



Terms of Competitions
Stackstown Golf Club - All Categories
(January 2026)
Developed as per Rule 5 A of the Rules of Golf

1. Introduction

- a. These Terms of Competitions have been drawn up by the Club to govern all Club competitions. They combine and update all earlier rule sets to form a single, integrated rulebook. All other rules are replaced by these rules.
- b. All competitions shall be played in accordance with the R&A Rules of Golf, USGA Rules, and any Local Rules as published by the Club.
- c. The Rules of Golf as approved by R&A Rules Limited and the USGA, in addition to Local Rules as made and published by Stackstown's GC, apply to all competitions. Players are advised to become familiar with these rules.
- d. These rules have been approved by the Women's and Men's Committees and have been endorsed by the Management Committee. Any changes to these rules must be agreed at the respective Committee and sent to the Management Committee for endorsement. No change should be proposed that would result in a difference of approach to one gender of golfers over another.
- e. The appendix at the end of this document contains further information and contact details for the relevant committees.
- f. The term "Golfer of the Day" refers to the player who wins the primary competition being played on that day - be it a one day or a two day competition.

2. Applicability

- a. These terms apply to all competitions organised and run by Stackstown Golf Club through the relevant committee of the Club (Mens, Womens/Ladies, Social, Junior etc).
- b. The Rules of Golf shall apply to all competitions played in the Club.



- c. For the purpose of this document,, Junior Members means all members holding one of the minor or Junior categories of membership.

3. Eligibility

- a. To enter and possibly win any Club Competition prize, a player must be a fully paid-up member of the Club and not in arrears. The Office will ensure that the lists of paid up members is kept up to date on all software packages.
- b. All members holding a valid WHS handicap are eligible to compete, subject to membership category rules, in competitions organised and run by either Competition Committee.
- c. All Members must have a fully developed Golf Handicap to be eligible to win Golfer of the Day (GoD) ie the member must have 20 Acceptable Scores returned from Competition and General Play scores on their record. The Competition Committee will check the Golf Ireland records to confirm this is the case.
- d. The Competition eligibility rules are follows:-

	GOY Competitions Mens	GOY Competitions Womens	Non GOY Competitions	Competitions for the specific Category
Honorary Life members	Any prize except GoD	Any prize except GoD	Any Prize	Any Prize
Honorary Members	Any Prize	Any prize	Any Prize	Any Prize
Full Members	Any Prize	Any Prize	Any Prize	Any Prize
Six Day members	None	Any Prize except Captain's 1st Prize	Any Prize	Any Prize



Five Day Members	None	Any Prize except Captain's 1st Prize	Any Prize	Any Prize
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Associate members	Any Prize	Any Prize	Any Prize	Any Prize
Intermediate Members	Any prize except GoD	Any prize except GoD	Any Prize	Any Prize
Student members	Any prize except GoD	Any prize except GoD	Any Prize	Any Prize
Junior members	Any prize except GoD in the Captains, Presidents, and the May - August Medals and team representative competitions	Any prize except GoD in the Captains, Presidents, and the May - August Medals and team representative competitions	Any Prize	Any Prize
Minor members	Any prize except GoD	Any prize except GoD	Any Prize	Any Prize
Country members	Any prize except GoD	Any prize except GoD	Any Prize	Any Prize
Pavilion members	None	None	Any Prize	Any Prize
Temporary members	None	None	Any Prize	Any Prize



Overseas members	Any prize except GoD	Any prize except GoD	Any Prize	Any Prize
Life members	Any prize except GoD	Any prize except GoD	Any Prize	Any Prize
Young Adults	Any prize except GoD unless they have voting rights	Any prize except GoD unless they have voting rights	Any Prize	Any Prize
Senior Social Members	None	None	None	Any Prize
Getting Into Golf Members	Any Special competitions set aside for GIGS	Any Special competitions set aside for GIGS	Any Prize	Any Prize
Others	None	None	Any Prize	Any Prize



4. Competition Entry, payment of fees, cancellation of competition or withdrawal from the competition:-

- a. To enter a competition a player must ensure the following before starting to play:-
 - i. You must book a time on the computer based timesheet for all competitions before you begin play.
 - ii. For all Singles, Team and Social Golf competitions, enter your GI number(s) or swipe your card in the computer in the Pro Shop **prior to playing the round.**
 - iii. Post play entry is prohibited.
- b. The identifiable entry must be paid or there is an intention to pay the fee as part of the computerised system in the Club and your fee will be deducted from your account.
- c. If a competition is cancelled after players start, such fees will be credited back to their accounts.
- d. Members will be charged the competition fee if they do not attend without just cause for their reserved tee time.
- e. If a member is unable to play they must remove their booking by the time stipulated by the relevant Committee to avoid being charged for the entry. In certain circumstances members may seek refunds in writing to the Competition Committee if their non-attendance was caused by events of urgent or serious nature.
- f. If the computer system is not available for entering into a competition or returning a score for a competition, a smart phone should be used for this purpose. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification and other such sanction as may be determined by the Competition or Handicap Committee

5. Fees & Prizes

- a. The Competition Committee will set the entry fees for each competition and will determine the number of members in each category and the number of prizes per Category.
- b. The number of prizes in each category will be determined by the relevant committee while ensuring consistency between each committee.



- c. Where a competition has less than 15 entrants, there will only be one category of entrants.
- d. There will be a Gross prize in all competitions where there are sufficient numbers in the category and competition to do so. A player winning the gross prize will not be eligible to win any other prize in that competition.
- e. The prize fund will generally be about 60% of the sum of competition fees, subject to the discretion of the Competition Secretary in discussion with the relevant Captain. Consistency and equity will be maintained between each competition committee.

6. Competition Format & Details

- a. The Competition Committee will be responsible for setting up the competition entry system which will include the following
 - i. Date or dates of competition (where a single competition is being held over a number of days, the handicap index of the player on the first day of the competition shall remain in place over the course of the competition (ie on the second and subsequent days)). For the avoidance of doubt, each round in any Club match play event is regarded as a single competition.
 - ii. Course in Play
 - iii. Eligibility eg
 - 1. Handicap Limits
 - 2. Gender
 - 3. Age ranges
 - 4. etc iv. Form of play (strokes/stableford etc)
 - v. Number of holes
 - vi. Tees
 - vii. Number of prizes including, if appropriate, gross prizes (both stroke and stableford).

7. Time Sheets:

- a. When Time Sheets are in operation players shall
 - i. not play unless they have an allocated time slot (i.e. may not cut in between groups);



- ii. be present on the tee box and ready to play, ten minutes prior to their designated start time, having checked in at the Proshop first. (Failure to tee off on time may result in players being penalised under Rule 5.3a).
- iii. play at the time set out by the Competition Committee (in respect of specific competitions).
- iv. shall not compete in a competition outside of the official Competition times except with the permission of the relevant Competition Committee.
- v. Must notify their opposition/playing partners in good time if they are withdrawing from the event. (Reserving a time slot is a commitment to play with and/or mark other player's scores on that time slot).

8. Groups

- a. Competitors shall remain throughout their round in the group as set out on the time sheet or as arranged by the Competition Committee unless a major reason arises and this must be reported to the Competition Committee on completion of the round.

9. Handicap Rules and Allowances:

- a. The rules and allowances that shall apply for handicapping are those prescribed by Golf Ireland and set out in the WHS Rules of Handicapping in place at the time of the Competition. Players are expected to be familiar with these systems.
- b. In all Club Competitions including those confined to the Club Members, Semi Opens, Invitation and Open events as organised by the Competition Committee, the only handicaps acceptable and recognised for prize eligibility shall be for players of affiliated Clubs.
- c. Handicap Allowances as advised by Golf Ireland are set out below. The relevant Committee may vary these allowances as the need arises.

Format of Play	Type of Round	Recommended Handicap Allowance
Stroke Play	Individual	85% to 100%
	Individual Stableford	85% to 100%



	Individual Par/Bogey	85% to 100%
	Individual Maximum Score	85% to 100%
	Four-Ball	75% - 90%
	Four-Ball Stableford	75% - 90%
	Four-Ball Par / Bogey	75% - 90%
Match Play	Individual	100%
	Four-Ball	90%
Teams	Foursomes	50% of combined team handicap
	Greensomes (Scotch foursomes)	60% low handicap + 40% high handicap
	Best 2 of stroke play	85%
	Best 3 of stroke play	100%
	All 4 of 4 stroke play	100%
	Rumble	95%
	Scramble 4 players	25%/20%/15%/10% from lowest to highest handicap
	Scramble 3 players	30%/20%/10% from lowest to highest handicap



10. Eligibility for Competitions and Prizes (referred to in the introduction)

- a. A player must have a recognised Golf Handicap under the WHS rules in order to win a prize.
- b. In addition to having a recognised Golf Handicap, members must have a fully developed handicap i.e. have submitted 20 counting rounds (either 9 or 18 holes) to be eligible to win Golfer of the Day in any Club Competition.
- c. The Competition Committee may stipulate a maximum allowed handicap for any given competition eg setting a maximum handicap to play in certain competitions. A player whose handicap is higher than the limit set by the Committee may still play in the competition but with a handicap of no more than the limit.
- d. While separate Competitions will be organised for Men and Women members, the terms of each competition will be in compliance with these general terms.
- e. The Competition Committees may organise competitions, either separately or as part of a larger competition, confined to specific categories of members in the Club.
- f. Transgender members shall be eligible to play in competitions as per the policy of the R & A and Golf Ireland.
- g. Junior Members with a WHS handicap index of 19.9 or less for Boys or 39.9 or less for Girls, can participate in all relevant adult competitions. Please see Rule 3 above regarding eligibility to win Golfer of the Day etc.,
- h. Where Junior members are playing in a competitive round with an adult member, they must play either with two other adult members or two juniors may play with one adult. There is no circumstance where one adult can play with one junior member **unless those persons are in an immediate family relationship**.
- i. Junior members are not eligible to win Golfer of the Day in any Adult competitions. Equally Junior members are not permitted to win Golfer of the Day in a team competition where further representation by the winners in external competitions is included as part of the prize.



- j. As provided for in the Constitution, certain categories of members may only play on certain days. By definition and unless otherwise permitted by the Captain(s) on particular special occasions, members who are not entitled to play on particular days may not play in competitions held on those particular days.

11. Competitions for Golfer of the Year

- a. The following ten competitions will count for Golfer of the Year in both Mens and Womens Sections:-
 - i. Captains' Prize (each round is treated as a separate competition)
 - ii. Presidents' Prize (Stableford scoring for Competition, Strokes for GOY)
 - iii. IPA Cup for Men / Men's Captain Prize to Women for Women
 - iv. All Six Medals
- b. Where a competition uses stableford scoring, scores will be converted to strokes (by the computer system) for the purposes of Golfer of the Year scores.
- c. All eligible participants will have their nett stroke scores added together, with the best 6 rounds by each player counting towards their total scores in the Golfer of the Year competitions.
- d. A player with an NR/0 in a competition will not have that competition score counted for Golfer of the Year.
- e. The winner will be the player with the fewest strokes across their best six rounds.
- f. In the event of a tie at the end of the season, a countback will take place based on the score recorded in the respective Captain's Prize. The countback will be based on
 - 1. The 18 hole score of the second round/ day 2 of the competition
 - 2. The back nine on day 2
 - 3. The back six on day 2
 - 4. The back three on day 2
 - 5. Countback hole by hole on the card for day 2.
- g. In the event there is still a tie, the Golfer of the Year prize will be shared between the relevant members.



12. Handicap Categories

- a. The Competition Committee will determine the handicap categories in place on a regular basis.

13. Scoring

- a. In stroke play, the score recorded must be the actual number of strokes played at the hole or 0 to indicate a non-return.
- b. In Stableford play, the score recorded must be the actual number of strokes played at the hole or 0 to indicate the player did not finish out the hole.
- c. A player with an 0 on their scorecard is not eligible to win a prize in a stroke play competition nor will their score count for the Golfer of the Year prize.

14. Buggy Use during Competitions

- a. Buggies may be used during general, closed and open competitions unless otherwise stated.
- b. Players are reminded that buggies in Stackstown are fitted with GPS tracking systems to ensure drivers stay on particular areas and away from greens, tee boxes etc. Any interference with the GPS system on a buggy will lead to disqualification from the competition.

15. Teeing Ground:

- a. The stipulated round commences from the first tee and consists of playing the holes in sequence prescribed by the Competition Committee, unless otherwise authorised by them.
- b. There are three formal tee positions for each hole, White and Green and Red. The Competition Committee will determine which tee set is to be used for each Competition.
- c. In some instances, forward tees will be in place for certain categories of golfers as determined by the relevant Committee.
- d. When teeing ground mats are in use players **MUST** stand on the mat and **MUST** play their ball off the mat (using a tee or off the mat itself).

16. Priority

- a. Players in a club competition shall have precedence both in starting and in the general area over players not in a club competition.



17. Pace of Play

- a. Groups shall play without delay in accordance with the rules of Golf. In short, players are expected to keep their place on the course directly behind the group in front rather than immediately in front of the following group.
- b. If any player in the group notices that they are losing pace with the group in front they must bring this to the attention of the playing partners. All have a responsibility to speed up and regain ground on the group in front.
- c. Please obey all instructions from Course Rangers.
- d. Players have a responsibility to ensure their normal pace is up to that expected for play and if they are often losing ground they should make adjustments as to how they manage their round.
- e. This includes but is not limited to playing faster, picking up the ball if you are not scoring, leaving your bag at the exit to the green and not in front of the green, applying the 3-minute rule in respect of lost balls and allowing the group behind to play through if that is appropriate.
- f. Players who are reported as being consistently slow may be subject to the code of discipline in the Club.
- g. Competitors playing in an Inter Club or Club Championship Match should, if practical, be extended the courtesy of being called through by other players on the course.
- h. Players in a Club Competition shall have priority over players who are not competing.
- i. The maximum grouping allowed at any time during a competition is four players.
- j. Players are also requested to pay attention to course signs where trollies and buggies are prohibited and to respect roped off areas using the gaps for entry to and exit from greens. These are designed to protect the course from damage.

18. Score Cards

- a. Where computer labels are not available, all competitors must ensure that the date of competition, name of competition, name(s) of player(s) and their handicap indices are on the card. The Management



Committee have directed that where the computer label is not available [Rule 3.3b\(4\)](#) is modified in this way: “The player is responsible for showing their handicap index, on the scorecard.”

- b. A competitor should not mark or alter their own score card;
- c. Score cards should be marked before leaving the course. For this purpose and only for this purpose, the cleaning bay is deemed to be part of the course.
- d. Cards must be **signed** before entering the Club House, except where adverse weather dictates otherwise and in which case the signing should take place under the canopy at the locker rooms.
- e. Members are reminded that failure to sign the score card as a competitor or have their score card signed by a marker as the case may be, will result in disqualification.
- f. Scores must be entered into the computer system.
- g. A scorecard is considered returned as soon as the player places it in the relevant competition box.
- h. Players are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of their scores on each hole and promptly returning the scorecard to the Committee at the completion of the round.
- i. Any potential issues the players might have during their round should be brought to the attention of the competition committee immediately after their round. All queries regarding scores must be validated prior to the competition being closed.
- j. Members should:-
 - i. If at all possible, enter the points scored for each hole on the scorecard in Stableford
 - ii. Total the scores or, in a Four-Ball competition, determine the score that counts for the side
 - iii. Enter all scores into the computer and return the card as soon as possible after the round, whether the player completed the course or not.
 - iv. All scorecards, complete or incomplete, should be returned, complete with player name, date, competition, handicap, player and marker signatures. All scores must be entered into the computer and cards placed in the competition box without undue delay.



- k. Failure to comply with these requests could result in a player being sanctioned by the Competition Committee for repeatedly failing to comply with competition rules.
- l. No Returns of cards are not permitted – all completed holes must show a score (0 or otherwise). Stableford pickups can be entered as 0, and holes not played marked as such.

19. Non Return of Scores in Acceptable Score Singles Competitions

- a. The Club will apply the World Handicap System recommendations, which may be viewed online on the Golf Ireland or WHS websites.
- b. If a player fails to submit a score and has not provided a valid reason for a score not being submitted, the Handicap Committee will consider withdrawing the player's Handicap Index and/or applying a penalty score.
- c. If there are genuine reasons a player or group has to terminate their round, they should send a written explanation to the Handicap Secretary and Competition Secretary by email within 48 hours.

20. General Play

- a. This occurs when an organised competition is not being contested and golfers are playing a casual round or competitively, but not in an event organised by either Competition Committee.
- b. A player must pre-register their intent to submit an acceptable score in general play for handicap purposes. This is done via the Golf Ireland App.
- c. Such pre-registration must be made before the player starts the round, and according to the requirements or conditions established by the Handicap Committee.
- d. The Handicap Committee may consider a player to have pre-registered their intent to submit an acceptable score for handicap purposes when playing in an authorised format of play in a regular, organised event with another player or players AND where they have stated as such to those players prior to the start of play.
- e. The card must be attested by a golfer who has a recognised handicap.
- f. Both player and marker must include their full Golf Ireland number on the card. Once the round is complete the card should be left in the



Competition box marked clearly as a general play card for handicap.

21. Match Play

- a. The Conditions under which Club matchplay competitions are to be played shall be laid down by the Competition Committee and displayed appropriately.
- b. Members must familiarise themselves with these before playing matches.
- c. All match play competitions shall be played under the jurisdiction of the relevant Competition Committee.
- d. Once the draw takes place and the times between the matches are set up players arrange their own matches and enter who wins the match on the Smart Golf system.
- e. Both players on the Smart Golf system are responsible for contacting their opponents and arranging the match.
- f. 3 separate dates and times should be offered within the allowed timeframe for play.
- g. Contact the Pro Shop to ensure the course is free and then make the booking.
- h. Check current handicaps and agree shots to be given as per Matchplay rules.
- i. Enter the winner's name on the Smart Golf system on completion of the match.
- j. The result is final when it is verified by the competition committee and is recorded on Smart Golf or other system used in the Club..

22. Where a match is not played by the "play by" date, the Committee or Co-Ordinator will decide the outcome of the match to ensure the competition can continue without unnecessary delays. There may be exceptional cases where there is additional time given and representations should be made to the Competition Co-Ordinator for a decision.

23. Stroke Play Result

- a. The result is final when the competition is closed, verified by the competition committee and the results posted.



24. Disputes and Rules of Golf

- a. Any dispute or doubtful point should firstly be reported to the competition secretary or any member of the competition committee within 24 hours of the date of the competition. If a member is unhappy with the outcome on the matter, they can appeal to the relevant Competition Committee whose decision shall be final. Rule 7.d of the Rules shall apply.
- b. If the dispute or query might impact the result of the day's competition, members are obliged to bring any relevant matter to the Competition Committee before the result may become available.

25. How Ties Will Be Decided

- a. This applies to all competitions except the calculation of the Golfer of the Year prize.
- b. Match Play
 - i. If a match is tied after the final hole, the match is extended one hole at a time until there is a winner (see Rule 3.2a(4)).
 - ii. If play stops due to darkness, weather conditions or other emergency at the finish of a hole, play must resume from the next hole at an agreed date. In these circumstances the players must inform the competition secretary that they are continuing at another date. For these reasons, players should avoid waiting until the last available day to play their match.
 - iii. A tie in a match cannot be decided by a stroke-play play-off.

26. Stroke Play -

- a. All countbacks are based on nett scores
- b. Scorecard Count-Back
 - i. The winner is based on the best score for the last round. If the tying players have the same score for the last round or if the competition consists of a single round, the winner is based on the score for the last nine holes, last six holes, last three holes and finally the last hole. If there is still a tie, then the last six holes, three holes and final hole of the first nine holes will be considered in turn. If there is still a tie, a hole by hole countback starting on the 18th hole will take place.



- ii. In the event of there still being a tie, the tying players will be considered to have drawn and the prize will be shared between them.
- iii. If the round is less than 18 holes, last nine holes played, last six holes, last three holes and last hole will determine the winner. If there is still a tie, a hole by hole countback starting on the last hole will take place.
- iv. If the Competition Committee allows play to start at 10th and 1st Tees simultaneously the last nine holes for the purpose of deciding ties will be from 10th to 18th Hole.

27. Prizes and Presentations

- a. Competition results will be available on Smart Golf.
- b. Notice of official presentations will be made known in advance.
- c. Prize winners of all competitions are expected to attend Prize Presentations as a courtesy to our Officers, Sponsors and Members.
- d. If due to exceptional circumstances a member is unable to be present they must nominate another person to collect the prize on their behalf and inform the competition secretary that they are unable to attend. Repeated failures to attend could lead to the prize(s) being forfeited.
- e. Prizes for other weekly competitions will be available for distribution as soon as is practicable.
- f. A prize not collected within one month of presentation will be forfeited.

28. General Conditions

- a. The Competition Committee reserves the right to:-
 - i. Refuse entry to a competition citing the reason;
 - ii. Correct any mistakes made in the checking of score cards;
 - iii. With good cause, alter published competition conditions if it is deemed necessary;
 - iv. Cancel any competition due to insufficient entries or to postpone or abandon it at any stage due to exceptional circumstances.



- b. If, for any cause the Course Superintendent, Captain, or in their absence the Vice-Captain, Competition Secretary, Pro or any other officer or member of the Club duly authorised by the Committee, consider it expedient to postpone or abandon any competition, they shall have the power to do so under any circumstances, and at any stage of the competition.
- c. In certain circumstances, members may wish to play a club matchplay competition against one another while also playing in the competition of the day. This may only happen with the agreement of both parties and the relevant Competition Secretary and in such a manner as not to interfere with the pace of play during the round or the smooth running of the competition. This rule applies for matchplay competitions.

29. Qualification for Golfer of the Year Prizes

- a. Golfer of the Year Prizes are confined to only those members as set out in the Eligibility table
- b. To be eligible to win any of these prizes, members must have played 3 x 18 or 6 x 9 or an equivalent combination of acceptable score competitions in Stackstown since the 1st January that year, prior to the relevant qualifying competition. The committee may change this in exceptional circumstances e.g. non acceptable score conditions in place for an extended period due to the golf course not being available.
- c. Full terms of these competitions will be available to all members via our website or in the main or competition offices.

30. Mandatory Conditions of Competition for all clubs from the Golf Ireland:

- a. Eligibility: To be eligible to compete in a Singles acceptable score Competition at an Away Club, except for all events listed in Golf Ireland's Tournament Conditions Book, a Member of a Golf Ireland Affiliated Golf Club must have returned at least three scores in Singles acceptable score Competitions at their Home Club, at any time on or after the corresponding date one year before the Singles acceptable score Competition at the Away Club.
- b. Entries: The use of a Golf Ireland Member Card is mandatory for members of clubs affiliated to the Golf Ireland for entry into all Open Singles acceptable score Competitions, which shall be by Computer Entry and uploaded to the WHS following close of Competition.



31. Notification of Sanctions

- a. For Non Attendance (no-Show)
 - i. If you book a time slot and are unavailable to play, you must remove your name from the timesheet by the time stipulated by the Committees (currently 10pm the night before play).
 - ii. If a member fails to appear for their allotted tee time the competition fee on the day will be automatically deducted from your account
 - iii. A possible fine of up to €20 for repeat offenders may be imposed.
 - iv. The member may be suspended from competition until the fine is paid and an explanation for the no-show is given to the Competition Committee.

32. Team Events:

- a. If a member cancels their allotted tee time resulting in their partners not being able to play in a team event, the member
 - i. MUST pay the appropriate competition fee from their competition purse for all other players on the team or line
 - or
 - ii. Will be asked to explain their actions or
 - iii. may be subject to the code of conduct provisions in the Club
- b. Repeat offenders may be suspended from entering team competitions.
- c. A team shall consist of any number or combination of men and women members necessary to fill the team.

33. Non return of scores:

- a. In a small number of cases the incidence of not returning scores after singles competitions is still occurring. This has an effect on compiling results and Playing Conditions Calculation (PCC) on the day. Competition scores must be returned and entered into the computer. A report is available to the Handicap Secretary for all members who fail to return their score card. If a member commits more than two breaches the Handicap Committee will contact the member to remind them of their obligation to return scores in all competitions, acceptable



score and non-acceptable score. The Handicap Committee reserves the right to impose sanctions on repeat offenders.



Appendix 1

Standards of Player Conduct

Source: R&A Official Rules

1.2a Conduct Expected of All Players

All players are expected to uphold the spirit of the game by consistently demonstrating integrity and respect.

Players should:

- Act with integrity – for example, by following the Rules, applying all penalties, and being honest in all aspects of play.
- Show consideration to others – for example, by playing at a prompt pace, looking out for the safety of others, and not distracting another player's play.
- Immediately shout a warning, such as the traditional “fore,” if their ball is headed in a direction that might endanger someone.
- Take good care of the course – for example, by replacing divots, smoothing bunkers, repairing ball-marks, and avoiding unnecessary damage.
- Ensure there is no “backstopping” i.e. leaving your ball unmarked on the green to assist another player's putt or close range chip.

There is no penalty under the Rules for failing to act in this way, except that the Relevant Committee may disqualify a player for serious misconduct if it finds that the player acted contrary to the spirit of the game.

"Serious misconduct" means behavior so far removed from what is expected in golf that the most severe sanction – removal from the competition – is justified.

1.2b Code of Conduct

The Management Committee has set its own standards for player conduct in a Code of Conduct adopted as a Local Rule.

The Code may include penalties for breaches of conduct, such as a one-stroke penalty or the general penalty.

The Committee may also disqualify a player for serious misconduct in failing to meet the Code's standards.



See Committee Procedures, Section 5I of the Rules of the Golf (explaining standards of player conduct that may be adopted).

1.3 Playing by the Rules

1.3a Meaning of “Rules”; Terms of the Competition

The term “Rules” means:

1. Rules 1–25 and the Definitions in the Rules of Golf, and
2. Any “Local Rules” adopted by the Committee for the competition or the course.

Players are also responsible for complying with all Terms of the Competition adopted by the Committee (such as entry requirements, form and dates of play, number of rounds, and the order of holes).

See Committee Procedures, Section 5C and Section 8 (Local Rules and authorized Model Local Rules); Section 5A (Terms of the Competition).

1.3b Applying the Rules

3. (1) Player Responsibility for Applying the Rules

- Players are responsible for recognizing when they have breached a Rule and for applying penalties honestly.
- A player who knowingly fails to apply a penalty they have incurred is disqualified.
- If two or more players agree to ignore a Rule or penalty that they know applies, all are disqualified, even if they have not yet acted on the agreement.
- Players must consider all reasonably available information when deciding questions of fact.
- Players may seek help from a referee or the Committee, but if help is not available within a reasonable time, they must continue to play and resolve the issue later (see Rule 20.1).

4. (2) Accepting Player’s “Reasonable Judgment” in Determining a Location

Many Rules require a player to estimate or determine a location, such as:

- Where a ball last crossed the edge of a penalty area,
- Where to drop or place a ball when taking relief,
- The original spot of a ball being replaced,



- The area of the course where a ball lies,
- Whether a ball touches or is in an abnormal course condition.

Determinations must be made promptly and carefully, though exact precision is often impossible.

If a player's determination is reasonable, it will be accepted – even if later evidence shows it to be wrong.

If the player becomes aware of an error before playing a stroke, the determination must be corrected (see Rule 14.5).

1.3c Penalties

5. (1) Actions Giving Rise to Penalties

A penalty applies when a Rule is breached due to the actions of the player, the player's caddie, or another person acting with the player's authority.

6. (2) Levels of Penalties

- One-Stroke Penalty: Minor breaches or when taking relief.
- General Penalty: Loss of hole in match play or two-stroke penalty in stroke play.
- Disqualification: For serious misconduct or actions giving an advantage too significant for the score to remain valid.

7. (3) No Discretion to Vary Penalties

Penalties must be applied exactly as written in the Rules. Neither the player nor the Committee may alter them.

A wrong or missed penalty may stand only if it is too late to correct.

In match play, players may agree on a Rules issue provided they do not ignore a known Rule or penalty.

8. (4) Applying Penalties to Multiple Breaches of the Rules

Whether multiple breaches result in one or more penalties depends on whether there has been an intervening event.

Intervening events include:



- Completion of a stroke,
- Becoming aware of a breach,

Single Penalty Between Intervening Events: Multiple breaches occurring before the next intervening event result in only one penalty (the higher-level penalty if different).

Multiple Penalties Across Intervening Events: Breaches before and after an intervening event result in separate penalties.

Exception – Failure to Replace a Moved Ball: If a player fails to replace a moved ball under Rule 9.4 and plays from a wrong place, only the general penalty applies.

Any penalty strokes from taking relief are applied in addition to other penalties.



Appendix 2 Stableford Scoring System

Stableford points are awarded based on your score at each hole taking the index of the hole and your playing handicap into account.

It is based on the principle that a scratch golfer gets 2 stableford points for scoring a par at a hole.

For handicap golfers, their playing handicap is also taken into account.

For example,

If your playing handicap is 18 (you have a shot on every hole) and you are playing a par 3 with an index of 12 and you take 3 shots to put the ball in the hole, you get 3 points - 2 points for the par plus 1 for your handicap.

If your playing handicap is 6 (you have a shot on holes with an index 1 - 6) and you are playing a par 3 with an index of 7 and you take 3 shots to put the ball in the hole, you get 2 points for the par.

If your playing handicap is 28 (you have 1 shot on every hole and 2 shots on holes index 1 - 10) and you are playing a par 3 with an index of 9 and you take 3 shots to put the ball in the hole, you get 4 points - 2 points for the par plus 2 for your handicap.

If your playing handicap is 42 (you have 2 shots on every hole and 3 shots on holes index 1 - 6) and you are playing a par 3 with an index of 5 and you take 3 shots to put the ball in the hole, you get 5 points - 2 points for the par plus 3 for your handicap.

Note:- always record on the scorecard the **total number of shots** you take on each hole. You can work out your stableford score from that.

Appendix 3 Resources

- How to get a Handicap <https://www.golfireland.ie/whs-for-beginners>
- World Handicap System explained <https://www.golfireland.ie/whs-for-golfers>



- WHS Education resources <https://www.golfireland.ie/whs-resources>
- WHS Frequently asked questions <https://www.golfireland.ie/whs-faqs>
- Stackstown Women's emails womenshcp@stackstowngolfclub.ie

ladiescompetition@stackstowngolfclub.ie

ladyclub@stackstowngolfclub.ie

- Stackstown Men's emails

Menscompetition@stackstowngolfclub.ie

menshcp@stackstowngolfclub.ie

mensclub@stackstowngolfclub.ie Appendix 4

Membership categories

1 Membership Categories as setout in the Constitution dated September 2025. Any update in the constitution automatically applies to the categories of members.

6 The Club shall consist of the following categories of membership:

Honorary Life members - See clause 6.6 and 6.8 of the Constitution

Honorary Members - See clause 6.9, 6.8 and 6.9 of the Constitution

Full Members - See definition at 6.10 of the Constitution

Six Day members - See definition at 6.11 of the Constitution

Five-day members - See definition at 6.12 of the Constitution

Associate members - See definition at 6.13 of the Constitution

Intermediate Members - See definition at 6.14 of the Constitution

Student members- See definition at 6.15 of the Constitution

Junior members - See definition at 6.16 of the Constitution

Minor members - See definition at 6.17 of the Constitution



- Country members - See definition at 6.18 of the Constitution
- Pavilion members - See definition at 6.19 of the Constitution
- Temporary members - See definition at 6.20 of the Constitution
- Overseas members - See definition at 6.21 of the Constitution
- Life members - See definition at 6.22 of the Constitution
- Young Adults - See definition at 6.23 of the Constitution
- Senior Social Members - See definition at 6.24 of the Constitution
- Getting Into Golf Members - See definition at 6.25 of the Constitution
- Others - See definition at 6.26 of the Constitution

Glossary

WHS	World Handicap System
GoD	Golfer of the Day
GoY	Golfer of the Year
GIGS	Getting into Golf
SIGS	Staying in Golf
NR (no return)	An entry on a scorecard implying that no score was recorded at that hole.
R & A	Royal and Ancient Golf - the organisation controlling golf worldwide except USA
USGA	United States Golf Association - the organisation controlling golf in USA