



Bristol & District Lady Golfers' Alliance

Revised August 2008

Rules and Regulations

1. The Alliance

- i. The Alliance shall be called *The Bristol and District Lady Golfers' Alliance*. The Annual General Meeting and Captains Meeting will be held before the end of any year. The Hon. Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary General Meeting at any time by order of the Committee, or on receiving a requisition to call such a meeting signed by the secretaries of two-thirds of the affiliated clubs. Every such requisition shall specify the business for which the Meeting is to be convened and no other business shall be transacted at this Meeting.
- ii. Membership shall be open to clubs in Bristol and District (an area definitively drawn) elected by existing members.
- iii. The annual subscription per club shall be confirmed at the Annual General Meeting.

2. Alliance Committee

- i. There will be a Committee consisting of:
 - Chairperson
 - Honorary Secretary
 - Honorary Treasurer
 - Championship Secretary
 - Gloucestershire County Liaison Officer
 - Somerset County Liaison Officer
 - plus two other Committee members
- ii. All Committee members will be elected annually and shall serve for a maximum of 3 years. A lapse of one year shall take place before the retiring members are eligible for re-election. The Committee shall have powers to co-opt.
- iii. Nominations for posts on the Committee, and any resolutions for the consideration of the Annual General Meeting, should be sent to the Hon. Secretary at least three weeks in advance in order that the Agenda may be sent to clubs for discussion before the Meeting. For nominations and resolutions to be valid, the appropriate representatives of the proposing and seconding clubs must sign them before submission to the Hon. Secretary.
- iv. No club represented at the Annual General Meeting (or Extraordinary Meeting) shall have more than one vote, either by show of hands or by ballot. The members of the Alliance Committee shall each have one vote, with the exception of the Chairman, who shall have a casting vote.



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3. Eligibility

- i. Clubs will be divided into divisions, each Division having a maximum number of seven teams. Clubs may enter more than one team. Each team shall play a Home and Away match against every other team in its Division. Annual results shall decide which two clubs will be promoted or relegated. In the event that a team is withdrawn from a division other than the bottom division of the league, only **one** team will be relegated from the division from which the team withdrew. The **top two** teams in the division below will be promoted. This will be replicated in any lower divisions: i.e. one team down, two teams up.
- ii. All captains must confirm in writing by 31st January the dates and times of all matches.
- iii. A player may represent her 'Home Club' **only** (i.e. the Club which holds her handicap records).
- iv. Only 7-day members and 5-day members of affiliated clubs may play in Alliance matches. **For Scratch and Handicap Foursomes matches, only 7-day members are eligible.** Country members, temporary members and ladies who are members of block, corporate and staff membership schemes are not eligible for selection at all. Student and Junior members are eligible to play, provided they are not members of block membership schemes.
- v. Clubs must field teams in strict order of handicap. Please note, an upward handicap revision takes precedence over a downward handicap revision when players are playing off the same exact handicap. All Captains must field a Team, even though it may be under normal or desired strength. Many Clubs have their own rules for eligibility for playing in Cups and Trophies. It is the Club's responsibility to determine who is eligible or qualifies to play in Alliance Matches. The seven lowest handicap players in the club **at any time** shall constitute the "A" team and shall not be eligible to play in the "B" team matches.
- vi. If a player eligible to play for the Alliance Teams decides at the start of the year not to make herself available, she should be removed from the list for the whole season, and the Hon. Secretary of the Alliance must be notified
- vii. Buggies may be used at Alliance Matches and the Scratch and Handicap Foursomes matches on condition it has been medically agreed that a player should have to use a buggy. It will be the responsibility of both Captains to ensure that this concession is not abused. There is no objection to a "double buggy" being shared by a physically impaired player and her opponent. In Foursomes matches the partner of a physically impaired player may not share the buggy but must walk and carry her own clubs or use a trolley.

4. Course

- i. The Home Team Captain has the responsibility to ensure that the Course is suitable for play.



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- ii. If for any reason there are more than 3 temporary greens in play, the Clubs may, by mutual agreement, rearrange the Match to be played before the end of October.
- iii. If, perhaps due to maintenance, the greens are unsuitable for play, the Home Team Captain should if possible, arrange to switch from a home match to an away match.
- iv. Distance finders are not allowed to be used during matches, even though there is a local rule allowing their use at the course where the match is being played.

5. Weather

- i. No match may be postponed except:
 - a. For weather conditions: if, after consultation, the two Captains of the teams concerned both agree that the weather is unsuitable for play. In the event of a disagreement, the Home Captain shall have the final decision. If the weather is bad the Home Captain must telephone the other Captain 2½ hours before the match is due to start. In the event of more than three temporary greens being in play the club concerned **may**, by mutual agreement, re-arrange the match before the end of October.
 - b. In the event of a course being unavailable.
- ii. For matches interrupted by the weather, play can only be suspended if there is danger from lightning or there are flooded greens, or for some other reason play is impossible. Agreement to suspend play should be reached in equity, but in cases of dissent, the Home Captain has the final say. Players should mark their balls and leave the course.
- iii. If it is not possible to resume play: -
 - a. The completed matches stand.
 - b. The remaining matches must be completed at a later date, but as soon as it is practical, between the same players, playing in the same order, who must commence at the start of the hole where they marked their balls. If the same players are not available in either or both teams the whole match must be replayed.
 - c. If no matches have been completed, the whole match may be re-arranged at a later date, with different team members if necessary.
 - d. 18 holes must be available for play. If a green or a hole is unplayable and a match is all square after 17 holes, then the next available hole must be played.

6. Match Regulations

- i. In the event of "A" and "B" teams from one club being in the same Division in any year, they must play one match against each other **before** they play any other matches, and the other **during August of that year**.



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- ii. The reserved tee time for a match shall be 45 minutes from start of play. Team sheets shall be exchanged prior to the commencement of the match, after that no substitutions will be allowed. Any player arriving after the reserved tee time will forfeit her match.
- iii. SCORING: Win = 2 points, Half = 1 point, Loss = 0 points.
- iv. A half may only be recorded and points awarded if a match remains all square after 18 holes.
- v. In the event of a tie in the total number of points scored throughout the season, results will be calculated by the Hon. Secretary on matches won, before individual points. In future should there be a tie even after counting individual points, the team that scored the most away points would be the better team.
- vi. All League results are to be emailed by the Home Team Captain to **results@bdlga.org.uk** within **48 hours** of the completion of each fixture.
- vii. Full results of individual matches (e.g.2 & 1) using the Players Record Sheet must be sent to the Secretary when Teams reach their halfway stage **AND** when all their matches are completed.
- viii. Failure to report results within 48 hours will result in the application of penalties.
- ix. There shall be a Trophy for the winning team in each Division.
- x. Individual trophies shall be awarded to the players in each Division who score the highest number of match points while playing in the same team.
- xi. Teas for Alliance matches should adhere to the principle of the Home Team entertaining the Guest Team by providing a simple meal of tea or coffee with sandwiches or cake.
- xii. New clubs accepted into the Alliance shall be given a place in the lowest division in preference to a "B" team from an established club if the overall size prevents the accommodation of both. In this event the "B" team occupying the lowest place would be asked to withdraw.
- xiii. An additional "B" team applying to join shall have priority over the lowest placed existing "B" team in the 5th Division. A "B" team so displaced may re-apply the following year.
- xiv. Any infringement of the rules governing clubs fielding "A" and "B" teams will result in forfeiture of the points gained in the match concerned. Any problems arising should be referred to the Hon. Secretary.
- xv. The Committee's ruling will be final.