



WATERFORD CASTLE GOLF CLUB



Rule Book

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES

In appreciation of our sponsors, Prize Winners are requested to be present for presentations. If unable to attend you must delegate a member to accept the prize on your behalf. If you have a good score, it is your responsibility to contact the club to see if you are a prizewinner.

The Committee will encourage Sponsors to operate a choice of prizes at presentations during the year.

SPONSORS

The Committee wish to thank all our sponsors for their continued support throughout the year, as without them we would not be able to hold as many competitions and request that members support our sponsors wherever possible.

Details of our sponsors can be found on our website

A full list of our sponsors can also be found on the sponsors notice board.

PRIORITY ON THE COURSE

1. A singles match in any official club competition shall have precedence of and be entitled to pass any other kind of match.
2. A foursome match (i.e. a match in which two play against two & each plays one ball) in any official club competition shall have precedence of and be entitled to pass any other kind of match except as in (1) above.
3. A fourball match (i.e. a match in which two play their better ball against the better ball of the two other players) in any club competition shall have precedence of and be entitled to pass any form of unofficial or friendly match.
4. The order of priority of unofficial or friendly matches shall be:
 - (1) Singles Matches
 - (2) Foursomes
 - (3) Threeball
 - (4) Fourball
5. A single player has no standing and should give way to a match of any kind.
6. Players using a lesser number of bags than there are players in the match have no standing and should give way to a match of any kind.
7. Any match playing a whole round is entitled to pass a match playing a shorter round and in this respect it should be noted that:

Players coming from the 9th green shall have precedence on the 10th tee.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

1. Any member whose subscription is unpaid by 1st March shall be ineligible to compete in Club or Open Competitions, to enter Championships or Tournaments or to represent the Club
2. Time Sheets for Club Competitions: Sunday will be open to members on the Saturday, 8 days prior to the Competition;

Time Sheets for Open and Semi-Open Competitions will be open 14 days prior to Competition. No earlier bookings will be accepted.
3. Time sheets for the Friday Fourball Competition will go on display the previous Friday at 2pm. No earlier bookings will be accepted.
4. Time Sheets for Tuesday Long Handicap Competition will go on display the previous Tuesday. No earlier bookings will be accepted.
5. When booking places on time sheets, names of all players should be given. If for any reason, you are unable to take up your tee-time, please notify reception and your playing partners as soon as possible. Names of people not turning up for their booked times will be noted and frequent offenders will face suspension.
6. All play on the course is regulated by time sheets and there are times reserved in the morning for members and residents of the Castle. It is advisable to pre-book times and to phone in advance to check availability of times. In adverse weather conditions the Management reserve the right to close the course without notice. Therefore it is advisable to phone before travelling.
7. ALL ANIMALS AND BIRDS ARE WILDLIFE AND SHOULD BE TREATED AS SUCH. THEREFORE THEY SHOULD NOT BE APPROACHED OR FED BY MEMBERS.
8. Members Sunday Times - Summer: Men 7.00am to 1:30pm
Ladies 1:39pm to 3:06pm

STANDARD OF DRESS

Course

The following items of dress are unacceptable at all times:

- Denim jeans & jackets
- Singlets, sleeveless or collarless shirts
- Untailored shorts
- Garments displaying slogans
- Track or leisure suits
- Trainer shoes or runners
- Trousers legs must never be tucked into socks

Clubhouse

- Smart casual dress is essential in the Clubhouse.
- It must be clean, neat and tidy and in keeping with the high standards expected.
- Baseball hats are not permitted in the Clubhouse.

COMPETITIONS

Fixtures may have to be changed from time to time, subject to the requirements of management or committee. Any such alterations will be advised to the members on the Club Notice Boards and the Club Web Site. www.waterfordcastlegolfclub.ie

If you wish to play on any competition day and you do not want to participate in the competition, you must put NIC (not in competition) after your name on the time sheet. **YOU MUST ADHERE TO THE FORMAT OF THE DAY AT ALL TIMES.** Play in any competition is confined to the period of the time sheet and play outside these times is only allowed with the prior consent of the competition committee.

To be eligible to win the Captains or Presidents prize, members must have returned a minimum of 3 singles cards in the 12 months prior to the date of the competition. These cards must be returned in qualifying competitions in this Club. (A qualifying competition is any competition in which 'Competition Play Conditions' prevail, i.e. no placing.)

Only full members are eligible to win first prize in any club singles competition. Members of all other category's can only be placed in club singles competitions. In the Captains and President's prize, there is a separate prize for students and juniors members. This is the only prize that they can win in those two competitions.

MEN'S GOLFER OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

Points will be awarded for all competitions marked GOY in the fixture list. The winner will be the player who receives most points in 8 competitions. There will be additional prizes for runner up and third place. In the event of a tie over 8 cards, the worst card of the 8 will be discarded and so on until a winner is reached.

Due to being unable to play in competitions for which they donate prizes, the Captain and President shall receive double points in the next ensuing competition. The top 30 plus ties in the final standings over all competitions will qualify for the Master Golfer Competition.

LADIES'S GOLFER OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

Rules of G.O.Y. competition will be posted on the Ladies Notice Board. Fixtures may have to be changed from time to time and any such alterations will be advised to members on the Ladies notice board and the Web Site.

SUNDAY COMPETITIONS

- Prize Winners are expected to be present for presentation of prizes which will generally take place on the following Friday.
- If you cannot attend you must delegate someone to collect your prize for you.

MASTER GOLFER

- The top 30 and those tying for 30th place in the final points table of the GOY competition will qualify for the Master Golfer Competition.

LONG HANDICAP

- Long Handicapper of the year will be awarded to the golfer with the most points accumulated from 8 cards on Tuesday nights plus the 18-hole Club Long Handicap Competition.
- Prize Winners are expected to be present for presentation of prizes.
- If you cannot attend you must delegate someone to collect your prize for you.
- If you have 20 points or more you are expected to ring to see if you are in the prizes.
- There will be a choice of prizes on offer each Tuesday night and those in attendance will be given first choice.

RULES

The attention of all members and particularly beginners is drawn to the Rules of Golf - Section 1 that sets out courtesy rules and to local rules of priority and etiquette as set out herein. In the interests of all using the Course and Clubhouse, members are requested to abide by these rules.

1. **SLOW PLAY:** If a match fails to keep its place on the course and loses more than one clear hole on the players in front, it should allow the next following match to pass through. In stableford or par competitions, it is recommended that you pick up when either zero points or a loss has been recorded on a hole.
2. Your place on the course is directly behind those in front of you and not directly in front of those behind you. This rule also applies to casual play.
3. **LOST BALL:** 5 minutes are allowed to search for a ball. This does not mean you may hold up those behind you for 5 minutes. If the ball is not immediately found and if the hole ahead is clear, allow those behind to play through. (In stroke competitions, if you think a ball is in danger of being lost, play a provisional ball immediately to avoid delays).
4. **REPAIR ALL PLUG MARKS ON THE GREEN**
(whether you made them or not).

5. REPLACE ALL DIVOTS (it is easier for you to replace the turf than for the green keepers to re-turf the place).
6. RAKE ALL BUNKERS AFTER PLAYING A SHOT
(place the rake back in the bunker and keep them in the condition you would expect to play them).
7. GOLF TROLLIES ARE NOT ALLOWED ON TEE BOXES.
8. The names of members arriving late for tee-times and of members who do not cancel tee-times at least 24 hours in advance will be noted. Players are only allowed change their position on the timesheet on the day of a competition if an alternative space is available on the timesheet, and by moving, other players are not inconvenienced on the original booked line. (Penalty: Disqualification from competition)

Equally, members who do not respect at all times the parking privileges of the Committee, Trustees and Sponsors will be noted.

A letter of warning will be issued after a second offence and a subsequent offence will lead to suspension.

9. The parents of our Junior members should be aware that it is their responsibility to ensure that the Rules for Junior members found in this booklet are adhered to at all times.

Any breach of the above should be reported in writing to the Hon. Secretary immediately.

FRIDAY FOURBALL

- The Friday Fourball is a Semi-Open competition.
- Prize Winners are expected to be present for presentation of prizes.
- If you cannot attend you must delegate someone to collect your prize for you.
- If you have 20 points or more you are expected to ring to see if you are in the prizes.
- There will be a choice of prizes on offer each Friday night and those in attendance will be given first choice.

FAILURE TO RETURN OR SIGN A CARD

ALL SINGLES CARDS MUST BE SIGNED AND ENTERED ON THE COMPUTER AND RETURNED (EVEN IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLETE THE ROUND).

Penalties are in place for members who fail to return their cards in singles competitions and these penalties are as follows:

- A letter will be sent to you, reminding you that more severe penalties will follow if it happens again.
- Suspension from all competitions for a period of seven days. You will be notified as to when the suspension starts.
- You will be suspended from all competitions for a period to be decided by the committee and you will be notified of their decision by post.

CLUB MATCHPLAY COMPETITIONS

- All matchplay winners (singles, fourball, foursomes and mixed) automatically qualify for the following years competition with the rest of the fields made up by participation in qualifying competitions (where necessary) to be held early in the season.
- All rounds of club matchplay competitions must be completed by the due date and results filled in on the matchplay draw sheet on the notice board. There will be plenty of time to complete each round.
- Failure to record a result by the allocated date will deem both competitors disqualified. A mutually agreed 'walk-over' must be recorded to allow one competitor to progress.
- Both players carry equal responsibility to contact their opponent to arrange their match.
- All matches to be played off handicap at the time of playing the match.
- If anyone has a problem arranging a match, has difficulty in contacting their opponent(s) or has grounds for a walkover, they should contact a member of the Competition Committee before the date the match has to be played and we will attempt to sort it out.
- **A date is set-aside for the Matchplay Finals. All finals must be played on the arranged date. Should it be required to play a final before the appointed date, the Competition Committee must first sanction it.**
- All disputes will be decided by the competitions committee whose decision is final.
- A full list of rules will be posted over the matchplay notice board.

Please do not enter a matchplay competition if you know you will be unavailable.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF HANDICAPS

The purpose is to identify:

Players whose general playing performance is better than expected for their handicap category. Option to reduce handicap.

Players whose general playing performance is poorer than expected for their handicap category. Option to increase handicap.

It is as important to identify players of declining ability as it is to identify those of improving ability.

Member's handicaps can be checked as follows:

Log on to www.golfnet.ie and enter the membership number printed on your swipe card (2072????) and follow the instructions.

Text your full swipe card number (2072???? for men or 9072???? for ladies) to Golfnet on 086-3832600 and you will receive a text back with your current handicap. (To check your lowest handicap last year, put 'L' before your number.)

The full list of men's and ladies handicaps is on display on the club notice boards.

Contact the men's handicap secretary by e-mail @ wtdcastlegolf@live.ie if you have a query.

Contact the ladies handicap secretary by email at waterfordcastleladies@live.ie

FOURBALL, TEAM EVENTS & SOCIETY SCORES

We would like to remind you that in accordance with the guidelines issued by the G.U.I. to achieve as far as possible a uniform application of Clause 8.12 players must continue to report all scores in Team Events, Classics, Fourball, Foursomes and Society Scores for consideration by their Handicap Committee at the Annual Review.

RULES FOR JUNIOR MEMBERS

Junior Members: Age 7 (minimum) to Age 18 (maximum).

Junior membership is confined to children of existing club members.

1. CLUBHOUSE: Juniors are not allowed in the bar unless accompanied by an adult.
2. THE ISLAND: Under no circumstances shall a junior bring a non-member onto the Island.
3. THE COURSE (General Play): On Monday to Friday and subject to availability, juniors with an official handicap may commence play between 10.00am and 1.00pm and between 3.00pm and 5.00pm. After 5.00pm juniors may commence play only if accompanied by an adult. Junior members without an official handicap must always be accompanied by an adult on the course.
4. On Saturday, Sunday or Bank Holidays, Juniors may only play subject to availability and may not pre-book tee-times. However this rule shall not apply where a junior member is with his/her parent.
5. Juniors must always check in at the office before commencing play.

JUNIOR COMPETITIONS

- Junior members will be given a distinctive junior category, which will be determined by the Junior Sub-Committee. These categories will be differentiated by a colour-coded bag tag which must be visible at all times while on the island.

These three categories and their restrictions are as follows:

- Red - Complete new junior member: - not allowed on the course before the Junior Sub-Committee does an assessment and a Yellow tag is issued.
- Yellow - will be assessed by two members of the Junior Sub-Committee relative to rules of golf, club ethics and will be permitted on the course when accompanied by an adult only.
- Green - will have a handicap of 18 or less and will be permitted to use the course in the hours as set out in the Rules for Juniors.
- Junior members may, at the sole discretion of the committee, be given limited playing rights in specified competitions and subject to such rules as may be appropriate from time to time.
- A Junior member with a handicap of 16 or less may participate in certain club competitions but can only be placed in these competitions
- Junior members may not play in Friday Fourball, Long Handicap, Club Match-Plays or Mixed Foursomes Competitions with the exception of Scratch Matchplay and Men's Club Foursomes.

- A Junior should only be allowed to play in a group consisting solely of junior members if they are drawn together in a scratch matchplay event.
- Juniors are permitted to play in the club scratch matchplay if their handicap permits. In this instance a parent must accompany a junior / guardian or if one or other is unavailable, somebody appointed by the Junior Convenor.
Under no circumstances shall a matchplay involving a junior and adult member take place without such supervision.
- Juniors are allowed to play in a club foursome matchplay subject to having a handicap of 16 or less and also that no two Juniors can be paired together.
- For competitions, junior members may book times between 11.00am and 1.00pm or other such times as may be advised to them from time to time.
- In no circumstances, shall a playing group in a competition consist solely of junior members.
- Junior members shall be expected to behave in a mannerly and courteous fashion and shall at all times give way to adults on the course.
- Lessons and competitions for juniors will be arranged on a regular basis and details will be advised to juniors when appropriate.
- Junior members can play and win in Club 3 and 4 person team events on Sundays providing there is a maximum of one junior or student on the team. More than one junior or a student on the team will mean disqualification from competition for the team.

- Junior members may play in club 4ball and foursomes (excluding Matchplays) on Sundays and can win these competitions providing they play with a full adult member.
- FOR BOTH CAPTAINS AND PRESIDENTS DAY THERE WILL BE ONE PRIZE ON OFFER FOR JUNIOR MEMBERS AND NEAREST PIN AND LONGEST DRIVE PRIZES DO NOT APPLY TO JUNIOR MEMBERS.
- NO JUNIOR MEMBERS WITH A HANDICAP OF MORE THAN 16 ARE ALLOWED ON THE COURSE DURING FULL MEMBER COMPETITIONS.

RULES FOR STUDENT MEMBERS

- Student members must adhere to dress code in clubhouse at all times.
- Student members over the age of 18 may use the clubhouse bar providing they can provide proof of age to bar staff.
- Students are not allowed to bring a non-member onto the Island unless they get it cleared with pro-shop first.
- Students are expected to behave in a mannerly and courteous fashion on the course and in the clubhouse at all times.
- Students can use the course for general play providing the time is pre-booked or is cleared by the pro-shop.

COMPETITION RULES FOR STUDENT MEMBERS

- Students may only book times for competitions from 11am and 1pm or at other times advised to them from time to time. Students may play at earlier times providing they are playing with their parent or if earlier times become available 24 hours prior to competition.
- Student members may play on the same line as junior members during competitions.
- Student members with a handicap of 16 or lower may play in certain club competitions.
- STUDENT MEMBERS AT THE SOLE DISCRETION OF THE COMMITTEE, BE GIVEN LIMITED PLAYING RIGHTS IN SPECIFIED COMPETITIONS AND SUBJECT TO SUCH RULES THAT MAY BE APPROPRIATE AT SUCH TIME.
- FOR BOTH CAPTAINS AND PRESIDENTS DAY THERE WILL BE ONE PRIZE ON OFFER FOR STUDENT MEMBERS AND NEAREST PIN AND LONGEST DRIVE PRIZES DO NOT APPLY TO STUDENT MEMBERS.
- Students are not allowed to participate to in Long Handicap, 4ball Matchplay, Singles Matchplay and mixed Foursomes Matchplay competitions.
- Students may participate in the Scratch Matchplay (if handicap permits) Friday 4ball and Saturday Mixed Foursomes competitions proving they have a handicap of 16 or lower. When playing in Saturday mixed foursomes competition they must play with a current full lady member of the club.

- Students who play in Saturday mixed foursomes competitions can win 1st prize.
- Students who play with a full adult member of this club in Friday 4ball competitions can receive 1st prize.
- Students who play together in Friday 4ball competitions can only be placed and cannot receive 1st prize.
- Student members may play in club 4ball and foursomes (excluding matchplays) on Sundays and who play with an adult member can receive 1st prize.
- Students who play together in these competitions can only be placed and cannot receive 1st prize.
- NO COMBINATION OF STUDENT AND JUNIORS ARE ALLOWED IN THESE COMPETITIONS.
- Student/Junior members can play and win in Club 3 and 4 person team events on Sundays providing there is a maximum of one STUDENT OR JUNIOR on the team. More than one student or junior on the team will mean disqualification from competition for the team.