

Duties & Responsibilities of a Match Referee

1. To ensure that the County Secretary, prior to each match, is advised by telephone, fax or E-mail of the name and contact telephone number of the person appointed by the Host Club to act as Match Referee, who from that point until the conclusion of the match shall be deemed to be acting on behalf of the Devon County Golf Union.
2. To acquaint himself with the published Rules and Conditions of the Competition.
3. To identify himself to each of the Team Captains as soon as possible after their arrival at the Host Club and in any event prior to the commencement of the match when he shall advise both Team Captains of his availability for the duration of the match to advise and adjudicate upon all matters relating to the Rules of Golf and all Local Rules in addition to ensuring full compliance of both.
4. To receive the names of each Team from the respective Team Captains not later than 20 minutes before the scheduled tee-off time, together with the playing handicaps of each player.
5. To confirm with each Team Captain that the playing handicaps of each player are correct as on the match date.
6. To establish the identity of each Team Captain to the other for the purpose of Rule of Golf 8-1.
7. To "match" the teams and calculate the stroke allowance for each game and to declare the same to each Team Captain. After such declaration, only to allow a substitution if satisfied that a sudden or unexpected occurrence of illness, injury, accident or the like has arisen, thereby immediately giving rise to a player's arrival being delayed to the extent that he was not present or able to be present 15 minutes before the scheduled start of the first game, or, being physically unfit to play due to the occurrence aforesaid. The Match Referee shall "re-match" the teams and recalculate the stroke allowance for each game and declare the same to each Team Captain.
8. To remind to each Team Captain that the Host Club Rules and Dress Code, on and off the course, shall be complied with at all times, and that he is empowered by the County Union to refer to the County Secretary any difficulties encountered.
9. To acquaint, preferably in writing, each Team Captain with all the Local Rules prevailing and in force on the date for the match.
10. To advise the Team Captains of the tee-markers from which the match shall be played, and, that the only persons who give advice to a player are (a) his caddie, his partner and/or his partner's caddie or (b) the appointed Team Captain or Team Representative.
11. To remind each Team Captain that all games must be played to a finish unless the outcome will not, with certainty, affect the overall result of the match and that, if in doubt, the Match Referee should be consulted. In the event of fog/mist conditions developing or occurring immediately before the scheduled

start of play, or during play, it is recommended that the Match Referee immediately confers with the Team Captains with a view to considering, in the interests of the safety of the players, caddies and spectators, a suspension of play in the first instance, the abandonment of play altogether for the day after a period of suspension, or to immediately abandon play for the day. The Match Referee's decision shall be final and binding on both teams.

12. To be in attendance prior to and for the full duration of the match and to be seen on the Course, preferably at a location, or locations, at which he can be easily contacted.
13. To have on his person:-
 - a. A current copy of the Rules of Golf or Decisions on the Rules of Golf, a course scorecard together with a copy of any additional or temporary Local Rules applicable to the Match.
 - b. A copy of the match sheet with handicaps and the calculated stroke allowance for each game.
 - c. A watch or stop watch.
14. To advise and adjudicate on all matters, whether referred to him or not (Decision 34 -2/3) relating to the Rules of Golf and the Local Rules of the Host Club appropriate to the match. To be aware that the Match Referee's Decision is deemed to be final (Rule of Golf 34-2)
15. To deal with all matters relating to the suspension of play pursuant to the Rules and Conditions of the Competition and to the Rules of Golf. In the event of difficulties which are potentially irresolvable at the time after consultation with the Team Captains, to report as soon as practicable the situation to the County Secretary.
16. To confirm the full and detailed result to the County Secretary with 24 hours of the conclusion of the match. TEL: 01822 610640; FAX: 01822 610540