



GOLF RSA WOMEN'S MEDAL COMPETITIONS

TERMS OF COMPETITION 2024

GolfRSA is committed to encouraging Medal competition for all its affiliated members in the country and to this end we request that clubs include the Women's Medal Handicap Competition (including a Copper (Individual Stableford) Division) as the mainstay on their annual fixture list. In order to actively encourage working women and junior girl golfers to take part in their club's monthly GolfRSA Women's Medal, clubs should ensure that their members have opportunity to submit qualifying scores for the GolfRSA Women's Medals by planning fixtures according to each individual club's membership status (see "Number of Medal Competitions").

1. DEFINITIONS

AFFILIATED MEMBER – An amateur affiliated member of GolfRSA and Provincial Union.

CLUB COMMITTEE – The Committee responsible for the course and the management of the Club.

COMMITTEE – The Committee responsible for the administration of the GolfRSA Women's Medal Competition.

GOLF RSA YEAR – The period commencing on 1st January and ending 31st December each year.

MARKER – A marker is one who is acceptable to the Committee to record a competitor's score in stroke play.

ELIGIBILITY – Open to all women affiliated members, including junior members, with a valid handicap calculated in terms of the GolfRSA Handicapping System. A player may compete, and is eligible to win a medal, at every club of which she is a member. Committees may not make a condition requiring a minimum number of scores to be returned before a member is eligible to compete in a GolfRSA Women's Medal Competition and may not impose any additional qualification criteria.

COURSE HANDICAP (CH) – Players Handicap Index (HI) adjusted for the course selected.

PLAYING HANDICAP (PH) – Players Course Handicap, adjusted by the Handicap Allowance.

2. HANDICAP DIVISIONS & FORMAT

Where a club plays their GolfRSA Women's Medal in two (2) divisions then:

Silver Division: HI 15.3 & Under (Individual Stroke Play)

Bronze Division: HI 15.4 to 36.0 (Individual Stroke Play)

OR where a club wish to play their GolfRSA Women's Medal in three (3) divisions then:

Silver Division: HI 15.3 & Under (Individual Stroke Play)

Bronze Division: HI 15.4 – 24.3 (Individual Stroke Play)

Copper Division: 24.4. – 36.0 (Individual Stableford OR Individual Stroke Play)*

(*) Should there for any reason be a change in the Copper Division format during the year:

(a) from Individual Stableford to Individual Stroke Play then the GolfRSA Women's Medal results for the year shall be calculated in Stableford points.

(b) from Individual Stroke Play to Individual Stableford then the results for GolfRSA Women's Medal for the year shall be calculated in Stableford points.

Players **must** use their Handicap Index (HI) to determine the division in which they compete in the GolfRSA Women's Medal Handicap Competition.

3. RULES OF PLAY

18 Hole Handicap competitions played in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by the R & A Rules Limited and Local Rules and By-Laws of the Club. Note: The By-Laws of the Club must not contravene any Regulation of GolfRSA (Women's Golf). Any, or all, of these competitions may be played in conjunction with a club stroke play competition, as authorized by the Committee.

3.1 The Draw & Starting Times

There is no compulsory draw for the GolfRSA Women's Medal. It is recommended that players be permitted to play at any time of the day when the course is available to them i.e. either morning or afternoon. Play may be in twos, threes or fours, and whilst it is good practice that a seeded draw (according to handicap) is done, the Committee may make its own conditions regarding draws. If a Club competition is played alongside the GolfRSA Women's Medal, the Committee is permitted to set its own conditions for that competition.

The competition is not limited to any number of participants in the field. One person with a marker constitutes the competition as being played, refer Terms of Competition: Minimum number of entries).

3.2 Number of fixtures: Minimum and Maximum

The Committee must commit to a minimum of **eight (8)** stroke play competitions during the year that enable players to qualify for the Silver and Bronze and Copper medals. A Trophy Event, or the first round of a 36-hole event, or both rounds if played over two days, can be designated provided the competition is stroke play (Silver and Bronze Divisions) or Individual Stableford (Copper Division). If week-end fixtures are being arranged by the Committee, a minimum of 6 week-end fixtures must be set. Clubs with equal status for women may organise the GolfRSA Women's Medal to take place in conjunction with the regular Club Monthly Medal round (if applicable), but only if junior members are permitted to participate.

No maximum number of events is stipulated. However, the maximum number of scores that are permitted to count for the GolfRSA Women's Medal is 12. Players who have reached this maximum may play in a GolfRSA Women's Medal competition and (if applicable) win a prize, but their score will not count in the annual score calculation. The GolfRSA Women's medal rounds may not be combined with any event that excludes any player in any division e.g. limiting the event to players with a Handicap Index of 24.0 or less.

3.3 Fixing of Dates

The dates of the GolfRSA Women's Medal Competitions should be fixed by the Committee at the start of the GolfRSA year, noted on the club fixture list and posted in the clubhouse or online on a club website/APP at least two weeks prior to the first of the competitions. There is no limit on the number of medal days set per month, although it is recommended to space them throughout the year.

3.4 Limited Number of Entries

If the Club Committee limits the number of entries of members who may compete on a GolfRSA Women's Medal fixed for a week-end, the Committee should decide the fairest apportionment of opportunity to those wishing to play. A priority booking system could be introduced by the Committee to give working ladies and junior members first call on available spaces.

More than One Course (Tee) Rated for Women

Where a club has more than one course (tee) rated for women, players may choose on which course (tee) they wish to play the GolfRSA Women's Medal. However, in the case of a club having two separate courses, ie Royal Johannesburg and Kensington (East and West Course), all players in a Division must play the GolfRSA Women's Medal on the same course, ie East or West.

4. CHANGE OF DATE

4.1 Course unavailable or unplayable

The date of a scheduled GolfRSA Women's Medal Competition may only be altered should the course be pronounced unavailable by the Club Committee, or if the Committee or its authorized representative considers that for any reason the course is not in a playable condition, or that there are circumstances which render the proper playing of the game impossible (Rule of Golf 5.7).

4.2 Temporary Greens

If more than two temporary greens are in use on the day of a GolfRSA Women's Medal Competition, the competition must be postponed or cancelled.

4.3 New Date (applicable to either a week day or a week-end fixture)

It is recommended that every effort is made to arrange a new date as soon as possible, but it must be within two calendar months of the date originally fixed and within the same GolfRSA year. A note to this effect must be posted in the clubhouse. Should a stipulated round have to be cancelled, and provided the minimum of 8 rounds have been or will be played during the year (as detailed under "Number of Fixtures" above), it is not necessary to set another date.

5. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

5.1 Clubs

Clubs must register their intention to compete by notifying their Provincial Union not later than 31 March 2024. Medals will only be issued to clubs who have registered.

5.2 Affiliated Members

A player must register her intention to compete by ensuring that her entry has been inserted in the competition entry book/list, as required by the Committee. This must be done before she commences her round. If she fails to do so, she is deemed not to have entered the competition and her score does not count for the GolfRSA Women's Medal competition.

5.3 Minimum number of entries

Should only one player enter the competition, her score must be recorded and count for GolfRSA Women's Medal purposes. Where there is a single competitor, the Committee shall appoint an eligible marker whose appointment may be authorized by the Committee retrospectively. If no player enters the competition, the GolfRSA Women's Medal Competition will be deemed to have taken place unless the Regulation relating to "Change of Date" applies (see above).

5.4 Entry Fees

There is no Entry Fee for the GolfRSA Women's Medal, but the Committee may charge a competition fee for a competition played in conjunction with it or which would go toward the monthly club prize/s.

6. GOLF RSA WOMEN'S SILVER & BRONZE & COPPER HANDICAP MEDAL WINNERS

Clubs must keep accurate records of players' scores for each GolfRSA's Women's Medal.

6.1 Medals

GolfRSA (Women's Golf) via their Provincial Unions, will award a Silver, Bronze and where applicable a Copper Medal to each club who has registered to play the GolfRSA Women's Medal, to be presented to the players with the best four nett medal scores (Silver and Bronze) and the best four stableford points (Copper) over the GolfRSA year. These medals will be issued by the Provincial Union every September (to be presented by the club before the end of December). Medals will not be issued to clubs who do not comply with these Tournament Conditions.

6.2 Score Calculation

Silver, Bronze and if applicable Copper (playing stroke play): The winner will be the player who returns the lowest aggregate of four (4) nett scores from a maximum of 12 entered scores in GolfRSA Women's Medal Competitions played during the GolfRSA year in each division. For the Silver Medal, all four scores must be returned whilst the player has a Handicap Index of 15.3 and Under and for the Bronze Medal, whilst she has a Handicap Index of 15.4 to 36.0 (or HI 15.4 – 24.3 for the Bronze Division if there is a Copper Division played). The winning of a Silver Medal supersedes the winning of a Bronze Medal in any club in the same year. The Bronze Medal will then be awarded to the player with the next lowest average score.

When the Handicap Allowance is used, the player's PLAYING HANDICAP is used to determine the winner of the Nett prize in each division.

Copper Division (Stableford): The winner will be the player who returns the best aggregate of four (4) stableford points scores from of a maximum of 12 entered scores in GolfRSA Women's Medal Competitions played during the GolfRSA year in the division. For the Copper Medal, all four scores must be returned whilst the player has a Handicap Index of 24.4 – 36.0.

6.3 Ties

If two or more competitors tie, the winner shall be decided on:

Silver, Bronze and Copper (if applicable) stroke play: the nett score of the aggregate of the best 3 scores, then the best 2 scores, then the best score. If still a tie, then the result is tied and both players shall be awarded the medal.

Copper (stableford): the points score of the aggregate of the best 3 scores, then the best 2 scores, then the best score. If still a tie, then the result is tied and both players shall be awarded the medal.

6.4 Notification of Winners

The Committee must forward the name of the winner of each division to the Provincial Union Secretary as well as their nett scores or stableford points. The Union may post these names on their website or acknowledge them in any way they see fit. The Union may draw up a Club Medal Winner's Certificate to be awarded together with the GolfRSA Medal. In addition, a Provincial Union may organize a Provincial Final for all the Club Medal Winners.

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