



RULES

(Updated: May 2021)

Approved by:

Chairperson:

Date:



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INTRODUCTION

The Eskom Head Office Golf Society (HOGS) Executive Committee is tasked, in terms of the Society's Constitution, with the responsibility and control of the affairs of the Society. The Executive Committee deems it expedient to introduce the following rules which are hereby promulgated and will be effective until amended or withdrawn. The rules should be read in conjunction with the Eskom Head Office Golf Society Constitution.

A. GENERAL RULES

1. Management

- 1.1** Shall be carried out in accordance with Clause 9 of the Constitution of the Eskom Head Office Golf Society.

2. Membership application

- 2.1** Individuals eligible to apply for membership will complete an application form (available from the member of the Executive Committee in charge of Membership), attach a photocopy of their Handicap Card and submit the application to the Executive Committee for consideration at the next meeting. The application must be signed by a proposer and seconder.
- 2.2** Life Partners applying for membership must also submit a completed affidavit confirming the life partnership (form available from the member of the Executive Committee in charge of Membership)
- 2.3** The member of the Executive Committee in charge of Membership will inform the applicant of the outcome. If successful, then a full information pack (Constitution, Rules of Eskom HOGS, and Calendar of Events) will be emailed to the member.



3. New members

- 3.1** At their first tournament with HOGS, new Members will be paired with an Executive Committee Member to ensure that the new Member is familiar with and adheres to the rules of the society.

4. Website

- 4.1** The Executive Committee will maintain a HOGS website on which information and news will be posted on a regular basis.

5. Schedule of games

- 5.1** At the end of each calendar year, the Executive Committee will draw up a preliminary schedule of games for the following year, consisting of the following events:
- **Club Championship** will be played over 36 holes provided that there is a sponsor for the game (members may have to play the same course twice to make up the 36 holes). If there is no sponsor for the game, consideration may be given to playing only 18 holes.
 - **Monthly tournament** (on a Saturday or Sunday). Depending on the availability of a sponsorship/society's financial position, the Executive Committee shall strive to schedule at least one game each month, inclusive of the Club Championships, except for the month of December
 - **Weekend Away** (2 rounds of 18 holes each, normally on a Saturday and a Sunday)
 - **Challenge matches** (normally on a Saturday or Sunday – the organization for challenge matches will rotate on an annual basis between the participating golf societies)
- 5.2** The Executive Committee may schedule one **Committee Golf Day** per annum, to which the Honorary President shall be invited and to which other Honorary, Life and Ordinary members may be invited, limited to a maximum of three 4-balls.
- 5.3** The Executive Committee may schedule a maximum of one **Committee Workshop Golf Game** per annum to be incorporated into one of the workshops organized by the Executive Committee for the purposes of reviewing, debating and taking decisions on the management of the society.



B. PLAYING RULES

6. Golf Courses for Society Competitions

- 6.1** The Eskom Head Office Golf Society does not have its own golf course. The Society enters into agreements with various golf clubs for its members to play competitions.

7. Sponsorships

- 7.1** Sponsorship will be for a calendar year January to December. Sponsors that come in late in the year will be managed on a case by case basis.
- 7.2** In the event of the Executive Committee not being able to secure sponsorship for a game, the Executive Committee will review the game fee, the provision of meals, the competition format and reduce the prizes or use other means to contain the costs of the tournament.
- 7.3** Approved Sponsor organizations may register (utilizing the standard application form) 2 (two) players to be their “HOGS Sponsor Members” for the year in which the organization provides sponsorship. These two members are eligible to play in any HOGS monthly game, subject to these rules and to the payment of the fees prescribed by the Committee for the respective games.
- 7.4** Sponsor organizations may nominate a maximum of two players to participate in the Weekend Away games.

8. Invitation to enter and Draw sheets for scheduled games

- 8.1** All members will be informed via e-mail of the next game, a minimum of 16 (sixteen) days prior to the event.
- 8.2** Entries will close on the Monday at midnight, 12 days (13 days in the case of a Sunday game) prior to the competition date.
- 8.3** The draw for the game will be issued, via e-mail, not later than on the Monday in the week of the competition date. If relevant, reserve players for the competition will be indicated on the draw sheet. The draw sheet will also indicate the format and the Sponsor for the game. Updated draw sheets may be issued thereafter.

8.4 It is the responsibility of players to inform the Competition Secretary as soon as possible if they subsequently find they are unavailable for play (See Rule 8.8, 16.4.7).

8.5 Players are expected to pay, via electronic fund transfer, prior to the competition date.

8.6 All payments must be made into the following account. Players must use their name as reference. Proof of payment must be must to the HOGS Treasurer.

ABSA: Rivonia Branch
Current Account Number - 4060960852
Branch number - 509955

8.7 In the event that a Player has paid, but withdraws from the game within the stipulated time, the game fee will be carried over to the next game for which the Player enters.

8.8 In the event that a Player has paid, but withdraws from the game after the stipulated time, the game fee will be forfeited, but will be considered as part contribution to the reimbursement of costs.

8.9 A limit on the number of players permitted in each competition is imposed by the golf clubs at which we play. Places will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. Creation times posted on e-mails will be used as the criterion.

8.10 The priority when concluding the draw is as follows:

1st Priority	Sponsors of the Day
2nd Priority	Executive Committee Members
3rd Priority	Honorary President, Life and Honorary Members
4th priority	Ordinary Members of HOGS, on a first come first serve basis
5th Priority	Other HOGS Sponsor Members (limited to the 2 (two) registered HOGS Sponsor members as per clause 4.4.8 of the Constitution and Rule 7.3 above)
6th Priority	Junior members of HOGS, on a first come first serve basis
7 th Priority	Guests of HOGS members

9. Competition format

- 9.1** The competition format for the Club Championships will be individual medal stroke play.
- 9.2** The basic competition format for all other games will be Stableford points, either Individual, Betterball or 4-Ball Alliance, or a variation on these formats:
- **Saturday games** – the competition format should be consistent with that of the club at which the game is being played
 - **Sunday games** – the competition format will be determined by the Executive Committee Competition Secretary in consultation with the Sponsor of the Day.

10. Handicaps

- 10.1** Handicaps for Eskom Head Office Golf Society are based on the South African Golfing Association (SAGA) Handicapping System.
- 10.2** SAGA handicaps are adjusted on a round by round basis and therefore all players must enter their round within 72 hours of playing.
- 10.3** Sponsors, Sponsor Visitors and Guests:
- With an official handicap will play off their SAGA handicap
 - Without an official SAGA Handicap (Men – 18, Women – 24)
- 10.4** Sponsor's representatives or guests who do not have an Official (SAGA) handicap:
- Men will play off 18
 - Women will play off 24.
- 10.5** Official (SAGA) handicaps will be used when participating in Challenge matches (such as the Quadpot) and the Weekend Away games.
- 10.6** The following handicap indexes will apply for Club Championships:
- Men's A Division: 0-12.4 HI
 - Men's B Division: 12.5 – max HI
 - Ladies' Division: 0 – max HI
- 10.7** The Executive Committee shall be at liberty to adjust the aforementioned handicapping divisions and the par for the course on which monthly competitions are held (when it differs from the SAGA rating).



- 10.8** The Executive Committee shall be at liberty to adjust the handicaps specified by these rules, subject to a record being retained of any such changes and the motivation therefor.

11. Score Cards

- 11.1** A score card must be submitted as follows:
- Individual Competition – for each player.
 - Betterball Competition – for each team of two.
 - 4-Ball Alliance competition – for each team of three or four.
- 11.2** For Individual and Betterball Competitions, only the scores recorded under “player” on each respective score card will be considered.
- 11.3** For 4-Ball Alliance competitions, all scores recorded on the score card will be considered.
- 11.4** It is the responsibility of each player to ensure that his or her score has been correctly entered on the score card.
- 11.5** It is the responsibility of the player signing the card to ensure that the player’s name, plus that of the partner or partners, the handicaps, the name of the marker, the type of competition and the date are written legibly on the card.
- 11.6** It is the responsibility of the player signing the card to ensure that the card has also been signed by the marker and that it is immediately handed to the appointed official for checking.
- 11.7** Failure to submit a correct score card may lead to disqualification of the individual player, the Betterball players or the 4-Ball Alliance players, depending on the competition format, or the score card may be returned to the player to be corrected and a penalty may be imposed by the Executive Committee member responsible for the scoring (on the individual player, the Betterball or 4-Ball Alliance players, depending on competition format).

12. Count-outs

- 12.1** The Society applies count-outs on the following basis, in sequence:
- Best points on the last nine holes (holes 10 to 18)
 - Best points on the last six holes (holes 13 to 18)

- Best points on the last three holes (holes 16 to 18)
- Best points on the last hole (hole 18)

The above sequence is irrespective of the tee from which the players originally commenced the game.

12.2 For the Club Championships over 36 holes, Rule 12.1 is applied to each of the two 18-hole games respectively, using net scores:

- Best net score on the last nine holes (holes 10 to 18)
- Best net score on the last six holes (holes 13 to 18)
- Best net score on the last three holes (holes 16 to 18)
- Best net score on the last hole (hole 18)

The above sequence is irrespective of the tee from which the players originally commenced the game.

12.3 For the determination of the overall winners, based on gross scores over the 36 holes, the following count-out applies:

- Best gross score over holes 1 to 18 of the second game
- Best gross score over holes 7 to 18 of the second game
- Best gross score over holes 13 to 18 of the second game
- Best gross score for hole 18 of the second game

If the two games are played on different courses, with both courses used in parallel, the Executive Committee will determine before commencement of the tournament, which of the two courses will be used for the count-out.

13. *Pivoting/wild card*

13.1 In Betterball competitions where one player does not turn up, pivoting shall take place, with the player with the lowest handicap in the 4-Ball being the pivot with each of the other two players in the 4-Ball respectively.

13.2 If a player in a Betterball competition plays 9 or less holes, a pivot will be used for the full 18 holes so as not to disadvantage the other player.

13.3 In 4-Ball Alliance competitions, where one or more players do not turn up for the game, a wild card(s) shall be drawn after the game for the purpose of determining the 4-Ball Alliance score. The wild card, and nomination of which player (A, B, C or D), shall be drawn from the full pack of submitted score cards by a member of the 4-Ball Alliance for who the wild card is been drawn.

- 13.4** If a player in a 4-Ball Alliance plays 9 or less holes, a wild card will be used for the full 18 holes so as not to disadvantage the other players.

14. Trophies, Vouchers and Competitions

The Competition Secretary will arrange for the safekeeping of trophies. The current suite of competitions and trophies are as follows:

14.1 First Game of the year

- Chairman's Trophy for the best Individual Score
- Vusi Ngubeni Memorial Trophy for the best 4-Ball Alliance Score

14.2 Club Championship

- Men: Club Champion Trophy for Best Gross Score
- Men: Winners in each of the Divisions as per Rule 10.9
- Women: Club Champion Trophy for Best Gross Score
- Women: Winner in the Division as per Rule 10.9

14.3 Annual General Meeting

- Theo Willemse vouchers for the Highest, 2nd and 3rd Highest, total accumulated, IPS Points for the year for the players – as in Order of Merit.

14.4 Quadpot Challenge Trophy (HOGS, Rotek, Menlyn and Simmerpan)

- 12 players represent HOGS

14.5 Les West Individual Knockout Trophy

- The format of play for the Knockout is Individual Matchplay.
- The knockout will be played off the Official (SAGA) handicap – breach of this Rule will lead to disqualification.
- The Strokes advantage will be determined by the differential between the handicaps of the two players. The following is an example:
 - ♦ Player A = 20 Handicap
 - ♦ Player B = 8 Handicap
 - ♦ Player B plays off Scratch(0) and Player A plays off a 12 Handicap (i.e. The difference between 20 and 8)
 - ♦ Player A therefore has a 12 stroke advantage over Player B because Player A will stroke on holes with Strokes 1 – 12
 - ♦ If both players' handicaps are the same then both will play off scratch (0).



- For the purpose of men/women Knockout competition, each player will play off the course strokes appropriate to them.

15. Golf Society Fees

15.1 The Executive Committee has discontinued the collection and depositing of cash in respect of membership entrance fee, annual subscription fee and reimbursements of costs or fines. All members must make use of electronic payment facilities or bank deposits. Proof of payments must be emailed or faxed to the Treasurer.

The Golf Society fees include the following:

- 15.1.1** A once-off membership entrance fee
- 15.1.2** Temporary membership fee
- 15.1.3** Annual subscription fee; pro-rata when joining during the year.
- 15.1.4** Game fee payable at each game
- 15.1.5** Reimbursement of costs applicable to late withdrawals and not turning up at tournaments

16. Discipline

- 16.1** All players are expected to be well behaved at all times both on and off the golf course. Players should be courteous to others. Good sportsmanship and course etiquette should be exhibited on the course, while conduct in the clubhouse and surrounding areas should at all times be exemplary.
- 16.2** Any breach of discipline or exhibition of bad sportsmanship should be brought to the attention of an Executive Committee Member as soon as possible. Players or members found guilty of breaches of discipline may be suspended for any length of time by the Executive Committee.
- 16.3** All players are to report to the starter's desk at least 30 (thirty) minutes before the allotted tee-off time and to the starter on the tee at least 10 minutes before allotted tee-off time. Appropriate action will be taken by the Executive Committee if times are not adhered to.
- 16.4** Any member who withdraws from a competition after the notified time for withdrawals will be required to reimburse the Society the applicable green fee and catering costs. Until such time that the reimbursement cost has been paid into the Society's bank account, the member will not be allowed to enter any further competitions. A letter to this effect shall be sent via email to the member.



- 16.5** Any member who does not turn up for a competition (no show) will be required to reimburse the Society the applicable green fee and catering costs of the club concerned. In addition, the member will be suspended from playing the next tournament. Until such time that the reimbursement cost has been paid into the Society's bank account, the member will not be allowed to enter any further competitions. A letter to this effect shall be sent via email to the member.
- 16.6** The Executive Committee may temporarily suspend or permanently terminate the membership of any member who fails to pay the applicable fees in accordance with Rules 15.2 to 15.6. The member shall be notified of such sanction by a letter sent via email to the member.
- 16.7** Any member who has been sanctioned under Rules 16.4 to 16.6 may apply in writing to the Executive Committee to have the reimbursement cost and suspension rescinded by providing valid reasons.

17. Prize Giving

- 17.1** The Executive Committee will provide a meal (dependent of financial health of HOGS) but all drinks (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) will be for the members account. The Executive Committee notes that the partaking of alcoholic drinks poses a safety risk to players as they have to drive home after the prize giving function, and hence encourages all players and guests to moderate their intake of alcohol.
- 17.2** At the prize giving and dinner players must sit with the members of their 4-Ball as cliques defeats the purpose of HOGS.
- 17.3** Players that are not present at HOGS prize-giving will forfeit their prizes (with the exception of the Ball Pool, Jackpot and Two-Club prizes). Forfeited prizes and their future use will be reflected in the relevant Match Reports and Monthly Financial Reports.

18. Dress Code

The following dress regulations will apply at all times. Neatness is of critical importance.

- 18.1** On the Golf Course

- Whilst participating in competitions acceptable golfing attire (shirts with collars, long/short pants or skirts and golf shoes must be worn)
- Shorts should be proper golf shorts of acceptable length (Bermuda type with belt) and will be worn with knee-length or short white socks (no secret socks)
- No casual wear will be allowed
- Note that HOGS team colours are Light Blue HOGS shirt and navy or beige pants/skirts and Beige HOGS cap

18.2 In the Clubhouse

- Clubhouse dress regulations must be adhered to
- Stocking or bare feet are not permitted in the bar or any other area of the clubhouse other than the locker room
- Shoes with soft studs may only be worn in the locker rooms or other areas as stipulated by the host golf club management or Executive Committee
- Eskom HOGS Members are to comply at all times to the rules and code of dress and discipline of the host club

19. Complaints and Suggestions

19.1 Complaints and suggestions are to be submitted to the Executive Committee in writing. Unusual incidents that arise during the course of competitions should be reported to the scorers immediately after play. The Club Captain will act as arbitrator and if required make the final decision.

20. Conduct

20.1 Any Member, visitor or guest guilty of misconduct can be requested by any Executive Committee Member or the golf club management to leave the club premises or grounds immediately.

20.2 Please make use of the rubbish bins or baskets provided.

20.3 No Member is allowed to admonish an office bearer or employee of the club directly. Complaints must be lodged with a HOGS Executive Committee Member.

20.4 Neatness of the club premises, i.e. locker rooms, change rooms, toilets must be maintained at all times.



20.5 Foul language amongst members will not be tolerated at HOGS functions or competitions.

20.6 Cellular phones are only permitted in designated areas in the club house.

21. *Selection of Teams*

All teams representing HOGS in Challenge matches will be selected by the Club Captain. In the selection of teams representing the Society, the following criteria will be considered:

21.1 The HOGS Order of Merit - applied to players that have participated in at least 50% of year-to-date / most recent 12 competitions. The "Order of Merit" reflects the player's average individual Stableford score in the period under consideration.

The Club Captain may use his or her discretion to reduce the percentage participation used in the determination of the merit order in the event of insufficient players being available for the Challenge game.

21.2 Golfing ability, temperament and composure.

21.3 Behaviour on and off the golf course.

21.4 General appearance and dress.

22. *Behaviour on the Course*

A "4-Ball Captain" will be identified on the draw for each respective game. The "4-Ball Captain" is responsible for the behaviour of and maintenance of etiquette of players in their company on the course.

The following shall be adhered to by all players:

22.1 Speed up play. Players should maintain their positions in the field and not fall behind those in front of them. When players have lost ground to the extent that they are more than a fairway behind those in front of them or when time is being lost through looking for a lost ball, they must immediately signal to the players behind to play through. Players falling more than a hole behind could be disqualified from the competition or be

subject to disciplinary action by the Executive Committee. In Betterball Competitions, a player should pick up his or her ball if it is impossible to improve on their partner's score. On Par 3 holes allow the Four-ball waiting (on the tee) to tee off while you are walking to the green to speed up play.

22.2 Practice swings should be kept to an absolute minimum.

22.3 Replace divots taken on the fairways.

22.4 Smooth bunkers (club marks and footprints) after playing.

22.5 Repair pitch marks on the green.

22.6 Ensure that caddy carts are not pulled across greens.

22.7 Under no circumstances are Cellular Phones to be used whilst on the course.

23. *Duties of Starters*

23.1 Report to the Registration Desk at least 25 minutes before the first tee off, collect the copy of the draw/time sheet and note rules on placing, distance markers and any other rule applicable to players.

23.2 Introduce Sponsor players and new members to their team members.

23.3 Inform players of the applicable rules as each team prepares to tee-off.

23.4 In the case of players arriving late the following rules must be applied:

- If only two or less players present – move to back of field
- If three present – send off as per draw/time sheet – pivot in accordance with Rule 13
- If fourth player arrives he must catch up with the team - the pivot falls away on holes played by the fourth player

24. *Duties of Markers*

24.1 The marker is to ensure that the player(s) correct gross score is entered on the score card at each hole.

24.2 The marker is to ensure than any penalties incurred by the player is brought to the player's attention and entered on his scorecard.

24.3 When any breach of discipline or course etiquette has occurred, the marker is to inform the players concerned and report the player to the Club Captain.

24.4 When the marker is satisfied that the score is a true reflection of the player's score for the round, the marker is to sign the card and hand it to the player, who will check it for correctness, sign it and then hand it to the appointed official for checking, prior to being accepted as a score for the competition.

25. *Local Rules*

25.1 Players are to consult the notice board at the golf club for the current local rules before commencement of play and are obliged to comply with these rules.

26. *Exceptions*

26.1 The Executive Committee reserves the right, when circumstances warrant it, to make exceptions to any of these rules.

27. *Rules of Golf*

27.1 The Rules of Golf as published by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews (www.randa.org) and the United States Golf Association (www.usga.org) and SA Golf Association (www.SAGA.co.za) are to be adhered to at all times.