



Cheshire County Ladies Golf Association

Delegates meeting at Warrington GC January 20th 2014

County Captain Mrs. Pauline Clegg introduced Warrington's Lady Vice Captain Morag Hale, who welcomed all the Delegates to Warrington GC.

County Captain introduced the top table to everyone:

County Handicap Advisors Wendy Taylor and Wendy Simm, President Mrs. Lis Wilson, County Vice Captain Mrs. Marian Scowcroft, IPC Mrs. Lucy Foster, Hon Sec Ms Karen Lindsey and EG Northern Representative Mrs. Susan Wilson.

England Golf Strategic Plan ~ Pauline Clegg

England Golf has published the second draft of the England Golf Strategic Plan 2014-2017 aimed at encouraging more people to play golf. It is available on the EG website. Comments are welcomed from all and should be directed to IPC Luci Foster before the next EG meeting on 12th February 2014.

Northern Foursomes ~ Susan Wilson

The Northern Foursomes is being held at Ringway GC in 2014. Delegates are thanked for displaying the poster advertising the 3 Day event at their respective clubs. We are pleased to advise that all the spaces, 64 pairs, have been filled! The subsidiary competition on Day 2 is also full! However, there are still 4 places available for the subsidiary event on Day 3. This event welcomes participation from all Northern Counties, not just Cheshire.

Sadly EG are no longer involved in Regional Competitions therefore if there is any loss, it is borne by the County Association. On the positive, any profits are kept for the County Association.

Handicap Information and Changes for 2014 ~ Wendy Simm

I will start with the changes which CONGU have made and which took effect on 1st January 2014 and then Wendy Taylor will go over some other topics of interest. Hopefully you have downloaded these changes from the CCLGA website and studied them so they will not be completely new to you.

1. Change in annotation of handicap (Clause 25). From now on, we will be referring to completion CONGU handicaps and CONGU handicaps instead of active and inactive.

The annotation 'i' or the term 'inactive' has proved very unpopular. It would appear that players with an inactive handicap were not playing in qualifying

competitions believing their handicap to be invalid. This of course is not the case. Any affiliated member who has been allocated a CONGU handicap whatever the annotation retains a valid handicap for competitions. So to encourage players to play in as many qualifying competitions as possible, EG have joined the Scotland and Wales Unions in using the 'c' annotation for a 'competition' handicap and the 'i' will no longer appear.

From 1st January 2014 all players in whatever category who return a minimum of 3 qualifying scores will have a 'c' denoting a completion handicap. Note however that at the beginning of the year, the dreaded 'i' may still appear while clubs update their software.

The date for the activation the competition handicap will be 1st March to the end of February going forward as opposed to the calendar year from 1st March 2014.

Clause 25 Status of Handicap now reads:

25.1 EG directs that the handicap of any player, in whichever category, who returns a minimum of 3 qualifying scores in a year from 1st March, shall be marked as a (c).

There then are subsequent changes to retaining a handicap. (Clause changes 26.1, 26.2 and 26.3).

If restored within 6 months it must be reinstated at the same handicap.

If restored within 6 to 12 months then it must be reinstated at the same handicap but not marked with a (c).

If longer than 12 months then a new handicap is allotted in the usual way complying with the requirements in Clause 16.

Obviously a player who has a 'non-competition' handicap can regain a competition handicap by submitting 3 qualifying scores in the usual way.

2. Changes to the use of Supplementary Scores, Clause 21 and these changes only affect Category 1 players and any player attaining Category 1.

Again the date of the 12 month period has been changed to 1st March instead of 1st Jan.

EG were conscious of the potential to abuse the use of supplementary scores and so have restricted their use by Category 1 golfers and any player attaining Category 1. The restriction of Category 1 golfers are as follows:

A Cat 1 player with a competition handicap cannot return any supplementary

scores until 1st September. Then during the 6 month period until 1st March they can return only as many as they need (up to a maximum of 3) to retain their competition handicap.

A Cat 1 player with a non-competition handicap in 1st March may return 3 supplementary scores to regain a competition handicap.

If a Cat 2 player has returned supplementary scores prior to attaining a cat 1 handicap they will only be allowed to return additional supplementary scores in order to retain a competition handicap. The rest of the conditions remain unchanged for Cat 2, 3, 4 and 5.

ALTERNATE DAY COMPETITIONS

EG have produced a document titled Alternate Day Competition Guidance which I hope you have also downloaded.

EG are keen for clubs to enable as many members as possible to play in competitions and encourage them to arrange Alternate Day Comps for those who cannot play on main comp days. I don't propose to read the entire document out but I should point out that under guidance no 7: These Alternate Day comps must be treated as separate competitions for handicap purposes and a CSS calculated for each day. They don't have to have the same course. The results of the 2 days are then combined only for the allocation of prizes.

Lastly can I draw your attention to EG's Simple Guide to the CONGU Handicapping System, produced for handicap secretaries and I think it will be very helpful especially for those newly appointed.

Wendy Taylor ~ County Handicap Advisor

Restriction of Handicap in Competition

Wendy Simm and I have received a number of queries following the discussion at the October Delegates Meeting on restriction of handicap in competitions. To clear any misunderstanding:

CONGU Appendix F sets out the Handicap Allowance for Different Formats of Competition.

Strokeplay – Singles – full handicap

Matchplay – Singles – full difference between handicaps.

CONGU does not state that clubs may limit by category.

Decision 1 (j) on Page 90 of the CONGU UHS Manual states it is contrary to the spirit of the UHS to limit entry by Handicap.

A Club or Organisation should not set a limit of say 22 and allow a 24 handicapper to play. If they want the 24 handicapper to play they should change the entry limit to 24.

However, under Rule of Golf 33-1, a Club or Organisation must establish the Conditions of Competition and are entitled to set a handicap limit for competitions as they see fit. Conditions of Competition should be posted in the Clubhouse.

36 Hole Competitions – played on the same day or over 2 days Handicap remains the same throughout. Decision 4 CONGU UHS.

Single Figure Handicap Information – a letter was included in the October envelope. A number of clubs over the last few years with players holding single figure handicaps have not returned this form. Please help us and send the names in, it is important for County B Team training and selection.

Juniors/New Members – Beginners

What help do you as a club give them? Do you talk them through how to mark a card, different formats of competition, how to sign in for competitions, where and how to return a score card, basic rules of golf the CONGU UHS explaining their responsibilities to the handicap system i.e.: return of scores home and away – check they are received by their home club – this is important for the handicap audit that the county undertake.

Questions

Q: Wirral Ladies GC asked a question regarding the adjustments to handicaps for competition purposes when playing off mixed tees.

A: CONGU UHS Manual Appendix O states the procedure.

Q: Marple GC asked the minimum number of players to constitute a competition as sometimes numbers are low.

A: The minimum number of competitors is 1.

Q: Is it permissible for a member to retain their competition handicap by the submission of 3 Supplementary Scores and to compete in no competitions?

A: Yes

AOB

Lis Wilson

I started the Elisabeth Wilson Scratch Shield back in 1991 to promote scratch golf in both East and West Cheshire. It allows the County to assess how single figure golfers play versus other single figure golfers. All matches are played at mutually convenient times. If you have 5 players under 12 handicap, or indeed 5 players under 18 then you should consider entering it. Closing date is 31 January 2014.

County Association Subscription Letter ~ Pauline Clegg

An invoice for you to hand to your Club Secretary or whoever pays the subscriptions is included in the bag we will be handing out at the end of the meeting containing your copies of the CCLGA Fixture Booklets.

CCLGA Fixture Booklets ~ Mrs. Luci Foster

Contents of the 'goodie bags':

- CCLGA Fixture Booklets
- County Seniors Fixture Booklets
- CCLGA Subscription Letter
- Letter to your Junior Secretary and Fixture Leaflets

May I also take this opportunity to draw your attention to the Delamere Comboy Scratch Trophy which is a 36 hole open competition open to a 12.4 handicap limit. The entry forms are available from Delamere GC and not the CCLGA.

In 2014 the CCLGA has added an additional competition for those who find it difficult to play during the day during the week. This is an individual competition to be held here at Warrington GC on 23 June 2014 with tees available from 16:30 to 18:30.

Meeting Closed.

Karen Lindsey
Hon. Secretary

Next Meeting Monday 19th May 2014 at Warrington Golf Club at 18:30 for 19:00.