



**SOUTHERN GOLF GROUP WOMEN
PENNANT MATCHES
2025**

Terms of Competition

Agreed at SGG network meeting October 2024

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1. Host Club

The host club must provide:

a. Rules Official

Utilising the Rules of Golf and the host club's Local Rules, this person will act as Rules Official, be responsible for administering the competition of each pennant venue and determine any disputes that may arise on the day. This person must not be a competitor on the day in that grade.

b. Starters

The Host Club is required to provide a Starter for each tee as per the Scheduled Draw. Starters must be provided with Team Lists & Local Rules.

c. Local Rules

The Host Club is to provide 'Local Rules' sheet (see 1.d. below) to each Team Captain for handing to all players and officials prior to the start of each match. (Refer Envelopes – 1(d)(ii)).

d. 'Envelopes'

The Host Club is to provide 'envelopes' to be collected by visiting Team Captains at either the Pro Shop or with the Host Club Match Committee representative containing:

- i. Results Sheets.
- ii. Local Rules.
- iii. Host Daily 'Look-Up' Charts
- iv. Golf Australia Match Play Index

e. Catering

- i. Host clubs, where possible, may provide morning tea for pennant teams playing at their club.
- ii. There is no requirement for the Host Club to provide post-match catering. Lunch may be available for purchase – note this is at the discretion of individual clubs.
- iii. Where clubs are providing lunches, Host Clubs need to advise, before hosting pennants, if they have catering and costs involved. This information will be sought by the SGG Pennant Coordinator (Mel Phillips) prior to commencement of Pennants and circulated to clubs.
- iv. Visiting Clubs are encouraged to attend the Host Club facilities with their playing partners at the conclusion of the day's play.

f. Course Closures (refer 14)

The Host Club must notify the captains of visiting teams if a course is closed – refer 14 for more information.

2. Rules

All matches are to be played under the Rules of Golf, any condition specified by Golf Australia and any Local Rules of the Golf Club on whose course the matches are played.

3. Financial Members

Clubs must be financial with the Southern Golf Group and players must be financial members of the Club they represent as amateur players and be eligible to play in club championships. No player may play Pennant Matches for more than one Club in the Southern Golf Group during the Pennant Season.

4. Match Committee for Pennants Matches

The Match Committee for Pennant Matches is the Match Committee of the Southern Golf Group.

Any **disputes** or protests about breaches of the Terms of Competition for Pennant Matches must be made by a Team Captain and given in writing to the Match Committee - Mel Phillips- neilmel-phillips@bigpond.com and Lesley Scott- lesleyscotts4@gmail.com within twenty-four hours of the Pennant Match. The Match Committee will adjudicate on any protest.

5. Team Captains

a. Team Captain

Each team is to appoint a Team Captain who is to be identified on the Results Sheet each week. The Team Captain should ensure carts if required for their team are booked in advance with the Club or the Club's Pro Shop.

b. Duties

The duties of the Team Captain/Pennant Coordinator include:

- Advise host club each week on number of players, caddies, & lunches required.
- Meet with opposing Team Captain and prepare playing cards and handicap differences for each player. Confirm holes 'given/received'
- Fill in the result sheet and the **winning captain emails** the sheet to the SGG Pennant Coordinator, Mel Phillips neilmel-phillips@bigpond.com
- Keep the club record of results & players each week.
- Monitor the conduct of the players in her team in accordance with the appropriate Code of Conduct.
- Lodge any protest/dispute (in accordance with Condition 4) if necessary.
- Reporting any incident in writing to the Match Committee Mel Phillips- neilmel-phillips@bigpond.com and Lesley Scott- lesleyscotts4@gmail.com that occurs during the contest that may potentially lead to a breach of the Code of Conduct.

6. Definitions

a. Match Play

This traditional form of the game sees two individuals or two sides competing against each other with the number of holes won or lost deciding the match. The match is completed when one side is ahead after the stipulated number of holes or is more holes up than the number of holes remaining to be played.

Match Play may be competed “off-the stick” where no strokes are given for handicap differential between the players.

b. Handicap Match Play

This play gives strokes according to the difference between the players’ handicaps. Players will give the **exact number of strokes** as to their handicap differential.

7. Pennant Division and Team Composition

a. Division 1

5 players per team, no GA handicap range, to play in GA handicap order with the **highest** handicapper to play first through to the **lowest** at number 5. Matches are played “off the stick”.

b. Division 2 If the players handicap higher than 28 they must play off 28

5 players per team, GA handicap range from 19.4 - 28 and no more than 2 Silver Players (GA 0-19.3 on their first day of play – refer 11(e)) to play in daily handicap order with the **highest** daily handicapper to play first through to the **lowest** at 5. Play Handicap Match Play using the Handicap Match Play Index as listed at para 18. Note – there is no cap on the number of strokes a player will give.

c. Division 3

5 players per team, GA handicap range from 28.1 - 45 (ie players greater than 45 must play off 45) and no more than 2 Players under 28.1 to play in daily handicap order with the **highest** daily handicapper to play first through to the **lowest** at number 5. Play Handicap Match Play using the Handicap Match Play Index as listed at para 18. Note – there is no cap on the number of strokes a player will give.

d. Clubs with more than one team in a division

Team selections must be made in GA Handicap order i.e. the first five lowest GA Handicappers will play in Team 1 and the next five in Team two. Teams are not interchangeable and players are not permitted to move between teams. **Reserves can be selected from an open pool provided the handicap of the reserve falls within the handicap range set for the Division that she will be filling in for.**

e. Eligibility – Finals

To be eligible to play in any final match, a player must have played at least one game for that team, in that particular division.

f. Moving between Clubs

Where a player is a member of more than one club in the SGG Zone, they may only play for one club. The team in which the player plays her first game, is deemed to be the team in which she will play for the season.

g. Moving between Divisions

If a player has played twice in any division, she may only play in that division or higher - not a lower division.

8. Registration of Players

Where a Club is proposing to use a player from another SGG club, the approval of the Match Committee must be sought prior to the player's first game.

Each Club is required to keep a register of players who have played during the season. The register must be maintained throughout the season and be available for viewing by Match Committee if required and should include the following information:

- a. Full name
- b. Golf link number
- c. Division in which playing
- d. Date of first pennant game
- e. GA Handicap on that day; and
- f. Whether the payer is a "Silver player" on the first pennant game.

9 Golf Course

a. Course Set-Up

The Host Club is requested to set up the course generally used for Stroke/Medal rounds.

b. Tee Closure

The Host Club is requested to ensure that tees are closed at the appropriate time prior to the start of the first match to ensure the first matches are not delayed or held up.

c. Practice Rounds

it is the option of the host club to offer practice rounds to pennant players during the season or for the Final round.

10. Order of play

- a. In all Divisions, during the home and way season and finals, matches will be played from No. 5 player through to the No 1 player. This means the player with the highest GA handicap in each team tees off first, then the next highest and so on.
- b. If a player is played in an incorrect position in the team, that player, and any other players who are consequently placed incorrectly, will be disqualified for that match. The opposing team will receive a forfeit for any match or matches as affected on that day.
- c. If, in any match, 5 players cannot be fielded in a team, the team must be filled from the No. 1 position downwards. In the handicap Divisions, this means that the players having higher GA handicaps will receive the forfeits. If on the day of play there is a 'no-show' as opposed to a 'late arrival' (10(e)), then that player's opponent receives a forfeit.
- d. The names of the players in each team are to be written in the Club's Pennant records fifteen minutes before the scheduled tee time.
- e. In the event of a player being absent at her appointed time, matches may be played out of turn. The missing player has until the last tee time for that match to

arrive. After this time if the substitute is available they will be able to play in the position of the player who has not arrived.

- f. If there is a valid reason for the late arrival of an entire team, the team will be given a grace period of 15 minutes. Thereafter one player will be disqualified every 5 minutes, starting from the first scheduled match.
- g. Before the start of play in all divisions, the captains, or nominated person of each team is to toss for the right to choose the honor for her team.

11. Handicaps

- a. A player's GA handicap on the date of her first Pennant Match determines the "original" division in which the player may play. A bye in the first round of the Pennant Competition will be deemed as the first match.
- b. Any player whose GA handicap is higher than a particular division limit may play in that division but will use the maximum GA handicap for that division to determine her daily handicap.
- c. Players who reduce their GA handicaps during the Pennant Season are still eligible to play in their original division but they must play off the handicap for the reduced GA.
- d. Any Div. 2 player who reduces into Silver level (0-19.3) after her first match of the season will not be classed as a silver player for the purpose of determining the number of "Silver" players in the teams.
- e. The GA Handicap for each player prior to the commencement of the first day of play for the player must be recorded in the Club's Pennant Records, to determine:
 - i. the player's eligibility to play in a particular Division (s),
 - ii. whether the player is a "Silver Player"; and
 - iii. any adjustment to playing handicap if the player reduces her GA handicap during the season.

12. Forfeiting Matches

- a. Any team unable to play on the date scheduled in the Program must forfeit. The opposing Captain must be advised before 6.00 p.m. on the day prior to the scheduled match. Notice of forfeit must also be emailed to Mel Phillips, SGG Pennant Coordinator.
- b. The players named by any team receiving a forfeit en masse will be deemed to have played. The Team Captain must submit a results sheet, naming the players who would have played, to Mel Phillips SGG Pennant Coordinator.
- c. The players who have received a forfeit do not need to attend the venue on the day.
- d. The team that forfeits cannot name players.

- e. A team receiving a forfeit is deemed to have won all five matches.

13. Results

- a. Two points will be awarded for a match win.
- b. All games during the Pennant Season, if square at the 18th hole, 1 point each. All finals games to be played to a conclusion unless a team result has already been achieved - Refer 19.
- c. After each match
 - i. the winning captain emails the results to Mel Phillips, SGG Pennant Coordinator.
 - ii. Note each player's name and GA and daily handicap must be clearly recorded on the sheets. Incomplete forms will be returned to sender.
- d. Progressive scores will be distributed each week by the Pennant Recorder.

14. Course Closures: - (refer point 1(f))

- a. The captains of the host club must notify the club/captain of the visiting teams before 6.00 p.m. on the day before the scheduled match if the course is to be closed.
- b. In the event that the decision to close a course is not made until the day of play and all teams are present, then if the match has not begun each team will receive one point.
- c. When play is temporarily suspended, matches will resume where play was discontinued, in accordance with the rules of golf with the same team. If resumption of play on the same day is not possible, then each team will receive one point. Refer 17.
- d. In the event that a Final is abandoned for any reason, the final will be awarded to the team with the highest games tally for the season.
- e. If a game is abandoned during play, to prevent unsafe play: any match carried on after abandonment will be disqualified.

15. Motorised Transport

- a. This may be used by players, irrespective of age or the need for a current Medical Certificate indicating that such transport is necessary.
- b. The host club may disallow the use of motorized transport if course conditions warrant it.

16. Caddies

- a. All Caddies and players must adhere to the Code of Conduct.
- b. Pennant captains must notify the opposing team captain, prior to the day of competition, if any of their players will be having a caddie.

- c. A caddie may be used or acquired at any stage during a match if the opponent agrees.

17. Heat and Storm

Due to the large area covered by SGG-Zone, there is a large variation of temperature, the following will apply:

- a. By 6.00pm the day prior to play the Pennant Coordinator Mel Phillips will confirm the temperature for the following Monday using the Bureau of Meteorology forecast published at 4.25pm. If the forecast temperature is **36 DEGREES OR OVER** in the places where pennant matches will be played, the Pennant Coordinator Mel Phillips will notify the host club and all respective captains of clubs involved that play is cancelled. All teams involved will receive one (1) point, (0) games.
- b. In the event of unsafe weather conditions on the day of competition e.g., lightning, hail, or unpredicted high temperature, it will be the decision of the Host Club Rules Official to decide whether the matches should be discontinued. If matches are discontinued, 1 point will be allocated to each team.

18. Match Index

The Golf Australia Match Play Index (GA MPI) will be used. For players starting play on any hole but the 1st hole, the GA MPI will be implemented with the

NUMBER ONE HOLE BEING THE FIRST HOLE ON WHICH THE COMPETITION COMMENCES.

The difference in handicap shall be taken as per this Handicap Match Play Index:

HANDICAP MATCH PLAY INDEX			
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

All handicaps must be current at time of the match.

Please refer to the full-page Handicap Match Play Index sheets – with dots.

19. Finals Conditions

- a. **If possible**, at the end of the season, the 2025 finals will be played at a neutral course.
- b. Finals will be played in each grade between the 1st and 2nd placed teams at the end of the minor round competition.
- c. If there is a tie on points, the number of individual games won during the season will be used to break the tie. If this fails a countback on games of the Number 1 players in the respective division.
- d. In finals **all** individual matches to be played until a result is achieved unless one team cannot be beaten.
 - i. If a match is tied after the final hole, the match is extended one hole at a time until there is a winner (Refer Rules of Golf 3.2.(a))
 - ii. When additional holes are required to determine a winner, strokes are awarded as in the original round.
- e. See Rule 14(d) above re bad weather with finals matches.

20. Smoking & Alcohol

- a. Players and caddies are not permitted to drink alcohol or smoke cigarettes, vaping, or the like during their stipulated match.