

NAPGC 2025

TERMS OF COMPETITIONS



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Section 1 - General Competition Rules

1. Overview	
1.1	Competitions shall be organised and run as set out in these general rules and the specific rules and entry forms for each competition.
1.2	All play shall be in accordance with the Rules of Golf as laid down by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews, the Local Rules of the Club at which a competition is being played and any additional local rules or variations as stipulated by the NAPGC or its Competition Organisers.
1.3.	All competitors in events organised by the Association must be amateur in status and hold a valid WHS handicap index.
2. The Committee	
2.1	At all NAPGC Competitions there shall be a "Competition Committee", comprising NAPGC Board Members and duly appointed Committee Officials.
2.2	The term "Competition Organiser" used here in, or in the Rules and Conditions of any specific competition, relates to a person duly appointed by the NAPGC Board or Competitions Committee to organise that event.
2.3	The NAPGC is duly authorised to run competitions in accordance with WHS and all stroke play competitions where players return individual scores shall be counting for handicap purposes.
2.4	Any cases of dispute shall be referred to the Competition Organiser as soon as possible (this is important as any subsequent action by the Committee is dependent on the nature of the incident, timelines of reporting and whether the result has been announced).
2.5	In respect of any rule which requires the Committee in charge of the competition to act, a quorum shall be three and their decision will be final and binding on all parties.
3. Entry to Competitions and Fees	
3.1	Duly completed competition entry forms and fees should be submitted as directed on the website, by communications, or as set out in the entry form. This to be done before the published closing date.
3.2	Entry closing dates and entry fees shall be set by the Board of the Association or its Competition Committee and included on entry forms. All fees due must be received before the draw sheet issue date to confirm entry, otherwise club teams/players will be excluded.
3.3	Team and/or individual entries will not be accepted as received until any entry fee or playing fee due has been paid as set out in the entry form and through other communications.
3.4	There will be no refunds of team or individual entry fees after the entry closing date.

3.5	There will be no refunds of any playing fees after a start sheet has been issued.
3.6	Where events are over-subscribed, subject to availability and where appropriate, players or teams will be offered places at alternative venues.
3.7	A player must be a member of the Club they are representing and have their permission to enter or their entry will be void. Any entries inadvertently accepted will subsequently be voided and any team withdrawn and/or scores cancelled.
3.8	The Competition Committee reserves the right to alter or amend the conditions or dates of any competition or to reject any entry.
3.9	The NAPGC will endeavour to cover or subsidise green fees at national finals.
4. Player Requirements	
4.1	There is no upper or lower age limit for players, unless stated in the rules of a competition.
4.2	The word "Junior" shall refer to players who are aged Under 18 on the day of play. Junior players must produce completed parental consent forms when playing in any NAPGC Competition and be accompanied at the event by an adult who shall be responsible for them.
4.3	Within a competition year a player may not represent more than one club in team competitions or play for more than one team within a competition.
4.4	In all competitions, if it is subsequently discovered that a player has returned a score through playing off a handicap index higher than their entitlement, they and any team they are representing shall be liable to disqualification.
5. Regional events and National Finals	
5.1	For all competitions run by NAPGC officials, club officials, team captains or their representative players must provide in advance, player names, WHS/CDH numbers and other information as requested to the competition organiser in advance. The competition organiser will then verify against the WHS system.
5.2	On the day of any competition run by NAPGC officials, when booking in, team captains or players should confirm any changes to WHS handicap indexes.
5.3	If recent scores are not reflected on a player's WHS record, this must be reported to the Committee prior to play. Based on information provided an adjustment to handicap index will be considered in line with WHS guidance.
5.4	All score cards must be properly completed, signed off and promptly returned after play. At NAPGC organised events they shall be returned to the card return box or as otherwise directed by the Committee.
5.5	Local rules shall be advised to all players at NAPGC hosted events before play commences. They shall be reflective of the England Golf Hard Card and other specific course issues as required.
5.6	At NAPGC team finals, each team shall be permitted to appoint one person who may give advice to members of that team - in accordance with the Rules of Golf 24-4. The person shall be made known to the competition organiser in advance.
5.7	Spectators and supporters must not offer advice to players. At regional and national finals, they must not interfere with play or cause any group playing in the competition to be unduly delayed. They should where possible avoid walking along fairways and observe play from the side of holes only.
5.8	Any competitor, who during the course of a competition event, including between rounds, misbehaves by for example, swearing, throwing clubs, or vandalising the golf course or club house, or acts in any manner which might bring the name or the NAPGC into disrepute may be debarred from entering or taking part in any NAPGC competition for such period as the Competitions Committee may decide.
5.9	The competition committee shall direct which tees shall be used at NAPGC managed events.
6. Withdrawn Entries and No Shows	
6.1	If any competitor (individual or team) withdraws from an event after the draw has been published, fails to appear on the tee at or within five minutes of their appointed starting time, or having qualified to continue in an event fails to do so, must furnish to the NAPGC Competitions Committee an explanation, in writing, to the satisfaction of the Committee. If they do not do so they will be debarred from entering or taking part in any NAPGC event for such period as the Competitions Committee may decide. In such circumstances, the player (or a club in a team competition) will be required to reimburse the NAPGC for any monies the organisation has paid by way of green fee subsidy.
7. Equipment	
7.1	<u>Golf Balls:</u> The ball the player uses shall be named on the current list of conforming golf balls issued by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews.

7.2	<u>Mobile Phones:</u> While mobile phones (including pagers and similar devices) may be used as distance measuring devices, they should not be accessed on the course by players or caddies for making, sending or receiving calls or texts, except in cases of emergency.
7.3	<u>Caddies:</u> In all competitions except Junior events, players may use a caddie as defined in the Rules of Golf.
7.4	<u>Buggies:</u> The use of an on-course buggy if available or their own personal buggy is permitted in all NAPGC competitions unless precluded from doing so following a decision of the Course Management Authority.
8. Adverse Weather	
8.1	Bad weather alone is not enough reason for not playing a match and in general, if a course is open as agreed by the CMA, then play in any competition should commence as arranged. However, if a course is otherwise considered unplayable in line with the rules of golf, the competition organising committee shall make a ruling on delay, suspension, abandonment or reduction in holes to be played.
8.2	At individual championship events, if after starting it is not possible for all players to complete their stipulated round, and following suspension it is not possible to resume and finish, then that round shall be abandoned and rearranged. At two round events, if one of the rounds is abandoned the competition shall be determined over the 18 holes that are played.
8.3	At team pairs stableford regional and national finals, if weather conditions prevent completion of play, provided nine holes have been completed by all players, team aggregate scores will be computed on the basis of nine holes (with countback rules applying to that nine as necessary).
9. Resolution of Ties	
9.1	Unless otherwise specified in the rules of a competition, tied scores will be determined by way of countback over the last 9, 6, 3, or 1 as necessary.
9.2	In handicap stroke-play (medal) – the fractional system will be used. {ie. Gross back 9 less half of the playing handicap (unrounded) to calculate the net back 9. Then as necessary exactly one-third of handicap for the back 6, one-sixth for the back 3 and one-eighteenth for the back 1}.
9.3	In handicap stableford – the number of net points scored with shots taken as per the stroke index table.
9.4	Where this does not attract a winner joint winners or places will be announced.
9.5	In the knockout rounds of team events, countback shall be based on the aggregate of all cards for a team in line with the above. However, where this does not attract a winner, the tie shall be replayed and for single venue events home advantage shall switch to the other Club.
10. Closure of Competitions	
10.1	The result of a match is deemed to have been officially announced once it has been verified by an NAPGC official, recorded on an open results sheet and that sheet has been publicly displayed.
10.2	A stroke play competition is deemed to be closed at the commencement of a presentation ceremony. (This does not preclude corrections for administrative errors being made).
10.3	In the case of team knock out matches, it is closed when the individual scores for each game have been agreed, signed off by a representative of each team and reported to the competition organiser and accepted.
11. Prizes and Presentations	
11.1	Winners of trophies and/or prizes, both team and individual, who do not remain for a presentation which follows a competition will remain entitled to receive any trophy awarded but may forfeit their right to any prize that may be awarded.
11.2	The NAPGC Board will present any Player or Club that wins a competition on four consecutive occasions a trophy or memento marking the occasion, for them to retain (the Board will determine the choice of award).
11.3	The winning team or individual is responsible for the engraving and safe return of their trophy prior to the next playing of their event.
12. Miscellaneous Points of Clarification	
12.1	<u>Greensomes:</u> Is a variation of Foursomes where both players play from the teeing area and one of the two tee shots is selected. The partner whose tee shot is not selected then plays the next stroke and each subsequent stroke is made in alternating order until the ball is holed. Otherwise, the Foursomes rules of golf apply. A side cannot commence play if both players are not present.
12.2	<u>Provisional tee shots in greensomes:</u> While both players are permitted to initially tee off in greensomes, where both tee shots may be lost or out of bounds, only one of the players is permitted to play a provisional tee shot which becomes the ball in play should both the original balls be lost or out of bounds. This is because the provisional ball would be the third shot of the hole, and two shots are only allowed for the first shot.

12.3	<u>Mixed greensomes:</u> From the tee, if the man elects to play the provisional it shall be from the women's tee and where the woman elects to play the shot it shall be from the men's tee (this similarly applies where a player has to return to the tee because a provisional has not been played).
12.4	<u>Trolley and buggy bans:</u> If a buggy or trolley ban is in operation, games and matches should still be played as arranged unless the rules prevent the use of caddies. It is therefore recommended that players and clubs have contingency arrangements in place for those unable to carry his/her own clubs in such circumstances.

Section 2 – Knock Out Specific Rules

1. Competition Draw	
Initial KO Draw:	In knock out events each team will be placed in one of the national areas with a maximum of 16 teams in any area. Every effort will be made to minimise excessive travelling.
Regional play offs:	Where required area winners will be drawn into national semi-finals, which shall be played on neutral courses, mid-point between each club. In the event of teams being unable to agree a neutral venue this will be determined by the Competition Organiser. The winners of these events shall meet in the national final which will be played on a neutral course usually in September/October.
Home advantage:	Where matches are to be played on a home or away basis, the first named team in each match shall have home advantage in the first round. In subsequent rounds the team which has played the most games away shall have home advantage, if this is equal then home advantage will remain with the first named team (this will be confirmed by the Competition Organiser before each round).
Loss of advantage:	In single venue events, where contact to offer dates has not been made by the contact by date, the away team can make contact offer dates and claim home advantage.
Match Deadlines:	Teams will normally be withdrawn from competitions if they fail to play a match by the date designated on the official draw sheet. The Competition Committee may reinstate teams if they believe there are extenuating circumstances.
Deadline extensions:	Extensions will only be considered in exceptional circumstances: such as inclement weather causing course closure on the last day of the round or a match having to be replayed.
2. Arranging Matches	
Team Captains:	For each event entered, Clubs shall be responsible for providing the names and contact details of those persons nominated as 'Team Captains'. In the knock-out stages of team series events, the team captain for each Club shall jointly be responsible for arranging matches. Any difficulty in arranging matches should be reported to the competition organiser as early as possible.
Arranging matches:	Underpinning this the Captain of the first named team drawn to play another, or the home team in single venue events, shall offer the opposing team three dates, weekend or bank holiday, on which to play the match. Of these dates, at least one shall be a Saturday and one a Sunday. The opposing team must then respond to the dates offered within five days. To facilitate tee booking, at least seven days match notice should be given.
Splitting play dates:	Whilst it is expected that the home and away legs of matches will be arranged to be played on the same day at both venues, matches may be played on different days and tee times may vary at each venue.
Days for matches	Unless otherwise specified (or agreed), matches should be arranged and played on Weekends and Bank Holidays.
NAPGC date clash:	Unless otherwise agreed between the two clubs, no matches in the team series competitions may be played on days when there are NAPGC regional or national finals being played.
Green fees:	For knockout matches and matches involving more than one team, played at a single venue, each club shall be responsible for its own green fees. Nb. Under the rules of Amateur Status, in team matches a player may be reimbursed costs for green fees, travel, accommodation and subsistence.
Finalising matches:	Team captains are responsible for finalising and agreeing match details, including tee times and food arrangements. For matches played on a home and away basis, the home club will be responsible for paying the green fees of the away team.
Slope details:	Once matches have been agreed the home team captain is responsible for informing the away team of the slope index relevant to the tee from which matches are to be played.
3. Playing Matches	

Initial KO Draw:	Team captains will be responsible for confirming the handicap index of their players. These shall be as recorded on score cards and as shown and signed for on the team result sheet (printed certificates will not be required).
Handicap verification:	Handicap index should be done through the WHS portal, England Golf app or by observation of a Club's published handicap list. Issues or queries arising should be raised and clarified with the opposing side prior to play.
Team sheet:	Team sheets and the playing order in matches should be exchanged at least 15 minutes before play commences.
Tees:	All play shall be from the competition tees of the course unless specifically otherwise allowed within the rules of a competition (or as otherwise directed by the NAPGC). In mixed events, players shall commence play from the tee relevant to their gender.
Local rules:	The home team captain is responsible for informing the away team of any local rules and any essential course or venue information.
Start time penalty in stableford events:	Unless there are extenuating circumstances, where a team or pair is not ready to commence play within five minutes of their agreed start time, they shall be disqualified. In these circumstances, they shall be awarded zero points and the pair drawn to play them shall be awarded twenty points.
Results:	Team captains are responsible for agreeing results and the winning team captain for ensuring match results are reported to the competition organiser on the day the match is played. They are also responsible for ensuring the full details as required on the match result sheet are sent within 48 hours of the match being played. This must include the names of all players for both sides.
Ties:	In the event of a match tie in the aggregate stableford points totals, countback shall be over the last 9, 6, 3, or 1 hole as necessary, based on the aggregate of all cards for a team. However, where this does not attract a winner, the tie shall be replayed and for single venue events home advantage shall switch to the other Club.
4. Adverse Weather	
Course fit to play:	Bad weather alone is not enough reason for not playing a match and in general, if a course is open as agreed by the CMA, then play in any competition should commence as arranged. However, if a course is otherwise considered unplayable in line with the rules of golf, or becomes unplayable (such as flooded holes), then the facts should be reported to the competition organiser for a ruling.
Play abandoned:	Where it is not possible for all players in a competition to complete their stipulated round at a venue, then that round or leg of a match (for that venue) shall be abandoned and rearranged.

Section 3 – NAPGC Championships

TEAM SERIES EVENTS

Men's Team Greensomes – Clapham Common Shield and Ellis Cup	
Format:	Men's team aggregate greensomes event with twelve players playing as six pairs, in club v club knock out followed by a national final. Teams will initially compete on a regional basis, with three pairs at home and three away. Clubs may enter as many teams as they wish.
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted through January and February with the knock-out draws issued before the end of March. Knock out rounds arranged between clubs take place from April until August and the national final in early September.
Scoring:	A team's score shall be the aggregate of the six pairs stableford points over 18 holes. The team with the highest aggregate points total shall progress to the next round. Area winners will be invited to the national final where all pairs will compete at a single venue.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index limit of 18.0 (players with higher handicaps may play but handicap indexes will be capped).
Allowance:	Playing handicaps for each pair shall be calculated as; lower course handicap x 0.6, plus the higher course handicap x 0.4. After adding the unrounded figures, the aggregate figure is rounded to provide the playing handicap.
Fees and costs:	The team entry fee shall be £30. Teams qualifying for the national final may additionally be asked to contribute up to £10 per player (£120) towards the heavily subsidised green fee.

Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: The winning club shall be awarded the Clapham Common Shield and individual prizes. The runners up will receive the Ellis Cup and individual prizes.
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Men's High Handicap Better Ball Stableford - Siemens Bowl	
Format:	Men's team aggregate better ball event with eight players playing as four pairs, in club v club knock out followed by a national final. Teams will initially compete on a regional basis, with two pairs at home and two away. Clubs may enter as many teams as they wish.
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted through January and February with the knock-out draws issued before the end of March. Knock out rounds arranged between clubs take place from April until August and the national final in early September.
Scoring:	A team's score shall be the aggregate of the four pairs stableford points over 18 holes. The team with the highest aggregate points total shall progress to the next round. Area winners will be invited to the national final where all pairs will compete at a single venue.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index limit of 28.0 (players with higher handicaps may play but handicap indexes will be capped) and a minimum limit of 16.0. At least four of the eight players must have a handicap index of at least 19.0. Players may be paired together in any combination. Teams should be selected to maintain this balance as far as is possible. However, if a player's handicap is reduced after they have legitimately played off a higher handicap index in a previous round, they can continue to be eligible to play. This is true even if the team handicap balance is not met, or the handicap of an individual has reduced below 16.0. If this does occur team arrangements should be agreed and approved by the Competition Organiser in advance of play.
Allowance:	Individual handicaps shall be 85% of the unrounded course handicap, which is then rounded to provide the playing handicap.
Fees and costs:	The team entry fee shall be £30. Teams qualifying for the national final may additionally be asked to contribute up to £10 per player (£80) towards the heavily subsidised green fee.
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: The winning club shall be awarded the Siemens Bowl and individual prizes. The runners up shall also receive individual prizes.

Men's Better Ball Match Play – Ballantyne Trophy	
Format:	Men's better ball team match play event, with six players playing as three pairs, in club v club knock out followed by a national final. Teams will initially compete on a regional basis, with teams playing at a single venue home or away (dependent on the draw). Clubs may enter as many teams as they wish.
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted through January and February with the knock-out draws issued before the end of March. Knock out rounds arranged between clubs take place from April until August and the national final in early September.
Scoring:	There shall be three games within a match with play over 18 holes, or less if a side is more holes ahead than holes remain. A point will be awarded to the winners of each game and half a point for a tie. If a match is tied at one and a half points each, the first tied match (based on tee off order) shall play a sudden death playoff from the first tee. The team winning the most games (or play off) in a match shall progress to the next round. Area winners will be drawn into national semi-finals, which shall be played on a neutral course. The last two teams will compete at the national final.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index limit of 20.0 (players with higher handicaps may play but handicap indexes will be capped). Individual playing handicaps will be rounded course handicaps.
Allowance:	Having established course handicaps, the lowest player in each game will play off zero, with all other players receiving 90% of the difference in course handicaps from this player. All strokes to be taken as per the stroke index table.
Fees and costs:	The team entry fee shall be £30. Teams qualifying for the national final may additionally be asked to contribute up to £10 per player (£60) towards the heavily subsidised green fee.
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: The winning club shall be awarded the Ballantyne Trophy and individual prizes. The runners up shall also receive individual prizes.

Men's Better Ball Match Play Trophy – Top Rock Salver
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Format:	Men's better ball match play event, with two players playing as a pair, in club v club knock out followed by a national final. Teams will initially compete on a regional basis, with teams playing at a single venue home or away (dependent on the draw). Clubs may enter as many teams as they wish. <i>(This is a weekday event unless both parties otherwise agree).</i>
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted through January and February with the knock-out draws issued before the end of March. Knock out rounds arranged between clubs take place from April until August and the national final in early September.
Scoring:	Play shall be over 18 holes, or less if a side is more holes ahead than holes remain. If a match is tied play shall continue, on a sudden death playoff basis, from the first tee. The team winning shall progress to the next round. Area winners will be drawn into national semi-finals, which shall be played on a neutral course. The last two teams will compete at the national final.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index limit of 24.0 (players with higher handicaps may play, but handicap indexes will be capped). Individual playing handicaps will be rounded course handicaps.
Allowance:	Having established course handicaps, the lowest player will play off zero, with all other players receiving 90% of the difference in course handicaps from this player. All strokes to be taken as per the stroke index table.
Fees and costs:	The team entry fee shall be £20. Green fees for the national final shall be paid in full by the NAPGC.
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: The winning club shall be awarded the Top Rock Salver and individual prizes. The runners up shall also receive individual prizes.

Senior Men's Team Greensomes – Mitchell-Thomson Trophy (55+)

Format:	Men's team aggregate greensomes event with eight players, aged 55+ on 1 Jan of current year, playing as four pairs. Teams will compete in area events against teams from other clubs, followed by a national final. Clubs may enter as many teams as they wish. However, clubs are not permitted to play at their home course.
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted through January and February with the area draws issued before the end of March and played in mid-July on a weekday. The national final is on a weekday in early September.
Scoring:	A team's score shall be the aggregate of the four pairs stableford points over 18 holes. The team with the highest aggregate points total, at each area event, shall progress to the national final where all pairs will again compete at a single venue.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index limit of 24.0 (players with higher handicaps may play but handicap indexes will be capped).
Allowance:	Playing handicaps for each pair shall be calculated as; lower course handicap x 0.6, plus the higher course handicap x 0.4. After adding the unrounded figures, the aggregate figure is rounded to provide the playing handicap.
Fees and costs:	The initial team entry fee shall be £30. Teams will also be required to pay a playing fee to cover the green fee/running costs of area events. Teams qualifying for the national final may additionally be asked to contribute up to £10 per player (£80) towards the heavily subsidised green fee.
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: The winning club shall be awarded the Mitchell-Thomson Trophy and individual prizes. The runners up shall also receive individual prizes.

Women's Better Ball - Match Play Trophy

Format:	Women's better ball match play event, with two players playing as a pair, in club v club knock out followed by a national final. Teams will initially compete on a regional basis, with teams playing at a single venue home or away (dependent on the draw). Clubs may enter as many teams as they wish.
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted through January and February with the knock-out draws issued before the end of March. Knock out rounds arranged between clubs take place from April until August and the national final in early September.
Scoring:	Play shall be over 18 holes, or less if a side is more holes ahead than holes remain. If a match is tied play shall continue, on a sudden death playoff basis, from the first tee. The team winning shall progress to the next round.

	Area winners will be drawn into national semi-finals, which shall be played on a neutral course. The last two teams will compete at the national final.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index limit of 30.0 (players with higher handicaps may play, but handicap indexes will be capped). Individual playing handicaps will be rounded course handicaps.
Allowance:	Having established course handicaps, the lowest player will play off zero, with all other players receiving 90% of the difference in course handicaps from this player. All strokes to be taken as per the stroke index table.
Fees and costs:	The team entry fee shall be £20. Green fees for the national final shall be paid in full by the NAPGC.
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: The winning club shall be awarded the Match Play Trophy and individual prizes. The runners up shall also receive individual prizes.

Women's Better Ball Team Stableford – Whitewebbs Trophy	
Format:	Women's team aggregate better ball event with four players playing as two pairs, in club v club knock out followed by a national final. Teams will initially compete on a regional basis, at a single venue home or away (dependent on the draw). Clubs may enter as many teams as they wish.
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted through January and February with the knock-out draws issued before the end of March. Knock out rounds arranged between clubs take place from April until August and the national final in early September.
Scoring:	A team's score shall be the aggregate of the two pairs stableford points over 18 holes. The team with the highest aggregate points total shall progress to the next round. Area winners will be invited to the national final where all pairs will compete at a single venue.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index limit of 30.0 (players with higher handicaps may play, but handicap indexes will be capped).
Allowance:	Individual handicaps shall be 85% of the unrounded course handicap, which is then rounded to provide the playing handicap.
Fees and costs:	The team entry fee shall be £30. Teams qualifying for the national final may additionally be asked to contribute up to £10 per player (£40) towards the heavily subsidised green fee.
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: The winning club shall be awarded the White Webbs Trophy and individual prizes. The runners up shall also receive individual prizes.

Women's Greensomes Match Play – Top Rock Bowl	
Format:	Women's greensomes match play event, with two players playing as a pair, in club v club knock out followed by a national final. Teams will initially compete on a regional basis, with teams playing at a single venue home or away (dependent on the draw). Clubs may enter as many teams as they wish. <i>(This is a weekday event unless both parties otherwise agree).</i>
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted through January and February with the knock-out draws issued before the end of March. Knock out rounds arranged between clubs take place from April until August and the national final in early September.
Scoring:	Play shall be over 18 holes, or less if a side is more holes ahead than holes remain. If a match is tied play shall continue, on a sudden death playoff basis, from the first tee. The team winning shall progress to the next round. Area winners will be drawn into national semi-finals, which shall be played on a neutral course. The last two teams will compete at the national final.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index limit of 36.0 (players with higher handicaps may enter but indexes will be capped). Playing handicaps for each pair shall be calculated as; lower course handicap x 0.6, plus the higher course handicap x 0.4. After adding the unrounded figures, the aggregate figure is rounded to provide the playing handicap.
Allowance:	Having established playing handicaps, the pair with the lowest playing handicap shall concede the full difference in handicaps to the other pair. All strokes to be taken as per the stroke index table.
Fees and costs:	The team entry fee shall be £20. Green fees for the national final shall be paid in full by the NAPGC.
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: The winning club shall be awarded the Top Rock Bowl and individual prizes. The runners up shall also receive individual prizes.

Mixed Team Greensomes – Hawtree Trophy	
Format:	Mixed team aggregate greensomes event with eight players, four men and four women, playing as four mixed pairs, in club v club knock out followed by a national final. Teams will initially compete on a regional basis, with two pairs at home and two away. Clubs may enter as many teams as they wish.
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted through January and February with the knock-out draws issued before the end of March. Knock out rounds arranged between clubs take place from April until August and the national final in early September.
Scoring:	A team's score shall be the aggregate of the four pairs stableford points over 18 holes. The team with the highest aggregate points total shall progress to the next round. Area winners will be invited to the national final where all pairs will compete at a single venue. The women's score card for par and stroke index should be used to compute stableford points.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index limit of 18.0 for men and 30.0 for women (players with higher handicaps may play but handicap indexes will be capped).
Allowance:	Playing handicaps for each pair shall be calculated as; lower course handicap x 0.6, plus the higher course handicap x 0.4. After adding the unrounded figures, the aggregate figure is rounded to provide the playing handicap. Tee adjustments shall also be applied to handicaps.
Fees and costs:	The team entry fee shall be £30. Teams qualifying for the national final may additionally be asked to contribute up to £10 per player (£80) towards the heavily subsidised green fee.
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: The winning club shall be awarded the Hawtree Trophy and individual prizes. The runners up will receive individual prizes.

MENS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Men's Team Stroke Play Championship – Bourne Vanneck Cup and Shield	
Format:	Men's team aggregate stroke play event, gross and net, with three players playing as individuals in an area event followed by a national final. Clubs may enter as many teams as they wish at each of the area venues, and all teams will be competing in both the gross (cup) and net (shield) events. In the event of entries exceeding 20 teams at any area event, a ballot may take place with teams offered places at alternative venues if necessary.
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted through February and March with the area draws issued before the end of April for play at the end of May/start of June. Qualifiers for the national final are confirmed by mid-June and the final is played in mid-July.
Scoring:	A team's score shall be the aggregate of the three players stroke play scores over 18 holes. Scores will be calculated on both a gross and net basis. The top placed teams at each event (best gross and then net aggregate) will progress to the national final. Additional qualifiers shall be dependent on entries and pro-rata to entries across the area events.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index limit of 18.0 (players with higher handicaps may play but handicap indexes will be capped).
Allowance:	Individual handicaps shall be 95% of the unrounded course handicap, which is then rounded to provide the playing handicap.
Fees and costs:	The initial team entry fee shall be £30. Teams will also be required to pay a playing fee to cover the green fee/running costs of area events. Teams qualifying for the national final may additionally be asked to contribute up to £25 per player (£75) towards the green fee (which shall be subsidised).
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final in the following order: best team gross Bourne Vanneck Cup with individual prizes; best team net Bourne Vanneck Shield and individual prizes; gross team runner up individual prizes and net team runner up individual prizes. Individual best score prizes will also be awarded. The gross champion club shall be invited to represent the NAPGC in the EG County Champions event. The defending champions gross and net shall be invited directly to the following year's final (subject to payment of the competition entry fee).

Men's Stroke Play Championship of England	
Format:	Men's individual stroke play event, gross and net, with players competing as individuals in a club qualifier and then area events and a national final. Clubs entering may hold a qualifying round

	before the end of May, which may be held in conjunction with another club competition stroke play round.
Timeline:	Clubs complete a qualifying round and return results by the end of May. Area qualifiers are confirmed at the start of June and events played at the end of June/ start of July. Qualifiers for the national final are confirmed by mid-July and the final is played in mid-August.
Scoring:	Singles gross and net stroke play championship over 18 holes. Subject to entries, the players with the best overall net and gross scores from club qualification and divisional winners, along with the club's gross and net champions, progress to one of the area finals (additional qualification spaces will be dependent on numbers of entries). From the area finals players can qualify to compete in the national final.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index of 28.0 (players with higher handicap indexes can enter but will have their index capped). There are four handicap divisions: Division 1 - handicap index 4.0 and below; Division 2 – 4.1 to 12.0; Division 3 – 12.1 to 20.0; Division 4 – 20.1 to 28.0.
Allowance:	Individual handicaps shall be 95% of the unrounded course handicap, which is then rounded to provide the playing handicap.
Fees and costs:	The initial club level entry fee shall be £4 per player. Players will also be required to pay a playing fee to cover the green fee/running costs of area events. Those qualifying for the national final may additionally be asked to contribute up to £25 towards the green fee (which shall be heavily subsidised).
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: Best gross score (limited to players with a 9.9 or lower HI) - J H Taylor Shield; Championship Trophy – Best net score; Piccadilly trophies – Best remaining net scores in each division; second and third place divisional net prizes (subject to entries). The overall gross and net champions will be granted direct entry to the following year's championship final to defend their titles, subject to still being playing members of a club affiliated to the NAPGC.

Men's Stroke Play Scratch Championship	
Format:	Men's individual gross stroke play event. Eligible players can enter directly to the final. In the event of entries exceeding 21, players will be balloted out on handicap index at time of the draw.
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted from April until early July and entries for the final are confirmed by mid-July. The final is played in mid-August.
Scoring:	Singles gross stroke play championship over 36 holes. Play is over two consecutive days, 18 holes each day with the gross score combined.
Handicaps:	Players must hold a handicap index of 9.0 or lower at time of entry.
Allowance:	There is no allowance, all play is off scratch.
Fees and costs:	The entry fee shall be £100 to cover entry fees and green fees. Players qualifying for the men's championship will not be required to additionally pay the final fee for that event. (The green fees for this flagship event are heavily subsidised).
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: Best Gross Score – Scratch Trophy; Regional Trophies - Best remaining gross scores from Southern, Midlands and Northern region clubs; further prizes will be dependent on entries and at the discretion of the Competition Organiser. The scratch champion shall be invited to represent the NAPGC in the EG County Champion of Champions.

WOMENS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Women's Stroke Play Championship of England	
Format:	Women's individual stroke play event, gross and net, with players competing as individuals in a club qualifier and then a national final. Clubs entering may hold a qualifying round before the end of May, which may be held in conjunction with another club competition stroke play round.
Timeline:	Clubs complete a qualifying round and return results by the end of May. National finalists are confirmed by the end of June and the final is played at the end of July.
Scoring:	Singles gross and net stroke play championship over 18 holes.

	Subject to entries, the players with the best overall net and gross scores from club qualification and divisional winners, along with the club's gross and net champions, progress to the national final (additional qualification spaces will be dependent on numbers of entries).
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index of 36.0 (players with higher handicap indexes can enter but will have their index capped). There are two handicap divisions: Division 1 handicap index 18.0 and below; and Division 2 handicap index 18.1 and above.
Allowance:	Individual handicaps shall be 95% of the unrounded course handicap, which is then rounded to provide the playing handicap.
Fees and costs:	The initial club level entry fee shall be £4 per player. Those qualifying for the national final will additionally be asked to contribute up to £25 towards the green fee (which shall be subsidised).
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: Division 1 – Best gross, best nett, best remaining gross, best remaining nett; Division 2 – Best nett, second best nett; further prizes will be dependent on entries and at the discretion of the competition organiser. The divisional trophy winners will be granted direct entry to the following year's championship final to defend their titles, subject to still being playing members of a club affiliated to the NAPGC. The Division 1 gross champion shall be invited to represent the NAPGC in the EG County Champion of Champions.

Women's Team Stroke Play Championship – JHB Cup and Shield

Format:	Women's team aggregate stroke play event, gross and net, with three players playing as individuals. Entry is direct to a national final. Clubs may enter as many teams as they wish, and all teams will be competing in both the gross (cup) and net (shield) events. However, if there are more than twenty teams, each club shall be awarded one place with any remaining places decided by way of ballot.
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted from February until mid-April with entries for the national final confirmed by the end of April. The national final shall be played in late July.
Scoring:	A team's score shall be the aggregate of the three players stroke play scores over 18 holes. Scores will be calculated on both a gross and net basis.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index limit of 30.0 (players with higher handicaps may play but handicap indexes will be capped).
Allowance:	Individual handicaps shall be 95% of the unrounded course handicap, which is then rounded to provide the playing handicap.
Fees and costs:	The initial team entry fee shall be £30. Teams will also be required to contribute towards the national final costs of up to £25 (£75 per team) which is towards the green fee (which shall be subsidised).
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final in the following order: best team gross JHB Cup and individual prizes; best team net JHB Shield and individual prizes; runner up gross individual prizes; and runner up net individual prizes.

SENIORS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Senior Men's Stableford Championship of England (55+)

Format:	Senior men's individual stableford event, gross and net, plus net pairs team event for those aged 55+ (on or before 1 January of the current year), with direct entry to national final. Entries will be capped at 72 players on a first come basis.
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted from April until early July and entries for the final are confirmed by mid-July. The final is played in mid-August.
Scoring:	Singles gross and net stableford championship over 18 holes. The team event shall comprise two players, from the same club, with their team score the aggregate of their individual stableford points.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index of 36.0 (players with higher handicap indexes can enter but will have their index capped).
Allowance:	Individual handicaps shall be 95% of the unrounded course handicap, which is then rounded to provide the playing handicap.
Fees and costs:	The entry fee shall be £30 to cover entry fees and green fees (which shall be subsidised).

Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes shall be awarded as follows: Seniors Gross Trophy; Riley Trophy (best net); over 70s Dave Saveall Shield; additional net placings at the discretion of the competition organiser. The net team trophy, the Burdett Trophy, and prize shall be additionally awarded. The gross champion shall be invited to represent the NAPGC in the EG County Champion of Champions.
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Senior Women's Stableford Championship of England (50+)	
Format:	Senior women's individual stableford event, gross and net, plus net pairs team event for those aged 50+ (on or before 1 January of the current year), with direct entry to national final. Entries will be capped at 30 players on a first come basis.
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted from April until early July and entries for the final are confirmed by mid-July. The final is played in mid-August.
Scoring:	Singles gross and net stableford championship over 18 holes. The team event shall comprise two players, from the same club, with their team score the aggregate of their individual stableford points.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index of 44.0 (players with higher handicap indexes can enter but will have their index capped).
Allowance:	Individual handicaps shall be 95% of the unrounded course handicap, which is then rounded to provide the playing handicap.
Fees and costs:	The entry fee shall be £30 to cover entry fees and green fees (which shall be subsidised).
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes shall be awarded as follows: Seniors Gross Trophy; Barbara Rainey Bowl (best net); additional net placings at the discretion of the Competition Organiser. The net team trophy, the Reg Pugh Shield, and prize shall be additionally awarded. The gross champion shall be invited to represent the NAPGC in the EG County Champion of Champions.

UK CHAMPIONSHIPS

Men's Stableford UKPCC Championship	
Format:	Men's individual stableford event, net and gross, with players competing as individuals in a club qualifier and then area events and a national final. Clubs entering may hold a qualifying round before the end of May, which may be held in conjunction with another club competition stableford round. <i>(Special qualifying arrangements will apply in parts of the UK not covered by regional events).</i>
Timeline:	Clubs complete a qualifying round and return results by the end of May. Area qualifiers are confirmed at the start of June and events played during June and July. Qualifiers for the national final are confirmed by late-July and the final is played in September or early October.
Scoring:	Singles net and gross stableford championship over 18 holes. Subject to entries, the players with the best overall net and gross scores from club qualification and divisional winners, progress to one of the area finals. Additional qualification spaces will be dependent on numbers of entries. From the area finals players can qualify to compete in the national final.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index of 36.0 (players with higher handicap indexes can enter but will have their index capped). There are three men's handicap divisions: Division 1 – handicap index 9.0 and below; Division 2 – 9.1 to 16.0; and Division 3 – 16.1-36.0.
Allowance:	Individual handicaps shall be 95% of the unrounded course handicap, which is then rounded to provide the playing handicap.
Fees and costs:	The initial club level entry fee shall be £4 per player. Players will also be required to pay a playing fee to cover the green fee/running costs of area events. Those qualifying for the national final may additionally be asked to contribute up to £25 towards the green fee (which shall be heavily subsidised).
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: Overall National Champion Net; Overall National Champion Gross; Divisional Winners; Divisional net placings at the discretion of the Competition Organiser. The net and gross champions will be granted direct entry to the following year's championship final in order to defend their titles, subject to still being playing members of a public or proprietary club.

Women's Stableford UKPCC Championship	
Format:	Women's individual stableford event, net and gross, with players competing as individuals in a club qualifier and then area events and a national final. Clubs entering may hold a qualifying round before the end of May, which may be held in conjunction with another club competition stableford round. <i>(Special qualifying arrangements will apply in parts of the UK not covered by regional events).</i>
Timeline:	Clubs complete a qualifying round and return results by the end of May. Area qualifiers are confirmed at the start of June and events played during June and July. Qualifiers for the national final are confirmed by late-July and the final is played in September or early October.
Scoring:	Singles net and gross stableford championship over 18 holes. Subject to entries, the players with the best overall net and gross scores from club qualification and divisional winners, progress to one of the area finals. Additional qualification spaces will be dependent on numbers of entries. From the area finals players can qualify to compete in the national final.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index of 40.0 (players with higher handicap indexes can enter but will have their index capped). There are two women's handicap divisions: Division 1 – handicap index 18.0 and below; and Division 2 – handicap index 18.1 and above.
Allowance:	Individual handicaps shall be 95% of the unrounded course handicap, which is then rounded to provide the playing handicap.
Fees and costs:	The initial club level entry fee shall be £4 per player. Players will also be required to pay a playing fee to cover the green fee/running costs of area events. Those qualifying for the national final may additionally be asked to contribute up to £25 towards the green fee (which shall be heavily subsidised).
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: Overall National Champion Net; Overall National Champion Gross; Divisional Winners; Divisional net placings at the discretion of the Competition Organiser. The net and gross champions will be granted direct entry to the following year's championship final in order to defend their titles, subject to still being playing members of a public or proprietary club.

WINTER CHAMPIONSHIP

Men's Winter Team Aggregate – Gordon Forster Bowl	
Format:	Men's team aggregate stableford event, with four players playing as individuals in club v club knock out followed by a national final. Teams will initially compete on an area basis, with two players at home and two away (playing in a four ball). Clubs may enter as many teams as they wish.
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted through October and into November with the area draws issued before the end of November. Knock out rounds arranged between clubs take place from December until mid-April and the national final in late April.
Scoring:	A team's score shall be the aggregate of the four players stableford points over 18 holes. The team with the highest aggregate points total shall progress to the next round. Area winners will be invited to the national final where all pairs will compete at a single venue.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index limit of 24.0 (players with higher handicaps may play but handicap indexes will be capped).
Allowance:	Individual handicaps shall be 95% of the unrounded course handicap, which is then rounded to provide the playing handicap. Nb. Players from the same team when playing individually are not partners and in accordance with Rule 10.2a of the Rules of Golf. They may not therefore give or ask for advice from another team member.
Fees and costs:	The initial team entry fee shall be £25. Teams qualifying for the national final may additionally be asked to contribute up to £25 per player (£100) towards the green fee (which shall be subsidised).
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: The winning club shall be awarded the Gordon Forster Bowl and individual prizes. The runners up shall also receive individual prizes.

Women's Winter Team Aggregate – Mary Forster Bowl	
Format:	Women's team aggregate stableford event, with three players playing as individuals in club v club knock out followed by a national final. Teams will initially compete on a round robin basis, with each club in an area hosting one qualifying round with all teams playing together at each venue
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted through October and into November with the area draws issued before the end of November. Knock out rounds arranged between clubs take place from December until mid-April and the national final in late April.
Scoring:	A team's score shall be the aggregate of the three players stableford points over 18 holes, from each of the qualifying rounds The area winners (most stableford points) will progress to the national final where all players will play at a single venue.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index limit of 36.0 (players with higher handicaps may play but handicap indexes will be capped).
Allowance:	Individual handicaps shall be 95% of the unrounded course handicap, which is then rounded to provide the playing handicap. Nb. Players from the same team when playing individually are not partners and in accordance with Rule 10.2a of the Rules of Golf. They may not therefore give or ask for advice from another team member.
Fees and costs:	The initial team entry fee shall be £25. Teams qualifying for the national final may additionally be asked to contribute up to £25 per player (£75) towards the green fee (which shall be subsidised).
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the national final as follows: The winning club shall be awarded the Mary Forster Bowl and individual prizes. The runners up shall also receive individual prizes.

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Junior Public Course Championship of England	
Format:	Boys and Girls individual stroke play event, gross and net, plus net three player team event for those aged under 18 (on 31 December of the previous year). Entries will be capped at 72 players on a first come basis.
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted from through April and May with entries confirmed in June. The final is played in June/July.
Scoring:	Singles gross and net stableford championship over 18 holes. The team event shall comprise three players, from the same club, with their team score the aggregate of their individual net stroke play scores.
Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index of 28.0 for boys and 36.0 for girls for the main trophies and prizes. Players with higher handicaps can still enter and will be placed in a separate prize division.
Allowance:	Individual handicaps shall be 95% of the unrounded course handicap, which is then rounded to provide the playing handicap.
Fees and costs:	There is no entry fee, this event is subsidised in full by the NAPGC.
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes shall be awarded as follows: Championship Sword awarded to the best gross score; Pegrum Cup awarded to the best nett score. Divisional Prizes (one prize only per person). The boy and girl gross champions and the net team winners shall be invited to represent the NAPGC in the EG County Champion of Champions events.

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

NAPGC Open Championship of England	
Format:	Individual stableford event open to men and women, gross and net, with direct entry to the national final. Members of public and proprietary golf clubs and courses and i-golfers can enter this competition. Entries will be capped at 100 players on a first come basis.
Timeline:	Competition entries are accepted from January until April. The championship shall be played at the end of May.
Scoring:	Singles gross and net stableford championship over 18 holes.

Handicaps:	There is a maximum handicap index of 36.0 (players with higher handicap indexes can enter but will have their index capped).
Allowance:	Individual handicaps shall be 95% of the unrounded course handicap, which is then rounded to provide the playing handicap.
Fees and costs:	The entry fee shall be £40 in total, which includes entry fees, green fees, food and prizes. (tee times will run from 7am-9am with a two tee start)
Trophies and prizes:	Trophies and prizes shall be awarded for the best gross and net scores for men and women. Additional prizes will be at the discretion of the competition organiser dependent on entries.
Special note:	<i>It is anticipated that tee times will run from 7am-9am with a two tee start. Price includes a roll and drink available prior to play and a meal after play.</i>