



2023 Encourage Shield Terms of Competition

**THESE TERMS OF COMPETITION ARE TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE
Golf NSW STANDARD TERMS OF COMPETITION FOR PENNANT PLAY**

Introduction

The Encourage Shield is an annual handicap match play competition for teams of young members of Golf Clubs in the Sydney Metropolitan Region.

The objective of the Encourage Shield is to provide young golfers with the opportunity to test their skills and learn match play competition in an environment that is fun, supportive and free of undue interference.

More information (draw and results) may be found at the Jack Newton Junior Golf website under the Tournaments Section

In 2009 Jack Newton Junior Golf (JNMG) began assisting with the administration of the event in conjunction with the Convening Club. The following year, 2010, the delegates at the AGM appointed JNMG as the Convener of the event.

The Encourage Shield is governed by the participating clubs. Each year, generally on the first Monday in July, JNMG representatives chair the Encourage Shield Annual General Meeting of delegates from participating clubs. Each participating club is entitled to have one voting delegate. A delegate may be authorized in writing to represent multiple clubs.

Any changes to the Encourage Shield Terms of Competition must have majority support by the delegates present at the Annual General Meeting.

The Competition commences on the first Sunday after the Labour Day weekend and is contested over consecutive Sundays.

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1. DEFINITIONS

- a. Convenor: Jack Newton Junior Golf
- b. Committee: Two JNJG personnel (CEO and Encourage Shield Event Manager)
- c. Match Day Committee: The match Committee of the *Convening Club* comprising the captain and other members deemed appropriate by the Captain. Members of the Match Day Committee should not be *Team Managers* or players.
- d. Team: A team comprises 6 players. (No playing reserve)
- e. Composite Team: A team comprising players from two or more Golf Clubs
- f. Contest: The competition consisting of *Matches* between the Teams from two clubs.
- g. Match: The competition between two players from each *Team*.
- h. Round: A series of *contests* held at the *Host Club* on a single day.
- i. Host Club: The Club at which a *Round* of the Encourage Shield is conducted.

2. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- a. A Club's nomination and its inclusion in the draw confirm that the Club agrees to, and will comply with, these Conditions of Competition.
- b. Clubs are permitted to enter more than one Team.
- c. Two or more Clubs may enter a composite Team if each club has insufficient players to field a Team. The Team Manager of the Composite Team is responsible for notifying the Committee, prior to the date of the commencement of the Competition, of the names and clubs of the players comprising the Composite Team and the name of the Club they represent.
- d. The Entry Fee determined at the previous year's Encourage Shield AGM must accompany the entry form, or be received by JNJG within one week of the clubs nomination via the JNJG website.
- e. Clubs must be prepared to host one Round of Division Contests for each Team entered. The Host Club must provide a drink (soft drink or water) and a sandwich for each Team Manger and player.

- f. Each Team must be accompanied by an adult Team Manager who is responsible for the conduct and management of the Team. The Note to Rule 8 (of the Rules of Golf) does **not** apply to the Team Manager. That is, the team manager **may not give advice**. The Team Manager may speak to the players about rules, pace of play, procedures of match play and encourage players generally. A team may appoint one assistant team manager who has the same rights as the manager.
- g. Entries close on the 23rd August each year. The Convenor may accept late entries at its discretion.

3. RULES

- a. Play must be in accordance with the current Rules of Golf. The penalty for breach of rules as noted in the Rules of Golf.
- b. These Conditions of Competition and the Host Club's Local Rules also apply. The Golf NSW Standard Conditions for State Events, Transportation Policy and Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (as listed on the Golf NSW website) apply. Where the Golf NSW conditions appear to contradict the Encourage Shield Conditions of Competition, the Encourage Shield Conditions of Competition take precedence.
- c. The Host club should provide each Team Manager and Player with a printed copy of the Local Rules applicable on the day of the Contest.
- d. The match committee of the Host club represents the Committee at Division Rounds and at the Elimination, Quarter and Semi-Finals and make decisions on the Conditions of Competition and the Rules of Golf. A Member of the Host Club who is associated with a Team competing at the Host Club (that is, Team Manager or Player) must not be a member of the Match Committee.
- e. Decisions made by the relevant Match Committee are final.

4. DATES AND TIMES OF PLAY

- a. The Competition starts on the Sunday following the Labour Day Public holiday weekend in NSW.

- b. The draw will be published on the JNJG website and distributed to clubs via email two weeks before the first Division Round.
- c. The Host club must schedule a block of tee times starting between 7:00 am and 1:00 pm. Three tee time lines are required for each Contest. Rounds may comprise one; two or three Contests. It is recommended that the Host Club allow at least a 30 minute buffer after the last Encourage Shield tee time.
- d. Contests must be played on the dates and at the times specified in the draw. The Host Club may alter the tee times up to 5 days before the Round and must notify participating Clubs and the Committee
- e. Any Team failing to be available to play at the time specified by the Host Club shall forfeit the Contest to their opponent 6 to 0.

5. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- a. A Player must be a Member of the Club they are representing and have a valid Golf Australia handicap. The players category of membership must be that they are eligible to play in the Club Junior Championship. (Penalty: Disqualification of the player)
 - i. Exception: A Player who is a member of a Composite Team and whose name has been notified to the Committee prior to the date of commencement of the Competition does not need to be a Member of the Club they represent.
- b. Players must be under 18 years of age at the date of commencement of the competition and have a GA handicap at an affiliated golf club (Penalty: Disqualification of the player)
- c. Players must not have played in a Junior Pennant, Eric Apperly Shield, Grade or Major Pennant or District Pennant Team for any Club other than as a reserve. (Penalty: Disqualification of the Players) An exemption for up to two players may be allowed. See application form in the appendix.
- d. A Player must play for only one Club. If a club enters two teams, the player must only play for only one team during the season. (Penalty: Disqualification of the Player)

- e. A Player must have played in at least two Divisional rounds, to be eligible to play in the Final Contest. (Penalty: Disqualification of the Player)
- f. A player must have a valid Golfink number and have played a minimum of three (3) competition rounds, 18 hole games in the 6 months prior to round 1 of the event each year. Exemptions may be considered – use the form in Appendix to these conditions.
- g. In the same season, up to three (3) Encourage Shield players may play for the same club in their Junior Pennant team for one round and then return to Encourage Shield without affecting their eligibility. If a player is “substituted up” to Junior pennants twice in the same season, he/she may not return to Encourage Shield.

6. FORMAT OF PLAY

- a. The play is handicap match play over 18 Holes. Each Contest will comprise of six individual Matches. Each Individual Match counts for 1 point.
- b. If a division or finals Match is square after 18 holes, each Team is awarded ½ point.
- c. If a division contest is tied 3-3 at the end of 6 matches each team will be awarded ½ point.
- d. If a **finals contest** is tied 3-3 at the end of 6 matches, then each team will nominate a player to play off “hole by hole” until a result is achieved.
- e. When a boy plays against a girl and the par of a hole is different, the net score in relation to par is used to determine the outcome of the hole.
- f. Play is conducted in groups of four Players. That is, there are two Matches per group. In respect of each Match in a group, the Players in the other Match are outside agencies. See the Rules of Golf Definitions for Outside Agency, Partner and Side.
- g. The honour on the first tee is decided by the toss of a coin by the Team Captains or Representative in the Captains absence.
- h. The Team Manager must provide the Host Club with a list of Team Members in Daily Handicap order, at least ten minutes prior to the first tee time. (Penalty: Loss

of number 6 Match). The Team Manager should use the Team Sheet & Results Form for this list.

- i. In all contests the order of play is the 6 & 5 players tee off first, then the 4 & 3 players and then the 1 & 2 players tee off last.

7. ABSENCE OF PLAYERS

- a. If a Team has less than the required number of Players, it must lose each Match for which a player is absent.
- b. A Player is considered absent if he is not ready to play at the time that his Match is scheduled to tee off.
- c. If, after the Team list has been submitted, a player is absent or otherwise unable to play, a "spare" player may take his place but must play in the same Team position as the Player for whom he is substituting. This should be noted on the Results Form. Should there be no spare player that match is forfeited.

8. SUSPENSION OR POSTPONEMENT OF PLAY

- a. Every effort should be made to play the Contests on the scheduled day and time.
- b. If it is necessary to delay the commencement of play or suspend play because of weather conditions, play should not be suspended for the day until such time as it would not be possible for the last Match to be concluded on the day. The decision on this matter rests with the Match Committee of the Host Club.
- c. If, due to unforeseen circumstances (i.e. inclement weather conditions, course unplayable) it is not possible for a contest to start, the Round can be postponed and a new Team submitted on the new date.
- d. For Contests that have commenced on the correct date, but are unable to be completed that day due to any circumstances, play must be suspended. Each group of players should Endeavour to complete the hole they are playing. If play is

resumed on an alternative date, the players must follow the procedure as detailed in Rule 6-8d.

- e. In the event that play is suspended or does not commence, the alternate date and time arrangements must be made in conjunction with the Committee.
- f. If it is not possible to start or resume a Contest, the Contest will be decided as follows:
 - I. For any completed Matches, the result stands.
 - II. For any Matches that have completed nine holes or more, the result at the suspension of play is the final result.
 - III. For any Matches that have completed less than nine holes, the result is halved.
- g. The Committee reserves the right to make a decision in equity when it is impossible to complete one or more Matches in accordance with the Rules of Golf.

9. SUSPENSION OF PLAY DUE TO A DANGEROUS CONDITION

- a. When play is suspended by the Match Committee for a dangerous situation, if the players in a Match are between the play of two holes, they must not resume play until the Match Committee has ordered a resumption of play.
- b. If the players in a Match are in the process of playing a hole, they must discontinue play immediately and not resume play until the Match Committee has ordered a resumption of play.
- c. If a player fails to discontinue play immediately, he is disqualified, unless circumstances warrant waiving the penalty as provided in Rule 33-7.
- d. The following signals are used:
 - I. Discontinue Play: One prolonged note of a siren
 - II. Resume Play: Two short notes of a siren, repeated

10. CADDIES

- a. A player is prohibited from using a caddie during the *Match*. Any person who moves a player's clubs in order to save time is not considered to be a caddy. (Penalty: At the conclusion of the hole at which the breach is discovered, the state of the *Match* is adjusted by deducting one hole for each hole at which a breach occurred; maximum deduction per *Match* – two holes. In the event of a breach between two holes, the penalty applies to the next hole. A player having a caddie in breach of this condition must immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred ensure that he conforms to this condition for the remainder of the stipulated round. Otherwise, the player is disqualified.)

11. MOTORISED TRANSPORT

- a. A player must not ride on any form of transportation during the *Match* unless authorized by the *Committee*. The NSWGA Transportation Policy (January 2009) applies. (Penalty: At the conclusion of the hole, at which the breach is discovered, the state of the *Match* is adjusted by deducting one hole for each hole at which a breach occurred; maximum deduction per *Match*-two holes. In the event of a breach between two holes, the penalty applies to the next hole. Use of any unauthorized form of transportation must be discontinued immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred. Otherwise, the player is disqualified.)

12. DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES

- a. Irrespective of any local rule at the host club, distance measuring devices (DMD's) of any kind **are permitted** provided they do not indicate temperature, slope, wind speed or wind direction. A player who uses a DMD which indicates temperature, slope, wind speed or wind direction is in breach of rule 14.3 regardless of whether any such functions are actually used. Penalty - Disqualification

13. HANDICAPS AND ORDER OF PLAY

- a. Daily handicaps are calculated using the new World Handicap System. Daily handicap = $((GA \text{ handicap} \times \text{Slope rating} / 113) + (\text{SCR} - \text{par of course})) \times 0.93$
- b. Maximum daily handicap for boys is 36, and for girls 45.

- c. The first group will be the No. 6 & 5 players, then No. 4 & 3, then No. 2 & 1

14. TEES AND STARTING HOLE

- a. The host club will determine the starting hole for each contest. The Match Index for that starting hole must be used. (See Condition 19.)
- b. Boys should play from the Men's competition of the day tees, or from the shortest slope rated mens course, at the discretion of the host club.
- c. Girls should play from Women's competition of the day tees, or from the shortest slope rated womens course, at the discretion of the host club.
- d. If a hole has two greens – men's and women's – (eg. The Lakes 14th and Campbelltowns 18th), and a boy is playing against a girl, the hole will be played to the green closest to the tee. If a boy is playing against a boy the men's green will be in play.

15. DIVISIONS

- a. The *Teams* entered are allocated to Divisions of four, five or six *Teams*. Generally, the allocation of *Teams* to Divisions will be based on a similar geographical location but not the same as the previous year's draw.
- b. Where a Division consists of five *Teams*, the *Team* whose club is the *Host Club* will have a bye. That is, a *Team* must not play at their home club.
- c. In each Division, the *Team* with the most *Contests* won is the Division Winner. If *Teams* are tied on *Contests*, then the *Team* with the most *Matches* won is the Division Winner. If the *Teams* are still tied, the winner of the contest between those two clubs during the divisional rounds will be the winner. If that result was halved, the number 6 *Match* is deleted and so on until a winner is determined.
- d. Division Winners are seeded using the formula:
 - i. $(\text{Number of Contests won} / \text{Number of Contests played}) * (\text{Number of Matches won} / \text{Number of Matches played})$
 - ii. If *Teams* are tied then the seeding is decided by lot by the *Committee*.
- e. Depending upon the number of divisions, there will be a process applied to ensure that 4 teams will contest the semi-finals. (eg. In 2011 there were 7 divisions. The no. 1 seeded team progressed directly to the semi-finals and the remaining 6 played off for the semi-final positions.) This process will be determined by the *Committee*.

16. FINALS

- a. The winner of each division advances to the Finals.
- b. Quarter finals, Semi finals and Final *contests* should be played on courses where the Mens SCR is within 1 stroke of the par.
- c. Quarter finals, Semi-Final and Final *Contests* must not be played at a *Team's* home club.
- d. Clubs whose *Teams* are in the Final Series should offer their course to host other Finals *contests*

17. PROTESTS

- a. Protests on matters deemed in breach of these Conditions, must be received in writing by the *Committee, Match Committee and* opponents within two days of the Contest(s) being held.

18. BY-LAWS, CLUB RULES AND DRESS REGULATIONS

- a. The by-laws, club rules and dress regulations of the *Host Club* apply.
- b. The Team Manager is responsible for ensuring that Players, officials, parents and supporters are aware of, and comply with, the *Host Club's* by-laws, club rules and dress regulations.
- c. The Match Committee should not permit any player, attired in a manner that breaches the *Host Club's* dress regulations, to commence play. Any player not meeting the *Host Club's* dress regulations will be considered absent. Condition 7 applies.

19. MATCH INDEX

The following Match Index must be used for appropriate the starting hole.

Tee off on Hole 1

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

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

Tee off on Hole 12

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

Tee off on Hole 7

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

Tee off on Hole 13

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



Application for Player Eligibility Exemption - 2023

Club _____

Contact: _____ Email: _____ Ph. _____

List all team players below, indicating those requiring exemption.

Player	Handicap	Golflink No.	Reason for Exemption

The Club must have exhausted all other avenues for fielding a team before making this application.

Send this form with your team registration form to:- edward@jnig.com.au