

HOLE		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN	TOTAL		
		-	0	-	-	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	-	-	-	0	0		
		6	4	6	7	5	6	5	3	6	49	3	6	4	4	5	3	6	6	7	44	92	20	72
W O M E N	PAR	4	3	4	4	4	5	5	3	5	37	3	5	3	4	4	3	4	4	5	35	72	HCP	NET
	INDEX	5	18	9	3	1	13	17	15	16		6	8	11	4	12	2	14	10	7			DATE	
	METRES	345	119	314	366	351	410	386	140	431	2862	159	430	144	326	274	142	261	308	461	2505	5367	3.11.99	

Four-Ball Par

Two players play as partners each taking strokes at holes as in a par competition. If one of the partners wins a hole and the other halves it only the win is counted. If one halves a hole with par and the other loses it only the half is counted and so on. Plus, half and minus signs are added at the end of the round and recorded as in an ordinary par competition.

In a four-ball handicap event care must be taken to mark the scores of each player in separate columns headed by the initials of the player. If the scores are mixed and it is impossible for the Committee to check the card the players will be disqualified.

Four-Ball Stableford

This event is played in exactly the same manner as a Four-Ball Par, except that the better ball of the partnership will be credited with points rather than a plus, half or minus.

Four-Ball Aggregate Stableford

As the name implies, the Stableford system is used in this event and the competition is played with a partner, as in a Four-Ball Stableford. Individual full handicaps are applied to each player and the number of points scored by each player is recorded at the end of every hole, as well as a total or aggregate for the team. The team having the highest number of points is the winner. Again, when marking the score card, the number of strokes taken must always be shown for holes where points are scored. Thus, the card records both strokes and points.

Foursome

Two players play as partners and use one ball. The partners strike off alternately from the tee and thereafter strike the ball alternately during the play of each hole. Scoring is done as for a stroke round and the total is subject to a deduction of half the partners' aggregate handicaps.

Note: If either player incurs a penalty stroke it does not alter the rotation of play. In a foursome stroke play competition which consists of more than one stipulated round, the order of play may be changed between rounds unless the Committee has laid down as a condition of play that the original order of play must be preserved throughout the competition.

Mixed Four-Ball Par or Stableford

These games are played as described previously with the man playing from his tees, using his own score card and the woman playing from her tees using her own score card. Care must be taken when checking the card to refer to the women's card when dealing with holes halved or won by her.

There are some variations to this depending on the Club. In some instances the woman plays on her full handicap using the women's card as described above. In other cases, on $\frac{7}{8}$ handicap, using the women's card. Again, the woman may be on full handicap and using the men's card. There are also exceptional instances where women play from a $\frac{3}{4}$ handicap and the men's card is used. These last two methods are the least satisfactory.

Mixed Foursomes

Mixed foursomes are played in the same manner as foursomes except that the women use their own tees and observe their own local rules when it is their turn to play. The Committee should lay down as a condition of play whether the male or female is required to play from the first tee, and in competitions played under stroke conditions, and consisting of more than one stipulated round, whether this order is to be preserved.

Canadian Foursomes

This event is played as per a Foursomes event except that both players play tee shots at every hole and afterwards continue with whichever ball they nominate, with the partner playing the second stroke.

American Foursomes

Both players play tee shots at each hole, then play a second stroke with their partner's ball. One ball is then selected and play proceeds as in foursomes with the owner of the ball selected playing the third stroke. Handicap allowance is $\frac{3}{8}$ of aggregate stroke handicap for stroke competitions. This event is sometimes called "Pinehurst Foursomes".

Flag Competition

The score taken on each hole is entered on a card as in a stroke round. When a player has completed a number of strokes equal to the par of the course (as shown on the score card) plus their stroke handicap, they will have finished the round. The first player to start in the competition will carry the flag (mounted on a stick) and plant it on the spot where their ball lay at the finish of the round. If the ball is in the rough the flag may be planted at the side of the fairway, but not nearer the hole. If a subsequent player has not finished their round when they reach the flag, they carry it with them, and replant it when they reach the end of their strokes. The winner is the player who carries the flag the longest distance from the first tee and it normally happens that the final position is somewhere beyond the 18th green, usually on the 1st or 2nd hole. When the competition is played in two or more divisions, two or more flags, clearly marked will be necessary.

Bisque Par

This event is a variation of the Individual Par competition, where players allocate their full handicap to each hole however they like. It is not necessary to allocate your handicap before the event, as this is normally done on a hole-by-hole basis. It is necessary to mark on the card the number of handicap strokes allocated to *each hole before playing the hole*. The allocation of handicap strokes will obviously cease once the player's full handicap has been used. The game is then played as an Individual Par competition, and scored in the same fashion.

Eclectic

Competitors play two or more rounds and the eclectic score is the lowest score obtained at each hole on the rounds. Sometimes the competitions extend over the whole season and the total score for the holes is subject to deduction of $\frac{1}{2}$ the player's handicap held on the last day of competition.

Ambrose Competition

This event can be played as a two, three or four-person event, although the four-person event is the most popular. Each player plays a tee shot at each hole. The Captain then selects the best drive which is then played by its owner. The other members retrieve their balls and in turn drop within one club-length of the selected position and play their second shots. This procedure of selecting the best position continues until a ball is holed. When on the green, balls are placed on the selected spot.

This event can be played as a gross event, with each group having a spread of handicaps, or as a handicap event where a fraction of the aggregate handicaps is used. The most common method of determining handicap is: Two-person event – $\frac{1}{4}$ of aggregate stroke handicap; Three-person event – $\frac{1}{6}$ of aggregate handicap; Four-person event – $\frac{1}{8}$ of stroke handicap.

General

All forms of stroke play are subject to the Rules governing stroke play. Special rules for Par and Stableford competitions are set out in Rule 32. Rule 31 covers the special rules for four-ball Competitions.

Foursomes may be played under either stroke play rules or match play conditions and Rule 29 is relevant to foursomes events.

Events such as Ambrose events are not specifically covered in the Rules of Golf. It cannot be too strongly emphasised, however, that since these competitions are not covered by the Rules of Golf, the Committee must carefully lay down in advance and publish the conditions of play. The State Association will not, except in the most exceptional circumstances, give a decision on any query submitted when play is conducted otherwise than in accordance with the Rules.

We hope that this document assists in the management of play at your golf club. Please feel free to contact your state association if you have any queries or if you would like any further information.

Kind regards,



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