

SUMMER SCRATCH LEAGUE TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

1. General Condition:

The Competition will be played according to the BCLGA "Local Rules and Terms of the Competition and General Regulations".

2. The Leagues will be called the Silver Scratch League and the Bronze Scratch League.
3. League membership will be open to all Clubs affiliated to the County Association. The Executive Committee will determine the entry fee.
4. Players must be members of Clubs affiliated to the County. A player may only represent one Club in any one season.
5. The Management of the Leagues is vested in the League Organiser appointed by the Executive Committee. Any dispute is to be put in writing to the League Organiser, who may refer to the Executive Committee for a decision.
6. When entries for the Leagues necessitate the formation of Divisions, the League Organiser will arrange the Divisions as deemed appropriate, subject to the following provisions:
 - Maximum of 7 Clubs in any Division.
 - League Organiser to decide numbers for promotion and demotion between Divisions. In order to even out the number of Clubs in each Division promotions/demotions will be finalised only when the entrants for the following year are known.
 - Clubs remaining in the same division are to alternate home and away fixtures, if possible.
 - A Division comprising 4 or fewer Teams will contest on a home and away basis. A Division comprising 5, 6 or 7 Teams will only play each other once.
7. The following rules will govern play:
 - A team will consist of 3 players.
 - All games will be singles match play, off scratch.
 - The Silver League has no upper handicap limit.
 - Bronze League players must have a Handicap Index of 18.5 or above on the day of the match with the following exception:

If a player is selected for a team but, subsequently, her Handicap Index is reduced below 18.5, she is still eligible to play in the match, provided her Handicap Index was 18.5 or more 3 days before the day of the match.
 - Players are not required to play in handicap order.
 - Clubs may select different players for each match.
 - A game that is All Square after 18 holes will be halved. Points will be awarded for individual games: Win 2 points, Halved 1 point, Loss 0 points.

8. All matches are to be completed between the 21st March and mid-October. Dates will be confirmed when fixtures are sent out.
9. If a match has to be postponed due to bad weather or course closure, an extension to the time-period may be given on consultation with the League Organiser.
A level 3 or 4 heat health alert warning for the date of the match is a valid reason for a match to be postponed if ONE team requests the postponement.
10. If a match has to be stopped before a conclusion, due to a course closure or thunder and lightning or, it is considered by both teams that the conditions are dangerous, e.g. strong gales or extreme fog, then the match may be stopped. (With regard to fog, as a general rule players should not play if visibility is reduced to a point where they are unable to see their ball land.) Matches cannot be stopped for any other reason, e.g. too hot, cold, or wet. If the match cannot be continued on the day either:
 - If all players have played nine holes the result of the matches will be deemed to be as at the point of suspension, each game result being recorded as the number of holes up or down,
 - If all players have not completed nine holes, then the match is to be abandoned and re-arranged on a new date, if necessary, with a new team. In the event of the match having to be rescheduled, an extension to the time period may be given on consultation with the League Organiser.
11. Advice in Match Play Team Competitions:
The Local Rule allowing appointment of an Advice Giver in Match Play Team Competitions is in force for this competition.
12. The Captain of the HOME team must notify the League Organiser of the result within 48 hours of completion of the match.
13. The HOME Club must offer the opponents at least three dates falling within the time period allocated for the round. Specifically, the three dates are to include:
 - One weekend date.
 - One weekday date.

Thus, to ensure the three dates, the above could be 2 weekend dates and one weekday or 2 weekday dates and one weekend date. In addition, all three dates must not be within a single 7 day period.
14. Walk overs are only to be given, or accepted, in exceptional circumstances and only after consultation with the League Organiser. The League Organiser may grant an extension to the time period allocated for the Round in order to facilitate the match being played. If a walk-over is given, by a Club, that Club will be placed at the bottom of the Division and all matches involving that Club will be deemed null and void; any points having been scored will be discarded.
15. The teams recording the highest number of points in their Division will be the winner of that Division. In the case of a tie in the Premier Division of the Silver League, a Final will be played on a neutral course to determine the League Champions. In all other Divisions, where two or more Clubs have equal points, the Club with the highest number of individual wins will be deemed the winner. If still equal, there will be a count-back on the total from all the matches played of the number of holes won minus holes lost. In the event that there is still a tie, a count-back will be done on the total number of holes won minus holes lost in the last of the three games in all the matches played.

16. Clubs may enter two teams into each of the Bronze or Silver Summer Leagues. When a new or 2nd team is entered into one of the Leagues, the team will start in the bottom Division of the League they are entering.
17. The following rules apply to movement between teams.
 - i) If a Club has two teams in the Silver League, players should be allocated to the two teams based on the Club's perceived ability of the player.
A player's 'nominated team' in the Silver League will be the first team they play for in the season.
A player cannot play for a team in the Silver League in the same or a lower Division than her 'nominated team'.
A player can play for a team in the Silver League in a higher Division than her 'nominated team' no more than TWICE in a season.
 - ii) If a Club has two teams in the Bronze League, players should be allocated to the two teams based on the Club's perceived ability of the player.
A player's 'nominated team' in the Bronze League will be the first team they play for in the season.
A player may not play for a team in the Bronze League in the same or a lower Division than her 'nominated team'.
A player may play for a team in the Bronze League in a higher Division than her 'nominated team' more than TWICE in a season.
 - iii) A player can play in both Silver and Bronze Leagues, provided her Handicap Index is at least 18.5 when she plays in the Bronze League. The player will have a 'nominated team' in each of the Silver and Bronze Leagues.
 - iv) If a player is deemed to have played outside of these rules, the opposition will be declared as the winners with a result of '10 & 8' and awarded 2 points.

Additional Rule for all Leagues:

Clubs who include juniors in their teams are reminded of their Safeguarding responsibilities. Please be sure to follow the appropriate guidelines and ensure parental consent is obtained for those juniors involved, particularly if the junior is transported to an 'away' venue.

For each match, a 'responsible adult' must be nominated (be it a parent, the Team Captain or another adult team member) who will be responsible for the junior for the duration of the match. The 'responsible adult' must have details of emergency contact information and any special medical needs of the junior. The captains of both teams, plus the junior and her opponent must be provided with the contact telephone number of the nominated 'responsible adult'.

Note: 'Duration of the match' includes the time from a junior being dropped off by parents/guardians to their collection by parents/guardians.

Appropriate advice and/or information can be obtained from your Club's Safeguarding Officer.

In accordance with item B4 in BCLGA Local Rules, Terms of the Competition and General Regulations, a player must not practise on the Competition Course before or between rounds.

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