



BRISTOL AND DISTRICT LADY GOLFERS' ALLIANCE

FOURSOMES RULES AND REGULATIONS

(Revised AGM 2025)

1. SCRATCH AND HANDICAP FOURSOMES

- (i) The Scratch and Handicap Foursomes draw will be made at the Annual General Meeting.
- (ii) Any Club **not** wishing to participate should notify the Hon. Secretary one month before the Meeting.
- (iii) New Clubs may not enter the Foursomes until the second year of membership.
- (iv) Players may represent their 'Home Club' only (i.e. the club where their Handicap Index is held). The players must meet any eligibility criteria set out annually by their club.
- (v) Clubs may enter only one couple in each event but are at liberty to change players between rounds of the competition. However, those players can only play in either the Scratch or the Handicap Foursomes and may not substitute for either in the same year. Players may not be substituted after a match is started.
- (vi) Lateness for Scratch and Handicap Foursomes Matches. It was agreed by the BDLGA Committee that Team Captains should follow Rule 5.3a of the R&A Rules of Golf.
- (vii) Round 1 and byes to round 2 will be drawn at the AGM and in each match the first team drawn will be the home team. Subsequent match venues except the Final Match will, where necessary, be drawn by the committee based on previous home and away venues.
- (viii) The home team is responsible for arranging the match with their opponents. Contact must be made within the first ten days of the playing round (with the exception of the first round when dates must be offered by 1st March). **The opposing team must acknowledge that they have received the email from the captain of the home team within 7 days.** Should the home team fail to make contact within the first ten days of the playing round, then their opponents assume responsibility for the match which will be played at their club.
- (ix) Initially, three dates are to be given, one to be a weekend with the proviso that the Club where the match is to be played should be willing for such matches to take place at weekends. When the date for the round has been agreed, providing the course is playable, the match should go ahead even if one or more player(s) may not be able to take part – reserves should automatically be put in or the match conceded.
- (x) 'The Honour' will be determined by the toss of a coin.
- (xi) Play can only be suspended if there is danger from lightning or there are flooded greens, or for some reason play is impossible. Agreement to suspend play should be reached in equity, but in cases of dissent the Home Captain has the final say. Players should mark their balls and leave the course. The time limit for the match to resume play will be 1 hour (that is from the time the Klaxon is sounded). The same players must commence at the start of the hole where they marked their balls. If either player is not available for the re-arranged match, play should re-start at the 1st hole. If it is not possible to resume play on the same day the match must be completed at a later date, as soon as it is practicable.
- (xii) In the event of more than three temporary greens being in play for a round the clubs shall apply to the Hon. Secretary for an extension of not more than seven days for the round.
- (xiii) **In the case of any hole being taken out of play during the year for maintenance or due to poor weather conditions. Any hole can be replayed providing the captains' both agree before the start of the match.**
- (xiv) Caddies are not allowed in Foursomes matches, except for players with disabilities in accordance with our Published policies.
- (i) The captain of the winning team shall inform the Hon. Secretary of the result immediately, certainly within 24 hours by email to bdlga9@gmail.com.
- (ii) All matches to be played to a finish.
- (iii) **The finals will be played over 18 holes on a neutral course decided by the Committee. The dates will be fixed at the Annual General Meeting together with a second date to cover the occurrence of impossible weather. These dates cannot be altered to suit the convenience of individual players.**
- (iv) The BDLGA abides by England Golf's policy on Pace of Play, which can be found on EG's website.
- (v) Trophies will be awarded to the winning and runner-up pairs in both the Scratch and Handicap Fours

2. HANDICAP FOURSOMES

- (i) Competitors participating in the Handicap Foursomes shall play a maximum course playing handicap of 24.0 or less. A higher handicap playing must play off 24.0.
- (ii) Each pair should calculate their combined Course Handicap by adding together their individual Course Handicaps. 50% of the difference between the competing pairs' Course Handicaps is then calculated and rounded up if necessary to show the strokes allocated.

Example:

Team 1: $20 + 14 = 34$

Team 2: $15 + 10 = 25$

25 from $34 = 9$

Therefore, the difference is 4.5 shots this is rounded up so Team 1 receives 5 shots from Team 2.

Please note this is an update from England Golf.

**Breach of the Rules will result in disqualification.
The Committee's decision will be final.**