

**The members’ guide to Club Competitions, entry guidance**

**and qualification criteria.**

VERSION January 2025

**FOREWORD**

This document outlines the rules and conditions for competitions that are currently in operation at Berrington Hall Golf Club.

These Guidelines have been drawn up by the Competitions and Handicap Secretaries under the direction of the Club Secretary.

Sole responsibility for these Guidelines rests with the Club Secretary who is also responsible for all golfing matters at Berrington Hall Golf Club.

The Treasurer is responsible for administering the allocation of prize monies from the Competition Fund at the direction of the Club Secretary. Information regarding all pay-outs and how they are determined is available in the Treasures guidelines.

**Competition and Handicap Secretaries (C&H)**

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**Distribution:**

|  |
| --- |
| MENS LOCKER/CARD ROOM |
| LADIES LOCKER ROOM |
| FRONT DESK |
| TREASURER |
| COMPEITION & HANDICAPS |
| SECRETARY |

**Revision Control:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Revision** | **Date** | **Main changes** |
| 1 | 15th Feb ‘23 | First draft |
| 2 | August 23 | Final Draft |
| 3 | 28th Mar 24 | 1.Change of temporary greens to a maximum of five for competition purposes.2. Addition of nearest the pin component during weekend competitions |
| 4 | 9th Nov 24 | 1. Clarification regard C&H Role.2. Clarification of weekend competitions.3. Outline of penalties for non-attendance to competitions.4. Update of board competitions |
| 5 | 16th Jan | 1. Clarification of Sanctions section 2.12. Clarification of Major Competitions |
|  |  |  |

**Section 1**

**1.1 Competition Categories**

The Club competitions at Berrington Hall Golf Club are run throughout the calendar year. All competitions are classified as either Qualifying [**Q**] or Non-Qualifying [**NQ**], dependant on their format, and they’re played accordingly:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SEASON | CLASSIFICATION | COMPETITION | FREQUENCY |
| Summer | Q | Major | 6 |
| Medal | 6> |
| Stableford | 6> |
| NQ | Matchplay | Knock-out |
| Winter | Q | Major | 2 |
| Medal | 6> |
| Stableford | 6> |
| All-round | NQ | Team (e.g. FBBB, Foursomes, Texas, etc) | TBA |
| Other (e.g. Captains Day, Charity events, etc)  | min.4 |

The **entry qualifications and format of these competitions are outlined in Section 3.**

There are now six **Major competitions** during the summer season and two during the Winter season.

A **Matchplay Knock-out competition** will be played (Summer only) for Singles and Pairs (men or mixed pairs).

A number of **Board competitions** will be played throughout the year these will be a variety of formats as indicated by the C&H secretary.

**Team competitions** [NQ] are dovetailed throughout the calendar year and between Monthly Medal and Stableford [Q] competitions, with the aim of enhancing the overall experience, integration and camaraderie amongst the membership. The fixtures will be finalised by the C&H under the direction of the Club Secretary, to ensure these aims and aspirations are being fulfilled.

There are ‘**Other’ competitions** which will run, from time to time in the Club, for example, Captains Day and Captains charity events or during inclement weather conditions, for example ‘Roll-ups’ or ‘Chuck-ins’. These will be advertised on the Club notice boards but are not operated or controlled by these Club Competition Guidelines.

* 1. **OOM & Series titles**

The Club will operate an OOM and Best in Series for the Summer League and OOM for the Winter League, based on the points accumulated (using the Stableford scoring system).

At the commencement of both the summer and winter season, the C&H secretary, will publish a set of rules to all of its members this will include the number of scoring rounds to count towards the OOM and best in series. In addition, they will circulate a diary of competition formats along with any relevant local rules (providing they meet with Qualifying competition regulations, as specified by golf's governing bodies). Further to but not limited to this the C&H secretary will communicate in a timely manner anything additional that the committee or proprietors may wish to communicate to members.

**1.3 Honours Boards**

The Majors and Matchplay Knockouts are the most important competitions at Berrington Hall and regarded as the most prestigious. These have an Honours Board and a Trophy which are all kept in the trophy cabinet.

All prize winners will be presented with their trophies at Presentation Evening, usually held on the second Saturday of November following the AGM shield competition. For relevant competitions, there will be a **Divisional winner** (Divisions 1, 2 & 3) and an **Overall winner**. Ladies and Men’s may compete in the same competition.

**Section 2**

**2.1 Competition Entry and Qualification requirements**

The competitions, referred to in these guidelines, are governed by the R & A Rules of Golf and all handicapping will be regulated under the World Handicapping System (WHS). Members should ensure that they have access to these in order to familiarise themselves with the complete rules of golf.

However, from time-to-time local rules may be adopted for a specific period and these will be displayed for the information of members on relevant notice boards, e.g. outside on the white board, Front Desk.

There must be at least two competitors entering the competition, otherwise the competition will be declared null, and void and any entry fees (debited via the electronic purses) will be refunded (see Treasurers guidelines).

**The following procedure must be strictly adhered to for entry into any club competition:**

All competitors must be members of the club and of an appropriate handicap index category to permit participation in a competition.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| DIVISION | HANDICAP INDEX |
| 1 |  <9.9 |
| 2 | 10 to <19.9 |
| 3 | 20 to 54 max |

For the purpose of OOM members will remain within the same division during the season irrespective of any changes in their handicap.

Members cannot take part in any Club competition unless they have paid their monthly or annual subscriptions to the Club and/or any applicable entrance fee (e.g. Matchplay Knock-out).

Details of ALL competitions will be published on the HM system and/or the notice boards, a minimum of 14 days in advance of the competition.

Members can enter the competition by sign-up on the HM system or for help, by contacting Admin on the Front Desk.

If there are any unforeseen reasons to withdraw or make changes to tee times, after entry to the competition has closed, these will be done by the Club Staff or the C&H. All changes will be monitored and recorded.

Players must enter their details in the HM system located in the clubhouse. Members electronic purse will automatically deduct the competition entry fee (see Treasurers guidelines).

The member must ensure their purse has sufficient funds, in advance of entering their details, as any administration delay, in adding credit to a member’s purse, will not be used as an excuse for being late on the tee. Please refer to the Treasurers guidelines for how to add credit.

Weekend competitions, except for the Club Championship\*, are to be played on one of the two days. Saturday is regarded as the ‘Competition Day’ and Sunday is the ‘Alternate Day. If Saturday’s competition is cancelled or for any reason it is not to be counted towards the OOM, the Sunday competition will automatically follow suit. In this case both dates will be standalone competitions. Sunday will not be recorded towards OOM if Saturday is not. Anyone who is booked to play golf on both days must be aware that, Saturday will be your ‘Competition Day’, there are no exceptions.

Non qualifier relates to the OOM and not the handicap system which is a separate.

If the Saturday Competition is cancelled or is not to be counted towards the OOM then Sunday does not count towards the OOM. Both days will be individual standalone competitions.

If the Sunday competition alone is cancelled or not counted towards the OOM, the Saturday Competition as ‘Competition Day’ will be unaffected.

In the unlikely event that there are a different numbers of temporary greens (five or less) over the two days then these again would become separate stand-alone competitions.

Unless otherwise directed or stated, **ALL competition rounds will start from the 1st tee.** In exceptional circumstances, it is possible to have a different start point and/or two start points (e.g. additional 10th Tee). However, this will be communicated in advance, by the C&H, who will have previously notified the Club Secretary.

**Failure to enter on HM, on the day of the competition, will lead to disqualification.** Please note, a members competition entry time is digitally captured on the system, as is the time they enter their score.

Any “**No-Shows**” without communicating with the club or CH Secretary will be fined their entrance fee.Repeat offending may be subject to the Club’s disciplinary procedures, including suspension from future competitions.

***“Any member who fails to attend on the day of competition without removing themselves from the competition booking on Handicap Master or by contacting the club or CH Secretary by 12:00hrs on the Friday before the competition is held. Will be subject to the loss of their entry fee and in addition will be disqualified from the next weekend competition held at Berrington Hall Golf Club.”***

**2.2 During the Competition round**

Competitors are required to be on the tee 5 minutes before start of their tee-time. Late arrival may result in their disqualification (or in Matchplay, loss of hole).

Once a round has commenced a player must not re-enter the Club House (except for the sole use of public facilities) until the round has been completed.

During play, members should not approach Committee members, seeking to discuss Committee business, as this practice disturbs both the Committee member and his playing partners.

For purposes of marking competition cards, there must be a minimum of two members playing in the same round, one of whom may not necessarily be in the competition but must be a member with an official handicap (WHS).

For scoring purposes, the score must be entered by the marker immediately after completing each hole. The marker must initial any alteration in the score recorded for any hole.

Before the scorecard is submitted to the competition box, the player must enter their score on to the HM system. The player and his marker must have signed the card.

**Failure to comply with all these requirements will result in disqualification.**

**2.3 Completion of Scorecards**

All **scorecards must contain the player’s name**. It is also good practice to include the competition name, date, start tee-time, handicap index, playing (course) handicap and indicate the tee being played from.

**Players are responsible for recording their gross score.** If player and marker sign for a gross score that is higher than that actually achieved, then the higher score will count. If the player and marker sign for a gross score that is lower than actually achieved, then disqualification will result.

The marker must be a Berrington Hall member with an official handicap index (WHS). A card, marked by more than one marker, must be signed by each marker. **Cards must be signed by the player and the marker.**

The player is responsible for ensuring their card has been completed correctly. **Failure to comply with these requirements will result in disqualification.**

**2.4 Entering a Score on HandicapMaster**

Players are responsible for entering their gross scores onto the HM system.

No return (N/R) cards should also be entered on the HM system. **Players must enter the gross score they had on each hole** and only return a zero on the hole that they N/R on.

**DO NOT enter a series of zeros on all holes for the purpose of entering an N/R card.**

Completed scorecards, including N/R scorecards, must be placed in the scorecard box failure to do so will result in the player's disqualification from the competition.

Persistent offenders, who are DQ’d may have their handicap index suspended for a period of time. Any deliberate attempt to N/R for the sole purpose to manipulate a handicap index may be subject to the Club’s disciplinary procedures.

**2.5 Additional requirements for Major Competitions**

Players must have posted, a minimum of **6 qualifying cards on their WHS within the last 12 months to be eligible to win any main prize competition.**

A player without 6 qualifying cards, may take part in competition to use it as one of their qualifying cards, but is only eligible to partake in the 2’s pot. These players must pay the full entry fee.

Entry for sign-up will be for the entire window (e.g. 7:30am to 10:30am Saturday and 7:30am to 10:30am Sunday. The sign-up will close 2 days in advance of the competition and the drawn names will be posted on to HM system, 1 day before the competition.

After entry closes, names are locked, and no change can be made to the start sheet.

Any player wanting to cancel from a drawn competition after the draw has been posted may do so by contacting Club staff or C&H no later than the day before the competition. A player’s withdrawal is final, and re-entry is not permitted.

Competitors must play in the drawn groups, at the allotted tee-time. **Any breach of these rules will result in disqualification.**

**2.6 Additional requirements for Matchplay & Team Competitions**

Any members who have not paid their entrance fee, as notified and/or required by the closing date for entries, will not be included in any draw.

Members must enter their name on the relevant entry sheet. Details of the draw will be posted on the HM system and/or the notice boards.

Once the draw is made no substitutions will be allowed. The only exception to this rule is in the case of injury / illness produced before the first round has started. There will be no substitutions after the first round for any reason whatsoever.

Any player wanting to cancel from a drawn competition after the draw has been posted may do so by contacting the C&H no later than the day before the competition. A player’s withdrawal is final, and re-entry is not permitted.

Matchplay competition cannot be played at the same time as any other competition and can only be played immediately after any Strokeplay or Stableford competition; and not before.

Matchplay competitions must be played before the deadline date. The deadline date is not the date for the match to be played. Both competitors must endeavour to play the match at the earliest opportunity, i.e. as soon as the previous deadline has passed, and new round is in progress. Competitors are encouraged to provide for each other a minimum of six dates and a mix of am or pm slots; as a ‘rule of thumb’, 4 weekdays (at least two with evening tee-times) and 2 weekend days. Extensions will only be given in exceptional circumstances and must be the subject of a written application to the Club Secretary for consideration.

If there is a tie at the end of the Matchplay round, competitors shall play ‘sudden death’ starting from the 1st hole, until a decision is reached. Stroke allowances should be applied as normal, and agreement should be made beforehand as to what to do should the match still be undecided after a number of holes played or due to fading light. Failing agreement, there will be a re-match which must be replayed within the specified dates.

The result of the competition must be entered onto the HM system under the relevant competition category. Where required to do so, the completion of the scorecard must also be completed and signed by the players and markers, in accordance with the specific competition requirements.

Failure to comply with these requirements may result in disqualification of one or both of the players or teams.

**2.7 Non-drawn Competitions**

For non-drawn competitions members may book their tee time on the HM system in the normal way. If, however, an entry sheet is required it will be displayed a minimum of 14 days before the event, allowing members to sign-up to indicate their intention to enter the competition and select the time slot of their choice. The entry sheet will be removed 1 day before the date of the competition. The entries for the competition will then be posted on the HM system.

**2.8 Competition results and prizes**

Competition results will be posted to the HM and/or displayed on appropriate notice boards, as soon as possible, after the competition, and no later than 48 hours after the completion of the competition.

Prize monies will be paid out, in accordance with the Treasurers guidelines, but should be no later than 48 hours after the C&H declared the result of the competition.

**2.9 Decision to Suspend Play and/or Cancel a Club Competition**

The **decision to suspend play** due to unplayable conditions lies in the first instance with the Proprietor or his Deputy, in consultation with the C&H or with the Club Secretary or, in their absence, any member of the Committee playing in or overseeing the Competition.

The procedure for players when play has been officially suspended is governed by the R&A Rules of Golf, Section 3 – The Rules of Play, Rule 6-8(b).

The final **decision to cancel** a competition due to unplayable conditions lies wholly with the Club Secretary, or in their absence, C&H or any member of the Committee playing in or overseeing the Competition. However, they should also seek the guidance of the Proprietor or his Deputy, if available.

Entrance fees will be refunded, in accordance with the Treasurers guidelines.

To allow for competition scores (in Strokeplay and medal) to count towards the OOM and Best-in-Series it is to be based on up to and including 5 temporary greens. Therefore, 6 or more temporary greens = competition is void (including what counts towards the OOM and best in series' is also void).

**2.10 Handicap Index**

Any member seeking to obtain a handicap index from Berrington Hall Golf Club must either produce their WHS (World Handicap System) membership number, a current valid handicap certificate (within 3 months) from a previous Golf Club, or if new to golf, must submit three score cards marked by a member with a current handicap index from Berrington Hall. The scorecards must indicate they are being submitted for handicap purposes.

These guidelines are based upon the Rules of Handicapping.

**2.11 General Play Cards**

This option to submit a general play card is available to all players whenever they play. Players must identify their intention to submit a general play score by registering on the MyEG App or by speaking to a member of the C&H or Admin on the Front Desk, before commencing play. It’s also mandatory that this scorecard is returned.

Both 9 hole and 18-hole cards are acceptable formats for submitting a general play card, but this must be stipulated on registering. Scorecards should be completed in the usual way, using “General Play Score” as the competition name and the score should be entered on the HM system in the same manner as a competition card (or, if registered via MyEG, then completed via the App). The card returned will have the same effect on the handicap index as a competition card and will count as a qualifying card. Completed scorecards, including no-returns, must be placed in the scorecard box.

Any deliberate attempt to N/R for the sole purpose to manipulate a handicap index may be subject to the Club’s disciplinary procedures.

**Section 3 The Club Competitions**

All **Competitors must have a Handicap Index** to be able to claim a prize.

Summer season = April through to September.

Winter season = October through to March.

Major and Matchplay Knockouts are restricted to 7-day members only.

All competitions dates will be posted at the start of each season and appear on the HM App these will be held on the second Saturday of the relevant month.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| MAJORS | Month | Format | Tees | Max HI | Playing Handicap (PH) |
| MASTERS Best Net | Apr | 18 Hole Medal | White | 36 | 95% of Course Handicap |
| CAPTAINS DAY | May | Captains Choice | Yellows | 54 | Captains Choice |
| MEMORIALBest Net | Jun | 18 Hole Medal | White | 36 | 95% of Course Handicap |
| CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP Best Gross & Best Net | Jul | 36 Hole Strokeplay | White | 54 | 95% of Course Handicap |
| 36-hole competition is played on consecutive days. Drawn tee-times on Day 1; Day 2 in reverse order of scores from Day 1. In the event of a tie in the Gross competition there will be a sudden death playoff over 1 to 3 holes, repeatedly, if necessary, within 15 minutes of the end of the final group. In the event of a tie in the Net competition, the result is decided on a count back, second round score, second round back 9, back 6, back 3, etc. |
| COMMITTEE CUPBest Net | Aug | 18 Hole Medal | White | 36 | 95% of Course Handicap |
| PRESIDENTS PUTTERBest Net | Sep | 18 Hole Medal | White | 36 | 95% of Course Handicap |
| BOARD COMPS | **Month** | **Format** | **Tees** | **Max HI** | **Playing Handicap (PH)** |
| ARTISANS CUP | October | 18 Hole Stableford | Blue | 54 | 95% of Course Handicap |
| AGM SHIELD | Nov | Texas Scramblemedal | Blue | 54 | 4-man team 10% of the Combined Course Handicap, 2 man, 35% lower + 15% higher |
| CHRISTMAS COMP | Dec | Texas Scramble | Blue | 54 | 4-man team 10% of the Combined Course Handicap, 2 man, 35% lower + 15% higher |
| NEW YEARS TROPHY | Jan | 18 Hole Stableford | Blue | 54 | 95% of Course Handicap drawn comp |
| MARTIN TURNER CUPBest net | Feb | 18 Hole Medal | Blue | 54 | 95% of Course Handicap drawn comp |
| CAPTAINS LAST FLING | March | Texas Scramble | Blue | 54 | 4-man team 10% of the Combined Course Handicap, 2 man, 35% lower + 15% higher |
| CLUB | Frequency | Format | Tees | Max HI | Playing Handicap (PH) |
| WEEKEND MEDALBest Net  | Monthly | 18 Hole Medal | White | 54 | 95% of Course Handicap |
| MIDWEEK MEDALBest Net | Monthly | 18 Hole Medal | Yellow | 54 | 95% of Course Handicap |
| MIDWEEK STABLEFORD | Monthly | 18 Hole Stableford | Yellow | 54 | 95% of Course Handicap |
| MIDWEEK SCRATCH TROPHY | July | 18 Hole Medal | White | Scratch | None |
| KNOCK-OUTS | Month | Format | Tees | Max HI | Playing Handicap (PH) |
| 7-DAY SINGLES | As posted | Matchplay18 Holes | White | 28 | Full difference of Course Handicap |
| 7-DAYS PAIRS | As posted | Matchplay18 Holes | White | 28 | 90% difference from lowest Course Handicap |
| TEAM | Frequency | Format | Tees | Max HI | Playing Handicap (PH) |
| FBBBStableford | As posted | 18 Hole Stableford Pairs | Yellow | 54 | 90% difference from lowest Course Handicap |
| FOURSOMESBest Net | As posted | 18 Holes Medal Pairs | Yellow | 54 | 50% of Combined Course Handicap |
| GREENSOMESStableford | As posted | 18 Holes Stableford Pairs | Yellow | 54 | 60% of lowest + 40% of highest Course Handicap |
| BOGEYAggregated | As posted | 18 Holes Singles Aggregated | Yellow | 54 | 95% of Course Handicap |
| TEXAS SCRAMBLEBest Net | As posted | Texas Scramble Medal | Yellow | 54 | 4 man- 10%, Combined CH 2 man-teams, 35% lower + 15% higher |

**Golf formats**

**Strokeplay**

Players register a gross score for each hole of a stipulated round. The winner is the player with the lowest number of strokes for the stipulated round (Best Gross score). In a handicap competition the winner is the player with the lowest net score for the round (Best Net score)

**Stableford scoring**

Players record their gross and net score for each hole and points are awarded in relation to the net score:-

More than one over par 0 points

One over par 1 point

Par 2 points

One under par 3 points

Two under par 4 points

**Match play**

The game is played by holes. A hole is won by the side/player that holes its ball in the least number of strokes

In a handicap game the lower net score wins the hole.

The winner is the side/player who is most successful in the aggregate of holes.

**Bogey competition**

Scored as in Match play score:-

A player holing out taking more than net par -1

A player holing out in a net par 0

A player holing out in less than a net par +1

The winner is the side/player who is most successful in the aggregate of holes.

**Foursomes**

A match where two players play against two other players and each side plays one ball.

**Pairs Fourball Better Ball (FBBB)**

A match where two players play as partners and each playing their own ball.

**Greensomes**

A match where two players play as partners. Both players drive off in each team, select the best drive and then play alternate shots from there.

**Glossary of Terms**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Abbreviation | Title | Definition |
| R & A | Royal & Ancient | Golfs Governing body & source for the Rules of Golf |
| WHS | World Handicapping System | System for calculating and administrating handicaps |
| HI | Handicap Index | The measurement of a player’s demonstrated ability on a course of standard playing difficulty, calculated by taking the best 8 of their previous 20 rounds. It is transferrable to take to any golf course around the world. Handicap indexes are updated every night at 12.00 midnight, so it is imperative that all competition and general play scores are inputted on the day of play |
| CH | Course Handicap | The number of strokes a player will receive for a specific set of tees on the golf course being played. It can be found on the course handicap table. There is a separate course handicap table if playing 9 holes. A slope rating for all coloured blocks is on display on the table, by the main front entrance |
| PH | Playing Handicap | Represents the number of strokes a player receives when playing with or against other players in a competition round. For individual Medals and Stableford this is 95% of the course handicap. For other formats of play please refer to relevant Competition Guidelines |
| &H | Competitions and Handicap Secretary(ies) | A member of the Committee and Club Management Team |
| HM | HandicapMaster | Our Laptop and Phone App Software system used for administrating our handicap and history, competitions fixtures, results of competitions, analysis of competitions and electronic purses |
| Q | Qualifying competition | A scoring round used for handicapping purposes |
| NQ | Non-Qualifier | A score disregarded for handicapping |
| OOM | Order of Merit | A points-based scoring system used for determining the ‘Golfer of the Year’ |
| N/R | No Return | Where a Zero is scored on a hole or where the hole wasn’t completed out |
| DQ | Disqualified or Disqualification | Used in a situation where a competitor has been DQ’s for breach of rule(s), ruling will be stated |

*This glossary is by no means a comprehensive list of definitions, and members are encouraged to obtain a copy of the "Rules of Golf" which are available free, from the Admin on the Front Desk, while stocks last.*