



GolfAustralia

TASMANIAN WOMEN'S PENNANT CONDITIONS

PART A INTRODUCTION

These conditions are to be used for roster matches, district and state finals, and will be reviewed at the conclusion of the pennant season every two years thereafter by the Tournament, Rules and Ratings Committee (TR&R).

GENERAL CONDITIONS

All matches are to be played under the Rules of Golf, as adopted by R&A Rules Limited, together with Local Rules as drawn up by the Golf Australia TR&R.

The Match Committee refers to the Golf Australia TR&R, district or club committees depending on the match being played.

MATCH COMMITTEE

1. All ladies' pennant matches leading to the state finals will be under the management and control of the relevant district match committees. These match committees shall have full power at any time to alter or vary any one of these general conditions to accommodate local playing conditions. In the absence of a full match committee, such members thereof as may be present may give a decision and any decision shall be deemed the decision of the match committee.
2. The match committee of the day will settle any dispute or protest that may arise. The match committee for each roster match will be the Captains of each team, and a contactable district representative, if required.
3. The decision of the match committee will be final in all matters relating to pennant. Protests must be made in writing by the protesting Captain to the district match committee not later than 30 minutes after the conclusion of the day's play, or in the case of protest against a match committee ruling, within 30 minutes of this ruling.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Players must be female golfers and have a current Golf Australia handicap.
2. All players taking part in pennant matches must have been a financial member for at least three (3) months immediately prior to their first match except when a player is legitimately transferred from another club, of which they have been a financial member, or have changed residence to another area.
3. 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.
4. All players must spend a majority of their actual physical residency within Tasmania.

5. A player may play in more than one (1) division for her club.
6. Any player who has played a match in a higher division may not drop back more than one (1) division lower. In the event that a club does not have teams in all divisions, one (1) division lower refers to the club's next lowest playing team provided handicap limit is still satisfied.
7. When a club is represented by more than one (1) team in a division, once players have played two games for a team in that division they are then ineligible to play for the other team in that division, in that roster. The penalty for playing an ineligible player is loss of two (2) points.
8. To be eligible for a state final, a player must have played at least:
 - a) One (1) roster match for her team if the division has 6 matches or less in the roster.
 - b) Two (2) roster matches for her team if the division has more than 6 matches in the roster.
9. District associations are to confirm that competitors representing clubs have participated in the required number of matches and corresponding divisions to qualify for state finals.
10. District associations to forward a list of eligible players to Golf Australia prior to the state finals.
11. Should a team reach the state final after competing in a regional pennant where that club is represented by two (2) teams in the same division, only two (2) competitors from the corresponding team are permitted to transfer into the participating team should they be eligible.

RULES OF PLAY

1. All pennant matches will be played as handicap match play.
 - a) Divisions 1, 2 & 3 players will give a maximum of 8 strokes.
 - b) Division 4 players will give the full number of strokes with no limit.
2. The team average calculated at the beginning of the pennant season based on Golf Australia handicap will determine which division a team will play in, and remain as such for the entire season:

The following handicap brackets apply:

a) Division One	-	25 & under
b) Division Two	-	15 – 28
c) Division Three	-	24 – 36
d) Division Four	-	30 – 45
3. The team's weekly average is calculated using each player's CURRENT GA Handicap. This still needs to be within the team average range for their division.
4. Any changes made to the team's composition during the pennant season must conform to the previous condition.
5. The team average is not to be rounded up or down. E.g. If a player's handicap is 28.6 it is not to be rounded up and similarly, the team average is the exact total of the 5 players' Golf Australia handicaps, divided by 5.

6. All players are responsible for their handicap and must play off their current Golf Australia Handicap for each pennant match.
7. Matched are to be played to the slope rating of each course.
8. Evidence of individual player's Golf Australia Handicap must be available if required. Team Captains should ensure player's handicaps are as of the day of play.
9. Club Captains are requested to submit a list of all player's Golf Australia handicaps to their District Secretary at the beginning of the season.
10. District Secretaries are requested to submit the pennant roster to the Golf Operations Manager at Golf Australia at the beginning of the season.
11. The index to be used will be the Golf Australia Balanced Distribution of Strokes Match Play Index.
12. Teams must be posted on the noticeboard or handed to an official at least ten (10) minutes prior to the start of play. No alterations will be accepted once teams are posted.
13. Teams shall consist of five (5) players.
14. Number one (1) will be the player with the lowest handicap with remaining players listed from lowest to highest handicap for team placement order.
15. Matches will commence from the tee in reverse team order with number one (1) players off last.
16. 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.
17. The 'Honour' will go to the visiting team for roster matches. Should the match be played on a neutral course the honour will be decided by 'Toss of Coin' by the Captains.
18. 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.
19. All matches are to be played from the permanent distance markers or, where not available, areas as determined by the Match Committee or Course Superintendent.
20. In all divisions, no roster match shall go beyond the 18th hole.
21. Days of play are to be decided by individual districts.
22. Districts will decide if and when finals are to be played in their jurisdictions.
23. Composite teams are encouraged and can be made of players from more than one district. At the beginning of the pennant season a player playing in different teams in 2 districts is required to indicate to both District Secretaries in which team she will play if both her participating teams reach the state finals.

CADDIES

Please refer to the Golf Australia Code of Conduct for information relating to caddies.

ABANDONED PLAY

1. The opposing team captains by agreement have the **sole power** to delay the starting time, call a temporary halt, or cancel any match in progress due to inclement weather or unplayable course conditions on the day of any rostered match.
2. Matches may not be delayed for more than 1 hour cumulatively. In the absence of agreement between the captains, a decision will be made by the nominated district contact person. All matches or games shall be halved unless a result has already been reached.
3. The matches will not be played at a later date.
4. Matches must not be abandoned or halved for any reason other than the above.
5. If a match cannot be completed and all players have completed 9-holes, then the winner will be declared whatever the result was after 9-holes.

SCORING & RESULTS

1. Two (2) points will be awarded for a win.
2. One (1) point will be awarded for a halved match.
3. If a division has a bye and an unequal number of weeks of matches played, then the team/s affected will receive one (1) point.
4. When two (2) or more teams tie in the number of matches won, individual game wins will be counted, and if this results in a tie the number of games won in matches between those teams will be counted. If they are still tied there will be a play-off, provided a suitable neutral course is available and at a time approved.

CONFORMING GOLF BALLS, DRIVER HEADS AND TIME OF STARTING

The specimen conditions in the Rules of Golf are in effect as regards to Conforming Golf Balls, Driver Heads and Time of Starting.

PACE OF PLAY

Rule 5-6 will be strictly enforced. Each group must maintain its position on the course with respect to the group preceding it. Any group with a clear hole in front of it will be considered out of position. Penalties will be issued to individuals in such groups who by their pace contribute to such delay. Warnings may not be issued prior to penalties.

MOTORISED TRANSPORT

During play, it is prohibited for a player to ride in or on a motorised vehicle unless specific written permission has been granted by the Match Committee. (NB Subject to host club permission, a caddie may use motorised transport at any time.)

Procedure when breach discovered: Use of any unauthorised form of transportation must be discontinued immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred.

Note i: Permission will only be granted to entrants who can provide a Medical Certificate.

Note ii: GA takes no responsibility for the availability of golf carts.

Note iii: Permission will be granted on the basis that the following requirements are adhered to. Players failing to adhere to these requirements are liable to have such permission revoked:

Players who drive at a pace which is clearly quicker than walking pace; and/or who drive to a point past their ball which is clearly unreasonable for a player who is not using motorised transport to reach, are in breach of these requirements.

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.

In the event of a breach between the play of two holes, the penalty applies to the next hole. Use of an unauthorised form of transportation must be discontinued immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred. Otherwise the player is disqualified.

ANTI-DOPING

The Golf Australia anti-doping policy applies for this event. The GA anti-doping policy is the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy, effective from 1 January 2021, and can be found here: <https://www.golf.org.au/competitionpolicies>

CODE OF CONDUCT

All entrants assent to be bound by Golf Australia's Code of Conduct. A copy of the code is available at www.golf.org.au.

MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES

All competitors will be made honorary members of the host club and are required to comply with the dress and mobile phone regulations.

PUBLICITY

Golf Australia and the sponsors arrange publicity before and during the State Finals in the press, by live and recorded radio, television broadcasting and by filming. The competitors assent to reference to them and pictures of them in practice and play being used for commercial purposes by Golf Australia and the sponsors. Golf Australia reserves the right to any press, broadcasting or television fees paid or payable for permission to broadcast, photograph or televise play.

NO SMOKING

All competitors and caddies are subject to State Government laws prohibiting the smoking of cigarettes, cigars or the like during the course of any round played in a competition.

PART B ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS FOR STATE FINALS

MATCH COMMITTEE

1. The pennant finals will be under the management and control of the Golf Australia TR&R and the Golf Operations Manager of Golf Tasmania with full power at any time to alter or vary any one of the Conditions.
2. In the absence of the full Match Committee such members thereof as may be present at any time may give a decision and any decision shall be deemed the decision of the full Match Committee.
3. The Match Committee of the day will settle any dispute or protest that may arise.
4. The decision of the Match Committee will be final in all matters relating to the pennant finals. Protests must be made by the protesting captain to the Match Committee not later than 30 minutes after the conclusion of the day's play or, in the case of protest against a Match Committee ruling, within 30 minutes of this ruling.

RULES OF PLAY FOR STATE FINALS

1. All State Finals for Divisions 1-4 will be played over two (2) consecutive days on a Sunday and Monday.
2. The 'Honour' will be decided by a toss of a coin between a Golf Australia official and the opposing Captains
3. In any division there must be teams from at least 2 Districts for a State Final to be held and a State pennant presented. If, however, one of the finalists cannot compete on the day due to unforeseen circumstances, Golf Australia may award the pennant to the attending finalist.
4. A division must have least two (2) teams for a State Final to be held. No pennant will be presented unless a State Final is held.
5. A team must have three (3) players to be eligible to play in the State Final and placement will be made from number one (1) down to the available number of players with no places missed.
6. Individual matches will proceed on extra holes where required until a result is achieved.
7. Subsequent matches will only continue in State Finals if a result has not been achieved.

ABANDONED PLAY

Should a course hosting the State Finals be declared unplayable due to poor weather conditions, the Pennant Final Match Committee may transfer the game to a nearby course which is deemed playable on the day.