

SOUTH WESTERN GOLF ASSOCIATION

MENS PENNANT CONDITIONS 2024

1. DEFINITIONS

- a. SWGA means the South Western Golf Association, the parent body for amateur golf in the District.
- b. SWGA men's pennant is restricted to amateur male members of the SWGA.
- c. The competition between two teams will be known as a contest.
- d. In SWGA Men's Scratch pennant, a contest consists of seven (7) individual matches in all divisions.
- e. In SWGA Men's Handicap pennant, a contest consists of five (5) individual matches.

2. THE SWGA MEN'S PENNANT SEASON

2.1 SWGA men's pennant will be played on Sunday mornings at each designated host club commencing at 8.00am. (unless otherwise advised). The season will commence on Sunday March 17th and will conclude with finals to be played at the three clubs listed in the fixture.

2.2 Play will be under the GV code of conduct rules. Any breach of such rules will be dealt with by the executive of the SWGA.

3. PENNANT DIVISIONS

- 3.1 Pennant will be conducted in 5 scratch divisions and two division of handicap pennant split geographically.
- 3.2 A club is not permitted to have more than one team in any division.

4. TEAM LISTS AND TEAM MANAGERS

4.1 The team captain or manager or designated representative of each team shall hand to the starter for the host club the list of team members in order from 1 to 7, plus team manager (if so designated), no later than 15 minutes prior to the stated hit off time. Player No. 7 to hit off first through to No 1

For Handicap pennant the team list must be in handicap order, with Golfink No's listed. The number one (1) player being the lowest marker to the number five (5) player being the highest handicapper.

Please Note: - Any Club that is late in handing in its team list will incur the following penalties:

Team List not submitted by:-	Penalty
15 minutes prior to hit-off time	The club's No. 7 player will lose the 1 st hole of his match. (No. 5 player for division 6)
5 minutes prior to hit-off time	The club's No. 7 player will lose the 1 st and 2 nd holes of his match. (No. 5 player for division 6)
By designated hit-off time	The club's No. 7 player will lose his match in a walkover. (No. 5 player for division 6)

It is the responsibility of the starter to impose the above penalties.

4.2 The team captain or manager or designated representative must be a member of the team's club. The team manager shall be identified on the team list submitted prior to the start of the contest. In accordance with the note to Rule of Golf 8-1, permission is given for each team manager to give advice to members of his team. Team managers are not part of a match and are considered to be outside agencies. Clubs appointing team managers ineligible under the above conditions shall be subject to penalty as determined by the executive of the SWGA.

5 CONTESTS

5.1 Nature of:

- (a) In Divisions 1 to 5, contests will be played without handicap allowances and without restrictions on handicaps of players in individual divisions.
- (b) In the Handicap based Divisions, each contest will be played off the Daily Handicap from the Scratch and Slope rating as provided by the home club. The maximum daily handicap is 27, and no player may receive more than eighteen shots (18) with shots being applied using the Universal match Play index (below). It is the responsibility of each player to ensure they play using their correct handicap. Golflink numbers must be provided on the team sheet. If a player is found to have used a handicap greater than entitled during a match they will be disqualified.

Hole	Index	Hole	Index
1	18	10	5
2	8	11	11
3	12	12	2
4	3	13	15
5	14	14	7
6	6	15	13
7	10	16	4
8	1	17	17
9	16	18	9

5.2 Commencing of:

- (a) Each day, the series of contests will be played upon the course named in the draw and in accordance with the most current R&A Rules of Golf together with any such local rules as are in force over the course on which the competition takes place. Contests will commence at a starting time of 8.00 am (unless otherwise advised) and shall be played in the order in which the competing teams appear in the draw of contests, at 45 minute intervals (30min in handicap section) where play is in pairs from the first tee.
- (b) Players must be ready to commence play when called upon. If a player arrives at his starting tee ready to play within five minutes after his starting time, the penalty for failing to start on time is loss of the first hole in match play. Play will commence from the second hole. A player who arrives more than five minutes after his starting time, in the absence of justifiable circumstances, shall be disqualified. (Such loss will show on the result sheet as a "walkover").

It is the responsibility of the starter to enforce this penalty.

- (c) If a club is unable to field a full team, walkovers shall be given starting at number 7. If a team intends to give a walkover in an individual match the opposing captain should be notified as early as possible before the match is to commence. Any match in which a player plays out of the correct position shall be forfeited.
- (d) The "Honour" shall be decided by the toss of a coin.

5.3 Order of:

(a) Scratch Pennant

Individual matches are to be played from the tee markers as directed by the host club and shall be played by the opposing players in the **reverse** order in which the respective names appear on the team lists (i.e. No. 7 in each Team plays first).

(b) Handicap Pennant

Individual matches are to be played from the tee markers as directed by the host club and shall be played by the opposing players in **reverse handicap** order in which the respective names appear on the team lists (i.e. No. 5 in each Team plays first).

(c) Any alteration to the hit off order must be made by agreement between the opposing team captains at least 10 minutes before the normal hit off time for that contest. Such alteration must be within the hit off time of those teams and must be notified to the starter.

(d) Handicap pennant and Div 5 scratch can be played in fours and/or as a shotgun start at the discretion of the host club. A request by a host club for fours or shotgun start for other divisions would need to seek approval of SWGA Executive Committee.

5.4 All matches shall be played over eighteen holes match play. If a match is square after the completion of eighteen holes, the match is halved.

In divisional finals, if a match is square after the completion of 18 holes, play shall continue until one player secures the advantage. However, the captains of both teams may agree that a match shall terminate without a decision, if the divisional final contest is already decided.

5.5 **Reporting Results of:**

It is the responsibility of the team captain or manager to report the results to the official in charge of the event.

6. **PLAYERS AND CADDIES COURSE AND DRESS REQUIREMENTS**

6.1 No player of the participating team shall act as a caddie for another player during the contest.

6.2 No person who has caddied for a player during a contest may caddie for another player during the same contest.

6.3 Players and caddies failing to adhere to host club's dress regulations, including footwear, will not be permitted to continue, hence the result of the match shall be a walkover. It is the responsibility of the starter to enforce the penalty and report the incident to the SWGA executive at the conclusion of play.

6.4 The consumption of alcohol during a pennant round is an offence. The consumption of alcohol by any player or caddie is prohibited on the playing area of the course while any members of the team you are representing are playing a stipulated round in the SWGA Pennant competition. Violation of such condition will result in a loss of one individual match for each breach.

7. **DISPUTES/DISPENSATION**

7.1 Any dispute (other than those covered by the Rules of Golf) will be decided by the Executive Committee of the SWGA whose decision shall be final.

7.2 Any club dispensation from the rules and requirements set out in these conditions would necessitate a written request from the club and any decision would be solely at the discretion of the SWGA Executive

8. **ELIGIBILITY**

8.1 To be eligible to play SWGA men's pennant, a player must be of amateur status and be a financial member with playing rights of that club.

8.2 No player can represent his club in more than one pennant team in any one round

8.3 No player can play in any more than 6 rounds of pennant during the regular season

8.4 Where a club has a bye round in a higher division no more than two players who play in the lower division match can play the following week in the higher division match. Where that higher division bye is in the last round of pennant a maximum of two players from the previous weeks higher division team can play in the lower division

8.5 No player will be allowed to represent more than one club in SWGA pennant in any one year.

9 **FINALS**

9.1 At the completion of the home and away contests, the final will be contested between the two top teams in each division at a SWGA course to be nominated by the executive committee each year.

Players from clubs with scratch teams in different divisions, who have played three games in a higher division during the regular season, will be ineligible to play in a lower divisional final, except when that club has both teams in the finals.

9.2 In the event of a tie at the end of the round robin section, a procedure already determined by the SWGA Executive Committee will be automatically applied to decide the finalists. The procedure shall be as follows;

Step 1 Contests won

Step 2 Matches won

Step 3 Result of match during regular season

Step 4 Countback based on difference between holes won and lost in all individual matches during the regular season.

9.4 A player is only eligible to play in the finals if they have played at least two rounds of pennant in the regular season.

9.5 The host course for the final, where they have received a written request from a team, must make its course available for one complimentary practice round in the week prior to the final. It is expected that during a practice round players would adhere to any club requirements. (practice round conditions, dress code, etc)

10 **MOTORISED TRANSPORT**

10.1 The use of motorized transport (golf carts) by a competitor is not permitted, unless a medical certificate is provided. Permission to use own motorised transport is to be obtained from the host club prior to the day of the contest.

11 **PROMOTION AND RELEGATION**

11.1 The winner of each scratch division two, three, four and five will be promoted. If promotion will see two teams from one club in any division, then the executive committee has the discretion to promote the runner up. The bottom side in each of division one, two, three and four will be relegated. If relegation will see two teams from one club in any division the executive committee has the discretion to relegate the team that was second lowest on the ladder.

12. **COURSE AVAILABILITY/PRACTICE**

12.1 Each club entering the SWGA pennant competition must make its own course available for pennant and ensure that the tee is closed to other players for a minimum of one hour prior to pennant play.

12.2 Players are not permitted to practice on the course on the day of competition **prior to the commencement of their respective matches**. Breach of this condition will be disqualification of the player or players involved. Prior to the commencement of their respective match, a player may practice, on the designated practice areas of the host club.

12.3 Following the commencement of their respective match, a player may practice in accordance with the Rule of Golf 5.5. However players should note that penalties may still be applied in accordance with the Rule of Golf 5.6 to any player who delays play by such actions.

13. **HOST CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES/RESULTS PROCEDURE**

13.1 The host club is to appoint a starter who is responsible for the coordination of team sheets, allocation of penalties for team sheet violations and the starting of contests.

The host club is also to provide a liaison officer (who may be the starter) who will be responsible for:

- Compiling score board results
- Coordinate team managers/captains to complete and sign the results sheets
- Complete and input results.

13.2 The host club is also to provide a referee or match committee to give a ruling on the rules of golf and local rules.

13.3 Pennant results must be submitted into Golfbox via the link that will be provided. Any concerns/issues please Contact David on 0417031035.

13.4 The Host club is to provide a **meal only** (subject to any COVID restrictions) for each of the participating players. It is each club's responsibility to undertake such catering provision to the required levels at their own expense.

14 **NEW TEAMS**

14.1 New teams wishing to enter the SWGA pennant competition will be placed at the discretion of the SWGA Executive Committee.

15. GENERAL COMPLAINT OR PROTEST

15.1 A complaint or protest regarding a breach of any of the foregoing conditions must be made by a club after a decision of its committee, and must be in writing and addressed to the Honorary Secretary of the SWGA within seven days of the breach.

15.2 Any complaint proved justified or protest upheld may result in a loss of game(s) or disqualification as decided by the SWGA committee after proper investigation

17 SUSPENSION OF PLAY AND ABANDONMENT OF CONTESTS

17.1 In the event of heavy rain, lightning, unplayable course conditions or for any other reason, the host club referee or match committee will be responsible for deciding whether to suspend play. The signal for suspending play will be three short siren blasts , or in line with the host clubs procedure. The procedure when play is suspended is outlined under rule of golf 5-7.

17.2 When the course is ready for play, players will be advised to return to their various locations. The signal for the resumption of play will be one long siren blast. Every effort should be made to complete all contests on the scheduled day.

17.3 If the referee or match committee declares that competition is not possible on the scheduled day and **less than 2** contests have been decided; the round shall be abandoned.

17.4 If the referee or match committee declares that competition is not possible on the scheduled day and a **minimum of 2** contests have been decided, play in all unfinished matches should be resumed on a day or days to be determined by the SWGA match committee in consultation with the host club (prior to the set date of pennant finals) from where they were discontinued (see rules of golf 33-2d and 6-8b). In exceptional circumstances, the SWGA match committee may appoint an alternate venue for the conclusion of unfinished matches. The result of any decided matches will stand in this instance.

17.5 If resumption of play is not possible on the determined day or days, the SWGA match committee will determine the action to be taken.

By order of the Executive Committee

SWGA