**Welcome to Ladies' Competitions at Penwortham Golf club**

The Ladies' Fixture List is detailed in the diary, and on the noticeboard in the Locker Room Foyer.

“**Q**” indicates a Qualifying Competition for Handicap Purposes. This means that your handicap may be adjusted (upwards or downwards) according to how you score against the rest of the field.

“**N/Q**” indicates a Non-Qualifying competition. This means that your handicap will not be adjusted at the end of the competition.

“**P**” indicates that there is a Presentation on the evening of that competition, usually at 9.15pm and it is hoped that you will attend if at all possible, not just if you have a good score. It is an opportunity to get to know new people and put names to faces. If you are familiar with the format, then it is easier when you are the winner and have to make a (small) speech e.g.: - to say thank you for the prize and to thank your playing partners.

“**T**” indicates that the trophy/prize/medal is to be presented on Trophy Night in October/November.

For the majority of the competitions mentioned in the diary, the **Entry Sheet** is online, via the “Member Tee Booking” on the Club's website, for ladies to enter their name against an appropriate tee-time. Having entered your name on a sheet, please remember to contact your playing partner(s) and let them know if you have to cross off for any reason.

**Entries open** at 7.30am 2 weeks in advance, with the exception of those for the Ladies' Invitation, Lady President's Day and Lady Captain's Tuesday competition, which open 3 weeks in advance.

**Entries close** online at 8.30am on the last **working** day before the competition. After that, the entry/start sheet is in the Pro's Shop and you can make changes up until 7pm on the day prior to the competition. If you need to cancel or make a change between the time the Pro's Shop closes and 7pm, please contact your playing partner(s) and/or a member of the Competition & Handicap Team.

After 7pm, you are not allowed to change your tee-time, except for E.G. (England Golf) Medals (previously known as EWGA medals) or for the flexibility allowed for the Evening Players.

If your playing partner(s) cancel and you are left on your own, then as a Day Player, you should join either the group before or the one after and if that would create a 4-ball, then please split into two 2-balls. As an Evening Player, you must wait and join the final pair, rather than create a 3-ball mid-field, unless there is a large gap, but if players catch you up, please let them play through.

**For Lady Captain's competition**, there is also a sheet provided on the Locker Room Noticeboard to indicate in advance if you are “Tuesday Only”, “Sunday Only”, “9 holes” or “Just eating”. On the Sunday, competitors go out in reverse order of the Tuesday scores preceded by the “Sunday Only” and the “No Returns”. The start sheet is published on the “Handicap Scoreboard” in the Members' area of the Club's website, with copies in the Pro's Shop, behind the bar and on the Locker Room noticeboard.

**For Lady President's Day** there is a draw, so for this competition the entry sheet is posted on the Locker Room Noticeboard 3 weeks in advance and the draw is usually done on the Wednesday prior to the Sunday and the start sheet is available as described in the paragraph above. Again, this includes ”9 hole” or “just eating”.

**On the day of the competition**, you collect your card from the Pro's shop and pay your entry fee (£2 per person, unless indicated otherwise, £1 for 9 holes), and there is usually an optional 2's sweep for an extra £1. Then be ready to start on the first tee 5 minutes before the time indicated on your card. If you are unsure of the details of that day's competition, the information is usually printed on the label attached to your card.

**Whenever a scorecard is involved**, before you go out to play make sure that it shows the date, your name and your handicap. After playing, ensure that you and your marker have both signed it and that the gross score for each hole has been recorded correctly, before you put it in the computer and in the box next to the computer.

**Before you go home, please check to see whether there is a presentation that evening.**

**Full results** of each competition are available on the “Handicap Scoreboard” in the Members' area of the Club's website and in the plastic folder in the locker room foyer. These include details of any “holes in two”, which are rewarded by a share of the credit in the Pro's Shop if you have opted to enter the 2's sweep. (If there are no twos, then the pot goes to Lady Captain's Charity) They also show any handicap changes and anyone whose handicap has changed should look in the green plastic wallet for her new handicap certificate.

**Please Note**: The Sunday Stableford competitions and EG (England Golf) Medals are for everyone, not just the “evening players”, and five-day members can play in the medals, if they pay a green fee.

Golfers should try to play with as many different people as possible and not go out with the same group all the time. This will introduce you to different methods of course management and help you to learn the etiquette and rules of golf. Afterwards you can meet up with your friends in the clubhouse for congratulations or commiserations!

It is hoped that people will join in as soon as they have got a handicap, so always remember to make new members welcome, because competitions can be daunting, and it is important to **enjoy your golf and the friendships you make along the way.**

**There are a number of different formats for the competitions as follows: -**

**Medal Play** – playing and recording the score for 18 holes. These scores are then totalled to give the Gross Score. This is the reduced by the Handicap to give the Net Score. The person with the lowest net score is the winner.

**Stableford** – played for POINTS on each hole, which are then totalled for the round. The person with the highest number of points is the winner. Points are scored as follows: -

1 point for a net bogey, 2 points for a net par, 3 points for a net birdie etc.

Therefore, as soon as you cannot score any points on a particular hole you can pick your ball up and just record a zero for that hole.

The term Stroke-play covers both Medal & Stableford.

**Foursomes** – 2 people, one teeing off on the odd holes and the other on the even holes, and then playing shots alternately until the ball is in the hole.

**Greensomes** – 2 people, both teeing off on each hole, then choosing the “best” drive and playing shots alternately until the ball is in the hole.

**Fourball Better Ball** – 2 people playing their own ball, with the best score, net of handicap, being that side's score for each hole in a medal or converted to POINTS for a Stableford.

**Familiarise yourself with the R&A Rules of Golf –** The publication entitled “Golf Rules Illustrated” is a good way of doing this. Or you can look them up on line on the R & A web site.

**Also, be aware of the Local Rules** that are displayed on the scorecard and any **Temporary Local Rules** that are displayed on the noticeboards.

e.g.: - At Penwortham Golf Club, we are allowed to remove stones from bunkers by virtue of Local Rule 7.

We are also allowed “line of play” relief from a sprinkler head that is on or within 2 club lengths of the putting green, if it intervene on the line of play between the ball and the hole. (If the ball is off the green then it must be within two club-lengths of the sprinkler head to qualify.) This relief is allowed because Local Rule 4d includes the words (see also Rules of Golf Appendix 1, Part B, Rule 6 re 'Immovable Obstructions close to Putting Green) which adopts this extra relief.

**Local Rules are specific to the course, therefore do not automatically assume that they apply at other courses.**

**The honour in Stroke Play (i.e. order of play)**

On the 1st tee, the honour is usually in handicap order starting with the lower/lowest handicap player, with the following exceptions: -

 (1) If Lady Captain or Lady President is in your group, she should be given the honour

 (2) If there has been a draw, then you should tee off in draw order.

For a medal, the competitor with the lowest score at a hole takes the honour at the next teeing ground. The competitor with the second lowest score plays next and so on. If two or more competitors have the same score at a hole, then they play from the next tee in the same order as at the previous tee.

In the case of a stableford, it is the competitor with the lowest net score (and therefore the most points) at a hole that takes the honour at the next tee.

During play of a hole, it is normally the person whose ball is farthest from the hole to play first, but the R&A do encourage “Ready Golf” to speed up the pace of play. (Please see The Ladies Section in the Members' Area of the Club's website for details of “Ready Golf”)

**Try to Avoid Slow Play**

Keep up with the match in front, not just ahead of the match behind, and if you lose ground, please let the players behind you through.

Be ready to play when it is your turn.

If there is a trolley park, please use it. If not, position your bag/trolley so as to allow quick movement off the green to the next tee. Observe where more experienced players leave their bags.

Move off the green as soon as all players in your group have holed out and mark the card on the way to or at the next tee, but if you have the honour, play your tee shot first.

**Please look after the course b**oth for your own benefit and for the people playing after you.

If there is a path, please use it.

Observe notices around the course. They are there to preserve the course and ensure golfers are not penalised by poor lies.

Keep trolleys well clear of aprons and the surround of greens.

Always rake bunkers after you have played out

Always replace divots and repair pitch marks. Carry a pitch mark repairer in your pocket.

In winter, lighten your bag (e.g.: - by removing clubs that you hardly ever use and reducing balls to a realistic number) and carry or use a pull-trolley if you can or winter wheels.

**SUMMER MEDAL & STABLEFORD COMPETITIONS**

**Spring Meeting**

This is a fun competition on the Sunday following the Ladies AGM to get the season off to a good start. The competition is followed by a meal and presentation. An Entry Sheet and a Menu are posted **on the noticeboard in the Locker-room Foyer** well in advance for people to indicate their choice of food. There is a draw for partners/teams done on the Thursday of the main AGM and the results of the draw are published online on the “Handicap Scoreboard” in the Members' area of the Club's website, with copies in the Pro's Shop, behind the bar and on the Locker Room noticeboard. The final numbers are given to the caterer at this stage, so it is important to let the Competition Secretary know if you have to withdraw for any reason. Lady Captain tees off first at 12.30pm to signify the start of the ladies' competition season, so lots of people come early to watch her drive off.

The meal is usually 6.00 for 6.30pm. Most people do not change for the meal. The Treasurer collects the money before the meal and optional tips. There is no entry fee, but everyone brings a prize to the value of £5, so **after the meal everyone gets a prize to take home,** with prizes being chosen in score order. Only a few good scores are actually read out. The 9 hole players go out after the 18 hole players, if you can not play you are still welcome to attend the meal, just indicate on the sheet you are meal only.

**Weekly Stablefords**

These competitions follow the stableford format described above and the prizes will be £20 for the winner and £10 for the runner-up, as credit on their Pro's Shop account. The exception to this is the **McMillan Spoon Stableford,** when a special spoon is an additional prize for the winner. The spoon is provided by McMillan Cancer Support in return for whatever amount of money is donated by an extra £1 collected in addition to the £2 entry fee, if you wish to enter for the spoon. The spoon is presented at trophy night, other stableford winners will be read out at the next available presentation.

Some Stablefords are held on Sundays and these are open to all 6 and 7-day lady members, not just “Evening Players”. For the Sunday stablefords, the prize is £10 as credit in the Pro's Shop.

**EG Medals (i.e. England Golf Medal)**

These competitions follow the medal play format described above. Goblets engraved with the Club's crest will be p**resented to the winners on Trophy night**, provided there are 12 or more competitors. If there are fewer, then the prize is a sleeve of golf balls. Some EG medals are held on Sundays and these are open to all ladies, not just “Evening Players”, but 5-day members would have to pay a green fee. The computer will accumulate everybody's best 4 scores in EG medals and the person with the best aggregate will win the medal that England Golf provide, which will also be **presented on Trophy Night**, and that person will be entitled to represent the Club in a Final competition the following year, if she qualifies and wishes to do so.

In the event of the E.G. medal being run in conjunction with a donor prize, only the donor prize will be awarded, if the winner is a Six or Seven-day member. If the winner is a Five-day member, she will win a prize for the medal and the 6 or 7-day member with the next best score will receive the donor prize.

If an EG Medal has to be cancelled for any reason, ever effort is made to rearrange it as soon as possible.

**9-Hole Qualifying Competitions**

Each Tuesday there will be a 9-Hole qualifying competition for anyone who for any reason (e.g.: - health, injury, time, lack of light) cannot do 18 holes. The entry fee is £1, and the prize is a golf ball. The format is stableford and a card will be provided when you pay your money in the Pro's Shop. For these 9-hole qualifying competitions, the special card mentioned above uses Stroke Indices 1 to 9 and CSS is always SSS. There is a list in the Locker Room Foyer of 9-hole handicaps and Buffer Zones are 1, 1, 2, 2 and 3 for Categories 1 to 5 respectively. **The golf balls** are **presented at the next available presentation/at the Sides Match.**

**Scott-Leggatt Foursomes**

This is a foursomes stableford competition, on half combined handicap, to determine which pairs are to represent the Club at the Regional Final of the Scott-Leggatt Foursome Competition, organised by the Lancashire Ladies County Golf Association, for the Hilda Leggatt Trophy. This trophy was presented by Mrs Scott, a Treasurer of LLCGA, in memory of her predecessor, Mrs Hilda Leggatt. Clubs can have 1 qualifier per 20 members, with a minimum of 2, so because we have between 80 and 99 lady members, we are entitled to 4 qualifiers. The maximum ½ combined handicap is 30.4. Pairs that do well can then go on to a Grand final, but no substitutes are allowed, so it is important to check that you are available for both dates before you go forward to the Regional Final. There is an extra £1 entry fee per person if you wish to try to qualify, and if you need to use a buggy then you must have registered a medical certificate with LLCGA secretary in advance. The Club prize goes to the pair with the highest number of points, whether or not they wish to qualify. This is £15 per person on their Pro's shop account and a voucher confirming the win will be **presented at the next available presentation/at the Sides Match.**

**Enid Parker Putter (and EG Medal)**

Enid Parker was a member of the Ladies Section and when she died in 1990, her husband Tom arranged for some special putters to be made in St Andrews and he has presented one each year in her memory. He also provides other beautiful prizes for runners-up. This is a medal play competition. From 2017 **the prizes will be presented along with Lady Vice Captain's prizes.**

**Ladies Invitation**

This is a nice opportunity to invite a friend from another club for a round of golf and a meal, with a chance to win some lovely prizes chosen by Lady Captain with funds provided by 8 donors. It is always on a Thursday afternoon (12.30pm onwards) and an entry sheet opens up on the website 3 weeks beforehand. **Check the banner for details of the format of the competition.** People eat as they come in and most people can change for the meal. There is no entry fee for the golf and you pay the kitchen directly for your food. **The prizes are presented as soon as possible after**

**Hilda Topping Trophy**

This trophy was presented by Miss Pat Topping in memory of her mother. It is a stableford competition and is played for on the nearest Tuesday to the 19 May, which was her mother's wedding anniversary. The winner receives **the trophy on Trophy night,** but for insurance purposes it has to be returned to the Club's Trophy cabinet at the end of the evening. From 2012, the winner also receives £30 credit on her Pro's shop account.

**Guild Qualifier**

This competition is a 4 ball better ball (4BBB) stableford competition to select the team for the Guild Cup which is played on the second Sunday in July against 7 other teams in the Preston/Chorley area. (Ashton & Lea, Chorley, Fishwick, Leyland, Longridge, Preston and Shaw Hill,) The 10 best pairs, who wish to qualify, will represent the Club in the Final. This competition has been in place since the Guild of 1992 and clubs take turns to host the final. If possible, players are expected to attend the p**resentation wearing team colours (around 8pm)**

**Francis Smith Qualifier**

This is run with an EG medals to select a representative for the Francis Smith Competition, run by the LLCGA. The venue changes each year. The winner of the EG medal receives the normal **prize on Trophy Night**. Anyone wishing to qualify who needs a buggy must register a medical cert. with LLCGA secretary in advance.

**Lady President's Day - Board prize (and EG Medal)**

This is usually on the first Sunday in June and most people bring a card/ small gift for Lady President to wish her all the best for her day. The format is medal and the entry sheet goes up **on the noticeboard in the Locker Room Foyer** 3 weeks in advance for 18 holes, 9 holes or meal only. There is a draw for partners. This is done the Wednesday before and the results of the draw are available online on the “Handicap Scoreboard” in the Members' area of the Club's website, with copies in the Pro's Shop, behind the bar and on the Locker Room noticeboard for people to find out their start time.

As the format is medal, an EG medal can run alongside it, in which case a 5-day member can pay a green fee and play for the EG medal, but not Lady President's prizes. There is also a Tote, when you can back yourself and your friends @ 20p a time. The people who have backed the winner share the proceeds.

Some years, all competitors are invited to join Lady President and her guests for a meal (7.00 for 7.30pm) in which case there will be menu and selection sheets available on the noticeboard in the Locker Room Foyer. The cost of the meal is subsidised for competitors and the Treasurer collects the balance and an (optional) gratuity during the evening. For any competitors who do not dine, the subsidy is credited to their bar card.

**The presentation is around 9pm.**

**Former Lady Captains' Millennium Rose-Bowl – Board Prize (and EG Medal)**

In 2000, the Former Lady Captains bought a very beautiful silver Rose Bowl for the ladies to play for. The format is medal and so an EG medal can run alongside it, in which case a 5-day member can play for the EG medal, but not the Rose Bowl. Each year, the immediate Past Lady Captain provides a cut glass bowl for the winner to keep. From 2017, **the Rose-Bowl is presented on Trophy Night.**

**Mr President's Prize**

Mr President kindly provides a prize day for the ladies. He chooses the format for the competition and decides how his prizes are allocated. The entry sheet goes live online 2 weeks before and a banner will indicate the format. From 2017, **Mr President's prizes will be presented along with Mr Captain's prizes in August.**

**Lady Vice Captain's Prize**

Lady Vice Captain provides a prize day for the ladies. She chooses the format of the competition and how her prizes are allocated. The entry sheet goes live online 2 weeks before and a banner will indicate the format. **There is a presentation at 9.15pm on the day of the competition**.

**1st Round Scratch and 2nd Round Scratch – Board Prizes**

Many years ago, Mrs Doreen Relph and Mrs Jill D'Eye provided a beautiful trophy for the best GROSS score over 36 holes. Later Mrs Joyce Scott and Miss Pat Topping provided another trophy for the Bronze Division players. This scratch competition is run alongside two Tuesday competitions. **The trophies are presented on Trophy Night.** From 2017, there is no entry fee and no prize “money”.

**Doris Naylor Trophy (and EG Medal)**

This trophy was provided many years ago in memory of a long-standing member. It is presented on Trophy night and now the winner also receives £30 credit on her Pro's shop account. The format is medal and so an EG medal can run alongside it, in which case a 5-day member can play for the EG medal, but not the Trophy, which is **presented on Trophy Night.**

**Centenary Competition – Board Prize** **(and EG medal)**

The Club celebrated its centenary in 2008 and a beautiful silver quaiche was provided for the ladies. Although originally a Saturday competition, this is now held on a Sunday. The format is medal and so an EG medal can run alongside it, in which case a 5-day member can pay a green fee and play for the EG medal, but not the quaiche. The Entry sheet goes live 2 weeks beforehand. **The Quaiche is presented on Trophy Night.**

**Lady Captain's Prize – Board Prize. (and EG Medal)**

The format is medal and the main prize goes to the best aggregate net score of the Tuesday and the Sunday competitions. The entry sheet for the Tuesday goes live online 3 weeks before. You can play with whoever you like at whatever time suits you. As the format is medal, an EG medal can run alongside it, in which case a 5-day member can play for the EG medal, but not for the Lady Captain's prizes.

**Please note**: There is also another sheet for anyone to indicate if they are only available to play on “Tuesday Only” or “Sunday Only”, also 9 holes or meal only.

There is also a Tote, when you can back yourself and your friends @ 20p a time. The people who have backed the winner share the proceeds. After the Tuesday Competition, Lady Captain treats all the competitors to cakes.

On the Sunday, most people bring a card/ small gift for Lady Captain to wish her well for her day. The “Sunday Only” ladies go out first, followed by the Tuesday players in reverse score order starting with the “No Returns” and finishing with the best scores going out last. There are prizes for the overall Winner, Runner-up and Best Gross over 36 holes and then further prizes for Tuesday and Sunday scores.

In recent years, all competitors have been invited to join Lady Captain and her guests for a meal (7.00 for 7.30pm), in which case there will be menu and selection sheets available on the noticeboard in the Locker Room Foyer. The cost of the meal is subsidised for competitors and the Treasurer collects the balance and an (optional) gratuity during the evening. For any competitors who do not dine, the subsidy is credited to their bar card. **The Prize Presentation is around 9pm.**

**Team Events**

There are a couple of these competitions each year, one 3 person and the other 4-person. As the 4-person team is later in the year, there is an alternate day on the preceding Sunday for the “Evening Players”. The format is decided by Lady Captain. The prizes are M&S Vouchers for £15 for each person in the winning team and are **presented at the Sides Match/ on Trophy Night.**

**Mr Captain's Prize**

Mr Captain kindly provides a prize day for the ladies. He chooses the format for the competition and decides how his prizes are allocated. The entry sheet goes live online 2 weeks before and a banner will indicate the format. **There is a presentation at 9.15pm on the day of the competition for both Mr Captain's and Mr President's prizes.**

**Professional's Prize (and EG medal)**

The Professional kindly provides 2 prizes for the ladies, as credit in the shop. The format is medal, so an EG medal usually runs alongside it., in which case a 5-day members can play for the EG medal, but not for the Professional's prizes, which are **presented at the Sides Match/ on Trophy Night**.

**Exchange Day**

Each year an exchange day is arranged with another club. They come to Penwortham and play in our tee times and we go to their club and play in their slot. The organiser puts up a sheet on the noticeboard in the locker-room foyer for people to put their names down if they want to go and a menu for them to choose from. Then she does a draw for partners. Travelling is usually by car with people sharing as appropriate, but sometimes a coach is arranged. Everyone takes a prize, value £5, and the golf is a full handicap stableford. After the golf, we all have a meal, there is the presentation of the “Away Day Trophy” and the choosing of prizes in score order. (Only a few good scores are actually read out.)

**Ladies Open**

This is a team event for ladies from other clubs to come and enjoy our course and club house.

Nearer the time, if there are vacancies 2 PGC ladies can put in a team with 2 visitors.

The format is a 9/10 handicap stableford team event, with 2 to score on holes 1-17 and all 4 on 18.

**No presentation**.

**Charity Cup**

The Charity Cup is played on the first Sunday in September each year with the same clubs as the Guild Cup. A team of 12 is needed to represent the club. A list goes up asking for people who want to play, and the team is chosen from these names. The policy is to choose the lower handicaps first and this policy been very successful in the past. Lady Captain is guaranteed a place if she wishes to play. The clubs involved take turns to host the event. The format is medal, but it is a non-qualifying competition. If possible, players are expected to attend the p**resentation wearing team colours (around 8pm)**

**Inter-club**

This competition is organised by the Lancashire Ladies County Golf Association. There are events for Scratch, Handicap and Bronze categories and the venues change each year. Early in the year the Ladies Committee decides which to enter. For the Scratch and Silver events the format is medal and for the Bronze it is stableford. From a team of 4, the best 3 scores are used to decide the winners, who then go forward to a National Final. Anyone wishing to play who needs to use a buggy must register a medical certificate with LLCGA secretary in advance.

**Sides Match & Dinner**

This is a fun event on a Sunday in October to mark the end of the season. An entry sheet goes up on the noticeboard in the Locker Room Foyer, together with a menu for people to put their names down and choose their food. If you can’t play you can still come for the meal, just put your menu choice down and put meal only. There is a draw on the Wednesday when Lady Captain and Lady Vice Captain draw numbers to select their teams. The format is 4BBB match play. In 2012 Betty Brady gave us a trophy for the captain of the winning team to keep for 12 months. There is no entry fee. The Treasurer collects the money for the food before the meal and an optional gratuity is collected at the end.

**Summer Eclectic**

While the computer is recording all our scores throughout the season, it is building up for each one of us, our best performance on each hole. Prizes are awarded for the Best Gross and the Best Net Eclectic Scores, which are **presented on Trophy Night.** (£15 each on Pro's Shop account)

**Order of Merit**

The Order of Merit is a competition that runs over the summer golfing season. It is your best 10 competitions out of the nominated 20 competitions. 10 points are given for 1st place, 9 points for 2nd place, 8 points for 3rd place and so on, until 1 point is given for 10th place. Before the start of the season the Competition and Handicap committee will nominate the 20 competitions (+ reserve). These will be posted on the noticeboard in the Locker Room Foyer. After each nominated competition the updated results of the Order of Merit will also be posted in the foyer and on the Master Score Board on the web site. If the competition is cancelled due to adverse weather conditions or for some other reason, it will be run at a later date if possible. If not, an earlier competition will be used for the Order of Merit which was previously nominated as a reserve by the committee. If, due to many cancellations 20 competitions cannot be used, then it will be your best 10 out of the reduced number of competitions. Joint winners will share the prize and will hold the trophy for equal months. **The Trophy & Prize (£30 on Pro's Shop Account) will be presented at Trophy Night**

**Turkey Trot & Trophy Night.**

This is usually at the end of October/beginning of November and there is an alternate day, Sunday, for the “Evening Players”. The format is stableford and it is always a non-qualifier. The entry sheets go live online well in advance and a menu and selection sheets are posted in the Locker Room Foyer for people to choose their food, you can just attend for the meal and presentation.

After the golf, we meet back at 7.00pm for dinner at 7.30pm. The treasurer will collect money for the food before the meal, and an optional gratuity will be collected at the end. Around 9pm the presentation will commence, all the trophies etc. are presented followed by the “Turkey Vouchers” and lots of various prizes for the Turkey Trot competition. A very enjoyable evening.

During the year, for insurance purposes, all the trophies are kept in the Trophy Cabinet in the Clubhouse foyer, but there are photographs of them in the Ladies Locker Room, together with some background information for each of them.

**MATCHPLAY**

Match Play is played by holes as opposed to calculating the total number of shots taken for the round. The handicapping is based on an allowance between the players' handicaps, with shots taken against the lower/lowest handicapped player. These shots are taken at holes indicated by the stroke index.

It is always safest to claim your shot on the tee, but if you don't, don't let anyone tell you it’s too late.

Shots must be claimed before you tee off on the next hole or leave the course after the 18th green.

“Shots” are officially called “strokes” and in the Note in Rule 6-2 it states, “It is the player's responsibility to know the holes at which handicap strokes are to be given or received.”

A hole is won (+) by the side that holes their ball in the least number of NET shots. If both sides complete the hole in the same score, then the hole is halved (0). If the hole is lost, the card is marked with a minus (-). The match is won by the side that is leading by the greater number of holes than the number left to play. In team competitions matches can be halved, but in knock-out competitions extra holes are played as sudden death, until a result is reached.

**Rules for match play differ from those of stroke play. It is wise to familiarise yourself with the differences, which can be found in the R&A rules of golf (see earlier section).**

Examples:

Rule 19-5, If a player's ball hits another ball **when both balls on the green prior to the stroke.**

 In match play there is no penalty; in stroke play the player incurs a penalty of 2 stokes.

Rule 15-3, Playing a wrong ball.

In match play it is loss of hole; in stroke play it is a penalty of 2 stokes.

Don't play out of turn, because in match play the opponent can make you take the shot again.

**The golf rule book entitled “Golf Rules Illustrated” is recommended as a user-friendly version. Most people prefer to refer to this version of a rule book. Also, you can look on line at the R&A web site.**

**The honour in Match Play (i.e. order of play)**

On the 1st tee, the honour should officially be decided by lot. If Lady Captain or Lady President is in your group, she should be offered the honour. In the case of a team match, the honour should be given to the visitor.

The side that wins a hole takes the honour at the next tee. If a hole has been halved, the side that had the honour at the previous tee retains it.

During play of a hole, it is the person whose ball is farthest from the hole to play first. This is very important in match play, because if you play out of turn, there is no penalty, **but the opposition can make you play the shot again.**

**SUMMER MATCHPLAY COMPETITIONS**

**Bolton Bowl – Board Prize**

The Bolton Bowl is a Foursomes Match play knock-out competition which runs through the summer, with strokes given/received according to ½ of the difference between the aggregate handicaps of the two sides.

*Example:*

*Team A: Player 1 h/cap = 20. Player 2 h/cap = 16. Total 36 (20 + 16)*

*Team B: Player 1 h/cap = 10. Player 2 h/cap = 32. Total 42 (10 + 32)*

*Difference between Team A and B = 6. Half the difference of 6 = 3.*

*3 strokes are received by Team B on holes with stroke index 1,2 and 3.*

*At Penwortham, this will be the 4th hole (stroke index 1), the 5th hole (stroke index 3) and the 17th hole (stroke index 2).*

*The ladies stroke index number of each hole is listed on the right-hand side of the score card next to the par of each hole.*

Please see below for the details that apply to both the Bolton Bowl and the Snelham Trophy.

**SnelhamTrophy- Board Prize**

The Snelham Trophy is a Singles Match play knock-out competition which runs through the summer, with stokes given/received according to the FULL difference between the handicaps of the two players.

*Example:*

*Player A: h/cap = 20.*

*Player B h/cap = 16.*

*Full difference between the handicap of Player A and B = 4.*

*4 strokes are received by Player A on holes with stroke index 1,2,3 and 4.*

*At Penwortham this will be the 4th hole (stroke index 1), the 5th hole (stroke index 3), the 14th hole (stroke index 4) and the 17th hole (stroke index 2).*

**Further details for both the Bolton Bowl & Snelham Trophies**

Entries are taken in the Pro's Shop between mid-March and mid-April. Watch out for a notice in the locker room foyer giving these dates and the date for the draw. The results of both draws will be posted in a similar place.

Matches are arranged by the side with the higher handicap giving 3 dates as a starting point for negotiation. Matches **must** be played by the deadline, unless the course is closed unexpectedly on the closing date for a round, in which case there is a 24-hour extension once the course opens again.

If a match has not been played by the deadline, then it must be decided by the toss of a coin.

The Trophies are presented on Trophy Night but are returned to the Club's Trophy Cabinet at the end of the evening. Each winner also gets M&S vouchers to the value of £30 and £15 for the losing finalist(s).

**Team Matches**

These are played as a number of singles match play games with stokes given/received according to the full difference between the handicaps of the two players.

Penwortham Ladies Section is involved in 4 different teams competitions as follows: -

(1) **The Miller Team** – This is run by the Fylde Society and is for ladies with handicaps 20.5 to 35.

If your handicap has ever been lower than 20.5 then you are not eligible to play for this team.

If your handicap is 36, then you can still play but will have to play off 35.

(2) **The Vets. Team** – Again this is run by the Fylde Society and is for ladies who are aged 55 and

 over with a maximum handicap of 30. If your handicap is higher, then you can still play but will have to play off 30.

(3) **The Handicap Team** – This is run by the Lancashire Ladies and is for players with handicaps up to 24. If your handicap is higher, then you can still play but will have to play off 24. There can be 1 single figure handicapper per team and (new in 2016) members of the Fylde Society Vets team can play as many times as they like for the Handicap Team.

(4) **The Scratch Team** - This is run by the Lancashire Ladies and is for players with low handicaps because the matches are played off scratch. i.e. No-one gives or receives shots regardless of their handica

At the start of the season there is a draw to determine which clubs we play in the round robin stage, with both home and away matches against each one. The winners of this stage go forward to a semi-final and/or a final. Apart from the Scratch Team, when it is the lowest handicappers available that play, lists are displayed in the locker-room foyer of the fixture dates and ladies are invited to put their name down for selection by the team captain. Apart from the Scratch & Handicap Teams, which have 5 players, there are 7 players selected for each match.

Anyone wishing to play for any one of the teams and needs to use a buggy, must register a medical certificate with the organisers in advance.

**Match Days**

There are always 2 times quoted e.g.: - 11 for 11.30am. Ladies are expected to turn up at the first time for tea/coffee and biscuits, while the captains of each side sort out the pairings. At this stage you sit with your own team members. (The visiting team will all sit together as well.) Penwortham’s team colours are a turquoise sweater/slip-over with a white golf shirt.

Once the pairings have been done, the captain will give you a scorecard card showing your match number (1 to 5 or7 in handicap order), your name, your opponent’s name and except for the Scratch team, both your handicaps and the shots to be given or received. At this point, you find your opponent and if the match is at home, offer her locker facilities and make sure she knows where to go. Be on the tee ready when it is time for your game.

After the game, report the result to the team captain and, if at home, offer to buy your partner a drink while you wait for all the games to finish, when everyone goes in for afternoon tea (sandwiches, cake and tea/coffee).

There is no subsidy for teams, so you have to pay for petrol and £6 home and away for the food and drinks, (the away fee is to cover your opponent at home). Nevertheless, it is a super way to get match play experience, play other courses for a lot less than a green fee and make some nice new friends into the bargain.

**Winter Golf - For the day-time players**

Usually an Eclectic competition.

**Winter League**

Many years ago, Mrs Connie Broughton provided a Shield for a Winter League Competition. Played on Thursdays over 9 holes, first Tee reserved 9.30am – 10.30. Due to adverse weather conditions the normal match play competition has been difficult so format of this competition to be decided.

**Presented at Pre-Season Dinner in March**

**Pre-Season Dinner**

**Open to all lady member**s. Meal, usually 7 for 7.30pm, followed by Presentation of prizes to the Winter League Winners & Runners-up and Gross & Net Eclectic Winners. A menu and selection sheet are posted on the noticeboard well in advance for people to indicate their choice of food.

**Winter Golf - For the “evening players”**

Currently there is no organised winter golf for the “evening players”.

**Competition Etiquette**

Here are a few guidelines to make competitive golf as enjoyable as possible.

* If you have to cancel a competition booking, please contact your playing partner(s) to let them know. Don't just rely on them seeing the email from the booking system.
* Please try to avoid slow play, by playing “**Ready Golf**”.
* To read up what is meant by “Ready Golf”, you can find a paper copy on the noticeboard in the Locker Room foyer It is well worth reading (or re-reading if you read it some time ago.)
* Always watch for your playing partner(s) ball and keep a count of the shots taken by the person whose card you are marking, as well as keeping your own score. (Don't just rely on what they tell you.)
* Try to play with as many different people as possible, so that you can see how others “manage” the course.
* Please replace divots, repair pitch marks and rake bunkers to keep the course nice for everyone.
* Only come in early if you are sick or injured and please will you or your playing partner(s) make sure your card is handed in.
* If you are just having a “bad day”, by all means No Return, but please complete the round and mark your partner's card. This is especially important in the evening when there is a presentation and time is tight, because the resultant 3 ball can delay closing the comp and therefore the presentation.
* Having No Returned, it is important to enter your card correctly into the computer, otherwise it makes extra work for the Comps Team. Please enter scores for all the holes you have played. If you enter a full set of 0/NR, the computer adds it into the count of cards entered, but does not show it on the leader board, so precious time has to be spent looking for the “missing” card. Also, it may make a difference to the CSS.
* Please try to attend Presentations to show your support for the prize donor(s).
* If you are a prize winner yourself please check the list on the notice board in the Locker Room Foyer, so that you know when your prize will be presented.,

Please try to follow as many of the above guidelines as possible to make golf an enjoyable experience for everyone.

If you have any queries, please ask one of the committee members.

Thank you

Ladies Committee