



NORTHERN GOLF 2020 MEN'S PENNANT CONDITIONS

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1. THE COMPETITION:

- a) It is a condition of entry in the Northern Golf (NG) Pennant Competition that all players, caddies and club officials agree to abide by the "Pennant Conditions" document of Northern Golf Inc.
- b) The competition shall consist of 6 home and away roster games.
- c) All fixtures shall be played on the dates, at the times, and at the courses allocated in the Pennant Fixture document distributed at the beginning of the pennant season, unless altered by agreement by the NG Match Committee.
- d) The 2020 NG [Men's] Pennant roster will be conducted over the following dates:
- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------|
| ➤ Round 1 | Sunday March | 22 nd | |
| ➤ Round 2 | Sunday March | 29 th | |
| ➤ Round 3 | Sunday April | 5 th | |
| ➤ Round 4 | Sunday April | 19 th | |
| ➤ Round 5 | Sunday April | 26 th | |
| ➤ Round 6 Div 3 to 7 | Sunday May | 3 rd | |
| ➤ Round 6 Div 1 and 2 | Sunday May | 17 th | |
| ➤ Northern Div 3 Final (East Coast) | Sunday May | 17 th | |
| ➤ Semi – Final -Handicap | Sunday May | 17 th | |
| ➤ Handicap Final | Sunday May | 24 th | |
| ➤ Preliminary Finals Div 1-2-3 | Saturday May | 30 th | Tasmania GC |
| ➤ State Finals Div 1-2-3 | Sunday May | 31 st | Tasmania GC |
- e) All matches are to be played under the Rules of Golf as adopted by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews; area and state match-play conditions; and the local rules of the course on which each match is played.

2. PLAYERS ELIGIBILITY:

- a) Players must have a current Golf Link handicap and be either an amateur as required by Golf Australia or **PGA Professional, (Club Professionals, Trainee and Touring Professionals) will need to be a member of their golf club. This applies to Northern District only.**
- b) In the absence of special permission from Northern Golf, all players taking part in pennant matches, must be from a category of membership eligible to win their individual clubs championship event or a PGA Member and have been a financial member for at least three (3) months immediately prior to their first match except when a player has legitimately transferred from another club of which they have been a financial member, have changed residence to another area or from another state or country.
- c) Players attending golfing institutes or studying out of the state are deemed to be eligible if their state household address is retained as a major contact point by the area or state body.
- d) Players may play for **one club** only in any individual pennant roster.

3. DIVISIONS AND TEAMS:

- a) Member clubs shall be invited to lodge team lists containing names and handicaps of prospective players, together with a nominated preferred starting time (between 8.00am and 11.00am). Team list details are to be used in allocating teams to divisions.
- b) There shall be 7 players per team, and 4 teams per division. (Numbers permitting)
- c) Annually, teams will be seeded into Divisions according to handicaps at the time of lodgement of team lists. NG reserves the right to alter divisions accordingly.
- d) Teams lodged at the start of the pennant season with handicaps of prospective players (3 a) must not use players whose team handicaps will drop the team average below **1 one clear stroke** different during the pennant season as to when the teams were lodged by the date of lodgement with Northern Golf. (Division **1 – 3 only** Scratch match play 3 e). i.e 6.8 to 5.9 (permitted), 6.8 to 5.7 (not permitted)
- e) Divisions 1 to 3 will be scratch match play.
- f) Division 4 (and above) matches shall be played as Handicap Match Play with each divisional winner then proceeding to an overall Handicap Match Play playoff.
- g) Unless otherwise unavoidable, all divisions will play 'home and away' matches.
- h) The divisional winner will be the team that finishes atop the ladder based on the best win/loss ratio, and if required the highest win/loss percentage of individual matches.
- i) The winning team in each division will be awarded a pennant flag.
- j) Division 1, 2 and 3 winners will progress to State Preliminary and Final playoffs.

4. PLAYER TO TEAM QUALIFICATION:

- a) Once "qualified" for a team as per the cut-off date, and taking into regard any qualifying handicap restriction or limit, a player would remain eligible for that team for the entire season regardless of any current movement of handicap.
- b) Qualifying handicaps as per the cut-off date should be able to be confirmed on any day of play. Captains should retain a copy of the handicap list as of the "cut-off date" for verification if required. Team Captains should ensure all players eligibility.

5. CONDITIONS OF PLAY:

- a) All matches shall be played under the Rules of Golf (R. & A.) and the Local Rules of the host club. It is obligatory for all players to play with a ball of a minimum size of 1.68" of a brand which is named in the current R & A and / or USGA approved lists in all matches. **The Golf Australia Players Code of Conduct and drug policy are in place for the 2020 Northern Golf Pennant Season, including all finals. Refer www.golf.org.au**
- b) The starting time for pennant is selected by the host club and will be listed on the pennant roster. Times range from 8am to 11am.
- c) When there are 2 or more matches playing on one course the 1st Tee is to be used. However, the home club may request a match to start from an alternate tee so that inconvenience to members may be minimized.
 - n.b. Request to NG and subsequent advice to affected clubs required.
- d) Nine hole clubs have the option to start matches from the 1st Tee and 4th, 5th or 6th Tees.
- e) Visiting team has "The Honour" in commencing a match.
- f) Matches will commence with the highest ranking division (e.g. Div 1) being followed immediately by the next highest ranking division (e.g. Div 2).
- g) Each Game **MUST** continue beyond 18 holes to ascertain a result.
If no result, no points or half points will be allocated to either team
- h) The drinking of alcohol by players & caddies during play is strongly discouraged for all Pennant Matches. Where host clubs have banned such behaviour the restriction must be observed.
- i) Practice on any hole / or holes of the course to be played on the day, is allowed subject to not interfering with any current club competition.
- j) All players must comply with Host Club's dress and mobile phone regulations and local rules. Team members are to respect the dress regulations of all participating host clubs.
- k) All electronic communicating devices (e.g. mobile phones, walkie talkies), whether belonging to players, caddies, officials or spectators whilst on the course are to be turned off, or on silent where possible, to prevent interference with play.
- l) A team must play if it can field a number of players greater than or equal to the percentage of 50% of the number of players required to fill a team.
- m) When teams do not have a player to fill all team positions then placement will be made from number One (1) down to the available number of players with no places missed.
- n) Teams must be posted 10 minutes prior to commencement of play, and team lists exchanged. No alterations will be accepted once teams are posted.

CONDITIONS OF PLAY (continued):

- o) Matches will commence from the tee in reverse team order with number one (1) players off last.
- p) Matches are to be played as a two-ball.
- q) If a player arrives at their starting point, ready to play, within five minutes after their scheduled starting time, in the absence of circumstances that warrant waiving the penalty of disqualification as provided in **Rule 5.3 a**, the penalty of failing to start on time is loss of the first hole instead of disqualification.
- r) If a player arrives later than within five minutes of their scheduled starting time the penalty is disqualification. **Rule 5.3 a**.
- s) Any forfeits will apply as per named position in team order once teams have been posted. If after being posted to play at a position in the team a player fails to be able to play then their opponent will receive a walk-over [w/o] victory.
- t) Any player playing a match in a higher division may not drop back more than one division lower.
 - i. In the event of clubs not having teams in all divisions, one division lower refers to the clubs next lowest playing team provided handicap limit qualification is still satisfied.
 - ii. Exception may be made by Northern Golf area pennant committee.
 - iii. Players may move from "Stroke match play" teams to "Handicap match play" teams due to the fundamental difference in the playing of the matches.
- u) Any player that has played a percentage greater than 50% of the total available roster games of the season, excluding finals, in a higher division is ineligible to then play further games in a lower division.
- v) All district, area and state final matches are to be played from the permanent distance markers. (**BLUE TEE MARKERS**)
- w) Throughout a stipulated round the balls a player uses must be of the same brand and type as detailed by a single entry in the current list of Conforming Golf Balls.
 - i. Penalty: Match Play – Loss of hole at which any breach occurred; maximum penalty two (2) holes
- x) The use of GPS devices that permit the measurement of distance only is permitted during the play of pennant.

CONDITIONS OF PLAY (continued):

- y) A competitor shall not knowingly make use of any drug to enhance his / her performance. Any competitor infringing this condition by refusing to take a test will be disqualified.
i.e. Golf Australia's drug policy is the over-riding document
- z) Motorised ride-on transport for any level of pennant play may only be used on presentation of a current medical certificate or copy to the Area or State Secretary as applicable.
- aa) *Reiterate: The Golf Australia Code of Conduct will be in force for all Pennant Matches:- For further information refer to "www.golf.org.au".*
- ab) It is the responsibility of the home club, specifically the nominated representative(s) of each club to notify the results directly to the Examiner newspaper and the NG Secretary/Administration Officer on the official Result Sheet supplied.
- ac) In the event of Northern Golf area pennant committee being unable to resolve a dispute or matter; the State Tournament Rules and Rating Committee's decision will be final.

6. RIGHTS TO PRACTICE AT AN 'AWAY' COURSE:

- a) Should players wish to play or practice at a course (i.e. not their home course) in the day(s) leading up to a scheduled game there, they must contact the secretary/manager or nominated representative of each Club to confirm date and time of visit.
- b) The Home Club has full discretion in its decision of granting temporary playing privileges to visiting players and similarly under what conditions, those rights will be granted.

7. HANDICAP PENNANT:

- a) Strokes given to equal full handicap difference.
- b) Golf Australia's **balanced match-play index** is to be used at all times. **Failure to follow the balance match-play index will result in all games played as a no contest and no points awarded****
- c) All player's current GA and Daily Handicap will be used as of and for the actual date of play. All players are responsible for their handicap and current evidence must be available if required. Captains should ensure players handicap as of the day of play.

8. ABANDONED PLAY:

- a) All Matches will be played as scheduled by the roster unless the host club (and/or NG match Committee or NG's representative) decides to suspend play, suspension must not exceed more that **(1) one hour** in total, if after **(1) one hour** the abnormal conditions still exist the match will be abandoned.

If abandoned, each team will receive 3.5 points. **All abandoned match sheets must be completed and forwarded to the Secretary and The Examiner, notifying of the abandonment due to weather. Team Captains are not permitted to cancel matches.**

- b) If play is abandoned the points will be shared. Abandoned matches will not be played at a later date.
- c) If a match cannot be completed and all players **have** completed a minimum of 50% of the available holes comprising the match then completed matches will stand and remaining matches will be declared as at their current standing on the course when play is abandoned
- d) Any club that allows any of its Teams to forfeit a match shall be liable to a fine of \$150 for each time it forfeits.
- e) Similarly, if a club withdraws a team within 72 hours of the commencement of Round 1 or at any time during the roster season, then the club shall be liable to a fine of \$150. This fine, payable to NG, will be passed on to the host club in lieu of expenses and lost revenue.

9. PENALTIES – INELIGIBLE PLAYERS:

- a) The minimum penalty for a team playing an ineligible player will be loss of the match by the minimum margin i.e. 3 & 2 or 4 & 3 etc. as applicable to the overall team number of players.
- b) If the non-offending team had already won the match by a greater margin than the minimum, then this greater margin will stand.
 - i. Additionally, the non-offending team will also be credited with a win in the “ineligible players match” if that player had previously lost against the ineligible player. This match will be added to any previously calculated total team minimum winning margin total.

10. AREA MATCH COMMITTEE AND DISPUTES:

- a) On any day of play there will be a Match Committee for each match consisting of the two captains and a nominated contactable Northern Golf representative.
- b) The Match Committee of the day will settle any dispute or protest that may arise.
- c) Protests must be in writing and signed by the protesting captain within 15 minutes of the end of play and submitted to the Match Committee, or in the case of protest against a Match Committee ruling, within 15 minutes of this ruling advising it will go to the district body.
- d) In the event the Match Committee is unable to resolve the dispute it shall be referred to the Northern Golf Area Match Committee for consideration. Any decision made by an appointed rules official/s shall be deemed to be final unless that official/s refers the matter to the Golf Tasmania Tournament Rules and Rating Committee for consideration.

11. FINALS QUALIFICATION:

- a) To qualify for a "district" or "area" final, players must have played a percentage of matches at least equal to 25% of the available roster matches (i.e. 2), excluding finals, in the district season for the club for which they would play the final if eligible and selected.
 - i. i.e. example is 1 of 6 Matches = 16.66% = INELIGIBLE.
 - ii. Exception – if a team season consists of 4 or less roster matches, then a player is required to have played only one roster match to be eligible to play in the area final.
- b) To be eligible for a STATE FINAL a player MUST qualify as under these rules to play in the area final.
- c) Players would remain eligible for the State Pennant final of the Grade that they qualified for in their area as at the area "cut-off date" regardless of current handicap.
- d) State or Australian representation coinciding with a pennant match will count as a played match for the player concerned.
- e) "BYES" within a roster do not count as an available match.

12. AREA FINALS:

- a) At the conclusion of the pennant, for areas not holding finals, the winner will be the team with the most matches won.
- b) If two or more teams tie in the number of matches, individual game wins for the entire season will be counted, and if this results in a tie, (1) individual number of game wins in matches between the those two teams will be counted, (2) and if still tied the size of the wins will be calculated with the highest total being the winner.
- c) In the event that there are **2nd & 3rd DIVISION FINALS**, each competing club must notify the NG Administration Officer, in writing, at least 2 days prior to the commencement of the event, listing 9 eligible players from whom its team will be selected. Any 7 of these players may be included in the team throughout the event.
- d) In the event that there are **2nd & 3rd DIVISION FINALS**, these finals will be held at a neutral venue as appointed by NG. This venue shall be chosen (depending upon availability) from within the division competed in by the 'highest placed' finalist. The highest placed finalist shall be determined by the best 'matches won/games won' ratio achieved in their respective divisions.
- e) Play in the regional finals will continue until a result is achieved in each game, unless the overall match result has been reached.
- f) Where multiple teams and divisions are on one course the order of play will be determined by the State body. Multiple tees may be used if available.
- g) Finals are to be played over 36 holes for Division 1 and 18 holes for Divisions 2 and 3.
- h) With regards to the provision of 'afternoon tea' at neutral venues, it is the responsibility of either or both Captains, to arrange this with the host club. There will be a cost to the participants.

13. STATE FINALS:

- a) Division 1, Division 2 & Division 3 shall have a Preliminary Final and a State final.
- b) All Preliminary & State finals shall be played at a venue and date set by Golf Tasmania.
- c) Preliminary & State finals will be "scratch" match play.
- d) Preliminary Final Division 1 – 3 are to be played over 18 holes & State Finals are to be played over 36 holes for Division 1 and 18 holes for Divisions 2 and 3.
- e) Preliminary & State Final's games will proceed to a result unless the overall result of the match has been determined.
- f) Where multiple teams and divisions are on one course the order of play will be determined by the State body. Multiple tees may be used if available.

14. PRESENTATION DINNER:

- a) Formal Dress code at dinner.
- b) The Northern Golf Dinner is for all pennant players, club members and their partners. Everyone is welcome to attend the Northern Golf Annual Dinner to be held on Friday 19th of June 2020 at the Mowbray Golf Club. Bookings to be made through the Northern Golf Secretary/Treasurer.

15. AMENDMENTS AND INTERPRETATIONS:

- a) The NG Management Committee has the right at any time to alter, add to, or to substitute any or all of the foregoing rules by appropriate notification to all clubs.

b) The NG Management Committee is the authority for the interpretation of these rules, having full power to deal with any relevant matter.

- c) A copy of this document can be reviewed on the NG web site [www.northerngolf.com.au], while a copy will be forwarded to all participating clubs prior to the commencement of each yearly pennant fixtures.
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