

## GENERAL REGULATIONS for SUFFOLK COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS AND TOURNAMENTS

### Qualifications and Conditions of Entry

An amateur must be of amateur status as defined by the R & A Rules Ltd. He must be a playing member of a Golf Club affiliated to the Suffolk Golf Union or have been born in Suffolk and be a playing member of another club affiliated to the English Golf Union.

All amateur players must be in possession of and enter on the basis of a current CONGU handicap and, if known, advise the tournament organizer of their Central Handicap Database Unique Lifetime reference number. No player may enter a competition if his handicap exceeds the limit for that championship or tournament.

A Professional or Assistant Professional shall be a Bona Fide or Honorary Member of the Suffolk Professional Golfers Association

A competitor shall not have played for, or represented another Country or County or played in another County's Championships during the previous 365 days.

#### **Exception – Junior Championships and Junior Representative matches**

All entries must be made on the appropriate entry form and received by the stipulated Tournament Organiser by 6pm on the stated closing date for entries. Late entries may be accepted only at the discretion of the tournament organizer. All entries must be fully completed and accompanied by the stipulated entry fee. Cheques should be made payable to the **Suffolk Golf Union**.

No entry fee will be refunded unless notice of withdrawal has been properly notified at least 72 hours before the published starting time of the first or only round.

All entries shall be subject to the approval of the Championship Committee which reserves the right to accept or refuse an entry without giving reason for its decision, which shall be final.

If entries are oversubscribed, there will be a ballot for places by handicap

### General Conditions of Play

All Championships shall be played according to the Rules of Golf as approved by the Royal and Ancient Club of St. Andrews and such Local Rules as shall be approved by the Championship Committee

The player must be ready to start at the time established by the Committee. If the player arrives at his starting point, ready to play, within five minutes after his starting time in the absence of circumstances which warrant waiving the penalty of disqualification as provided in Rule 33-7, the penalty for failure to start on time is two strokes at the first hole in Stroke Play. The penalty for lateness beyond five minutes is disqualification.

If, in any Championship or Tournament, it becomes impossible to complete the Championship or Tournament in accordance with the conditions because of adverse

weather conditions or other circumstances which in the opinion of the Championship Committee make it impossible or practical to do so the Championship Committee shall be empowered to vary such conditions to the extent necessary to achieve a result within the time available.

### Specification for Clubs

The conditions applicable to all Suffolk Golf Union Championships and Tournaments are as Appendix 1, Part C, 1a, page 141 in the 2008-2011 Rules of Golf as issued by the R & A Rules Ltd.

Ride-on buggies will only be authorized for competitors if an appropriate medical certificate issued by a competent medical authority, stating that the competitor could not otherwise play, has been lodged with the County Secretary at least seven days before the date of the competition and if the host club does not consider that the course is unsuitable for buggies. When such permission is given, no other person shall ride in the buggy nor may the buggy be used for purposes other than to convey the authorized person and his own equipment if he has no caddie. **All such authorized persons must have appropriate third party liability insurance to meet claims which might arise against them as a result of the use of the buggy and where the vehicle may have to cross a public road or highway, it must have suitable vehicle licensing and insurance.**

The method for deciding ties shall be as stated in the conditions of the particular championship or tournament.

In the event of a "Sudden Death" play off as required under the Regulations of the competition, players involved will be advised by the Committee of the time and order of the play which shall be decided by lot. If a player fails to appear at the appointed time he shall be disqualified as provided in Rule 6-3.

All players shall play without undue delay and in accordance with any pace of play guidelines which may be laid down by the Committee

No professionals shall be permitted to caddie in any County Championships or matches.

Any competitor who, during the course of an event, misbehaves by, for example, swearing, throwing clubs, or vandalizing the golf course or clubhouse, or acts in any manner which might bring the game into disrepute may be debarred from entering or taking part in any Suffolk Golf Union event for such period of time as the Championship Committee may decide.

### General Conditions

All disputes will be settled by the Championship Committee formed by the appointed Championship Referee (3 to form a quorum), whose decision shall be final.

Any competitor who:

- a) For any reason, fails to appear on the tee at his published starting time, or
- b) Having qualified to continue in an event fails to do so must, without delay, furnish to the Championship Committee, an explanation in writing, to the

satisfaction of the Championship Committee. If he does not do so, he will be debarred from entering or taking part in any Suffolk Golf Union event for such period of time as the Championship Committee may decide.

Mobile phones are not permitted to be used on the course except in case of emergencies.

Penalty for breach of condition: Disqualification.

#### **Distance Measuring Devices**

For all Championships and Tournaments held by the Suffolk Golf Union, and for each day's play, a player may obtain distance information by using a device which measures distance only. If during a stipulated round a player uses a distance measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other Conditions which might affect his play (e.g. gradient, wind speed, temperature etc) the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty shall be disqualification regardless of whether any such additional function is actually used.

#### **Trophies**

Recipients of any Suffolk Golf Union trophy will be responsible for the Trophy from the time it is presented until the time it is relinquished. He or his club, if the trophy has been deposited therewith, shall ensure it is sufficiently insured at all times. **Trophies are insured by the County but that insurance becomes invalid if force is not required to remove the trophy, in which case the recipient or the club, if deposited therewith, shall be responsible for any loss or damage thereto.**

The holder shall also be responsible for having the trophy suitably engraved, for which the County will make a suitable re-imbusement on request, and that it is returned to the Championship Organiser at least 14 days prior to the following year's event.

#### **Dress Code**

Competitors and caddies may wear tailored shorts and white sports socks provided these are allowed by the host club. In all respects, the competitors and caddies must comply with host club's dress code, both on and off the course.

March 2010.

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