

NAPGC COMPETITIONS 2026



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.
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 before the deadline to firm date, the away team can make contact offer dates and claim home advantage.
Area finals and play offs:	In single venue events area finals and any subsequent national semi-finals, 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. (In events where teams have players playing at home and away, clubs can continue to do so or agree to play at a neutral venue). The national finals shall be played on a neutral course in September/October.
Match Deadlines:	Teams will normally be withdrawn from competitions if they fail to play a match by the date designated on the official draw sheet.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 as soon as the opposition is known, offer dates to play the match (teams must be available to play on a Saturday or Sunday). The opposing team must respond to the dates offered and negotiate as required to firm a play date by the arrange by deadline. Any difficulties should be immediately reported to the competition organiser within two days of the arrange by date.
Splitting play dates:	Whilst it is expected that the home and away legs of matches will be arranged to be played on the same time and day at both venues, times and/or days may be different by agreement.
Days for matches	Unless otherwise specified (or agreed), matches should be arranged and played on Weekends and Bank Holidays. Competitions designated as midweek in their rules should be played on weekdays, though weekends can be used by agreement of both sides.
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 team series matches, played on a home and away basis, the home club will be responsible for paying the green fees of the away team. For knockout matches played at a single venue and matches involving more than two teams, 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. Any difficulties should be reported to the competition organiser.
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	

Handicaps in team series matches:	Team captains will be responsible for confirming the handicap index of their players. Captains will be jointly responsible for agreeing playing handicaps which should be recorded on score cards and team result sheet (printed certificates will not be required). Any unresolved queries or disputes should be reported to the competition organiser before the result is finalised.
Handicap verification:	Handicap indexes can be checked 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:	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. In match play that game shall be awarded to the other team. Nb. In better ball stableford and match play events, a team can commence at the starting time provided one of the players is present and the other player can join the match when they arrive.
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. For tied 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.