



Competition Tee Times:

Saturday* and Sunday

Between 8.00 am and 3.30 pm

When a start sheet does not apply Competitors may only commence their rounds between the following times:

**When competitions are scheduled.*

COMPETITION REGULATIONS

The first and tenth tees will be reserved for Competition Players only between the following times:

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. (4 balls only) 12:00pm – 2:00pm 3.30pm - 4.00pm

Major Competitions tees will be reserved up to 4.30pm

Wednesdays tee reserved from 12:00 p.m., last Tee time 7.30p.m. (Eighteen hole competitions only)

No visitors or members(not playing in the competition) allowed on Wednesday's after 12:00 p.m.

Members may not play a non-competitive round during the progress of a Club Competition

(Summer competitions only)

For a competition to stand a minimum of 15 players are required to have signed in, paid and submitted a score **(summer and single player competitions only)**

Members may invite guests to play in competitions (flagged as 'open' status during the summer* and all winter competitions) * visitors who enter competitions/team events, can only do so with a bona fide WHS handicap.

Members are required to be up to date with their annual membership and locker subscriptions. If these are not resolved prior to the start of the season the player will not be eligible to compete in the competitions. If a member does play in a competition and is still flagged as in arrears they will be disqualified from the competition

Competition Fee Payments:

Before commencing play each player must enter their name in the PSI Terminal/Howdidido app and pay the entry fee. **Failure to pay the competition entry fee prior to play will result in a disqualification.**

If you sign in after your round has commenced this will result in a disqualification.

Please ensure you read the sign in message as it may have relevant information pertaining towards that day's competition.

Members can pay monies to the club in advance, to be credited against their system profile/account and the competition fees will be deducted as and when they sign in. These payments need to be put in an envelope for the attention of the Competition/Handicap Secretary with the following written on, or transfer to the account number detailed below:

- The players name
- The amount inside the envelope
- And that it is a 'competition account top up'

Alternatively, members may still wish to pay cash on the day.

If a member wishes to pay by cash, the fees should be put in an envelope, clearly stating the following (In print):

- Name
- Date of competition
- Amount paid i.e.
 - £3.00=Competition fee
 - Or, £4.00 = Competition fee plus two's (two's not compulsory, unless stated as part of the competition)

Bank transfer details: Account Number **60950556**, Sort Code **20-72-67**, using the references below:

Please be aware that it is each competitor's responsibility to ensure that their competition fees are paid in full, either by, ensuring that their account is in credit on the day of the competition or the full cash payment is paid as per the above.

Team Competitions:

Please be aware that the above applies when playing as a team and although competitors can sign in on behalf of the team; those with accounts cannot pay the full fee for the team.

Competition Round Completion:

After completion of their round all players must enter their score onto the PSI terminal and submit their card including "No Returns" by 2200hrs on the day of the competition.

Returned score cards are required to have:

- Name of player (printed).
- Name of competition.
- Date of competition.

Returned score cards **must have: (as stated in the R&A rules of golf)**

- The gross scores for each hole clearly marked.
- The players current handicap
- Players signature
- Markers signature

Any competitor or team failing to fulfil the above will be disqualified from the competition.

Once the scores have been entered into the system via the PSI Terminal the completed card is to be put in the competition box which is situated next to the PSI Terminal.

Competition Play

Competition play is to be played in Four-Balls, in individual competitions especially in the "A.M." slot, please ensure you book prior to the cut-off period on the Howdidido App.

Pace of Play

At Whittaker Golf Club in line with the R&A 'Pace of Play guidelines and rules the Committee expects all competitors to play 'Ready Golf'. Listed below are some pointers on how this can be achieved by all competitors:

Starting the Round:

To ensure a steady 'Pace of Play', a controlled start and to avoid crowding on the course; competitors playing from the 1st and 10th tee boxes may do so, on your allotted tee time and when it is safe to do so, you no longer have to wait for the 1st/10th green to clear

During the Round - Ready Golf:

- On the Tee – No 'Honour' (except in match play) – the first player ready plays.
- Approach shots – No furthest from the hole – first to reach their ball plays first (if safe to do so!)
- Players should play their own ball before helping to look for a lost ball.
- When not playing your shot, you should be preparing to play your shot.
- Position golf bags and trollies at the exit point of the green, to allow quick movement towards the next tee.

Mark your cards as you walk to or at the next tee while your partners are playing their shots. Ensuring that one of the group tees off without delay.

- Carry an additional golf ball in your pocket.

Rules changes that assist with 'Pace of Play'/'Ready Golf':

- Rule 13 – you can putt/hole out with the flag left in without penalty.
- Rule 14 – drop the ball from knee height.
- Rule 18 – only 3 minutes allowed to search for a missing ball, not 5

Other expectations when playing a Competition Round:

- In the event that your group is playing slowly and, there are others behind waiting to play, you are then required to wave them through.
- If you are in a group that is being held up by the group in front and you wish to play, 'politely' request that your group is allowed to play through.

Detailed below are the expectations of the Committee on how long it should take to complete a round of golf at Whittaker Golf Club. This indicates the time expected to be taken to reach certain points on the course after the first tee shot has been struck:

Location on Course	Expected Time Taken
Walking off the 6 th tee ('Up the Moor') past the 8 th tee.	1 hour 10 minutes
At and playing from the 10 th tee	2 hours
Walking off/completion of hole 13	3 hours
Completion of 18 holes	4 hours 15 minutes

If you do not meet the timeframe indicated above, then you are considered to have 'lost your place' in the field; and, should allow any group behind that is waiting to play through.

Captain's Final:

The Captains Final will take place on the weekend indicated on the fixtures list. 18 holes are to be played on both days

Captains Weekend Qualification:

- 1 Top 30 players to qualify
- 2 Best 8 Scores from the 35 Qualifying Competitions. NB : Minimum of 5 Strokeplay scores to count.
- 3 Qualifying scores based on Standard Scratch Nett Differential.
- 4 In the event of any ties for 30th place a countback of the 7 best scores submitted will determine the final qualifer(s).

Everyone who qualifies and plays, is expected to play both days and to attend the Captains dinner and presentation.

Mr Presidents Day:

- 1 *30 players to qualify from 3 designated competitions.*
- 2 *Aggregate score of best 2 from 3 rounds will be counting.*
- 3 *All 3 qualifying events will be strokeplay.*

MAJOR COMPETITIONS

Emanuel Shackleton Trophy:

36 Hole Bogey - 18 Holes Saturday & 18 Holes Sunday.

Ernst Harvey Challenge Cup:

36 Hole Medal - 18 Holes Saturday & 18 Holes Sunday.

Harry Bowden Trophy:

36 Hole Stableford - 18 Holes Saturday & 18 Holes Sunday.

Harry Binns Scratch Trophy:

36 Hole Medal - 18 Holes Saturday & 18 Holes Sunday.

President's Day:

18 Hole Strokeplay.

Centenary Board Trophy:

18 Hole Medal.

Maximum allowable handicap for all board competitions including the singles and 4 ball knockouts is 28.

The qualifying criteria for the singles and 4 ball betterball, for 2026 onwards has been changed:

You will now have to submit a minimum of 6 acceptable scores, (including a minimum of 4 in competition play), in the 12 months prior to the date of playing the first match in the competition.

For Major Competitions (Board Competitions), start sheets or entry lists (for competition draws) are posted on the notice board. These will be locked down one week prior to the competition date. Failure to be present on the first tee at your specified/drawn time will result in a **ban from next 3 singles competitions, along with a fine of the expected competitions subs. See Appendix A for detailed explanation and process.**

The fines will need to be paid before being eligible to compete in competitions.

Please refer to the Howdidido App, website, noticeboard and email communications for all other competitions.

RULES OF ETIQUETTE

You and the people who play with you will enjoy the game of golf much more if you follow these simple rules of etiquette.

Don't move, talk, and stand close to or directly behind the ball or the hole when a player is making a stroke.

Fill in all the holes and footmarks you may make and see that all DIVOTS you may cut up are replaced and pressed down. Ensure you repair all pitchmarks, whether caused by your ball or not.

PLEASE NOTE DUE TO THE EXCESSIVE NUMBER OF DIVOTS NOT REPLACED THROUGH THE OFF SEASON, IF IT IS REPORTED TO THE COMMITTEE THAT AN INDIVIDUAL IS NOT REPAIRING, THEN THEY WILL BE ASKED TO EXPLAIN THEIR ACTIONS.

Don't damage the greens: marks made by your shoes or the flag-sticks may deflect well- aimed putts. Greens are often rather soft so stand well away from the cup and hold the flag so it doesn't mark the green.

Players proceeding from the 9th green have priority over players starting or playing a shorter round, except on competition days.

Please do not endanger Walkers on Public Footpaths.



Competition Prize Structure

18 Hole Handicap Competitions				
No. of Players	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize	3 rd Prize	Prize for Best Gross Score*
15 – 19	£25.00	£10.00	-	£10.00
20 – 24	£35.00	£15.00	-	£10.00
25 – 29	£40.00	£20.00	-	£10.00
30 – 34	£45.00	£25.00	-	£15.00
35 – 39	£50.00	£25.00	£10.00	£15.00
40 – 44	£40.00	£20.00	N/A	N/A
45 – 49	£45.00	£25.00	N/A	N/A
50 – 54	£30.00	£20.00	N/A	N/A
55 – 59	£35.00	£25.00	N/A	N/A
60 – 69	£40.00	£25.00	N/A	N/A
70 & above:	£45.00	£25.00	N/A	N/A
40 – 49 players will be 2 divisions	50 players and above will be 3 divisions			
Major Competition over 36 Holes - £85.00 Winner, £35.00 2nd place, this will be subject to the number of entries so may well be lower than advertised.				

9 Hole Handicap Competitions				
No. of Players	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize	3 rd Prize	Prize for Best Gross Score*
12– 20	£20.00	-	-	N/A
21– 25	£25.00	£15.00	-	N/A
26 – 30	£30.00	£20.00	£10.00	N/A
31 – 40	£35.00	£20.00	£10.00	N/A
41 -	£40.00	£25.00	£15.00	N/A

2 Divisions – Playing Handicap 0 to 16, 17 and above.

3 Divisions – Playing Handicap 0 to 11, 12 to 20 and 21 and above.

Notes:

- The above structure is for 18 hole competitions.
 - The placed prizes apply to singles competitions; for team competitions the total prize pot will be awarded/split to the winning team.
- * The 'Best Gross Score Prize' only applies to strokeplay/medal singles competitions only, where applicable, as divisions will not have a lowest gross prize.
 - Majors – the best gross for 36 holes is paid out for the Harry Binns Scratch Competition only.
 - Major competitions excluding Captains weekend is £4.00 to enter, which includes your two's entry of £1.00 (optional)

Two's Competition:

- Two's are paid out to those entered on any hole, this is new for 2026.
- Two's entry fee is now £1.00 optional
- The caveat to the above is that a hole in one (on any hole) and as long as the competitor has entered the two's will win the whole pot, on that day.

Listed below are the prize options:

9, 18 & 36 Hole Competitions	Two's Competitions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lavery Voucher – Rochdale Golf Club • House of Golf Voucher – Mcr Golf Club • Any gift card available at Morrisons • Credit towards membership fees 2027 • Credit towards Competition Account • Clubhouse Golf Vouchers • Jamie Hunt Golf Pro – Lessons etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credited to your comp account • Or, as per the list on the left.

Notes:

- The payment of cash in lieu of a receipt for 9, 18 & 36-hole competition prizes will not be paid out.
- Please note in the first instance all monies will be added to your competition account, of which you will be notified by email.

NOTES

Will all members please be courteous to others if driving to or from the Clubhouse. If you have to reverse please do so without arguing and without making inappropriate gestures. Vehicles driving away from the club towards the main road have priority.

Will all members please note that the Club is NOT INSURED for theft or damage to golf equipment or personal possessions

USEFUL LINKS

<https://whittakergolfclub.com/#members>

<https://www.englandgolf.org/handicapping>

<https://www.randa.org/en/>

APPLE Devices : <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/howdidido/id6742023251>

ANDROID Devices: <http://playstore.howdidido.com/>

<https://www.englandgolf.org/whs-app>

Appendix A – Disciplinary Competitions



As we now use a booking system to allow you to play in competitions, we understand from time to time you may not be able to make your allotted tee time.

To dispel any doubt what you need to do in such situations please adhere to the following.

Competitions on Wednesday/Saturday/Sunday (excluding board comps)

As a minimum please contact your fellow playing partners of your non-attendance, and or the Competition Secretary/Committee member with your reasoning.

Failure to comply with the above, you will be asked by the disciplinary sub committee the reason why you failed to attend, obviously we do understand at times due to circumstances you may not be in a position to adhere to the above, and this will be considered.

With regards to a normal competition the sub committee will class the above as a watching brief, and if over time a pattern develops, further action may be taken.

Please note as a minimum you will be expected to pay your competition fee, regardless of the outcome.

Board Competitions

As the board competitions are drawn, we ask you as a minimum to contact your fellow playing partners of your non-attendance, and or the Competition Secretary/Committee member with your reasoning. But as above due to circumstances you may not be in a position to adhere to the above, and this will be considered.

Furthermore, you will then be asked by the disciplinary sub committee for your non-attendance in writing within 3 working days, they will then revert back within 5 working days with their decision which may result in a penalty being imposed.

You have the right to appeal, but any penalty may be increased if the sub committee believe it is frivolous in nature.

Please note as a minimum you will be expected to pay your competition fee, regardless of the outcome.

If you sign in to the competition after commencing your round you will be disqualified from that's day's competition.

Sub-Committee

The sub-committee will be made up of 3 committee members/Trustees who are neither the Handicap/Competition Secretary or a member of that sub-committee. They are namely:

Darrell Kernick
Nigel Stott
Lee Geirnaert

The Captain will only be involved if the sub-committee request his involvement

Appendix B – Quick Guide to competitions.

All 18 hole individual competitions are qualifying for Captains Weekend

Booking opens at 19:00 on Mondays for Wednesday competitions

Booking opens at 19:00 on Thursdays for Sunday competitions

Booking opens at 19:00 on Mondays for board competitions 10 days prior

Draw and Start Sheet published on Thursdays prior to the weekend for board competitions

Booking closes at 18:30 on Saturday for Sunday competitions.

Booking closes at 18:30 on Thursday for Board competitions.

Presidents 3 qualifiers, aggregate best 2 of out 3. Top 30 to qualify

Mr. Captains Weekend

Top 30 to qualify

Best 8 scores to qualify, minimum of 5 strokeplay scores to count.

Qualifying scores based on Standard Scratch Nett Differential.

In the event of any ties for 30th place a countback of the 7th best score submitted

will determine the final qualifier(s).

Board Competitions – 2 bookings required if playing both days

The H. Binns Scratch Trophy will be played on the same weekend as the E. Harvey

Throughout the close season the Fiddle play on Wednesdays book on casual booking

normally between 10:00 and 11:00.

The Saturday Crew play on Saturdays meet 08:30 for 09:00, Shotgun Start

Appendix C – Suspension of Play



RULES OF GOLF 5.7 STOPPING PLAY; RESUMING PLAY – LOCAL PROCEDURE

Members

Please take the time to familiarise yourself with a summary of the R & A ruling and our local procedure regarding suspension of play. Competition & Handicap Committee

5.7b What You Must Do When Committee Suspends Play

1. **Immediate Suspension** (Such as When There Is Imminent Danger). If the Committee declares an immediate suspension of play, **you must stop play at once** and must not make another stroke until the Committee resumes play.
2. **Normal Suspension** (Such as for Darkness or Unplayable Course). If all players in your group are **between two holes, you must stop play and must not make a stroke to begin another hole** until the Committee resumes play. **If any player in your group has started a hole, the group may choose either to stop play or to play out the hole. Once your group completes the hole or stops before completing the hole, you must not make another stroke** until the Committee resumes play.

Penalty for Breach of Rule 5.7b: **Disqualification.**

5.7c What You Must Do When Play Resumes

You must resume play at the time set by the Committee and from where you stopped play on a hole or, if between two holes, at your next teeing area, even if play is resumed on a later day. **Penalty for Breach of Rule 5.7c: Disqualification.**

Rule 23.8b Disqualification Penalties

(1) A side (pair/team) is disqualified if **either partner gets a penalty of disqualification** under rules 5.7b and 5.7c.

WGC Procedure for Stopping and Resuming Play

An **immediate suspension** of play for a dangerous situation will be signalled by **ONE long continuous sounding of the klaxon. (Rule 5.7b)**

All other suspensions will be signalled by **THREE separate soundings of the klaxon. (Rule 5.7b)**

In either case, **resumption of play** will be signalled by **TWO separate soundings of the klaxon. (Rule 5.7c)**

Appendix D – Guide to Winter Golf (Off-Season)

From 1st November 2026 until early April 2027, winter golf rules will be in operation they are summarised below:

Mats are compulsory whether you are playing casual/general play/card for handicap/competition golf, to be used in the teeing area and on the fairways, everywhere else play it as it lies.

Bunkers are in play for general play (you are putting a scorecard in)/competition play, but proceed under the following rule: Lift Clean Rake and Place.

Red Tees in play only.

Competition Golf qualifying for handicap will be played every weekend subject to weather conditions, namely Dave Smith's Race To The Bar. The rules for the RTTB will be sent separately.

They may well be played over 14 or 18 holes subject to weather/course maintenance. This will be communicated prior to the competition starting, via the sign in message on the PSI Terminal/Howdidido App.

As above we may need to have temporary greens in play, this will be only as when the Greens Chairman deems it necessary.

Under those circumstances a competition qualifying for handicap will not be played and you cannot put a general play scorecard in/card for handicap.

Furthermore, if you are putting a general play scorecard for handicap in, and you have a valid handicap it is your responsibility to create a scorecard prior to commencing your round via the PSI terminal/Howdidido/MyEG app, and on completion entering your scores promptly prior to leaving the confines of the club.

Cards for initial handicap should be submitted to the Competition Secretary via the Comp Box next to the PSI terminal in the clubhouse.

Please at all times repair your pitchmarks and divots.