

CONGU RULE CHANGE - IN RESPECT OF AWAY SCORES

Please note

We have recently been advised by Golf England of a new rule introduced by our governing body to the effect that **all players who are members of participating CONGU Clubs are now required to report to their Handicap Committee, details of scores achieved in non qualifying competitions played away from their Home Club.**

The reasoning behind this directive is to ensure that all results achieved in competitive play situations are taken into account when assessing an individual's playing ability.

The purpose of having a handicap is to give all players an equal opportunity to achieve success in competition play and players must make every effort to maintain a handicap which reflects their current playing ability

A number of incidents in the last few years have highlighted that it is the players who must hold the responsibility with regards to notifying their Home Club of their away performance in Non-Qualifying competitions where the results would not otherwise be known to the committee.

As from 1st January 2017 any player taking part in Non Qualifying Competitions away from their Home Club is required to return their scores/ results to their Home Club Handicap Committee - subject to the game having been played under 'competition conditions,' a copy of their card is suggested.

Casual social golf is therefore not included within this directive.

The Committee has been instructed not to use these returns as the sole reason to adjust handicaps, but the scores should be taken in to account at the time of the normal review exercise when considering an individual players handicap allowance.

This directive is **not just restricted to sole individual performance in competitions play but extends to include: Local Society Stableford scores, N&S Alliance scores, Away Club invitations & Opens plus other better-ball events and teams games where, for example, two or three scores from a group of four will count.**

Scores returned in mixed gender competitions must also be returned.

(Match play, Texas Scrambles, Foursomes and Greensomes are not covered by this rule).

To provide the further information needed to ensure accurate and fair assessment of these card returns, we are introducing a 'Non-Qualifying Scores Return Form,' copies of which can be found in the Ladies and Men's Locker Rooms.

A completed form and the copy of the score card should then be posted into the Competitions Box situated in the Clubhouse lobby.

Competitions & Handicap Committee – 6th February 2017

