



THE LEAGUE

The Southern Golf league is designed for male competitive golf in the southern region of England, targeting players with a handicap index of 5-15. Its aim is to promote grassroots golf in the South of England and to encourage more competitive golf between participating golf clubs.

A League committee will be formed from participants of each club to help run and organise the league.

The format is similar to other local leagues. Results of the matches between the clubs during the year to produce a 'football style' league winner each season.

The game format is 4 ball better ball match-play, 90% of difference of Handicap, lowest handicap playing off scratch.

THE LEAGUE SPIRIT

The participating clubs entering into the Southern Golf League do so with the understanding that no participant is expected to manipulate the rules in order to gain specific advantages. Golf is one of the most self-regulating, trusted, and respectable games; those values are expected to be upheld by the clubs, captains, and players within the league.

PARTICIPATING CLUBS

Cottesmore, The Dyke, East Brighton, Horsham Golf, Singing Hills.

LEAGUE TITLE & TROPHY MAINTENANCE

The title winners will be presented at the end of the SGL season at a Gala Day.

Each club will have the opportunity to host the Gala ceremony at their club in whatever format of their choosing.

It will be the responsibility of the SGL Committee to engrave the trophy for the winner

RULES

1. The Competition

- 1.1. All players must be registered on the WHS platform.
- 1.2. Handicap shall mean the Handicap index of the player.
- 1.3. The format will be 4BBB Matchplay with 90% of handicap allowance. Lowest handicap player will be off scratch.
- 1.4. Each Club will play each other Home and Away during the calendar year.
- 1.5. It will be encouraged that tee times are to be played between 0900 and 1100.
- 1.6. Fixtures for the following calendar year should be completed by November 30th.

2. Team Composition

- 2.1. The team size allowed is 12 allowing 6 four ball groups to be played
- 2.2. If a player(s) are absence then the team manager should do there best to still field a team in other formats such as 2 v 1, or 1 v1.
- 2.3. Clubs must field all players with a Handicap Index between 5.0 to 15.0. Players with a higher handicap index may be able to play but they must play as if their handicap index is 15.0 on the day.
- 2.4. Players cannot play with a handicap index of 4.9 or lower on the day of the match.

3. Scoring

- 3.1. Each result from the individual game will be awarded the following game points :
 - Loss 0 points
 - Half .5 points
 - Win 1 point.
- 3.2. There will be a maximum of 6 game points per match. The club with the most points will win the match or if the score is 3 points all, then the match will be a draw.
- 3.3. The league points will be awarded to the team who wins the most game points in the match and will be awarded for the following League points:
 - Loss 0 points
 - Draw 1 point
 - Win 3 points
- 3.4. The Club with the most League points after all the matches have been played will be the winner of the Southern Golf League.
- 3.5. In the event of a tie then game point difference from all the league games will determine the winner.
- 3.6. In the event that teams have the same game point difference then the combined result between the two clubs will determine who the winner will be. EG Club A won the home match 5-1 and lost the away match 2-4 then club A would win as the total score would be 7-5 in favour of Club A.
- 3.7. If this is still tied then each individual match result between the sides will be counted. So if an individual game result to Club A was a 4 & 2 win then the Club A would receive 4 points and Club B 2 points. Each game across all 12 individual matches would be added together and the team with the highest total will determine the winner.
- 3.8. Match team sheets at the conclusion of play must be e-mailed by both captains to info@southerngolfleague.co.uk

4. Team Sheets Notification.

- 4.1. Team sheets as provided by the league must be exchanged at least two full days prior to the match.
- 4.2. Home Captains must submit their team sheet to the visiting team to allow the visiting Captain to match his pairs against the home team's playing order.
- 4.3. Visitor team must return the completed team sheet to the home team 24 hours prior to the fixture.
- 4.4. Changes to the team sheet once submitted can only be made if a player becomes unavailable due to unforeseen circumstances and a reserve player may be put in their place.

5. Rescheduled Matches

- 5.1. Must be played prior to the end of the season, which is defined as 31st October.
- 5.2. If the match is forfeited due to a club's inability to field the minimum number of players and is not replayed before the end of the season, the club at fault will lose the match with a match point score of 6-0.
- 5.3. If the match is unable to be played or rescheduled due to weather conditions, or other course closures, the match will be halved with a match point score of 3 – 3.

6. Dispute Resolution

- 6.1. The dispute must be e-mailed to info@southerngolfleague.co.uk and the opposing team captain must be on copy.
- 6.2. Any dispute will be reviewed by the SGL committee and a final decision will be agreed by a majority vote of the participating clubs.

Other General Rules

7. Teeing Grounds: All matches will play from the men's medal/back/competition tee.
8. Local Rules: All local rules of the hosting course will apply.
9. Winter rules will apply as per Sussex County rules.
10. Conceded putts will be allowed between players.
11. Team match sheets to be signed by both team managers.
12. The home club will give the first tee honour to their opponents.
13. Catering - on the Day, Clubs are welcome to offer food and drink, and the costs should be agreed with the team managers beforehand. Cash to be paid on the day to the hosting club.
14. Teams may be changed for each round, but no player may represent more than one Club in any one year.
15. Speed of Play: Players must at all times play without undue delay. All matches should be played to a result.
16. Motorised Buggies: Players and supporters must walk the courses at all times during the competitive round of golf unless there is a medical exemption. This is to encourage the social element of the league.
17. Caddies: Caddies, as defined in the Rules of Golf, are permitted.
18. GPS: During matches players may use devices that gauge or measure distance only. Smart phones may be used even if they are fitted with nonconforming features provided the player doesn't access these applications. Penalty: first offence - loss of hole / subsequent offence –disqualification. If you suspect an opponent is in breach of R&A Rule14-3 you must make a valid claim at the time of the match as no subsequent claims will be considered.

Rules version 1st March 2025.