



DGC Member's Competitions & General Information Pack

Introduction

Welcome to the DGC members competitions and general information pack. This pack has been designed as a working document that contains an array of information regarding competitions and relevant members information. We hope you will find the pack useful and that it helps to maximise your enjoyment of competitions at DGC.

The pack endeavours to provide information on the following topics:

- Main competitions season
- Major competitions
- Knockout competitions
- Mid-week competitions
- Winter series
- How to enter competitions
- Club Championships
- Tee times
- Course rules
- Competition rules & guidelines
- Management of competitions & Howdidido
- Communication
- Notice board
- Competition Diary
- Local Rules
- How to obtain a Handicap
- Active/Competition handicap
- Qualifying/Non-Qualifying competitions
- Handicap review
- Handicap increases and reductions

This is a working document and subject to change. If you have any questions, require further information, or would like to suggest content for this document please don't hesitate to contact us.

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Main Season

The main season will run from April through to the end of September. The main season will consist of various singles competitions both "Stableford" and "Medal" formats and a number of team and pairs events. The main season will be regulated under handicap qualifying conditions, which means all competitions will be played from the "Black" competition tees, and all singles events will be subject to handicap increases and reductions.

Entering a competition

Weekend (Non-Drawn) (Main Season)

Most competitions scheduled for a weekend can be played either Saturday or Sunday.

- 1) Book a tee time either on line, by telephone or with our reception staff.
- 2) The entry sheets for all competitions are held and managed by DGC reception staff. Ask a member of our reception team to enter your name on the "start" sheet. You are required to state your name, tee time and the day you intend to play.
- 3) The competition entry fee is £3.50 (this is subject to change). You can pay your entry fee any time before you tee off, paying your entry fee "post" round is not permitted.
- 4) Reception staff will take payment for your competition entry fee, and will indicate as appropriate on the "start" sheet. (Cash only).
- 5) Ensure you have completed your scorecard correctly. Please clearly state the name of the competition you are playing in, the date, your name, your handicap and the tees of the day.
- 6) On completion of your round, please submit your scorecard by placing it in the "lock box" located next to the member's area notice board.
- 7) Your scorecard must be marked by another member.
- 8) Failure to follow these instructions could result in disqualification.

NB: DGC operate an all-inclusive policy; please be aware you may be "paired up" should the need arise.

Midweek Competitions

Midweek competitions can be played Monday – Friday (2pm), off of the white tees. These competitions will be either "Stableford" or "Medal" we will keep you informed of the format on a weekly basis. All midweek competitions will be processed through the ClubV1 system for handicap purposes.

The process and policy for midweek competitions is the same as weekend events.

Supplementary Scores

Supplementary scores are a means by which players can return a sufficient number of qualifying scores in order to maintain a handicap that is a true reflection of ability.

- 1) You can submit an unlimited amount of supplementary scores.
- 2) You must ask a member of DGC reception staff to log your intent to submit a supplementary score prior to playing.
- 3) Your scorecard must be marked by another member.
- 4) Place your completed scorecard in the "lock box" in the member's area.



"Majors"

DGC will run four "Major" competitions each season. One in April, May, June and August with Club Championships being held in July (subject to change). All "Majors" are singles events, two "Stableford" and two "Medal" formats.

These competitions will be drawn events, played on one day. Entry for these competitions is exactly the same as the rest of the competitions. The entry sheet will be posted on the notice board. Entry however will close 2pm on Thursday before the event at the weekend so the draw can be completed and emailed out to all members. No entries will be accepted after the draw has been completed.

NB: Due to Covid-19, aside from Club Championships, we will not be "drawing" any of the "major" competitions during the 2020/21 playing season.

The four "Majors" are:

Easter Sunday Trophy – Stableford

Derek Irons Memorial – Medal

Cancer Relief – Stableford

Orchard Trophy – Medal

Weekend (Drawn) (Majors)

Drawn competitions are played on a specific day, check the club diary for details. Drawn competitions will either be "Majors" or Club Championships and will be well advertised via email.

- 1) You do not need to book tee times for drawn competitions.
- 2) Entry for drawn competitions will close on Thursdays at 2pm so the draw can be completed and members notified of their assigned tee time and playing partners.
- 3) Once the draw has been completed no further entries will be accepted.
- 4) Tee times will generally be from first light in 7 minutes intervals until all competitors are out.
- 5) You must pay your entry fee before you tee off.

NB: Due to Covid-19, aside from Club Championships, we will not be "drawing" any of the "major" competitions during the 2020/21 playing season.

Knockouts

Knockout competitions will run through the summer months. Entry forms will be posted on the notice board. We will email all members information regarding entry cut off, the draw and any further relevant information in the spring.

Depending on demand, we will usually coordinate knockout competitions for scratch and handicap singles, as well as handicap pairs.

Knockouts cont...

Entry

- 1) The entry sheets will be posted on the notice boards and information emailed to all members.
- 2) You must pay the entry fee when you put your name on the sheet for the draw.
- 3) No late entries will be accepted once the draw has been completed.
- 4) All ties will be shown on a draw sheet and posted on the notice board. If your name is on the top of your listed tie, the responsibility is with you to make initial contact to arrange the match.
- 5) Once you have played your match you must ensure the result is written on the draw sheet.
- 6) Please complete your matches in a timely fashion.

Due to Covid-19 we are operating a limited competitive schedule, we will not be running knockout competitions during 2020.

Winter Series

DGC will operate a series of Stableford competitions that will run through the winter months. Although each competition will be run individually there will also be a league format, the league table will be updated after each event and posted on the notice board.

The entry procedure for the winter series is the same as competitions run through the main season.

(England Golf Guidelines)

Qualifying Competitions This is a stroke play/Stableford or bogey/par competition, played over a measured course, enabling a competition scratch score (CSS) to be calculated on conclusion (Clauses 7 and 18). A competition not held under these conditions is non-qualifying and does not directly affect a player's handicap. **Clubs are encouraged to hold qualifying competitions whenever possible throughout the year, in order that handicaps are current.**

The **preferred lie** period runs from the 1 October – 30 April. Clubs are therefore allowed to run **qualifying competitions** with **preferred lies** in operation between this time. After the 30 April, whenever possible the ball should be played as it **lies**, as the system has to be respected.

Entry sheets will state whether a competition is qualifying/non qualifying.



DGC Club Championships

Club Championships will usually be held in July. Entry to Club Championships is available to 7 Day and Flexible members providing they have an active competition handicap.

In order to hold an active competition handicap you must have played a minimum of 3 qualifying competitions in a calendar year.

Club Championships will consist of 36 holes, 18 holes played on Saturday and 18 holes played on Sunday.

Club Championships is a stroke-play "Medal" format. The lowest "gross" combined score over the 36 holes wins.

In addition and to run in tandem with the Club Championships there is a handicap net competition. For players with handicaps ranging from 0 to 12 the net competition is called The Oaks Trophy, for players with handicaps ranging from 13 to 28 the net competition is called the Schweppes Trophy.

If you enter Club Championships you are **automatically entered** into the The Oaks Trophy or Schweppes Trophy net competitions. You **do not** need to enter these separately.

The Club Championships is a "drawn" competition. DGC operate an "inclusive" policy, the draw will be completed randomly regardless of handicap or ability by the computer system in order to ascertain playing partners.

Once the draw has been completed there will be no further entries permitted.

Entry for Club Championships will be open 4 weeks before the event but will close on the Wednesday prior at 6pm. The draw will be completed on the Thursday and emailed out to all members.

After the first round scores have been authenticated, the draw for the second round will be formulated based on scores from round one. The players with the highest scores will go out first and the leaders out last.

After both rounds have been authenticated the Club Captain will present the trophy for Club Champion, The Oaks trophy and The Schweppes trophy winners.

For the net competitions **only**, the handicap you started round one with, will also apply to round two. There will be **no** handicap increases or reductions after round one as the competition is based over 36 holes.



Tee Times

Please ensure you book tee times either on-line or with reception. You will not be permitted to play the course without a tee time. At least one member must register at reception prior to your tee time. You must not play the course without registering at reception.

Please ensure you are present on the tee 5 minutes before you are due to tee off. You must adhere to your booked tee time.

Please ensure you inform reception of who will be occupying your booked tee time.

Excluding booked tee times, it is prohibited to tee off the 10th Hole without the express permission of DGC management.

Course Rules

Pace of play will be regularly monitored. Please ensure you refrain from slow play, always keep up with the group in front of you. If necessary, please stand aside and let the group behind you "play through" if you are hindering the pace of play.

Should you be approached by a "Course Ranger" please respect and adhere to any instructions you are given.

It is not permitted to use the course as a practice facility. For example; it is not permitted to play several balls on the same hole.

Please refrain from parking buggies or placing golf bags on the teeing areas.

Please repair all pitch marks, replace divots and rake bunkers this helps to ensure we are able to maintain the golf course to a standard you would expect.

Playing from the white tees is not permitted unless you are playing in a recognised club competition.

Competition Rules & Guidelines

In order to enter a competition you must pre-book a tee time and enter the relevant information on the competition entry sheet located on the notice board.

Pay your competition entry fee prior to commencing your round.

Ensure you have completed your scorecard correctly. Please clearly state the name of the competition you are playing in, the date, your name, your handicap and the tees of the day.

On completion of your round please ensure your score card is legible so it can be easily checked.



Competition Rules & Guidelines cont..

Ensure you and the person who has marked your card has signed in the areas provided, to authenticate your score.

Complete your score card in its entirety – points scored, strokes made etc in the boxes provided.

Please submit your scorecard immediately after your round. Where appropriate please enter your score into the competition computer.

Please refrain from “NR’s” – Members who regularly “NR” or do not leave their score card in accordance with national guidelines could be the subject of further action.

In “stableford” competitions, if you are unable to score any points in accordance with your handicap, please “pick up” and move on to the next hole when your playing partners are ready. This will help to ensure the pace of play is reasonable for all competitors.

In “medal” competitions, you must complete every hole in its entirety.

Competition Management & Howdidido

DGC will manage all competitions. Competitions will be loaded onto the system so that after your round you will be able to enter your results. On occasion there may be times where you are unable to enter your score into the computer, please just place your scorecard in the lock box.

We will aim to close all competitions Monday afternoons. Results will be published on the notice boards and you will be able to view each competition on the Howdidido website/app. Any handicap changes will become effective immediately.

Register with Howdidido for information regarding competition results and your own personal performance statistics. Visit the website or download the app and follow the registration instructions.

Communication

We recognise the importance of defined and effective communication channels. We will ensure that we communicate with all members on a weekly basis, mainly regarding competitions but also to pass on relevant information. Should you have any suggestions, or require information please contact us via email address:

We will only communicate via email.

Notice Board

The members notice board will be updated on a weekly basis. You will find all relevant competition entry forms, competition results, handicaps lists etc.



Competition Diary

In conjunction with the Club Captain, DGC will compile and publish a competition diary. The diary will naturally list the dates of future competitions but will also state the formats and handicap fractions etc. The diary may be amended from time to time, any changes will be communicated via email to all members.

How to obtain a Handicap

The new player will have to complete 54-holes in any combination of 9- or 18-holes, and submit the score cards to the competition coordinator. Following the inputting of the score details from these cards, the computer program calculates a handicap. We will notify you of your handicap via email, and your assigned handicap will be added to the handicap list which is posted on the notice board.

New players will be reviewed regularly to check that they have been given the right handicap. It is not fair to them if the handicap is too low – nor is it fair to your other members if their handicap is too high.

If a new member is joining from another club and has a CONGU handicap and CDH number, that CDH ID number and handicap comes with them, so you will need to make sure that the handicap secretary of the club you are leaving has removed you from that club's database.

It is a responsibility of the player to provide information on their previous golf experience and handicap. All handicaps remain in place for the calendar year after the player attained it.

Active/Competition Handicaps

For players to have a handicap that reflects their current standard of play, they need to return scores regularly from competitive rounds or to complete supplementary scores. This may not suit some members who prefer to play their golf more informally. Any player who has played in competitions amounting to 3 qualifying scores (any combination of 9- hole and 18-holes scores) or has returned supplementary scores, is considered to have a competition handicap.

You must have an "Active" handicap in order to play any of the "major" competitions and Club Championships.

Re-activating a competition handicap

As long as someone remains a member of a golf club, they retain their handicap even if it may not be a competition handicap. However, many clubs demand that members entering certain competitions have a competition handicap. To re-activate a competition handicap a player must return three qualifying scores, (any combination of competition or supplementary scores) within a calendar year. The Handicap Committee also have discretion to re-activate a competition handicap in exceptional circumstances.

Qualifying/Non Qualifying Competitions

This is a stroke play/Stableford or bogey/par competition, played over a measured course, enabling a competition scratch score (CSS) to be calculated on conclusion (Clauses 7 and 18). A competition not held under these conditions is non-qualifying and does not directly affect a player's handicap. Clubs are encouraged to hold qualifying competitions whenever possible throughout the year, in order that handicaps are current.

Handicap Review

The annual review will take place over the winter period from 1st October. The review is an opportunity for the handicap committee to undertake a comprehensive review of the handicaps of all DGC players.

DGC handicap software has a report that will help with this review, by highlighting players who have played better than their handicap suggests in the previous year. Only qualifying scores are taken in to consideration in the review program produced by the handicapping software.

If we have evidence that a player has been performing well in other events such as non-qualifying rounds, match play events or team competitions, the annual review will take these into account when looking at potential handicap adjustments.

The annual review is not just the time to reduce members' handicaps – many players will have failed to play to their handicaps and this is the time to increase their handicaps to something realistic.

This is important because if they continue to return scores outside their buffer zones, then their scores will skew the CSS calculation.

Exceptional scoring reductions

For players who are improving rapidly, and whose handicap may not be reducing quickly enough, there is a process included in the club software that applies an additional reduction (Clause 23C). This is triggered if a player returns two scores of 4 under handicap or better and when the second score is within a specified number of qualifying rounds. This does not apply to category 1 players. If an ESR is applied the player will be informed as soon as possible.

No returns/non-return of card (England Golf)

Most clubs require their players to enter their scores into the computer through the PSI (personal score input) system. If a member persistently refuses to do this, the club would be entitled to discipline him – or her. You should also point out to your players the inconvenience it causes if they do not return their cards. It can lead to hours of wasted time when closing down a competition.

Players should return their cards in these conditions and enter what scores they have into the PSI system. You should explain to them it is not acceptable to enter 18 zeros!

