



# Buckinghamshire County Ladies Golf Association

## COMPETITION CONDITIONS & REGULATIONS

THE FOLLOWING LOCAL RULES AND CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION, REGULATIONS AND SAFETY ADVICE APPLY TO ALL BCLGA COMPETITIONS.

THE WORD "COMPETITIONS" INCLUDES ALL BCLGA EVENTS, e.g. "CHAMPIONSHIPS", "MEETINGS", "MATCHES", "KNOCKOUTS" and "LEAGUES".

### A. Local Rules

1. The Local Rules of the host course shall be used for all competitions.
2. The following Additional Local Rules shall be used for all competitions:

#### **Distance Measuring Devices**

In all BCLGA Competitions, a player may obtain distance information by use of a distance measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses the device (including a multi-functional device such as a mobile phone) to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g. elevation changes, wind speed etc.) the player is in breach of Rule 14-3. Penalty: Match play – Loss of hole; Stroke play – Two strokes. Penalty for any subsequent offence: Disqualification.

Note: This Local Rule applies to team captains in both stroke play and match play Competitions. If a team captain uses a device in breach of this Local Rule, any distance information sought and received by a player from that team captain or given by that team captain and willingly received by a player, will result a breach of Rule 14-3.

#### **Accidental Movement of a Ball on a Putting Green**

Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1 are modified as follows:

When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment.

The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1.

Note: If it is determined that a player's ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new location. A ball-marker moved in such circumstances is replaced.

### **Exception to Rule 6-6d**

The Exception to Rule 6-6d is modified as follows:

If a competitor returns a score for any hole lower than actually taken due to failure to include one or more penalty strokes that, before returning her score card, she did not know she had incurred, she is not disqualified. In such circumstances, the competitor incurs the penalty prescribed by the applicable Rule, but there is no additional penalty for a breach of Rule 6-6d. This Exception does not apply when the applicable penalty is disqualification from the competition.

## **B. Conditions of Competition**

### 1. General Condition:

All competitions shall be run in accordance with the R&A Rules of Golf and the CONGU system of Handicapping.

### 2. Handicaps:

Players must provide a CDH number as proof of handicap. Players must have a Competition CONGU handicap.

### 3. Oversubscribed Competitions:

Entries for all annual meetings are limited by course capacity. If oversubscribed, entries will be accepted in order of receipt, except for the County Championships, which will be balloted on handicap.

### 4. Eligibility, Entries and Withdrawals:

Refer to the Entry Conditions for each individual competition.

NOTE the general ruling that:

i) For the "club" competitions (e.g. Bucks Shield, Interclub Foursomes, Leagues) players must be members of a Club affiliated to the County. For each competition, a player may only represent one club in any one season.

ii) Playing as an Individual:-

(a) Full Members are entitled to play in all County Competitions and for the County Teams and in the County Championships. (Qualification is through one of three ways:- county of birth, county of residence, county that club is affiliated to).

(b) Associate Members who are Full Members of another County:- Associate Members are entitled to play in all County Competitions including inter-club matches but excluding County Teams and the County Championships.

### 5. Play is over the stipulated 18 hole course of the day.

6. Players and caddies shall walk at all times during the stipulated round, unless authorised by the organising committee.

BCLGA is mindful of the Disability Discrimination Act 2005. If any player feels that due to a disability they are unable to play in a competition without the use of a golf cart they are asked to refer to the BCLGA Transportation Policy. This is available from the Competition Secretaries or the website: [www.bclga.org.uk](http://www.bclga.org.uk)

7. Caddies:

There are no restrictions on who may act as a Caddie.  
Caddies are not allowed in Junior events.

8. Inclement Weather:

If, in the opinion of BCLGA, it becomes impossible to complete a Competition in accordance with that competition's Conditions because of adverse weather or other circumstances, BCLGA may vary the Conditions to the extent necessary to achieve a result within the time available.

9. Advice in Match Play Team Competitions (Note to Rule 8):

Each team may appoint one person who may give advice to members of that team. Such person must be identified to the opposing team and to the competition organiser (if applicable) before giving advice.

That person may not walk on to a putting green or give advice to a player on or around the putting green when the player's ball lies on or has been lifted from the putting green.

Note that if the person appointed to give advice is also a player or caddie in the match, she must have completed her own match before she is allowed to give advice to a team mate other than her own partner (see decision 8/2).

10. Decision of Ties:

In a two round Championship, ties shall be decided on the 2nd round and then the 1st round. Should that fail to produce a result, ties shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the last completed round. If a tie still arises it shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the first nine holes of the last completed round.

In a one round event, ties shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the round. If a tie still arises it shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the first nine holes of the round.

11. Results of Match or Championship: Competition Closed:

a) Match play: The result of a match is deemed officially announced when it has been returned to the Organising Committee.

b) Stroke play: The results of the competition are deemed officially announced and the competition is closed when the Trophy is presented to the winner.

## 12. Trophies & Prizes:

A winning Club or Individual will be responsible for a trophy from the time it is presented until it is relinquished and shall ensure it is returned to BCLGA in time for presentation at the following year's competition.

Unless otherwise stated in the competition conditions a player may win more than one trophy but not more than one prize.

## 13. Disputes will be settled by a committee, formed by the Organiser of the Competition (three to form a quorum). That Committee's decision shall be final.

### **C. Regulations**

The following regulations, together with any additions or amendments published at the course, will apply to all BCLGA competitions, including practice days.

#### 1. Dress Code:

Players and caddies must adhere to the dress code in place at the host club. Correct attire and footwear must be in line with the regulations of the host club.

At no time must a player or caddie enter a golf club with no shoes on.

#### 2. Mobile Phones may not be used on the course. If switched on players and caddies must have their mobile phones on silent mode.

Use of mobile phones in and around the clubhouse must be in accordance with the regulations in place at the host club.

### **D. Safety Guidance in the Event of a Dangerous Situation**

The following guidance is taken from the England Golf "Hard Card". It is designed to assist; it is not an instruction or a Condition of Competition. People on the course are responsible for their own actions in such a dangerous situation and BCLGA is not liable for any injury or damage caused by following this guidance.

When the warning klaxon is sounded to suspend play for a dangerous situation you are you are advised:

Not to stand under overhead power lines.

Not to shelter under trees or on high ground.

Not to take cover in wooden or metallic shelters, unless the shelter is fully enclosed and properly earthed.

Not to exit the course by walking under trees if at all possible.

To keep as low as possible and, if necessary, crouch in the nearest bunker or other low point on the golf course.

To switch off and most certainly do not use a mobile phone.

Not to put up your umbrella under any circumstances.

Not to stand near your golf clubs; they act as a magnet to lightning. (If you are leaving the course, you are strongly advised to leave your clubs behind).

To remove any headgear which may have metal in or on it.