

CONDITIONS RELATIVE TO ALL WGSA TOURNAMENTS

TOURNAMENT CONDITIONS

GOLF RULES

Tournaments shall be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by R&A Rules Limited together with such local rules decided and approved by the Tournament Committee. All references in these Tournament Conditions to rule numbers refer to the R&A Rules of Golf.

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of WGSA shall be entitled to make the Rules and Regulations or By-Laws which govern tournaments. These may be reviewed from time to time. They shall make all arrangements and reserves the right to make any variation in conditions of the tournament programme where deemed necessary.

Tournaments shall be governed by a Tournament Committee of at least three persons, namely the President, Vice-President and any other persons appointed by them who would add value in case of a dispute.

All disputes shall be settled by the tournament committee whose decision shall be final. Any dispute/protest must be lodged within 15 minutes of completion of the round; this information may be requested in writing.

The Tournament Committee shall be entitled to alter the programme and conditions of play at any time, including starting times (see below), suspension of play (see below), cancellation of a round (see below).

ELIGIBILITY

Players must be of the female gender and have been female at birth or have had the female gender assigned. For avoidance of doubt, WGSA reserves the right to carry out a confidential case-by-case evaluation at any time either prior to or after the Championship, if in its reasonable opinion such an evaluation is or becomes necessary. Any player in breach of this condition may be disqualified. Additional eligibility of each event is stipulated on the Entry Form.

Those players who are not-affiliated to WGSA (i.e. non-SA players) are required to submit handicap certification from their Federation or Home Club with their entry and at registration.

Entries will only be accepted from players in good financial standing at their Home Club. Should a player be suspended from her Home Club or Provincial Union, this matter must be reported to WGSA together with the reason for their suspension.

Note: Provincial Qualification

No member is eligible for selection to a Provincial team unless she has been or will have been, a Home Club member in that Province/Region for a minimum period of three months, immediately prior to the date on which the event commences. The member would still be eligible for her previous Union during the three-month eligibility period provided she remains a member of a Club in that Union. An exception to this qualification is when a player is furthering her education at an institution outside her home union and where her opportunities are improved by moving her home club to one within the province of study. During this period the player shall retain affiliation and continue to represent her original home union and must advise her previous home club and union. In addition to the aforementioned a player who has represented a province in either the 72 Hole or Inter-Provincial Tournaments may not play for a different province within 6 months of participating in either of these tournaments OR players may not change Unions between the 72-Hole and Inter-Provincial tournament OR players may not move provinces during a calendar year unless they physically move their residence. If a provincial player wishes to move province, prior to making enquiries she must contact/inform WGSA and her Union in writing, with motivation as to the reasons for the intended move.

TIME OF STARTING

Players shall start at the time laid down by the Committee (Rule 6-3a). Players are requested to arrive at the tee five (5) minutes before their starting time. The Tournament Committee has the power to delay the time of starting, if they consider that circumstances render this necessary.

CADDIES

In tournaments where caddies are allowed the following restrictions apply:

A player is prohibited from having a person who is or has been a member of a professional golf association serve as her caddies during the stipulated round. Persons who have regained their amateur status are not included in this prohibition. All caddies must abide by the Club's caddie rules and other rules posted on the WGSA official notice board. In addition, only Host club caddies (or a caddie who has received approval from the host club's Manager or Caddie Master or the Tournament Committee) may be engaged. In tournaments where Guest Caddies are allowed (parents/friends) they must be registered at the time of player registration, and a fee paid towards the Caddy Foundation. All Guest Caddies must wear a WGSA caddy bib/arm band if provided

Players may pull their own carts, carry their own bags or use battery operated caddie carts.

The only exception that will be considered by the Tournament Committee is if a player is a registered affiliated member of SADGA (SA Disabled Golf Association) with a valid handicap as stipulated for this tournament and the course where the event is being held allows the use of motorised carts. Applicants must apply to have this condition waived by the Tournament Committee.

The Tournament Committee will decide which rules in the *Modifications of the Rules of Golf for Golfers with Disabilities* will apply to individual disabled players in tournaments.

Further restrictions applicable to specific tournament are detailed under the relevant events.

TRANSPORT

Players must walk at all times during the stipulated round as well as for the duration of the tournament unless permitted to ride on a golf cart by an appointed Rules Official, or a member of the Tournament Committee.

Golf Carts

Where the use of motorised Golf Carts is restricted to the Tournament Committee, Rules Officials, the Executive, Sponsor and Media, a notice to this effect must be on the Tournament Notice Board and the Pro Shop. If the tournament is being held on an Estate course, a request should be made to the Club that home owners restrict the use of their carts to the estate roads. The notice should also address the issue of spectators and golf carts.

WEATHER DELAYS/SUSPENSION OF PLAY DUE TO A DANGEROUS SITUATION

The following signals are in force:

- Discontinue Play Immediately: One prolonged note of siren
- Discontinue Play: Three consecutive notes of siren, repeated
- Resume Play: Two short notes of siren, repeated

In addition, the Note under Rule 6-8b is applicable. See Appendix 1 Part B Note 4 in the Rules of Golf. When play is suspended by the Committee for a dangerous situation, if the players in a match or group are between the play of two holes, they must not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they must discontinue play immediately and not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If a player fails to discontinue play immediately, she is disqualified, unless the circumstances warrant waiving the penalty as provided in Rule 33-7. The signal for suspending play due to a dangerous situation will be a prolonged note of the siren.

CANCELLATION OF A ROUND

In the event of play being delayed or declared null and void for any round of a tournament, additional play will be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. If in the opinion of the Tournament Committee, adverse weather or any other occurrence beyond its control render the commencement or continuation of any stipulated round impractical, then, in stroke play tournaments, the result will be declared over the number of rounds completed by

all players. Play will not be continued beyond the advertised final day of the event. For Match Play events the question of how to arrive at a result will depend on the severity of the disruption and the format of the tournament. The Tournament Committee may consider reducing a 36-hole format to 18 holes; if disruption occurs before the start of a match play event: reducing the number of participants qualifying for match play.

DRUG FREE SPORT

A player shall not make use of any drug to enhance her performance. The attention of players is drawn to the prescribed list of drugs issued by the South African Institute for Drug Free Sport. Consult their website www.drugfreesport.org.za or telephone 0861 0 72437 (0861 0 SAIDS) during office hours. Any Competitor infringing this condition or refusing to take a test if asked to do so, may be disqualified.

MEDIA

Womens Golf South Africa and the sponsors of events may arrange publicity before, during and after the Tournament in the press, by live and recorded radio, television and by filming. The competitors assent to references to them and pictures of them at practice and in play appearing and being used for commercial purposes by WGSA and their Sponsors.

ADVICE IN TEAM COMPETITIONS

In events where teams are an integral part of the format of the tournament and Advisors have been permitted, the following Conditions will apply. In accordance with the Note to Rule 8 of the Rules of Golf, each team may appoint one person (in addition to the persons from whom advice may be asked under that Rule) who may give advice to members of that team. Such person may not be a member of a professional golf association and must be identified to the Committee before giving advice. The Team Advisor is deemed to be part of the match/competitor's side, i.e. she is not an outside agency – the player is responsible for any breach of the rules by the advisor.

The Advisor may not go onto the putting green or into any bunker on the course during a stipulated round of the event. Advisors will be permitted to ride on carts. Note: Off-duty Presidents may ride on the Advisor's cart. Further restrictions applicable to specific tournaments are detailed under the relevant event.

SCORE INFORMATION – LIVE SCORING

Players must provide score information to Tournament Officials during the course of play.

ETIQUETTE

The audible emission or unauthorized use of a mobile telephone or electronic equipment on the golf course or during play is a serious breach of etiquette and will attract a warning and possible disqualification (Rule 33-7. Player's attention is drawn to the WGSA Code of Conduct which is in effect during all tournaments. This will be displayed on the Notice Board during events.

It is the responsibility of players to know and comply with the dress regulations stipulated by the Host Club in the Club House and on the golf course and practice area.

SCORING AND RESULTS

In Stroke Play: A competitor is considered to have returned her score card when she has left the designated scoring area. The results are deemed to be officially announced and the competition closed at the commencement of the prize giving ceremony.

In Match Play: The results of a match is considered to be officially announced:

- In all rounds except the final: when a player has teed off for the following round of the event
- In the final: at the commencement of the prize-giving ceremony.

2.2 PROCEDURES FOR TIES – COUNT OUT METHODS

TIES

In all tournaments, in the event of a tie, procedures for determining a winner will be detailed under each specific event. Where reference is made to the WGSA count out procedures, these are as detailed below:

WGSA COUNT OUT METHOD

18-Hole Stroke Play Events:

Best score in the last nine holes (irrespective which holes were played first in the event of a multiple tee start). In the event of a further tie: the last 6 holes, then the last 3 holes then the last hole.

36 and 54 Hole Events:

Best score on the last 18, 9, 6, 3 or 1 hole(s)

Handicap Events:

In a handicap event, handicaps must be deducted from the score for those holes as follows:

1/2 handicap for last 9 holes	1/3 handicap for last 6 holes
1/6 handicap for last 3 holes	1/18 handicap for last hole

DRAW FOR MATCH PLAY

In individual match play events which follow stroke play qualifying or seeding rounds, an automatic draw will be done based on the General Numerical Draw detailed in Appendix 1 Part B No. 11 of the R&A Rules of Golf.

For purposes of determining places in the draw, ties in qualifying rounds other than those for the last qualifying place, the WGSA count-out method will apply. Ties for the last qualifying place will be detailed under each specific event.

2.3 WGSA PACE OF PLAY – APPLICATION AND PROCEDURE

Every player is responsible for playing without undue delay. Pace of Play guidelines will be implemented at all tournaments.

The WGSAs Pace of Play Procedure is as follows:

For stroke play tournaments: the first group of the day is judged only against time par until they get into position with any group that may be ahead of them. A group’s time begins when a member of the group has played a stroke from her starting teeing ground.

A group is considered ‘out of position’ if it:

- Reaches the tee of a par 3 and the preceding group have cleared the tee of the next hole;
- Reaches the tee of a par 4 and the preceding group have cleared the putting green of the same hole;
- Reaches the tee of a par 5 and the preceding group are on the putting green of the same hole.

Procedure for when Group is out of Position & Slow Play by Individual Player

Group Timing: If a group is out of position a Rules Official will decide whether or not there are any recent mitigating circumstances e.g. lost ball, wrong ball, rules decision delay. If such mitigating circumstances do exist, the group will be asked to close the gap on the group ahead and the Rules Official will monitor its progress. The group will not be timed unless it fails to be back in position within a reasonable time. In the absence of mitigating circumstances, the Rules Official will inform each player in the group that they are out of position and will be subject to individual timing. Should a group be in excess of the time allotted and be out of position and a player in the group takes more than the time provided for the shot in question, then that player will be in breach of the Pace of Play Condition (‘bad time’). Any player recording a bad time will be informed of this by the Rules Official.

Timing will continue until the group is back in position.

Bad Time: The 1st player has recorded a bad time when she has taken in excess of 45 seconds to play a shot once she has reached her ball and it is her turn to play and there are no distractions (this includes pacing for distance). Subsequent players have 40 seconds to play their shot once they have reached their ball and it is their turn to play. A “1st Bad Time” warning will be issued after a Rules Official has timed a player on two separate occasions.

A player whose group has been timed and who has recorded a “bad time”, will have a bad time carried forward in subsequent rounds in the tournament, even if the group gets back in position or within the allotted time.

Penalty for Breach of Condition:

1 st Bad time: Player Warned	2 nd Bad Time: Final Warning
3 rd Bad Time: 1 stroke penalty	4 th Bad Time: 2 stroke penalty

Penalty strokes are added to the hole where the infraction occurred. Penalties will be confirmed with the group by a Rules Official and verified in the scoring area.

2.4 WGSA CODE OF CONDUCT

Women's Golf South Africa requires all players to adhere to a set of guidelines known as the **Code of Conduct**.

Violations on the Golf Course

There shall be NO:

- Unsportsmanlike conduct, abusive language, club throwing, disrespect to volunteers, officials or fellow competitors, or abuse of the course.
- Conduct which is contrary to the etiquette of the rules of golf as detailed by the R & A Rules Ltd.
- Conduct which may bring the game into disrepute**
- Use of drugs or alcohol.

Violations off the Golf Course

There shall be NO:

- Use or the association of drugs*
- Smoking or, the use of alcohol, by players under the age of 18 years.
- Vandalism at accommodation; abusive or inappropriate behaviour to other players, captain, team manager, staff or other players sharing the accommodation.
- Behaviour or acts, on the premises of the club or otherwise, which may be offensive to accepted social protocol.
- Conduct which may bring the game into disrepute**

* Players shall not make use of any self-enhancing drug, referred to in the WADA list of banned substances. It is compulsory for a player on medication to notify an organising tournament official (or the team Manager/Captain), who will consult the prohibited drug list and notify the Tournament Committee when necessary. In the case of chronic medication which appears on the list, a doctor's certificate must be supplied to the Tournament Committee. Players must realise that random testing could be done – refusal may lead to disqualification.

** Bringing the game into disrepute includes tarnishing the name of golf, damaging the reputation or image of golf, bringing dishonour into golf, causing golf to lose its prestige, and disgracing the game of golf.

Dress Code

The dress code of the Host Club on the golf course and in the Club House must be adhered to by all players.

Code of Conduct Violation Penalties

Any code of conduct violation on the golf course may be handled under the Rules of Golf and powers of the Committee as set out in Rule 33-7 of the Rules of Golf. Any code of conduct violation could also result in a written letter to the person concerned and, in the case of a junior player, her parent/guardian. The person and/or parent will have 14 days to submit a written account of the violation, and thereafter WGSA will assess whether a disciplinary hearing is required. The person concerned will then be given 10 days' notice to attend such a hearing. Should the person be found guilty of any breach of this Code of Conduct after a disciplinary hearing has been held, WGSA reserves the right to suspend the person from entering national tournaments for a specific period. The player's host province will be advised of such disciplinary hearing and outcome thereof.

2.5 SPECTATOR RULES

Spectators must keep off tees, fairways and greens at all times and are not to interfere with any player or give rulings. The audible emission of cell phones is not acceptable and cell phones should be switched off. The use of golf cars by spectators is not permitted. Failure to adhere to such requests could lead to the spectators being asked to leave the golf course. See Liability Clause below which includes spectators.

LIABILITY

WGSA and its management will not be held liable or responsible for any damages, loss, including personal loss and/or other forms of loss, harm or injury sustained as stipulated below:

- Physical and/or emotional injuries suffered by any person, including a player or spectator, sustained by own negligence, or otherwise.
- Emotional injuries sustained due to any loss, including death, suffered as a result of any of the above injuries sustained personally or by a spectator.
- Damages suffered to any property of a player or spectator.