

THOMSON WIRE ROOM GOLF SOCIETY

RULES 2018

COMPETITIONS: Par of a course not to be less than 66 and Winter Rules apply throughout the year on **All Courses** i.e. ball allowed to be rolled on fairway within six inches of original lie, but not nearer the hole. Footmarks in bunkers may be smoothed and ball placed on original spot.

In the event of a tie in all competitions, except Match-play, the winner will be decided on count-back. In single rounds, last nine holes, last six holes, last three etc. For monthly competitions, Stableford & Medal, last three rounds, last two, last one, then if necessary last back nine holes etc. For the putting competition, last five rounds, last four etc. Competition results to be published monthly.

PUTTING: For the purposes of the putting competition, putting commences once a stroke is played whilst the ball is in contact with the 'green'. If the ball is putted to 'off the green' any return shots taken with a 'putter' shall be deemed as putts. In order to keep a 'putting card' going, where a player is having a 'disaster hole' and 'picks up' before reaching the green, he may award himself three putts for that hole. The putting competition will run from April to September inclusive.

TEMPORARY GREENS: On any temporary green, a ball lying within a putter's length of the hole to count as one putt, a 'gimme' -- excluding the use of 'broom-handle' type of putter! While temporary green is in use, as they don't usually have a defining line, the putter used anywhere counts as a putt. A maximum of three temporary greens per round is allowed for the putting score to count towards the putting competition. If four or more are in use then no putting score will be permitted for that card.

STABLEFORD: The Stableford competition is played for during the months of March to June inclusive. Stroke allowance is full handicap.

STROKEPLAY: The Strokeplay competition is played for during the months of July to October inclusive. A player's score for the Strokeplay Competition will be based on the number of strokes that that player's nett score is below or above par for the course.

MATCHPLAY COMPETITION: In Matchplay competition the stroke allowance is full difference between handicaps. Members shall apply to be included in the draw, which is made on the preceding Presentation Night. The first round draw will be seeded on a geographical basis. Matches are to be completed by: First round the end of April; second round, end of June; Semi-final end of August; and the Final by the end of October. The first-named player in the draw shall have the advantage of nominating the venue of his match; also in the event of no result being forthcoming by the time that round should be played he shall be deemed as claimant of that match, unless he is the culpable party. It is the responsibility of the second-named player to contact the first-named and to offer the choice of at least three dates for their match to be played. The final round to be played on neutral ground. In the event of the combatants not being able to agree the Hon.Sec. shall decide their venue for them. **NEW**

SENIORS' TOUR TROPHY: The entry age for the Seniors' Tour Trophy is 65 years and over. This competition is Stableford-based and runs from March to October. Stroke allowance is full handicap. As with the regular Stableford/Medal competition, your best card each month counts. (During July to October, Medal time, your Stableford score is worked out for you.) Should a member turn 65 during the course of the competition, any scores attained prior to his birthday will not count and he will be awarded the usual 'worst score' minus two as his score for each month prior to his birthday.

VETERANS' TROPHY: The entry age for the Veterans' Trophy is 65 years and over. This is contested at the Captain's Day meeting.

WINTER ECLECTIC: For the duration of the Winter Eclectic competition, Winter Rules, (pick, clean and place, within 6 inches, no nearer the hole), is extended to any place on the course, except in any hazards.

HANDICAPS: The monthly adjustment is made against the player's best score entered, against the par for the course played.

Handicaps are incremented each month by .1 of a shot for each stroke over par up to a maximum of .5. Where par score is broken the player loses strokes (amount dependent on their handicap banding) for each stroke below par in accordance with Handicap Schedule, Section 16.

For handicapping purposes nothing greater than a nett double bogey on any one hole is considered.

The Secretary shall have discretionary powers to adjust the handicap of new members during their initial period of membership.

The maximum handicap attainable shall be 36. **NEW**

CAPTAIN: The Captain shall be elected annually by members present at the Spring Meeting.

It shall be his duty to nominate a venue for the Captain's Day, and also to sponsor a trophy/prize for the winner of that event.

COMMITTEE: The Committee, comprising of the Chairman, Hon. Secretary, and Treasurer, along with the Captain, shall be elected annually by members present at the Spring Meeting. It is their responsibility, jointly or individually to oversee the running of the Society.

PENALTIES: If a ball be lost and the player does not return to the spot where the last stroke was played from; **NOR** was a 'provisional' ball played, a new ball may be dropped at a point where the player and his marker agree was near to where the ball was lost, under penalty of TWO STROKES. (i.e. a tee-shot played and the ball deemed lost, with a new ball dropped at the agreed spot then the next stroke played is the fourth shot).

CARDS: Cards must be in the possession of the Secretary within seven days of the ensuing month.

Cards must be dated and signed by both player and marker. Non-entry of a card in any month, the player will be given the highest score entered that month, PLUS two strokes in Strokeplay; the highest score entered PLUS two strokes in putting; and the lowest score entered MINUS two points in the Stableford competition.

If a player cannot get out in any one month, due to holidays or illness, he may have one game's grace. i.e. his first game of the following month may count, provided he has deemed this fact with his fellow-players before the commencement of play.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Subscriptions are £40 a year for members and £30 for retired members. *(To qualify as a retired member, that member shall be in receipt of the State O.A.P. as of January 1st of the pertaining year).*

Subscriptions **must** be paid by the date of the Spring Meeting. Any member in arrears after this date will be ineligible to enter any current competitions.

Cheques are payable to: 'Thomson Wire Room Golf Society' c/o your Treasurer, Tony Chambers, 128 Leather Bottle Green, Erith, Kent, DA18 4HR.

Particularly new members, it is in your interest to read and digest these rules, as we have a couple of 'local rules' giving you pick-and-place options not normally available to you under the Rules of Golf. (Don't try invoking them when playing in another society, as it may not go down too well).

RULE AMENDMENTS: (AGM decisions 14/5/12)

Marker need not be a Society member, agreed 2009 AGM

Veterans' Trophy age qualification raised from 55 years to 65 years and over.

Subscriptions raised (from 2013 season) from £35 to £40, and for retirees from £20 to £30.

Full handicap difference allowance for Matchplay, agreed 2016 AGM

Winter Eclectic, wall-to-wall pick and place agreed 2016 AGM.

Final round of matchplay to be contested on neutral ground, agreed 2017 AGM.

Subscriptions raised (from 2019 season) from £40 to £50, and for retirees from £30 to £40.

Maximum handicap increased to 36, agreed 2018 AGM