



**SOUTH WESTERN GOLF ASSOCIATION.**

**WOMENS PENNANT CONDITIONS 2026**

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## 1. DEFINITIONS

- **SWGA** means the South Western Golf Association, the parent body for amateur golf in the designated geographic region.
- **Scratch Pennant** means No handicap allowance.
- **Handicap Pennant** means using a G.A Handicap allowance.
- **Matches** means the Individual game between two opponents
- **Contest** means the competition between two teams.
- **Match Committee** means the Host Club Representatives
- **Code of Conduct** means the SWGA Code of Conduct on the website.

## 2. FORMAT

### 2.1 GENERAL

- 2.1(i) SWGA women's pennant is restricted to amateur female members affiliated with the SWGA.
- 2.1 (ii) SWGA women's pennant will be played on Friday mornings for Div 1-6. Sunday Division will be played on Sunday's. The printed draw will state the starting times for all Contests.  
The season will commence on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026 & Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026.
- 2.1(iii) Pennant in all Divisions and Sunday will be played as Singles Stroke Matchplay
- 2.1(iv) Divisions 1-5, Contests will be played as Scratch Pennant.
- 2.1 (v) Division 6 & Sunday Contests, will play Handicap Pennant. Handicap range will be up to a **maximum of GA 40.0**
- 2.1 (vi) In Handicap Pennant, no player may receive more than eighteen shots (18) with shots being applied as per the determined Universal Index in the absence of a club Matchplay index. See page 11 for Universal Index Chart
- 2.1 (vii) It is the responsibility of each player to ensure they play using their correct handicap. Handicap is based on the Daily Look-up Chart of the host club.
- 2.1(viii) In Handicap Pennant, a player may have a **GA above 40** but must not use a handicap greater than the **GA 40**

### **BREACH = LOSS OF MATCH PER VIOLATION**

### 2.2 DIVISIONS

- 2.2 (i) SWGA Women's pennant contest consists of seven (7) individual Matches in Division 1 (highest) and five Matches (5) in all other Divisions.
- 2.2(ii) Pennant will be conducted in divisions
- Division 1- 5 – Scratch Pennant
  - Division 6 & Sunday – Handicap Pennant
- 2.2(iii) A club is not permitted to enter more than **four (4) teams** in the 2026 pennant season.

## 2.3 CONTESTS

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

SWGAs Standard Event Conditions and SWGA Code of Conduct See ([swga.com.au/resources/event-conditions](http://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) Clubs are to submit their nominated players for the purpose of the Team Aggregate, including players GolfLink numbers and GA handicaps, to the Womens Golf Operations one week before the first match of the season. Players may be nominated in one team only.

**The total handicaps of the nominated players (with weekly revision) will make up the Team Aggregate**

2.3 (iii) The Aggregate is applicable to Division 1-5. Clubs with only one scratch team are exempted.

2.3(iv) Players may be nominated in one team only and may not play in a lower division or Sunday Pennant when their team has a bye/hosts.

### **BREACH = LOSS OF CONTEST POINTS PER VIOLATION**

2.3(v) A nominated player must play at **least 3 Matches** during the season.

**SWGAs may exempt a player from condition 2.3(v) in exceptional circumstances. Requests must be in writing to the SWGA Womens Golf Operation 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 female, of amateur status and be a financial member, with playing rights, of the club she is representing.

3.2(ii) No player can represent her club **in both Friday and Sunday** pennant in a season.

3.2(iii) A nominated player **must play 3 matches** in the season.

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

3.2 (v) Once a player plays three matches in any higher division, she is ineligible to play in a lower division.

3.2 (vi) No player of a participating team (who finishes a match earlier or otherwise) may caddy for another team member during the Contest.

3.2 (vii) No person who has caddied for a player during a Contest may caddie for another player during the same Contest.

**NOTE:** Refer also to Golf Rule 10.3a regarding the use of Caddies.

**Substitute Players (Emergency)**

3.2(v) Substitute’s must not lower the Team Aggregate by more than five (5) shots. Not applicable to clubs with only one scratch team.

3.2(vi) Once a substitute plays three matches in any higher division, she is ineligible to play in any lower Friday division.

3.2 (vii) No substitute player can represent her club **in both Friday and Sunday** pennant in a season.

**Any condition 3.2 BREACH = LOSS OF CONTEST PER VIOLATION**

**4. TERMS OF THE COMPETITION**

**4.1 TEAM LISTS**

4.1(i) No later than 30 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 Captain, the list of team members in GA order from lowest to highest and include each players correct Golf Link Numbers and correct GA handicap.

**TEAM SHEET VIOLATIONS**

Not within 15 minutes prior to stated hit-off time	The highest handicap match will lose the 1 <sup>st</sup> Hole
Not within 10 Minutes prior to stated hit-off time	The highest handicap match will lose the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> 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.

**4.2 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.

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

4.2(iv) Players must play in their GA position

4.2 (v) The order of play shall be :

- Division 1 is player #7 to player #1.
- Division 2-6 is player #5 to #1
- Sunday Pennant is player #1 to player #5

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

4.2(vii) Without prior agreement under Condition 4.2 (ix) OR 4.2(viii) players arriving late on the starting tee will be penalised

**PLAYERS LATE TO THE TEE VIOLATIONS: 4.2(vi) & 4.2 (vii)**

DESCRIPTION	PENALTY
Not within 5 mins of stated hit-off	Loss of 1 <sup>st</sup> hole Play commences 2 <sup>nd</sup> hole
Not within 15 minutes of hit-off time	Loss of 1st and 2 <sup>nd</sup> 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(vii) If a team is unable to field a full team, a Walkover will be given from the lowest number player (player 7 in Division 1 and player 5 in all others) Match result will be shown as 9/8.

**4.2(viii) Friday Pennant Division 1-6**

Play is to be conducted in pairs or fours as stipulated by the draw.

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

**4.2(ix) Sunday Pennant:**

- Play is to be in pairs unless otherwise nominated by the host club. Clubs should be notified of any changes not in accordance with the draw.
- Any alteration to the hit off order is to be by agreement between the opposing team captains or a person nominated by the captain and the Match Committee starter notified. All matches must commence within the allocated hit-off time.

**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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 practise on the course on the day of play, prior to the commencement of their matches. Prior to the commencement of players matches, players may practise on the designated practise areas of the host club in accordance with Rule of Golf 5.2

4.4(II) Following the commencement of their matches, players may practise 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**

Following the commencement of their matches, players may practise 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.

#### **4.5 MOTORISED TRANSPORT**

4.5(I) SWGA Permission to use a golf cart is NOT required. Note: Cart usage during SWGA Pennant would still require any individual to comply with any club requirement and/or cart availability.

4.5(ii) Permission to use own motorised transport is to be obtained from the host club prior to the day of the contest. SWGA 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

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 Womens Ops 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 Womens Ops.

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 Womens Ops 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 Womens Ops after proper investigation.

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

### **5.3 PENALTIES - SWGA Womens Ops reserves the right to alter any penalty listed.**

## **6. RESULTS**

### **6.1 GENERAL**

6.1(i) It is the responsibility of the team 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 and Sunday Pennant;

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 Womens Ops for a decision.

**Applies to both promotion and relegation**

**6.3 FINALS**

- A Divisional Final will be held between the two leading teams that qualify in Division 1.
- The leading teams shall be decided by the Final Day process – see condition 6.2
- The Final will be a Contest of two teams playing, Singles Stroke Matchplay over 18 holes.
- 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 18<sup>th</sup> hole to achieve a result.

6.3(i) To be eligible to play in a Final, players must have played at least 3 Friday matches during the season.

6.3(ii) The player make-up of the team must not lower the team aggregate.

**BREACH = LOSS OF CONTEST PER VIOLATION**

**SWGA may exempt a player from condition 6.3(i) & (ii) in exceptional circumstance.**

**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 – five 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.
- The side finishing last in Division 6 may be replaced to allow for a club wishing to enter a new team into the competition.

**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 Women’s Ops Committee.

## 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 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](mailto:womensgolfops@swga.com.au) on the day of the competition.
- Coordinate team captains to complete the results sheets
- Actively monitor slow play – Rule of Golf 5.6
- Starters Duties - Refer to P10
- Be responsible for monitoring and administering the Extreme Weather condition (4.3)
- 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.
- 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 4.2(ix) or 4.2(x). A loss of Match penalty applies if a player plays out of position.

### **BREACH = LOSS OF MATCH PER VIOLATION**

- Without prior agreement under Condition 4.2(ix) or 4.2(x), players arriving late to their starting time and tee must be penalised in accordance with:

### **BREACH = SEE CONDITION 4.2 TABLE**

## COURSE REGULATIONS - CARE - 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.

**Breach of Course Regulation discretions are considered a breach of etiquette.**

**UNIVERSAL INDEX** – For Handicap Matchplay where shots being applied are in the absence of a club Matchplay index.

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