

## ALTERNATE DAY COMPETITIONS

For clubs which have members who cannot play on the Main Competition Day, and providing the Club Committee is willing to grant the necessary permission, the Committee may arrange an Alternate Day for club competitions, complying with the Rules of Golf (Note to Rule 33-2b).

The following are Guidelines for a Committee to enable as many members as possible to play in competitions:

1. The Alternate Day should be arranged within 7 days of, and ideally prior to, the Main Day so that the competition is closed at the end of the Main Day.
2. Players may not compete in both the Alternate and Main Days.
3. The Committee may request members to indicate their preference on a prepared list or book at any time up to 48 hours before the first day of the competition days, whether that be the Main or Alternate Day. Under exceptional circumstances, the Committee may permit a player to change the day at shorter notice, provided tee times are available.
4. There should be no restriction as to who may play on an Alternate Day. The purpose of an Alternate Day is to enable as many members as possible to play in club competitions.
5. If the Club Committee limits the number of members who may compete on the Alternate Day, the Committee should decide the fairest apportionment of opportunity to those wishing to play.
6. If Trophy Competitions are played on one day only, consideration should be given to running Trophy Competitions on the Alternate Day.
7. The Alternate Day must be treated as a separate competition for handicapping purposes. A CSS must be calculated for each day and handicaps adjusted accordingly. The results of the two days will be combined for allocation of prizes.
8. Markers for single players should be approved by the Club Committee. A single player unable to join other players should have the ability to compete, however the Committee should approve the player's choice of marker prior to the start of play or appoint a marker if practical.
9. It is acceptable for a man to mark a ladies card and visa versa.

If a stroke play competition is held over alternate days, for example, Wednesday and Saturday, those players opting to play on the Saturday would not be allowed to play the course prior to this as the competition starts on the Wednesday. This would be playing the competition course before play and in breach of the Rules of Golf - Rule 7-1.

However, in order to allow play on the course when not playing in the competition, the Committee can state in the conditions of competition that practice on the competition course is permitted. This is allowed under the Note to Rule 7-1b and should be stipulated as part of the conditions of the competition.

The Committee may, in the conditions of a competition (Rule 33-1), *prohibit* practice on the competition course on any day of a match play competition or *permit* practice on the competition course or part of the course (Rule 33-2c) on any day of or between rounds of a stroke play competition.

Where a single round is to be played on more than one day, the Committee may provide, in the conditions of a competition (Rule 33-1), that the holes and teeing grounds may be differently situated on each day of the competition, provided that, on any one day, all competitors play with each hole and each teeing ground in the same position.

***The R&A's suggested wording is as follows:***

*When competitors have a choice between the main and alternate day for a single stroke play competition, in terms of Rule 7-1b of the Rules of Golf, any players who elects to play on the second day is permitted to play on the competition course on the first day of the said competition.*

