

# EUROPEAN LADIES' TEAM SHIELD CHAMPIONSHIP

## TERMS OF COMPETITION AND LOCAL RULES

### 1. GENERAL

#### 1.1 Eligibility of Teams

The Championship is open to European Golf Association (EGA) Member National Golf Authorities whose team is not competing in the current year's European Ladies' Team Championship.

#### 1.2 Eligibility of Players

All players nominated to teams by their national golf authority must be of the female gender and:

- a) amateur golfers in accordance with the Rules of Amateur Status as approved by R&A Rules Limited;
- b) citizens of the country represented (cf. EGA Generic Terms of Competition and Regulations for EGA Nationality Policy);
- c) playing with a WHS Handicap Index (or other equivalent) of **18.0** or better.

**Penalty for Breach of Eligibility Term:** disqualification of player.

#### 1.3 Format

Each team shall comprise four players.

The Championship comprises two stages played in accordance with the 2023 Rules of Golf as approved by R&A Rules Limited, the EGA Generic Terms of competition and Regulations, the EGA Hard Card and the Local Rules as approved by the Championship Committee at the championship.

##### 1.3.1 Stage 1 - Stroke Play

There shall be one round of 18 holes stroke play to decide the seeded draw for the match play, which commences on Day 2.

##### a) Order of Play

Team Captains will determine the order of play within their teams using the official order of play form. If the order of play form is not submitted to the Committee by 17h00 on the day preceding the Championship, the order of play will be determined alphabetically by surname.

Once the official deadline to submit the order of play form has expired, changes in the order of play are not permitted.

##### b) Scoring

The lowest three scores from each team's four players will count. The aggregate of the three lowest stroke play scores will constitute each team's score.

##### c) Decision of Ties

A tie for any place in the match play order shall be decided using the lowest non-counting score. If a tie still exists, the lowest score shall be used. For further ties, the second lowest score. Any further tie will be decided based on the final 18, 9, 6, 3 holes

or last hole of the lowest score from each of the tied teams.

A team that has returned one or more non valid scores (no show, withdrawal, disqualification) will be ranked last in the tie decision. The team's remaining scores shall be used to determine the match play seeding when more than one team fail to return six valid scores per day..

##### d) Substitutes

If a substitute player is required, the Committee must be notified, at the latest, 30 minutes before the first tee time of Day 1. After this deadline, the team must remain with the same players for the entire Championship.

A substitute player is permitted for any reason, but may not participate in the practice round until she has been officially substituted for a team member with permission from the Committee. A breach of this Term may result in the substitute player not being permitted to compete.

##### e) Failure to Return Valid Scores

A team that fails to return three valid scores per day for any reason (no show, withdrawal, disqualification) will assume last place in the match play draw. The team's remaining scores shall be used to determine the match play seeding when more than one team fail to return the required number of valid scores.

##### 1.3.2 Stage 2 - Match Play

All teams will play a one foursome and two singles match format.

The match play draw will be based on flights of eight teams with 1 vs 8; 2 vs 7; 3 vs 6 and 4 vs 5. When flights comprise fewer than 8 teams, the draw will change according to a standardised EGA format which may include flights played as a Round Robin (all teams in the same flight play each other over the three days).

A win in either a foursomes or singles match shall return one point, a tied match, half a point (see 1.3.2 (c)) and a loss, zero points to the team's score. The results of the round-robin will be determined based on points accumulated, with one point awarded for a win, half a point for a tie, and zero point for a loss. In the event of a tie, the final positions will be decided by the number of individual matches won and, if necessary, by the number of holes won.

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### a) Order of Play

Team Captains must provide the Committee with their team foursomes and singles orders of play using the official order of play form:

- I. for match play round 1, no later than 30 minutes after the completion of the stroke play round;
- II. for match play rounds 2 & 3, no later than 30 minutes after the completion of their team's flight in the previous round.

Failure to submit the official order of play form on time will result in the order of play being determined alphabetically by surname.

Once the official deadline to submit the order of play form has expired, changes in the order of play are not permitted.

**Penalty for Breach of Term 1.3.2 (a):** disqualification of all players out of the pre-stated order of play.

### b) Extended Matches

In the event of a match being all square after 18 holes in any round, the match shall be extended one hole at a time until there is a winner.

**Exception:** Term 1.3.2 (c)

### c) Halved Matches

When a final team match result is already decided, an individual match may be tied if all players in that individual match agree.

**Exception:** if the matches within a flight are to be played as a round robin, players must play until the end of the round which will not be extended into extra holes.

**Note:** after 18 holes or any extra hole(s), if the players in an individual match remain all square and the final result of the team match has been decided, the individual match in question will be tied.

### d) Absentee Players

In the event that one registered team member cannot participate in a match play round, that player's match shall be forfeited at a position within the order of play according to the following principles.

- I. Foursome matches must not be forfeited and must always be played.
- II. If the "withdrawal" occurs before the official deadline to submit the order of play form has expired, the Team Captain will return the order of play form with the absentee player placed in the position of their choice in the singles and that match will be forfeited.

III. If the "withdrawal" occurs after the official deadline to submit the order of play form has expired:

- i. if the absentee player is listed to play in the singles: her match shall be forfeited;
- ii. if the absentee player is listed to play in the foursome, she will be replaced by one of the players listed to play in the singles. The replacement will be determined by lot and her single match shall be forfeited.

If fewer than three players are available to represent a team, that team must forfeit its match.

In the event that opposing teams would each have one or more absentee players, then these players would be deemed to have been paired together and to have tied their match. Should this require the re-pairing of matches, the player(s) in the match(es) impacted higher in the order of play will descend to play the player(s) in the other impacted match(es). A team match tied result would be decided by stroke play qualification position.

## 1.4 Practice

A team player, team captain or team advisor will not be allowed to practice on the championship course for a period of fifteen days prior to the first official practice day, unless they are a member of the golf club at which the championship is being played.

Only registered team players will be permitted to practice during the official practice rounds and in official practice areas.

See Section 1.3.1 (d) for information on practice for substitutes.

## 1.5 Team Captain and Advice (Rule 24)

### a) Team Captain (Rule 24.3)

Each team must nominate a Team Captain who must be an amateur golfer in accordance with the Rules of Amateur Status as approved by R&A Rules Limited.

**Penalty for Breach of Local Rule:** disqualification of Team.

**Procedure if a team has not nominated a Team Captain:** the player whose surname comes first alphabetically will automatically be appointed the team captain.

### b) Advice (Rule 24.4)

**Two advice givers** may be named by each team from whom players in the team may ask and receive advice. The first must be the Team Captain (see 1.5 (a)) and the second

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may or may not be a professional golfer. The advice givers must be identified to the Committee via the "Registration Form" prior to the start of the Championship and must remain unchanged for the duration of the championship, unless agreed by the Championship Committee under exceptional circumstances.

**Penalty for Breach of Local Rule:** The advice giver in breach of the Local Rule will lose their advice giver status for the remainder of the championship and be subject to sanction from the EGA Disciplinary Committee.

The advice givers must not walk on the putting green at any time.

When the ball of a team player lies on the putting green, the advice givers are prohibited from giving advice for strokes to be made from the putting green.

**Penalty for Breach of Local Rule:** general penalty.

The advice givers must not ride on any form of motorised transportation during play except as authorised or later approved by the Committee.

**Penalty for Breach of Local Rule:** first breach: warning; subsequent breach: loss of advice giver status.

### 1.6 Caddies / Electric Trolleys

- a) Rule 10.3a is modified in this way: a player must not have a caddie other than a fellow team player during the round. (European Men's Team Shield Championship team players are not "fellow team players" for the Ladies' Championship).
- b) During a round, a player or caddie must not use an electric golf trolley.

**Penalty for Breach of Local Rule:** the player gets the general penalty for each hole during which he is in breach of the local rule. If the breach happens between two holes, the player gets the general penalty for the next hole.

### 1.7 Disqualification

A penalty of disqualification for a breach of the Rules or the Terms of Competition applies only to the round in which the breach occurred unless otherwise determined by the Committee.

## 2. PRIZES

### 2.1 Title and Awards

The winning team of the Championship shall be the European Ladies' Team Shield Champion for a period of one year. The Championship Trophy shall be kept by the European Golf Association. The Organising Committee will return the Trophy to the EGA Office who will be responsible for engraving and maintaining it.

The EGA will present medals to the members of the winning team and to the members of the second and third placed teams.

The EGA will present the host club with a memento. The host country will present all participants with a memento.

EGA Championship Committee  
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