



NORFOLK COUNTY GOLF UNION

COUNTY ORDER OF MERIT - TERMS OF COMPETITION

1. THE NCGU SCRATCH AND HANDICAP ORDER OF MERIT TROPHIES

- 1.1 These Terms of Competition are to be read in conjunction with the Norfolk County Golf Union (NCGU) Rules and Regulations, as they currently appear on the NCGU website.
- 1.2 The **County Order of Merit** qualifying competitions shall be played annually on dates and at venues to be determined by the NCGU.
- 1.3 If any Competition must be cancelled or abandoned due to weather conditions, it shall be rearranged or cancelled completely as decided by the NCGU Board.
- 1.4 The Rules of Golf, plus the England Golf Hard Card and any Local Rules of the host venue on the day of any Competition, shall apply.
- 1.5 The Competitions shall be open to all male members of any Golf Club affiliated to the NCGU on the date of the Competition.
- 1.6 The Competitions shall take the form of 18 holes stroke play, played from the competition medal tees of the day, with both Scratch and Handicap scores being recorded.

In the case of the County Amateur and County Handicap events, the first 36 holes of each will count towards the County Order of Merit Scratch and Handicap Tables respectively.

- 1.7 Players may only enter the Competitions online through Golf Genius and only before the advertised closing date. Any entries received after the closing date will only be considered if the maximum number of entrants has not been achieved.
- 1.8 The entry fee, as decided and specified by the NCGU Board, must be paid online at the time of entering any of the Competitions.

Any refunds in respect of withdrawals will only be granted subject to notice of such withdrawals being received up to and not beyond the closing date. Any refunds in respect of withdrawals after the closing date will only be considered by the NCGU Board if there is a reserve entry available.

- 1.9 Entries for the Competitions, apart from the County Amateur and County Handicap, shall be limited to players with a WHS Handicap Index of no greater than **24.0** on the entry closing date.

The number of entrants may be limited at the discretion of the NCGU, so entries will be accepted in the order they are received, with a waiting list maintained for any additional entrants.

- 1.10 Players shall be advised of their starting tee-time no later than seven days in advance of the Competitions and will be allocated a Playing Handicap (in respect of the Handicap events) based upon 95% of their exact Course Handicap on the day of the Competitions.
- 1.11 Play in the Competitions shall be in groups of 2 or 3-balls.
- 1.12 In a situation where players are unsure how to proceed under the rules of the Competition, a player may choose to complete a hole under the two-ball rule without penalty, in accordance with the Rules of Golf. At the end of the round, the player should advise the Competition Administrator of any such situation and ask for a ruling before signing and submitting his scorecard.
- 1.13 Scorecards must be returned to the Competition Administrator immediately at the end of each round.

1.14 The winners at each of the Competitions, apart from the County Amateur and County Handicap, shall be the players returning the lowest scratch and lowest net handicap scores over 18 holes.

In the event of a tie, the winners and subsequent places will be determined by the lowest scratch or net handicap scores (as applicable) on count-back, being the best 9, 6, 3 and 1 holes on the back nine and, if still tied, the best 6, 3 and 1 holes on the front nine.

1.15 NCGU vouchers will be awarded to the leading places in both the Scratch and Handicap events at each Competition.

1.16 The events comprising the **NCGU Scratch Order of Merit Table** shall be the 18-hole Competitions, at venues to be arranged annually, plus the first 36 holes of the **County Amateur Championship**, being a maximum of eight Competitions.

The events comprising the **NCGU Handicap Order of Merit Table** shall be the 18-hole Competitions at venues to be arranged annually, plus the 36-hole **County Handicap Championship**, being a maximum of eight Competitions.

1.17 Order of Merit points will be awarded as follows for each of the qualifying Competitions, and players will be eligible to score points in both the Scratch and Handicap events. Points for all positions covered by ties shall be added together and divided equally amongst those players involved.

Winner - 100 pts	2 nd Place - 85 pts	3 rd Place - 70 pts	4 th Place - 60 pts	5 th Place - 50 pts
6 th Place - 40 pts	7 th Place - 30 pts	8 th Place - 20 pts	9 th Place - 10 pts	10 th Place - 5 pts

1.19 The winners **NCGU Scratch and Handicap Order of Merit Tables** will be awarded the respective **Heacham Manor Trophies**.

Prize vouchers will be awarded to the players in the leading places in the final **NCGU Scratch and Handicap Order of Merit Tables** allocated as follows from the Order of Merit prize fund, although players may only receive the highest value voucher if they are in prize winning positions in both tables:

Winner - 40% ; Runner-up - 30% ; 3rd Place - 20% ; 4th Place - 10%.

2. THE NCGU SCRATCH MATCH PLAY FOR THE AUSTIN BRYDON TROPHY

2.1 The top 13 players in the season's **NCGU Scratch Order of Merit Table**, having played in a minimum of **three** Order of Merit Competitions, will qualify for the **Scratch Match Play Championship**, together with the Current Holder, County Amateur Champion and County Boys' Champion.

Players who qualify for both the **Scratch Match Play** and the **Handicap Match Play Championships** will be invited to play in the **Scratch Match Play**.

2.2 An invitation to take part will be sent to all qualifiers with the draw being made before the end of September. The **Scratch Match Play Championship** will be played over a weekend during October at a venue selected by the NCGU.

2.3 Should any of the qualifiers be unable to play in the Championship, then the player finishing in 14th place will be invited to play, and so on.

If the minimum of 16 players cannot be achieved, players having competed in two Competitions will be invited and then, if necessary, players having competed in just one Competition.

2.4 In the event of a tie for the last qualifying place, it will be decided on the **NCGU Scratch Order of Merit** points scored in the last three chronological Competitions. If still equal, it will be decided on the last two, and then the last one.

2.5 The draw will be seeded with, in the first round, seed 1 vs 16, seed 8 vs 9, seed 5 vs 12, seed 4 vs 13, seed 3 vs 14, seed 6 vs 11, seed 7 vs 10, and seed 2 vs 15.

The Current Holder, County Amateur Champion and County Boys' Champion will be seeded 1, 2 and 3 respectively. The remaining places will be seeded in the order that players finished in the overall **NCGU Scratch Order of Merit Table**.

- 2.6 In the event of a qualifying player having to withdraw after the draw has been made, the player next in line will replace that player and fill the drawn position. There will not be another draw.
- 2.7 Matches will be played in an order decided by the NCGU from the competition medal tees of the day, and the winners in each round will qualify for the next, up to and including the final. The losing semi-finalists will play off for third and fourth places.
- 2.8 The winner will receive the **Austin Brydon Trophy**.

The winner, runner-up and semi-finalists will each also receive prize vouchers, allocated from the Match Play prize fund as follows:

Winner - 40% ; Runner-up - 30% ; 3rd Place - 20% ; 4th Place - 10%.

3. THE NCGU AMATEUR HANDICAP MATCH PLAY FOR THE NCGU TROPHY

- 3.1 The top 13 finishers in the season's **NCGU Handicap Order of Merit Table**, having played in a minimum of **three** Order of Merit Competitions, will qualify for the **Handicap Match Play Championship**, plus the Current Holder, the County Handicap Champion and the County Boys' Handicap Champion.

Players who qualify for both the **Scratch Match Play** and the **Handicap Match Play Championships** will be invited to play in the **Scratch Match Play**.

- 3.2 An invitation to take part will be sent to all qualifiers with the draw being made before the end of September. The **Handicap Match Play Championship** will be played over a weekend during October at a venue selected by the NCGU.
- 3.3 Should any of the qualifiers be unable to play in the Championship, then the player finishing in 14th place will be invited to play, and so on.

If the minimum of 16 players cannot be achieved, players having competed in two Competitions will be invited and then, if necessary, players having competed in just one Competition.

- 3.4 In the event of a tie for the last qualifying place, it will be decided on the **NCGU Handicap Order of Merit** points scored in the last three chronological Competitions. If still equal, it will be decided on the last two, and then the last one.
- 3.5 The draw will be seeded with, in the first round, seed 1 vs 16, seed 8 vs 9, seed 5 vs 12, seed 4 vs 13, seed 3 vs 14, seed 6 vs 11, seed 7 vs 10, and seed 2 vs 15.

The Current Holder, County Handicap Champion and County Boys' Handicap Champion will be seeded 1 to 3 respectively. The remaining places will be seeded in the order that players finished in the overall **NCGU Handicap Order of Merit Table**.

- 3.6 In the event of a qualifying player having to withdraw after the draw has been made, the player next in line will replace that player and fill the drawn position. There will not be another draw.
- 3.7 Matches will be played under handicap in an order decided by the NCGU from the competition medal tees of the day, and the winners in each round will qualify for the next, up to and including the final. The losing semi-finalists will play off for third and fourth places.
- 3.8 The winner will receive the **NCGU Handicap Match Play Trophy**.

The winner, runner-up and semi-finalists will each also receive prize vouchers, allocated from the Match Play prize fund as follows:

Winner - 40% ; Runner-up - 30% ; 3rd Place - 20% ; 4th Place - 10%.