BRISTOL AND DISTRICT LADY GOLFERS' ALLIANCE

RULES AND REGULATIONS (AGM 2027)

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1. THE ALLIANCE

i) The Alliance shall be called The Bristol and District Lady Golfers' Alliance. The Annual General Meeting and Captains Meeting will be held before the end of any year. The Hon. Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary General Meeting at any time by order of the Committee or on receiving a requisition to call such a meeting signed by the secretaries of two thirds of the affiliated clubs. Every such requisition shall specify the business for which the Meeting is to be convened, and no other business shall be transacted at this Meeting.

ii) Membership shall be open to clubs in Bristol and District (an area definitively drawn) and elected by existing members.

iii) The annual subscription per club shall be confirmed at the Annual General Meeting.

2. THE ALLIANCE COMMITTEE

i) There will be a committee consisting of:

- Chairperson
- Honorary Secretary
- Honorary Treasurer
- Championship Secretary
- Gloucestershire County Liaison Officer
- Somerset County Liaison Officer
- Results Co-ordinator
- Plus one other Committee Member

ii) All committee members will be elected annually and are eligible to serve for a maximum of 5 years. The Committee will have powers to co-opt.

iii) Nominations for posts on the Committee and any resolutions for consideration at the Annual General Meeting should be sent to the Hon. Secretary at least three weeks in advance in order that the agenda may be sent to Clubs for discussion before the Meeting. For nominations to be to be valid the appropriate representatives of the proposing and seconding clubs must sign them before submission to the Hon Secretary.

iv) No club represented at the Annual General Meeting (or Extraordinary General Meeting) shall have more than one vote, either by show of hands or by ballot.

v) Any proposals and changes to the Rules and Regulations of the Alliance require two thirds majority of those present and voting and eligible to vote at a General Meeting.

3. THE LEAGUE

i) The BDLGA Alliance League is a singles scratch league consisting of seven players per team.
ii) Clubs may enter more than one team. Each team shall play a home and away match against every other team in its division. Annual results shall decide which two clubs will be promoted or relegated. In the event that a team is withdrawn from a division other than the bottom division of the league, only one team will be relegated from the division from which the team withdrew. The top two teams in the division below will be promoted. This will be replicated in any lower divisions: i.e. one team down, two teams up. In the event of a tie in the total number of points scored throughout the season, results will be calculated by the Results Co-ordinator on total points, if level, matches won, if level, points away. The team that scored the most away points would be the better team. There should be no more than two teams from the same Club in any one division. In the event that there will be three teams from the same Club in one division, then the team that is lowest should be demoted to the lower division or should not be promoted, and the next Club is promoted in their place. (They are still entitled to the Trophy for that division if they came top in the division).
iii) There shall be a Trophy for the winning team in each Division.
iv) Individual trophies shall be awarded to the players in each Division who score the highest number of match points while playing in the same team.
v) New clubs accepted into the Alliance shall be given a place in the lowest Division in preference to a 'C' Team from an established club if the overall size prevents the accommodation of both. In this event the 'C' Team occupying the lowest place would be asked to withdraw. If more new clubs are accepted than C teams in the league, then the B Team occupying the lowest place would be asked to withdraw next.
vi) An additional team can only join if there are six or less teams in the lowest division.

4. ELIGIBILITY

i) All players must be female at birth and have a Handicap Index as defined by USGA & R&A.
ii) A player may represent her 'Home Club' only (i.e. the club where her Handicap Index is held). The player must meet any eligibility criteria set out annually by her club.
iii) Clubs must field teams in strict order of **exact** Handicap Index on the day of the match in conjunction with the order shown on the BDLGA App. A handicap increase takes precedence over a handicap cut when players are off the same exact Handicap Index.
iv) All captains **must** field a full team, even though it may be under desired strength. If a full team is not fielded on the day, then the club concerned should be referred to the committee, who will have a penalty point deducted for each 'no show'. The club that does field a full team will automatically get the two points from the 'no show' match.
v) The seven lowest eligible and available handicap players in the club at any time shall constitute the 'A' team and shall not be eligible to play in 'B' team matches. Players must be available for a minimum of 1 match. The Results Co-ordinator will regularly monitor the top 7 players. If a club fields a C team, the seven next lowest eligible handicap players in the club at any time shall constitute the 'B' team and shall not be eligible to play in 'C' team matches. Team players are chosen seven days in advance according to this rule, but if the handicaps change within seven days of the match being played making one or more players' ineligible, they may still play in that team match.
vi) The list of A Team players, and B Team players in the event of a C Team, must be submitted to the Rules Co-ordinator by 31st January and any changes must be e-mailed as they occur. Further, for clubs with a C Team, the top 14 players would need to be lodged with the Rules Co-ordinator prior to each match.
vii) If a player eligible to play for the Alliance A Team decides at the start of the year not to make herself available, she should be removed from the list for the whole season. The Results Co-

Ordinator of the Alliance must be notified. This also applies to B Team players for those clubs with a C Team.

Infringement of these rules could result in disqualification and loss of points for the season. The committee reserves the right to review penalties imposed, prior to the final results being posted, if infringements are to the detriment of the league division.

5. COURSE

i) The Home Team Captain has the responsibility to ensure that the Course is suitable for play.
ii) If, for any reason there are more than 3 temporary greens in play the Home Team Captain must telephone the other Team Captain 2½ hours before the match is due to start. The Clubs may, by mutual agreement, rearrange the match to be played before the end of the first week in October. The Home Team Captain to make the Results Co-ordinator aware of the change.
iii) 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.
iv) If, due to maintenance, the greens are unsuitable for play, the Home Team Captain should if possible, arrange to switch from a home match to an away match. Both Team Captains to notify the Results Co-Ordinator of the change.
v) If a club has a temporary restriction on the use of electric trolleys, only allowing either bag-carrying or trolleys with hedgehog wheels, or the use of fairway mats on the course the Home Team Captain must inform the Visiting Team Captain within 7 days of the proposed match. It is not reasonable to expect visiting players to carry or use hedgehog wheels or fairway mats if it is not a requirement of their own club, so in this event the match could be rescheduled, letting the Results Co-Ordinator know of the postponement and new date
vi) If an extreme heat warning is in force, or the course is deemed unplayable for any reason, team Captains may agree to rearrange the match. Please notify the Results Co-ordinator of the revised date so that she can update the app.

6. POSTPONEMENT OF MATCHES

No match may be postponed except:

i) If, after consultation the two Team Captains concerned both agree the weather is unsuitable for play. In the event of a disagreement, the Home Team Captain shall have the final decision. The Home Team Captain must telephone the other Team Captain 2½ hours before the match is due to start. The Home Team Captain to notify the Results Co-ordinator of the situation.
ii) Play can only be suspended if there is danger from lightning or there are flooded greens as deemed by the club officials. If for some other reason play is impossible, agreement to suspend play should be reached in equity, but in cases of dissent, the Home Team Captain has the final say. Players should mark their balls and leave the course. The time limit to resume play for individual matches to resume play will be one hour (that is from the time the Klaxon is sounded). If a match has not been completed the match must be rescheduled.
iii) If it is not possible to resume play: -
    a. The completed matches stand.
    b. The remaining matches must be completed at a later date, but as soon as it is practical, between the same players, playing in the same order, who must commence at the start of the hole where they marked their balls. If the same players are not available in either or both teams the whole match must be replayed.
    c. If no matches have been completed, the whole match must be re-arranged at a later date, where normal eligibility rules will apply. The Home Team Captain to notify the Results Co-ordinator of the new date and inform her that the match was not completed.

d. 18 holes must be available for play. If a green or a hole is unplayable and a match is not decided after 17 holes, then the next available hole must be played.

iv) In the event of a course being unavailable or for some other exceptional reason that should, if possible, be agreed with the BDLGA Committee beforehand.

7. MATCH REGULATIONS

i) By the 31st January each year, captains must have recorded all matches onto the App having confirmed by e-mail or in writing to the team captains of the clubs in their division, the agreed dates and times of all matches. The aim is for all matches to be played before the end of September, with the first week in October used as a buffer if matches have to be rearranged. Clubs fielding two teams must also include the names of the seven eligible and available players for their A Team to the Results Co-Ordinator. Clubs fielding three teams must also include the next seven eligible and available players for their B Team. Captains must also confirm the fixtures at least 24 hours before the match. This is the responsibility of both team captains.

ii) In the event of two teams from one club being in the same division in any one year, they must play the first match against each other any time before 30th June and the other match any time before 31st August.

iii) Any infringement of the rules governing clubs fielding 'A', 'B' & 'C' Teams will result in the offending team forfeiting the points gained in the match concerned. Any problems arising should be referred to the Results Co-Ordinator.
The reserved tee time for the seven matches shall be 45 minutes from start of play. Team sheets shall be agreed, prior to the commencement of the match, after that no substitutions will be allowed.
Any player arriving after the reserved tee time will forfeit her match. Any player arriving late without a justifiable excuse maybe subject to an additional point deduction at the discretion of the Committee.

iv) SCORING: Win = 2 points, Half = 1 point, Loss = 0 points.

v) A half may only be recorded and points awarded if a match remains all square after 18 holes.

vi) Match results must be recorded in the BDLGA results App after playing. The App will send an email if results are not posted.

vii) Buggies may be used in accordance with the current BDLGA policy on use of buggies.

viii) Caddies are not allowed in Alliance matches, except for players with disabilities in accordance with our published policies. Away Captains must ensure that the safeguarding policies of the host club are adhered to.

ix) Teas for Alliance matches should adhere to the principle of the Home Team entertaining the Guest Team by providing tea or coffee with sandwiches or cake.

The Committee's decision will be final.