

## 2016 COMPETITIONS: GENERAL CONDITIONS

**These General Conditions apply to all CAGU competitions and must be read in conjunction with CAGU's "Hard Card".**

**Note:** The word "Competitions" as used in these General Conditions and CAGU's "Hard Card" includes any events which may be titled "Championships", "Tournaments", "Finals" etc.

### 1. Rules of Golf, Local Rules, Conditions of Competition

- a. All competitions shall be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf, Local Rules contained in Section A of the Hard Card and any "Additional Local Rules" issued to players at the venue.
- b. All competitions shall also be played in accordance with these General Conditions of Competition, those contained in Section B of the Hard Card and any Additional Conditions of Competition which are approved by the Competition Organiser/Committee for a particular event.
- c. Hard Card Sections C ("Regulations") and D ("Safety Advice") similarly apply to **all** competitions.

### 2. Annual CAGU Competitions

- a. CAGU officers will arrange competition venues and dates.
- b. An annual fixture list, together with details of each competition will be displayed on the CAGU website ([www.cagu.co.uk](http://www.cagu.co.uk)). In addition they may be issued to each affiliated club (display poster with attached entry forms) and/or otherwise generally advertised.

### 3. Player Eligibility/Qualification

In order to represent the County (including in "friendlies") and to play in any County competitions:

- a. **Amateur Status.** A player must be an amateur as defined by the Rules of Amateur Status. (The County Open is an exception to this condition).
- b. **Affiliated Club.** A player must be a member of a club affiliated to CAGU (The County Open is an exception to this Condition) or, to represent the County in England Golf's Qualifying Competitions for the Boys', Men's or Seniors' County Finals (as well as The Finals themselves), have been born in the County and be a member of a club affiliated to another English County Union.
- c. **Represented Another County.** A player shall not have played for another county in inter-county matches (including friendlies) or played in another county's championship (Men's, Boys' or Seniors') in the same calendar year. However:

**Players Moving From One County To Another.** If there is agreement between the counties from which and to which the player is moving, the player may play for his "new" county with immediate effect. Exceptions:

- i. A player shall not play for his new county in either the English Men's, Boys' or Seniors' County Championships (Qualifying Rounds or Finals) if he has played for another county in representative matches, including friendlies, in the same calendar year.
- ii. A player shall not play for his new county in the same League as his old county in the same calendar year.

- Arbitration.** With regard to c. above, if arbitration is agreed between counties concerned, it shall be **arranged by** England Golf's Championship **Department**, whose decision shall be final.
- d. **Players Moving to England.** Boys and seniors excepted, such players must be resident in England from 1 January of the year in which the competition, including an inter-county match/competition, is played.
- e. **Handicaps.**
- i. All players shall have a current "competition" CONGU handicap (professionals in the County Open excepted).
  - ii. Current handicaps are the responsibility of individual players. If a player is in doubt about his handicap, he must explain the facts, as known, to the Competition Organiser/Committee beforehand and, at the latest, when registering at the venue.
  - iii. Handicap restrictions/conditions may be in effect for particular competitions.
- f. **Age Criteria.**
- i. **Boys' competitions.** A player must be under 18 at 00:00 hours on 1 January of the year in which the competition is to be played. In the case of a competition restricted to lower age groups, a player must be under the age for the competition concerned at 00:00 hours on 1 January of the year in which the competition is to be played.
  - ii. **Seniors' Competitions.** A player must be aged 55 or over on the day the competition starts.

#### 4. **Competition Entries**

- a. **Receipt of entries.** All entries must be received by the Competition Organiser by midday on the date entries close. Note: Subject to the Competition Organiser's sole discretion, late entries may be accepted if total entries are fewer than the maximum allowed for the field.
- b. **Maximum Fields and Reserves.**
- i. **Scratch Competitions.** If entries exceed the maximum number for a competition, entrants with higher handicaps (except exempt players) will be "balloted out" in order of their exact handicap as submitted on their entry forms. In such a case, a reserve list will be compiled and should a vacancy arise, places will be offered in priority order according to exact handicap on the entry form.
  - ii. **Handicap Competitions.** Entries will be accepted in order of their receipt up to the maximum number for the competition. Therefore, for handicap competitions, **opening** as well as closing dates will be advertised. Should entries exceed the maximum number for the field, a reserve list will be compiled and should a vacancy arise, places will be offered according to the order of entry receipt.

Note: In the case of vacancies arising close to the date of competition/start of play, places may be offered depending on which reserve(s) can be readily contacted. Further, a reserve who is present at the venue at the start of the competition may be offered the vacancy. Should there be more than one reserve in attendance, such reserves will be invited to play in the order they are listed on the reserve list.

c. **Payment**

- i. All entries must include payment, either by cash, cheque (payable to "CAGU") or by debit/credit card. Entries without payment will not be accepted.
- ii. Entry fees will not be refunded unless written/e-mail notice of withdrawal is received **before** the closing date for entries, except to any entrant who may be "balloted out" and/or placed on a reserve list **and** who does not subsequently compete.

d. **Methods of Entry**

- i. On-line via the CAGU website ([www.cagu.co.uk](http://www.cagu.co.uk)). In order to enter on-line, an entrant must possess a CDH (Central Database of Handicaps) ID number. Payment will be taken when the on-line entry is submitted. Unsuccessful entrants (b. & c. above) will be refunded to the same card after the closing date for entries, unless they are on a reserve list, when the refund will be after the competition.
- ii. An entry form downloaded from the CAGU website, posted to the Competition Organiser with payment enclosed.
- iii. If applicable, an entry form available from another source (e.g. a club's notice board or office) and posted to the Competition Organiser with payment enclosed.
- iv. Entries by telephone are not accepted unless by the sole discretion of the Competition Organiser.
- v. For scratch competitions, a player's **exact** handicap at date of entry must be recorded on the entry form.

- e. **Committee Approval.** All entries are subject to the approval of the Competition Committee, which reserves the right to refuse entry without giving reasons for its decision. Such a decision shall be final, subject to 3c. above ("Arbitration").

5. **Withdrawals**

- a. If a player, a pair or a club/team withdraws from an event, that withdrawal is final and re-entry will not be allowed. The entry fee will be forfeit if the withdrawal is after the closing date for entries.
- b. Any player, pair or club/team:
  - i. withdrawing from an event after the draw has been published, or
  - ii. failing to register in accordance with 6 below, or
  - iii. failing to appear to play in the competition, or
  - iv. having qualified to continue in an event fails to do so \*

must, without delay, furnish the Competition Organiser with a satisfactory explanation, confirmed in writing/e-mail. Failure to do so may result in the player, pair or club/team being barred from entering or playing in CAGU competitions for such a period as CAGU's Officers may decide.

**\*Qualifying for final rounds of The County Championship: Determining the cut mark.** If a competitor, who has posted a two round total score that will qualify for the third round, withdraws before the third round draw is made, that competitor's score will still be used to calculate the leading number of places and ties which determine the cut mark.

## 6. **Registration**

Players must register in person at the competition venue's registration desk at least half an hour before their start time. Failure to register by this time may, at the discretion of the Competition Organiser/Committee, result in the player forfeiting his place, which may be offered to a reserve. In such circumstances, the player concerned will also forfeit his entry fee.

## 7. **Tees**

Unless otherwise decided by the Competition Organiser/Committee or covered by a specific Condition of Competition for an event, in men's and seniors' competitions and the Boys' County Championship, play shall be from white tees. In other competitions, tees will be specified in the Conditions of Competition for the event, subject to the discretion of the Competition Organiser/Committee on the day.

## 8. **Inclement Weather**

If, in the opinion of the Competition Organiser/Committee, it becomes impossible to complete a competition in accordance with that competition's Conditions because of adverse weather or other circumstances, the Organiser/Committee may vary the Conditions to the extent necessary to achieve a result within the time available.

## 9. **Referees, Doubts and Disputes**

- a. A referee will usually accompany a match play final and a referee/referees will normally be available at stroke play competitions.
- b. Referees are present to assist competitors where any doubt or dispute arises during a stipulated round. In these circumstances the referee's decision is final.
- c. In the absence of a referee, any dispute or doubtful point on the Rules must be referred to the Competition Committee, whose decision shall be final.

## 10. **Decision of Ties**

### a. **Play-offs**

- i. Ties for first place in the following competitions will be decided by a four-hole play-off over holes to be determined by the Competition Committee:
  - The County Championship
  - The County Open
  - The County Foursomes Championship
  - The County Seniors' Championship
  - The Boys' Championship
- ii. If play over those four holes fails to produce a winner, the (remaining) tied players shall continue the play-off over these holes on a hole-by-hole ("sudden death") basis.
- iii. If a play-off involves more than two players, those eliminated will be deemed to have tied for second place, regardless of the order in which they were eliminated and will receive second place prizes.

### b. **Matching Score Cards ("Countback")**

Ties for first place in competitions other than those listed in 10 a. i. above, and for other prize places in all competitions shall be determined as follows:

- i. **In a four round competition**, ties shall be decided on the 4<sup>th</sup> round, then the 3<sup>rd</sup> round, then the 2<sup>nd</sup> round and then the 1<sup>st</sup> round.
- ii. **In a three round competition**, ties shall be decided on the 3<sup>rd</sup> round, then the 2<sup>nd</sup> round and then the 1<sup>st</sup> round.
- iii. **In a two round competition**, ties shall be decided on the 2<sup>nd</sup> round and then the 1<sup>st</sup> round.
- iv. **If i, ii or iii above should that fail to produce a result**, then ties shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the last completed round. If a tie still arises, it shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the first nine holes of the last completed round. If a tie still arises, each of the preceding rounds played shall be treated in the same way (taking each round in the reverse order to that in which they were played) until a decision is reached.
- v. **In a one round competition**, ties shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the second nine holes of the round. If a tie still arises, it shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the first nine holes of the round.

#### 11. **Trophies and Prizes**

- a. Prizes shall be awarded on the basis of "one player – one prize", except where two or more trophies are competed for concurrently.
- b. A winning club or individual(s) will be responsible for a trophy from the time it is presented until it is relinquished. In order for the trophy to be engraved, it shall be returned to the Competition Organiser or other designated person two months prior to the next playing of the competition.

#### 12. **Sweeps**

In men's and senior's competitions only, these may be provided at the discretion of the Competition Organiser.

#### 13. **Liability**

Neither CAGU nor the Club at which a competition is held shall be responsible for the loss of or damage to equipment or personal possessions.

#### 14. **CAGU Policies, Procedures, Codes**

The following apply:

- Transportation Policy (Use of Golf Buggies), which includes provision for those who have a disability
- Child Protection Policy
- Players' Code of Conduct (For those **representing** CAGU)
- Spectator Code

All of these documents can be viewed and downloaded from the CAGU website.