



SENIOR SCRATCH FOURSOMES LEAGUE RULES 2026

1. Matches are played as x3 Foursomes games.
2. All competitors must be 55 years of age or older on the day of the match and may be of any gender.
3. All competitors must be amateur golfers who are affiliated members of Hertfordshire Golf, with their 'Home Club' in Hertfordshire. Competitors may play for either their Home Club or another Hertfordshire club of which they are a member but may only play for one club during any season.
4. Teams shall play one home and one away match against each of the other teams in their division.
5. A club may enter both an A team and a B team if it wishes. A club with two teams is expected to maintain two squads of separate players, although in exceptional circumstances an individual player may play one match for the club's other team per season. A player playing in a second match in one season will be deemed ineligible.
6. Any points won by a player subsequently found to be ineligible for any reason will be awarded to the opposition and the result of the match adjusted accordingly. Section 20 of the HG Terms of Competition also applies.
7. Teams should comprise six players per side (although four players may constitute a "team" – see 12. below).
8. All games are to be played over 18 holes in accordance with the Rules of Golf. All players must play from the same tee markers, regardless of gender. A game that is all square after 18 holes will end in a tie and will not be extended.
9. The results of matches shall be scored as follows: 4 points are awarded for each game won. 2 points are awarded to each team for a tied game. No additional points are awarded for the overall match result.
10. Matches should be played on weekdays and start at 1pm, unless a weekend date or alternative start time are agreed by both captains. All matches must be played before Finals Day. Dates of matches must be mutually agreed and notified to the League Administrator as soon as possible.
11. Home clubs are asked to ensure that sufficient starting times are reserved so that matches can be played without undue delay.
12. Once a date is agreed, it may only be changed by agreement of both clubs or if it is known that the course will be closed on the scheduled date. Every effort should be made to play the match on the agreed date, including in circumstances where a team can only field two pairs (in which case they must notify the opposition Team Captain and shall be deemed to have lost game 3 of the match). In the absence of exceptional circumstances which are approved by the League Administrator, a team that postpones a match within two weeks of the agreed date will be deducted a penalty of

- league points, with the match then re-arranged. A team that postpones a match within 1 week of the agreed date, or fails to turn up on the day of the match with at least two pairs, shall forfeit the match, with all 12 points awarded to the other team. The result of any outstanding match not completed by the end of the season (Finals Day) will have the result determined by the League Administrator. No match may be conceded.
13. Team Captains are required to make contact with each other at least 7 days before each scheduled match. The home Captain should confirm the date and tee time.
 14. Team Captains should arrive at the course at least 30 minutes before the agreed start time and must each exchange their team pairings and playing order independently.
 15. If after having agreed the pairings and playing order of the 3 games, a player or pair is late arriving, Team Captains may agree to change the order in which the games start. If the late player or pair has still not arrived at the time scheduled for the 3rd game, the opponents should begin play and proceed at normal foursomes pace. They shall be deemed to win each hole at which they tee-off until the late pair are able to join them on the course and start the next hole. If the player or pair fails to arrive, that game shall be awarded to their opponents.
 16. In the event of bad weather, every effort should be made to complete the whole match on the arranged date. A match can only be abandoned if the home club closes the course or if the two Team Captains agree that the course has become unplayable. In this instance a reasonable amount of time should be allowed for conditions to improve. In cases where one or two games have been completed before bad weather intervenes, these game results will stand. If a restart is not possible in a reasonable time frame, any uncompleted game(s) will be deemed a half. If no games are able to be completed, the match shall be abandoned, a new date agreed and each game started again.
 17. The Hertfordshire Golf Extreme Weather Policy is in operation. If any match is due to be played on a course where a Met Office Red warning for extreme weather is in place, the match may be postponed at the request of either of the clubs involved.
 18. The use of caddies is permitted, provided that no caddie is a professional golfer. A player whose own game has concluded may then caddie for a team-mate.
 19. During a game, a player or caddie may use a buggy should they so wish, subject to availability and to any buggy use restrictions in place at the host course.
 20. The home club must provide courtesy of the course to the visiting team on the day of the match and provide and meet the cost of sandwiches and chips for both teams after the match.
 21. All match results must be returned by the home Team Captain to the Senior Scratch Foursomes League Administrator on the forms downloadable from clicking on <http://hertfordshiregolf.org/> They should be sent by email immediately following the match to scratch.league@hertfordshiregolf.org or Whatsapp 07534384295
 22. At the end of the season, the team with the most points shall be awarded the championship trophy for their respective division. The top two teams in each division shall be promoted to the division above for the following season. The bottom two teams in each division shall be relegated to the division below for the following season. If two teams have an equal number of points, the tie will be resolved in favour of the team with more points from their head to head matches. If those points are equal, or

more than two teams are tied, positions will be decided based on total away points.

Any remaining tie shall be settled by the total stableford points gained at Finals Day by the team's best two pairs, and then if still tied, by the team's 3rd pair.

23. Finals Day. At the end of the season, a participating club will host a scratch foursomes 18 hole stableford competition open to all teams in the League. Each team will be represented by 6 players (3 pairs), with scoring based on the aggregate of all 3 stableford scores. The host venue for Finals Day will change each year and will normally be rotated around all participating clubs.

24. It is expected that any disputes should be resolved in accordance with these rules by the two Team Captains in the first instance. Should a dispute remain unresolved, it should be raised with the League Administrator, who will liaise with the HG Championship Committee, whose decision will be final.