

Guidance on Mixed Tee Competitions

The majority of Qualifying Competitions are run for a specific group of competitors, e.g. a men's medal, a ladies' Stableford, a seniors' par/bogey competition from a given set of tees. Increasingly, however, clubs are introducing competitions that cater for a wider group of entrants such as in mixed gender competitions and/or competitions in which different sets of tees are used to enable players of different age/ playing ability to compete together.

Each set of tees used must have been rated for the genders that will play from them. Whilst the majority of clubs have at least two sets of tees for men i.e. traditional medal tees and forward tees, many clubs only have one set of tees that have been rated for women. A few clubs, particularly those having relatively long and/or difficult courses, have created an additional set of tees forward from the existing ladies' tees and have these tees rated for the women and sometimes for the men as well. Having such options enables clubs to give all players the opportunity to compete from tees that are the most suitable for their ability.

Examples of such competitions include:

- Junior competitions in which both boys and girls compete, with the boys playing from a set of tees having a men's rating and the girls competing from a set of tees having a women's rating;
- Open competitions open to men, women and juniors;
- Single gender competitions in which some players are required to, or may elect to, play from different sets of tees e.g. a men's medal in which players have the choice of playing from the traditional medal tees or from the forward tees (both sets of tees being rated courses). Or a ladies' Stableford with silver division playing from the traditional ladies' medal tees and bronze division playing from the forward ladies' tees. In virtually all cases, the different sets of tees will have been allocated different Standard Scratch Scores by the Unions.

In order to maintain equity in determining the prize winners in these competitions, the Playing Handicaps of some of the competitors may require to be adjusted to provide a Competition Handicap Allowance. In Qualifying Competitions any adjustment to generate the Competition Handicap Allowance must be applied for competition result purposes only, so that the competition retains its qualifying status. The adjusted Competition Handicap Allowance must **not be used** to establish the Competition Scratch Score or for the purpose of handicap alteration. Competitions in which competitors play from different tees in Qualifying Competitions may be in three formats – medal stroke play, Stableford and par/bogey.

Mixed Tee Calculator

A mixed tee calculator is available in an Excel format (see example below) which allows you to apply the difference between the Standard Scratch and Par for the type of competition being played.

<u>Handicap/Score Adjustments for Mixed Tee Competitions</u>			
Back tees:		Forward tees:	
SSS:	<input type="text" value="68"/>	SSS:	<input type="text" value="70"/>
Par:	<input type="text" value="68"/>	Par:	<input type="text" value="71"/>
<i>Use the appropriate SSS/Par for the gender competing</i>			
Handicap adjustment for singles:		Back tees:	Forward tees:
Medal:		<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="2"/>
Stableford/Par:		<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Match (incl. Gross match):		<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="2"/>
<i>Single Par/Stroke Index to be used (Forward tees recommended)</i>			
Handicap adjustment for pairs/teams:		<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="2"/>
<i>Where a single ball is in play per team/pairing (such as Foursomes, Greensomes, Scramble) then a single Par/Stroke Index is used (Forward tees recommended)</i>			
<i>In Stableford formats where players play their own ball (such as Better Ball) play from their own Par/Stroke Index is recommended</i>		<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>
<i>In Medal formats where players play their own ball (such as Better Ball) play from their own Par/Stroke Index is recommended</i>		<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="2"/>
Singles score adjustment:		<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="-2"/>
Gross score event:			
Handicap Adjustments are to be applied to the playing handicap before calculating any Handicap Allowance fraction for the competition format			

Genders playing from the same tees

The foregoing methods of handicap adjustment for the different Qualifying formats cannot be applied to Men and Women (or Boys and Girls) playing from the same set of tees unless a Standard Scratch Score has been allocated for each gender. In such circumstances a woman playing from the Men's tees requires an additional stroke allowance to the extent determined by the difference in the Men's and Ladies' Standard Scratch Scores. For a 6000 yard course the difference in the respective Standard Scratch Scores would be of the order of 5 strokes. These strokes should not be regarded as 'courtesy shots'. They are an entitlement necessary to equalise the handicaps of the participating groups.

More detailed examples can be found in Appendix O of the CONGU Manual and in the WalesGolf web site (<http://www.walesgolf.org/guides/>) and on the CONGU web site at www.congu.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/MIXED-GOLF-SSS-SI.pdf

Note that this Appendix O does not apply to 9-Hole Competitions where different sets of tees are in use. The 9-Hole Handicap Allowance effectively makes the target for all players 36 points regardless of the tee used, hence no further adjustment is used.