



## **2011 Australian Men's Interstate Teams Matches – CONDITIONS OF PLAY**

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### **1. DEFINITIONS**

- (a) "Board" means the Board of Golf Australia (GA).
- (b) The expression "Member State" means the state golfing association recognised as a Member of GA in accordance with the GA Constitution.
- (c) "The Committee" means the Committee in charge of the Tournament constituted under the provisions of Clause 11 hereof.
- (d) "State" means a State of the Commonwealth of Australia.
- (e) "Year" means calendar year.
- (f) "Permanent place of residence" means the person's residential address in Australia.
- (g) "Tournament" means the competition that takes place once a year between Teams representing Member States.
- (h) "Contest" means the competition between two teams representing a Member State (e.g. Queensland v Victoria).
- (i) "Match" means the individual competition between two players.
- (j) "Round Robin Contest" means the five (5) initial contests between the Teams of the Member States.
- (k) "Championship Final" means the Final between the Teams of the Member States that are seeded one and two following the Round Robin Contests.
- (l) "Consolation Finals" means the Finals between the Teams of the Member States that are seeded three through to six following the Round Robin Contests.

### **2. GENERAL**

- 2.1 A Tournament for will be held in accordance with the conditions contained in this document.
- 2.2 As far as possible, the Tournament will be held in rotation between Member States. A roster may be compiled, however it may vary from time to time.
- 2.3 In special circumstances more than one course may be used. If unforeseen circumstances arise at the time of the Tournament, the Committee may approve the use of an additional or alternative course.

### **3. FORMAT OF PLAY**

- 3.1 A Member State will be represented by a team of eight (8) players as qualified in these conditions. A Member State will notify the Committee in writing of the names of these eight (8) players by the date appointed by the Committee.
- 3.2 The draw will be determined in accordance with the established procedure by GA.
- 3.3 The Tournament will be decided by Round Robin singles match play, followed by a Final. For the five (5) Round Robin Contests each Team competes against every other Team once only.
- 3.4 (i) The Tournament will be scheduled to be played over three and a half consecutive days, with the first two days each consisting of two Round Robin Contests comprising seven (7) singles matches, and the morning of the third day comprising the fifth Round Robin Contest comprising seven (7) singles matches.

- (ii) The afternoon of the third day will comprise the first section of the Championship Final and Consolation Finals comprising four (4) foursome matches, and the morning of the fourth day will comprise the second section of the Championship and Consolation Finals comprising eight (8) singles matches.
- 3.5 For each Round Robin Contest, seven (7) players will be selected for the singles matches. For the Finals, eight (8) players will contest the foursome matches and eight (8) players will contest the singles matches.
- 3.6 The Teams to contest the Finals will be seeded one (1) through six (6) as below. Teams seeded 1 and 2 will contest the Championship Final, with Teams seeded 3 and 4 contesting the first Consolation Final for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> positions, and Teams seeded 5 and 6 contesting the second Consolation Final for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> positions.
- (i) The Team having gained the greatest number of contest points throughout the Round Robin Contests will be seeded the highest if there be only one such Team. In the event of a tied contest, both teams will be allocated half a contest.
- (ii) If two or more of the respective Teams stand equal in the number of contest points gained throughout the Round Robin Contests, the tie will be decided between them in favour of the Team whose total number of individual match points gained throughout the Round Robin Contests, minus any penalty deductions, is greatest.
- (iii) If the respective Teams stand equal in the number of contest points gained and in the aggregate number of individual match points gained throughout the Round Robin Contests, minus any penalty deductions, the seeding of such Teams will be determined by the Team whose player or players who played in the number 1 position in each round gained the highest number of match points throughout the Round Robin Contests. In the event of Teams still tied, the Team whose player or players who played in the number 2 position each round and gained the highest number of match points throughout the Round Robin Contests will be used, and so on. If Teams are still tied, Teams will be seeded by lot unless the Committee determines an alternate method.
- 3.7 At the conclusion of the Tournament, the winner will be determined as follows:
- (i) The Team contesting the Championship Final having gained the greatest number of individual match points in the Final will be the winner. In the event of a tie, the Team seeded 1 after the Round Robin Contests will be the winner. If the two teams were tied for the number 1 seed position after the application of clause 3.6(iii) all matches in the Championship Final will be played until a winner is determined in each (i.e. no halved matches).
- (ii) In the Consolation Finals, the Teams having gained the greatest number of individual match points in their respective Finals will be awarded the third and fifth positions respectively. In the event of a tie, the Team who gained the highest number of contest points throughout the Round Robin Contests will be the winner. If the two respective Teams stood equal in the number of contest points gained, the winner will be decided between them in favour of the Team whose total number of individual match points gained throughout the Round Robin Contests was greatest. If Teams are still tied, joint positions will be awarded.
- 3.8 The stipulated round is eighteen holes unless otherwise decided by the Committee to meet special circumstances. The sequence in which holes are to be played will be determined by the Committee for each contest. In the event of a match being all square after 18 holes, a halved result will be recorded, except where specifically stated otherwise.
- 3.9 However, in the event of a substantial delay in play or envisaged substantial delay, as determined by the Committee, the following procedures shall take effect:
- (i) In order to complete the Round Robin Contests, the foursome matches of the Final may be abandoned. If the foursome matches are abandoned, the result of the Final shall be determined by the singles matches.
- (ii) Should the singles and foursome matches of the Final be abandoned in order to complete the Round Robin Contests, the winner shall be determined by the number of contest points gained and match points gained from the Round Robin Contests. Should there be a tie, joint winners will be declared.

- (iii) A minimum of four (4) Round Robin Contests must be completed for a winner to be determined.
- (iv) The Committee reserves the right to make a decision in equity when it is impossible to complete the Tournament in accordance with the Rules of Golf. (Note: The R&A guidelines in *Guidance on Running a Competition* may be used in making a decision).

#### 4. PRIZES

- 4.1 The winning Team will hold the Australian Men's Interstate Teams Matches Trophy for one year.
- 4.2 The Team Members, Manager, and Coach of the winning Team will receive a GA Gold Medallion.

#### 5. STARTING TIMES

- 5.1 On any day of the Tournament during which two series of contests between Teams are to be played, the Committee will ensure that the first contest (or contests if more than one starting tee is used) in the first series is commenced at a time that will permit all players participating to be allowed at least half an hour as a lunch respite before being required to engage in the afternoon series of contests.
- 5.2 After the time appointed for commencement of a contest all players will be ready in turn to commence play of their individual match. Each match will commence at their allotted start time.
- 5.3 If the player arrives at their starting point, ready to play, within five minutes after their starting time, in the absence of circumstances that warrant waiving the penalty of disqualification as provided in Rule 33-7, the penalty for failure to start on time is loss of the first hole to be played.

#### 6. ORDER OF PLAY

- 6.1 On each day of the Tournament at least thirty minutes before the times appointed for (i) the foursomes (Final only) (ii) the singles, the Manager of a team will (i) give the Committee or its representative a list of the pairings and their order of play for the foursomes matches and later (ii) a list of the players and their order of play for the singles matches. The order of play will not be altered after the 30-minute cut-off has elapsed, however the Committee may vary such period of thirty minutes if it so determines.
- 6.2 Teams will play in reverse order - that is to say in the foursomes number 4 team to hit off first, and in the singles number 7 player to hit off first, with the honour as per the draw.

#### 7. ELIGIBILITY

- 7.1 A player shall be eligible to play in the Tournament if they are qualified as follows:
  - (a) That they are a male amateur player, and a member of a Golf Club affiliated with GA. In determining whether or not a player is an amateur the Rules of Amateur Status as approved by R&A Rules Limited will apply.
  - (b) That they are an Australian citizen.
- 7.2 A Player will be eligible to play in the Tournament for a Member State subject to the following conditions:
  - (a) That their permanent place of residence in Australia is at a place within the Member State except where they are a member of a Club which is not situated in the Member State within which it is affiliated and they have nominated that Club as their Home Club.
  - (b) That where a player is a member of a club with dual Member State affiliation, the player is permitted to elect which Member State for which they wish to be available for representation, irrespective of their State of residence. Once such election is made in writing to both Member States and is approved by the Board, the player must continue to be available only to the Member State so elected unless special permission is obtained from the Board.
  - (c) That where a player changes their permanent place of residence from within one State to a place within another State, should they have previously contested a Junior or Open-Age Interstate Teams Matches competition they will, for a period of 12 months, only be eligible to compete for their former Member State. (Note: if a player has never

previously contested a Junior or Open-Age Interstate Teams Matches competition, the 12-month waiting period does not apply).

- (d) After the expiration of 12 months following the date of their actual taking up residence within such latter state (for those who have previously contested a Junior or Open-Age Interstate Teams Matches competition), the player may elect to compete for their new state of residence, or continue to play for their former Member State. Should a player elect to play for their new Member State, they must give notice in writing to the Board, at least two months prior to the date of commencement of the Tournament. The Board will only approve one change of representation, except in exceptional individual cases

- 7.3 Within fourteen days of the receipt of a player's decision made under the provisions of paragraph 7.2(c), the Board will advise such player and both Member States concerned in writing of its approval or disapproval of such election. The decision of the Board will be final and binding on the player and Member States concerned.

The onus of proof to the satisfaction of the Board that they are entitled to make an election as aforesaid, will rest solely upon the player concerned.

## **8. SUBSTITUTIONS**

- 8.1 Should a nominated player be rendered incapable of playing by reason of accident, illness or other reasonable cause, substitution may be made for such player subject to the approval of the Committee.
- 8.2 When a substitution takes place after the official opening ceremony, the substitute player cannot play in any singles match unless the team has less than the minimum number of original members available to play (with the exception of the Final).
- 8.3 When a substitution takes place after the list of players and their order of play has been submitted to the Committee, the substituted player will play in the position of the original player.

## **9. RULES OF PLAY**

The Rules of Golf as adopted by R&A Rules Limited will apply, together with the GA Hard Card (see Condition 23) and any such Local Rules as laid down by the Committee.

## **10. CONFORMING GOLF BALLS AND CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS**

The specimen conditions in the Rules of Golf are in effect as regards Conforming Golf Balls and Conforming Driver Heads.

## **11. CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY COMMITTEE**

- 11.1 The Championship Play Committee will consist of the Board Member of GA responsible for Championships, GA's Director – Championships, and Manager – Championships, together with one member appointed by the Governing Authority of the Host State. (Note: Team Captains may not act on the Committee – a Committee member may be involved in a decision even though they are not present at the venue club).
- 11.2 The Committee will have sole management and control of the Tournament, with full power at any time to alter or vary any of the conditions. In the absence of a full Committee, such members as may be present at the time may give a decision, and any decision so given will be deemed to be a decision of the full Committee.
- 11.3 On a breach of any of the conditions, the Committee may impose such penalty as it thinks fit.

## **12. TEAM MANAGER**

Each Member State will appoint a Manager of its Team who may or may not be one of such Team. The Manager will be responsible for the conduct of their team and will also be responsible for making all necessary administrative communications with the Committee.

## **13. ADVICE**

- 13.1 In accordance with the Note to Rule 8 of the Rules of Golf, each team may appoint one person (in addition to the persons from whom advice may be asked under Rule 8), e.g. the team captain, manager or coach, who is authorised to give advice to his/her team members during Tournament rounds. This person must be identified to GA prior to the Opening Ceremony.
- 13.2 If the person selected to give advice changes between rounds, GA must be advised. The person giving advice must not change during a stipulated round, unless that round is suspended/postponed and resumes another day, or unless there are exceptional circumstances. In these circumstances, the Committee must first have given its permission.

- 13.3 It is requested that the person nominated to give advice does not walk on putting greens or in bunkers during the Tournament stipulated rounds. Additionally, supporters of each team should keep conversations with the players to a minimum during the round, in order to avoid the appearance of giving advice.
- 13.4 A playing captain must not give advice during their stipulated round.
- 13.5 The person selected to give advice will be required to wear identification.

#### 14. CADDIES

- 14.1 There are no restrictions as to who may act as a caddie.
- 14.2 A player who had been nominated to play in a particular contest may, whilst that contest is in progress and after their own match has been decided, act as caddie for another member of their Team playing in the same contest.

#### 15. PRACTICE

- 15.1 The Committee, in conjunction with the host Member State and host club (or clubs), will design practice arrangements, and publish such arrangements prior to the commencement of the tournament. These arrangements will be strictly adhered to, and may only be varied by the Committee.
- 15.2 The penalty for a breach of this condition will be the deduction of  $\frac{1}{2}$  an individual match point from the team's total number of individual match points gained for the entire tournament (Note: in the instance of multiple breaches, the total penalty will be  $\frac{1}{2}$  an individual match point, except where a breach occurs after a team has already been advised by the Committee that it is in breach of this condition in such a case, the additional breach will be treated as a fresh case and the above noted penalty procedure will be reapplied). These penalties may be either waived or modified in exceptional circumstances.

#### 16. DRUG POLICY

All competitors are subject to drug testing by the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Agency for banned substances as laid down in GA's Anti-Doping Policy. Any competitor infringing this policy, or refusing to take a test, will be disqualified and subject to any sanction(s) brought down by ASADA. A list of the prohibited substances will be available from GA. Clarification of any medication can be obtained via the ASADA hotline – 1800 020 506, or from [www.asada.gov.au](http://www.asada.gov.au)

#### 17. HEAD WEAR

- 17.1 Head wear may feature the emblem of the team, and the small name or logos of either or both the sponsor and the manufacturer (NB the sponsor's or manufacturer's name or logo must not appear more than once and must not exceed a perimeter measurement of 220mm). Players may only wear head wear authorised by their team Manager. Head wear should feature a state logo.
- 17.2 The penalty for a breach of this condition will be the deduction of  $\frac{1}{2}$  an individual match point from the team's total number of individual match points gained for the entire tournament (Note: in the instance of multiple breaches, the total penalty will be  $\frac{1}{2}$  an individual match point, except where a breach occurs after a team has already been advised by the Committee that it is in breach of this condition - in such a case, the additional breach will be treated as a fresh case and the above noted penalty procedure will be reapplied). These penalties may be either waived or modified in exceptional circumstances.

#### 18. MOTORISED TRANSPORT

Players or caddies must not ride in any form of transportation during a stipulated round unless authorised by the Committee. Penalty: At the conclusion of the hole at which the breach is discovered, the state of the match must be adjusted by deducting one hole for each hole at which the breach occurred; maximum penalty per round: 2 holes. Procedure when breach is discovered: Use of an unauthorised form of transportation must be discontinued immediately upon discovery that a breach occurred. Otherwise the player is disqualified.

Any player or caddie seeking authorisation to use a golf cart due to a disability as defined under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 should contact GA to obtain information on procedures for submitting such requests. All such requests and required information must be submitted to GA at the time the team is submitted to GA. Requests due to temporary injuries or impairments that do not qualify as a permanent disability under the Act will not be granted. In the event of a change in a medical condition after submitting the Team nomination but before the commencement of the event, written submission of all documentation must be received by GA no later than 7 days prior to the first day of the Tournament.

GA will consider any such request in accordance with these conditions and its rules, regulations and policies.

**19. MOBILE PHONES**

Players must have mobile phones turned off at all times whilst on the golf course during competition play. (Exception: Ringing a Tournament Official for a ruling or any other reasonable cause is permitted.)

**20. TELEVISION AND MEDIA**

All rights for televising live, television recordings or for any visual or electronic reproduction of the Tournament are reserved only to GA and may only be made under licence.

**21. IMAGES**

All entrants consent to be photographed during the Tournament. For players under 18 years of age, by accepting selection in a competing team the parent/guardian consents to their child being photographed. Images are permanently retained by GA and GA retains the rights to those images. Should GA use or distribute the image/s to any medium, it will be in a manner deemed appropriate by the organisation. For further information see the Member Protection Policy under the Industry tab on the GA website or contact us.

**22. CODE OF CONDUCT**

All entrants are bound by GA's Code of Conduct ("the Code"). A copy of the Code is available at [www.golfaustralia.org.au](http://www.golfaustralia.org.au). Any breach of the Code may be recorded on the Central Register of the Code ("the Register"). The Register may be accessed (and published from time to time) by any State Association or GA for the purposes of administering Competitions or state championships, events, competitions, practice sessions or major activities conducted or sanctioned by a State Association, or any State Association or GA codes of conduct and/or other related matters.

**23. GA HARD CARD**

The GA Hard Card will be in operation throughout the Tournament.

Note i: Distance Measuring Devices are NOT permitted. Penalty in accordance with Rule 14-3.

Note ii: The new condition relating to Club Face Grooves will not be in effect until 2014.