



Newcastle District Golf Association 'B' and 'C' Grade District Pennants Rules and Conditions of Play

August 2019 – Rev 1.0

1. Each Club to be eligible to compete in the B Grade Pennant Series must enter a team in the B Grade Oc Colley Cup. Each Club to be eligible to compete in the C Grade Pennant Series must enter a team in the C Grade Oc Colley Cup. An eligible Pennant team consists of a total of 6 players.
2. Each Club may enter one team in the 'B' Grade Pennant Series and one team in the 'C' Grade Pennant Series.
3. The 'B' Grade Pennant Series team will consist of players with handicaps that comply with the Qualifying GA handicap at the time of the "Oc Colley" Cup.
The 'C' Grade Pennant Series team will consist of players with handicaps that comply with the Qualifying GA handicap at the time of the "Oc Colley" Cup.
The Qualifying GA Handicaps for this year's Event will be shown on the Entry Form and in the Appendix at the end of these Rules.
4. A team member may only represent and play for one NDGA affiliated club in a pennant series.
5. Each member of a Pennant Team must be a bona-fide member of the Club he is representing and must be financial and affiliated before he can play. Note – Suspended players are ineligible to play.
6. All Clubs entering teams in the pennant series must make their course available for at least one of the preliminary rounds of the series.
7. In the event that a Club is unable to conduct the matches on their course due to adverse weather conditions the Secretary of the N.D.G.A. must be informed as soon as possible.
8. Each Club, when they are hosting a Round of the Pennant Series, must provide an official, preferably from their Match Committee, to assist the NDGA Official to start the matches and marshal the course.
9. Teams for the Pennant Series will consist of six players, and preference in Team selections, for all rounds, MUST be given to those players that represented the Club in the 'Oc Colley' Cup event.
10. If a Team member becomes unavailable to play for a Club in the Pennant Series, then he may only be substituted as follows:
 - (a) An Oc Colley Cup qualified player may be used as a substitute and his handicap can be in accordance with Rule 11.
 - (b.) All non Oc Colley Cup qualified substitutes must satisfy the minimum handicap grade requirements for the Oc Colley Cup and as set out above, in the Appendix for these Rules and in accordance with Notes 1,2 & 3.

Note 1: Any player, whose handicap, since the day of the Oc Colley Cup, has not fallen below the Minimum Qualifying GA handicap requirement as set out in Rule 3 above, would be eligible as a substitute for the applicable grade of the Pennant Series.

Note 2: Similarly, if at any time during the Pennant Series, a player's handicap falls below the Minimum Qualifying Handicap requirement for that Grade, he cannot be used as a substitute for the rest of the Pennant series.

Note 3: Any player whose handicap is below the Minimum Qualifying GA handicap on the day of the Oc Colley Cup would be ineligible as a player or substitute for all of this year's Pennant series.

11. If an 'Oc Colley' Cup qualified player, reduces to a handicap lower than the Qualifying GA handicap for that grade, he is still eligible to represent his Club in the appropriate Grade Pennant Series.
12. ***Any player that played in the 2018 B or C Grade District Championship – and finished in the top 3 in either Scratch or Nett – will be considered to be an Oc Colley Cup qualified player for this year – provided they meet the Qualifying GA handicap for this year, at the time of the Oc Colley Cup.***
13. Teams will hit off in reverse order ie: The number 6 and 5 players will hit off first followed by numbers 4s and 3s, 2s and 1s will hit off last. Play will be in fours.
Order of play may be varied with the agreement of both Team captains.
14. Team Captains must hand their teams lists in order 1 to 6, to the District Official, 15 minutes before the scheduled hit-off times. The Team Lists must include the Golflink number and **GA handicap, as displayed by Golflink on the day of play**, for each player. G/L No. only required the first time a player plays in a Round. No changes are permitted after submission. Breach may result in Team disqualification.
15. All Team members must be ready to hit off five minutes before the designated Team hit off time, otherwise the opponent of the team member in default, will be credited with the game by forfeit. All other players shall maintain their designated position.
16. In the event that a Club cannot provide the stipulated number of players, they must arrange their team list from No.1 down. i.e. If only 5 players then it must be the No.6 match that is forfeited.
17. Order of team hit off will be determined by opposing Captains, or their representatives, by the toss of a coin.
18. All matches shall be played strictly to the Rules of Golf and the local rules prevailing at the host Club on the day of the match.
19. During the course of play, when the result of a hole has been determined, both players MUST immediately pick their ball up and proceed to the next tee. Practice putting on the hole just completed is NOT permitted. Penalty – Loss of next hole.
20. Slow play – If a group is out of position relative to the pace of play, during the first 12 holes of play, they will be given a warning that they must make up the distance within the next 2 holes. After those 2 holes, if the group is considered to remain out of position, they will be required to deem the next hole to be played as halved and progress to the next tee. If the group is still out of position, this procedure may be repeated. The decision to enforce this rule will be at the discretion of the representative of the District Match Committee.
21. Any practice on a host course, on the day of play, must be sanctioned by the host Club. Their instructions are to be strictly adhered to.
22. Provided the match has not already been determined, if an individual game cannot be completed due to adverse conditions or other unforeseen circumstance, the game is to be suspended and at the discretion of the Team Captains the game can be concluded by restarting from the position where play was suspended. This should occur as soon as practical but certainly before the completion of the preliminary rounds.
23. All Clubs entering teams do so on the 'undertaking' that they will play all scheduled matches, as a forfeit breaches the spirit of the District Association and the Pennant Competition. If a Club forfeits a round, the opposing Club will be granted a match point for the win and also all 6 game points. If a Club forfeits twice, they will be removed from the competition. Teams who have played, or are due to play those Clubs removed under this rule, shall be granted byes for each of the related rostered events, with no match or game points allocated.
24. For a scheduled match, if both teams forfeit or mutually agree to not play, then NO match or game points will be awarded. The match will not be considered as a Draw.

25. Determination Of Result

All individual games in the preliminary rounds shall be completed on the 18th hole unless a winning result is already achieved. The individual player that wins his game shall be awarded 1 game point. If a result has not been achieved after the 18th hole the game is drawn and each player receives ½ a game point. During each round the Club whose team has the higher number of game points is then credited with a Win for the round and receives 1 match point - their opponent is credited with a Loss and receives 0 match points. If there is a tie on game points - each Club is then credited with a Draw and receives ½ a match point.

At the completion of the Preliminary rounds, the Club with the highest number of match points shall be the winning team of their respective Division. The Club with the next highest number of match points will be runner-up in the division. If there is a tie between 2 Clubs at the completion of the Preliminary rounds, then the number of individual games points won by the Clubs shall be used to determine the result. In the event a tie still exists – then the result of the match when the 2 teams met in the preliminary rounds will be used to decide. Should a tie still exist then the teams will play off on a neutral course at a time and place determined by the NDGA Match Committee. The winning team and the second placed team in each division will then play-off in Semi-finals matches with the winners of the Semi-finals playing off to determine the Pennant winners for the year.

For all Matches in the Final Series - the individual games are to be played until a result is achieved and not be limited to 18 holes, with a game point awarded to the game winner. In the event that at the conclusion of the individual games the Team game scores are equal at 3 all – then each team shall select a player and the result be determined by a sudden death playoff starting on the hole nominated by the NDGA official on the day.

- 26. A player must have played at least one game in the Divisional Preliminary rounds to be eligible to play in the Semi - Final and / or the Final. This does not include playing in the Oc Colley Cup.
- 27. “Advice to players.” During a match, only the player’s caddie may give advice (Ref. Rule 8. and The Definition of advice). Players whose game has concluded are NOT permitted to caddie for other Team members, whose games are still in progress.
- 28. The consumption of alcohol and/or the taking of legally prohibited substances by players, caddies, managers and team officials on the course, during a stipulated round, is strictly prohibited. A player / team may be disqualified for a breach of this rule.
- 29. Dress Rules:
Players are to comply with the Dress Rules applicable at the Host Club.
- 30. Distance Measuring Devices.
Use is permitted – but only in accordance with GolfAust guidelines
- 31. Motorised Carts – Use is permitted.
- 32. Any disputes should be directed, in writing, to the NDGA Match Committee.
- 33. The NDGA Match Committee is the controlling body for the Pennant series and their decision on all matters will be final.
- 34. *Clubs are required to comply with the intent of Notes a, b, c, d when compiling teams.*

Notes –

- a. The old Rule 12, shown below, that required Club Teams to be compiled in strict increasing GA handicap order, has been deleted*
- ~~12. During the Pennant Series rounds all club teams must be compiled in increasing GA handicap order. i.e. lowest marker will be No.1, with the highest marker at No.6.~~
- b. Team managers are strongly encouraged to not engage in massive deviations from the GA handicap order of their players. This would include, but not limited to – complete reversal of Order or playing a “Sacrificial Lamb” at No.1.*
- c. It is recommended that any changes in the order be limited to 2 changes - and any move be limited to a max of 2 places each.*
- d. Should Clubs engage in manipulating of playing orders that is not consistent with the intent of the NDGA recommendations – then they risk the old Rule 12 being re-introduced.*

Appendix

B Grade

Venue for Oc Colley Cup 2019 - Hawks Nest GC Slope Rating – 126 White
Qualifying GA Handicap for B Grade is minimum **11.3** to maximum **17.8**

C Grade

Venue for Oc Colley Cup 2019 – Shortland Waters GC Slope Rating – 130 White
Qualifying GA Handicap For C Grade is minimum **17.9** to maximum **36.4**