

# Principle Amendments for 2018

## Caddies

In additions to Caddies already being prohibited in the GUI All Ireland Fourball, Connacht Shield, Jack O'Sullivan Trophy, Seniors Inter Club and Nine Hole Course Inter Club – from 2018 they are now also **prohibited in the Jimmy Bruen Shield and Pierce Purcell Shield.**

Please note carefully the condition and penalty for breach of the caddie rule in the above events prior to play.

## Pierce Purcell Shield

The format of the PP is no longer Foursomes, **it is now Scotch Foursomes**, i.e. both players may hit a Tee Shot and they complete the play of the hole in foursomes thereafter.

Please note the condition regarding what to do should both Tee Shots be lost or hit Out of Bounds carefully.

i) *The rules and penalties governing foursomes as a form of play prescribed in Rule 29 of the Rules of Golf shall apply, except that at the start of each hole, both members of a side shall play from the tee and shall select at their discretion one of the two balls which shall remain the ball in play until the conclusion of the hole. (Note exception to this procedure in ii below)*

ii) *In applying Rule 29-1 (ie, where penalty strokes do not affect the Order of Play), **the player who played first from the tee shall play the next stroke**, with the appropriate penalties applying, where either*

- *play of a provisional ball is necessitated following the play of both members of a side from the tee, or*
- *play under stroke and distance is required in the event that both players' balls from the tee are either lost or out of bounds.*

## Handicap Eligibility

As everyone should be well aware the ADMs of the four provinces last November passed into effect for 2018 considerable amendments to the handicap limit eligibility requirements for the Junior Cup, Jimmy Bruen, Pierce Purcell and All Ireland Fourball. The new handicap limits which apply are as follows:

### Junior Cup

That the lower handicap limit of the AIG Junior Cup be reduced from 5 to 4 effective 2018, i.e. *No player shall be eligible to compete in this Tournament whose playing handicap was less than four during the preceding calendar year.*

### Jimmy Bruen

Lowest individual reduced from 6 to 5; Lowest combined reduced from 17 to 15 , i.e. *No player shall be eligible to compete in this Tournament whose playing handicap was less than five during the preceding calendar year. The combined lowest playing handicap of each pair during the preceding calendar year shall not be less than fifteen.*

### Pierce Purcell

Lowest individual reduced from 12 to 11; Lowest combined reduced from 27 to 25, i.e. *No player shall be eligible to compete in this Tournament whose playing handicap was less than 11 during the preceding calendar year. The combined lowest playing handicap of each pair during the preceding calendar year shall not be less than 25.*

### GUI All Ireland Fourball

Lowest individual reduced from 16 to 15; Lowest combined reduced from 36 to 34, i.e. *No player shall be eligible to compete in this Tournament whose playing handicap was less than 15 during the preceding calendar year. The combined lowest playing handicap of each pair during the preceding calendar year shall not be less than 34.*

## 4-Card Rule & Lowest Handicap Previous Calendar Year

Please note that the **4-card Rule and Lowest Handicap in previous Calendar year applies to ALL Adult Inter Club Events** with the exception of AIG Senior Cup and AIG Barton Shield.

## Sudden Illness/Other Emergency requiring change to Team

This rule has been updated to read:

a) No alteration may be made in the list handed in – either in the matter of players or the order of play – except in the case of sudden illness or other emergency deemed sufficient justification for such an alteration by the Championship Committee.

**Note: 'Handed In' also covers Exchanged by Team Captains.**

b) A Team Captain may nominate two reserves. 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. Alternatively, in competitions covered by this rule involving pairs, a nominated reserve pair may be placed in the same position in the team as that occupied by the pair, one of whom has taken ill or has been withdrawn.

c) Any competitor who is unable to continue a match will forfeit the remaining holes to be played.

d) Penalty for Breach = Disqualification of the team concerned.

# 'Official' Inter Club Team Sheet

(To be used in accordance with Rule 14 of the General Rules for Inter Club Competitions)

Tournament: \_\_\_\_\_ Round: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Matches: Home \_\_\_\_ Away \_\_\_\_  
 (Please Tick (✓) as appropriate)  
 Club/: \_\_\_\_\_ Opponents: \_\_\_\_\_ Start Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 School \_\_\_\_\_  
 Event H'cap Range: \_\_\_\_ -- \_\_\_\_ H'cap Eligibility Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Agg. H'cap Allowance: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (The Details for each of these items may be found in the Tournament Conditions listed in the Connacht Golf Yearbook)

| Team Placing     | Name of Player<br>(incl. Christian name)<br>(Block Letters) | 8-Digit<br>GOLFnet<br>Number | Playing<br>Home<br>Or<br>Away | Eligibility<br>H'cap<br>for<br>Event | Agg.<br>H'cap of<br>Pair<br>If<br>Applicable | Complies<br>with 4 Card<br>Rule<br>Yes/No<br>(If Applicable) | Each<br>Match<br>Result |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Pair/Player<br>1 |                                                             |                              |                               |                                      |                                              |                                                              |                         |
|                  |                                                             |                              |                               |                                      |                                              |                                                              |                         |
| Pair/Player<br>2 |                                                             |                              |                               |                                      |                                              |                                                              |                         |
|                  |                                                             |                              |                               |                                      |                                              |                                                              |                         |
| Pair/Player<br>3 |                                                             |                              |                               |                                      |                                              |                                                              |                         |
|                  |                                                             |                              |                               |                                      |                                              |                                                              |                         |
| Pair/Player<br>4 |                                                             |                              |                               |                                      |                                              |                                                              |                         |
|                  |                                                             |                              |                               |                                      |                                              |                                                              |                         |
| Pair/Player<br>5 |                                                             |                              |                               |                                      |                                              |                                                              |                         |
|                  |                                                             |                              |                               |                                      |                                              |                                                              |                         |
| <b>Reserves</b>  |                                                             |                              |                               |                                      |                                              |                                                              |                         |
| Pair/Player      |                                                             |                              |                               |                                      |                                              |                                                              |                         |
|                  |                                                             |                              |                               |                                      |                                              |                                                              |                         |
| Pair/Player      |                                                             |                              |                               |                                      |                                              |                                                              |                         |
|                  |                                                             |                              |                               |                                      |                                              |                                                              |                         |

I certify that each Player meets the requirements of this Event as laid out in the Tournament Conditions, which are printed in the GUI Tournament Conditions Booklet and the Connacht Golf Yearbook for the year of the Event.

Match Result: \_\_\_\_\_ Vs. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signed: Team Captain.

Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY the Notes hereunder before exchanging your Teamsheet.

Please provide your Mobile No.

**Note 1:** Absolutely no alterations may be made to Teamsheet once it has been exchanged (see general Rule 15).

**Note 2: To Winning Team Captains:**

Keep a Copy, and then return to: The Executive Officer, Connacht Golf, G.U.I., within **48 hours** of completing the Match.  
 Or you may Fax them to 094-9028143 or indeed scan or photograph and email to **RESULTS@connacht.gui.ie**;

**Note 3:** Failure to present your Team on an 'Official Branch Team Sheet' to your opposing Team Captain shall mean that you are in Breach of Rule 14 of the General Rules for Inter Club Competitions. Penalty is **DISQUALIFICATION OF THE TEAM**.

**Note 4: IMPORTANT:** When fielding a Player who was not handicapped by your Club in the previous Calendar Year, please include his previous Club and previous GOLFnet No. in Brackets after his name, this will help greatly during the Team Sheet Audit process.

## 2018 General Rules for Connacht Inter-Club Tournaments

**Note:** These Rules must be read in conjunction with the Cups and Shields General Rules of the G.U.I.

**Please pay particular attention to Rule 1 which determines which Course shall be used for Inter Club matches.**

**Please pay particular attention to Rule 12 which deals with unplayable course, failing light, inclement weather, etc.**

**Please pay particular attention to General Rule 19 which deals with Complaints.**

**Please pay attention to General Rule 22 regarding the GUI Transportation Policy.**

**Please pay particular attention to General Rule No. 28 dealing with CADDIES. Caddies are now prohibited in a number of Inter Club events, Rule 28 lists these.**

1. All Inter Club Matches shall be –

(a) Played over a Club's recognised No.1 competition course;

(b) The Tee Markers to be used for matches are prescribed in the following manner –

- A Host Club's Championship, Back Tees (Generally Blue) – AIG Senior Cup; AIG Barton Shield; AIG Junior Cup.

- A Host Club's Medal, Middle Tees (Generally White) – All other Inter Club events from Junior – Adult.

Each Host Club must endeavour to maintain the length of its measured course as per the club scorecard. The only exception to this is if, in the opinion of the Branch's Inter Club Tournaments Committee, whose decision shall be final, abnormal ground conditions exist which would prohibit play. In such circumstances the Club in question may use an alternative layout, provided it has a recognised S.S.S. as given to it by the GUI, otherwise General Rule 18 shall be applied.

2. In all Matches which are tied after 18 Holes and are played under conditions, which allow for shots to be given or received, the Match shall continue in Sudden Death format from the Hole on which the Match began.

3. The Tournaments are open to all Clubs in the Province of Connacht affiliated to the Golfing Union of Ireland. Each Club shall be entitled to enter one team in each Tournament.

4. Each team member must be -

(a) Of Amateur status as defined by R&A Rules Ltd.

(b) 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 two years. *(Only applies to Senior Cup & Barton Shield)*

(c) The holder of an official handicap under CONGU UHS or of similar standard.

(d) Each team member must be ordinarily resident in Ireland on and from the 31st day of March in the year of the Tournament or alternatively if not so resident be a Full Member of a club affiliated to the Golfing Union of Ireland which shall be his Home Club.

5. The Tournaments shall be under the control of the Connacht Branch of the Golfing Union of Ireland.

6. The Provincial Council shall appoint an Inter Club Tournament Committee, which shall be responsible for the organisation and management of the Tournaments and the decision of the Committee shall be final on all matters relating thereto.

7. Only persons appointed by the Inter Club Tournament Committee shall be authorised to give a decision on any question or dispute arising during the course of play.

8. The Golfing Union of Ireland or Provincial Council shall decide the entrance fee payable from time to time and entry accompanied by the appropriate fee must be made to the General Secretary on or before the prescribed date.

9. All matches shall be played by or on dates specified and no extensions will be granted.

10. It shall be obligatory for competitors in all Tournaments to play off their official handicap as prescribed under conditions of handicap eligibility.

11. In order to be eligible to compete in the AIG Junior Cup, Jimmy Bruen, Pierce Purcell, Irish Mixed Foursomes, Connacht Shield, Jack O'Sullivan, GUI All-Ireland Four-Ball Inter-Club Championship, Nine Hole Course Inter Club and Seniors Inter Club, a Player shall have, in the previous Calendar Year prior to the event, returned a minimum of four Cards in Qualifying competitions, all of which must be recorded on the handicap Records of the Players Home Club on or before December 31st in the year immediately preceding the year of the Event.

**Note: If a Player changes his Home Club during the previous calendar year, it is his responsibility to produce evidence of having competed in a minimum of four qualifying competitions.**

12. (a) In all match play rounds of these Tournaments if a match is all square after 18 holes, the competitors shall immediately continue to play tie holes until a decision is reached.

(b) In the event of failing light, a flooded course, or danger to life from lightening, or the reinstatement of a Team due to the late disqualification of their opponents in the previous round only, 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 the match or matches were suspended.

(c) In matches played in the 'Home & Away' format conditions under Clause 12 (b) above which may render one Venue unplayable 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.

13. Whilst the players on each team may be changed, no person shall play for more than one Club in any of those Tournaments during the same year.

14. The respective Team Captains of the Teams about to engage in a match shall exchange simultaneously the 'Official Branch Team Sheet', which shall have a list of names and handicaps of their teams with their substitutes, in correct order of play, or hand to the Branch Official in Charge, if present, at least 30 minutes before the match is due to commence. Penalty for failure to use an "Official Branch Team Sheet" shall be DISQUALIFICATION of the Team concerned.

15. a) No alteration may be made in the list handed in – either in the matter of players or the order of play – except in the case of sudden illness or other emergency deemed sufficient justification for such an alteration by the Championship Committee.

b) A Team Captain may nominate two reserves. 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. Alternatively, in competitions covered by this rule involving pairs, a nominated reserve pair may be placed in the same position in the team as that occupied by the pair, one of whom has taken ill or has been withdrawn.

c) Any competitor who is unable to continue a match will forfeit the remaining holes to be played.

d) Penalty for Breach of Rule 15 = Disqualification of the team concerned.

16. In the case of the absence of any member of a partnership, after the expiration of 30 minutes from the time arranged for the start of the first match, the player shall be deemed to be absent and the opposing players shall be credited with the match, except in the case of the Jack O'Sullivan Trophy, the All-Ireland Four-Ball Inter-Club Championship and the Seniors Inter Club Cup, where Rule of Golf 30-3a applies.

17. The finals of the Connacht Shield, GUI All-Ireland Four-Ball Inter-Club Championship, Jack O'Sullivan Trophy and Senior Inter Club Cup 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 compete over sudden death to determine the outcome of the match.

Note: All such Finals must commence no later than 14.00hrs.

18. 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 Tournament Committee obtained.

19. Protests or complaints must be lodged in Writing with the General Secretary, or his representative within 24 hours of the match in question.

20. A team Captain is permitted to give advice to his team during the course of play, with the exception of giving advice on the putting green, or pointing out a line for putting. (Penalty: Stroke Play – 2 Strokes & Match Play – Loss of Hole).

21. Clubs who fail to notify the General Secretary of their withdrawal in writing at least three 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.

22. Motorised buggies may be utilised only by a Player or Caddie in possession of a valid medical certificate of disability. (Penalty - disqualification of the offending player/s). See GUI Policy on the Use of Golf Buggies (Appendix 2).

23. Any competitor who is currently disqualified from participation in any Union or Branch individual Championship cannot represent a Club in any of these Tournaments.

24. Team members are notified that they may be tested for the illegal use of drugs, which, if positive, will lead to automatic disqualification of the team concerned.

25. Winning Team Captains must notify the Branch Office within 24 hours with complete results following playing of the match, and return within 72 hours, each of the 'Official Branch Team Sheets' exchanged by both Team Captains.

26. The Shield / Trophy / Cup shall be held for one year by the winning Club and such Club shall engrave their name thereon and shall be responsible for its safe custody and return to the General Secretary of the Branch one month before the day of the Final the following year.

27. A Provincial Pennant will be awarded to the Winning Team in the Final and a Provincial Plaque to the Runners-up.

28. The use of Caddies is prohibited for the Jimmy Bruen Shield, Pierce Purcell Shield, Jack O'Sullivan Trophy; Connacht Shield Foursomes; GUI All-Ireland Four-Ball Inter-Club Championship; Seniors Over 55's Inter Club and Nine Hole Course Inter Club; The following penalty will be applied for breach of the conditions of specific competitions which either a) prohibit caddies or b) prohibit individuals from acting as caddies (e.g. players who are over-age in an under-age competition, professional golfers, etc):

i) Match play - At the conclusion of the hole at which the breach is discovered, the state of the match is adjusted by deducting one hole for each hole at which a breach occurred; maximum deduction per round - Two holes.

- ii) Stroke play - Two strokes for each hole at which any breach occurred; maximum penalty per round - Four strokes (two strokes at each of the first two holes at which any breach occurred).
- iii) Match play or stroke play - If a breach is discovered between the play of two holes, it is deemed to have been discovered during play of the next hole, and the penalty must be applied accordingly.
- iv) Bogey and par competitions - See Note I to Rule 32-1a of the Rules of Golf.
- v) Stableford competitions - See Note I to Rule 32-1b of the Rules of Golf.
- vi) A player having a caddie in breach of this condition must immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred ensure that he conforms with this condition for the remainder of the stipulated round. Otherwise, the player is disqualified.

29. The use of Devices that measure 'Distance Only' are permitted in accordance with the specimen local rule as prescribed by the R&A as follows: A player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.

30. The penalty for breach of rules 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 23, 24 & 29 shall be disqualification of the team concerned, whichever is appropriate to the particular rule.

**Note: These Rules must be read in conjunction with the General Rules for GUI Cups and Shields (see below).**

## GENERAL RULES for G.U.I. CUPS AND SHIELDS

### 1. General

The Tournaments are open to all Clubs affiliated to the Golfing Union of Ireland. Each Club shall be entitled to enter one team in each Tournament.

### 2. Eligibility

a) Each team member must be:-

- i. Of Amateur Status as defined by R&A Rules Ltd.
- ii. The holder of an official handicap under the Council of National Golf Unions' Unified Handicapping System or similar standard.
- iii. 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 two years.
- iv. 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. 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.

Note: In this context a member is one who pays a Union Subscription.

- b) Whilst the players on each team may be changed no player shall play for more than one club in any one of these Tournaments during the season.
- c) Any competitor who is currently disqualified from participation in any Union or Branch individual Championship cannot represent a Club in any of these Tournaments.
- d) Penalty for breach of Rule 2 = Disqualification of the Team concerned.

### 3. Entries

a) The entrance fee shall be decided from time to time by the Central Council of the Golfing Union of Ireland. Entry, accompanied by the fee, must be made with the authorised official of the Province in which the Club is situated. In the event that a club does not pay its annual subscription in accordance with bye-law 3 of the Union, acceptance of an entry from a club shall not confer upon that Club the right to compete.

### 4. Format

General:

- a) The Tournaments are divided into two phases. Phase One will be the Provincial Section and Phase Two will be the National Section.
- b) In all Match Play rounds of these Tournaments (except the Barton Shield and Irish Junior Foursomes) if a match is all square after 18 holes, the competitors shall immediately continue to play tie holes until a decision is reached, unless an overall result on matches won has already decided the event.

Provincial Section:

- c) Each Provincial Council shall have control of its Provincial Section and shall prescribe the regulations of play.
- d) Each Provincial Council shall advise the name of Provincial winner to General Secretary of Union prior to date of National section.
- e) Each Provincial Council shall appoint a Championship Committee which shall be responsible for the organisation and management of the Tournaments and the decision of this Committee shall be final on all matters relating thereto.

f) Only members of the Provincial Council or persons nominated by the Council (to include staff so appointed) may be appointed to the Championship Committee and only such members may adjudicate on any question or dispute arising during the course of play.

g) Each club entered in the Tournament shall play the Provincial Section in its own Province. The Provincial Section winners in each Tournament shall represent the Province in the National Section.

#### **National Section:**

h) The Central Council shall appoint a Championship Committee which shall control and manage the National Section, which shall comprise the Match Play semi-finals and Finals amongst the Provincial winners, and its decision on all questions or disputes under these Rules or during course of play shall be final.

i) The National Section shall be played at a venue and on a date to be fixed by the Central Council of the Union.

#### **5. Submission of Teams**

a) Provincial Section: Where a Branch Official is present, Team Captains must hand their team sheets, complete with required details, to the Branch Official in Charge not less than 30 minutes before the start of play. Where no Branch Official is present, Team Captains of the two teams about to engage in a match shall exchange, simultaneously, their team sheets complete with required details not less than 30 minutes before the start of the match.

b) National Section: The teams for the Semi-Finals, in order of play, with the names of reserves, must be handed to the Union official in charge in a sealed envelope not later than 16.00 hours on the day prior to the match and for the Final not later than one hour after play in the Semi-Finals is completed.

#### **6. Sudden Illness / Other Emergency**

a) No alteration may be made in the list handed in – either in the matter of players or the order of play – except in the case of sudden illness or other emergency deemed sufficient justification for such an alteration by the Championship Committee.

b) A Team Captain may nominate two reserves. 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. Alternatively, in competitions covered by this rule involving pairs, a nominated reserve pair may be placed in the same position in the team as that occupied by the pair, one of whom has taken ill or has been withdrawn.

c) Any competitor who is unable to continue a match will forfeit the remaining holes to be played.

d) Penalty for Breach of Rule 6 = Disqualification of the team concerned.

#### **7. Prizes**

a) The Cup/Shield shall be held for the year by the winning Club. Each winning Club will receive a National Pennant. Gold Medals will be awarded to the members of the winning team, Silver medals to the Runners-up and Bronze medals to the defeated Semi-Finalists. The non-playing Captains will be awarded a special medal. Additional medals may be purchased by clubs, but only for players who have competed at either Provincial or National level during the event.

b) The winning Clubs in each Province will be presented with a Provincial Pennant and the finalists will be presented with a Provincial Plaque.

#### **8. Buggies**

a) Motorised buggies may be utilised only by a Player or Caddie in possession of a valid medical certificate of disability. (Penalty - disqualification of the offending player/s). See GUI Policy on the Use of Golf Buggies (Appendix 2).

#### **9. Advice**

a) A team Captain is permitted to give advice to his team during the course of play, with the exception of giving advice on the putting green, or pointing out a line for putting.

b) A Team Captain playing in the competition may not give advice to a team-mate, other than his partner until after completion of his match.

c) Penalty: Match Play - loss of each hole at which the infringement occurs, to a maximum of two holes; Stroke Play - 2 strokes at each hole at which the infringement occurs, to a maximum of 4 Strokes. Any further breach will lead to the disqualification of the player(s).

#### **10. Caddies**

a) The following penalty will be applied for breach of the conditions of specific competitions which either a) prohibit caddies or b) prohibit individuals from acting as caddies (e.g. players who are over-age in an under-age competition, professional golfers, etc):

i) Match play - At the conclusion of the hole at which the breach is discovered, the state of the match is adjusted by deducting one hole for each hole at which a breach occurred; maximum deduction per round - Two holes.

ii) Stroke play - Two strokes for each hole at which any breach occurred; maximum penalty per round - Four strokes (two strokes at each of the first two holes at which any breach occurred).

iii) Match play or stroke play - If a breach is discovered between the play of two holes, it is deemed to have been discovered during play of the next hole, and the penalty must be applied accordingly.

iv) Bogey and par competitions - See Note I to Rule 32-1a of the Rules of Golf.

v) Stableford competitions - See Note I to Rule 32-1b of the Rules of Golf.

vi) A player having a caddie in breach of this condition must immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred ensure that he conforms with this condition for the remainder of the stipulated round. Otherwise, the player is disqualified.

## **11. Other**

a) The winning Club in each Province shall be responsible for arranging accommodation for its team at the venue fixed for the National Section.

b) Competitors submit to the Golfing Union of Ireland Doping Control Bye Laws and to drug testing there under. A copy of the Doping Control Bye Laws is available on request.

c) Players shall play without undue delay and in accordance with any pace of play guidelines which may be laid down by the Championship Committee.

d) A player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a [stipulated round](#), a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule [14-3](#).

e) The Executive Committee reserves the right of entry into the Cups and Shields.

f) The Rules Modifications, as outlined in the Rules of Golf for Golfers with Disabilities are operative in the Cups & Shields events.

g) Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1 are modified as follows: When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment.

The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1. This Local Rule applies only when the player's ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental.

Note: If it is determined that a player's ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new location. A ball-marker moved in such circumstances is replaced.

h) The Exception to Rule 6-6d is modified as follows: If a competitor returns a score for any hole lower than actually taken due to failure to include one or more penalty strokes that, before returning his score card, he did not know he had incurred, he is not disqualified. In such circumstances, the competitor incurs the penalty prescribed by the applicable Rule, but there is no additional penalty for a breach of Rule 6-6d. This Exception does not apply when the applicable penalty is disqualification from the competition.

## Suspension of Play & Course Evacuation

### SUSPENSION OF PLAY:

**Suspension** of play will be signalled by **ONE** blast on the klaxon.

### Suspension of Play in the case of Thunder and Lightning

When play is suspended due to potential or actual thunder/lightning storm, everybody should proceed immediately to the nearest wooden shelter or the clubhouse if nearer. Metallic shelters should not be used. The following safety measures should also be adhered to:-

- (i) Deposit clubs in golf bag.
- (ii) Do not shelter under trees.
- (iii) Do not put up umbrella under any circumstances.
- (iv) Do not use mobile phones or radios.
- (v) Avoid passing under trees if possible on way to shelter.
- (vi) Maintain as low a profile as possible by avoiding high ground or crouching in bunkers.

### RESUMPTION OF PLAY:

Resumption of play will be given by **two** blasts of the klaxon. No competitor may resume play until this signal is given. [Rule 6-8b]. Penalty for breach of Rule – disqualification.

Competitors will be duly notified about resumption of play and they will be given sufficient time to arrive at the point of resumption before the signal to restart is given.

## Standard of Dress

### Course and Clubhouse

The following Items of Dress are **unacceptable at all times:**

- Denim jeans and jackets.
- Singlets, sleeveless or collarless shirts
- Untailored shorts.
- Sweaters without shirts.
- Garments displaying slogans.
- Track or Leisure suits.
- Trainer shoes or runners.
- Trouser legs must never be tucked into socks.
- Shirts must be tucked inside trousers

**Smart casual dress is essential in the Clubhouse. It must be clean, neat and tidy and in keeping with the high standards of the Clubhouse. Any type of footwear worn on the course is not acceptable in the Clubhouse.**

## Transportation Policy

Use of Golf Buggies by Competitors, Caddies, Team Captains and Others at GUI events:

### I. Introduction

- 1.1 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.
- 1.2 This Policy is the Transportation Policy of the Golfing Union of Ireland as referred to in the relevant Tournament Conditions and the Golfing Union of Ireland Hard Card.
- 1.3 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).
- 1.4 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

- 2.1 “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.**
- 2.2 “Golf Buggy” shall mean any vehicle deemed to be a golf buggy by the Championship Committee.
- 2.3 “Championship Committee” shall refer to the controlling authority for championships run under the auspices of the Golfing Union of Ireland.
- 2.4 “Valid medical confirmation of disability” shall mean the Certificate contained in Appendix I entitled “Medical Confirmation of Disability”.

## 3. Persons who may use a golf buggy

- 3.1 **Competitors:** As per the General Rules for Union Championships, 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 and caddie. 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.
- 3.2 **Caddies:** A person in possession of valid medical confirmation of disability who intends to caddie for an able-bodied competitor may utilise a golf buggy on the same conditions as 3.1 above. The able-bodied competitor – in such circumstances – may not use the buggy.
- 3.3 **Under 18 Competitors:** Where a player is under the age of 18 years and has met the criteria in 3.1 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. Any restrictions regarding caddies specified in the Event Conditions must be adhered to in this process.
- 3.4 Any individual intending on using a buggy on the grounds of medical disability 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.
- 3.5 **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.

## 4. Committee discretion on the use of a golf buggy

- 4.1 Where the use of a buggy by a player or where appropriate a caddie or third party is permitted, the Committee shall have regard to the following additional health and safety considerations before granting approval:
- Any relevant weather conditions;
  - The topography and ground conditions;
  - The condition of and suitability of the golf buggy; and
  - Any other relevant considerations which could impede the safe use of a golf buggy or impact on the safety of others.
- 4.2 In the event that the Committee believes that for reasons of health and safety a golf buggy should not be used by players, caddies or third parties at a particular time he/they may:
- Refuse to grant permission for the use of a golf buggy, and shall inform the player, caddie or third party of this decision; or
  - 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
- 4.3 The Championship Committee may require any player, caddie 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

- 5.1 Where a player, caddie 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:
- 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;
  - The golf buggy must be open-sided;
  - The golf buggy shall be for the sole use of the player or caddie, 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;
  - 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 any caddie 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 any caddie 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, caddie 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.

5.2 Use of a golf buggy at a GUI event, under any circumstances, is conditional on conformity with all preceding clauses of 5.1 unless otherwise required by the Championship Committee. The allowance of a buggy will be withdrawn at any time should the competitor, caddie or other party so allowed be found to be in breach of this policy.

*Appendix 1: Medical Confirmation of Disability*

**GOLFING UNION OF IRELAND**

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

Stamp Here

# CONNACHT CHAMPIONSHIPS & INTER CLUBS PACE OF PLAY RULES

(These shall be in effect at all events at which a GUI Official is on duty)



## Introduction:

Each Hole of a Competition Course is given a maximum completion time based upon the lengthy and difficulty of the hole. The maximum time allotted for the competition of each hole will be made available to players prior to the start of play.

Any Grouping which finds itself Out of Position will be liable to timing by a Referee.

## When is a Grouping Out of Position?

The first group and any group after a two-interval gap on the Drawsheet will be considered Out of Position if, at any time during the round, the group's cumulative time exceeds the time allowed for the number of holes completed.

Any following group will be considered out of position if it is more than the starting interval behind the group in front and has exceeded the time allowed for the number of holes played.

## Procedure when Group is Out of Position:

a) Where a Timing Schedule is in Operation:

(i) Each hole of the Championship Course is given a maximum completion time based upon the length and difficulty of the hole. The maximum time allotted for the completion of each hole will be available prior to play from the starter.

(ii) Any Group which finds itself Out of Position will be liable to timing by a Referee. The first Group and any Group after a two-interval gap on the draw sheet will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, the group's cumulative time exceeds the time allowed for the number of holes completed. Any following group will be considered out of position if it is more than the starting interval behind the group in front and has exceeded the time allowed for the number of holes played.

(iii) If a decision is taken to time the group, each player will be subject to individual timing by a referee. Each player in the group will be advised that they are "out of position" and are being timed. The maximum time allocated per shot is 40 seconds. Ten extra seconds will be allowed for the first player to play on a par-three hole, on an approach shot and on a chip or putt. The timing will start when a player has had sufficient time to reach his ball, it is his turn to play and he is able to play without interference or distraction. On the putting green, timing will start when the player has had a reasonable amount of time to lift, clean and replace his ball, repair ball marks and move loose impediments. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the hole will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke. Timing will cease when a group is back in position and players will be advised accordingly. **Note:** In some circumstances, an individual player, or two players within a group of three, may be timed instead of the entire group.

(iv) If a Player incurs a bad time, he will be warned by the referee and told that he will be penalised if they have a further bad time. The penalty for incurring a second bad time is one stroke in stroke play, and loss of hole in match play. A third bad time by the player will result in a further penalty of two strokes in stroke play, or a further loss of hole in match play. A fourth bad time by the player will result in a penalty of disqualification in stroke play or loss of match in match play.

(v) If a group is "Out of Position" more than once during a round, the above procedure will apply on each occasion. Bad times and the application of penalties in the same round will be carried forward until the round is completed. A player will not be penalised if he has a second bad time before being advised of his earlier bad time.

(vi) In some circumstances, a group or an individual player may be timed without warning, including when a group is not out of position. In such cases of "random timing", the timing provisions and penalties set out in (iv) above apply, except that a player will only be given a bad time if he exceeds 60 seconds to play a shot, with an extra 10 seconds given (i.e. 70 seconds in total) for the "first to play" shots referenced in (b) above.

b) Where a Timing Schedule is not operated:

(i) The provisions of a) (vi) above will apply at the discretion of officials.

# THE GOOD PARENT CODE

## ON THE GOLF COURSE

### On the golf course a Parent/Guardian may:

- Exercise good golf etiquette
- Hand players food, drink, clothes between holes
- Help look for lost balls
- Help ball spotters on the course
- Help staff evacuate players after weather suspension

### Parents/Guardians may not:

- Give advice to a player on the golf course: Rule 8 – 1
- Give encouragement on the golf course as it could be interpreted as advice
- Give rulings or call penalties on players
- Shuttle players
- Be within 25 yards of a player during play/practice or walk on fairways
- Violate host golf course policies
- Use abusive language towards players or staff
- Withdraw a player without speaking to a Branch Official
- Act as ball spotters unless requested to by the Championship Committee

### Caddies

A person whose **age exceeds the age limit** in the following competitions is not permitted to act as a caddie.

- Boys Interprovincial Matches
- Irish and Provincial Boys Championships
- Boys Interclub events
- Connacht School Events

Over-involvement is a serious issue at golf tournaments. Over-involved and over-protective parents/guardians add pressure on the golfer and may reduce his ability to take responsibility for his own actions.

### Parents/Guardians should:

- Be familiar with coaching and training programmes so as to support the junior golfer where changes are needed.
- Be familiar with coaching methods.
- Share concerns where you have them with the coach.
- Re-enforce in the young golfer the importance to keep winning and losing in perspective, and encourage them to behave with dignity at all times, irrespective of the result.
- Support coaches in instilling these virtues.
- Remember that young people play golf for their own enjoyment, not their parents.
- Encourage young people to play golf without forcing them to do so.
- Focus on achieving goals in golf, not winning or losing.
- Be realistic with their goal settings.
- Provide positive verbal feedback both on training and during a round.
- Remember that persistent negative messages get in children's heads.
- Always show appreciation towards other junior competitors (Good Shot).
- Acknowledge good performance rather than win at all costs (Ethic).

Encourage all young golfers irrespective of their ability; never ridicule any individual player because their play is poor.

### Emotional abuse in golf:

- Providing repeated negative feedback.
- Repeatedly demanding performances which the player is not capable of.
- Over-emphasizing the importance of winning.
- Repeatedly ignoring a player's effort to progress.