Dear Club Captain

Below are the Conditions for hosting a Senior Order of Merit Event; **however I draw your attention to the Course Set Up guidelines. It is imperative that the course is set up in such a way that the players (whose average age is 60 and average handicap about 9) can successfully and enjoyably play their round. Also a difficult course set up delays play considerably. Normal Saturday tee and pin positions is a good guideline.**

Regards

Graeme Phillipson

NSW Senior Order of Merit
Club Event Guidelines - 2017

The following conditions are mandatory for the hosting of a Golf NSW Senior Order of Merit event. If there are any issues then please call Jack Baker at Golf NSW (02) 9505 9105. Full details can be found on the Golf NSW website.

The Golf NSW Senior OOM Trophy is open to Amateur male golfers 55yrs and over, **regardless of handicap**.

The Golf NSW SOOM event also incorporates a 65 and over section for those players that have turned 65 on the date the host clubs event is played. *Please note that there is no requirement for a Club events to award players in age categories, in fact it has become more acceptable that large fields be divided into handicap divisions for net prize distribution.*

There is also a Golf NSW Senior Order of Merit Net Trophy.

Entry Form
The attached is an example which includes the minimal amount of information. Your Club can add additional details as required.

The Entry Form should be available at least 6 weeks prior to the event and included on your web site. It is also recommended to be included on the Golf NSW web site. Please send to Tom James so that this can be done.

If there are sufficient entries a **shotgun start** should be considered as this is the preferred option and has the benefit of most of the competitors attending the presentation.

The Draw should be published (on your Clubs web site) at least 5 days prior to the event. Also indicate if late entries are accepted.

NOTE: It is advisable to have in place 'Conditions of the Event' so there is no confusion should a decision on an issue be required.

Entry Fee and Prize Rundown
The Entry Fee (for the golf component) should be between $25 and $40 depending on the Course. An additional fee is appropriate if lunch etc is provided, although it should be noted that this option is proving to be less popular.

It is recommended that ALL places be decided on Countback, using the Golf Australia guidelines. Play off's are NOT recommended as in most cases the players may not be present.

As a guide the prize allocation should be a minimum of 50% of the entry fees (excluding lunch cost).

There are two options in allocating prizes across a large field.

1. Age categories eg Overall Scratch, 55-64, 65 and over and even a 70+ if enough players
2. Handicap Divisions – eg under 7, 7 – 12 and 12+. This can be modified depending on the handicap mix of the field to give a good balance

Suggested Minimum amounts for the prize rundown is as follows based on a field size of 40. Larger fields could have more/higher prize value and/or more age/division groups.

Age

Scratch Winner	$200
Scratch Runner up	$100
Scratch Third	$50
Over 65 Winner	$100
Over 65 Runner up	$50
Net Winner	$100
Net Runner up	$50

Divisions

Overall Scratch	$100
Div 1 Scratch	$100
Div 1 Runner up	$50
Div 2 Scratch	$100
Div 2 Runner up	$50
Div 3 Scratch	$100
Div 3 Runner up	$50
Net Winner	$100
Net Runner up	$50

As Players come from all over the State it is recommended prize vouchers be a voucher redeemable at a variety of places, rather than the club's Pro Shop.

Publicising the Event
It is important to publicise your event to ensure good participation. The following are suggested;
- Include in the Golf NSW 'Schedule of Events' on golfnsw.org (already done)
- Put details and entry form on your Clubs web site.
- Provide your entry form to Golf NSW for inclusion on golfnsw.org (by sending to jack.baker@golfnsw.org)
- Your event will be included in the regular Golf NSW email update to Seniors.

Entry Conditions
For an event to be accepted by the Golf NSW as a NSW Senior Order of Merit event;
- The handicap limit may not be set at less than twelve (12). Clubs may include higher handicap (a maximum of 18 is recommended) players in their event and have additional age and handicap events.
- **If an SOOM event does not attract 32 or more players (Registered and Unregistered) on 12 or less, it may not be awarded SOOM status the following year.**
- Should a ballot be required, registered Senior OOM players should be included first according to handicap. In the unlikely event that the field contains only registered Senior OOM players and the field size is still exceeded then a ballot according to handicap will take place.
- Teeing up or preferred lies will be allowed if the course conditions warrant.
- A minimum of 32 playing spots must be reserved for Senior Order of Merit participants.

Locomotion
Carts/Locomotion are permitted in events unless there are overriding conditions which prevent their use. A condition to prevent their use may be instigated by the host club or Golf NSW.
It is at all times the player's responsibility to check availability of locomotion at host venues.

Distance Measuring Devices
Are permitted if the Host Clubs Local Rule allows.

Course set up requirements

Your course should be it the best condition possible.

To ensure enjoyment by the players and minimise slow play the following course set up is required;

- Tees to be in the normal 'Saturday' members positions… certainly not off the back on long difficult holes. As a guide
  - Par 3's to be under 170m
  - Par 4's to be under 370m
  - Par 5's to be under 470m
- Pins to be in 'accessible' positions
- Green speed no more than 10 feet.

If it is felt your course set up may prove difficult resulting in slow play you can apply to Golf NSW to run the event as a **Scratch Stableford.**

If the Course conditions are such that fairways are wet or damaged then preferred lies (or teeing up) is advised.

Senior Event run in conjunction with Vardon

If your Seniors event is run in conjunction with another event such as a Vardon then the Seniors tees can be forward in line with above guidelines.

Also Senior players should be drawn together.

Slow Play

To ensure speed of play is reasonable players need to be advised the following;

a) Time to complete the round – this will depend on the course and the degree of difficulty. E.g. 4hrs 10 minutes
b) Penalty statement

If possible there can be an 'official' to monitor.

Result Sheets

Following each event, results must be returned to the Golf NSW in the Excel format required which details the **total field of players** who are **over 55 years** of age with following details;

a) Name
b) Club
c) Golf Link number
d) Handicap
e) Age
f) Scratch score

** Please do not include the names of any players under 55 years of age.
** Please put the players in order of position in the scratch event and note if a play-off was used to determine the winner.

The results sheets of all Senior OOM events (correctly completed) must be returned to Golf NSW, PO Box 195 ARNCLIFFE NSW 2205 or by fax (02) 9505 9199, or email to Jack Baker (jack.baker@golfnsw.org) **within 4 working days** from the conclusion of the event.

Player queries which differ from the submitted Result Sheet will be directed to the Club.

Handicapping (via Golf Link) is to be completed by the Club.

Newspaper Results

The Seniors Event results must be advised to AAP with minimum details as follows

- Senior OOM Scratch (with score)
- Senior OOM Runner up (with score)
- Divisional Winners or Over 65 Scratch (with score)
- Senior OOM Net (with score)

These should be independent of any other event run at same time (e.g. Vardon)

Event Not Run on Specified Date

If due to weather or other factors the event is not able to be held on the specified date, then the event can be cancelled for the year. If an alternate date is envisaged, then this must be approved by the GNSW Match Committee.