

# CROSSGAR GOLF CLUB

## Terms of Competition

*Adopted in accordance with Golf Ireland Guidelines*

### 1. Introduction

- (a) These Terms of Competition govern all Club competitions at Crossgar Golf Club, including Men's, Ladies' and Mixed competitions, and apply to all members unless a specific competition states otherwise.
- (b) The Rules of Golf (R&A, effective January 2023) apply to all competitions. The World Handicap System (WHS) Rules of Handicapping as administered by Golf Ireland apply to all handicap matters.
- (c) The Competition Committee is responsible for applying and enforcing these Terms. Any reference to 'the Committee' means the Competition Committee unless context requires otherwise.
- (d) It is the responsibility of each player to know and follow these Terms. The Committee should avoid altering Terms once a competition has started, except in exceptional circumstances.
- (e) These Terms should be read alongside any supplementary conditions posted on the notice board or published on the club's online system (ClubV1/Members Hub) for specific competitions.

### 2. Eligibility for Competitions

#### 2.1 General Eligibility

To compete in Club competitions and be eligible for prizes, a member must:

- Hold a valid Golf Ireland membership number and an active WHS Handicap Index;
- Be a fully paid-up member of Crossgar Golf Club for the current season; •  
Not be under suspension or sanction by the Club or Golf Ireland.

#### 2.2 Major Competitions — Entry and Prize Eligibility

##### **Crossgar Golf Club Policy — Major Competitions**

The Major competitions at Crossgar Golf Club are: Captain's Day, Lady Captain's Day, President's Day, Charity Day, and the Club Championship.

- (a) All members of the Club are welcome to enter and play in all Major competitions, regardless of their handicap status or qualifying score history.
- (b) To be eligible to WIN a Major prize, a player must:
- Hold a Handicap Index with a fully established scoring record of at least 20 qualifying scores submitted to Golf Ireland; AND
  - Have the following number of qualifying competition scores recorded on their Golf Ireland record prior to the competition date:

Competition Date	Minimum Qualifying Scores Required
Before 1 July	3 qualifying scores
1 July onwards	5 qualifying scores

A 'qualifying score' for this purpose means a score submitted in a singles acceptable score competition at Crossgar Golf Club in the current calendar year.

(c) The Committee may waive these requirements in exceptional circumstances (e.g. extended periods where acceptable score conditions have not been in operation), and will publish any such waiver in advance.

### 2.3 Junior Member Prize Eligibility

#### Crossgar Golf Club Policy — Junior Prize Eligibility

Junior members may enter and win prizes in all competitions, provided they meet the general eligibility requirements in Section 2.1. The restriction below applies only to the Major competitions (Captain's Day, Lady Captain's Day, President's Day, Charity Day, and Club Championship): in those competitions, junior members are not eligible to win main competition prizes (net, gross, category, or Golfer of the Year points). In Major competitions, juniors may only win the prizes listed below.

In Major competitions only, junior members of Crossgar Golf Club are not eligible to win main competition prizes (including overall net and gross prizes, category prizes, and Golfer of the Year points). In those competitions, junior members may only win the following prizes:

- The Juvenile Prize;
- Nearest the Pin prizes;
- Longest Drive prizes.

In all other (non-Major) competitions, junior members are fully eligible to enter and win prizes on the same basis as senior members, subject to meeting the general eligibility requirements in Section 2.1. Their scores are processed for handicap purposes in the normal way in all competitions.

### 2.4 Away Competitions

To be eligible to play in a singles acceptable score competition at an away club, a member must have returned at least three (3) singles acceptable score competitions at their home club at any time on or after the corresponding date one year before the away competition. This is a mandatory condition set by Golf Ireland.

## 3. Competition Entry

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To enter a competition, a player must before commencing play:

- Enter via the club's online booking system (ClubV1/BRS) and secure a tee time;
- Pay the applicable entry fee at the shop on the day of play;
- Register using their Golf Ireland member number.

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Entries are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. If a competition is oversubscribed, the Committee reserves the right to operate a ballot. The method of any ballot will be communicated to members in advance.

If a competition is cancelled after players have started, entry fees already paid will be refunded or credited at the Committee's discretion.

### 3.1 Withdrawal and No-Shows

A member who is unable to play must remove their name from the tee sheet by 10:00pm on the evening before the competition. Failure to do so without valid reason may result in a sanction at the Committee's discretion. Repeat no-shows may be subject to further sanction.

## 4. Times of Starting

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- (a) Players must start at the time reserved on the booking system or as directed by shop staff.
- (b) Players must be on the tee, ready to play, at least five (5) minutes before their designated start time.
- (c) Players shall not begin a competition round before the official start time, nor after the last designated tee time, except with the express permission of the Committee or shop staff. (d) Failure to tee off at the allotted time may result in disqualification under Rule 5.3a of the Rules of Golf.

### 4.1 Groups

Competitors must remain in the group arranged by the Committee or shop staff throughout their round, unless a significant reason arises, which must be reported to the Committee on completion. The maximum group size is four (4) players.

## 5. Handicap Rules and Allowances

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Handicapping follows the WHS Rules of Handicapping as administered by Golf Ireland. Only handicaps of members of Golf Ireland affiliated clubs are acceptable for prize eligibility.

Where category prizes are to be awarded in a competition, the handicap categories will be published before the competition begins. Recommended allowances per format are:

Format	Type	Allowance
Stroke Play – Individual	Stroke Play	95%
Stableford – Individual	Stroke Play	95%
Par / Bogey – Individual	Stroke Play	95%
Four-Ball Stableford	Pairs	85%
Four-Ball Par / Bogey	Pairs	90%
Match Play – Individual	Match Play	100%
Four-Ball Match Play	Match Play	90%

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Foursomes	Pairs	50% combined
Greensomes	Pairs	60% low + 40% high
Scramble – 4 players	Team	25/20/15/10% (low to high)

The Committee may adjust allowances for specific competitions. Any variation will be published in advance of the competition.

## 6. Course and Competition Conditions

### 6.1 Teeing Ground

The stipulated round commences from the tee boxes designated by the Committee for that competition. When temporary mats are in use, players must stand on and tee their ball from the mat.

### 6.2 Maximum Score

All stroke play competitions will use a maximum score format. The maximum score for any hole is net double bogey (par + 2 + any handicap strokes received at that hole). Players who reach the maximum should stop play on that hole in the interests of pace of play. This rule does not apply to the Club Championship, which is played as traditional stroke play with no maximum score limit.

### 6.3 Alternate Day Rules

Where a competition is scheduled over more than one day (e.g. Saturday and Sunday), a player may play on any day they are not scheduled to play their competition round. However, when a course is set for competition, a player entered in that competition may not play a casual round on that course before playing their competition round. The first round a player completes on the competition course on their scheduled day will be taken as their competition score. A player who is entered in the competition on a given day but chooses not to play that day may not play on that course on that same day.

### 6.4 Priority on the Course

Players in a Club competition have priority over players not in a competition, both at the tee and throughout the general area of the course. Groups are expected to complete the first nine holes within one hour and fifty minutes (1h50m) of their start time. A group that fails to arrive at the 10th tee within this time may be subject to a pace of play sanction imposed by the Committee.

### 6.5 Buggy Use

The use of buggies during competition rounds is permitted only in the following circumstances. Only personal buggies owned by the individual member are permitted; club or hire buggies are not available for competition use. A member wishing to use a personal buggy must, before it is used on the course and annually thereafter, present to the Club: (i) evidence of medical incapacity or a disability exemption justifying buggy use; and (ii) a current personal liability insurance certificate covering use of the buggy on the course. Both documents must be submitted to the Competition Secretary or Club Manager for approval. Use of a personal buggy

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without current approved documentation is not permitted. The Committee reserves the right to refuse or withdraw approval at any time.

### 6.6 Practice on the Course

Practice on the competition course on the day of a stroke play competition, before or after the round, is not permitted. See also Section 6.3 regarding play on a course set for competition.

## 7. Scorecards

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- (a) All scorecards (physical or electronic) must show: competition name, date, player's name, and playing handicap. The player is responsible for accuracy.
- (b) If an electronic scorecard is used, it must have functionality to: register intent to play a counting round; capture scores hole-by-hole (not all at the end); and enable both player and marker to digitally attest the card.
- (c) The marker must record the gross score after each hole, check it with the player, and sign the completed card. The player must also sign. Group marking is prohibited.
- (d) All scores must be entered into the Golf Ireland system (ClubV1/Clubhouse Portal) as soon as possible after the round. Failure to do so may result in suspension from future competitions.
- (e) A scorecard is considered returned when placed in the designated competition box (or submitted electronically where that system is in use).

(g) Failure to sign the scorecard will result in disqualification (Rule 3.3b).

### 7.1 Non-Return of Scorecards

Where a player fails to submit a score without valid reason, the Handicap Committee may apply a penalty score and/or suspend the player's Handicap Index. Players who cannot complete a round must notify shop staff and submit a written explanation to the Handicap Secretary within three (3) days.

## 8. Pace of Play

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- (a) All players must play without undue delay and in accordance with Ready Golf principles.
- (b) Groups must keep their position behind the group in front. Every player in the group shares responsibility for maintaining pace.
- (c) The Committee or shop staff may issue a pace-of-play warning. Continued failure to maintain pace may result in sanctions.

## 9. Match Play Competitions

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- (a) All club match play competitions are run under the jurisdiction of the Competition Committee. Conditions will be displayed on the draw sheet and notice board.
- (b) Players are responsible for familiarising themselves with the specific conditions of any match play competition in which they are entered.

(c) The result of a match is final when both players have entered the result via the ClubV1 Members Hub / Clubhouse Portal, or recorded it on the official match play sheet in the clubhouse.

### **9.1 Ties in Match Play**

If a match is tied after the final hole, it is extended one hole at a time until there is a winner (Rule 3.2a(4)), unless the Terms of the specific competition state otherwise. A match play tie may not be decided by stroke play. If play is halted by darkness or weather, the match resumes from the next hole at an agreed date; both players must inform the Competition Secretary.

## **10. Deciding Ties in Stroke Play — Countback**

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Ties in stroke play (including Stableford and V-Par) are resolved by scorecard countback as follows:

### **For Stableford and V-Par competitions:**

The winner is the player with the highest points total over the countback sequence. No handicap fractions are needed as handicap is already embedded in each hole's score.

- Best points score over the last 9 holes (holes 10–18);
- If still tied: last 6 holes (holes 13–18);
- If still tied: last 3 holes (holes 16–18);
- If still tied: the 18th hole;
- If still tied: the process is applied to the first 9 holes in reverse order (last 6, last 3, last hole of holes 1–9);
- If still tied: the Committee may declare the competition a tie or decide the winner by lot.

### **For Net Stroke Play (Medal) competitions:**

Where the stroke index allocation set by the Committee is used (e.g. Four-Ball stroke play), handicap strokes are applied consistently with how they were applied for the full competition. Where stroke index allocation is not in force, proportional handicap deductions are applied as follows:

- Last 9 holes: deduct one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of playing handicap;
- Last 6 holes: deduct one-third ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ) of playing handicap;
- Last 3 holes: deduct one-sixth ( $\frac{1}{6}$ ) of playing handicap;
- Last hole: deduct one-eighteenth ( $\frac{1}{18}$ ) of playing handicap.

Fractions of  $\frac{1}{2}$  stroke or more count as a full stroke; lesser fractions are disregarded.

The sequence then follows the same last 9, 6, 3, 18th hole pattern as above, proceeding to the front 9 in reverse if necessary, and finally by lot or declared tie if unresolved.

### **Multiple tee starts:**

Where a competition uses a multiple tee start, 'last 9 holes' means holes 10–18; 'last 6 holes' means holes 13–18; etc. — regardless of the order in which holes were played.

## **11. Competition Results — When Final**

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The result of a stroke play competition is final when published on ClubV1 / HowDidIDo. Once published, no alteration may be made except to correct a manifest error or in accordance with the Rules of Golf. The result of a match play competition is final when the result has been officially recorded on the match play sheet or entered via the ClubV1 Members Hub / Clubhouse Portal.

Any queries must be reported to the Competition Secretary or shop staff immediately upon completion of the round. The Committee's ruling is final, subject to the appeal right in Section 12.

### 12. Disputes and Appeals

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Any dispute or doubtful point regarding the Rules of Golf or these Terms should be referred to the Competition Secretary (or a member of the Competition Committee) as soon as possible after the round. If a member is dissatisfied with a ruling, they may appeal in writing to the Committee, whose decision shall be final.

### 13. Prizes and Presentations

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- (a) Prizes must set out clearly both net and gross prizes available. In Stableford competitions, gross prizes must be awarded for Stableford points unless otherwise stated.
- (b) No player may win more than one prize in any single competition. Prizes are allocated in value order.
- (c) Prize winners in major competitions are expected to attend the official presentation. If unable to attend, a representative must be nominated and the Competition Secretary informed in advance. Failure to do so may result in forfeiture.
- (d) Prizes for weekly competitions will be available from the shop. Unclaimed prizes after three (3) months may be forfeited.

### 14. Suspension, Cancellation and Committee Powers

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- (a) The following officers are authorised to decide whether the course is playable and to suspend or cancel play: the Club Captain, Vice-Captain, Competition Secretary, Greens Convenor, and Course Superintendent (or any officer duly authorised by the Committee).
- (b) In the event of suspension due to dangerous conditions (e.g. lightning), players will be notified by hooter/siren signal. Players must stop play immediately on receiving the suspension signal.
- (c) Where a competition has started, the number of holes to be played should not be changed once that round has started. If bad weather suspends play after all players have completed 9 holes of an 18-hole round, the Committee should not announce results based on 9 holes only.
- (d) If circumstances (e.g. bad weather) affect the number of rounds or holes before the round has started, the Committee may alter the format to accommodate the circumstances.
- (e) The Competition Committee also reserves the right to:
  - Refuse entry to a competition, citing reasons;
  - Correct mistakes in scorecard checking;
  - Alter published conditions up to the time a competition commences;
  - Cancel any competition due to insufficient entries.

## 15. Local Rules and Hard Card

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The Club's current Local Rules are displayed on the back of the scorecard and on the notice board. Players must familiarise themselves with Local Rules before commencing play. The Golf Ireland Hard Card (Standard Additional Local Rules) applies to all competitions.

## 16. General Play Scores

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Players wishing to submit a score during general (non-competition) play for handicap purposes must pre-register their intent before the round begins. Registration must be made via the ClubV1 system or the Golf Ireland app. Shop staff, the Handicap Secretary, or the Competition Secretary can confirm the tee to be used if required (default: white/yellow as appropriate). The card must be marked by a Golf Ireland member.

## 17. Club Championship — Supplementary Terms

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### 17.1 Format

The Club Championship is played over 36 holes of stroke play, comprising two rounds of 18 holes:

- Round 1 — played in July (date to be published on the competition notice board and Members Hub);
- Round 2 — played in August (date to be published on the competition notice board and Members Hub).

A player must complete both rounds to be eligible for any Club Championship prize. All rounds are played from the tees designated by the Committee and published in advance.

### 17.2 Eligibility

The Club Championship is open to all fully paid-up members of Crossgar Golf Club who meet the general eligibility requirements in Section 2, including the prize eligibility conditions for Major competitions (Section 2.2). The Championship is contested across three categories:

- Male members;
- Female members; ● Junior members.

Each category is competed for and prized independently. The prizes set out in Section 17.3 apply within the Male and Female categories. The Junior category prizes are limited as set out in Section 17.3.

### 17.3 Prizes

Four prizes are available within the Male and Female categories. The Junior category is eligible for two prizes only (Club Champion and Best Net 36 holes). All prizes are determined as follows:

Prize	Determined by	Notes
1st Prize	<b>Club Champion</b> Best gross score over 36 holes	Title of Club Champion (Men's, Ladies', or Junior). Takes precedence over all other prizes. Available to all three categories.

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<b>2nd Prize</b>	<b>Runner-Up</b> Best net score over 36 holes (combined Rounds 1 and 2)	Awarded to the best net aggregate score. The Club Champion is not eligible for this prize (see Section 17.4). Available to all three categories including Juniors.
<b>3rd Prize</b>	<b>Best Net — Round 1</b> Best net score in the July round	Awarded after Round 1 is completed. Subject to the one-prize rule (Section 17.4). Not available to Junior category.
<b>4th Prize</b>	<b>Best Net — Round 2</b> Best net score in the August round	Awarded after Round 2 is completed. Subject to the one-prize rule (Section 17.4). Not available to Junior category.

### 17.4 One Prize Per Player

No player may win more than one Club Championship prize within their category. Where a player qualifies for more than one prize, they shall be awarded the highest-ranked prize for which they qualify. The next eligible player in the ranking for the lower prize(s) will receive those prizes instead.

Prize ranking for the purpose of this rule is: 1st (Club Champion) > 2nd (Best Net 36 holes) > 3rd (Best Net Round 1) > 4th (Best Net Round 2).

### 17.5 Handicap Index for Net Scoring

The playing handicap for each round is calculated using the player's Handicap Index as it stands on the date of that round. If a player's Handicap Index changes between Round 1 and Round 2, their Round 2 playing handicap will reflect the revised index. Players are responsible for ensuring their current Handicap Index is registered in ClubV1 before each round.

### 17.6 Ties

All ties in the Club Championship — including for the Club Champion (1st Prize, best gross) and all net prizes — will be decided by scorecard countback in accordance with Section 10 of these Terms. For the Club Champion, countback is applied to the gross scores over 36 holes (last 18, last 9, last 6, last 3, last hole). For net prizes, countback is applied to the relevant round(s) using net scores. If countback does not produce a result after all holes have been considered, the Committee may declare a tie or decide by lot.

## 18. Review and Amendment

These Terms of Competition will be reviewed annually by the Competition Committee. Amendments may be made at any time to reflect changes to the Rules of Golf, the WHS, Golf Ireland regulations, or Club policy. All amendments will be communicated via the notice board and ClubV1 Members Hub.

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*Approved by the Competition Committee, Crossgar Golf Club These  
Terms supersede all previous versions.*