discontinues play, i.e. that portion of the match goes ahead regardless of playing conditions at the other venue.

iv) In the event of a Course not being suitable for play in any round due to temporary greens or in the opinion of the Tournament Committee, abnormal ground conditions, home advantage must be conceded unless prior approval of the relevant Branch Office is obtained.

11. Handicap Allowances

11.1 See specific terms for whether the event is played off scratch of an allowance applies.

11.2 The indices prescribed on the medal scorecard of the club at which any round of a tournament of a competition with a nett match play format shall be in operation. Where the card prescribes a specific match play index, such index will be used.
11.3 In all circumstances, the information submitted on the Team Sheet shall be the sole determinant of handicaps and handicap allowances, where this applies, and shall be taken as the appropriate declaration of same under Rule 3.2c of the Rules of Golf. In accordance with this, the penalty for recording on the Team Sheet a higher handicap than that to which the player is entitled shall be disqualification of the player/partnership. Where a lower handicap than that to which the player is entitled is recorded on the Team Sheet, the player/partnership must play off the declared handicap.

*Please note that this only applies where the handicap declared affects strokes given or received – if the declaration does not affect the number of strokes given or received and the players fielded are eligible to compete in the competition, there is no penalty.

11.4 Regulation 11.3 relates to where shot allowances are applied. See Regulation 8 for what happens if an ineligible player has been fielded.

12. Prizes

12.1 The Trophy/Cup/Shield as applicable shall be held for the year by the winning club. Each winning club shall receive a national pennant. Silver gilt medals will be awarded to the members of the winning team, silver medals to the runners-up and bronze medals to the semi-finalists. Non-playing captains will be awarded a medal. Additional medals may be purchased by clubs.

12.2 Winning clubs in each province will be presented with a provincial pennant. The finalists will receive a provincial plaque.

13. Breaking of Ties – Individual Scorecards

13.1 18 Holes: Decide on last 9-6-3-2-1; If still a tie decide on last 3-6-7-8 of first 9; If still a tie decide by lot.
13.2 36 Holes: Decide on last 18; If still a tie decide as for 18 holes
13.3 54 Holes: Decide on last 36 - last 18; If still a tie decide as for 18 holes
13.4 72 Holes: Decide on last 54 - last 36 - last 18; If still a tie decide as for 18 holes
13.5 In all cases in which the above tie-breaking method is used, ties will be broken with universal reference to the scorecard (ie, irrespective of a player’s starting position on the course in circumstances where a multiple-tee start is used by the Committee).

14. Breaking of Ties – Team Events

14.1 The provisions of No.13 above must be applied where necessary in determining the Breaking of Ties in Team Events.
14.2 Discard the counting card which has the highest score and take the remaining counting cards.
14.3 If still a tie continue this procedure, if necessary until only the best card of each team remains.

15. General Administrative Provisions:

15.1 A team which fails to comply with the administrative regulations imposed by the controlling body in each provincial section shall be subject to fines and penalties as determined by the controlling body, up to and including disqualification or debarment from future years’ competitions. Infractions in this regard may include, but are not limited to, the submission of teams in a certain format, as well as any additional information required, the selection of venues, fulfilment of fixture deadlines. (See below for further details; in addition, each Branch may publish further additional requirements throughout the course of the season where it is deemed necessary and equitable to do so.)

16. Connacht-specific Administrative Provisions:

a) Venue for Matches: All Inter-Club Matches shall be played over a Club’s recognised No.1 competition course.
b) Deadlines: All matches shall be played by or on dates specified and no extensions will be granted.
c) Submission of Official Sheet: The ‘Official Branch Team Sheet’ must be used to submit the team to either the opposing team captain or Branch official if present in accordance with the provisions Section B above.
d) Disqualifications: The penalty for breaching Rules 16 (a) – 16 (c) above is Disqualification of the Team concerned.
e) Notification of Results: In addition to the provisions of Section B above, the winning club must submit the ‘Official Branch Team Sheet’ to the Branch Office within 48 hours of the conclusion of the match and in accordance with the instructions listed at the bottom of this sheet.
f) Fines and Penalties: Clubs who fail to notify the Executive Officer of their withdrawal in writing at least 3 days prior to the day of a Tournament or Match may be fined €200.00, in the case of Junior Events this shall be revised downwards to €100.00. Failure to pay the fine shall mean non-participation in all Provincial & National Inter Club Tournaments for the following year. In the event of a Club being a ‘No Show’ at an event the applicable fine shall be doubled.
g) Protests or complaints: These must be lodged in Writing with the Executive Officer, or his representative within one working day of the match in question.
h) Tied Finals at end of Second Leg: The final of the Jack O’Sullivan Trophy shall be played on a Home and Away basis in accordance with the draw. In the event of the Overall Result of an Inter Club Final Match finishing Tied at its conclusion, each Team Captain shall be given 15mins to nominate a Player/Pairing who had played on the day to
17. Leinster-specific administrative provisions:

a) Submission of Cups and Shields Report: In addition to the team’s requirements under No. 6 of the GUI Inter-Club General Regulations (see above):
   i. Where the report has not been tendered on the day of the match, the team captain concerned must forward the report to the opposing Team Captain and the Branch Office within one working day.
   ii. In the case of failure to comply with this rule, or regulation 6 above, the team concerned shall be disqualified.

b) Notification of Results: For Home & Away matches - the winning club must notify the result by email to Leinster Golf no later than the first working day after the completion of the match to results@leinster.gui.ie

c) Fines for No Shows: Any club which fails to notify Leinster Golf in advance of their withdrawal from a competition will be issued with a fine of €250.

18. Munster-specific administrative provisions:

a) Fines and Penalties: In addition to the provisions of the GUI Inter-Club General Regulations, in case of breach of any of the following requirements, the offending club/s will have the option to pay a fine of €250 or not compete in that tournament the following year. The minimum notice of withdrawal to the Munster Golf Office or Hon Match & Handicap Secretary is 3 days.
   - Handicap irregularities (team member/s played off incorrect handicap or insufficient qualifying returns).
   - Clubs no-showing without giving any notice or giving less than 3 days’ notice of inability to field a team.
   - Breach of age qualification.

b) Submission of Cups and Shields Report: The following regulation applies to the Munster Provincial Sections of the AIG Junior Cup, AIG Jimmy Bruen Shield and AIG Pierce Purcell Shield. In addition to the team’s requirements under No.6 of the GUI Inter-Club General Regulations a copy of the “Cups & Shields Handicap Report” generated from Golfnet which provides evidence of the lowest handicap held and the number of qualifying scores for each member of the team, in the previous calendar year, must be exchanged with the team sheet between the team managers via photograph using email/text or alternative non-physical sharing. If the report is not available at the start of play, it must be presented to the Branch Office or in the case of a match to either the Branch Office or the opposing Team Captain within 24hrs. Failure to comply shall lead to the disqualification of the team concerned.

c) With reference to the AIG Senior Cup, AIG Junior Cup, AIG Jimmy Bruen Shield and AIG Pierce Purcell Shield - the Top Team in the Draw in Round 1 shall play three matches at Home and 2 Away. After that it shall be determined as follows:
   - If both Top Teams win their previous round match, the Top Team in draw has home advantage in the next round.
   - If both Away Teams win their previous round match, the Top Team in draw has home advantage in the next round.
   - If only one Away Team wins previous round match, that team will have home advantage in the next round.
   - Teams with byes will play their match as indicated on the Draw Sheet.
   - Two team sheets to be used for each match, one sheet with three matches in the order to be played and the other team sheet with 2 matches in the order to be played.

d) Deadlines: All matches shall be played on or before the dates (listed on draw sheets) as specified by the Branch Office.

e) Protests or complaints: These must be lodged in writing (email is acceptable) with the Executive Officer within 24 hours of the issue giving rise to the Protest or Complaint

f) Notification of Results: For Home & Away matches - the winning club must notify the result by email to Munster Golf no later than the first working day after the completion of the match to karen@munster.gui.ie.

19. Ulster-specific administrative provisions:

a) Submission of Cups and Shields Report: The following regulation applies to the Ulster Provincial Section of the AIG Junior Cup, AIG Jimmy Bruen Shield, AIG Pierce Purcell Shield, as well as the Ulster Cup. In addition to the team’s requirements under No.6 of the GUI Inter-Club General Regulations a copy of the “Cups & Shields Handicap Report” generated from Golfnet which provides evidence of the lowest handicap held and the number of qualifying scores for each member of the team, in the previous calendar year, must be exchanged with the team sheet between the team managers. If the report is not available at the start of play, it must be presented to the Branch Office or in the case of a match to either the Branch Office or the opposing Team Captain within 24hrs. Failure to comply shall lead to the disqualification of the team concerned.

b) Matches shall be played from the Competition Tees (normally White) unless previously agreed with the Branch Office

c) Deadlines: All matches shall be played on or before the dates specified by the Branch Office
d) Fines and Penalties: Clubs who fail to notify the Executive Officer of their withdrawal in writing (email is acceptable) at least 3 days prior to the day of a Tournament or a Match may be fined £100.00. Failure to pay the fine shall mean non-participation in all Provincial & National Inter Club Tournaments for the following year.

e) Protests or complaints: These must be lodged in writing (email is acceptable) with the Executive Officer within 24 hours of the issue giving rise to the Protest or Complaint.

f) In the AIG Senior Cup, AIG Junior Cup, AIG Jimmy Bruen Shield, AIG Pierce Purcell Shield & the Ulster Cup, the Top Team in the Draw in Round 1 shall play three matches (4 matches in the case of the Ulster Cup) at Home and 2 (3 in the case of the Ulster Cup) Away. After that it shall be determined as follows;
   i) Where both Winning Teams in the Previous Round have either had a Bye, played 3 or 2 (4 or 3 in Ulster Cup) matches at Home, the top Team in the Draw will have the greater number of matches at Home in the next round or
   ii) Where the Winning Teams have played a different number of matches at Home in the previous round, the Team which played the lessor number will play the greater number in the next round or
   iii) Where one Team has played a Match and the other has received a Bye in the Previous Round, the Team playing the match shall have the greater number of matches at Home in the next round.

### AIG SENIOR CUP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Residence/Membership</td>
<td>Honorary Members of Golf Clubs they propose to represent must have been, at some time, a fee-paying member of the Club for a period of two years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Team Size</td>
<td>5 players</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Form of Play/Format</td>
<td>i) Singles match play. All matches must be played to a finish unless an overall result is reached, in which case unfinished matches will be declared halved.  &lt;br&gt; ii) <strong>No caddies are allowed.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Handicaps</td>
<td>All matches played off scratch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### AIG JUNIOR CUP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Age Limit</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Handicap Limits</td>
<td>No player shall be eligible to compete in this Tournament whose playing handicap was less than four during the preceding calendar year.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3. Handicap Eligibility       | a) No player shall be eligible to compete in this Tournament who was not in possession of a CONGU Handicap during the preceding calendar year.  
                                  b) A player shall have, in the calendar year prior to the event, returned a minimum of four returns in Qualifying Competitions (supplementary scores and scores returned as part of the three cards for the purposes of an initial handicap allocation are not admissible under this rule, but nine-hole qualifying competitions are admissible). All of these scores must be recorded on the handicap records of the player’s home club on or before 31st December in the calendar year prior to the event. |
| 4. Team Size                  | 5 players                                                                                         |
| 5. Form of Play/Format        | i) Singles match play. All matches must be played to a finish unless an overall result is reached, in which case unfinished matches will be declared halved.  
                                  ii) **No caddies are allowed.** |
| 6. Handicap Allowance         | All matches played off scratch                                                                    |

### AIG JIMMY BRUEN SHIELD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Age Limit</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2. Handicap Limits            | a) No player shall be eligible to compete in this Tournament whose playing handicap was less than five during the previous calendar year.  
                                  b) The combined lowest playing handicap of each pair during the preceding calendar year shall not be less than 15. |
| 3. Handicap Eligibility       | a) No player shall be eligible to compete in this Tournament who was not in possession of a CONGU handicap during the preceding calendar year.  
                                  b) A player shall have, in the calendar year prior to the event, returned a minimum of four returns in Qualifying Competitions (supplementary scores and scores returned as part of the three cards for the purposes of an initial handicap allocation are not admissible under this rule, but nine-hole qualifying competitions are admissible). All of these scores must be recorded on the handicap records of the player’s home club on or before 31st December in the calendar year prior to the event. |
4. Team Size 10 players (5 x pairings)

5. Form of Play / Format
i) **Four-Ball match play.** All matches must be played to a finish unless an overall result is reached, in which case unfinished matches will be declared halved.

ii) **No caddies are allowed.**

6. Handicap Allowance All rounds/matches played off scratch

### AIG PIERCE PURCELL SHIELD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Age Limit</th>
<th>18 and over as specified in the GUI Inter-Club General Regulations.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2. Handicap Limits | a) No player shall be eligible to compete in this Tournament whose playing handicap was less than 11 during the previous calendar year.  
                      b) The combined lowest playing handicap of each pair during the preceding calendar year shall not be less than 25. |
| 3. Handicap Eligibility | a) No player shall be eligible to compete in this Tournament who was not in possession of a CONGU handicap during the preceding calendar year.  
                             b) A player shall have, in the calendar year prior to the event, returned a minimum of four returns in Qualifying Competitions (supplementary scores and scores returned as part of the three cards for the purposes of an initial handicap allocation are not admissible under this rule, but nine-hole qualifying competitions are admissible). All of these scores must be recorded on the handicap records of the player’s home club on or before 31st December in the calendar year prior to the event. |
| 4. Team Size | 10 players (5 x pairings) |

5. Form of Play / Format
i) **Four-Ball match play.** All matches must be played to a finish unless an overall result is reached, in which case unfinished matches will be declared halved.

ii) **No caddies are allowed.**

6. Handicap Allowance All rounds/matches played off scratch

### IRISH BOYS INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Age Limit</th>
<th>Under 18 as specified in the GUI Inter-Club General Regulations.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2. Eligibility | a) Each team member must be a member of the Club from which he is selected but an Honorary Member must have been, at some time, a fee paying member of the Club for a period of 2 years, and must be ordinarily resident in Ireland on and from the 31st day of March in the year of the Championship. For the purpose of this Rule absence from Ireland on the relevant date for education purposes, secondment or temporary employment shall not disqualify.  
                      b) **A player must compete for his Home Club (defined in the CONGU UHS as the club which controls and administers his handicap) should that club require him to do so. If his Home Club does not require him to compete, a player may only compete for another club under one of the following scenarios:** a) **His Home Club has not entered the tournament;** b) **The Player receives written permission bearing his Home Club’s letterhead and signed by a Club Official confirming that such written permission is authorised by the Club. If required, a copy of the written permission from his Home Club must be forwarded to the opposing Team Captain and relevant Branch Office within four days of any request.**  
                      c) Each team member must be the holder of an official CONGU handicap, displayed on Golfnet.  
                      d) Competitors cannot have held a handicap of below 5.5 on 1 January in the year of the competition. A competitor whose handicap drops below 5.5 thereafter is eligible to compete. |
| 3. Size of Team | 3-5 players |
| 4. Form of Play / Format | a) To determine the result in all stages, the aggregate of the best three out of up to five nett stableford scores will count. If two or more teams are tied, see provisions in the GUI Inter-Club General Regulations for breaking of ties.  
                              b) Teams must be submitted in order of current playing handicap. |
| 5. Handicap Allowance | A player’s current official CONGU handicap on the day of competition shall apply. The handicap playing limit shall be 24; should a player’s handicap exceed this, he must play off 24. |

### JACK O’SULLIVAN TROPHY

| 1. Age Limit | No player under 18 years of age in the year of the event is eligible to compete. |
2. Handicap Limits
a) No player shall be eligible to compete in this Tournament whose lowest playing handicap was more than 20 during the previous calendar year.

b) The maximum handicap difference between the players playing in a Four-Ball pairing shall be 8, with dropping down in handicap in order to comply with this requirement being not permitted.

c) Members of Teams competing must play off the Lowest handicap held by them in the preceding Calendar Year.

3. Handicap Eligibility
a) No player shall be eligible to compete in this Tournament who was not in possession of a CONGU handicap during the preceding calendar year.

b) A player shall have, in the calendar year prior to the event, returned a minimum of four returns in Qualifying Competitions (supplementary scores and scores returned as part of the three cards for the purposes of an initial handicap allocation are not admissible under this rule, but nine-hole qualifying competitions are admissible). All of these scores must be recorded on the handicap records of the player’s home club on or before 31st December in the calendar year prior to the event.

4. Size of Team
10 players; Playing in five Fourball pairings.
Each Team Captain may nominate two Pairs as Reserves.

5. Form of Play / Format
Four-Ball Match Play; Clubs are drawn to play in four regional zones of knockout match play; The club drawn first shall have three Four-Ball matches at Home with the remaining two Four-Ball matches played on their opponent’s course;
Venue: All rounds shall be played Home and Away over One Leg, excluding the final which shall be played over 2 Legs; Each Leg of the final shall start no later than 13.00hrs;
Tied Final after 2 Legs – See Connacht General Administrative Provisions, Clause 16 (h);
Date: As prescribed in Draw; All Rounds must be played by the date specified, no Extensions shall be granted.

6. Handicap Allowance
Low player goes back to scratch and concedes strokes to the other 3 players based on 90% of the difference between the full handicaps

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**CONNACHT UNDER-16 INTER-CLUB**

1. Age Limit
Competitors who turn 16 on 1st January in the year of the event or at any time after that date are eligible to compete.

2. Handicap Limits
a) Each member of the team must be a member of the Club from which he is selected to compete.

b) A player must compete for his Home Club (defined in the CONGU UHS as the club which controls and administers his handicap) should that club require him to do so. If his Home Club does not require him to compete, a player may only compete for another club under one of the following scenarios: a) His Home Club has not entered the tournament; b) The Player receives written permission bearing his Home Club’s letterhead and signed by a Club Official confirming that such written permission is authorised by the Club. If required, a copy of the written permission from his Home Club must be forwarded to the opposing Team Captain and relevant Branch Office within four days of any request.

c) The upper playing handicap limit shall be set at 28, dropping down in handicap to meet this requirement is not permitted.

3. Handicap Eligibility
No player shall be eligible to compete in this Tournament who is not in possession of a CONGU handicap.

4. Size of Team
5 players, a Team Captain may nominate two Players as Reserves.

5. Form of Play / Format
Form of Play:
a) Singles Stableford play.

b) Team must be submitted and compete in order of current playing handicap.

Format:
One Stableford Round over 18 holes shall be played.
The aggregate of the best four Stableford cards from those returned shall determine the order of the final placings.
Team Qualifying method shall be as prescribed in the GUI’s Tournament Conditions Booklet shall be used to Break a Tie for any placing.

**Caddies: Not Permitted**

6. Handicap Allowance
Players shall compete off their current playing handicap on the day of the event which must be no higher than 28 as per Clause 2 above.
BARTON CUP

1. **Age Limit** | None
---|---
2. **Handicap Limits**
   a) The combined handicap of any pair shall not be LOWER or HIGHER than 14. Dropping down in handicap is not allowed individually.
   b) For the purpose of this Tournament the handicap applicable shall be deemed to be the lowest playing handicap held by a player during the preceding calendar year.
   c) No player shall be eligible to compete in this Tournament who was not in possession of a CONGU Handicap during the preceding calendar year.
   d) A player shall have, in the calendar year prior to the event, returned a minimum of four returns in Qualifying Competitions (supplementary scores and scores returned as part of the three cards for the purposes of an initial handicap allocation are not admissible under this rule, but nine-hole qualifying competitions are admissible). All of these scores must be recorded on the handicap records of the player’s home club on or before 31 Dec in the calendar year prior to the event.
   
   *Note: If a player changes his club during the previous calendar year, it is his responsibility to produce evidence of having competed in a minimum of four Qualifying Competitions.*

3. **Other Eligibility Terms**
   Honorary Members of Golf Clubs they propose to represent must have been, at some time, a fee-paying member of the Club for a period of two years.

4. **Size of Team**
   10 players

5. **Form of Play / Format**
   Clubs compete by **Four-Ball match play** at home/away as per the draw. All matches must be played to a finish unless an overall result is reached, in which case unfinished matches will be declared halved.
   
   In the first round the club on top of the draw has three matches at home and two matches away. For subsequent rounds including the semi-final, the club whose number or letter appears first shall have three matches at home and two matches away. For the final the club that letter appears first shall play at home in the first leg. The dates for the final are arranged by Leinster Golf in advance.
   
   In the event of a tie after the second leg of the final, both Team Captains will have 15 minutes after the completion of the match to declare their pairings who shall play match play over three holes in sequence prescribed by the Branch before the final. If still tied, the same pairings shall engage in a sudden death play-off over the same prescribed holes.

6. **Handicap Allowance**
   **Back marker concedes strokes to the other 3 players based on 90% of the difference between the full handicaps**
   
   e.g. Player A – H’cap 2  Player B – 12  Player C – 8  Player D – 6
   Player A to O  Player B (diff 10) 9 shots  Player C (6) 5 shots  Player D (4) 4 shots

LEINSTER UNDER-15 INTER-CLUB MATCH PLAY

1. **Age Limit**
   Competitors who turn 15 on 1st January in the year of the event or at any time after that date are eligible to compete.

2. **Eligibility**
   a) A member of the club from which he is selected with an official CONGU handicap registered on GOLFnet.
   b) be ordinarily resident in Ireland on and from 31st day of March in the year of the Tournament. For the purpose of this Rule absence from Ireland on the relevant date for education purposes, secondment or temporary employment shall not disqualify.

2. **Handicap Limits**
   All matches shall be played off current handicap subject to the following:
   i) boy under 15 years on 1st January whose handicap exceeds 14 shall play off 14.
   ii) boy under 14 years on 1st January whose handicap exceeds 18 shall play off 18.

3. **Size of Team**
   5 players

4. **Form of Play / Format**
   Singles Match play as follows:-
   a) Teams shall be placed in order of current official handicap from highest to lowest – highest playing first; lowest playing last.
   b) In all Rounds (except the final), the competing teams shall on the same day play three matches at home and two matches away.
   
   *Note 1 - The three highest handicap players from each team will compete at the club that has home advantage.* All matches must be played to a finish unless an overall result is reached, in which case unfinished matches will be declared halved.
Note 2 - Where a team is under strength (ie, only able to field three or four players), the highest-handicapped matches will be forfeited (if a team can only field four players, then Match 1 will be forfeit; if they can only field three players, Matches 1 & 2 will be forfeited).

d) In the Final (two legs) five matches shall be played at home and five matches away.
e) In the event of a tie after the second leg of the final, the final pairing that has played in the second leg shall as soon as practicable, and on the same day, engage in match play over three holes in sequence prescribed by Leinster Golf before the final. If still tied shall engage in a sudden death play-off over the same prescribed holes.

5. Handicap Allowance

The full difference in handicap subject to the handicap limits.

ULSTER CUP

1. Age Limit
   Over 30 as set out in GUI Inter-Club General Terms of Competition

2. Eligibility
   The Tournament is open to all clubs affiliated to the Golfing Union of Ireland in the Province of Ulster. Each club shall be entitled to enter one team

3. Handicap Eligibility
   No player whose playing handicap was less than 10 in the preceding year shall be eligible to play. A player shall have, in the calendar year prior to the event, returned a minimum of four returns in qualifying competitions (Supplementary Scores are not included) all of which must be recorded on the handicap records of the player’s home club on or before 31st December in the calendar year prior to the event. Note: If a player changes his club during the previous calendar year, it is his responsibility to produce evidence of having competed in a minimum of four Qualifying Competitions.

4. Size of Team
   7 players

5. Form of Play / Format
   Singles scratch match play.
   Home & away draw initially played on a home/away basis in accordance with 19 f above. All matches must be played to a finish unless an overall result is reached, in which case unfinished matches will be declared halved.

6. Handicap Allowance
   All matches played off scratch.

TRANSPORTATION POLICY

1. Introduction
   a) It is a condition of all competitions conducted by the Golfing Union of Ireland and its Provincial Branches that all competitors must walk unless they are in the possession of valid medical confirmation of disability as defined below.
   b) This Policy is the Transportation Policy of the Golfing Union of Ireland as referred to in the relevant Terms of Competition and the Golfing Union of Ireland General Regulations.
   c) The Union wishes to encourage the participation in golf of all players regardless of disabilities, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Irish Disability Act (2005) and the UK Disability Discrimination Act (1995).
   d) Other associations and golf clubs should take separate legal advice in the event that they wish to put in place a transportation policy different to this policy or appropriate to their specific needs.

2. Definitions
   a) “Disability” shall carry the same meaning as that of the Irish Disability Act (2005) and UK Disability Discrimination Act (1995). A person has a disability if he/she has a physical or intellectual impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his/her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.
   b) “Golf Buggy” shall mean any vehicle deemed to be a golf buggy by the Championship Committee.
   c) “Championship Committee” shall refer to the controlling body for championships run under the auspices of the Golfing Union of Ireland.
   d) “Valid medical confirmation of disability” shall mean the Certificate contained in Appendix 1 entitled “Medical Confirmation of Disability”.

3. Persons who may use a buggy
   a) Competitors: As per the GUI Inter-Club General Regulations and the GUI Championships General Regulations, a Golf Buggy may be utilised only by a competitor in possession of valid medical confirmation of disability, and then only if (a) the Host Club permits the use of such machines and (b) no Health & Safety considerations prevent the use of such machines. In such circumstances, it is the responsibility of the person concerned to provide a buggy, not the Golfing Union of Ireland. The buggy may be used only by the person named on the certificate and may only carry his
equipment. Where the disability prevents the player from driving the buggy, he/she may nominate a third party to drive the buggy for them who must be approved by the Committee.

b) Under 18 Competitors: Where a player is under the age of 18 years and has met the criteria in 3a above, the Committee shall reserve the right to specify that the golf buggy is driven by a person having parental responsibility for the player, or, in the case that such a person is unable or not competent or qualified to do so, another person of the Committee’s choice.

c) Team Captains / Others: The Championship Committee will, in its absolute discretion, decide on whether a Team Captain or other party may use a buggy. Due regard will be paid to the Acts specified above in such decisions.

d) Any individual under Clauses 3a-3c who intends on using a buggy must ensure they carry a copy of the Certificate of Disability at any event in which they apply for use of a buggy, and that, subsequent to the acceptance of such an application, they continue to retain the Certificate for production at the request of a tournament official.

4. Committee discretion on the use of a golf buggy

a) Where the use of a buggy by a player or where appropriate a third party is permitted, the Committee shall have regard to the following additional health and safety considerations before granting approval:
   a. Any relevant weather conditions;
   b. The topography and ground conditions;
   c. The condition of and suitability of the golf buggy; and
   d. Any other relevant safety considerations.

b) In the event that the Committee believes that for reasons of health and safety a golf buggy should not be used by players or third parties at a particular time he/she may:
   a. Refuse to grant permission for the use of a golf buggy, and shall inform the player or third party of this decision; or
   b. Revoke any such permission in the event of new health and safety considerations having come to light since the granting of the initial permission to use a golf buggy

   c) The Championship Committee may require any player or other third party granted permission to use a buggy to complete and sign a Transportation Policy Consent prior to use.

5. Conditions on the use of golf buggies

a) Where a player or other third party is permitted to use a golf buggy by the Championship Committee, the user must agree to the terms and conditions of use, including:
   a. Any person operating a golf buggy must do so with the utmost courtesy, care and consideration for the safety and convenience of others and in accordance with any relevant golf buggy operating guidelines;
   b. The golf buggy must be open-sided;
   c. The golf buggy shall be for the sole use of the player, unless a member of the Committee has deemed that for reason of age or disability a third party is required to drive the golf buggy;
   d. A golf buggy must not impede or interfere with normal pedestrians or vehicular traffic flow on roadways, ramps and pavements;
   e. A player who has been granted permission to use a golf buggy (or other third party who has been permitted to drive the golf buggy) must always remain seated while in the golf buggy when the vehicle is in motion;
   f. Drivers of golf buggies must comply with directional signs and not use prohibited areas;
   g. A player who has been granted permission to use a golf buggy (or other third party who has been permitted to drive the golf buggy) must accept responsibility for any losses or injury sustained as a result of his or her fault whilst using a golf buggy; and
   h. A player or any other person intending to use his/her own buggy must – having been so permitted by the Championship Committee – have adequate personal and third party insurance. The Championship Committee may require the buggy owner to stipulate to this in writing.

b) Use of a golf buggy at a GUI event, under any circumstances, is conditional on conformity with all preceding clauses of 5a unless otherwise required by the Championship Committee. The allowance of a buggy will be withdrawn at any time should the competitor or other party so allowed be found to be in breach of this policy.
**Medical Confirmation of Disability**

In my capacity as a Doctor registered with the Irish Medical Council or UK Health Professions Council (as applicable), I certify that

Name: _____________________________________________

has a disability as defined by the Irish Disability Act (2005) and the UK Disability Discrimination Act (1995), and that he/she may require a buggy to compete in golf tournaments as a result.

Signed: __________________________________________

Print Name: _________________________________________

Contact Tel. No: _______________________________________

Date: _______________________________________________

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