

COMPETITION REGULATIONS

1. COMPETITIONS

Competitions, played from scratch unless otherwise stated, shall be held each year to decide the following:

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 50*)..... (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)
12. County Card Members Meetings..... (Handicap Stableford Four-Ball)

Team Stroke Play Competitions

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

Individual Match Play Competitions

17. Allan Lockwood Trophy.....(Match Play)

Team Match Play Competitions

18. Essex Seniors Team Championship.....(Match Play)
19. Leslie F. Wood Team Championship.....(Match Play)
12. Norman Plum Trophy.....(Team Handicap Stableford)
21. Thornton Challenge Cup.....(Match Play)

Boys Competitions

22. Boys Championship..... (Stroke Play)
23. Boys Foursomes Championship..... (Stableford Foursomes)
24. Boys Team Championship..... (Stroke Play)
25. Boys Under 14 Championship..... (Stroke Play)
26. Boys Under 12 Championship..... (Stroke Play)
27. Brian Fuller Under 12 Trophy.....(Handicap Stroke Play)
28. Faldo Wedge.....(Team Handicap Stableford)
29. Fred Stillwell Under 14 Trophy.....(Handicap Stroke Play)
30. 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 AND COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

To represent the County in matches and be eligible to compete in the County Championship 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 AND BOYS CHAMPIONSHIP

To represent the County in Boys matches and be eligible to play in the County Boys Championship a player: -

- a) Must be under the age of 18 at 00.00 hours on 1st 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 other than the County Championship 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. ENTRIES and HANDICAP

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

4. 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 Committee.

5. 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 Executive 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 Secretary by the winning Club as soon as possible and not later than 9.30 a.m. 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.

6. STROKE PLAY

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

7. 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.

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 Executive Committee of the Union.
- 8.2 The Committee referred to in these Regulations and Conditions is the Competition Sub-Committee set up by the Executive Committee under Rule 7.6 which 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 Committee.
- 8.4 All disputes shall be settled by the Committee (two 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 No competitor shall take more than one prize at any Competition except for Team Competitions run in conjunction with the County Championship or the Boys Championship, or as stated in any competition Conditions.
- 8.7 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)
- 8.8 Buggies may not be used in any competition except by County Officials on duty, unless specified in the particular Competition Conditions.
- 8.9 Mobile phones:
 - In individual Competitions use of a Mobile Phone on the course or in the Club House by Player or Caddie will result in the disqualification of the Player.
 - In Team events the use of a Mobile phone/communication device by a player, Caddie or Team Official during the duration of the event will result in the Disqualification of the Team.

The exception to all the above is "Mobile phone used in an Emergency.
- 8.10 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 1st January in the year of the event.

- 8.11 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 Competition Committee may decide.
- 8.12 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.

Penalty for infringement of Competition Regulations - Disqualification.