



Promoting Amateur Golf in Yorkshire

YUGC County Members Meetings General Terms of Competition, Competition Rules & Order of Merit

The following General Terms of Competition, together with any additions or amendments published by YUGC COUNTY MEMBERS MEETINGS at the host golf course, will apply to all County Members Meetings, and should be read in conjunction with any specific Terms of the Competition of each individual competition.

1. Format of Competition

A Four Ball Stableford Competition from Yellow tees

2. Order of Merit

An 'Order of Merit' competition will take place throughout the season, alongside the main competitions, starting with the first YUGC County Members Spring Meeting and finishing with the last County Members Autumn Meeting. Points will be awarded based on a pairing's placing in all specified competitions. The overall winners of the OOM are the pair who have amassed the most points throughout the season. Further details can be seen at Section 23.

3. Rules of Golf

All YUGC County Members Competitions will be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by the R&A Rules Ltd (R&A) and such Local Rules and Terms of Competition as may be approved by the YUGC County Members Committee for each event. All players are required to play with Golf Balls and use equipment that conform to the R&A Specifications.

4. Amateur Status

All players must be of Amateur status as defined by the Rules of Amateur Status

5. Handicaps

All players must have a current and valid WHS Handicap Index. County Member Events are limited to a maximum Handicap Index of 26.0. Where a player with a Handicap Index greater than 26.0 wishes to play in an event, they may do so, but their Handicap Index will be capped at 26.0 limit for the event.

6. Eligibility to Play

Each player must be paid up member of a YUGC affiliated club and a paid up YUGC County Member aged 18 years or over. In the case of YUGC County Members Invitation Days, guest players who are not members of a YUGC affiliated club can be invited. These players should be members of an affiliated E.G.U club and hold a WHS handicap (maximum Handicap Index of 26.0). However, members are encouraged to bring a guest who is a member of a YUGC affiliated club but not currently a member of County Members.

Members may enter both Spring, Summer, Autumn & Seniors events. Their entries to both events in each category will be accommodated if not over-subscribed.

Entry to the Seniors meetings is restricted to those County members who are 55 years or older on the day of the competition.

7. Eligibility to win prizes

To be eligible to win a competition or a prize in a competition each player must have submitted a minimum of three (3) 'fully completed 18-hole round score cards for WHS handicap purposes' from playing in competitions during the preceding 12 months of the day of the competition.

8. Entry Method and Fee

The management of YUGC County Members events is now undertaken electronically. At the beginning of the year, County Members are required to pre-register online by supplying the required details on the online registration form. After completion of the registration process, members will then be able to enter those County Members events which are open for entry. This will be done by completing the appropriate online entry. Payment must be made at the same time through the online payment facility. Entries must be received together with the stipulated entry fee on or before the closing date. The entry fee for meetings is £36 per pair.

Entry into County Member events will be on a first come first served basis.

At the time of registration for an event, members will be able to indicate their preferred tee time. However, whilst YUGC will undertake best endeavours to honour the preference, it cannot be guaranteed to be fulfilled.

For clarity, a pairs team will not be allowed to play with another pairs team where one or both of whom are members at the same club(s).

A "wait list" will be operated once the maximum number of players (teams) for the event is reached.

If a team is placed on the wait list, no payment will be taken until they are moved into the confirmed list of players.

Bookings for an event will be closed once the "wait list" reaches 10 pairs (teams) – this may occur before the scheduled or intended closing date.

Pairs (Teams) on the "wait list" will progress to the "confirmed" list if a vacancy through cancellation occurs and the reserve pairing are able to play in the released tee time.

Should a pair on the wait list not accept the place offered then that pair will come off the waitlist and the place will be offered to the next pair on the wait list.

As a temporary transitional arrangement and where, in exceptional circumstances, a player or pair is not able to enter electronically, online using the YUGC website, then the lead member of the pair can submit a Registration form from the 2021 handbook. In such circumstances a player or pair will not be deemed to have entered an event until the Registration process has been completed together with their entry registration for the specific and the appropriate entry fee has been received by the Hon Secretary.

9. Withdrawals & Refunds

Once an event is closed is closed for entries, refunds will not be available if a team cancels and there are no players on the waiting list.

Teams, however, can provide suitable (County Members and potential County Members) replacements.

Entry fees will not be refunded to Players who fail to appear at the tee at their due start time.

10. Disability

It is a requirement that players shall walk when playing in County Members Meetings but those players requiring a buggy should consult the YUGC Transportation Policy. Competitors with a disability as defined in the R&A Modified Rules of Golf for Players with Disabilities should contact the YUGC COUNTY MEMBERS Hon Secretary. Subject to the agreement of the Host Club and following prior production of a medical certificate of disability, a motorised golf cart for the exclusive use only of the person named on the certificate will be permitted; his partner is not allowed to make any use of that Buggy unless he also has medical dispensation.

11. Transportation

Unless authorised by YUGC COUNTY MEMBERS Hon Secretary for example under Section 10, above, Players must not ride on any form of transportation during a stipulated round.

12. Caddies

Caddies are not permitted at any County Members Meetings.

13. Code of Conduct

Players are expected to abide by the basic rules of behaviour as described in the YUGC Code of Conduct.

14. Prohibited Substances

Any player who is found guilty of possessing, administering, or using any substance or method on the WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency) Prohibited list will be subject to Disciplinary Procedures.

15. Age Qualifications

County Members must be over the age of 18 to play in the season's fixtures, however, Junior players (under the age of 18) may be invited by a County Member to play in an Invitation Day.

16. Players' responsibilities – before and during a round

- a. Before commencing play on the day of a competition, the Player must ensure that their entry has been registered in the competition record in the manner required by YUGC COUNTY MEMBERS. A player who fails to enter a competition in the required manner is deemed to have neither a score for the competition nor a score for handicap purposes.
- b. Establish their Course Handicap, check the Handicap allowance according to the format of play and calculate their playing handicap for that competition.
- c. Enter their Name, Event name, Date, and current Handicap Index on their scorecard / Mobile electronic scoring system.
- d. Record their gross score in the markers notes and the Gross score of the player(s) for whom they are scoring in the appropriate scoring area.
- e. Check correct if appropriate and sign as marker on the record of the player(s) for whom they have been scoring.
- f. Check correct if appropriate and sign as player on their player scoring record.
- g. The return of incomplete cards and unfinished rounds will be subject to the application of the WHS and R&A rules.

Note: It is expected that every player who enters a Competition intends to complete the round. Further details on Players responsibilities and handicapping are to be found in the WHS Rules of Handicapping and CONGU advice on the World Handicap system.

17. Returning Scores

YUGC County Members meetings currently use the Golf Genius Computerised Mobile scoring system. This is the official scoring system for County Members meetings. Players are required to enter their scores onto the computerised electronic scoring system using the relevant App. Players failing to ensure that their scores are entered onto the scoring system without good cause will be deemed to have returned a No Score.

At the end of the round players are required to report to the recording desk where they will verbally confirm their scores. It is on confirmation at the recorders desk that a player's score will be deemed to have been 'officially returned'

18. Result and When Competition is closed

- a) Unless otherwise stated the results of the competition or round of the competition are deemed officially announced and the round/competition closed and finalised when all the results are published on the electronic scoring system as finalised.

19. Decision of Ties

If an 18-hole net (handicap) competition is tied the winner will be determined by the best score on the last nine, or if still equal last six, or last three and then last hole.

If this does not produce an outright winner then the last six, three, one, of the front nine will be used. If this does not produce a winner then the competition will be deemed a tie.

20.Suspension of Play (Rule 5.7)

The following signals will be used to suspend and resume play:

- i) Immediate stop for imminent danger: one prolonged note of a siren (Play must be discontinued immediately)
- ii) Stop for a non-dangerous situation: three consecutive notes of a siren
- iii) Resumption of play: two consecutive notes of a siren (Players must then, but not before then, resume play)
- iv) **Penalty for breach of Local Rule: Disqualification.**

Note: **During Covid or other restrictions once play is suspended during the event, the Competition will be abandoned. Players should leave the course immediately and the Club as soon as possible thereafter.**

21.Cancellation of a Competition due to Bad Weather or other circumstance.

If conditions become unsuitable for play or it becomes impossible to complete a competition, the competition will be suspended or abandoned by the YUGC COUNTY MEMBERS Committee.

22.Practice (Rule 5.2)

In Stroke Play, Rule 5.2b applies: A player must not practise on the course on the day of the competition before a round except that the player may practise putting or chipping on or near his or her first teeing area and practise on any practice area.

23.YUGC County Members Meetings – Order of Merit

Six events will count towards the County Members Pairs Order of Merit. They are the Spring 1 & 2, Summer 1& 2 and Autumn 1 & 2 events.

Points will be awarded to the playing pairs based on their placings in the events with the first 10 placings attracting points. The best 4 results of each pair will be used to determine their placings in the overall Order of Merit result.

The O.O.M Points awarded are as shown in the table below:

1 st – 30 points	6 th – 15 points
2 nd – 27 points	7 th – 12 points
3 rd – 24 points	8 th - 9 points
4 th – 21 points	9 th – 6 points
5 th – 18 points	10 th – 3 points

If two or more Pairs are tied at the end of the season, then the OOM will be given to the Pair with the most competition wins. If this is tied then the prize will be decided by a card countback in the following date order, 18-hole Scores of: first counting card, second counting card, third counting card and final counting card. If this is tied, then the prize will be shared.

Where events are cancelled the Committee reserve the right to adjust the number of qualifying cards counting towards the Order of Merit.

Any decisions or disputes should be raised with the YUGC County Members Hon Secretary and Committee whose decision will be final.