



# Life Member Competitions

## Introduction

The Life Membership scheme began in 1965 primarily as a means of improving the contact between clubs and the Union. Today we have just over 1,000 Life Members, of whom around 300 are active ie they play in our competitions at least once per year. Our competitions are competitive but first and foremost they are friendly events aimed at fostering good relations between players from clubs across the county.

We ask all competitors, where they can, to support the host club through use of the bar and catering facilities.

## Competition format and rules

All competitions are pairs betterball stableford with 85% handicap allowance. There is a maximum playing handicap of 28. We typically play off the yellow tees for men and red for ladies.

The competition conditions and code of conduct of Cheshire Golf shall apply. A specific competition condition we apply is that where a competition can't be completed eg due to bad weather, if 75% of the pairs have returned their cards then a competition result may be declared.

Scorecards with the handicap index, course handicap and playing handicap of each player will be provided at the competition registration desk. We ask you to mark the card clearly with only gross score and points on each hole.

## Pace of play

A fourball should take no more than 4 hours and 15 minutes to complete a round. Please make sure you keep up with the group in front of you. If they are losing ground do not hesitate to politely point this out to them.

## Prizes

We provide prizes by way of vouchers that must be redeemed at any club professional shop in Cheshire [not at major golf retailers] – this is our way of supporting club professionals.

Voucher values (per player) are:

First	£80
Second	£50
Third	£40
Fourth*	£30

\*a fourth-place prize will not be provided when the field is less than 110 players



Vouchers must be redeemed by 31<sup>st</sup> October of the year in which they were issued.

Where we have a nearest-the-pin prize this is typically a dozen golf balls.

### **Entering competitions**

Entries typically begin in early November ahead of the next season. The entry and payment procedure is published in advance and is detailed on the county website. Entry fees are currently £45 per pair, however we may charge more for specific venues

All entrants will be contacted in December to advise their start times at the events they have entered (these being published on the Golf Genius pages)

Life Members can also enter competitions at any time after the initial entry 'rush' in November. Just drop Jerry Dixon (Life Membership Secretary) an email.

Payment for all entries is made using our secure payment platform. The page to access this is: <https://cheshiregolf.org.uk/shop3/>

### **Withdrawing from a competition**

If one member of the pair withdraws it is the responsibility of them and / or the other player to find a replacement. The Life Membership secretary may be able to find individuals who are happy to fill in, but this can't be guaranteed. If you can't find another Life Member, a non-Lifer can play but the pair will not be eligible for a prize.

Where a pair decides to withdraw, this should be communicated to the Life Membership secretary by email only at the earliest opportunity. If withdrawal is made within 14 days of the competition date, then the pair will forfeit their entry fee. Where a refund is due, this will be made to the credit / debit card used in paying the entry fee.

### **Results**

Competitors will be sent an email after the competition has closed with a link to the Golf Genius results page.

### **Buggies**

If you need a buggy it is your responsibility to book one with the host club. If you have booked a buggy but have to withdraw, please remember to cancel your buggy booking. Cheshire Golf does not get involved in booking buggies.

If you own a single-seat buggy, please check with the host club that these are permitted on the course.

### **Communication**

We contact players via email. We may, where necessary, also use text messaging eg in an emergency such as a competition being cancelled on the day of the event or a major



traffic hold-up.

Please advise the Life Membership secretary by email if your contact details change, or if you move to a new home club.

The dedicated web page for “Lifers” is: [www.cheshiregolf.org.uk/life-members/](http://www.cheshiregolf.org.uk/life-members/)

You are also encouraged to register with Cheshire Golf and to use the Golf Genius app. The app shows all of your entries to our competitions including start sheets and results. It also includes the County Card, which allows registered users to benefit from reduced green fees at clubs across England. See this page to register:

[www.cheshiregolf.org.uk/county-card-scheme/](http://www.cheshiregolf.org.uk/county-card-scheme/)

We look forward to your participation in our competitions and trust that you’ll find us a very friendly bunch!

Jerry Dixon

Life Membership Secretary

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