

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIPS CONSTITUTION

1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 A POLICE MEMBER shall be a serving, sworn police officer or a former, sworn police officer having at least ten years cumulative service and who is recognized as a police member by his or her respective state or territory police golf club.
- 1.2 A PATRON MEMBER shall be a member of a state or territory police golf club who is not a police member.
- 1.3 A CONTEST is the term to be used when one state or territory competes against another.

2. AUSTRALIAN POLICE MATCHPLAY CHAMPIONSHIPS COUNCIL

- 2.1 There shall be an Australian Police Match Play Championships Council (the Council), which shall consist of not more than two delegates from each of the participating states or territories, who shall meet immediately prior to the commencement of the Match Play Championships.
- 2.2 The Council shall deal with all business brought forward to determine:
 - (a) the venue for the subsequent Championship;
 - (b) the state or territory to host the running of the subsequent Championship; and
 - (c) any other matters concerning the running of the Championships.
- 2.3 The president and secretary of the host state or territory shall act as the president and secretary of the Council with their duties to commence at the conclusion of the previous Championship and to finish at the conclusion of the Championship they host.
- 2.4 The captains of each participating team shall constitute the Match Committee for the duration of the Championship and the host captain shall be chairman of the Match Committee.

3. THE COMPETITION

- 3.1 The Match Play Championships shall be biennial and contested each even year.
- 3.2 The host state or territory shall be responsible for all arrangements including booking the golf courses and accommodation to be used and shall complete a draw of contests prior to the commencement of the Championship.
- 3.3 Each team shall compete against another at least once unless there is a forfeit or bye or the contest is cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g. inclement weather). In the event of a contest being cancelled each team shall receive one half point and shall be deemed to have won half of the individual matches that were to have been played.
- 3.4 Play in each contest shall commence with the highest handicapped competitors in each team being paired and then followed consecutively by the remaining pairs, which shall be positioned according to handicaps.
- 3.5 The team winning the greater number of individual matches in a contest shall be declared the winner and shall receive one point. If there is a draw each team shall receive one half point.
- 3.6 At the conclusion of the Championship the team with the highest points total shall be declared the Match Play Champion. If two teams are equal the champion team shall be the team that has won the most individual matches during the Championship. If two teams are still equal then the team winning the contest when those teams were opposed shall be declared the champion.

4. RULES OF PLAY

- 4.1 A state or territory recognized under the Australian Police Golf Championships Constitution may nominate one team to compete in the Australian Police Match Play Championships.
- 4.2 There shall be a maximum of ten competitors per team. There shall be a maximum of two patron members allowed per team.
- 4.3 Team captains shall nominate their teams at the Council meeting and that team shall remain unaltered for the duration of the Championship unless approval is granted by the Match Committee.

- 4.4 All competitors shall be financial members of their respective state or territory police golf clubs and shall be police members or patron members as defined by this Constitution.
- 4.5 The maximum handicap allowed shall be fifteen.
- 4.6 Competitors holding a Golf Australia handicap shall use that handicap during the Championship. Competitors not holding the above handicap shall use their state or territory police golf club handicap, which shall be calculated as per the rules and/or guidelines of Golf Australia.
- 4.7 Team captains shall produce evidence of the current handicap of any or all of their team members to the host captain upon request.
- 4.8 Team captains shall complete a 'Team Sheet' and exchange it with the opposing captain not later than ten minutes prior to the scheduled commencement of their contest.
- 4.9 All competitors shall play from the same tees.
- 4.10 In the event of any competitor forfeit in a contest, such forfeit shall apply to the position initially held by the highest handicapped team competitor and if more than one forfeit then in descending team order.
- 4.11 The full handicap difference shall be used in each match and competitors shall comply with the 'Match Play Index' printed on the official score card of the course being played.
- 4.12 Unless decided earlier, each match shall conclude at the eighteenth hole played, even if the match result is 'all square'.
- 4.13 In the event of a dispute the lowest handicapped competitor of the accompanying match shall be deemed to be the referee in order that a timely decision can be reached. Referees shall not leave the course prior to the conclusion of the match for which they are the referee.
- 4.14 If a referee's decision is disputed by a competitor play shall continue as per the Rules of Golf and the Match Committee shall finalize the dispute at the conclusion of that match.
- 4.15 A competitor may use a motorized cart during the Match Play Championships when a medical certificate supports its use or the competitor is of or above the age of sixty-five years on the first day of the Championship.

5. PRIZES AND LEVIES

- 5.1 The host state or territory shall purchase prizes for each member of the Match Play Championship winning and runner-up teams.
- 5.2 Each competing state or territory shall pay the required levy to the host state or territory for the cost of those prizes.

6. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- 6.1 Any amendments to this Constitution shall only be made by a majority vote of delegates at the biennial Council meeting.
- 6.2 The host secretary shall receive any notice/s of motion to amend the Constitution in writing not later than two months prior to the next Council meeting.
- 6.3 The host secretary shall advise other state or territory secretaries of such notice/s in writing as soon as possible and in any case not later than six weeks prior to the next Council meeting.
- 6.4 All competitors shall consider themselves bound by this Constitution.

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