



September 2019

### **Rules for the Handicap Pennant Competition**

1. The District Handicap Pennant competition is open to all bona fide members of the club that they represent.
2. Handicap restrictions:
  - 2.1 It is a Matchplay competition played with handicap between a maximum of 12 club teams with six players in each team.
  - 2.2 The Handicap index for the competition shall be between Scratch and 22.4. A player with a Handicap index above 22.4 may play in the competition but cannot claim his full Handicap index. All players must play in Handicap index order.
3. Clubs are allowed more than one team in the Handicap Pennant competition at the discretion of the Men's Committee.
4. Player eligibility: Players entered in the Handicap Pennant competition must meet all the following eligibility criteria: -
  - 4.1 The 'home' club is the club where the handicap of the player is held.
  - 4.2 The 'home' club of the player must be within the Men's Committee jurisdiction.
  - 4.3 The player must be a financial member of, and have playing rights, at the club he is representing. A player may only represent one Club in the current Pennant season unless dispensation under Rule 4.6 has been granted.
  - 4.4 The player must be eligible for selection in the District's representative teams. To be eligible to play representative golf for the District a player must hold New Zealand Resident status.
  - 4.5 Any transfer of a Pennant player from one club to another during the duration of the competition must have the approval of the Men's Committee, in writing, prior to that player representing the new club.
  - 4.6 Each club may enter one player whose eligibility does not meet 4.1, 4.2 and 4.4 of the above criteria. The club must apply in writing to the Men's Committee 10 days prior to the round in which this player first plays for the club, identifying the player whose eligibility does not meet the criteria. Each player must be re-registered each season.

*The penalty for a breach of rule 4 shall be disqualification of the games contested by the ineligible player and in addition a further one game will be deducted from the offending club's total and awarded to the non-offending opposing club. If considered serious by the Men's Committee, the offending team may be disqualified.*

- 4.7 A player is ineligible to play in the semi-finals or final for their Club if they have not played in at least two rounds of the Handicap Pennant in the current competition of that year.
5. Team lists and substitutions:
- 5.1 A list of team members in playing order must be submitted to the starter no later than 15 minutes prior to the scheduled tee time of each competing team. The playing order shall be six through one in handicap index order.  
*Teams failing to meet these requirements may be penalised two match points.*
- 5.2 Any player late to the starting tee and not arriving by the time the others in the four have played from the tee, or not playing in the correct order, *shall be disqualified from the match.*
- 5.3 If a player is substituted after the due time for entries, the substitute player will take the position held by the player replaced.
6. The Competition:
- 6.1 The Handicap Pennant competition will consist of round robin matches, with a final. The competition for each round will consist of singles and four ball matches played concurrently over 18 holes.
- 6.2 The Handicap Pennant draw is a random draw and will be made by the MWG Inc Men's Committee. A team not hosting in year 1 will host in year 2. The tee off times will be in accordance with times suitable to the host club between 8.00am and 9.00am and can be from multiple tees.
- 6.3 The final will be played at a course nominated by the Men's Committee prior to the commencement of the round robin matches.  
This is to be a neutral course.
- 6.4 In the event of a tie following the round robin, places will be decided on the total number of singles matches and fourball matches won, with further ties decided in favour of the team which won when the teams first met. Any further ties will be decided by lot. In the event of a draw in semi-finals or the final the result shall be determined as follows: The respective No 1's shall play sudden death for a maximum of three extra holes to be designated by the match committee of the day. Should no result be forthcoming then, the winner shall be the winning team when the two teams met in the round robin series and failing that the highest seed coming into the finals series shall be declared the winner.
- 6.5 Scoring: Three points are awarded for a team win and one point for a drawn team match.
- 6.6 Where the MWG Inc Men's Committee considers that a club's course is an unsuitable venue for Handicap Pennant, the hosting club will nominate a substitute course (which will need to be approved by the Men's Committee in writing prior to the start of the Pennant series), and the host club will need to make all the necessary arrangements and pay any costs associated with hiring the nominated course.

7. Reserve days and disputes:
  - 7.1 Should a round of the Handicap Pennant be cancelled for any reason a reserve day or days will be allocated to allow the competition to be concluded. This will be following the final round robin round of the competition on a day allocated by the Men's Committee.
  - 7.2 In the event that a semi-final or final round has, for any reason, to be delayed a reserve day shall be allocated to enable the competition to be concluded.
  - 7.3 A postponed round of Handicap Pennant shall be played on the day set aside for postponements when new team lists shall be submitted.
  - 7.4 In the event that a Club defaults their team in a round of Handicap Pennant the team defaulted to shall receive 3 competition points and 6 match points. Any Club defaulting a team shall have 2 competition points deducted.
  - 7.5 Objections to any penalty imposed by the Disputes and Judicial Committee on the day must be made by the Team Captain or Manager, in writing, before the results of the day's play are announced. Any objection must be reported, in writing, to the District Executive Officer for referral to the MWG Inc Men's Committee, whose decision shall be binding.
  - 7.6 Any protest resulting from a breach of these rules shall be reported, in writing, to the District Executive Officer within 5 days of the completion of the round for referral to the MWG Men's Committee. Any decision of the Committee with regard to the protest shall be binding.
  - 7.7 Advice (Rules of Golf 8.1 note) Teams may nominate one person on the day, prior to the commencement of play. If no such person is nominated it shall be deemed to be the Team Manager on the day.
  - 7.8 The current NZ Golf rules pertaining to:
    - 7.7.1. Slow Play – (where a Club has official able to enforce the Rule)
    - 7.7.2. The use of Distance Measuring Devices (Distance measuring devices are allowed in the Handicap Pennant competition) and
    - 7.7.3. The Use of Motorised Carts will be those pertaining to the competition.

#### **Responsibilities of the Host Club**

1. The Host Club is responsible for the reporting of all results to the District Executive Officer and Media at the end of the day. Results are to be sent to the District Executive Officer and Media representatives as listed on the Result Sheet supplied
2. The Host Club is responsible for organisation and control of the day's play and must appoint a Disputes and Judicial Committee. They must have an appointed starter who is to collect the team playing orders and write up a starter's sheet, at least 15 minutes prior to the start of play. This committee may include a member of the District Men's Committee, or his appointee, assigned to officiate at the Pennant round and will make decisions on cancellation, postponement, adherence to conditions and procedure, or alterations to the days play made necessary by weather or other conditions. This Disputes and Judicial Committee may, at its discretion, refer any matter to the MWG Inc Men's Committee.

3. The Host Club must ensure that its course is well groomed, and out of bounds, ground under repair and lateral water hazards are defined. Pin placements should be in keeping with the event and the normal club tees are to be used.
4. The Host Club is responsible for the provision of all officials required on the day and is also responsible for any expenses incurred.
5. Local rules are to be announced before commencement of play and prominently displayed near starting tees. Where possible a copy of these Rules should be available to competitors prior to the commencement of play.
6. Whether practice on the course prior to play commencing is permitted or not is to be decided by the Host Club and is to be policed by the Host Club. If this rule is breached a written protest must be lodged with the MWG Inc Men's Committee within 5 days of the occurrence. The MWG Inc Men's Committee will determine any penalty required and their decision shall be binding.
7.
  - 7.1 In Handicap Pennant matches teams are to provide at the conclusion of the round a result sheet showing each team's results. This must signed by each team's manager or captain.
  - 7.2 In Handicap Pennant matches individual scorecards are compulsory. All scorecards are to be duly signed, returned at the conclusion of the round, and entered for handicapping purposes. The host Club is to certify on the result sheet which is returned to the District Executive Officer that this has been complied with.  
*The penalty for non-compliance of this rule will be the deduction of 1 match point for each breach of the rule by a team.*
8. When Handicap Pennant matches are played on the Host Club's course players who are not in the Pennant competition must not impede the Pennant event. If there are 12 teams playing the course must be closed.

### **Golf Etiquette**

Members of visiting teams have a duty towards the Host Club to acquaint themselves with dress regulations that apply on the course and in the Clubhouse. Clubs should ensure that the dress of their representatives is appropriate at all times.

Visiting teams are expected to patronise the Host Club's refreshment facilities after the conclusion of the round.