



Little Hay Golf Club

Competition Rules, Entry Criteria & Local Rules



(This document supersedes all previous versions)
Version 16

In the event of Errors omissions and discrepancies in this document the final decision will be made by the committee.

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to whom all suggestions for change should be made.

Any person using a copy of these Rules must ensure that they are of the latest version, as displayed on the Club website and also in hard copy at the Complex Reception.

PART 1 ALL SECTIONS

1-1. GENERAL

- a. Notwithstanding any of the rules and regulations contained herein, all competitions will be played under the current version of The Rules of Golf (approved by R&A Ltd), which will be enforced by the Club, together with any Local Rules such as the Committee may consider necessary to meet the requirements of the course.
- b. It is the responsibility of each member to be familiar with The Rules of Golf and to acquaint themselves with such rule changes as R&A Ltd may implement from time to time. Copies of the latest edition of The Rules of Golf are normally available from the Complex Reception or from the Club Secretary.
- c. The etiquette of golf should be observed at all times.
- d. **You must have an active competition Handicap at the start and the end to enter any competition that spans over multiple weeks/months.**
- e. Any player new to the club must, after either obtaining their initial handicap via three cards or from an existing certificate from another club, play three qualifying competitions before they can win a qualifying club competition.
- f. Any player new to the club must after either obtaining their initial handicap via three cards or from an existing certificate from another club and play three qualifying competitions before they can win a qualifying club competition.

- g. If any player is unable to play, he must notify the Competition Organiser or Competition Chairman immediately; it is not sufficient to simply contact the Complex. Failure to do so, notwithstanding exceptional circumstances, will result in the player being excluded from the next competition. Failure to appear at any subsequent competition without notice, will result in the player being excluded from the corresponding number of competitions.
- h. In all competitions, competitors must have their scorecard marked by a fellow competitor; the scores must then be agreed by signatures of the competitor and marker.
- i. All boarded competitions can be entered with **any handicap but** will be played off of a maximum handicap of 28.
- j. In all competitions, the marker must record as a minimum the player's gross score at each hole. In better ball competitions, it must be clear, by recording the gross score in the appropriate column on the scorecard, which player's score is to be counted. The committee for that competition is responsible for allocating Stableford points etc.
- k. Players must report to Complex Reception before playing, either to pay a green fee or to check in.
- l. From 2018 the maximum handicap any player can have rises from 28 to 54. Any member can play in a qualifying competition regardless of their handicap. However, to be able to win, the member must conform to (e) or (h) above, and unless stated differently for a specific competition, the maximum handicap allowance will be:
 - i. Men's section competitions: the maximum allowance will be 28.
 - ii. Ladies section competitions: the maximum allowance will be 54.
 - iii. Seniors section competitions: the maximum allowance will be 54.
 - iv. Juniors section competitions: the maximum allowance will be 54.
 - v. Mixed sections competitions: the maximum allowance will be 54.
 Eg: a player with a 32 handicap but a competition maximum of 28 can play but they have to play off 28. If they win playing off 28 then they win.
- m. There is no maximum handicap allowance for non-qualifying competitions, unless stated differently for a specific competition.
- n. If a player is unable to play the member must contact the competition organizer , or if an emergency arises on the day of the competition, the member can leave a message at reception.
- o. Competition cards are issued on the morning of the competition. The Committee requests the player records the competition name, date, members name, and handicap on this card. It is the player's responsibility to check they have the correct handicap on their card and not the competition organiser's.
- p. Please be on the tee 10 minutes before your tee time. You *must* start at the time established by the competition organiser . Keep up with the game in front, not just in front of the game behind.
- q. Unless otherwise stated, in the event of a tie the result of all competitions shall be determined on a countback–i.e. back 9, back 6, back 3, back 1.
- r. If the application of these rules comes into conflict with the Rules of Golf and the CONGU Unified Handicapping System, the latter two will take precedence.
- s. If the application of these rules comes into conflict with the rules of any externally run competition, the latter will take precedence.

1-2. DRESS CODE

- a. All players are reminded that, when playing in Club competitions they are not only representing themselves, but are also representing the Club. Players are therefore required to wear clothing of a type which is generally considered acceptable as golf wear.
- b. A prescriptive list of acceptable clothing is not included, but the following are deemed to be unacceptable:
 - Football or Rugby shirts, Vests,
 - Any type of Polo shirt with a large logo (e.g. 'ENGLAND'),
 - Collarless T-shirts, unless of the crew-necked variety as worn by some professionals,
 - Football or other sports shorts. 'Tailored' shorts are acceptable, with knee length, or short, socks.
 - Combat trousers or multi-pocketed workmen's trousers.
- c. Competition organisers are empowered to prevent members taking part in competitions if they believe that the members' attire is inappropriate.
- d. Players are encouraged to wear the Little Hay Golf Club polo shirt or jumper when competing in Club matches.

1-3. MAXIMUM HANDICAP

The Max Hcp refers to the maximum competition handicap allowed for use in the competition.

A definition of competition handicap:

The handicap allocated to an individual is a recognised CONGU (Council of National Golf Unions) handicap and this is one that has been supported by 3 signed cards and a handicap has been allocated to the member by the club. Members can enter competitions with no handicap so they can enter a card for Handicap, or they can have a CONGU handicap but in both cases they cannot win.

A competition handicap is a term used by Little Hay Golf Club to indicate that sufficient evidence has been provided to support the CONGU handicap and that competitions can now be played in and importantly they can now win.

A competition handicap to play in 2018, is a CONGU handicap that has subsequently been supported by a minimum of 3 further cards that have been entered by playing in qualifying competitions (excluding NR's)

A competition handicap to play in 2019 and beyond is;

- For new members in 2019 it is a CONGU handicap that has been supported by a minimum of 3 further cards that have been entered by playing in qualifying competitions (excluding NR's)
- For existing members it is a CONGU handicap that has been supported by a minimum of 6 cards that have been entered by playing in qualifying competitions (excluding NR's) in the previous rolling 12 months prior to the competition being played. This will apply from January 1st 2020.
This means you will need to have played in 6 qualifying Competitions in 2019.
- There will inevitably be some exceptions where the above is not applicable and these will be looked at by the committee – please make your representation to a committee member as soon as you realize your case needs to be looked at in order to avoid any disappointment.

PART 2

MIXED & CLUB COMPETITIONS

2.1. CAPTAIN'S DRIVE IN

- a. This competition is an 'All Sections' Texas Scramble. The format is:
 - i. Teams of four, each comprising, as far as possible, an adult male, a senior male, a lady and a junior. A draw is made for team composition.
 - ii. Medal scoring is used;
 - iii. One eighth of the combined handicap, rounded up (if .5 or above) or down as appropriate, is used;
 - iv. All players tee off on all holes. One player's shot is selected and the other three players play their second shots from that point;
 - v. The same procedure applies until the hole is completed;
 - vi. No player can play consecutive shots on the same hole, or have consecutive tee shots selected.
 - vii. Each player must have at least four tee shots selected. The remaining two tee shots may be selected at will.
 - viii. If a 3-ball is played, $\frac{1}{6}$ th of the combined handicap, rounded up (if .5 or above) or down as appropriate, is used. Each player must have at least five tee shots selected and the remaining three tee shots may be selected at will.
All three players may play the second and subsequent shots.
 - ix. The gross team score is recorded for each hole and the winning team will be the team with the lowest overall net score.
- b. Organiser: as arranged.

2-2. ANNIVERSARY CUP

- a. The Anniversary Cup is an 'All Sections' Stableford competition, normally played in July of each year with teams comprising, as far as possible, an adult male, a senior male, a lady and a junior. A draw is made for team composition.
- b. Each player receives a full handicap allowance. Ladies tee off from the Red tees, whilst Men, Seniors and Juniors will play from the blue, white or yellow tees, as decided by the competition organiser.
- c. The team score on each hole is determined by taking the best three Stableford point scores from the four players in the team. The winning team is the one with the highest score.
- d. Organiser: as arranged.

2-3. PRESIDENT'S DAY

- a. President's Day is an 'All Sections' Stableford competition, normally played in September of each year.
- b. Each player receives a full handicap allowance. Ladies tee off from the Red tees, whilst Men, Seniors and Juniors will play from the blue, white or yellow tees, as decided between the competition organiser and player.
- c. There will be a male and female winner on the day, for the President's Putters; the male competition will be played from the blue tees.
- d. Organiser: as arranged.

2-4. DOUGHTY CUP

- a. The Doughty Cup is an 'All Sections' Texas Scramble
- b. The format is Teams of four, each comprising, as far as possible, an adult male, a senior male, a lady and a junior. A draw is made for team composition.
- c. Medal scoring is used.
- d. One eighth of the combined handicap, rounded up (if .5 or above) or down as appropriate, is used.
- e. All players tee off on all holes. One player's shot is selected and the other three players play their second shots from that point.
- f. The same procedure applies until the hole is completed.
- g. No player can play consecutive shots on the same hole, or have consecutive tee shots selected.
- h. Each player must have at least four tee shots selected. The remaining two tee shots may be selected at will.
- i. If a 3-ball is played, $\frac{1}{6}$ th of the combined handicap, rounded up (if .5 or above) or down as appropriate, is used. Each player must have at least five tee shots selected and the remaining three tee shots may be selected at will. All three players may play the second and subsequent shots.
- j. The gross team score is recorded for each hole and the winning team will be the team with the lowest overall net score.
- k. Organiser: as arranged.

2-5. WINTER LEAGUE

- a. The Winter League is open to all Club members and is played on weekend mornings between November and March, when there is no other Club competition.
- b. The number of rounds scheduled to be played will be determined by the Fixture Secretary when preparing the Club Calendar for the year.
- c. The format is: pairs playing better ball Stableford, with each competitor playing off their full CONGU handicap. All players will use the Red tees (Unless otherwise instructed by the complex or the organiser) and the Ladies' card & stroke Index throughout the competition.
- d. Each player commences the Winter League with his or her full correct CONGU handicap. In addition, ladies are granted a six shot allowance. No subsequent change to a player's CONGU handicap will affect their Winter League handicap.
- e. Handicaps are adjusted after each round based on the performance of the team:
 - i. A score of 36 and under 0-19 Handicap both gain 1 shot, 20 Handicap and over gain 2 shots. (This only applies IF both players are playing)
 - ii. A score of 43 and over and both lose 1.
 - iii. A score of 46 and over, handicaps 0-9 lose 2 and handicaps 10 and over lose 3.
 - iv. A score of 49 and over both lose an additional extra 1 shot.
- f. The winning pair will be the one with the best aggregate score from six rounds (if seven or more are played), from five rounds (if six are played), from four rounds (if five are played), or from all rounds if four or fewer are played.

- g. In the event of a tie the winning team will be team with the highest aggregate score of the previous two, three, four etc. rounds.
- h. Organiser: as arranged.

2-6. MIDSUMMER EVENING LEAGUE

- a. The Midsummer Evening League competition is an 'All Sections' nine hole individual Stableford competition, played on six midweek occasions between May and July. The format is:
 - i. This competition is open to all Club members and all rounds are non qualifying for handicap purposes;
 - ii. Stableford scoring is used, with current full handicaps* applying for each round;
 - iii. Men (including male juniors) play from white tees, Ladies (including female juniors) from red tees;
 - iv. The best four competition results by each entrant are totaled to find the winner.
- *entrants may play in order to achieve a handicap, but would not be eligible to win.*
- b. In the event of a tie the competition will be decided by the sum of the players Stableford scores on their best three rounds ,two or one if there is still a tie then toss of a coin
- c. Organiser: as arranged.

2-7. PUDDIPHATT ALL-SECTIONS CUP

- a. The Puddiphatt All-Sections Cup is a Stableford competition, normally played in October each year. The format is:
 - i. All entrants are allocated to a team solely according to their gender and age, with separate teams created for Men, Seniors, Ladies and Juniors;
 - ii. Stableford scoring is used, with full handicaps;
 - iii. Men (including male juniors) play from white tees, Ladies (including female juniors) from red tees;
 - iv. All Stableford scores for each team's players are totaled, then divided by the number of players in that team. The winning team is the one with the highest average points score.
- b. Organiser: as arranged.

PART 3

MEN'S COMPETITIONS

3-1. GENERAL

- a. Male members without handicaps may play in any of the competitions detailed below for handicap purposes only, except where otherwise stated.
- b. Entry sheets for the next two competitions are kept in The Little Hay Competitions book Located on the Complex Reception. Members wishing to play in any of the competitions detailed below should enter their name no later than the Thursday of the week prior to the date of the competition, for weekends, and two weeks before for a mid week Thursday competition. Players wishing to enter after the closing date should contact the Competition Organiser direct.
- c. In most cases the Competition Organiser will issue scorecards to the players prior to the competition. It is the player's responsibility to ensure that their details, e.g. handicap, are correct. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.
- d. Unless otherwise stated, in the event of a tie the result shall be determined on a countback i.e. back 9, back 6, back 3, back 1.

3-2. MONTHLY MEDAL

- a. A Monthly Medal is generally held on the first weekend of each month and is open to all male club members. Juniors may participate whatever their Handicap BUT cannot win unless their handicap is 28 or below.
- b. There are two Divisions in the Monthly Medal. The Divisions WILL be determined ON THE DAY and the number in each division will be made as near as possible the same, based on players handicaps where an equal number isn't possible, then Division 2 will be made the largest.
- c. Medals are played in Division order. Division 2 going off first in 3 balls and Division 1 following in 4 Balls.
- d. LATE ENTRIES WILL PLAY WHERE THERE IS SPACE BUT YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO ENTER COMPETITIONS EARLY. YOU CAN CONTACT THE ORGANISER NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY TO 7PM IF YOU WISH TO PLAY.
- e. Organiser: as arranged.

3-3. MONTHLY STABLEFORD

- a. Monthly Stablefords are generally held on the third weekend of every month and are open to all adult male Club members. Juniors may participate if there is no junior competition occurring at the same time, but a junior player may not win the Men's Monthly Stableford.
- b. There is one Division covering all handicaps in the Monthly Stableford and the Stableford points are taken based on a full handicap allocation. A trophy is awarded to the player with the highest number of Stableford points.
- c. A number of the Stableford competitions have an associated Honours Board and, in addition to winning a trophy, the winner's name will be added to the appropriate Board.
- d. Organiser: as arranged.

3-4. MENS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

- a. The Club Championship is held over two days. It is played from the blue tees. The format is Scratch Medal, with 18 holes being played on Saturday and 18 holes on Sunday.
- b. The draw for the 1st round will be based upon handicap, with the higher handicappers starting first and the lower handicaps following.
- c. The draw for the 2nd round will be based upon gross scores in the 1st round, with the highest scores starting first and the lowest scores following.
- d. The Club Championship is open to all male members who meet the following criteria:
 - i. They have competed in at least three Qualifying Competitions in the 12 months prior to the championship these must be in addition to qualifying rounds for handicap allocation. They also must have been a member of the club for 12 months prior to the competition date.
 - ii. Juniors may play at the discretion of the tournament director dependent on their golfing ability.
- e. Under the same criteria, there will be a concurrent competition for the **Tony Hodson Trophy** (Nett Club Champion), played at the same time and based on players' current handicaps, with the lowest net score winning.
- f. In the event of a tie the winner will be decided by a sudden death play-off.
- g. Organiser: as arranged.

3-5. MEN vs LADIES

- a. As arranged by the men's and ladies captains
- b. Organiser: as above

3-6. THE PAST CAPTAIN'S SUMMER CUP

- a. 18 Holes Stableford.
- b. To be played from the Blue Tees
- c. Winner to be presented Cup by Past Club Captain's Present.
- d. Organiser; as arranged.

PART 4

KNOCKOUT COMPETITIONS

4-1. GENERAL

There are five knockout competitions played at Little Hay Golf Club:

- a. **The David Johnson Trophy** - Men's Singles
- b. **The Dacorum Trophy** - Men's Fourball
- c. **The Fred Roberts Trophy** - Mixed Pairs
- d. **Scratch Men's Knockout.**
- e. **The Steve Seaford Memorial Trophy.**

4-2. FORMAT

4-2A. THE DAVID JOHNSON TROPHY

- a. The David Johnson Trophy is a singles Match Play competition, open to all male members and played over 18 holes, from the white Medal tees, with the handicap allowance being the full difference between the handicaps of the two players. The maximum playing handicap is 28.
- b. The winner of each round is the player who has won the greatest number of holes.
- c. In the event of a match being level after 18 holes, the match should continue from the 1st hole (having first obtained the agreement of the Complex Reception staff), until one of the players is one hole up. Strokes should be taken as for the original 18 holes.
- d. Organiser: as arranged.

4-2B. THE DACORUM DOUBLES TROPHY

- a. The Dacorum Doubles Trophy is a four ball, better ball Match Play competition, open to all members and played over 18 holes, off the white Medal tees, with the lowest handicap player conceding strokes to the other three players based on 90% of the difference between the full handicaps. The maximum playing handicap is 28.
- b. The winner of each round is the team that has won the greatest number of holes.
- c. In the event of a match finishing all square after 18 holes, the match should continue from the 1st hole (having first obtained the agreement of the Complex Reception staff), until one of the teams is one hole up. Strokes should be taken as for the original 18 holes.

4-2C. THE FRED ROBERTS TROPHY

- a. The Fred Roberts Trophy is a mixed pairs better ball Stableford competition, open to all members and played over 18 holes. Men play from the white tees and the ladies play off the Red tees. Each player receives 90% of full handicap. The maximum handicaps are 28 for men and 36 for ladies.
- b. The winner of each round is the pair with the highest number of Stableford points.
- c. In the event of a match finishing all square after 18 holes, the result shall be determined on a countback, i.e. back 9, back 6, back 3, back 1.
- d. Only in the event that a countback fails to provide a winner will extra holes be played. The match will continue from the 1st hole (having first obtained the agreement of the Complex Reception staff), until one of the teams is at least one point up. Strokes should be taken as for the original 18 holes.
- e. Organiser: as arranged.

4-2D. THE SCRATCH MEN'S KNOCKOUT

- a. The Scratch Men's Knockout is a competition open to all men members and played off the white tees, over 18 holes, with no handicap allowances.
- b. The winner of each round is the player who has won the greatest number of holes.
- c. In the event of the match finishing all square after 18 holes, the player will play sudden death from the 1st hole (having first obtained the agreement of the Complex Reception staff) until one player wins outright.
- d. Organiser: as arranged.

4-2E. STEVE SEAFORD MEMORIAL TROPHY

- a. The Steve Seaford Memorial Trophy competition is played from June-end of August, and is a combination of Stroke and Match Play. It is open to all male Club members.
- b. The top four players from Divisions 1 and 2 in the June Medal are selected to proceed to the knockout rounds, which are each undertaken as singles Match Play. The format for these is:
 - i. The winner of Division 1 plays the 4th from Division 2, 2nd in Division 1 plays 3rd in Division 2, 3rd in Division 1 plays 2nd in Division 2 and the 4th in Division 1 plays the winner of Division 2.
 - ii. Match play over 18 holes* from the white tees;
 - iii. Full handicaps apply;
 - iv. As individual players are knocked out in each round, re-matching is made;
 - v. *The final round is played over 36 holes on the same day.
- c. Organiser: as arranged.

4- 3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- a. The entry fee to all knockout competitions and the closing date for applications is shown on the competition's application form. The minimum entry condition for competitions is that each player must have a valid handicap at the closing date for entries. It is the player's responsibility to determine their own eligibility to play. **The entry fee is non-refundable under any circumstances.** Exceptions may be made for new members.
- b. Entry to competitions will **ONLY** be accepted on the appropriate application form.
- c. The Fred Roberts Trophy is open to fully paid up Club members and there are no specific conditions of entry, beyond having a valid handicap at the time of playing the first round.
- d. Both the David Johnson Trophy and the Dacorum Trophy are open to full paid up male Club members meeting the following criteria:
 - i. Members of more than 12 months standing at the closing date for entries must have competed in at least three handicap qualifying competitions in the 12 months prior to the closing date. Exceptions may be made for new members.
 - ii. Members of between six and 12 months standing at the closing date must have competed in at least three handicap qualifying competitions in the 12 months prior to the closing date.

NOTE: a 'qualifying competition' is a Monthly Medal, or any other Competition, played off a full handicap allowance. For i & ii above, 'AWAY' members must provide a valid Handicap Certificate, or their English Golf Union CDH identification number, demonstrating that they have met the above criteria at their Home Club, if they have not competed in sufficient qualifying competitions at Little Hay.

- iii. Entry to members of less than six months standing at the closing date for entries is at the discretion of the Handicap & Competition Chairman. Eligibility must be confirmed prior to submitting the application form.
- e. By entering the competition(s) you are giving consent that your contact telephone number will be made available on the knockout draw sheets so that competitors will be able to contact each other.

4-4. DRAW AND PROCEDURE

- a. The draw for all three competitions will be made in the week following the closing date and the draw sheets published on the Men's Notice Board and littlehaygolfclub.co.uk two weeks after entries close.
- b. Dates by which the various rounds of each competition are to be played are stated on the draw sheets. It is the responsibility of both players or teams to arrange their matches and also to ensure that the matches are played by the stipulated dates.
- c. There will be sufficient time allowed for playing each round, so extensions will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances. Holidays, injuries, or long-term illnesses are not considered exceptional circumstances. Any difficulties in arranging a match must be communicated to the Competitions Chairman at least one week before the due date.
- d. If a player is unable to play his/her match before the due date as a result of injury, or long term illness, they should forfeit the match in the case of the David Johnson Trophy, or their partner must play as a single in the case of the two four-ball competitions.

Failure to arrange and play matches by the stipulated date without approval of the Competitions Chairman, which will only be given under exceptional circumstances, IT WILL result in BOTH PLAYERS OR TEAMS being disqualified, regardless of the reason for the delay.

- e. The result of the match should be written on the draw sheet at the earliest opportunity.
- f. Prior to starting any match, or if a play-off is required, the staff in Complex Reception should be notified that a match is taking place and that you wish to use the white tees.
- g. It should be noted that it is not permitted to play Strokeplay and Matchplay at the same time, as the rules relating to Matchplay and Strokeplay are fundamentally different. If any players attempt to play a Matchplay knockout, whilst at the same time playing a Club Strokeplay Competition, such as a Monthly Medal, they will be disqualified from the knockout competition and their score in other competitions will be treated as a 'No Return'.
- h. The Handicap & Competitions Chairman's decision is final in all matters and disputes relating to these competitions.
- i. If a match, once started, has to be suspended for any reason eg. course closed due to bad weather, the match must be continued from the tee of the next unfinished hole. eg match stopped half way through playing 7th hole. Match to be restarted/resumed from 7th tee.

PART 5

SENIORS' COMPETITIONS

*(For the purpose of these competition
a Senior at Little Hay Golf Club is a male player aged 60 or over)*

5-1. GENERAL

- a. Senior competitions throughout the year will normally be played according to the following competition rules. Variations to these rules may only be made with the concurrence of the Seniors' Competition Sub-Committee.
- b. Senior members without handicaps may play in any of the competitions detailed below, apart from the Senior Champion and Senior Cup, but for handicap purposes only.
- c. Unless otherwise stated, the competitions listed below are only open to Senior members of Little Hay Golf Club and, unless mutually agreed to the contrary, are not to be played at weekends.
- d. Seniors' Competition Sub-Committee. The Seniors' Competition Sub-Committee is: Seniors' Captain, Seniors' Vice-Captain, Seniors' Competition Organiser and a results computer representative.

5-2. MONTHLY MEDAL & STABLEFORD

- a. The Monthly Medal and Stableford competitions are normally played from the white tees and run in two Divisions, on a full handicap basis:
 - i. Division 1: up to 20 handicap.
 - ii. Division 2: 21 handicap and over.

The boundary between Divisions 1 and 2 has been chosen to apportion roughly half the players to each Division. If the proportion changes significantly, this boundary will be reviewed.

- b. The format is:
 - i. For a Medal competition:
 - a. Stroke play, with full handicap allowance.
 - b. Winner(s): lowest net score.
 - ii. For a Stableford competition
 - a. Stableford points scoring.
 - b. Winner(s): highest Stableford score.
- c. At some point in the winter the monthly competitions will be played from the tee mats; this is generally the first competition in December but the exact timing will depend on the condition of the course. From this point, Temporary Winter Handicaps will apply (see below) until the competitions revert to the white tees.
- d. Although non-Senior members may play in the Monthly Medal or Stableford competitions, they may not win the competition.
- e. In the event of a tie, countback (computer)* will be used.
- f. Organiser: Seniors' Competition Organiser or Seniors' Captain.

Note: Temporary Winter Handicap Adjustments

During the winter months, when the competitions are played from the mats they are non-qualifying for handicap purposes and temporary handicap adjustments are made following each Medal and Stableford competition, as follows:

- i. 1st place: handicap reduced by 2 strokes.*
- ii. 2nd place: handicap reduced by 1 stroke.*
- iii. 3rd place: handicap reduced by 1 stroke.*

Each April, or whenever all Medal and Stableford competitions revert to white tees, such adjustments are cancelled and official playing handicaps apply, as listed on the Club notice board and on HowDidiDo via the Club website. All handicaps are also subject periodically to general standard of play revision by the Club's handicap sub-committee.

5-3. ORDER OF MERIT

- a. Both summer and winter Orders of Merit are based on results in the relative Monthly Medal and Stableford competitions. Points are awarded for the best five net scores, or highest Stableford points, in each competition from the total field. Points are awarded as follows:
 - i. 1st place: 41 x number of starters.
 - ii. 2nd place: 26 x number of starters.
 - iii. 3rd place: 16 x number of starters.
 - iv. 4th place: 11 x number of starters.
 - v. 5th place: 6 x number of starters.

The winner is the player with the highest number of such points accumulated over the period of the competition.

- b. 'Summer' covers the period April-September; 'Winter' the period October-March.
- c. Those tying for first place will be declared joint winners.
- d. Organiser: Seniors' Competition Organiser.

5-4. ECLECTICS

- a. Two Eclectics are held during the year; Summer and Winter. 'Summer' covers the period April-September; 'Winter' the period October-March.
- b. The Eclectic is a total of the best gross scores achieved on each hole during the Monthly Medal and Stableford competitions over the period. Half the handicap in force at the end of the competition is deducted from the accumulated score to determine the net winner.
- c. In the event of a tie, the player who has the lowest handicap is declared the winner. If still a tie, the trophy is shared.
- d. ***In addition*** there is a prize for the player with the lowest gross score *before* handicap adjustment. In the event of a tie for this additional prize, the player with the highest handicap is declared the winner. If still a tie the prize is shared.
- e. Organiser: organiser of results computer.

5-5. SENIOR CHAMPION & SENIOR CUPS

- a. The Senior Champion and Senior Cup competitions are played concurrently over two days, towards the end of the summer period, as 36 hole Stroke Play events – 18 holes on Tuesday and Thursday of the same week.
- b. Entry for these Cups is open to male Club members aged 60 or more by the first day of the Competition, and who have played in at least three qualifying Little Hay Golf Club competitions (Men's and/or Seniors) during that summer season.

5-5A. Senior Champion Cup

- a. The Senior Champion Cup is Scratch in format, thus the winner is the player with the lowest combined gross score over the two rounds.
- b. In the event of a tie, the winner will be decided by a 'sudden death' play off starting at the 1st tee.

5-5B. Seniors' Cups

- a. The Seniors' Cups are full handicap events, with separate Cups being awarded for each of two Divisions, these being a split by age so that the numbers competing are roughly the same in each. The lowest combined net score over the two rounds wins. The start order for the first round will be according to handicaps, with the lower first and the higher following. For the second round the placing will be reversed, with the higher handicaps starting first.
- b. In the event of a tie in either of the two Divisions, countback (computer)* will be used to decide the winner.
- c. Organiser: Seniors' Competition Organiser.

5-6. SINGLES AND DOUBLES KNOCK OUT

- a. Both the Singles and the Doubles Knock Out competitions take place during summer months, each following the same basic format:
 - i. Match play off the white tees;
 - ii. For singles knockouts, full handicaps apply. Players take 90% of the difference between their handicap and that of the lowest handicap player for doubles.
 - iii. Each round of the competition has a target date for completion and this must be adhered to. It is the responsibility of the first named player/players to arrange a date for the match. If he/they are unable to meet the deadline then the matter should be referred to the knockout competition organiser.
- b. If matches are all square after 18 holes, a 'sudden death' play off is to be played, commencing at the 1st tee (having first obtained the agreement of the Complex Reception staff).
- c. Organiser: as arranged

5-7. 3-CLUB COMPETITION (John McDonough Trophy)

- a. All players are limited to three clubs, *including* a putter. The format is:
 - i. Eighteen hole Stableford round with full handicap allowance;
 - ii. There is one Division;
 - iii. Either yellow tees or mats are used, depending on the course situation at the time;
 - iv. The winner is the player with the most Stableford points.
- b. In the event of a tie, countback (clerical)* will be used.
- c. Organiser: Seniors' Competition Organiser.

5-8. CHARITY SHIELD (Vic Allen Trophy)

- a. The format of the Charity Shield is:
 - i. Stableford, with full handicap allowance;
 - ii. Played from the yellow tees;
 - iii. The winner is the player with the most Stableford points.
- b. In the event of a tie, countback (clerical)* will be used.
- c. Organiser: Seniors' Competition Organiser

5-9. PAIRS

- a. The Pairs competition format is:
 - i. Four ball better ball, in teams of two, with a draw for pairings;
 - ii. Stableford scoring is used, with full handicaps;
 - iii. Each player plays his own ball, with the higher Stableford score on each hole counting;
 - iv. The winning pair is the one with the most Stableford points.
- b. In the event of a tie, countback (clerical) * will be used.
- c. Organiser: Seniors' Captain or Vice-Captain.

5-10. CRUICKSHANK MEMORIAL SALVER

- a. The Cruickshank Memorial Salver competition is a Seniors vs Ladies match. The format is:
 - i. Pairs match play;
 - ii. Men's stroke index to be used by all players;
 - iii. Men play from the white tees, ladies from the red tees;
 - iv. Using the player with the lowest handicap as a base, the other players take 90% of the difference between their handicap and his/hers;
 - v. The number of groups to play in the competition has to be agreed in advance by the two Captains.
- b. In the event of a tie, a draw will be declared.
- c. Organiser: Seniors' Vice-Captain.

5-11. MIXED PAIRS (Jefferson/Lane Trophy)

- a. The format of the Jefferson/Lane Trophy competition is:
 - i. Stableford rules and scoring;
 - ii. A mixed pair consists of a lady and a Senior, with the pairings drawn by the Seniors' and Ladies Captains;
 - iii. Full handicaps and appropriate stroke indexes are used;
 - iv. Men play from the white tees and ladies from the red;
 - v. The winners are the pair with the highest combined Stableford score.
- b. In the event of a tie, there will be a countback (clerical)* on Stableford points.
- c. Organiser: Seniors' Captain or Vice-Captain.

5-12. GREENSOME based (with ladies)

- a. The format of the Greensome based competition is:
 - i. Mixed pairs, consisting of a lady and a Senior;
 - ii. Stableford rules and scoring;
 - iii. Handicaps are calculated by the lower handicap x 0.6 plus the higher handicap x 0.4
 - iv. Men's stroke index is used;
 - v. Men play from the yellow tees, ladies from the red;
 - vi. Alternate shots are played on each hole. Each player must have nine tee shots selected;
 - vii. The pair with the highest Stableford points score will be the winners.
 - viii. Men not paired with a lady will play a separate, but otherwise identical, competition.
- b. In the event of a tie there will be a countback (clerical)* on Stableford points.
- c. Organiser: Seniors' Captain or Vice-Captain.

5-13. SUMMERTIME STABLEFORD (with ladies)

- a. The format for the Summertime Stableford is:
 - i. Teams of four, each comprising two ladies and two Seniors;
 - ii. The score on each hole will be the sum of the best lady's Stableford score and the best Senior's Stableford score;
 - iii. Seniors will use the men's stroke indices and the ladies will use the ladies' stroke indices to calculate the Stableford scores;
 - iv. Each player will have their own scorecard — the Lady and Senior Captains will confirm the team scores at the end of play.
 - v. If players do not arrive on the day and a group of three has to be sent out, then - supposing there are two Seniors and one lady - on the five holes with the lowest ladies' stroke index, the best two of the Stableford scores may be taken, irrespective of whose scores those are.
 - vi. If there are extra Seniors, not playing with ladies, they will play a separate competition in which the three best Stableford scores are added at each hole.
- b. In the event of a tie, there will be a countback (clerical)*.
- c. Organiser: Seniors' Captain or Vice-Captain.

5-14. TURKEY SHOOT (with ladies)

- a. The Turkey Shoot is normally played at the end of November. The Seniors' Captain and Ladies Captain will jointly decide which format the competition will take, and how the prizes are to be allocated.
- b. Organiser: Seniors' Vice-Captain.

5-15. JOHN BIDGWAY PLATE

- a. The format of the Greensome based competition is:
 - i. Pairs consisting of a low and high H/C player
 - ii. Stableford rules and scoring;
 - iii. Handicaps are calculated by the lower handicap x 0.6 plus the higher handicap x 0.4
 - iv. Played from yellow tees
 - v. Each player plays a tee shot one ball is selected and alternate shots to finish each hole. Each player must have 9 tee shots.
 - vi. The pair with the highest Stableford points score will be the winners.
- b. In the event of a tie, there will be a countback (clerical)*.
- c. Organiser: Seniors' Competition organiser

5-16. PETER BETTS SHIELD

- a. The format of the Texas Scramble competition is:
 - i. The format will be a Texas scramble
 - ii. Teams of four with a draw made for team composition
 - iii. Medal scoring is used
 - iv. One eighth of the combined H/C rounded up or down.
 - v. Yellow tees are to be used
 - vi. All players tee off on all holes. One player's shot is selected and the other three players play their second shots from that point;
 - vii. The same procedure applies until the hole is completed;
 - viii. No player can play consecutive shots on the same hole, or have consecutive tee shots selected.
 - ix. Each player must have at least four tee shots selected. The remaining two tee shots may be selected at will.
 - x. If a 3-ball is played, $\frac{1}{6}$ th of the combined handicap, rounded up (if .5 or above) or down as appropriate, is used. Each player must have at least five tee shots selected and the remaining three tee shots may be selected at will. All three players may play the second and subsequent shots.
- b. In the event of a tie, there will be a count-back (clerical)*.
- c. Organizer: Seniors' as arranged.

5-17 FRANK SPENCE SHIELD

- a. The format will be combined pairs Stableford.
 - i. Played in pairs, consisting of a Young (Y) and Old (O) member.
 - ii. [The age breakpoint will be ascertained, when the draw is made].
 - iii. Individual Stableford scoring, but combined scores to count.
 - iv. Y members off the whites, O members off the yellows.
 - v. Full Handicap to be used.
- b. In the event of a tie, there will be a (clerical) * countback.
- c. Organiser: Seniors Competition Organiser.

* **Count-back:** '*Countback (computer)*' indicates that the result has been determined by the computer program used for monthly competitions. '*Count back (clerical)*' indicates that the result has been determined clerically, using the same criteria as within the computer program mentioned above, i.e. best of: back 9, or successively back 6, back 3 or back 1 until a clear result is achieved.

PART 6

LADIES' COMPETITIONS

6-1 GENERAL

- a. Ladies' competitions from April to November will be played according to the following competition rules.
- b. Ladies with handicaps may play in all competitions. Ladies without handicaps may play in competitions for handicap purposes only.
- c. A lady member without a handicap can mark a card, but only for an existing handicapped player.
- d. Sign-up sheets for the month can be found on the Ladies' noticeboard in the ladies locker room. The player must enter her name and handicap on the sheet for the competition in which the player chooses to play. These sheets will be removed up to 12 days prior to the date of the competition. Players wishing to have their name included after this must contact the competition organizer, whose name can be found at the foot of the competition sheet.
- e. In addition to completing the competition entry form as described above, all players are required to sign the competition book on the day of the competition prior to starting a qualifying round. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.
- f. Monday is the main day for ladies' competitions and the Alternate Day is Saturday. When a lady member plays on both a Monday and a Saturday, then their Monday score will count for Alternate Day Competitions. The Alternate Day will be arranged within 7 days of the main competition. The results of the 2 days will be combined for the allocation of prizes.
- g. A player can compete in both medals on Saturday and Monday, as these are separate competitions and not Alternate Day Competitions.
- h. Ladies cannot play with others who are playing in any competition if they are not taking part in the competition themselves. The only exception to this is where there are insufficient competitors to allow cards to be marked, in which case those who are not in the competition may play for this purpose only

6-2. MONTHLY MEDALS

- a. Two monthly medals are played; one on a weekdays (normally the first Monday of each month) and the other (for Business Ladies), normally on the first Saturday of the month. A player may play in both and win both. Juniors may participate if there is no junior medal occurring at the same time, but a junior may not win the monthly medal prize.
- b. The monthly medals are played from the Red tees, starting in April and ending in November. They are all qualifying competitions.
- c. Medals are run in one division on a full handicap basis.
- d. The format for a medal competition is:
 - i. strokeplay, with full handicap allowance
 - ii. winner(s): lowest net score
- e. In the event of a tie, countback by computer will be used
- f. All monthly medals count as qualifying competitions for England Golf. A junior with an active CONGU handicap will also be eligible to enter this competition.

6-3. COMPETITIONS IN MEDAL FORMAT

The following competitions are played in medal format:

A. THIPTHORPE TROPHY AND LADIES' CHAMPIONSHIP

- a. This competition is played over 36 holes on 2 consecutive days.
- b. The draw for the first round will be based upon handicap, with the higher handicappers starting first and the lower handicaps following. The draw for the second round will be based on gross scores in the first round, with the highest scores starting first and the lower scores following.
- c. Full handicaps are used. The handicap of a player applied at the beginning of the competition shall apply throughout the duration of the competition. Handicaps will be updated fully when the competition is closed.
- d. The Thipthorpe Trophy winner is the player with the lowest **net** score.
- e. The Ladies' Championship winner is the lowest **gross** score.
- f. Any lady member, apart from Juniors, can play for the Championship. Juniors have their own Championship.
- g. In the event of a tie for the Thipthorpe (net) competition, count back by computer will be used. In the event of a tie for the Ladies' Championship (gross) competition, the winner will be decided by a sudden death play-off.
- h. In the event of course closure on either day, the competition will be decided over 18 holes.

B. THE GRANNY CUP

- a. The Granny Cup is played with the June Medal.
- b. The winner of the Medal is the player with the lowest net score. The winner of the Granny Cup is the player with the lowest net score and will be decided according to the Alternate Day rules.
- c. The same player could win both Medal and Granny Cup.
- d. In the event of a tie, countback by computer will be used.

6-4. STABLEFORD

- a. Competitions in stableford format will be played according to the following format:
 - i. Stableford points scoring.
 - ii. Winner is the player with the highest stableford score.
- b. Juniors may participate if there is no junior stableford occurring at the same time, but a junior player may not win any competition in stableford format.
- c. In the event of a tie, there will be a count back by computer.

6-5. COMPETITIONS IN STABLEFORD FORMAT

The following competitions are played in stableford format:

- **Spring Meeting – Non qualifier**
- **Ladies 9-Hole Qualifying Competitions** .These will be played from a 9-hole card.
- **Irons Rose Bowl**. This is played with irons only, excluding all hybrid clubs.
Non-Qualifying competition.
- **Four Clubs and a Putter**. *Non-Qualifying competition.*
- **Dacorum Trophy**. *Non-Qualifying Competition.*
- **Ovaltine Cup**. *Qualifying competition.*
- **Spring Bouquet**. *Qualifying Competition.*
- **Charity Cup**. *Qualifying Competition.*
- **Summer Cup**. *Qualifying competition.*
- **Bland Shield**. *Qualifying competition.*
- **Burhill UK**. *Qualifying competition.*
(This is also played to qualify for the NAPGC competition)
- **Basildon Bond Rosebowl**. *Qualifying competition.*
- **Fressingwood Cup**. *Qualifying competition.*
- **Autumn Fruit Bowl**. *Qualifying competition.*
- **David Johnson Trophy** .*Qualifying competition.*
- **Founders Cup**. *Bogey Par non-qualifying competition.*
- **New Captains Cup**. *Non-qualifying competition.*

6-6. THE GODDENS TROPHY

- a. The Goddens Trophy is played as a Greensomes competition. The format is:
 - i. Pairs, with a pairing selected by the organizer by handicap—one high, one low.
 - ii. Stableford rules and scoring.
 - iii. Handicaps are calculated by the lower handicap x 0.6 plus the higher handicap x 0.4.
 - iv. Each player tees off, and the better ball is selected. Thereafter alternate shots are played during that hole. There are no restrictions on the number of drives selected for each player.
- b. The pair with the highest stableford points score will be the winners.
- c. In the event of a tie there will be a countback by computer.
- d. Organiser: as arranged

6-7. O'CONNOR CUP FOURSOMES/DAILY MAIL QUALIFIER

- a. The format of the O'Connor Cup Foursomes is:
 - i. Pairs with stableford scoring.
 - ii. Players choose their partners.
 - iii. Half the combined full handicaps are used.
 - iv. The two players drive off from successive tees. i.e. one from the odd and one from the even-numbered holes. Thereafter alternate shots are played during that hole.
- b. The pair with the highest stableford score will be the winners of the O'Connor Cup. The winner will be entitled to go forward to the Daily Mail Foursomes, as long as this has been indicated in advance in the competition book.
- c. In the event of a tie there will be a countback by computer.
- d. Organiser: as arranged.

6-8. ECLECTICS

COMPETITION ECLECTIC–BARNES TROPHY AND KENT SALVER

- a. The eclectic is a total of the best gross scores achieved on each hole during the monthly medal and stableford competitions, over the period from April–November. Half the handicap in force at the end of the competition is deducted from the accumulated score to determine the net winners.
- b. The Barnes Trophy is awarded to the silver division winner (up to 20 handicap) and the Kent Salver is awarded to the bronze division winner (21 to 54 handicap).
- c. In the event of a tie, countback by computer will be used. If the competition is still tied after countback then the prize will be shared.
- d. Organiser: as arranged.

CHARITY ECLECTICS

- a. Two Charity eclecticics are held during the year: summer and winter. *The summer eclectic runs from May–September, starting with the May medal, and the winter eclectic runs from November–March, starting with the November medal.*
- b. The eclectic is a total of the best gross scores achieved from a maximum of 12 cards played in the summer and 10 cards in the winter in **any** games played over this period. The summer eclectic **must** start with a medal. The winter eclectic **should** start with the November medal. *If a player is unable to play in the November medal then the first card should be a full round of 18 holes.* Half the handicap in force at the end of the competition is deducted from the accumulated score to determine the net winner.
- c. In the event of a tie, countback will be used. If the competition is still tied after count back then the prize will be shared.
- d. Organiser: as arranged

6-9. TEXAS SCRAMBLE

The format of the Texas Scramble competition is:

- a. Teams of four
- b. Medal scoring is used
- c. One eighth of the combined handicap is used, rounded up (if .5 or above) or down as appropriate
- d. All players tee off on the first tee. One player's shot is selected and the other three players play their second shots from that point
- e. The same procedure applies until the hole is completed
- f. No player can play consecutive shots on the same hole, or have consecutive tee shots selected
- g. Each player must have at least four tee shots selected. The remaining two tee shots may be selected at will
- h. If a 3-ball is played, 1/6 of the combined handicap, rounded up if .5 or above or down as appropriate, is used. Each player must have at least five tee shots selected and the remaining three tee shots may be selected at will. All three players may play the second and subsequent shots.
- i. In the event of a tie, there will be countback by computer.
- j. Organiser: as arranged.

6-10. SINGLES AND DOUBLES KNOCKOUT

- a. Both the singles and doubles knockout competitions take place during the summer months, each following the same basic format:
 - i. Match play off the red tees.
 - ii. For singles knockouts full handicaps apply. This is played in two divisions, a silver division for those with handicaps below 20, and a bronze division for handicaps 21-36.
 - iii. For doubles knockouts players take $\frac{3}{4}$ of the difference between their handicap and that of the lowest handicap player.
 - iv. Each round of the competition has a target date for completion and this must be adhered to. It is the responsibility of the first named player/players to arrange a date for the match. If she/they are unable to meet the deadline then the matter should be referred to the knockout competition organiser.
- b. If matches are all square after 18 holes, a sudden death playoff is to be played, commencing at the first tee, (having obtained the agreement of the Complex reception staff first).
- c. Organiser: as arranged.

6-11. GOLFER OF THE YEAR (GOY)

- a. The Golfer of the Year is decided over 21 competitions by a points system, with 1st. place awarded 4 points, 2nd place 3 points, 3rd place 2 points and 4th place 1 point.
- b. All competitions below go towards the Golfer of the Year, with the format being stableford, stroke play and medal play. The competitions are:
 - i. All medals played from April to November. Both Monday and Saturday Medals can be played in but only one will count towards the competition. If you choose to play on both Saturday and Monday the one to count towards the competition must be chosen in advance of play by indicating on the sign-up sheet and competition book. If it is not indicated on the sign-up sheet and competition book your Monday score will count towards GOY.
 - ii. The Ovaltine Cup, Spring Bouquet, Bland Shield, Burhill Trophy, Thipthorpe Trophy, Summer Cup, David Johnson Trophy, Basildon Bond Rosebowl, Fressingwood Cup, Autumn Fruitbowl, Charity Cup, Founders Cup and Dacorum Trophy.
- c. The winner is the player with the most accumulated points after the last competition has been played. In the event of a tie the title is shared.
- d. Organiser: as arranged.

6-12. LADIES V MEN

- a. The format of the Ladies v Men competition will be decided by the two captains:
- b. Organiser: as arranged.

6-13. TEXAS SCRAMBLE (with Seniors)

- a. The format of the Texas Scramble (with Seniors) competition is:
 - i. Team of four, each comprising two ladies and two seniors. A draw is made for composition.
 - ii. Medal scoring is used.
 - iii. One eighth of the combined handicap, rounded up if .5 or above, or down as appropriate, is used.
 - iv. Men's stroke index is used.
 - v. Men play from the white tees, ladies from the red.
 - vi. All players tee off on the first tee. One player's shot is selected and the other three players play their second shots from that point.
 - vii. The same procedure applies until the hole is completed.
 - viii. No player can pay consecutive shots on the same hole, or have consecutive shots selected.
 - ix. Each player must have at least four tee shots selected. The remaining two tee shots may be selected at will.
 - x. If a 3-ball is played 1/6th of the combined handicap, rounded up if .5 or above or down as appropriate, is used. Each player must have at least five tee shots selected and the remaining three tee shots may be selected at will. All three players may play the second and subsequent shots.
- b. In the event of a tie, there will be a countback.
- c. Organiser: as arranged, jointly with Senior Captain.

6-14. CRUICKSHANK MEMORIAL SALVER

- a. The Cruickshank Memorial Salver competition is a Seniors v Ladies match, normally played in June. The format is:
 - i. Pairs match play.
 - ii. Men's stroke index to be used by all players.
 - iii. Men play from the white tees, ladies from the red tees.
 - iv. Using the player with the lowest handicap as a base, the other player take $\frac{3}{4}$ of the difference between their handicap and his/hers.
 - v. The number of groups to play in the competition has to be agreed in advance by the two captains.
- b) In the event of a tie, there will be a countback on Stableford points.
- c) Organiser: Senior Captain

6-15. MIXED PAIRS (Jefferson/Lane Trophy)

- a. The format of the Jefferson/Lane Trophy competition is:
 - i. Stableford rules and scoring.
 - ii. A mixed pair consisting of a lady and a senior, with the pairings drawn by the Seniors' and Ladies' Captain.
 - iii. Full handicaps and appropriate stroke indexes are used.
 - iv. Men play from the white tees and ladies from the red.
 - v. The winners are the pair with the highest combined stableford score.
- b. In the event of a tie there will be a countback on stableford points
- c. Organiser: Senior Captain or Vice-Captain

6-16. GREENSOME COMPETITION (with Seniors)

- a. The format of the Greensomes competition, which is normally played in January and October is:
 - i. Mixed pairs, consisting of a lady and a senior.
 - ii. Stableford rules and scoring.
 - iii. Handicaps are calculated by the lower handicap x 0.6 plus the higher handicap x 0.4
 - iv. Men's stroke index is used.
 - v. Men play from the yellow tees, ladies from the red.
 - vi. Alternate shots are played on each hole. Each player must have 9 tee shots selected.
 - vii. The pair with the highest stableford score will be the winners.
 - viii. Men not paired with a lady will play a separate, but otherwise identical competition.
- b. In the event of a tie there will be a countback on stableford points.
- c. Organiser: Senior Captain.

6-17 TURKEY SHOOT (with Seniors)

- a. The Turkey Shoot is normally played in December. The Senior's Captain and the Ladies' Captain will jointly decide which format the competition will take, and how the Prizes are to be allocated.

PART 7

LOCAL RULES – LITTLE HAY GOLF CLUB/COMPLEX

7-1. GENERAL

These Local Rules of Little Hay Golf Club & Complex are intended to clarify the status of various hazards, obstructions and out of bounds areas and markings which exist at the Little Hay Golf Complex. They apply to all Little Hay Golf Club competitions and matches and are subject to periodic change. Any queries relating to these rules should, in the first instance, be directed to the Handicap and Competitions Chairman.

7-2. IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS

- a. The following are defined as immovable obstructions and relief may be taken in accordance with Rule 16 **when the obstruction interferes with the player's stance or area of intended swing**:
 - i. All the course furniture, e.g. bench seats, ball washers and waste bins where fixed to the ground. Where a bin is free standing and can be easily moved, it should be treated as a movable obstruction and relief taken under Rule 15. In such an event, the bin should be replaced after the shot is played.
 - ii. Any fence which does not form a boundary of the course, e.g. the fence which extends into the area between the 6th green and the 7th tee.
 - iii. Any artificial path or surface e.g. those made of bark chippings, shells or stones around various greens and tees, but excluding all roads, which are out of bounds.
 - iv. Winter tee mats.
 - v. Any unstaked trees less than two club lengths high.
 - vi. Relief must be taken from staked trees. *(Note that close proximity to a staked tree, or a ball at rest on bare earth or rough ground at the base of a tree, are not in themselves grounds for relief. There must be actual interference to stance or swing from the tree and/or the stake.)*
 - vii. Fixed sprinkler heads. Relief without penalty may also be taken if the player's ball lies off the putting green, but not in a hazard and is at rest within two club lengths of a sprinkler head, which itself is on, or within, two club lengths of the putting green on the hole being played and the sprinkler intervenes ON THE LINE OF PLAY between the ball and the hole.
 - viii. Stakes or posts which mark a water hazard, if the player's ball comes to rest outside the water hazard. *(Note that white stakes or posts defining Out of Bounds are themselves out of bounds; a player is therefore NOT entitled to relief without penalty from these stakes.)*
 - ix. The direction indicator posts beyond the 12th green.
- b. Relief may be taken, with no penalty, from the point on the course nearest to where the ball lies provided that it:
 - i. is not nearer to the hole,
 - ii. avoids interference from the obstruction, and
 - iii. is not in a hazard or on a putting green.

The player must lift the ball and drop it within ONE club length of the point on the course determined under paragraph 7-2b. The ball may be cleaned when lifted under this rule.

7-3. PENALTY AREAS (Any Type of Hazard in now called a Penalty Area).

- a. There are currently two water hazards on the Little Hay 18-hole course: the (usually dry) pond on the 10th fairway and the drainage ditch which runs along the right hand side of the 4th fairway and continues across the left front of the green.
- b. The drainage ditch to the right of the 4th fairway is a lateral water hazard marked by red posts. The limits of this hazard lie within the ditch and between the outer extremities of the red posts at either end of the ditch. The ditch becomes a normal water hazard where it runs across the front of the 4th green and is marked by yellow posts. The limits of this water hazard lie within the ditch and between the outer extremities of the yellow posts at either end of the ditch.
- c. The pond on the 10th fairway is an ordinary water hazard, marked by yellow posts. The limits of this hazard are well defined, even in the absence of a marked line on the ground between the yellow posts.
- d. The posts which define the margin of the water hazards are themselves in the hazard. In the event that a ball comes to rest against such a post, the player is not entitled to relief without penalty. The player should either play the ball as it lies or proceed as described in paragraph 7-3hi, ii or iii.
- e. In the event that there is interference from the posts which define the margin of the water hazard, or the bushes growing within the pond on the 10th fairway, when a ball is at rest within the hazard, the player is not entitled to relief without penalty. The player should either play the ball as it lies or proceed as described in paragraph 7-3hi, ii or iii.
- f. If a ball is lost in any water hazard the player should proceed as described in paragraph 7-3 hi, ii or iii.
- g. If a ball comes to rest in any water hazard, the player should either play the ball as it lies, taking care not to ground the club within the hazard, whether or not the hazard contains water (*the penalty for club grounding is two strokes in Stroke play or the loss of a hole in Match play*), or proceed as described below in paragraph 7-3 hi, ii or iii.
- h. Relief from a water hazard may be taken as follows:
 - i. Under penalty of one stroke, play a ball as close as possible to the spot from which the last stroke outside the hazard was played, or
 - ii. Under penalty of one stroke, drop a ball behind the water hazard, keeping the point at where the ball crossed the margin of the water hazard between the hole and the point at which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind the hazard the ball may be dropped, or
 - iii. **For lateral water hazards only:** under penalty of one stroke, drop a ball outside the water hazard not nearer to the hole, and within two club lengths of:
 - a. the point where the original ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard, or
 - b. a point on the opposite margin of the water hazard equidistant from the hole.

The ball may be cleaned when lifted.

7-4. GROUND UNDER REPAIR

- a. In addition to those parts of the course which may, from time to time, be marked as GUR (Ground Under Repair), the following should be considered ground under repair and relief without penalty may be taken in accordance with Rule 16:
 - i. When the GUR interferes with the player's stance or area of intended swing, or stroke on a putting green.
 - ii. Hole(s) not in play on a putting green where more than one hole is cut. Relief may ONLY be taken when a player's ball lies on the putting green and when relief is taken, the ball should be placed, not dropped.

Note that the tree nurseries to the left of the 8th and 18th tees are no longer to be considered as GUR. A ball coming to rest in one of these areas must be played as it lies, or relief for an unplayable lie, Rule 19, should be taken under penalty of one stroke.

- b. When a player's ball is lost in GUR, relief may be taken, with no penalty, from the point on the course nearest to where the ball crossed the margin of GUR, provided that it:
 - i. is not nearer the hole,
 - ii. avoids interference from the GUR, and
 - iii. is not in a hazard or on a putting green.

The player must drop a ball within ONE club length of the point on the course which fulfils the above i, ii or iii.

7-5. BUNKERS

Animal footprints in bunkers are ground under repair from which free relief is allowed under Rule 16.1

7-6. AERATION HOLES

On the putting green, a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be placed at the nearest spot not nearer the hole that avoids the situation.

7-7. OUT OF BOUNDS

A ball is out of bounds (OOB) when it comes to rest:

- a. Beyond the boundaries of the course.
- b. On the Clubhouse precincts, including immediately surrounding paths, car parks, gardens, outbuildings and practice putting green.
- c. Beyond the white posts surrounding the Driving Range. *(Note that the fence surrounding the Driving Range, and the supporting stanchions, all lie OOB, therefore relief without penalty may NOT be taken if any part of the fence or stanchions interferes with the player's stance or area of intended swing.)* Also to the left of the 4th and 5th, on the footpath to the left of the 6th hole and the woods to the right of the 7th hole.
- d. On the mown area of the Pitch and Putt course, to the right of the 10th, 11th and 12th fairways, when no white OOB marker posts are present.
- e. On or beyond all roads.
- f. Balls Lost or Out of Bounds: Alternative to Stroke and Distance: From 1st January 2019, golfers have the option to drop the ball in the vicinity of where the ball is lost or out of bounds (including the nearest fairway area), under a two-stroke penalty. This is only permissible in casual rounds. CONGU do not allow this when scores are to be submitted for handicap adjustment. (Qualifying, Knockout competitions and Supplementary Scores).

7-8. SAFETY

Players competing in Little Hay Golf Club competitions and matches are not permitted to intentionally drive down the 9th fairway from the 18th tee. Players must accept full liability for any injuries caused by such an action.

PART 8 DISABILITY

The R&A recognise four such categories of disability and have been identified as:

- Players who are blind,
- Players who are amputees,
- Players who use assistive mobility devices, and
- Players with intellectual disabilities.

If you (a member), believe you are part of one of these groups please contact a committee member to discuss possible rule difference that may affect you.

