

# COMPETITION REGULATIONS 2010

## 1. COMPETITIONS

### ***Individual Stroke Play Competitions***

1. Chigwell Bowl (*Over 21*)..... (Stroke Play)
2. Colts Championship (*Under 21*) ..... (Stroke Play)
3. Cliffords Trophy..... (Stroke Play)
4. Essex Amateur Championship ..... (Stroke Play)
5. Essex Seniors Championship (*Over 55*)..... (Stroke Play)
6. Jubilee Trophy ..... (Stroke Play)
7. Keating Trophy.....(Stroke Play / Match Play)
8. Romford Trophy ..... (Stroke Play)
9. Upminster Bowl (*Under 25 Championship*) ..... (Stroke Play)
10. Upminster Trophy (*Over 25 Championship*) ..... (Stroke Play)
11. Veterans Trophy ..... (Stableford)

### ***Team Stroke Play Competitions***

12. Club Championship (*Esplen Trophy*)..... (Stroke Play)
13. Essex Foursomes Championship..... (Stroke Play)
14. Herbert Bishop Vase ..... (Handicap Stableford Four-Ball)
15. Mullis Trophy..... (Handicap Stableford Four-Ball)

### ***Individual Match Play Competitions***

16. Allan Lockwood Trophy ..... (Match Play)
17. Essex Seniors Team Championship ..... (Match Play)
18. Leslie F. Wood Team Championship ..... (Match Play)
19. Norman Plum Trophy ..... (Team Handicap Stableford)
20. Thornton Challenge Cup. .... (Match Play)

### ***Boys Competitions***

21. Boys Championship ..... (Stroke Play)
22. Boys Foursomes Championship..... (Stableford Foursomes)
23. Boys Team Championship ..... (Stroke Play)
24. Boys Under 14 Championship..... (Stroke Play)
25. Boys Under 12 Championship..... (Stroke Play)
26. Brian Fuller Under 12 Trophy ..... (Handicap Stroke Play)
27. Faldo Wedge..... (Team Handicap Stableford)
28. Fred Stillwell Under 14 Trophy ..... (Handicap Stroke Play)
29. Inter-Club Youth Shield ..... (Match Play)

## **2. ELIGIBILITY**

A player: -

- a) Must be male and of Amateur status as defined by the Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews.
- b) Must belong to an Affiliated Club that has paid the appropriate fees on his behalf to its County Union and to the English Golf Union.
- c) Must hold an official handicap maintained in accordance with the handicapping scheme of the Council of National Golf Unions.

### **2.1 COUNTY TEAM SELECTION**

To represent the County a player: -

- a) Must be a Member of a Club affiliated to the Essex Golf Union or must have been born in the County and be a member of an Affiliated Club in another County.
- b) Must not have represented another County (including friendly matches) or have played in a County Championship in another County during the twelve months prior to the event.
- c) If he has moved into England from any other Country the player must have twelve months residence in England immediately before being eligible to play for the County.

Please note the following conditions when a Player moves to another County Union.

Where the County Union the Player is moving from and the County Union he is moving to both agree to the move the Player will be allowed to play for his new County with immediate effect, with the following two exceptions.

- a) The Player shall not be permitted to play for the new County in either the English Men's County Finals Qualifying round or Finals if he has played for the County he is leaving in that same year.
- b) The Player shall not be permitted to play for his new County Union in the same league as his old County in that same year.

### **2.2 COUNTY BOYS TEAM SELECTION**

To represent the County in Boys matches a player: -

- a) Must be under the age of 18 at 00.00 hours on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the year of the Championship.
- b) Must be a Member of a Club affiliated to the Essex Golf Union or must have been born in the County and be a member of an affiliated club in another County.
- c) No player may have played for another County or played in a County Championship in another County during the same calendar year.

### **2.3 OTHER COUNTY COMPETITIONS**

To compete in Competitions in Regulations 1 a player, unless the particular competition conditions are otherwise modified: -

- a) Must be a Member of a Club affiliated to the Essex Golf Union.
- b) A player's HOME CLUB must be affiliated to the Essex Golf Union.
- c) A player can only represent his Home Club in Essex Golf Union competitions.

### **3. COUNTY COLOURS**

The County Badge shall be awarded to and worn by:

7.1 Players representing the County in the English County Championship.

7.2 Players who have represented the County in league matches on at least three occasions.

7.3 The County Tie shall be awarded to and worn by player representing the County after one match.

7.4 A County Colts tie and badge shall be awarded to players who have represented the County Colts in Colt league matches on at least three occasions.

7.5 A County Boys tie and badge shall be awarded to players who have represented the County under 18 team in three friendly matches or one English Golf Union-SE Group event.

### **4. ENTRIES and HANDICAP**

Subject to any exceptions made by the Championship Committee in special cases, all entries shall be made through the County Office and are subject to the approval of the Championship Committee.

Entrance fees and individual handicap limits shall be as the Executive Committee may from time to time determine.

In the event of the number of entries exceeding the maximum in any competition, those with higher handicaps will be eliminated, final places being decided by ballot where necessary.

### **5. TIES and HALVED MATCHES**

#### Stroke Play:

In the event of a tie in the County Championship and Boy's Under 18 Championship, there shall be a "sudden death" play-off over designated holes until a definite result is obtained.

In all other competitions the result shall be determined on the last 18, 9, 6, 3, or 18th hole on the card.

#### Match Play:

In the event of a halved match in match play competition, the competitors shall continue play until one or the other shall have won a hole unless the Conditions of the Competition are modified by the Championship Committee.

### **6. MATCH-PLAY TOURNAMENTS**

5.1 All matches must be played on or by the dates indicated on the draw sheet.

5.2 Any disputes concerning the fixing of dates and times should be settled by the Clubs concerned, reference to the Championship Committee being regarded as a last resort.

5.3 A Club failing to appear on the appointed day at the agreed time will be disqualified. The note to Rule 6-3 of the Rules of Golf will apply.

5.4 Results of matches must be notified to the County office by the winning Club as soon as possible and not later than 10 am on the day following the round.

- 5.5 It is a condition of entry into the Thornton Cup, Leslie F Wood, Youth Shield and Essex Seniors Team Championship competitions, that clubs make their courses available for matches from the Quarter-Final or Semi-Final stages and will host matches between any two teams in the competition as required. If a Club fails to comply with this regulation, they will be required to play their match on their opponent's course.
- 5.6 Practicing on Course before official starting time in Team Events
- A Player practicing on the course before his official Tee Time will result in the player being disqualified from the day's event.
  - If the offence has taken place before the Team sheet had been handed in a substitute may take his place in the team.
  - If however the offence is discovered after the Team sheet has been handed in the player is disqualified from the day's event and no substitute will be allowed.
  - Morning Foursomes: The effect on the remaining 3 players due to play in the morning foursomes should be as follows. Due to no fault of their own the two remaining opposition players should be allowed to play the course in the morning, playing as a foursome only.

## **7. STROKE PLAY**

Time of Starting: - The Note to Rule 6-3 of the Rules of Golf will apply.

## **8. GENERAL**

- 8.1 All Competitions shall be played according to the Rules of Golf as approved by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, and the local Rules and Bye-Laws of the Club on whose Course the meeting is held in so far as they are approved by the Board of Directors of the Essex Golf Union Ltd.
- 8.2 The Committee referred to in these Regulations and Conditions is the Championship Sub-Committee set up by the Board of Directors under rule 6 of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, who may modify the regulations governing such competition when necessary and in special circumstances.
- 8.3 All matters relating to handicaps under which players shall compete shall be subject to the approval of the Championship Committee.
- 8.4 All disputes shall be settled by the Championship Committee (three to make a quorum) and their decision shall be final.
- 8.5 Entrants to the Boys, Colts, and Seniors events shall be within the age groups set by the R & A, EGU and Essex Golf Union Regulations and Conditions.
- 8.6 Competitors must use a ball on the current list of Conforming Golf Balls issued by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews. (Rule 5-1)
- 8.7 Buggies may not be used by competitors in any County Competition, unless specified in the particular Competition Conditions.
- 8.8 Mobile phones:
- In Individual or Team Competitions the use of a Mobile Phone on the course or in the Club House by Player or Caddie may result in the disqualification of the Player.
  - In Team competitions the use of a Mobile phone/communication devices by Team Officials on the course or in the Club House may result in the disqualification of the Team.

The exception to all the above is "Mobile phone used in an Emergency".

- 8.9 The following persons are not allowed to caddie in County Competitions: - Professional Golfers, also Parents and other Adults for players under 18 years of age when playing in Under 18 events. In Under 14 competitions caddies must be under 14 at 00.00 hours on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the year of the event.
- 8.10 Players who do not attend the prize-giving after a competition are disqualified from receiving any prize they may have won.
- 8.11 In Essex Golf Union team competitions, Team Managers are not allowed to give advice.
- 8.12 Any Competitor or Team who during the course of an event, including practice days, misbehaves by, for example, swearing, throwing clubs, or vandalising the golf course or Clubhouse, or acts in any manner which might bring the game into disrepute, may be barred from entering or taking part in any Essex Golf Union event for such period as the Championship Committee may decide.
- 8.13 The following dress code applies to all competitors playing in Essex Golf Union individual and team competitions:  
Shorts, Jeans, collarless tee shirts, tracksuits and trainers are NOT allowed on the Course or Club House.
- 8.14 The use of Distance Measuring Devices as indicated in the Rules of Golf (appendix 1-9) is allowed in Essex Golf Union competitions.
- 8.15 Alcohol - the consumption of alcohol by players or caddies is not allowed on the Course during any County Team or Individual Competitions or Matches. Failure to comply may result in the disqualification of the Player or Team.

## 9. Centralised Database of Handicaps

- It is a condition of entry into Essex Golf Union competitions that Clubs must be registered and uploaded to the Centralised Database of Handicaps.
- Players with an Inactive Handicap will not be able to enter Essex Golf Union competitions, this includes all team events.

## 10. Courtesies to Club Hosting Championship Events

It is a condition of entry to County competitions that Clubs must give at least 1 x four-ball courtesy tee time to Clubs that are hosting County Championship events, for a minimum of 14 separate dates.

Please note: Clubs that fail to meet this requirement will not be able to participate in County events in the following year.

*Clubs that have problems meeting the requirements of this rule can write to the County Secretary to apply for dispensation.*

### Competitions to which this rule applies:

Essex Amateur Championship (2 days)

Essex Seniors Championship (2 days)

Boys Foursomes Championship

Keating Trophy

Chigwell Bowl

Cliffords Trophy

Romford Trophy

Upminster Bowl

Boys Championship

Boys Under 14 Championship

Boys Under 12 Championship

Essex Foursomes Championship

Faldo Wedge

Mullis Trophy

Veterans Trophy

Herbert Bishop Vase