



SOUTH WESTERN GOLF ASSOCIATION

MENS PENNANT CONDITIONS

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1. DEFINITIONS

- **SWGGA** means the South Western Golf Association, the parent body for amateur golf in the designated geographic region.
- **Pennant** means a competition played between members of clubs affiliated with SWGA
- **Scratch** means No handicap allowance.
- **Handicap** means using a G.A Handicap allowance.
- **Matches** means the Individual game between two opponents or a fourball pair (Division one)
- **Contest** means the competition between two teams.
- **Match Committee** means the Host Club Representatives
- **Code of Conduct** means the SWGA Code of Conduct.

2. FORMAT

2.1 GENERAL

2.1(i) SWGA Men's Pennant is a club teams event played on Sunday's. The 2026 season will commence Sunday 15th March 2026. The printed draw will state the location and starting times for all Contests.

2.1 (ii) The SWGA Pennant season consists of a modified Home & Away competition between clubs in Division One and a Round Robin competition between clubs in Division 2-5 and Handicap with a Final to determine each division winning team. Division One will play a Finals series to determine the division winning team.

2.2 DIVISIONS

2.2 (i) SWGA Men's pennant contest consists of six (6) Divisions.

- Division 1 – comprises 6 single Scratch Matches and 1 Fourball Scratch Match
- Divisions 2-5 comprises 7 single Scratch Matches
- Division Handicap comprises 5 single Handicap Matches.

2.2(iii) A club is not permitted to enter more than **two (2) teams** in the 2026 pennant season.

2.2 (iv) A club is not permitted to have more than one team in any division.

2.3 CONTESTS

2.3(i) Contests must be played adhering to and in accordance with:

SWGGA Standard Event Conditions and SWGA Code of Conduct See (swga.com.au/resources/event-conditions)

- The most current R&A Rules of Golf
- Any such local rules as are in force over the course.

2.3 (ii) In Handicap Pennant, no player may receive more than eighteen shots (18) with shots being applied as per the determined Universal Index. See page 11 for Universal Index Chart. It is the responsibility of each player to ensure they play using their correct handicap.

2.3 (iii). Handicap is based on the Daily Look-up Chart of the host club.

2.3 (iv) All Matches shall be played over a maximum of 18 holes. If a Match is square after the completion of 18 holes, the Match is halved.

2.3 (v) One week prior to the commencement of the first round, clubs in Division 1-5, are to submit to SWGA Golf Operations, a team list with their 4 lowest handicap players in their highest Division of Pennant. These players will be known as Nominated Players. The Player Nomination Sheet is available on the SWGA Website/Mens Pennant.

2.3 (vi) During the season and excluding any Final, Nominated Players must play a minimum of 3 rounds in the team they are nominated in.

2.3 (vii) A Nominated Player cannot play in a lower division of Pennant.

SWGA may exempt a player from condition 2.3(v) in exceptional circumstances. Requests must be in writing to the SWGA Golf Operations to be considered.

BREACH = LOSS OF CONTEST POINTS PER VIOLATION

3. ELIGIBILITY

3.1 CLUBS

3.1(i) Each club participating in Pennant must be financial in accordance with the SWGA constitution.

3.1(ii) Each club entering the SWGA pennant competition must make its own course available for pennant and ensure that the tee is closed to other players for a suitable buffer time prior to pennant play.

3.2 PLAYERS

3.2(i) Players must be male, of amateur status and be a financial member, with playing rights, of the club he is representing.

Exception: - Division One permits 1 x PGA member/ Associate member each round provided they are:

- A PGA/Associate (Trainee) male who has not held a tour card in the last 3 years.
- A full financial member of the club they are playing for and/or;
- They are an employee/contracted professional of the club they are playing for.

3.2(ii) No player will be allowed to represent more than one club in the current SWGA pennant season.

BREACH =LOSS OF MATCH PER VIOLATION

4. TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

4.1 TEAM LISTS

4.1(i) Using the Weekly Team Sheet, no later than 15 minutes prior to the stated hit off time, the team captain of each team shall hand to the Match Committee starter for the host club **and** the opposing Team Manager/Captain, their list of team members in order from player:

- 1 -6 & Fourball (Div 1)
- 1-7 (Div 2-5)
- 1-5 (Handicap).

The list must include each player's **correct** Golf Link Number and; correct GA handicap order for Handicap Pennant.

Weekly Team Sheets are available on the SWGA website/Men's Pennant

TEAM SHEET VIOLATIONS

Not within 15 minutes prior to stated hit-off time	The highest handicap match will lose the 1 st Hole
Not within 10 Minutes prior to stated hit-off time	The highest handicap match will lose the 1 st and 2 nd Hole
0 minutes prior to the stated hit-off time	The highest handicapper will lose the match 9/8
Every 5-minute interval thereafter	Player will lose match 9/8
Submission of correct Golfink Numbers and current G.A handicaps.	May result in match loss/es.

TEAM SHEET VIOLATIONS – AS ABOVE

4.1 HONOUR, HIT-OFF ORDER, LATE ARRIVAL & STARTING TEES

4.2(i) Each Contest will be played at the venue, in the order in which teams appear in the draw, at times and tees specified in the draw.

The "Honour" will be the team listed first in the draw

4.2(ii) Play is to be from the first tee unless otherwise determined by the draw OR Host Club Committee.

4.2(iii) Play will commence from the tee markers as directed by the host club.

4.2(iv) Players must be ready to play when called upon.

4.2(v) Players must play in their team order position.

BREACH =LOSS OF MATCH PER VIOLATION

The order of play is:

- Division 2-5 is player #7 to #1
- Division Handicap player #5 to player #1

- Division One
 - Fourball Match
 - Player 6 Match & Player 5 Match
 - Player 4 Match & Player 3 Match
 - Player 2 Match & Player 1 Match

4.2(vi) Players must be ready to commence play when called upon.

4.2(vii) Any alteration to the hit off order is to be by agreement between the opposing team manager/captains or a person nominated by the captain and the Host Club Match Committee starter notified. All matches must commence within the allocated hit-off time.

4.2 (ix) Without prior agreement players arriving late on the starting tee will be penalised.

PLAYERS LATE TO THE TEE VIOLATIONS

DESCRIPTION	PENALTY
Not within 5 mins of stated hit-off	Loss of 1 st hole Play commences 2 nd hole
Not within 15 minutes of hit-off time	Loss of 1st and 2 nd hole – commences from 3rd
Greater than 15 minutes of hit-off time	Loss of Match (result to be shown (9/8)
<i>All matches should reasonably commence within the hit-off time allocated for the Contest.</i>	

4.2(viii) If a team is unable to field a full team, a Walkover will be given from the lowest number player. The Match result will be shown as 9/8.

4.2 (ix) Play shall be in two's (1 x Matches) unless otherwise stipulated by Host Club.

4.3 EXTREME WEATHER

4.3(i) **General** : There are several circumstances that can be considered extreme weather including Heat, Wind, Rain, Lightning & Course Playability. Refer to the SWGA Standard Event Conditions for definitions.

For the purpose of Pennant only, the SWGA Standard Event Conditions are amended as follows:

4.3(ii) Suspension of Play:

4.3(ii) In the event of Extreme Weather, the Host Club Match Committee will be responsible for deciding whether to suspend play. When the course is ready for play, players will be advised to return to the course.

4.3(iii) If the course remains unplayable for **more than 1 hour**, the Match Committee must decide if the round is to be abandoned.

4.3(iv) If resumption of play is not possible on the match day, the round is therefore abandoned and the result is determined as follows:

1. For those Matches that had been completed, they stand as completed matches.
2. For all Matches that have completed the 12th hole, the Match result stands as at the hole where the Contest was suspended. IE: If one player was up in their Match, they win the Match. If the Match was square, the Match is halved
3. If Matches did not complete the 12th hole, the result is a halved Match.
4. Any Contests completed in that division will stand.

4.3 (v) **Play not Commenced:**

- If play cannot commence, there shall be a waiting time of **1hr after the first scheduled hit-off** time for a decision to be made if a course is unplayable.
- If play is abandoned prior to the commencement of a round, in equity and consideration of health & safety, the round for the division/s affected will be deemed null & void with ½ Contest point awarded to all playing clubs.

4.4 PRACTICE

4.4 (i) Players are not permitted to practice on the course on the day of play, prior to the commencement of their matches. Prior to the commencement of players matches, players may practice on the designated practice areas of the host club in accordance with Rule of Golf 5.2.

4.4 (ii) Following the commencement of their matches, players may practice in accordance with Rule of Golf 5.5 however, players should note that penalties may be applied in accordance with Rule of Golf 5.6 to any player who delays play by such actions.

BREACH = LOSS OF MATCH PER VIOLATION

4.5 MOTORISED TRANSPORT

4.5(i) Players requiring the use of motorised transport (golf carts or other) are required to provide a Medical Certificate from a General Practitioner to the Host Club Representative. The certificate must state the length of time the exemption is required.

Exceptions: -

- (i) Referees/Team Managers to transport a player/caddie in the interest of pace of play where necessary.
- (ii) Any player upon reaching 75 years of age.

4.5(ii) Meeting Condition 4.5, permission to use own motorised transport is to be obtained from the host club prior to the day of the Contest.

SWGGA accepts no responsibility for the availability of motorised transport at host clubs, or as to whether or not permission is granted to use automotive locomotion.

5. ADJUDICATION

5.1 MATCH COMMITTEE & RULES OFFICIALS

5.1(i) Each Pennant venue shall have a Match Committee, which will be responsible for administering the competition at the venue, monitoring slow play and determining any Rules of Golf disputes which may arise or is referred to it.

5.1(ii) Rules officials must be appointed by the Match Committee.

5.1(iii) The Match Committee reserves the right to allocate penalties for team sheet & late to the tee violations & slow play.

5.1(iv) Actively monitor Slow Play – Rule of Golf -5.6

5.2 (v) Refer also to Host Club Responsibilities P10 & Starters Duties P11

5.2 DISPUTES & DISPENSATIONS

5.2(i) Any dispute (other than those covered by the Rules of Golf) will be decided by the SWGA Golf Operations whose decision shall be final.

5.2(ii) Any club dispensation from the rules and requirements set out in these conditions requires a written request from the club and any decision will solely be at the discretion of the SWGA Golf Operations.

5.2(iii) A complaint or protest regarding a breach of any of the foregoing conditions must be made by a club after a decision of its committee, and must be in writing and addressed to the SWGA Golf Operations within seven days of the breach.

5.2(iv) Any complaint proved justified or protest upheld may result in a loss of Contest point(s) or Match point(s), disqualification or as decided by the SWGA Golf Operations after proper investigation.

5.2 (v) Situations not provided for explicitly in these conditions shall be referred to SWGA Golf Operations for consideration.

5.3 PENALTIES - SWGA Golf Operations reserves the right to alter any penalty listed.

6. RESULTS

6.1 GENERAL

6.1(i) It is the responsibility of the team managers/captains to ensure results are provided to the host Match Committee official in a timely manner.

6.1(ii) All matches are played over a maximum eighteen holes match play. If a Match is square after the completion of eighteen holes, the Match result is halved

Players should cease play when their match is over.

6.2. ON THE FINAL ROUND DAY

All Divisions;

In the event of a tie at the completion of all rounds, the procedure is as follows:

- Step 1 - Ties will be decided by Contests won.
- Step 2 – If still equal, then by Matches won
- Step 3 – If still equal, then by the Contest result during the season
- Step 4 – if still equal, then by the number of Matches won by the player or players who played in the number one (1) position over all Contests for the season.
- Step 5- If still equal, then by the number of Matches won by the player or players who played in the number two (2) position over all Contests for the season.
- If still equal, matter is to be referred to SWGA Operations for a decision.

Applies to both promotion and relegation

6.3 FINALS

- At the completion of 7 rounds: -
 - Division 2-5 & Handicap, will play a divisional Final between the two leading teams to determine the Division winning team or;
 - In Division One, a Final's series with the top 4 finishing clubs qualifying. Positions 1 & 4 and positions 2 & 3 will play a semi-final to determine the two teams to compete in the Division Final.
- The leading teams shall be decided by the Final Day process – see condition 6.2
- The Final will commence as a Contest of two teams playing Matchplay as per condition 2.2 & 4.1 (ie: as per the regular season)
- Hit-off honour will be by the toss of a coin on the tee by the starter.
- All Matches must be played to a win/loss result. Play may extend beyond the 18th hole to achieve a result.
- Opposing Team Manager/Captains may agree that a Match shall terminate without a decision if the Final Contest is already decided.

6.3(i) To be eligible to play in a Final, players must have played at least 2 matches during the season.

6.3(ii) The host course for a Final is expected to provide up to 8 player tee times for a practice round in the week prior to the Final. A request must be made to the host club by the Team Manager/Captain.

BREACH = LOSS OF CONTEST PER VIOLATION

6.4 PROMOTION & RELEGATION

- The winner in each of Division 2-5 will be promoted.
 - If promotion will see two teams from one club in any division, SWGA has the discretion to promote another team.
- The bottom side in each of Division one – four will be relegated.
 - If relegation will see two teams from one club in a division, SWGA has the discretion to relegate another team on the ladder.

6.4 (i) New teams wishing to enter the SWGA Pennant competition will be placed at the discretion of SWGA Golf Operations.

7. CODE OF CONDUCT

7.1(i) All players, caddies and club officials are required to abide by SWGA Code of Conduct.

7.1(ii) In the event a person is reported for a possible breach of the Code of Conduct, such report will be considered by the SWGA Operations Committee.

8. PLAYERS & CADDIES

8.1 (I) No player of the participating team shall caddie for another player during a Contest.

8.1 (ii) No person who has caddied for a player during a Contest may caddie for another player during the same contest.

8.2 (i) Players and caddies must adhere to the host club dress regulations.

8.2 (II) No player or caddie, is permitted to consume alcohol on the course whilst their club's Contest is incomplete.

HOST CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

The host club is to appoint a Match Committee who are responsible for:

- Coordination of team sheets, providing score cards to each player.
- Provide tee marshal/s and details of a Rules Official
- Compiling score results and **input results into Golfbox** via the link provided using the appropriate match number **AND** email to womensgolfops@swga.com.au on the day of the competition.
- Coordinate team managers/captains to complete the results sheets
- Actively monitor slow play – Rule of Golf 5.6
- Starters Duties – Starters Duties Page 10
- Be responsible for monitoring and administering the Extreme Weather condition (4.3)
- Be Responsible for administering Condition 4.5 (Motorised Transport) for Medical Certificate to use a cart.
- Allocation of penalties for team sheet violations, starting of contests and player & caddie breaches.

NOTE: There is no obligation for clubs to provide free food and drinks for players or caddies. At their discretion, host clubs, may make available food and drinks for players, caddies and spectators for purchase.

STARTERS DUTIES

The starter’s primary duty is to announce to the tee each match.

The starter should also be aware of the following Terms of Competition and act as required.

- Matches are played in the order appearing on the draw.
- The team listed first on the draw has the honour.
- Play is in pairs unless otherwise stated in the draw. See 4.2 ix
- Play is from tee markers as directed by the host club.
- Players must play in the position listed on the team lists unless agreed to under condition 4.
- A loss of Match penalty applies if a player plays out of position.
- Without prior agreement under Condition 4, players arriving late to their starting time and tee must be penalised in accordance with:
 - **PLAYERS LATE TO THE TEE VIOLATIONS**

DESCRIPTION	PENALTY
Not within 5 mins of stated hit-off	Loss of 1 st hole Play commences 2 nd hole
Not within 15 minutes of hit-off time	Loss of 1st and 2 nd hole – commences from 3rd
Greater than 15 minutes of hit-off time	Loss of Match (result to be shown (9/8)
<i>All matches should reasonably commence within the hit-off time allocated for the Contest.</i>	

COURSE REGULATIONS - CARE - ETIQUETTE - Breach of Course Regulation discretions are considered a breach of etiquette.

While expected levels of golf etiquette is fully outlined in section 1 of the Rules of Golf book and the SWGA Code of Conduct, players should appreciate the opportunity to play other courses and behave in a respectful way when enjoying such access.

Players, caddies and spectators should observe club requirements regarding:

- The carrying and use of sand buckets.
- Divot & pitch repair
- Non-emergency use of mobile phones
- Players using motorised transport should use them in a manner so as not to gain an unfair advantage over walking players.

UNIVERSAL INDEX – For Handicap Matchplay. Refer to Condition 2.3

Hole	Index		Hole	Index
1	18		10	5
2	8		11	11
3	12		12	2
4	3		13	15
5	14		14	7
6	6		15	13
7	10		16	4
8	1		17	17
9	16		18	9