

Appendix B General Conditions and Rules & 2018 Hard Card

The following General Conditions and Rules apply to all England Golf and Suffolk Golf Union Championships and must be read in conjunction with the '2018 Hard Card'. The word 'Championship' includes all England Golf and Suffolk Golf Union events. e.g. 'Tournaments', 'Finals' and 'Competitions'.

1. Rules of Golf

All Championships shall be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf and such Local Rules and Conditions of Competition as shall be approved by Suffolk Golf Union.

In the case of entry by a golfer with disability, he/she can apply to England Golf for adoption of the Modification of the Rules for Golfers with Disability.

2. Amateur Status

All players must be of Amateur Status as defined by The Rules of Amateur Status.

3. Entry: Method and Fees

All entries must be completed and received by the Suffolk Golf Union Championship Department by 12 noon on the date entries close. They must be accompanied by payment either paid online by cheque (payable to "Suffolk Golf Ltd") or by cash. Entries without payment will not be accepted. No entry will be included in the draw unless complete in every detail.

Entries received after the competition closing date will only be considered if the maximum field size has not been achieved.

- a) Entries may be made online at the Suffolk Golf Union website (www.suffolkgolfunion.co.uk). In order to enter online, a competitor must possess a CDH (Central Database of Handicaps) ID number. Payment will be taken when the online entry is submitted. Unsuccessful entrants will be refunded to the same card after the closing date.
- b) If Online Entry is not possible, a PDF entry form may be downloaded from the England Golf website. This must be returned to the Championship Secretary.
- c) An entry form may also be requested from the Championship Secretary (Tel: 01394 461246).
- d) Entries by telephone are not accepted.
- e) No entry fee will be refunded unless written/email/fax notice of withdrawal is received before the closing date for entries, except to any entrant who may be balloted out and who does not subsequently compete.
- f) All entries shall be subject to the approval of the Championship Committee, which reserves the right to accept, refuse, or cancel an entry without giving reason for its decision. The Committee's decision shall be final. In such cases, any entry fee will be refunded.

4. Eligibility and Handicaps

- a) Of Amateur Status as defined by the R&A with the exception of the Suffolk Open Championship when Professionals who are bona fide or honorary members of the Suffolk Professional Golfers Association may participate.
- b) In possession of an ACTIVE handicap under the CONGU Unified SSS and Handicapping Scheme 2016-2017 and not exceeding that determined by the Suffolk County Union as a condition of entry.
- c) A playing member of a club affiliated to the Suffolk Golf Union, or in the case of Suffolk County Stroke Play Championships, born in the County of Suffolk and a current member of a club affiliated to the England Golf. (In the case of Anglian League matches, the player must be a member of a club affiliated to the County Union which he is representing).
- d) Entrants may not have represented another county at golf or participated in another county's championship within the same calendar year.
- e) Professionals playing in the Suffolk Open Championship must be bona fide members of the Suffolk PGA and may not have represented another county at golf or participated in another county's championship within the same calendar year. Professionals must abide by the Rules of Golf for Amateurs whilst participating in Suffolk Golf Union
- f) All players who hold a CONGU handicap and wish to enter any Suffolk Golf Union Golf event must be in possession of a competition "c" handicap not exceeding 28.4 (men) and 36.4 (women), under the CONGU Unified Handicapping System, unless a lower handicap limit is stated in the Conditions of Competition for an individual competition.
- g) When entering any Suffolk Golf Union event by any of the methods in Condition 3 above, a player's exact handicap must be recorded on the entry form. Any entry ballot will be based on the exact handicap of the relevant players, as at the closing date of entries using the Central Database of Handicaps (CDH). Where a CDH number is not available players are required to notify the Championship department of any changes prior to the closing date.

Note: It is the player's responsibility to ensure that their exact handicap on the CDH is up to date. Suffolk Golf Union shall take no responsibility for any out of date handicap used for balloting purposes.
- h) Players holding both a CONGU and an overseas authority's handicap must enter the Championship using their CONGU handicap. Failure to comply with this Condition will result in entry being denied.
- i)
- j) If a player has relinquished their CONGU handicap in favour of a lower overseas handicap, they will be requested to provide a playing record comprising at least 10 scores from the previous 12 months showing they are able to meet the required playing standard for entry into Suffolk Golf Union Championships. Otherwise, entry will be denied.

5. Withdrawals

- a) The player will forfeit their entry fee if they withdraw after the closing date for entries.
- b) Any player who:

- i. withdraws from an event after the draw has been published, or
 - ii. fails to register at the Suffolk Golf Union Championship Desk or other designated location, or by telephone by 16:00 on the day before a Championship starts, or
 - iii. fails to appear on the tee at their appointed start time, or
 - iv. having qualified to continue in an event, fails to do so*
- will be subject to an automatic ban from entering or playing in Suffolk Golf Union Golf Championships for such period as the Championship Committee may decide.
- * If a competitor withdraws from the competition before the cut is made the players score shall still be included in determining the cut mark.

6. Reserves

- a) In individual stroke play Championships, a reserve list will be maintained and managed by the Championship Secretary. Should a place or places in the draw become available, reserves will be invited to play in the order they are listed on the reserve list.
- b) In order to ensure a full field for a Championship and at the sole discretion of the Championship Secretary, a reserve or reserves may be offered a place depending on whether they can be contacted, i.e. irrespective of their place on the reserve list.
- c) At appropriate stroke play Championships, in the event of a late withdrawal of a player in the draw, a reserve who has entered the event in accordance with Condition 1 above and is present at the venue on the first day of the Championship may be offered the vacated start place. Should there be more than one reserve in attendance, such reserves will be invited to play in the order they are listed on the reserve list.
- d) At the discretion of registration officials at the venue, and depending on a practice round space being available, a reserve who is present at the venue may play a practice round. They may also use practice facilities at the venue.

7. Registration

Players must register their intention to compete in a Championship by at least 10 minutes before the event starts at the Championship Desk.

Failure to do so will result in the player forfeiting their place, which will be offered to a reserve. The player concerned will also forfeit their entry fee.

8. General Conduct and Practice Round Regulations

- a) From Registration through to the close of competition or match (including practice days) players must conduct themselves accordingly to the provisions and 'spirit' of the Etiquette section of the Rules of Golf and must not act in a manner which might bring the game into disrepute.
- b) During practice rounds, one ball only may be played with the following exceptions:
 - i. If a player misses the green with his shot to the green, he may play one additional shot.
 - ii. Where the Rules of Golf apply (e.g. provisional ball).
 - iii. A player may practice putting (but not chipping or bunker play) provided play is not unduly delayed.

- Note**
- i. Trolleys must not be taken onto tees or between a greenside bunker and the green and/or onto fringes of greens.
 - ii. It would be appreciated if the making and receiving of calls is done outside of the clubhouse.

- iii. Making/ sending or receiving calls or texts: Mobile phones (and similar devices) may not be used on the course (including on practice days) for such purpose, except in cases of emergency.

If a serious breach of the above Regulations occurs, or where there are repetitive breaches, a player may be disqualified under Rule 33–7 for a serious breach of etiquette and/or may be barred from entering or playing in Suffolk Golf Union Championships for such period as the Suffolk Golf Union may decide.

9. Clubs and Ball

- a) Conforming Driver Heads and Golf Balls
The specimen Conditions in the Rules of Golf (pages 154-156 (1a and b)) are in effect.
- b) Grooves and Punch Marks (Appendix II-5-C, pages 174-176)
The specimen Condition in Decision 4-1/1 of the Decisions on the Rules of Golf is in effect, except for all handicap tournaments.
Note: An updated List of the above equipment is available on the R&A's website (www.randa.org) and can be checked at the Suffolk Golf Union Desk.

10. Caddies

There are no restrictions on the use of caddies, except:

- a) in under 16 Championships when caddies are not allowed.
- b) in under 18 Championships when either caddies are not allowed or they must be under 18 on 1st January of the year in which the Championship is being played. See Conditions of Competition for a particular Championship.
PENALTY FOR BREACH OF CONDITION: See Rules of Golf, page 157

11. Practice (Rule 7–1)

- a) Match play: On any day of a competition, practice on the Championship course is prohibited before the player's first match and between matches.
Exception – team members not playing in a series of matches at county finals may practice on the course.
- b) Stroke play: Rule 7–1b applies.
PENALTY FOR BREACH OF CONDITIONS 11 a or b: Disqualification
Note: i. All recognised practice areas within the bounds of the course may be used by players for practice on any day of a competition.

12. Advice in Match Play Team Competitions (Note to Rule 8)

- a) Each team may appoint one person (in addition to the persons from whom advice may be asked under Rule 8), who may give advice to members of that team. Such person must be identified to Suffolk Golf Union giving advice.
- b) That person may not:
 - i. walk on to a putting green
 - ii. give advice to a player on or around the putting green when the player's ball lies on or has been lifted from the putting green.
PENALTY FOR BREACH OF CONDITION:
12 bi: First offence: Warning; Second offence:
12 bii: Loss of hole
- c) See also Note i, 'Hard Card' Local Rule 10.

13. Returning Score Card

A player's score card is deemed officially returned to Suffolk Golf Union when they have left the recording office/area.

Note: Players must promptly return their score cards to the Championship Desk.

14. Result of a Match and when Competition Closed

- a) Match play: The result of a match is deemed officially announced when it has been recorded in the Championship Desk.
- b) Stroke play: The results of the competition are deemed officially announced and the competition is closed when the Trophy is presented to the winner.

15. Decision of Ties

- a) Ties for first place in all Championships will be decided by a sudden death play-off over holes to be determined by Suffolk Golf Union, unless otherwise provided in the Conditions of Competition for a particular Championship when General Condition 15b below will apply.

Note: If a play-off involves more than two players, those eliminated will be deemed to have tied for second place, regardless of the order in which they were eliminated, and will receive Second Place vouchers of equal value.

- b) If General Condition 15a does not apply, ties for first place and for prizes in all Championships (with the exception in the Note to 15a above or unless otherwise provided in the Conditions of Competition for a particular Championship) will be decided as follows:
 - i. In a four round Championship, ties shall be decided on the 4th round, then the 3rd round, then the 2nd round and then the 1st round.
 - ii. In a three round Championship, ties shall be decided on the 3rd round, then the 2nd round and then the 1st round.
 - iii. In a two round Championship, ties shall be decided on the 2nd round and then the 1st round.
 - iv. Should that fail to produce a result, ties shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the last completed round. If a tie still arises it shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the first nine holes of the last completed round. If a tie still arises, each of the preceding rounds played shall be treated in the same way (taking each round in the reverse order to that in which they were played) until a decision is reached.
 - v. In the case of a one round event, ties shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the round. If a tie still arises it shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the first nine holes of the round.

16. Inclement Weather

If, in the opinion of Suffolk Golf Union, it becomes impossible to complete a Championship in accordance with that Championship's Conditions because of adverse weather or other circumstances, Suffolk Golf Union may vary the Conditions to the extent necessary to achieve a result within the time available.

17. Trophies & Prizes

- a) All trophies won by an individual player will be held by Suffolk Golf Union or such other location as determined by Suffolk Golf Union.
- b) A winning County or Club will be responsible for a trophy and its insurance from the time it is presented until it is relinquished and shall ensure it is returned to Suffolk Golf Union before the next year's Championship.
- c) Unless otherwise stated in the competition conditions a player may win more than one trophy but not more than one prize voucher.

18. Transportation

Players must not ride on any form of transportation during a stipulated round unless authorised by Suffolk Golf Union.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF CONDITION: See Rules of Golf, page 160.

Note i: See also England Golf's Transportation Policy (www.englandgolf.org), which includes provisions for people with disabilities.

19. Dress Code

Players and caddies may wear standard golf apparel, including tailored shorts, unless otherwise specified in the host clubs rules for a particular Championship

20. Health and Safety

Suffolk Golf Union operates the England Golf's Health & Safety Policy for the benefit of competitors and spectators. Should there be any need First Aid or the Emergency Service, competitors should contact the Suffolk Golf Union Championship Desk which will be "control" for any such situation.

Under the Health & Safety Policy, if competitors or spectators require any assistance or witness any incident, they should report to the radio control operator at the Championship Desk. All Suffolk Golf Union referees, when on duty, have a radio through which such contact can be made.

Details of the nearest A&E can be obtained from the Championship Desk.

Players should familiarise themselves with emergency procedures and fire exits in the Clubhouse.

In the event of thunder and lightning, Suffolk Golf Union will signal a suspension of play for a dangerous situation with one long note of the klaxons. This is the signal for everyone to evacuate the course. People on the course are responsible for their own actions in such a dangerous situation. (See Championship notice board)

21. Liability

Neither the Club nor Suffolk Golf Union can be held responsible for the loss of or damage to, equipment or personal possessions.

22. Suffolk Golf Union / Championships' Policies, Procedures, Codes, etc.

All England Golf policies apply, as appropriate, to Suffolk Golf Union Championships. They include but are not limited to:

- Safeguarding Policy
- Equality Policy
- Transportation Policy (including provisions for people with disabilities)

- Anti-Doping Regulations
- Disciplinary Policy
- Gender Policy
- Photographic Policy

All relevant policies are available to be viewed at www.Englandgolf.org/championships

23. Photography Consent

By entering a Suffolk Golf Union event all players are consenting to being filmed or recorded (images and sound) by or on behalf of Suffolk Golf Union, or another authorised third party, and consent to these images (or likenesses) being used in any film, recording, photograph or other footage ("recording") in the promotion of Suffolk Golf Union activities. All rights in the recording shall be owned by Suffolk Golf Union or the authorised third party. Players agree that any recording may be used by Suffolk Golf Union or an authorised third party in any media and for any purpose throughout the world, including, without limitation, for promotional materials and activities, merchandise, or other commercial activities. Players acknowledge that no payment or compensation for use of their image or likeness shall be payable to them.

Please contact the Championship Secretary at platten.pd@gmail.com if you have any queries regarding this General Conditions.