

WALES GOLF 2022 GENERAL TERMS OF COMPETITION & RULES

The following general conditions along with the Wales Golf hard card apply to all Wales Golf Championships. For the purpose of this document the term 'championship' includes any Wales Golf competitions, finals etc.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Rules of Golf

All Championships shall be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf and such Local Rules and Conditions of Competition as shall be approved by the Championship Committee.

2. Amateur Status

All players must be of Amateur Status as defined by the Rules of Amateur Status.

3. Entries and Fees

All entries must be completed and received by the Wales Golf championship department by 11:59pm on the date entries close. They must be accompanied by payment either by a cheque made payable to the "Golf Union of Wales Ltd" (for entries made using a paper entry form), or by debit/credit card for on-line entries. Entries without payment will not be accepted. No entry will be included in the draw unless complete in all respects.

- a) Depending upon the event entries may either be made;
 - i) on-line at www.walesgolf.org. Payment will be taken when the online entry is submitted. Unsuccessful entrants will be refunded to the same card details after the closing date.
 - ii) using a PDF entry form downloaded from the Wales Golf website which should be returned by Email to championships@walesgolf.org or by post.
- b) Entries by telephone are not accepted.
- c) All entries shall be subject to the approval of the Wales Golf Championship Committee, which reserves the right to accept, or refuse, or having accepted, subsequently reject any entry without giving reason for its decision.
- d) Entries received after the closing date of the Championship will not be accepted.

4. Handicaps

- a) All players wishing to enter any Wales Golf event must be in possession of an official World Handicap Index or an overseas equivalent handicap. Entrants holding both an official WHS handicap and an overseas equivalent handicap must enter using their Official WHS Handicap Index
- b) When entering any Wales Golf event by any of the methods above, a player's Handicap Index must be recorded on the entry form (paper/on-line). Any entry ballot will be based on the Handicap Index at the closing date of the Championship.
- c) Entrants must be able to provide proof of handicap at any Wales Golf championship when requested by the committee, failure to do so may result in disqualification.
- d) Entry will still be accepted should handicap indices exceed the maximum handicap for the relevant Championship at close of entry

5. Withdrawals

- a) If a player withdraws at least 7 days prior to the start of the event, they will receive a refund on their entry. Withdrawals after this stage will not receive refunds except in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Wales Golf Chairman of Championships & Rules.
- b) Any player who:
 - i. fails to register in accordance with 6 below, or
 - ii. fails to appear on the tee at their appointed start time, or must, without delay, furnish the Wales Golf Championship Committee with a satisfactory explanation, confirmed in writing. If they do not do so, they may be barred from entering or playing in Wales Golf Championships for such period as the Wales Golf Championship Committee may decide.

6. Registration

Unless otherwise specified players must register in person at the Championship Office at the venue or by telephone or for selected events on-line by 16:00hrs on the day before the event starts (in advance of each event players will be notified of the time registration opens). Failure to register by this time may result in the player forfeiting their place, which will be offered to a reserve. The player concerned will also forfeit their entry fee.

7. Reserves

- a) In Individual Stroke Play Championships, a reserve list will be maintained and managed by the Championship Department. Should a place or places in the draw become available, reserves will be invited to play in the order they are listed on the reserve list.
- b) In order to ensure a full field for a Championship and at the sole discretion of the Championship Department, a reserve or reserves may be offered a place depending on whether they can be contacted, i.e. irrespective of their place on the reserve list.
- c) At appropriate Stroke Play Championships, in the event of a late withdrawal of a player in the draw, a reserve who has entered the event in accordance with Condition 3 above and is present at the venue on the first day of the Championship may be offered the vacated start place. Should there be more than one reserve in attendance, such reserves will be invited to play in the order they are listed on the reserve list.
- d) At the discretion of registration officials at the venue, and depending on a practice round space being available, a reserve who is present at the venue may play a practice round. They may also use practice facilities at the venue.

8. Inclement Weather

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

9. Modified Rules of Golf

The modification of the Rules of Golf for Golfers with Disabilities, as published by the R&A, will be adopted in the following events for any disabled player that wishes to make use of the adapted rules:

- a) All Wales Golf managed individual national championships
- b) Wales Golf events collectively known as the Ladies Cups and the Ladies Handicap Team events.
- c) The national finals, and regional finals where relevant, of all other Wales Golf managed championships.
- d) The adapted rules may be used in club qualifying events for these championships (with the exception of the preliminary rounds for the Welsh Men's & Ladies Team Championships, Victory Shield & Ping Mixed events) solely at the discretion of the host club, or organizing body if different to the host club.
- e) Any player who wishes to make use of the adapted rules must inform the Wales Golf Championship Manager prior to the closing date of the relevant championship of their intention to use the modified rules.

10. Trophies

- a) All trophies won by an individual player will be held by Wales Golf and displayed at the Wales Golf headquarters.
- b) A winning Club will be responsible for a trophy from the time it is presented until it is relinquished and shall ensure it is returned to Wales Golf before the next year's Championship.

11. Covid-19 Amendments

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 Situation in Wales, a number of additional conditions may be implemented for Championships. These conditions are likely to change throughout the season, and will be available at www.walesgolf.org as well as published to competitors shortly after the closing date.

12. Anti-Doping

- a) All players shall be deemed to have made him/herself familiar with, and agreed to be bound by the UK Anti-Doping Rules and to submit to the authority of UK Anti-Doping in the application and enforcement of the Anti-Doping Rules.
- b) The UK Anti-Doping Rules apply to all persons licensed (whether permanently, provisionally, temporarily or otherwise) to participate in golf, for whichever is the longer of a) the length of the licence period; or b) 12 months from the date of issue of the licence, in accordance with Wales Golf General terms of Competition [whether or not the licence holder is a citizen of, or resident in, the UK].

13. Wales Golf Policies and Procedures

The following policies and procedures apply to Wales Golf championships and are available at www.walesgolf.org

Covid-19 Conditions	Safeguarding & Photography	Anti-Doping	Gender Policy
Use of Golf Buggies (Transportation)	Play Foreshortened	Distance Measuring Devices	Pace of Play