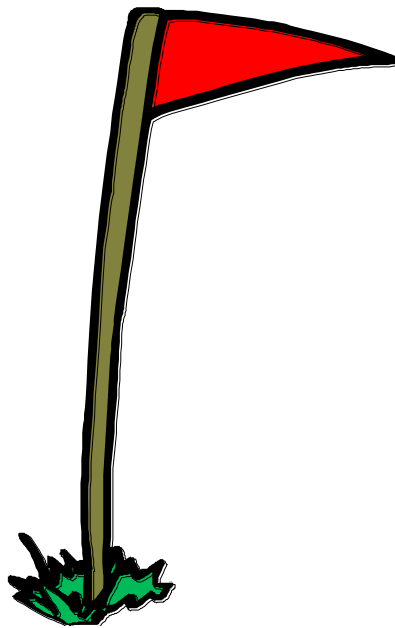




Braeside Ladies Golf Club

Handbook



**Revised
March 13**

This handbook contains information about competition play and general information about playing at Braeside. It is based on information contained in club records, current practice, ancient history and generous advice from the men's and ladies' committees. Any changes to competition formats must be approved by the Ladies' sub-committee, and amendments made to the handbook, with captain's name and date.

General competition information.

Formats – There are a variety of formats - singles, foursomes, four-balls, greensomes, team events, matchplay, or strokeplay (including medal play and Stableford). Each has slightly different rules and penalties. Too complicated to go into here – just ask if you are unsure!

Fixture list – this is produced February to January for each year. It can take a while to formalise, as we work with the men to firm up dates for the mixed events, as well as liaison with any external event organisers.

Prize giving is usually held in November and currently held on the same day as the AGM



Scorecards – cards should be marked by a playing partner who has a CONGU handicap. It is the responsibility of the player to ensure they are checked and correct. The committee reserve the right to check the identity and handicap status of any non Braeside member who marks another person's card.

Completing your card – things to remember

Make sure that you complete:
the name of the competition,
the date and your name
(including your surname).

Be sure that the handicap
you quote is correct
for the day of the
competition.

In a Stableford competition it is useful to calculate the Stableford points as you go round, but be sure to agree & write down the number of shots taken too

COMPETITION **13-JUNE STABLEFORD**
 DATE **13-06-06** TIME **8.45**
 Player A **HELEN HIGHWATER** Handicap **25**
 Player B

Hole	Marker's Score	White Yards	Par	Stroke Index	Score	Net Score	W=+ H=0	L=- Points	Red Yards	Par	Stroke Index
1	8-	463	5	10	6	2			423	5	6
2	5 ₂	372	4	8	5	2			386	4	8
3	5 ₂	119	4	12	4	2			353	4	12
4	5 ₁	247	3	18	4	2			113	4	18
5	4 ₂	254	3	6	4	2			222	3	6
6	5 ₂	258	4	16	4	2			237	4	16
7	7 ₁	370	4	14	4	2			232	4	14
8	7 ₁	380	4	4	6	3			341	4	4
9	7 ₁	2874	35	2	5	3			348	4	2
10	3 ₃	230	3	9	4	2			2655	4	9
11	5 ₃	396	4	3	4	1			173	3	3
12	5 ₁	182	3	17	5	1			352	4	17
13	4 ₃	283	4	15	7	2			163	3	15
14	4 ₃	290	4	13	5	2			241	4	13
15	6 ₂	334	4	1	5	3			235	4	1
16	4 ₃	337	4	11	5	3			302	4	11
17	6 ₂	365	4	7	5	3			277	4	7
18	9-	431	4	5	5	2			338	4	5
19	18	2848	34	IN	6	2			392	4	34
20	11	2874	35	OUT	4	2			2473	4	35
21	29	5722	69	TOTAL	44	2			2655	34	IN
22	39			NETT	90	19			5128	35	OUT
23					44	20					TOTAL
24					65	39					

PLEASE AVOID SLOW PLAY AT ALL TIMES

Stableford Points: 39
 Handicap: 25
 Nett: 65

Marker's Signature: *[Signature]*
 Player's Signature: *[Signature]*

Holes won: 9
 Holes lost: 3
 Result: 6

Make sure that you check your card against the markers card before you both sign.

Write legibly and correct any errors clearly.

Name, date, competition, handicap, marker's and player's signatures must be filled in fully and legibly. Scores should be legible – if changed for any reason, marker should initial the change. Completed scorecards should be given to a ladies' committee member, or sent first class post or hand delivered to the handicap secretary within 48 hours of the competition (the competition will be deemed closed on the morning of the following Tuesday – cards not received by then will be registered as non returns).

Handicaps – Correct and up to date handicaps must be used for competitions and penalties apply if an incorrect (too high) handicap is used or if no handicap is shown on the card.

Handicaps are calculated based on the 'competition scratch score' (CSS). That is, the adjustment is weighted depending on whether everyone else has played relatively well or badly. The handicap secretary will advise on adjustments, but the formula is:

Handicap Category	Handicap Range	Reduction
Cat 1	5 or less	0.1 for each shot under CSS
Cat 2	6 to 12	0.2 for each shot under CSS
Cat 3	13 to 20	0.3 for each shot under CSS
Cat 4	21 to 28	0.4 for each shot under CSS
Cat 5	29 to 36	0.5 for each shot under CSS

Increases are always 0.1.

You are responsible for your own handicap, and must report all handicap qualifying scores played away from Braeside. If in any doubt about your handicap, play safe and play off the lowest handicap you may have. Losing a shot is better than being disqualified!

To qualify for a handicap, if not transferring from another club, you will be asked to submit 3 cards marked by Braeside members. At least one card must be played with a committee member, and one card must include a gross score of 115 or less.

Supplementary cards – Please check with the handicap secretary whether you are eligible to hand in ‘supplementary cards’. If you have done fewer than 10 qualifying cards in the previous handicap year (February to January), you can play up to 10 supplementary cards. You must register your intention to play a supplementary card, by writing in the book (see below) before you go out to play.

Signing in for competitions – ‘Signing in’ is the way a player indicates their intention to enter the competition, and must occur before the event commences. The current system for ladies’ competitions played at Beckenham is to sign in the book in the pro-shop on the morning you play the competition. Failure to sign in before you play will mean that you are treated as not having entered the event. Occasionally the Beckenham pro-shop is closed temporarily for some reason, if so you must alert your partners orally of your intention to play, and you may then sign in once you reach the third hole, but not thereafter unless exceptional circumstances occur.

For mixed events, and mixed away events, there will usually be a sign in sheet on the men's board, and you will normally need to sign up at least a week in advance (sometimes more, especially for away events) – and check in with the starter on the day (the equivalent of 'signing in'). So do keep a check on what competitions are coming up. An email is usually send around with details. There may also be restrictions on entry numbers, so the earlier you sign up, the better.

For ladies away events, where deposits etc are required, sign up is usually by e-mail, again often well in advance of the event.

Tee times – regular tee times are booked each week on a Saturday and may vary between summer and winter. Competitions other than monthly medals, monthly stablefords and bank holiday competitions are 'tee closure' events, ie player must play within the allocated tee times. A group of ladies also play on a Thursday, at around 10am.

No show or late show – If possible you must give 24 hours notice of inability to play if you have signed up for something – especially if there is a prior draw. You must show up at least 15 minutes before the competition starts, (sometimes earlier than this) this may lead to a 2 stroke penalty if you show up late or a 30 day disqualification from competitions if you don't show up at all.

Payment – Most ladies and mixed competitions at Beckenham (other than medals or stablefords) have an entry fee, payable to the starter. Green fees are payable as normal

Etiquette and courtesy

This subject is worthy of many golf books, so no detail here. But in short:

- Be aware of your playing partners at all times – ensure they can concentrate on their own game. Praise good shots, but don't constantly commentate on your or your partners' games. Don't move or talk when somebody else is playing a shot. If you want to chat, do it between shots, not during them! Leave the really interesting gossip and stories for the clubhouse afterwards.
- Keep up with the group ahead. If you are losing the group ahead, work together with your partners to speed play up. It is considered correct to call the next group through if you are losing time and cannot catch up with the group ahead.
- Techniques for speeding up include:
 - walk faster and chat less,
 - select your club and be ready before every shot,
 - you are allowed 5 minutes to look for balls, but call the group behind through before this if necessary
 - tee off out of order or before marking your card,
 - play your shot, or putt out of order if you are ready,
 - pick up if no hope of a score in match play or Stableford competitions or in match play concede the hole if you are bound to lose it.
 - Don't take too many practice shots
 - 'Trolley management' – if you don't know what this is, just ask!



- Please don't argue about the draw or the starting order. It is hard enough for the committee to organise competitions and groupings without having individual requests.
- Please conduct yourself quietly (unless shouting 'fore!')
- Always mark your ball with a personal mark – and check it's yours before you play it.
- Dress code – we are not stuffy, but try and keep to the standard dress code, collared or smart shirts, golf shoes, no denim and given current fashions, please keep your midriff to yourself!
 - If we are playing away, please observe the local dress codes, which may be stricter than Braeside.
- On the putting green
 - avoid standing in the eye line of someone putting.
 - always mark your ball and pick it up.
 - don't walk on someone's putting line.

Rules, Penalties and Disciplinary issues

'Rules is rules' and you are responsible for knowing the rules and applying them, including penalties where appropriate. It is always wise to have a copy of the full Rules of Golf available (free from the Royal and Ancient Golf Club) so you can refer to them if necessary. Asking advice about the rules is acceptable, but remember you may get different views from different people, depending on whom you ask and how reliable their knowledge is! If in doubt, refer to the rule book. Refer to Rule 3.3 if you feel the rule cannot be clarified while you are out on the course.

It is rare that the club has to invoke disciplinary procedures, (especially for the ladies!) but blatant or persistent bad behaviour or rules violations may result in a committee decision to give a warning or a disciplinary sanction.

Annual schedule of competitions:

Medal competitions.

In Medal play competitions, every stroke taken by the player is counted. The hole must be finished, though you can record a 'no return' at a hole or holes if your score there is ludicrously high – this means you will be out of the medal, but the score still counts for handicap purposes and if you were playing really well on other holes your handicap could still come down. This is because of the 'stableford adjustment' system, which converts Medal scores to Stableford points FOR HANDICAP PURPOSES ONLY.

Medals are seen as the most serious regular competition of the club. Some ladies therefore prefer to concentrate on their game and are not an ideal competition for potential new members to get handicap cards marked.

Medals are usually played on the second weekend of the month, other than when this is not possible due to other fixtures. Played at the normal ladies tee time, although individuals may choose to play their medal at any time of day. There are two separate EWGA medal played on Saturday and Sunday respectively. Normally the award for the "Club Medal" is given to the winner of the Saturday medal, although if more people play in the Sunday medal then the Club prize will go to the winner of the Sunday.

Where a medal is played by less than 3 players, the competition is deemed to have been played and will qualify for handicap purposes but no prize will be awarded. You can play in both Medals if you wish.

EWGA medals

The EWGA Medal year runs January to December. The best four medal scores for each player are used to determine which players qualify for the Regional and National Finals days. The LGU issues the forms and the medals, the club determines who the winners are, and the winners are invited to play in the national LGU medal championships the following summer.

Monthly Stableford competitions

The competitions use the stableford scoring system (4 points for a nett eagle (2 under), 3 points for a nett birdie (1 under), 2 points for a nett par, one point for a nett bogey (1 over)) and no points – often called a ‘blob’ – for anything worse. The ‘nett’ score is determined by your handicap and the stroke index (SI) of the hole in question. If your handicap is 30, you will get 2 shots on SI 1-12, and 1 stroke on SI 13-18. So if you score 5 on the 7th (SI 14), you have a nett par, and get two points.

Stableford comps are usually played on the last Saturday of the month, though the date may be changed to suit other fixtures, with an option to play the alternative day which is the Sunday. Saturday tee times will usually be pre-booked, but members may choose to play at any time on the competition day. You may play either day, at your choice, but not both.

Stableford League.

This is a trophy which is awarded for the best stableford player, based on 4 cards run as ‘best of series’ over the period from 1st November to 31st October.

Most improved golfer

This competition is based on improvement in handicaps over a full year from 1st November to 31st October. Bronze division is calculated on percentage, silver division on world rankings points, divisions are allocated on current handicap at the time the results are drawn up.

Eclectic competition

This is played during the summer (but could be winter also) – based on the best score for each hole over 10 rounds. The total ‘best’ score is then reduced by 50% of the player’s handicap at the time of their first round, to find the winner. This is an informal competition, scorecards do not need to be played in a competition event, or do you have to decide in advance whether you want to use a particular round for your eclectic score.

Winter match play event

This singles competition was introduced in 2005/6 to introduce members to match play competition. Depending on the numbers entering, entrants are divided into round robin groups, and then winners and runners up play knock out semi finals and finals.

‘Majors’

All majors are closed tee competitions.

If fewer than 3 players enter the competition, or some unforeseen event prevents play, the competitions will be cancelled before play begins and rearranged.

These include:

Club championship. Medal play competition* (see overleaf) played over two days, aggregate scores. The first day is played in handicap order, with the second day played in reverse result order from first day. Entrants must have returned two qualifying scores at Braeside from 1st January, of the current calendar year, that is to say any two handicap qualifying rounds.

Hawtree trophy – Medal play competition

Ida Davies – Medal play competition

President's Trophy – Medal play competition

Patricia Gooda – Stableford

Charity Trophy – Stableford. Entry fee to go to the captain's charity.

Pre-qualifying competitions

These are competitions for which you qualify based on competition results from the previous year.

Master Medal – medal winners and runners up from the previous year qualify for this Medal play competition. (Includes regular monthly Medal, and additional EWGA medal.)

Grand Slam – mixed competition (Spring Bowl, Presidents, John Quilty and Grand Slam), major winners and major runners up from the previous year may enter. (See list of 'Majors' – above)

Spring Bowl – an away day competition playing with the men, but not a mixed competition.

John Quilty weekend – away with the men. Competition on the Sunday, with a practice day on Saturday, staying overnight at a hotel. Great fun and highly recommended.

* Medal Play is often referred to as Stroke Play (although this is technically incorrect – as stroke play is a general term for anything other than match play)

Mixed competitions

Mixed triangle – Each lady plays with two men, playing stableford points. (Men pre-qualify) – the best joint score of the lady and one of her partners will win the competition. (This means that the lady can win and come second if both of her partners play well). The ladies' section liaises with the men's section to ensure the number of men matches the number of available women. Non-qualifying for handicap purposes.

Tom Cotton – Mixed greensomes. In greensomes, two players play alternating shots as in foursomes. The difference is that each player plays a tee shot on each hole, and the pair can then choose which tee shot they wish to use. The person who takes the second shot is the one whose tee shot it wasn't!

Committee trophy – Mixed pairs, men, ladies or mixed. Four ball better ball, stableford (where the better stableford score of the pair on each hole is the score that counts).

Bank Holiday competitions – these are mixed stableford competitions. Usually no fixed tee times, players organise their own games (typically around 9am). Sign up on men's board beforehand. Cards go into the men's box, or to a committee member.

‘Fun’ competitions

Captain’s Day – This is a fun event, and it is seen as a way for the captain to thank members, and for members to support the captain. Traditionally the captain doesn’t play, and is there on the day to help organise the event. The captain decides the format which may change from year to year. In recent years we have played as a stableford event with men and juniors playing together, though with prizes for each section separately. It can include nearest the pin, longest drive, team competitions etc.

Ladies’ 4 club – players are only allowed 4 clubs, including a putter! Stableford, - non-qualifying (ie doesn’t count towards handicap) because of the restriction in the number of clubs.

Christmas Competition – a fun event with booze or silly pressies as a prize.

Ladies informal ‘Away’ events

There are a number of away events each year. These include:

- **Ladies’ spring weekend away** – normally we organise a weekend away during the spring for ladies. Informal comp for the tasteful ‘Eve Baldry trophy’
- **Ladies’ autumn weekend** – again informal competition for the Eve Baldry trophy (normally those who win it can’t wait to get rid of it).
- **Ladies’ winter awayday** (eg St Andrew’s day at Princes) – in the past we have organised an awayday towards Christmas – the bleaker the better! (Occasionally organised)

Events against other clubs

Penfold League – this is a summer league competition against other public golf course clubs in Kent. It is a matchplay event, with teams of six playing in three pairs, four ball better ball. Although the winning club is determined by the results of these matches, there is also a ‘finals day’ which is effectively a separate competition, in which each club fields a team of 6, with the best combined team stableford score winning. For Penfold events, the Captain or Penfold Captain will request notification of your availability at least two weeks ahead by e-mail, with team announcements being made as far ahead as possible. Penfold events are currently £7 to include food, though for Penfolds home and away players have ‘the honour of the course’ (ie no green fees payable).

(Braeside Ladies are currently not playing in The Penfold League)

Social Membership

This allows participation in all Away Weekends and other social activities organised by the ladies’ group; general play at Beckenham Place Park at pre-arranged tee times – but not eligible to enter competitions/medals – and excludes Green Fees. Social members would have no voting rights at AGMs. A handicap would be required (either from another Club or as a previous member of Braeside Ladies). Social members who wish to join as full members will need to play 3 cards, marked by a Braeside member and at least one card to be played with a committee member - one card must include a gross score of 115 or less.

Local Rules

Below are the rules passed at the 1992 AGM. Any rule referred to is that in the “*RULES OF GOLF*” published by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Scotland.

Movable Obstructions (relief without penalty as under Rule 24-1)

Stones in bunkers Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions.

Movable rubbish bins

Immovable obstructions (relief without penalty as under Rule 24-2)

Sprinkler Heads. If the sprinkler is on or within 2 club lengths of the green, but not in a hazard.

Protection Fences. The wire mesh fence protecting the 4th tee. The wire mesh protection fence to the right and rear of the 6th green. The wire mesh fence to the right of the 10th fairway.

Saplings. All staked trees and newly planted saplings.

Paths. Paths leading from green to tee at the 1st, 5th, 10th, 12th, 15th, 17th and 18th greens. The path running around the left side of the 13th green.

Steps to Rear of 8th Green.

Ball Cleaners.

Fixed Rubbish Bins.

GUR Areas (Relief without penalty as under Rule 25)

Wrong Putting

Green. A ball must be dropped off any green or temporary green other than that of the hole being played.

Wrong Tee. A ball coming to rest on any tee other than the hole being played must be dropped off the tee. The sloped sides of a tee are not part of the tee.

Stony Surfaces. All stony ground around teeing areas.

Out of Bounds (Penalty and action as under Rule 27)

Ball lying on or over the road running through the park.

Within the confines of the fence to the rear of the 7th green.

Beyond the low wire fence to the right of the 14th fairway.

Beyond the fence edging the path that runs from the front of the mansion to the 15th green and which passes the back of the 16th and 18th greens.

Beyond the chains to the rear of the 3rd tee, 5th green and 6th tee.

Water Hazard (Penalty and action as under Rule 26)

Ditches running from right of the 1st fairway to lake on left of the 14th fairway.

The lake to the left of the 14th fairway (usually dry but still currently deemed to be a lake).

Lateral Water Hazard (Penalty and action as under Rule 26)

Ditches to the left of 3rd green and to the right of the 14th fairway.

Note. A player electing to play from a hazard must not ground the club.

Tee Markers

Most of our competitions are played from the tomb stones on the ladies tees, unless stated otherwise. For non competition events we play from the red markers. In winter we play off the mats for all games (which can lengthen the holes).

Additional Committee Rulings

Since 1992 the committee has ruled that the white posts along the road holes 6th, 7th and 10th do not mark Out of Bounds (many of the posts are now missing). **Being on the road** or **over the road** on these holes is **Out of Bounds**. Beyond the white posts on the right of the 14th and 15th fairways and the white posts to the left of the 11th fairway continues to be Out of Bounds. Always check the notice board for seasonal or temporary conditions.

Notes and Amendments

From time to time the committee may issue updates to the hand book, please keep yourself up to date by noting them here.



Finally

Have fun, and enjoy your golf!

