



Western Province Golf

Royal Cape Golf Club, 174 Ottery Road, Wynberg, 7800
Postnet Suite 429, Private Bay X16, Constantia, 7848
+27 021 761 4195 • www.westernprovincegolf.co.za

Version 1.6

14 August 2026

1ST, 2ND & 3RD LEAGUES TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

By confirming entry for the 2026 1ST, 2ND or 3RD League, the Club, its Committee, Club Manager, League Co-Ordinator and players agree to the terms of the competition given below:

(This document can be found on WPG's website on the relevant 'Leagues' page at www.westernprovincegolf.co.za.)

- 1 GENERAL:** The following are the Rules and Terms of Competition governing the 1st, 2nd or 3rd Leagues run under the control of the Executive of Western Province Golf (WPG) that shall commence on 08 August 2026 and conclude by 29 November 2026.
- 2 TROPHY:** Teams shall compete for a League Shield. Teams representing competing Clubs shall compete for the shields annually. The name of the Club winning the respective League shall be engraved on the shield and awarded to that Club at the WPG Awards Ceremony at the end of the year.
- 3 COMPOSITION OF THE LEAGUE:** Each shall consist of the number of teams in the relevant draw. Each team shall play all other teams in the league.

For 2026:
 - The 1ST League shall consist of 12 teams.
 - The 2ND League shall consist of 11 teams.
 - The 3RD League shall consist of 8 teams.
- 4 CLUB TEAM ELIGIBILITY:** Only Clubs affiliated to WPG or invited by WPG may compete in the league.
- 5 COMPOSITION OF THE TEAM:** Each team shall consist of 8 players.
- 6 TEAM MANAGERS:** Team managers are not permitted. All team co-ordinators or club officials are spectators as per **Cl. 35**.

Penalty for Breach of **Clause 6**: 1 point deduction from the Club's accumulated points total on the log.

#WePartnerGOLF

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GM Golf Operations: Melissa Loretz



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- 7 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:** Players must be registered affiliated members with full golfing status of the competing WPG Affiliated Club and handicapped at that Club.

A player, who has represented his Club in any other league during a calendar year, cannot play for any other Club in any league during the same calendar year. Consideration may be given to bona fide interim-year membership transfers because of the non-calendar year financial year-end of the transferring club with a limit of one such concession in a consecutive 3-year cycle.

A player may not represent a Club in two different, non-aged-based leagues on the same weekend, unless he has been nominated as a reserve for the Premier League team and represents his Club in the Premier League on that weekend due to the withdrawal of a player.

Should a player represent his Club in two or more matches in any of the Premier, 1ST, 2ND or 3RD Leagues, that player shall not be eligible to represent his Club in a lower Scratch League during the same season, unless exceptional circumstances exist and prior approval has been granted by the WP Golf Tournament Committee.

Any player suspended from a Club or suspended from the Leagues in terms of the Constitution of WPG or League Terms of Competition is not eligible to represent any Club during his period of suspension.

3RD League: Players must have a current Handicap Index of 4.5 or higher as of 1 August (one week before the commencement of League), as per the “Rules of Handicapping” published by R&A Rules Limited and a player who has represented a club in 3RD League during 2026 may not play in the Harry Solomon League for 2027.

Should a player's handicap fall below **4.5** at any stage during the season, they shall immediately become ineligible to compete in the **3rd League** for the remainder of the season. Eligibility shall be determined by the player's official Handicap Index reflected on the HNA system immediately prior to the commencement of the relevant fixture.

- 8 FORMAT OF THE COMPETITION:** The format of the League is Singles Matchplay. All matches are played off scratch. The league shall be played over 18 holes on a home and away basis with 4 games being played at home and 4 games away.
- 9 WINNER OF THE LEAGUE:** On conclusion of the final round of matches, the team with the most points shall win the respective league. If more than 1 team is tied with the most points, then the team with the most “games for” shall be declared the winner. Should the “games for” be tied then the winner of the League match between the two teams shall be declared the winner. If the League match, between the two teams, had resulted in a half, then the League shall be shared.
- 10 PROMOTION & RELEGATION:** Not applicable to the 1ST, 2ND or 3RD Leagues.
- 11 RULES OF THE COMPETITION:** Play shall be strictly in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by the R&A Rules Ltd.
- 12 LOCAL RULES:** The Local Rules of the “Home” Club shall be the Local Rules in force on the day of the match.



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Penalty for Breach of **Clause 12**: General Penalty in Match Play – General penalty (loss of hole) unless otherwise stated.

13 DRESS CODE: Teams must play in uniform i.e., same shirts and pants. Players failing to adhere to the dress code shall not be allowed on the course.

14 CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT BRANDING: Players and caddies must conform with the WP Golf Logo and Marks Policy, as it pertains to branding on clothing and equipment. The relevant document can be viewed on the tournaments page on www.westernprovincegolf.co.za.

Incorrectly dressed players shall not be permitted to play and any queries in this regard should be made to WPG to avoid embarrassment.

15 DATES & VENUES: Dates of matches shall be arranged by WPG. Should any venue be deemed unsuitable for the playing of League matches, the Executive of WPG reserves the right to exclude or remove matches from such a venue.

- Fixture dates remain as published and clubs are expected to honour those fixtures.
- Where exceptional circumstances arise, a request to reschedule may only be considered where both clubs agree in writing and the request is submitted to Western Province Golf for approval before any alternative arrangements are made.
- Any approved rescheduled fixture must be played within the applicable round-robin phase and before the semi-finals or finals.
- Should the fixture not be played on the approved alternative date, the club requesting the postponement will be deemed to have failed to fulfil the fixture and will forfeit the match in accordance with the League Conditions.
- Clubs are requested not to negotiate fixture changes directly without first obtaining approval through Western Province Golf.

16 SUBMISSION OF TEAMS: Clubs shall submit their teams, on the prescribed form, by e-mail, to WPG by 12h00 on the Wednesday prior to the match. The players shall be submitted in playing order from 4 to 1 (both home and away). Clubs must also indicate the “home” times and tees for the fixture on the submission sheet.

17 SUBSTITUTION OF PLAYERS: If a player must be replaced after the draw for a fixture has been published, it must be a direct replacement.

18 CONCEDED MATCHES: Out of respect for the opposing team, every effort must be made to fill a full team complement even if having to substitute with weaker players. In exceptional cases that a club is not able to field a full team complement of players for a particular scheduled fixture, the remaining available players must move up the playing order (4 – 1), commencing with the ‘home’ team (i.e. the ‘away’ team will play “short”) and the ‘away’ matches that cannot be contested will then be conceded.

Teams must play with a minimum of 6 players or shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the league (**Cl.34**).

WP Golf and the opposing club must be informed as soon as it has been established that a full team cannot be fielded.

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- 19 STARTING TIMES:** In accordance with Rule 5.3a of the Rules of Golf, players shall start at the times allocated by the “Home Club”, should the starting time be missed, penalty under the rules of golf shall apply. Play shall start at the tee times allocated by the “Home” Club Committee after consultation with the “Away” Club. These tee times may be allocated in either the morning or afternoon field, but both clubs must play at similar times.
- 20 TEES:** Play shall be from the stipulated tees identified by the “Home” club.
- 21 CADDIES:** Players may use only professional caddies employed by the host Club, unless arranged otherwise with the host club.
- 22 TRANSPORTATION:** During 1ST, 2ND or 3RD League games, a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorised transportation. Exception: A player who shall play, or has played, under penalty of stroke and distance, is always authorised to ride on motorised transportation. Under exceptional circumstances requests for permission to use motorised transportation may be submitted to the WPG League Ruling Committee. For applications to be considered it must include a current medical certificate.

In the event of a player having to be substituted at short notice and the replacement player requires the use of a motorised cart, where there is insufficient time to obtain the necessary (prior) approval from the WPG League Committee, the decision to allow the use of the cart shall be at the risk and responsibility of the Club and player. Retrospective approval must be sought, and if approval is not granted, the applicable penalty under Clause 22 will apply.

Penalty for Breach of **Clause 22:**

First offence: Disqualification of player for that fixture.

Second offence: Disqualification of the player for the remainder of the season.

- 23 PLAYER ADVICE:** Assistance in the form advice to any player can only be gained from the player's caddie. Should a player be in breach of this condition, **Rule 10.2** of the rules of golf shall be applied, Match Play - General Penalty (loss of hole).
- 24 SCORING:** The team winning the most games on the day shall be declared the winner of the match. Games that are tied at the end of 18 holes shall not proceed beyond the 18th green but shall be considered halved games. Points scoring for individual games shall be 1 point for a win, ½ a point for a tie and 0 points for a loss. The team winning the most games on the day shall be declared the winner of the match. A team that wins a match outright shall be awarded 2 points. If the match is halved each team shall be awarded 1 point.
- 25 CODE OF CONDUCT: Player Conduct and Spirit of The Game:** It is one of the central principles of the game of golf that all players are expected to play by the Rules and in the spirit of the game. Under Rule 1.2a, WPG reserves the right to disqualify a player for serious misconduct for acting contrary to the spirit of the game during a League game as per the Rules of Golf, and a player guilty of any serious breach of etiquette shall be severely dealt with in terms of the Constitution of WP Golf.



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- 26 SLOW PLAY:** The players themselves are responsible for their pace of play. Players must be made aware of **Rule 5.6** and in particular, **Rule 5.6b: Prompt Pace of Play and 5.6b (2): Playing Out of Turn to Help Pace of Play** in Match Play. Matches must keep up with the match ahead and get back into position after a ball search. A Group is considered to be 'out of position' when they are more than their starting interval behind the group in front of them. Any Group that remains "out of position" for more than three (3) holes must be reported to the host club's rules official, who shall enforce any penalties in terms of the rules or the host club's Pace of Play Policy.
- 27 ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS:** A match shall be played, unless:
- The Greenkeeper or Club Manager (person duly authorized) closes the course before play is due to start.
 - WPG, after consultation, deems the forecasted (on day prior or day of play) weather conditions to be dangerous. In such events, WPG shall, if possible, notify the Clubs accordingly.
 - If the course becomes unplayable or the weather becomes dangerous, players may agree to discontinue play as per **Rule 5.7a**.
 - If play is suspended, or the course is closed by the respective club or WPG, and no further play is possible on the day of the league fixture, then **Cl.28** of these League Terms of Competition shall apply.
- 28 ABANDONED PLAY:** In the event of play for the day being abandoned, the results of the match shall be determined as follows:
- If any match has not completed nine holes, the match shall be declared a half.
 - The result of matches, where more than nine holes have been completed, shall be determined by the state of the match when play is discontinued.
- 29 SUBMISSION OF RESULTS:** All clubs must submit results via email to WPG on the official results sheet by 12h00 on the Monday following the match. Should a club be late in submitting the result, they shall receive a 'Yellow Card' for the first instance. Should this happen again, WPG shall penalise the team by deducting 1 point from their accumulated points total on the log during the league stages.

The results of matches are final once declared to the home/away team captains, unless a request for a ruling has been made as set out in **Cl.38**.

The results at a venue should be provided to the Club Captain for announcement at prize giving. If the results are not readily available from the host club, the responsibility for determining the overall result rests with the Team Captains.



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- 30 SCORECARDS & HANDICAPPING:** In accordance with the World Handicapping System and as per the "Rules of Handicapping" published by R&A Rules Limited, for handicapping purposes rounds are to be opened for 1st, 2nd and 3rd League Games and all match scores are to be captured. Where concessions on holes are made, players must record their 'most likely score' and/or where matches are decided before the completion of the 18th hole, scores are to be captured as nett pars as per the players' handicap. WPG recommend that players use the HNA App by entering hole by hole scores until the match is concluded after which the round is closed. All match scores are to be captured before 24h00 on the day after the match was played as per the GolfRSA rules and explanations for South Africa. Effective January 2024. The Clubs are responsible for ensuring their players enter scores timeously after each league fixture.

All open rounds must be closed on the day prior to fixture/matches being played

- 31 PLAYING FEES:** There are no playing fees.

- 32 SNACKS & DRINKS:** It is at the sole discretion of the clubs to provide halfway and drinks after the round. A recommendation of halfway and a drink after the round would be adequate. It is required, barring exceptional circumstances, that the visiting team stays for 2 drinks after the game with the host club.

- 33 REIMBURSEMENT:** Not Applicable to 1st, 2nd and 3rd League.

- 34 WITHDRAWAL:** Should a team withdraw for any reason or be suspended during a league season, all their matches in their section shall be null and voided. In the event of a club withdrawing a team or being suspended during the league season, such a club will be liable for a fine of R10 000 (First offence) or R15 000 (subsequent offence) per team. Depending on the nature of such withdrawals and/or repeat offenders, further sanction in terms of Section 8.4 of the Constitution of the Western Province Golf Union shall apply.

- 35 SPECTATORS:** Spectators are to keep off tees, fairways and greens at all times and may not interfere with the match in play as per the "Parent/Guardian & Spectator Code" that can be found on the Tournament Page on the WP Golf website. Failure to adhere could lead to the spectators being asked to leave the golf course. Players who have completed their match are considered spectators.

Penalty for Breach of **Clause 35:** 1 point deduction from the Club's accumulated points total on the log.

- 36 POPI ACT POLICY:** By players participating in leagues, run under the auspices of WPG they are consenting to Western Province Golf collecting and storing certain personal player information (the minimum needed to conduct the administration of the respective leagues). Clubs / Players are assured that Western Province Golf is fully compliant with the Protection of Personal Information Act ("POPIA") regarding how we collect personal information, why we collect it, what it is used for and how it is stored. This personal information may be used to provide further details of the respective leagues and may be stored by Western Province Golf for purposes of further such events. Your personal information shall not be shared with any third party whatsoever, save for the publication of league results. If a player is a minor, by accepting the League Conditions, Western Province Golf accepts that players parent or guardian has given his/her consent to the above and for the club to have provided the player's personal information.

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37 DRUG FREE SPORT (ANTI DOPING POLICY): All players are subject to the provisions of the South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport's Anti-Doping (SAIDS) Rules. Details of the SAIDS Anti-Doping Rules, and the current List of Prohibited Substances and Methods, are available from the SAIDS website (www.drugfreesport.org.za). Players can do a medication or supplement check on-line. Players who have illnesses or conditions that require them to take particular medications or undergo procedures may have to apply for a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE). If the medication or method a player requires to treat an illness or condition falls under the Prohibited List, a TUE may give that athlete the authorisation to use the required medicine or method. Random testing may take place. This shall include alcohol consumption during play.

Breach of condition is disqualification. (Match where Breach occurs).

38 DISPUTES: WPG shall appoint a Tournament Committee, and this Committee, whose decision shall be final, will settle all disputes.

Clubs / Team Captains should draw the attention of their players to **Rule 20.1a** and **20.1b**, which clearly sets out the procedure to be followed if a rules issue arises on the course.

If a ruling request was correctly made, the players must report the matter to their team captains on completion of their match, following which:

- a) The League Result Sheet when submitted as per **Cl. 29** should be clearly marked "Ruling requested" and the matter brought to the attention of WPG and accompanied by the submission of a written report setting out the nature and details of the ruling request. If this procedure is not followed, no ruling shall be given, and the results of the match shall stand.
- b) In the event of the above procedure (**Rule 20.1a** and **b**) having been followed and no resolution obtained, the results of the match shall be determined by WPG using the League Results Sheet and any other information gathered by the Tournament Committee.

For any disputes regarding the contravention of the 1ST, 2ND and 3RD League Terms of Competition, a claim must be lodged with WPG:

- a) When the League Result Sheet is submitted as per **Cl. 29** it should be clearly marked "DISPUTE" and accompanied by the submission of a written report setting out the nature and details of the "Dispute". If this procedure is not followed, no ruling shall be made, and the results of the match shall stand.

The Committee will make a ruling on the dispute based on the written report received and any additional information they gather.



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- 39 PENALTIES FOR BREACH OF LEAGUE TERMS OF THE COMPETITION:** Any Club team found guilty of a breach of these League Terms of the Competition, where not specified, shall vary depending on the significance of the contravention but could include warnings, player bans, point/s deduction from the accumulated points total on the log during the league stage or team disqualification.
- 40 CHANGES:** WPG shall have the right to amend, alter, delete, or add to the above League Terms of Competition at any time.
- 41 VERSION:** This version of the League Terms of Competition supersedes all previous versions and is effective from 14 August 2026



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