

WILTSHIRE JUNIOR LEAGUE 2020 – MATCHPLAY RULES

1. AGE U/18 as at 1 January of competition year.
2. TEAMS – Will consist of 6 players all games count: a **minimum of 4** playing off a handicap of 28 or fewer for boys, 36 or fewer for girls. You can also field a **maximum of 2** players with handicaps between 28 and 36 for boys and between 36 and 45 for girls. You can of course field players with higher handicaps, but they will need to play off the handicaps listed,

e.g. you have three players off 28/36 or below, you can then field another 3 players with handicaps between 28/36 and 36/45, but one of them must play off of 28 for a boy or 36 for a girl

Two leagues will be considered if number of teams allow

3. FORMAT – 18 hole singles match play (played off handicap index – full difference) off medal tees for boys and LGU tees for girls. Girls will receive shots equal to the number of shots difference between the male and female cards (SSS) when calculating the difference. Shots will be taken off the men's card.

Games will be played in handicap order (lowest handicap playing first) unless there are 'unavoidable' circumstances e.g. traffic, in such circumstances players must always play their intended opponent. Where a girl receives levelling shots, her place in the team playing order is determined "Pre" allocation of shots, ie. a girl with handicap 12 with 2 adjusting shots will play before a boy with a 13 handicap.

4. SCORING

It is suggested that the full 18 holes are played to ensure all matches finish consecutively.

A game is won when one player leads by a number of holes greater than the number of holes remaining to be played.

Walkover games will count as a win.

5. POINTS

The point's concept will apply for all leagues.

Points will be awarded for each match as follows:

- 2 points for the winning team or team receiving a "walkover"
- 1 point per team for a drawn match
- 0 points for the losing team

The result of a match will be decided on the scores from each of the 6 individual games within a match.

- 1 point for each game win,
- ½ point each for game that is "All Square"
- 0 points for a lost game
- 1 points will be awarded per game where there is a "walk over"

[NB: the maximum match result would be 6-0, with a drawn match ending 3-3. In the event of a "walk over" victory no "game points" will be awarded]

The team scoring the most game points will win the "match" giving 2 points towards the league placing. If the result of the match is a draw, both teams will receive 1 league point.

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In the event of one or more teams having equal league points ON COMPLETION OF ALL FIXTURES:

- The team with the greatest “positive” difference in game points will be the winner of the league;
- If there is still a tie, the match result between the two teams concerned will decide the winner;
- If there is still a tie, the team with the highest number of “game” points will win the league.

In the event of adverse weather conditions and a match needs to be abandoned prior to the completion of 18 holes the result of each game will stand as long as the final game has completed 6 holes, the match result then being determined by the points system (above). If the final game has not completed 6 holes then the match will be declared a “Draw” with 1 match point being awarded to each team.

In the event of a dispute, rulings must be referred to the match day JOs present in the first instance and to the Chairman/League Secretary in the event of continuing disagreement. The decision of the Chairman/League Secretary will be final.

6. COMPLETION OF FIXTURES

All League fixtures MUST be completed by the date stipulated by the League Secretary. Matches not completed will be declared null and void with no points awarded to either team.

7. COUNTY CHAMPIONS

In a season when there are two 6 aside leagues, the winners of each league will play off on a pre-determined date in September at a “neutral” course. The winning team being the “County Champions”.

The points system for league matches will apply for this match. In the event of a draw after the completion of the 6 games the **first group** out will play a sudden death playoff over as many holes as is necessary to secure a result and determine the County Champions.

In a season when there is just one 6 aside league the “County Champions” will be the team that finish top of the league.

8. HANDICAPS

All players must be in possession of a current handicap index

The maximum HI's are Boys = 36 and Girls = 45 (including adjusted shots for girls).

It is the RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PLAYERS & TEAMS' JUNIOR ORGANISER to ensure the HANDICAPS are current and declared AGES are correct. IF, PRIOR TO ANY MATCH, A PLAYER HAS RETURNED A SCORE, WHICH WILL RESULT IN A HANDICAP REDUCTION NOT YET EFFECTED, HE/SHE SHOULD DECLARE THIS AND PLAY WITH A PROVISIONAL ADJUSTMENT.

It is expected that Junior Organisers or guardians ensure that all players maintain a good speed of play during junior matches. Support and guidance on etiquette and speed of play can be given to higher handicappers or inexperienced golfers by Junior Organisers.

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9. CADDIES

No caddies are allowed for league fixtures and/or the finals (unless a player is disabled and this is agreed beforehand between the JOs).

Players may neither ask for nor receive advice from anyone and in order to eliminate doubt spectators (parents / guardians / relatives / friends, etc.) are asked to remain **at least 25 yards from play** at all times. In addition, spectators must not encroach onto Teeing Areas, fairways or Putting Greens, however, they may act as ball spotters to keep play moving forward.

10. No player can play for more than one team in the same season.

11. ETIQUETTE / SLOW PLAY

Before each match the home JO will read out a crib sheet so all players know expectations regarding course etiquette and the avoidance of slow play.

12. FOOD - Home club to provide food for both teams ONLY at the end of the match. It is suggested that the cost per head should not exceed £7.

13. If problems occur that prevent matches either being played or delayed at the home course due to course maintenance etc then an alternative venue should be arranged immediately.

14. In the interest of child welfare, **Junior Organisers are expected to stay** with their team throughout a match. If a Junior Organiser cannot attend a match then an alternative adult should be present. If a club cannot ensure adult attendance then relevant contact numbers must be provided to the opposing Junior Organiser.

15. Both Junior Organisers must send match results to Colin Rossiter within 3 days (by e-mail) after the match being played on the official score sheets. The Results Secretary will, on a monthly basis, notify the results and updated league positions to all Junior Organisers.

16. The WJL will be operated in compliance with all Wiltshire County Golf Union statements that may be issued from time to time regarding regulations in relation to the conforming of golf equipment's (i.e. drivers, balls etc.) eligibility for competitions. It is each Junior Organiser's responsibility to monitor this compliance in all WJL competitions.

17. **Distance measuring devices** are allowed in WJL events in accordance with Appendix 1/9 of the Rules of Golf.

18. **No mobile phones** should be used by juniors unless in emergency. Any player can request that an opponent place their mobile phone in their golf bag should they take it out during a match for none emergency reasons. Junior Organisers are expected to enforce this rule.