

WARREN & HILLIARD LEAGUE RULES

THE CONCEPT, RULES & DECISIONS FOR BOTH LEAGUES:

The Warren (WL) and Hilliard (HL) are an Association of Golf Clubs formed to provide a venue for social gathering and the spread of friendship and goodwill between male members of local golf clubs.

There are two leagues in both the WL & HL each consisting of nine clubs and consequently each club play four home and four away matches during the season. The leagues are known as the “Red” and “Blue” divisions in the WL and “Green” and “White” divisions in the HL.

The concept of the Leagues is to allow as many players (aged 18 years and over) as possible to represent their clubs. Matches should normally be played on a Saturday or Sunday but by mutual arrangement may be played on other days. Each club will play all the other clubs in their League once each season and in the following season the home & away matches will be reversed.

Every other year the leagues will be changed to make sure that over a period of time all member clubs will play each other. The Warren League Captain (WLC) will arrange these changes.

By the end of February latest each club will submit to the WLC their full details (opponents, date, tee-off time and home or away) of their eight matches which he will post on the WL website by the end of March latest. All clubs are encouraged to visit the WL website regularly in order to keep up to date with the latest developments.

The score of the match will be decided on the basis of the number of games, won, drawn and lost. The winning club will be awarded two points and in the event of a halved match one point will be awarded to each club.

It is the duty of **both** clubs to notify the WLC in writing (e.g. email) of which club won the match and also the match score as quickly as possible after the match. It is customary for the home club to entertain the visitors to a snack or meal after the match. The home club should advise these arrangements to the away club prior the fixture being played. Buggies can be used in matches if this is agreed by both Captains / Organisers prior to the match being played.

Any matter of doubt and all disputes should be referred to the WLC whose decision shall be final but he may be assisted by the Vice Captains if required. It is however expected that where ever possible that all such matters will be dealt with by the clubs concerned in the true spirit of the leagues – see paragraph 1.

All league matches must be completed by the end of August in order for semi-final play-offs and finals day to be arranged. There will be no play-offs to decide league positions and in the event of clubs finishing the season with exactly the same number of points the **top two** positions in any leagues will be decided on the following basis:

Firstly the club with the best “goal difference” (i.e. winning matches/less losing matches) is the winner. Secondly (if needed) the result of the match between the clubs involved and thirdly (if needed) by the toss of a coin to decide the winner.

The top two clubs in both leagues (winner of league A will play at home to the runner-up of league B and vice-versa) will play-off to decide which clubs will contest the final.

The home club will offer the away club at least two weekend dates in September (on different weekends) for the match to be played. The away club must accept one of these dates. If the home club cannot offer dates as above the match will then be played at the away club on one of the two dates (on different weekends) that they offer.

HL RULES

Each team will consist of six players and they will play three 4 ball better-ball matches under match play rules. Semi final play-off matches will have the same number of matches and replicate finals day rules – i.e. no drawn matches.

All players are to have an active playing handicap of 12 or lower. If the player (in any match) has a handicap above 12 he plays in the match with a 12 handicap.

If possible **White** tees of the day are to be used for all HL matches.

WL RULES

Each team will consist of eight players and they will play four 4 ball better-ball matches under match play rules. Semi final play-off matches will consist of 5 X 4 ball better-ball matches and they will replicate finals day rules as above in the HL rules.

All matches will be played from the **Yellow** tees of the day unless the Organisers or Captains of **both** clubs decide to play the match from the White tees of the day.

All players are to have an active playing handicap between 10 and 27 and they can only play a maximum of four of the eight league matches during that season.

If a player has been selected for a match but within two weeks of the date of the match he is cut so that he becomes “out of range” for the match he may still play – but at his new handicap. The opposing Captain can request verification of the date of his handicap change.

Each team should consist of four players with **low** handicaps (10-16) and four players with **high** handicaps (14-27) although this rule can be modified by bringing in more players from the higher handicap range. All four match pairings must always include one player from the high handicap range.

It is the duty of all organisers when sending the WLC the name of the winning team and the result of the matches to include the names and handicaps of all their team players to ensure that they have met the WL handicap and playing rules shown above.

A player can only play for one member club during the season. A player with a handicap between 10 and 12 can play both Warren & Hilliard league matches during the same season.

WL & HL FINALS DAY

The Annual Competition & Dinner is held on the second Saturday in October at Kingswood Golf & Country Club and all the arrangements are made by the WLC.

The winners of the semi-finals will contest the WL & HL finals. In addition all clubs will send two representatives to play in both the Parker & Hilliard Plate (4 ball better-ball stableford) competitions. In both these competitions the club with the fewest number of points will be awarded the wooden spoon.

All the trophies will be presented at the annual dinner and if they sign a letter (confirming they will repair them if they are damaged or replace them should they be lost or stolen whilst in their possession) and these can be taken back to the winners club for one year.

Notice for the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the WL will be sent by the WLC to all clubs at least 21 days prior to the meeting. The meeting will be held at the conclusion of play on finals day and each member club is required to send at least one delegate to the AGM. As well as providing the clubs with a forum for discussion the level of the annual subscription will be decided at the AGM.

March 2016.