

**LADIES GOLF GAUTENG / HANDICAP LEAGUE RULES 2017**  
**Amended December 2016**

**SILVER & BRONZE WEEKDAY BETTERBALL DIVISION**

**SUNDAY BETTERBALL DIVISION**

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**All matches to be played according to the Rules of Golf as laid down by the R&A**

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**1 LEAGUE FEES**

Green fees have been set at R200.00. Please note that if your club charges less than R200.00 the lesser fee should be charged.

**2 FORM OF PLAY**

- a) A player must be an amateur golfer, have an official handicap and be a member of a Gauteng affiliated club (Club affiliation fees must be up to date).
- b) Betterball matchplay using actual handicap to the maximum allowed in a particular league: Silver 18 and under, Bronze 19 – 30, Sunday 30 and under.
- c) Six players in a team.
- d) Your handicap determines which division you play in, **(weekday only)** and your **actual handicap** is used when determining order of play, weekday and Sunday.
- e) After the order of play has been determined the individual handicaps must still be adjusted, where necessary, to adhere to the 12 shot difference, but this adjustment does not change the order of play.
- f) Handicap Limit: Sunday (**30 and under**); Silver (**18 and under**); Bronze (19-30).
- g) No more than 12 shots difference in handicap, between partners. **(Weekday and Sunday)**
- h) No more than 12 shots to be given or received. If the difference in handicap is greater than 12 shots then: - the player(s) with the greatest handicap, reduce their handicap until the difference is 12 shots, and the adjusted handicap must be entered on the result sheet as well **(Weekday and Sunday)**
- i) Played in handicap order with the lowest combined handicaps of each match playing as pairing 1 on the result sheet and the highest combined handicaps playing as pairing 3. Should a Club not be able to field a full team, then the player that plays alone is exempt from handicap order and she **must** play in position 3. The other pairings must still play in handicap order.
- j) Match order may be changed; i.e. Match 3, 1, 2 but the entire fourball match must change position. This may only be done if both parties agree. The result sheet however must reflect the correct combined handicaps order of play.
- k) If a Team Manager cannot field a full team on the day, as many players as possible **must** play. See Walkovers and Stipulated Time of Play point (c).

- l) Failure to observe any league rule will result in the offending team losing 2 (Two) points i.e. A beat B, 4-2 but A infringed a rule, their result will be 2-2, if B infringed a rule the points will be 4-0. If team B has won no points 6-0, they will have a -2 carried forward off their total for the season, 6 (-2) See exception under **Semi Finals and Finals**.

### **3 SCORING**

- a) Two points for a win per match.  
b) One point per match for a halved match.

### **4 RESULTS**

- a) Only one result sheet per match needs to be submitted to the League Committee after completion of a match, provided it has been signed by, and agreed to by both captains. It is the responsibility of the home club captain to ensure that the result sheet is submitted **immediately or within 24 hours** of completion of the game.
- b) It is no longer necessary for all players to sign the result sheet.
- c) The League Committee will in future accept the result sheets at face value and it is up to the respective captains to ensure that the league rules and conditions have been adhered to. The League Committee will still be checking the results to ensure that the League Rules are being adhered to.
- d) The result sheet must be faxed or emailed to the League Committee members as per the result sheet, **immediately or within 24 hours** after the match unless there is an objection.
- e) In the case of Captains not being satisfied with the circumstances surrounding a match, the Captain shall act as follows: do not sign the result sheet and inform the League Committee by emailing or faxing a written report to them within 24 hours of the match being played.
- f) Once a result sheet has been submitted to the League Committee it cannot be changed unless the League Committee notes an irregularity. This matter shall then be resolved according to the Rules of Golf or the current League Rules, whichever are applicable.
- g) **The League Committee's decision is final.**

### **5 WALKOVERS AND STIPULATED TIME OF PLAY**

Walkovers for an entire team **may not** be given. If a Team Manager cannot field a full team on the day, as many players as possible must play. The opposing team will receive 2 points for each of the matches where there is no opposition available. If you cannot field a full team the opposing team must be notified timeously to ensure that ladies don't arrive unnecessarily.

- a) **Players must be ready to tee-off at the arranged time of play.** No period of grace in respect of late arrivals off the tee will be given. Ref. Rules of Golf 6.3A and in the case of Betterball matches Rule 30-3a. A late "player" may join her partner at any stage during the match, but not during the play of a hole. Taking and giving of shots shall be as if the four players had teed off together. If both players are late the opponents will claim the match. A "player" means any of the names on the prescribed result sheet. A reserve may not be called in once the list of players has been presented.
- b) If a Club at any time during the League Season fails to field a team, in any of the League Divisions, that Club's League entries for the ensuing year

may be decreased by one team, at the discretion of the League Committee.

- c) Teams from the same Club to be drawn into different sections unless the Club enters more teams than there are sections, then no more than two teams per Club per section.
- d) "Stipulated times" of play means the first tee-off time as arranged beforehand.
- e) All matches must have been completed before the semi-finals.

## **6 TEAM CAPTAIN'S RESPONSIBILITIES (HOST CLUB)**

- a) **Sunday League:** arrange dates and tee-off times. Notify opposing team of all arrangements. The home club must reconfirm the tee times with the opposition within the week before the scheduled match.
- b) **Weekday League: Home clubs** arrange times to suit the constraints of the club time sheets. Notify opponents of such times at the beginning of each league season.
- c) Each Team Captain shall present the opposing teams with the names of the players in handicap order on the prescribed result sheet, fifteen minutes before the stipulated time of play. A reserve may not be called in once the list of players has been presented.
- d) It is the responsibility of each Team Captain to check that players' handicaps are correct and that they appear on the results sheet in the correct combined handicap order. **Individual Handicaps must be checked on the HNA system on the day of game, prior to teeing off, by both Team Captains.**
- e) Both handicaps of a player must be written on the result sheet if an adjustment has to be made.
- f) Notify the opposing teams of any construction on the course and the local rules.
- g) **Only host club caddies may be used.**
- h) Make arrangement for the appropriate league fees to be charged, where necessary.
- i) Email or fax results to both League representatives **directly after or within 24 hours** of completion of the match.
- j) Have a copy of the League Rules to hand when playing league.
- k) If a weekday league fixture has to be changed with the consent of the league committee then the new date and times must be presented to the league committee and the opposing team in writing
- l) River Club has been granted permission to reschedule one Thursday fixture a year to be played on any other day within the SAME league week (from the Friday until the following Thursday). This may only be done when there is a clash with their Ladies Open and not for any other club competition.

## **7 PLAYERS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

- a) The players are responsible for their own playing fees, halfway refreshments and all drinks. Clubs may, at their own discretion provide refreshments at halfway or after a match – there is no rule regarding this.
- b) Players may not abandon a match because caddies are unavailable.
- c) Players may only use host club caddies.
- d) Dress regulation of the Host Club must be observed.

- e) Where a Club enters two or more Weekday/Sunday Betterball teams the players are interchangeable but a player may not play for more than one weekday or Sunday team in the same fixture period. A player may play Scratch league as well as Weekday and Sunday league as long as all the other conditions are adhered to.
- f) A player entering the Sunday or Weekday League may represent any club of which she is a golfing member, not necessarily her home club, but only one club per League Season per section i.e. she may with permission from her home Club Captain play Sunday League for one club and Weekday for another but will not be allowed to play Sunday League for two different clubs or Weekday league for two different clubs in a League Season. Written permission from home club (only if a member of two Gauteng Clubs) must be presented for all matches where a player is not representing her home club.
- g) All correspondence granting permission to play for a Club other than her home Club must be forwarded to [leaguesecretary@ladiesgolfgauteng.co.za](mailto:leaguesecretary@ladiesgolfgauteng.co.za)
- h) Definition Fixture Period

**Sunday Betterball Only:**

A fixture period is the period of time allocated by the LGG in which a match has to be completed. Example: February / March is a fixture period and the match must be completed anytime from the 1<sup>st</sup> February to 31<sup>st</sup> March.

The **Weekday** (Thursday) fixture period constitutes the day the match is scheduled for, therefore, if there are 2 Thursday fixtures scheduled in the same month, they are 2 different fixture periods.

## **8 ENTERING SCORES – CAPTAINS AND PLAYERS**

The 72 hour grace period for entering scores **does not apply** for ladies playing league. All clubs have handicap terminals to enter scores after a game, alternatively a player can phone her club and ask them to enter her score, especially if she is playing league the next day. No excuses will be accepted.

Scores have to be entered immediately after a game and if a player has an open round or **is known** to have played a game and not opened a round and entered the score, she will incur a 2 shot penalty for her team, whether they have made any or no points. Penalties will also apply for scores entered on the day before a match.

**Two points will be deducted for each player** (even within the same team) that has not captured a score from a previous round whether it was an open round or the player is known to have played a round and not captured a score for it.

The handicaps must be checked by the captain or each player on the day before the match and those are the ones to be used on the day. If a player is included in a Thursday Bronze team and her handicap changes from Bronze to Silver from the Sunday to the Monday preceding the match, she may still be included in the team but will have to play off her lower handicap. If her handicap changed before the Monday morning, a replacement must be found or her partner has to play alone.

Thursday league: Should a player have changed from Bronze to Silver between the Monday and Thursday and the difference is more than 12 shots between her and her partner, her partner will have to drop so that the difference in their handicaps is not more than 12 shots. The opposing couple don't have to drop, they will play off whatever the handicap difference is.

Sunday league: There is no cut-off for the Sunday league as everyone has to play off the handicap as reflected on the day. There are no divisions to contend with and it therefore becomes vitally important that players ensure that all scores have been entered before midnight on the day before they play so that they play off the correct handicaps. The 12 shot difference applies as before.

If a score for a game prior to a league match is entered after the match or the morning of the match and it is brought to the League Committee's attention, whether that score would or would not have made a change to the player's handicap, 2 points will be deducted from their club's final score on that day for **each player** with an open round.

## **9 ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS**

- a) Extreme cold, wind and rain **do not** constitute adverse weather conditions. If the course becomes unplayable and is closed because the weather becomes dangerous e.g. lightning, hail, snow or the greens are under water the matches may then be suspended.
- b) If the course is closed for any reason other than the weather, the club loses its home club advantage and the game must move to the other club, unless the match is in the first half of the year, in which case the clubs may swap with each other, but only after consultation with the League Committee.
- c) Should adverse weather conditions prevent play or completion thereof on the day: the Team Captains must, **if all teams remain the same and there have been no changes in players handicaps**, arrange a date for the completion of the unfinished matches which must start at the hole immediately after the completed hole **OR** replay the match at a date suitable to all teams. The League Committee must be informed and the matches completed as soon as possible and before the next fixture date. Refer: The Rules of Golf Rule No. 33 -2 and Rule No. 6 8a & b.

## **10 MOTORISED GOLF CARS**

- a) Anyone may use a golf cart. Only partners may share carts and Rule 19-2 applies should one of the partners hit their own cart, a 1-stroke penalty will apply to that player only.

## **11 TO DETERMINE THE OVERALL WINNER IN THE EVENT OF A TIE**

In the event of a tie, the following count out procedure will take place if all divisions have the same number of teams:

- a) the team with the highest **overall** matches won during the League season will be the winner / in the event of there still being a tie :

- b) the team with the highest **individual** matches won during the League season shall be the winner / in the event of there still being a tie :
- c) the team with the highest number of halved matches during the League season shall be the winner / in the event of there still being a tie :
- d) The winner will be decided by the toss of a coin.

If the divisions don't all have the same number of teams, the following count out procedure will be followed:

- a) The average of the total points scored during the League season, will decide the winner, (the total points scored for the year divided by the number of games played). In some cases this will have to be calculated to several decimal points, until a winner is decided.
- b) Where there is an odd number of divisions in a league, the play-offs will be as follows:-
- c) **Three divisions:** The three winning divisional teams plus the team with the next highest average from any of the divisions will be drawn to play in the semi-finals, with the winners contesting the finals.
- d) **Five divisions:** The top two divisional winners (highest average number of points decided as in the paragraph above) will have a bye into the semis and the three remaining winners, together with the next highest total average from any division, will contest the quarter-finals. The two winners of the quarter-finals will go through, together with the two top teams who had byes, to contest the semis and the finals.

## **12 QUARTER-FINALS, SEMI-FINALS AND FINALS**

- a) The League Committee shall fix the dates of all finals.
- b) All matches to be played to a result i.e. no halved matches.
- c) Teams who qualify for the quarters, semis or finals must adhere to the following:  
"At least 5 players must have played two (2) or more matches for the team during the year and, if necessary, the other player (**wild card**) may be drawn from other club members who have not played in **that particular league team** during that year. (**See (d) below**) This may only be done in consultation with a member of the League Committee"
- d) A **wild card** may now be drawn from any one of the other leagues, as long as the player has not played any game in that particular league in the year, ie if it is for Silver league the player may be drawn from Sunday, Bronze or Scratch but not from any other Silver team and similarly if it's a Sunday league, the player may not have played in any other Sunday team during the year, but can come from Silver or Bronze, etc.  
**NOTE: If a wild card is chosen with a handicap where there is a difference of more than 12 shots between her and her partner, the partner's handicap must be reduced to the 12 shot difference, BUT, the opponents don't have to reduce their handicaps to 12 shots difference.**
- e) Players from a Division 1 team may not play for a Division 2 or 3 team and players from a Division 1 or Division 2 team may not play for a

Division 3 team. Should the clubs be concerned that their teams do not comply, they are urged to contact LGG for a ruling and support. LGG will reserve the right to check teams ahead of matches.

- f) The teams, as well as the names of reserves, must be submitted to the League Committee not less than three days before the matches, to confirm that all players are eligible.
- g) Any breach of League Rules in quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals will result in disqualification of the team concerned.

### **13 GPS DEVICES**

A GPS may be used solely for the purpose of measuring distance, in accordance with the R&A Rule 14-3

### **14 SPONSORSHIP**

The sponsor or manufacturers name or logo may not appear more than once on each garment and should not exceed a perimeter measurement of 220mm.



