

VGL WOMEN'S PENNANT 2024

CONDITIONS OF PLAY

Pennant Competition is an important part of the VGL Calendar so requires responsible commitment for the whole season from every participating Club and Team Member to ensure we achieve the highest standard of play we can. This in turn provides enjoyment and satisfaction for all involved.

Each competing Club Captain is to ensure that her Club Pennant Captain has a full understanding of her role and responsibilities, with a view to avoiding penalties.

Competition:

A team event in which players will contest Singles Stroke Match Play. All Grades will play handicapped match play with full strokes given and received.

Teams:

A team of five (5) players must be registered for each team. These five players MUST play a minimum of three (3) matches each within the season.

Daily Handicaps will be capped at GA 39.0. Players with higher handicaps may still play but will play off the handicap limit for the grade.

Registered players MUST play a minimum of **three (3) games** of pennant – Note; exemptions MAY be approved by Women's Golf Committee for injury etc upon application.

As of the **1st September** in the preceding year until the first round of pennant each player must return at least **three (3) cards** in singles competition played at the club they represent. Clubs can apply for exemption to this rule only if the COURSE hampers compliance e.g. course closed for 2 months for flooding etc.

Each Club should enter the teams it can field with Golf Link numbers by the date set by the Women's Golf Committee.

A team may be an amalgamation of more than one club.

Handicaps:

At Registration, the highest handicap in No 1 Team must not be higher than the lowest handicap in No 2 Team, etc.

a) The Registered Players in each team are entitled to play in that team throughout the season despite broken handicaps.

b) Handicaps of Registered Players in any one team must be checked and verified by the Club Captain before entry.

Draw:

After closing date of Registration, teams will be drawn according to the team's average handicap and/or range of handicaps as at draw date.

- a) The VGL Women's Golf Committee will decide the number of teams to be entered in each division.
- b) The VGL Women's Golf Committee may decide to limit the Competition to 40 teams.
- c) In the event of two teams from one Club or one Home Course being drawn in the same grade, they will be expected to play each other.

Eligibility of Players:

Any player in a Pennant Team must

- a) be a financial member of the Club by January 1.
- b) have amateur status
- c) As of the **1st September** in the preceding year until the first round of pennant each player **must return at least (3) cards** in singles competition played at the club they represent.
- d) have not played Pennant for any other VGL Club during the season.
- e) to be eligible to play in final, emergency player must have played at least one game in the grade competing in the final.

PENALTY: Should an ineligible player be included in a team that team will lose all points gained and these points will be awarded to the opposing team.

Emergency Players:

An Emergency Player's;

- a) GA handicap must be restricted to five (5) strokes (higher or lower) of the registered team average at the time of the draw being finalised. The calculated average team handicap will be notified by the V.G.L. to clubs. Players with higher handicaps may still play but will play off the handicap limit for the team.

b) A player can only play in one team.

Matches shall be played according to the draw.

Any restrictions imposed on Clubs by the Pro Shop, Course Management or facilities regarding the number of teams permitted to play on Match Days, must be submitted in writing with the Pennant Entry for consideration by the Pennant Match committee when conducting the draw.

The Pennant Captain of the first mentioned Club in the draw will make arrangements with the opposing Pennant Captain as to the time of starting, Par, Scratch rating, Slope rating and Tee markers to be used, and will make any necessary arrangements with the proprietor of the course on

which the match is to be played. The Pennant Captain of the home team must supply the visiting Pennant Captain with a copy of the local rules and temporary local rules adopted by the Club and will provide the Results forms both BEFORE the day and on the day at course.

The starting time of pennant contests shall be fixed between 7.30am and 12.00 noon on the day of the draw. Clubs are advised to book tee slots early. Should circumstances affecting the starting time of the contest, both Team Captain's may mutually agree to forfeit their rights to protest the starting time of the contest. Otherwise, a protest may be lodged with the League.

Match Day:

Each Captain **must** provide a team sheet in daily handicap order and bring to the venue a golf link report or Handy Cap app on device that has players name, golf link number and **current** GA handicap to exchange with opposition Captain. Captains must disclose handicaps BEFORE commencing play. Failure to produce golf link report or handy cap app on device will result in Loss of One (1) Match Point.

a) Players must play in daily handicap order. The Daily Handicap is the handicap used, not the GA Handicap.

PENALTY for playing out of order – one (1) Match Point.

b) If a team fields fewer than five players, the walk-over shall be given to the last places. If a club intends to give a walk-over, either as a team or in an individual match, the VGL Women's Golf Committee and the Pennant Captain of the opposing team should be notified prior to the match.

c) Should a player be five minutes late for a match, the penalty will be loss of the first hole. Should she be ten minutes late the penalty will be loss of match. Following matches will not be delayed on the first tee awaiting a late arrival.

d) The index to be used for handicap match play shall be the Australian Match-Play Index.

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Index	18	8	12	3	14	6	10	1	16	5	11	2	15	7	13	4	17	9

e) If a match commences at the tenth hole then the index to be applied shall be:-

Hole	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Index	18	8	12	3	14	6	10	1	16	5	11	2	15	7	13	4	17	9

f) Should the course management direct that play shall commence at the 10th hole then that hole shall become the first hole for the purpose of allocating strokes against the Match-play Index.

g) All matches are to be played under the R & A Rules of Golf, VGL Women's Pennant Conditions of Play and the local rules of the course on which the matches are played.

h) Players are **NOT** permitted to practice on the course on the day of competition.

i) **Players must cease play when the match is over.**

j) WEATHER: In cases of inclement weather, fog, lightning or bad course conditions, **every effort** should be made to complete all matches on the scheduled day. Please refer to By-Law 21 and By-Law 22. If opposing Captains agree that the course is in an unplayable condition or that weather conditions are unsafe, they may decide to abandon play. When play is abandoned, all completed matches will stand and any unfinished matches will be squared and match points shared one point each.

k) BAD WEATHER CONTINGENCY: (Final Round ONLY)

If course management closes the course due to bad weather and the contest cannot go ahead, the teams MAY choose to do one of two things;

The contest is abandoned and ½ points – see point (g)

If both teams and course management are willing, on a mutually agreed day, within a week, the game is rescheduled,

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	...	18	Tot	Hcp	Net
White	40	54	17	36	34	39	14	...	510	6465		
Red	33	46	12	32	29	33	10	...	470	5578		
Par	4	5	3	4	4	4	3	...	5	72		
HDCP	3 ^x	2 ^x	16	11 ^x	15	6 ^x	17	...	1			
Jack (13)	4	8	5	5	3	5	4	...	5	87		
Tom (25)	5	6	3	7	5	5	4	...	7	97		
Jack vs. Tom	E	-1	-2	-1	E	-1	-1	...	+1	+1		

l) It is recommended that players keep a scorecard recording the state of each hole and match. Players must verbalise at each hole the result of the hole before progressing to the next hole.

m) A match which is squared at the 18th hole will be scored as one (1) point each. Two (2) points will be scored for each individual win or walk-over. (Exception: Finals)

n) If a dispute between players or teams regarding any particular hole or holes in a stipulated round arises and is referred to the Pennant Captains of each team, their decision, if unanimous, is binding. Otherwise, the dispute in detail will be forwarded in writing to the VGL Women's Golf Committee and must be in the hands of this Committee within 48 hours.

o) The VGL Women's Golf Committee will investigate and decide on disputes when such disputes are submitted and may impose appropriate penalties to teams or players for non-observance of any rules.

p) The winning team on each day of play will be awarded four (4) premiership points. If teams tie, they are awarded two (2) premiership point each.

q) Local rule 4-3 permits the use of Distance measuring devices in all League competitions.

A player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance ONLY. The player must not breach rule 4-3 otherwise the player must be disqualified.

Notes:

If a player wishes to use a phone to look up weather, it is not considered to be actively measuring or gauging the conditions and is permissible. Reports provided by a weather station, through an app or internet browser, are not a breach of rule 4-3.

A phone with a compass feature, can be used as a distance-measuring device, because a compass only provided directional information and does not gauge or measure variable conditions or assist the player in his play.

You can use a phone as a distance-measuring device, that has an inbuilt spirit level as part of the functionality, but it is not part of the distance-measuring app., provided that you do not use the spirit level in any manner that might assist you in your play.

The use of mobile phones by a competitor or his caddie whilst on a golf course is distracting and inconsiderate. If the competitor or caddie is in possession of a mobile phone it must be on silent or turned off. A player or caddie cannot receive or make calls during the match - Penalty - Loss of Hole.

Receiving (ONLY) and viewing Short Message Services (SMS), between the playing of holes, is not considered "receiving or making phone calls" during the match.

Exception: Players/caddies are permitted to make phone calls from the course to the clubhouse or to event officials for rules/emergency assistance.

r) Caddies are **NOT** permitted. **A Player receiving advice from any person shall be subject to penalties described in Rule 10.2 (Rules of Golf)**. If the Captain is a player, they cannot give advice to any other team member while they are engaged in their match.

Results:

a) Result forms will be supplied to clubs for recording match results. These forms are to be kept by the club for future reference. Both competing clubs should have a copy (photocopy, picture etc.).

b) The results (not forms) **MUST** be phoned, texted by the Home Captain to the VGL Executive Manager as soon as possible after the match but certainly before 3 pm.

Home Captain to phone, text results to:
VGL Executive Manager – Philip Goad,
Mobile 0488 598 113

c) Results **MUST** be entered by the **Home Captain** via the internet in the "Golf Box" system before Tuesday 5pm following the match.

PENALTY: Offending team will lose all points gained.

Finals:

The V.G.L. Women's Golf Committee will conduct the pennant finals.

The Committee may provide officials to assist with the running of the day.

The officials are empowered to enforce the rules of golf and/or pennant rules.

Any instruction to players by official(s) MUST be followed, otherwise the player will be DISQUALIFIED.

Divisions: Teams finishing 1st and 2nd will play off for the Premiership.

All Final matches will be played on a neutral course decided upon by the VGL Women's Golf Committee. In the event of two or more clubs defeating an equal number of teams with an equal number of Match Points, a count back over the last three matches will be made. If results are still tied, a count back will be made match by match with away matches given more weight.

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ALL OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED RULES ALSO APPLY TO FINALS WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:

a) In a Final, when all matches are completed and the contest is tied, then the last tied match will continue until there is a result, unless the VGL Women's Golf Committee advises otherwise. Playoff holes to be determined by the Committee in consultation with course management.

b) An emergency player who fulfils the criteria may play in the Finals. (Note: A player must have played one match in the division during the season to qualify to play in final of that grade).

c) Caddies aged 16 and over are allowable. No professional golfer or professional caddie will be permitted to caddy. Caddies are not permitted onto greens and recommended that they proceed to the next tee while players are on the green.

Pace of Play:

a) All matches are expected to complete 18 holes in a maximum time of 4 hours (approximately 13 minutes per hole). In exceptional circumstances (such as extreme weather /playing conditions), the VGL Women's Match Committee has the authority to modify this time requirement.

b) Any match will be considered out of position if it falls a clear hole behind the preceding match and is taking more than an average of 13 minutes per hole to play.

c) If a match is out of position, loss of hole penalties may be issued to an individual who, by her pace of play is responsible for such delay. Officials are not required to issue warnings prior to imposing penalties.

d) If both players in a match are equally contributing to an unacceptable pace of play, they may be 'walked' a hole(s) until they are considered to be in position.

e) When both playing pairs (all four balls) are on the green, the pair, whose has a player furthest away, should putt out (if possible, i.e., does not interfere with lines of other pairs putts) and then proceed to the next tee. Then the other pair putts out.

To aid pace of play, if the pair that has gone to the next tee is ready, and it is safe to do so, they should tee off, even if the other pair has not yet reached the tee or means playing out of order.

ALL DECISIONS MADE BY THE VGL WOMEN'S GOLF COMMITTEE SHALL BE FINAL

Dianne King
VGL Pennant Coordinator
Mobile 0409 516 060
Email dianne.king2@gmail.com

VGL 2024 PENNANT DATES

January	31	Pennant Entries Close
February	16	Pennant Captains' Meeting
February	26	Pennant Round 1
March	4, 18, 25	Pennant Round 2, 3, 4
April	8, 15	Pennant Round 5, 6
April	22	Pennant Finals – Northern Golf Club

PROCEDURE FOR FINALS DAY.

Leave home early, so you have plenty of time.

Present yourself to your team CAPTAIN who will fill out a Pennant Match Result Sheet with names and handicaps.

Remember to play in order. Lowest to highest handicap.

Players using a cart must DEMONSTRATE EVIDENCE to the opposition captain.

Collect course map, playing card, be aware of local (usually on the back of the card) temporary/Covid rules.

Present to your tee in order of play, on time and in a quiet manner, (other players may be teeing off)

Order of play (toss of the coin) PLAYERS TO MARK EACH OTHERS' CARDS.

Switch all phones to silent, no calls allowed (Penalty Loss of hole)

EXCEPTION: To call clubhouse, event officials, emergency assistance.

There will be an official to send off from 1st and 10th tees.

Acknowledge win or loss of hole before you leave the green.

No caddies on the green.

Be aware of pace of play, Match Play rules, and etiquette on the course.

Spectators must be quiet and keep a respectful distance from the players, exit the field quietly and quickly.

When you have a result, CEASE PLAY and return to an official ASAP.

Players, caddies, to leave the course in a timely and quiet manner, with respect for others who may be still playing their match.

IN THE EVENT OF A TIE

In a final, when all matches are completed and the contest is a tie, (following consultation with the Lady Captain) the last tied match will continue until there is a result, unless the Golf Committee advises otherwise.

Playoff holes to be determined by the Committee in consultation with the course management.

Please keep this special day, for you and your teams, reschedule appointments and work commitments if you can. Enjoy the presentations and photos with your team members. Enjoy the day.

Presentations will be made when all players have completed their matches, have a result and are in the clubhouse for refreshments.

REMEMBER an instruction given to the players by an OFFICIAL MUST BE FOLLOWED, otherwise the player may be DISQUALIFIED.

Ring PHIL GOAD (Executive Manager) 0488 598 113 (located on your match card) for clarification/dispute of a rule.

He in turn will inform the Lady Captain of the VGL on site.