



## THE RULES \_ Part 2 – August 2023

### Part 2 – Club Competitions – Adjusted and maintained by The Club Management Committee

#### **COMPETITION RULES and LOCAL RULES**

These Competition rules are adjusted and maintained by the Management Committee.

Changes shall be notified to members via Mail, Email and /or notices.

Rule 3 will be applied to any submission of incorrect scores once scores have been deemed to have been returned, usually 3PM on day of competition. (See Appendix)

18.0. Members shall adhere to the following competition rules:

##### 18.1 Playing Rules

All competitions are played under R&A rules, with the exception of the Local Rules attached which have been approved by the R&A. (see page 5)

##### 18.2 Competition Entry

***All “Home Members” are entitled to play in all competitions, “Away” members are not entitled to enter any Trophy or Honour Board Competitions, but are welcome to play in £ in the pot competitions.***

***Some competitions will be played under a maximum handicap limit, entrants with higher handicap than the maximum can still enter but will be limited to playing under the maximum playing handicap set by the committee, which is 28, such competitions will be signposted on the sign up procedure.***

***Entry to the annual Club Championship competition additionally requires submission of 20 qualifying scores (and as a result an established Handicap Index) as a condition of entry.***

Before playing in a competition Members must; complete the online entry process, ideally themselves, or via agreement with another member to enter their name for them via Master Scoreboard; pay green fees, where applicable; retain the receipt for inspection; ensure the start sheet is updated; place the entry fee in the box provided. Failure to comply with any part of this rule will result in disqualification.

It is not permissible to enter competitions after the sign-up deadline without permission of the Competition Secretary / organiser. Nor is it permissible to turn up and play on the day. Playing outside of the clubs reserved tee times is only permitted with the authorisation of the Competition Committee and is only allowed in exceptional circumstances.



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### 18.3 Score Returns

Players are deemed to have entered the competition once they have teed off their first hole.

Players, having commenced play, **MUST** enter a score for each hole that they have completed.

If players do not hole out on any hole, they must record "PU" for that hole and as a result R&A Rule 3.3c will be applied; However, if the competition has been deemed to be played under Maximum Score, then they must record the Maximum Score for that hole (5 over par). Unless Maximum Score is in force, scores are to be entered as actual scores, ie: scoring 10 or over must be entered as an Actual Score and not as a Maximum Score.

When submitting scores via MS, if a player fails to identify who has acted as marker for their score, this will be deemed as having not been "marked" and as a result they may be disqualified.

Scores must be agreed with your scoring partner immediately after the end of the round and before leaving the course.

Any scores not entered by someone who it is known to have played on the day, will be entered as max score for the round by the competition marker.

If the player is unable to use Master Scoreboard, then they **MUST** send it by WhatsApp, "TEXT" or email their scorecard to the organiser.

If a player makes a mistake entering their score and is unable to correct it, then the details of the hole, the incorrect score and the correct score must be sent to the Competition Secretary and the Club Captain, by text before 15:00Hrs on the day of the competition.

Scores must be entered by 15:00 on day of competition. (Deadline may be adjusted for some Competitions). Scores are deemed to have been returned at this time on the day of the competition and cannot be amended at any time afterwards.

### 18.4 Score Anomalies

Players are required to retain their written scorecards for 7 days. This enables the competition results to be validated should the need arise.



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Any anomalies with regards to submitted scores, raised by markers, should be investigated and addressed by the Competition Committee before the Club's next competition.

Persistent incorrect reporting of scores may result in the player being prohibited from entering club competitions for a period of up to 6 months.

In addition the club may also suspend an individual's handicap which would prevent them from playing competitions at other clubs. This is in addition to any penalties applied under R&A rule 3 (see Appendix)

### 18.5 Booking Etiquette

In competitions when a draw is made for partners / markers / players / teams. Members must play in the group as drawn. Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification.

Entrants are reminded that they must tee off promptly at their scheduled tee time. Failure to do so will be addressed in line with the rules of the R&A.

A member who enters a competition and is unable to play, must remove their name before the booking closure time advised on Master Scoreboard, (usually 3pm on day prior) by deleting their name from the start sheet by: using an online system, WhatsApp, emailing the club, or in exceptional circumstances when such notice cannot reasonably be given, contacting the course manager.

The penalty for failure to comply with this rule may result in suspension from one or more future competitions.

### 18.6 Useable Tees

Men's qualifying competitions will be played from the tees specified in the competition entry notes.

During periods when main tees are closed the winter mats must be used. In freezing conditions, players may choose to play from a safe teeing area within close proximity to the frozen mat. (In any direction, but not on a "closed" tee, and not nearer the hole).

Seniors qualifying competitions may be played from white or yellow moveable tee markers appropriately positioned within specified distance from permanent markers.

### 18.7 12 Hole competitions

Under current conditions, for handicap qualifying purposes, singles 12 hole competitions require players to return both 12 and 9 hole scores for the same round. When using player submitted scores, via Master Scoreboard, this means they will need to enter their score for two competitions (the 9 hole & 12 hole comp) posted on that



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date. Failure to enter a score for either will result in disqualification from both competitions, and Maximum Score being applied for the un-submitted competition.

#### 19.0 Complaints

All members are required to follow R&A Rules as well as specific R&A approved local rules contained in the Club Competition Rules. Members should make themselves aware of these and ensure that they and playing partners uphold them at all times.

All members should protect other players in the competition. This means that if, during the course of play, you know, or believe, that another player has breached, or is about to breach the rules, and does not recognise or is ignoring this, you should inform that player promptly. The breaching player should then apply any penalties required or take other suitable action. (see para below)

If you fail to do this you may be disqualified from the competition yourself.

If collectively the player and marker are not 100% sure of the rules, the player must play 2 balls in line with Rule 20.1c.

If a member is seen to be ignoring the rules or deliberately breaking them and does not address the issue when you raise it with them by either penalising themselves or playing 2 balls until guidance is available at the end of the round this should be reported to the Section Captain by email in a form as Appendix 1

Grievances relating to etiquette should be raised with the individual in the same way as a breach of rules.

**Members are urged to familiarise themselves with both the clubs Equality, Diversity & Inclusion policy, Disciplinary procedures and Handicap appeals procedure posted on the club website under which all complaints & grievances will be addressed.**

#### GENERAL

20. Local Rules which are approved by the R&A, as below, must be followed.  
See page 5

21. Lodging a Grievance

All Grievances should be registered by email to [meolebracegc@gmail.com](mailto:meolebracegc@gmail.com) and c.c. the club secretary.  
[mickmcquade4291@mickmcquade4291.plus.com](mailto:mickmcquade4291@mickmcquade4291.plus.com)



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The Email shall be in the form illustrated below.

In the case of competition claims, it should be submitted within 1 hour of completing your round for any complaint to be investigated by the Competition Committee.

Failure to complete & submit accordingly will result in a grievance / complaint not being investigated.

Email Format Required:

Your Name..... Date.....

Details of the complaint or Grievance. (To include name of individual to whom this relates.)

Names of any Witnesses

LOCAL RULES

LR1 - Winter Rules / Preferred Lies

At times indicated on the external course notices board outside the professionals shop **or** declared by the committee indicating that “Winter Rules” apply on the course:

“Pick and Place” :- When a player's ball lies in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less, the player may take free relief once by placing the original ball or another ball in, and playing it from this relief area:

- Reference Point: Spot of the original ball.
- Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point:  
6 inches from the reference point, but with these limits:
- Limits on Location of Relief Area:
- Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and
- Must be in the general area.

In proceeding under this Local Rule, the player must choose a spot to place the ball and use the procedures for replacing a ball under Rules 14.2b (2) and 14.2e.



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Any track, wheel rut or depression caused by a powered vehicle anywhere on the course is deemed to be GUR.

#### LR-3 Use of "Rangefinders" or Distance Measuring Devices

The use of distance measuring devices in competitions is permitted subject to their use qualifying with R&A rule 4.3. i.e. they have the capability to only measure distance. Devices with other functions, even if not used, are prohibited. Failure to comply – Disqualification

#### LR-4 Bunkers: Abnormal ground conditions

Agreed with the R&A - Local amendment to Rule 16.1c:

A player may elect to play the ball as it lies without penalty or

A ball may be lifted and dropped without penalty within 1 club length of the nearest point of relief in the bunker of unusual damage / abnormal ground (dog prints, holes footprints) which affects the lie of the ball only – not a players stance. If complete relief is impossible, the ball should be dropped as near as possible to the spot where the ball lay, but not nearer the hole, on a part of the course, in the bunker, that affords maximum available relief from the condition; or

Under penalty of one stroke, outside the bunker keeping the point where the ball lay directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind the bunker the ball may be dropped.

If taking relief under either of these options a player must agree the principle and process followed with their scorecard marker. If there is a dispute between either party as to the validity of the relief taken or the process followed then it is recommended the player plays two balls and resolves the conflict at the end of the competition.

Appendix

R&A Rule 3.3b states:

Wrong Score for a Hole. If you return a scorecard with a wrong score for any hole:



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- If your returned score for a hole is higher than your actual score, your higher returned score for the hole stands.
- If your returned score for a hole is lower than your actual score or no score is returned for a hole, you are disqualified.

Clearly, maximum Score competitions protect players from disqualification in the event that they fail to return a score. (see below)

R&A Rule 21.2 states:

1) Player's Score on Hole. A player's score for a hole is based on the player's number of strokes (including strokes made and penalty strokes), except that the player will get only the maximum score even if the actual score exceeds the maximum.

A player, who does not hole out under the Rules for any reason, gets the maximum score for the hole.

To help pace of play, players are encouraged to stop playing a hole when their score has reached the maximum.

The hole is completed when the player holes out, chooses not to do so or when his or her score has reached the maximum.

(2) Score Entered for Each Hole. To meet the requirements in Rule 3.3b for entering hole scores on the scorecard:

- If Hole is Completed by Holing Out.
  - When Score Is Lower Than Maximum. The scorecard must show the actual score.
  - When Score Is Same as or Higher Than Maximum. The scorecard must show either no score or any score at or above the maximum.