

# EAST LOTHIAN JUNIOR GOLF LEAGUE. LEAGUE MATCH-DAYS. (Updated 13/12/22)

## OBJECTIVES.

To have a competitive League in which all Players and Teams have an equal chance and an incentive to win, whilst embracing the “Core Values” of Golf, in particular, the Handicapping System, Fairness, Fun, and Team Spirit.

## INDEX

SECTION A - DEFINITIONS.

SECTION B - ROTATION OF MATCH-DAYS, NUMBERS OF TEAMS, ETC.

SECTION C - PLAYER ELIGIBILITY AND TEAM SELECTION FOR MATCH DAYS.

SECTION D - CONGU HANDICAP INDEXES, COURSE AND PLAYING HANDICAPS, MULTIPLE TEES. PLAYING CONDITIONS CALCULATIONS (PCC.)

SECTION E - PRE-SEASON AND PRE-MATCH-DAY ORGANISATION.

SECTION F - MATCH-DAY ORGANISATION.

SECTION G - HOST CONVENORS' AND HOST CLUBS' RESPONSIBILITIES.

SECTION H - RULES OF THE COMPETITION.

SECTION I - ORDER OF PLAY AND1 “READY GOLF.”

SECTION J - DRAW, SCORING & APPS, - SCORECARDS. GOLF GENIUS

SECTION K - RESULTS OF MATCH-DAYS AND DECISIONS ON TIES.

SECTION L - PLAYERS ARRIVING LATE, AND TEAMS WITH LESS THAN 6 PLAYERS.

SECTION M - WITHDRAWALS FROM LEAGUE.

SECTION N - MATCH-DAY AND ORDERS OF MERIT PRIZES.

SECTION O - MISCELLANEOUS.

### SECTION A - DEFINITIONS (\*With reference to the WHS document issued by the R&A and the USGA effective January 2020) Link [here](#).

1. The “League” is the East Lothian Junior Golf League.
2. The “League Secretary” is appointed at each League AGM and is responsible for the overall organisation and management of the League. **The role may be jointly held. “Secretary” means anyone who is elected as the sole Secretary or as a Joint Secretary of the League.**
3. A “Club” is any Club situated in East Lothian which, in compliance with the League’s Constitution, is eligible to, and has joined, the League, and has paid the subscription for the current year.
4. Any Club with insufficient Juniors to compete in any year, may combine with any other Club In East Lothian and take part as a “Combined” Club for a whole season, but this will be reviewed at the end of each year.
5. A “Junior” golfer is any Player who, on the 1st of January in the year of competition, is 18 years old or younger. Those Players who become 18 on the 1st of January, or become 18 later in the current year, all remain Junior golfers for the rest of the current year.
6. A “Team” is all Players representing their “affiliated” Club in any Match-Day competition.
7. A “Match-Day” is a Fixture when all Players representing Member Clubs in the League play in Individual and Team Stableford competitions on a set date in the calendar. All Teams will meet at the same venue at a Match Day, and play within a span of tee- times allotted to the League by the Host Club. In **2022**, 28 tee-times are needed at each Match-Day, but if Clubs can only offer fewer times, then the size of each Team may be reduced.

8. A "Player" is any Junior selected to play for a Club Team in a Match-Day.
9. Stableford format is a form of Medal play.
10. Other Players in a Player's group are "fellow competitors."
11. A "Handicap Index (HI)" is a World Handicap System Handicap Index (WHS HI) w.e.f. 20th Nov 2020. Players' Handicap Indices apply World-wide. An HI is defined as:- The measure of a player's demonstrated ability calculated against the "Slope Rating" of a golf course of standard playing difficulty, that is, a course with a "Slope Rating" of 113. The method of calculation of Handicap Indexes can be seen at [Scottish Golf Para 5.2](#)
12. A "Slope Rating" is defined as :- An indication of the relative difficulty of a golf course for players who are not scratch players compared to players who are scratch players (see [Scottish Golf Appendix G](#))
13. The Player's "Course Handicap" (See [Scottish Golf Rule 6](#)) will be the number of strokes a player receives, before handicap allowances, from a specific set of tees, as determined by the "Slope Rating."
14. A "Playing Handicap" (See [Scottish Golf Rule 6](#)) is defined as:- The "Course Handicap," adjusted for any "Handicap Allowances" or Terms of the Competition. It represents the actual number of strokes the player gives or receives for the round being played (see Rule 6.2).
15. The "Handicap Allowance (See [Scottish Golf Appendix C](#)) is designed to provide equity for players of all levels of ability in each format of play, over both 9 holes and 18 holes. Handicap allowances are applied to the Course Handicap as the final step in calculating a player's Playing Handicap (see Rule 6.1 and Rule 6.2). NOTE - For Individual Stableford competitions, this is calculated at 95% of the "Course Handicap."
16. The "Host Convenor" is the Junior Convenor of the Club hosting a Match-Day **and is expected to take a lead role in the running of the event. They will be loaned the League's laptop, which will be preloaded with the draws and score entry facility etc.**
17. A "Host Team" is the Team whose Course is being used for a Match-Day.
18. The League Secretary if in attendance at any Match-Day, will act as "Referee." If they are not present, then the "Host Convenor" will act as "Referee." The Referee will decide questions of fact and act on any breach of a Rule that he observes or is reported to him. The Referee's decision will be final.
19. Other Junior Convenors are official "Observers," appointed by the League, to assist the Referee to decide questions of fact, and to report to him any breach of a Rule.
20. [Advice](#) is: any verbal comment or action (such as showing what club was just used to make a stroke) that is intended to influence a player in: choosing a club, making a stroke, or deciding how to play during a hole or round. But advice does not include public information, such as: the location of things on the course such as the hole, the putting green, the fairway, penalty areas, bunkers, or another player's ball, the distance from one point to another, or the Rules. But giving any team member information about other team members, or other teams', scores, is not "Advice."
21. Any reference to any "Rule" is a reference to the R&A ["Rules of Golf"](#) unless otherwise defined.
22. Any reference to "CDH" means the ["Central Database of Handicaps."](#)
23. ["Golf Genius"](#) is the Scoring and Handicapping Software in use by the League for its competitions.

#### **SECTION B - ROTATION OF MATCH-DAYS, NUMBERS OF TEAMS, ETC.**

1. The League Secretary will devise a **rotation** of Match-Days so that each Member Club is a Host venue only once in each season.
2. The draw and tee times at each venue will be published and circulated by the Secretary at the start of the season.

3. Matches should be fixed for **Sundays** but exceptionally, another day might be approved by the League Secretary.
4. At a Convenors' meeting on 19th November 2016, it was agreed that any Club in the League with sufficient Juniors, **may enter 2 Teams** provided that they agree to additional rules about Players being "Cup Tied" in any season. (See C11 below.)
5. Match-Day fixtures will be arranged to take place **no later** than on the 2nd Sunday in September, unless there have been cancelled or postponed Match-Days.
6. The **start of each Match-Day cannot be later than 1300 in May June and July, and 1200 in March, April, August and September.** (This is to ensure that caterers are not affected and that Players can get home at a reasonable time.) Amended June 2018.)
7. **There were 12 Teams in the League for 2022, including two West Links** Teams. Musselburgh and Royal Musselburgh combined to become a "Musselburgh Toun" Team Match Days. **So if there is no change**, there will be 10 "Match-Days" in season **2023** involving 12 Teams. Therefore, on each Match-Day in **2023** there will be up to 72 Team Players competing, plus up to 12 Reserves.
8. In any season where any League fixture is going to clash with say, a Club Championships finals day, then Convenors should make early contact with the League Secretary, so that such clashes of fixtures might be avoided. Exceptionally, and with at least a weeks notice, any Player in such a position could be placed in the Match-Day draw to facilitate them playing in both events.

### **SECTION C - PLAYER REGISTRATION, AND TEAM SELECTION FOR MDs.**

1. Convenors must first contact their current and new Junior members, decide on their squads for **2023**, and notify the names of Players in their squads to the Secretary two months before the first MD is scheduled, and any new Players will be added to the League Register.
2. **League** Players **must be current Members** of the Club they represent, and must be paying a subscription for membership, unless they are Honorary Members.
3. All Players in every squad **MUST** personally register on GG. Instructions on how to do this are on our website [here](#). Sometimes, the Secretary will himself register Players, in which case they will receive an email asking them to confirm their registration. There is no cost to register.
4. Every Player new to the League Register, has to complete a GDPR (Data Protection) form which will be sent to them by the Secretary.
5. The Secretary will keep the list of all Players in the squad of each Team on the ELJGL Portal on GG.
6. A new method of entry to MDs through Golf Genius (GG) is being implemented in 2023. The Secretary will, **at the start of the season will open** all the MDs **for entry**. This will generate an e-mail to all registered Players, and which will be copied to Convenors. This e-mail will invite Players, if they are available, to enter themselves directly into all MDs. **A reminder will be sent out to all registered Players 28 days before the relevant MD.**
7. The list of entrants on GG will have their squad name as their "affiliation" for the season. Junior Convenors will be able to see this list.
8. **One week before each MD**, Convenors can then select their Teams of 6 Players in Handicap Index order, lowest handicaps first, plus nominated Reserves, in order of priority. Convenors must notify their Team selection list to the Secretary by email, message or phone, no later than 6 pm on the Sunday one week before the MD.
9. Alternatively, if Convenors wish to pre-arrange their Team themselves then they must notify the Players names to the Secretary no later than 6 pm, one week before the MD.

10. The entry list on GG will **close** at 6 p.m. usually one week before the MD. But the Secretary **may** invite **all Players who have not yet entered to submit** late entries if there are spaces. Entries can be “conditional” in the event that there is an important Junior event running elsewhere, for example the Scottish Boys or Girls Championships, in which our Players are competing.
11. Any Player who has actually represented a Team in any League Match-Day during a season, **cannot switch** and play for another Team in other Match-Days in the same season.
12. Other Players who are Junior members of any of our 12 East Lothian Member Clubs but who are **not** in any squads, may not enter Match Days but may enter our other events such as our Championships. But they must first be registered with the ELJGL on GG and enter events only through the GG portal.
13. Any Player who has played in any League Team or is in any League Team’s squad of Players, may play for another Team in the **ELJGL Team Strokeplay** and **Team County Cup**, provided that Player is also a Member of that other Club.

#### **SECTION D - WORLD HANDICAP INDEXES, COURSE AND PLAYING HANDICAPS, MULTIPLE TEES. PLAYING CONDITIONS CALCULATIONS (PCC.)**

1. Reference should be made to the “Guidance on the WHS rules of handicapping as applied within GB&I. See this [link](#).
2. Deeming the Match-Days to be “**Non Qualifying**” for Handicaps is not in the “**Spirit of the Game.**” Therefore, these Stableford rounds are regarded as “**Acceptable Scores.**” The League pays an affiliation fee to Scottish Golf Limited and is authorised to administer events for handicapping purposes.
3. The League Secretary has access to GG’s web-based software and will manage the **finalisation of the** scoring, and by midnight on any Match-Day, will submit results through GG to the WHS and Scottish Golf accordingly, and handicaps will be updated.
4. In the Secretary’s absence, **or if the laptop is not available**, Host Convenors will also be able to access GG on any laptop or computer, and manage the MD Competition.
5. The GG software will produce lists in descending order, of **Net Stableford points**, and **Scratch Stableford points, which can be used** to manage the Scratch and Handicap Orders of Merit (OOMs) **which function will be carried out by the League Secretary.**
6. The maximum handicap for Match Day competitions is 28 for Boys and 36 for Girls. Higher handicapped players may still compete, but will be restricted to these maxima. After any course handicaps and handicap allowances have been calculated, the maximum playing handicaps allowed will be 30 for Boys and 40 for Girls.
7. Under [Appendix A, para 1\(iv\) of WHS](#), it is the **Players’ responsibility** to:- know their **current handicap index and record it correctly on their scorecard if it is not shown correctly by the Secretary or the Tournament Organiser, and know at which holes** at which their **playing** handicap strokes are to be taken so that they do not mistakenly pick up their ball too early. **Players must inform** the Secretary of any discrepancies with their Handicap Index and provide details of any outstanding scores yet to be submitted or posted to their scoring record, and record their correct handicap on the scorecard in a stroke-play competition.
8. **Players are not responsible for showing their handicap on a scorecard or for adding up scores. If the player returns a scorecard on which they have made a mistake in showing or applying a handicap, or on which they have made a mistake in adding up the scores, there is no penalty. (R&A Rule 3.3b(4))**
9. Convenors must ensure that the **handicap of any rapidly improving Player** in their Team **reflects their playing ability** at the time of competing in League Matches and

if necessary, hold a review when any **exceptional** scores are recorded. ([WHS rules Paras 5.9 and 7.1.](#))

10. For any instances of a Player performing exceptionally well during a morning round and is then playing another competition round later the same day, [WHS rule 5.4/1](#) may be applied – “In a situation where a player has performed exceptionally well in an authorised format of play during a morning round and is playing a competition round later the same day, as the player's Handicap Index will not be updated until the next day, the Committee in charge of the competition may decide to adjust the player's Playing Handicap. The Committee should consider all of the information available before deciding whether to adjust the player's Playing Handicap, including what impact the score may have had on the player's Handicap Index and whether the player would obtain any unfair advantage because their Handicap Index has not been updated.”
11. **The PCC - Playing Conditions Calculation when adverse weather conditions apply**, and will be an automatic calculation carried out on our GG handicapping software. ([See WHS Rule 5.6](#))
12. For the purpose of equity and only for Competition results when both Boys and Girls are competing at any Match-Day and multiple tees are in operation, under [WHS Rule 6.2b](#), when two or more sets of tees are in use (such as mixed gender or mixed ability events), and depending on the format of play, and on any difference in Course Rating between tees, additional strokes may need to be added to the standard calculation of the Playing Handicap for equity purposes, and to determine finishing positions, results and prizes. These additional strokes do not count for handicap purposes.
13. Therefore, in an 18-hole Strokeplay or Stableford round, a player competing from a set of tees with a higher Course Rating must receive additional strokes for the round, equal to the difference between the Course Rating of the tees they are playing and the tees with the lowest Course Rating.
14. In an 18 hole **Stableford** format, the number of points required for all players to “play to handicap” must be calculated for each applicable set of tees and additional strokes added to handicaps as appropriate and these will be calculated automatically by GG.
15. **Handicap Allowances** are applied to the Course Handicap as the final step in calculating a player's Playing Handicap (see WHS [Rule 6.1 and Rule 6.2](#)). The allowance for both individual Stroke Play and Stableford formats is 95%
16. On our **Golf Genius software**, there will be a **table of Course Ratings** for all sets of tees for our host courses, scores to “Play to Handicap” from each set of tees for each gender will be calculated. There are no “Buffer Zones” under WHS. GG will apply appropriate amendments to handicaps under WHS, when they have to be made.
17. CSS's ceased to exist after the introduction of WHS.

#### **SECTION E - PRE-SEASON AND PRE MATCH-DAY ORGANISATION**

1. The Secretary is responsible for arranging for each MD venue to be booked for the appropriate number of tee times for Match-Days. **In 2023 for a League with 12 Clubs, 28 Tee Times are required** - lasting around three hours duration, depending on tee-time intervals. The Secretary will then confirm this with all Host Club Secretaries and Junior Convenors. If, exceptionally, fewer than 28 times can only be booked, the Team sizes may be reduced but to no fewer than 4 players per Team.
2. The Secretary should timeously have **booked equivalent MD dates for up to 2 years ahead**.
3. A **generic draw format** has been devised by the Secretary and **will** be used for each MD.



4. The Secretary will **circulate** the fixture list to every Convenor, and he will **publish it** on the League Website. The Secretary will maintain the **Results**, and the **League Table**, on the website.
5. In the event of any **cancellation or abandonment of any MD**, the Secretary will try to reschedule it. In the event that this is not possible, all rounds played, or due to have been played on that Match-Day, will be **null and void for competition purposes. However, completed or partial rounds may still count for handicaps.**  
[WHS Rule 3.2](#)
6. In 2023 **only one fixture will be played over the West Links** although they will have two Teams competing. This will count as the Home Game for both West Links Teams.
7. In 2023, the fixture at Gifford will also count as the Home fixture for the EL Girls Team.

#### **SECTION F - MATCH-DAY ORGANISATION**

8. At least **one Convenor from each visiting Team**, or a nominated substitute, **MUST** attend each Match-Day, and **be present** for the duration of their Team's involvement, and they are responsible for the organisation, conduct, and etiquette of their Teams.
9. Each visiting Team Convenor and/or any Assistants will be **expected to be on the course** during their Team's matches, encouraging a good pace of play through **"Ready Golf,"** and helping to search for balls. They cannot offer any **"advice."** They can note any challenges made under the Rules of Golf, for later decision.
10. The **policies** of the Host Club regarding dress and etiquette etc must be observed.
11. **Host Clubs will not be providing free catering in 2023, but if they wish,** the Players in each Tee-time, or Teams may dine together and then vacate the dining area if necessary, to allow Players in later Tee-times to use the dining facilities. **The Host Club may provide a Juniors' menu.** There is no prize-giving at Match-Days so there is no need to stay, and Players and Convenors may depart after their meal if they wish.
12. On the final Match-Day of the season, **there will be a presentation of prizes** at which all Teams and Convenors are invited to be present. Prizewinners should be present but must inform the Secretary if they have to leave before the prize-giving.

#### **SECTION G - HOST CONVENOR'S AND HOST CLUB'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. The **Host Convenor** and/or the League Secretary will **manage** each Club's home MD and in the absence of the League Secretary, the Host Convenor will also act as Referee.
2. The Secretary recommends that **at least 2 other Host Club Members volunteer to assist the League Secretary and/or the Host Convenor** as he/she will be responsible for all arrangements for their home Match-Days, including amending draws, issuing of labelled GG Scorecards pre-prepared by the League Secretary, posting local rules, starting the Games off on time, checking cards and scoresheets. Other Convenors may be asked to assist with starting etc. if there are no volunteers from Members.
3. If the **League Secretary is absent**, then the **League's laptop** will be available to the **Host Convenor, who must** post scores, calculate the CSS, and notify results through Golf Genius and copy/photo the scoreboard to League Secretary.
4. The Host Club is responsible for the observance of any Regulations regarding **PVG "Protecting Vulnerable Groups"** (Child Protection Policies.)

#### **SECTION H - RULES OF THE COMPETITION**

1. All MDs will be played under the [Rules of Golf](#) and under any **Local Rules** that are in place at the location of each Match-Day.
2. In particular, [Rule 21.1 \(Stableford\)](#) will apply to all Players.
3. Except at any MD where limited times are available, Teams will consist of up to **6 Players** each playing as **Individuals** in a **Stableford** format.
4. Reserves who are nominated to play in any MD will be placed in the draw on a fair basis, with priority for Players from the host Club. Their scores will not count for Team totals but will count for prizes at MDs and count towards the Orders of Merit.
5. Depending on the number of Teams at each MD and the tee clearances before each MD commences, the Secretary or Host Convenor will organise Players to **play in groups of 3**, as per the generic draw, and only if necessary, in 2s. No Players from the same Team will play together in such a group of 2 or 3, unless unavoidable. No groups of 4 Players will be allowed unless unavoidable.
6. **Girls** will play from the **Forward Tees** unless they are low handicap Players and the Secretary agrees that they play from Tees for a longer course. **Boys** will usually play from the **Back Tees**. The Secretary and the Host Convenor may agree beforehand, that another set of tees may be used if for example, the weather is inclement.
7. There may also be an **exception** to this for **very young Players or Players with very high handicaps**. They may be allowed, if the Secretary, **the Players' Team Convenors**, and Host Convenor **agree**, to compete off **forward tees**, provided there is a **course rating** for those Tees for the gender concerned.
8. Any handicap strokes to be received by **Girls** will be taken according to the stroke indices on the **Ladies'** section of the scorecard and **vice versa for Boys**.
9. Distance Measuring Devices (DMDs) are **allowed** in all ELJGL events. Smart phone "Apps" which give distance information are also allowed but they must not be used to gauge or measure other conditions where doing so would be a breach of the Interpretations of [Rule 4.3a](#), such as accessing elevation, slope, wind speed etc. The competition leaderboard in some events may be accessible on some smart phones.
10. **Pace of Play, Undue Delay, Slow Play** - Any Player or Group who, in the opinion of the Referee or a Convenor acting as an "Observer," **plays so slowly that they are "out of position,"** i.e. well behind the match in front, **whether or not** they are causing a delay for Players behind, may be **warned** and then timed. If they fail to reduce the gap between them and the preceding group, they may be penalised - i.e. deduction of one point from the total points scored for the round for the first offence, a further two points for a second offence, and disqualification for any subsequent offence.
11. If any group is deemed to be out of position - the maximum "Pace of Play" time then allocated per shot is 40 seconds. 10 extra seconds are allowed for the first player to play: on a par three hole; an approach shot; and a chip or putt. The timing will start when a player has had sufficient time to reach his ball, it is their turn to play and they are able to play without interference or distraction. On the putting green, timing will start when the player has had a reasonable amount of time to lift, clean and replace their ball, repair ball marks and move loose impediments on their line of putt. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball and aligning the ball will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke. Timing ceases when a group is back in position and players will be advised accordingly.
12. If an **"Uncertain as to what to do"** situation arises during a Stableford round, [Rule 20.1c\(3\)](#) applies. The Player is entitled to adopt the "Two Balls" procedure to speed up play. They must announce to their Marker that they intend to play two balls, but must state firstly, which of the two balls the Player wishes to count if the Rules permit both, and report the matter to the Organiser as soon as possible, and **before returning their scorecard**.

13. **“Disputes and Decisions.”** - Under [Rule 20.2a](#) the Referee’s decision on any rules issues, after reference to the “Official Guide to the Rules of Golf” if necessary, is final. In the event of any other unresolved dispute, the Secretary will form a Committee comprising two independent Convenors and himself, and decide the appropriate outcome, and their majority decision will be final.
14. The Team winning the League, and possibly the runner-up Team as well, will qualify for the **Scottish Junior Team Championship**, to be played in 2023 at Elderslie GC on Sunday September the 24th. If either Team declines to take part, then the place will go to the third-placed Team etc. A place in the event may also be available to an all Girls Team from the League.

#### **SECTION I - “ORDER OF PLAY AND “READY GOLF.”**

1. The “Order of Play” on the **first tee is in accordance with the draw**. On following holes, the player in the group with the lowest gross score at the previous hole has the honour at the next teeing area; the player with the second lowest gross score should play next; and so on.
2. However, all Players should be **ready to play** when it is their turn to play. Additionally, for the purposes of the overall speeding up of play on Match-Days, and only if it is **SAFE** for them to play, Players are encouraged to play **“READY GOLF”** at **any time** in the round, at **any tee** (except at the first tee) and at **any other** place on the Course. Players should **alert their fellow competitors** that they are going to play.
3. A document entitled [“ELJGL Ready Golf Advice”](#) is on the League website and League notice board. Convenors are asked to educate their Players on “Ready Golf” before the Season, and remind them before every Match-Day.
4. Players should be educated by Convenors that they **must pick up their ball if they cannot score any Stableford Points at any hole**. For example, a Player receiving a handicap of 36 strokes, 2 per hole, must pick up their ball if they have already played 7 shots on a par 3, 8 shots on a par 4, and 9 shots on a par 5.

#### **SECTION J - DRAW, SCORING & APPS, - SCORECARDS. GOLF GENIUS**

1. The Secretary **may** publish and circulate an indicative draw for all Match Days at the start of the season and will publish the actual draw no later than 7 days before the MD.
2. The Secretary may re-order the indicative draw depending on the strength of Teams as indicated by handicaps.
3. The Host Club’s Players will usually play in the **first** matches on the course at each Match-Day.
4. It is advised that each Convenor plays their team in **ascending handicap order** in the draw. This should put players of similar ability in the same groups.
5. The Secretary or Team Convenors must confirm with Players their position in that draw and issue them with their scorecard(s). Players’ tee times will be shown on their scorecard.
6. Each Team Convenor must promptly **inform the Secretary or Starter** if their Team is **unexpectedly short** of Players and the Starter can amend the draw.

#### **SCORECARDS**

1. The Secretary may supply Convenors or Players with scorecards for the course with labels showing the names of Players, **together with their WHS Course and Playing Handicaps**, which will include **any additional strokes which apply because of differences in course ratings**.



2. **An ELJGL/Golf Genius scorecard may be also issued to each Player which can be used as well as the App, as a back-up to corroborate scores.**
3. Each Golf Genius scorecard will have an indication at each hole where handicap strokes are to be taken. If other scorecards are in use, **it is suggested that for younger or inexperienced Players, Convenors indicate on those scorecards where handicap strokes are to be taken.**
4. When the GG scoring App or course scorecards are in operation, it is only necessary to enter the GROSS scores at each hole. Stableford points will be worked out by our software.
5. Players **must exchange scorecards** before their Game. Players are only responsible for **recording** their fellow competitor's **gross** number of strokes at each hole **where the fellow competitor's net score would earn one or more Stableford points.** And they **must also record** their own **gross** scores in the "Markers" column. **This process will be reversed if Covid rules apply.**
6. In the case of a **very young Player**, or those **competing for the first time**, Convenors, Assistants, or Parents, without offering any "advice" may accompany such a Player for all or part of the round, to ensure that their Junior is playing promptly, and scoring and marking their card correctly.
7. Any unsigned card discovered in the "Recording Area," will, if Players are still in the recording area, be returned immediately to the Player or Team Convenor for signing.

#### **GOLF GENIUS SCORING APP**

1. In season 2023, the Golf Genius App on Players' smartphones will be used whenever possible. Scorecards must be used as a back up. The free GG App is available to download onto phones.



2. It is possible that if all Players in any group each have the App, they can each mark a fellow competitor's GROSS score, and their own GROSS score, when their own, or their fellow competitor's net score, earns one or more Stableford points.
3. Or, **PREFERABLY**, as long as one Player in each Group has a smartphone, fully charged, that Player can volunteer to record **all** the gross scores for all three Players in that group. These should be entered, and checked at the next tee, before teeing off at the next hole.
4. At the end of the round, it is essential that a thorough check is made of all scores on the App. Players can then digitally sign their cards on the App if required, and then submit their scores.
5. If Players do not have, or cannot use the App, e.g. because of a poor signal, then they must use the traditional method of scoring using scorecards.
6. The Stableford scoring system is at Rule 21.1.b, i.e. 2 points for a net par etc. Players can take a **photo** of their scorecards in case of any later queries.
7. The Secretary/Host Convenor will input the gross scores to the GG handicap software and this will calculate the number of Stableford points for every Player.

#### **SECTION K - RESULTS OF MATCH-DAYS AND DECISIONS ON TIES**

1. The Stableford total for each Team will be calculated by the aggregation of the BEST 4 scores from their 6 Players. The 5th and 6th scores should also be recorded but will be discounted, except for deciding ties.
2. The Team with the best 4 out of 6 Stableford points total will, for example in a League of 12 Teams, receive 12 points. The next best total will receive 11 points and so on. The last Team out of the 12 Teams will receive 1 point.
3. In the event of a tie for any place where two or more Teams have the same aggregate best 4 from 6 Stableford points, then the Match-Day points allocated will be decided by reference to the **5th best Stableford score** by either of the 5th or 6th Players. If still tied after that, and still tied after comparing the **6th best Stableford scores**, then **both Teams** will be allocated the points for the higher placing. (If there are only 4 or 5 Players in a Team, then they might lose the tie on this system, so having a full Team is recommended.)
4. If there are 3 or fewer Players in a Team, their Team total might still beat a Team with 4 Players, and if so, then the Team with only 3 Players will be awarded more Match-Day points.
5. Even if only a single Player turns up for any Team, such Players will still gain their Team 1 point, and their score will count for the Individual prizes on the day, and for the Scratch and Handicap Orders of Merit.
6. The result of Matches will be **manually recorded on a scoreboard and only “officially announced”** when the Organiser publishes the Team totals on the website. **No claim will be considered** after that point **unless** it involves an error in the recording of scores, or the addition of any Player’s score or the Team’s total points by a Con-venor or by the Organiser.
7. In the event of a **tie at the end of the League season**, if two or more Teams are tied for the League with the same total of **League Match-Day Points**, then these Teams will be declared as **joint winners**. The trophy will be shared for 6 months each.
8. For the purposes of deciding which Team will have priority to play in the **SJTC**, if two or more Teams are tied, a count-back will be done by comparing the 4-Player Team stableford points totals for Match-Day 10, then Match-Day 9 etc.

#### **SECTION L - PLAYERS ARRIVING LATE.**

1. If any **Players are late**, Convenors or Organisers can be flexible and **move Players** to another of that Team’s slots in the draw. If any Player in any Team arrives at the first tee late, but **within** 5 minutes of their designated starting time, or late but **within** 5 minutes of the last designated starting time for that Team in the draw, **they are subject to a penalty**, but may start their round. [Rule 5.3a](#) imposes **the General Penalty which is, that 2 penalty strokes are applied to the first hole of their round.**
2. If any Player arrives at the first tee **more than 5 minutes** after the last designated tee-time for that Team, then **they are disqualified**. However, if such group are unable to tee off at their allotted time due to a delay, and the Player arrives before that group is able to tee off, the Player is **not in breach** of the rule, **and if possible, can be accommodated in a later part of the draw.**

#### **SECTION M - WITHDRAWALS FROM LEAGUE**

1. If any Team **withdraws from the League before the start of the season**, the subscription will be refunded and each Match Day draw would be revised. There would be no Match Day at the withdrawing Team’s Club.
2. If any Team withdraws during the Season after they have played in any Match Day, their Match-Day points scored to the date of withdrawal will stand and their Home Match Day fixture, if not held by then, will still have to be honoured.

## **SECTION N - MATCH-DAY AND ORDERS OF MERIT (OOM) PRIZES**

1. The best Scratch and Handicap Stableford scores **on each Match-Day** will receive prizes, and the usual count-back method will apply. Players losing on a count-back will receive lesser prizes down to 4th Place. No player can win more than one prize at each Match-Day. Should any Player feature in both Scratch and Handicap prize lists in the same position, the prize for the Scratch takes primacy over the equivalent prize for handicap.
2. Scratch and Handicap **Orders of Merit**, introduced in 2017, will continue. The winners will be those **Boys or Girls who have the best 6 placings out of 10 in the 10 Match-Days. Trophies and prizes will be awarded to the Scratch and Handicap winners.** Prizes will go down to 6th place. No player may win more than one OOM trophy or prize, with the Scratch trophy and prizes taking primacy.
3. Should any Match-Days be **abandoned and not rearranged**, then the OOMs will be calculated using the 5 best scores out of 9, then 4 out of 8, then 4 out of 7 etc.
4. Furthermore, in the **Order of Merit** Handicap Section, there may also be minor prizes for the best Boy or Girl Players in the Age Groups 18 and under, 16 and under, 14 and under and 12 and under. For clarification, e.g. a Player who becomes 14 on or before the 31st December will be in the U16s in the next year. A Player who becomes 14 on the 1st January or later in the year of competition, will be in the U14s all of that year.
5. The two Players who score the **highest numbers of Points in any single Match-Day** over the season, scratch and handicap, may also each receive a prize.
6. There will also be prizes for best scratch and best handicap Stableford scores by Girls in the season.
7. The best 18 hole points total over the season, by any Boy with a handicap over 28, or by a girls with a handicap over 36, will be awarded a prize for their score based on such a handicap.
8. **The Orders of Merit** results will be posted on the League website and may be used as a basis for **Team selection** for selection for The Watson Cup, the annual trip to Pinehurst, and friendly matches with other Junior golf organisations.

## **SECTION O - MISCELLANEOUS**

1. In all ELJGL Competitions, no caddies are allowed.

Dave Warren. Joint League Secretary. 13th December 2022