

Irish Mixed Foursomes Challenge Cup Rules 2018

1. General

- a) The Cup shall be called the “Irish Golf Clubs Mixed Foursomes Challenge Cup”.
- b) These Rules must be read in conjunction with the General Rules for Cups and Shields, and with the conditions for the Provincial Qualifying Section as determined by the Branch.

2. Eligibility

- a) The Tournament is open to all clubs affiliated to the Golfing Union of Ireland. Each club shall be entitled to enter one Team.
- b) Each member of the team must be not less than 18 years of age on the 1st January in the year of the Tournament. (Penalty for breach = Disqualification of the team concerned.)
- c) No player shall be eligible to compete in this Tournament who was not in possession of a CONGU Handicap during the preceding calendar year.
- d) A player shall have, in the calendar year prior to the event, returned a minimum of four returns in qualifying competitions (supplementary scores are not included) all of which must be recorded on the handicap records of the player’s home club on or before 31st December in the calendar year prior to the event. Nine-Hole qualifying competitions are admissible under this rule. Note: If a player changes his club during the previous calendar year, it is his responsibility to produce evidence of having competed in a minimum of four Qualifying Competitions.

3. Format

- a) Each team shall consist of five male members and five lady members of the club and play shall be by Foursomes medal play or by Foursomes match play.
- b) In all matches the men shall drive off the first tee. (Penalty – loss of hole).

4. Handicaps

- a) For the purpose of handicap eligibility and competing, the handicap for both Men and Ladies shall be the lowest playing handicap held during the previous calendar year.
- b) To be eligible to compete as a pair the combined playing handicap shall not be lower than nineteen.
- c) If the combined playing handicap of any pair exceeds 27 the pair must play off 27.
- d) The handicap allowances shall be: In medal play half of the combined handicaps. Half shots will apply. In match play half of the full difference between the combined handicaps of either side.
- e) The men’s card will operate for the stroke allowance. If the card prescribes a match play allowance formula this formula must be used, otherwise the stroke index allowance on the card is used.
- f) Teams may play in any combined handicap order.
- g) Where the penalty for breaching any of the foregoing clauses is not covered by the Rules of Golf, the penalty for breaching Rule 4 is Disqualification of the team concerned.

5. Sudden illness/other emergency

- a) Reserves taking the place of players after the team has been submitted shall be placed in the same position in the team as that occupied by the player who has taken ill or has been withdrawn.
- b) Alternatively, a pair may be placed in the same position in the team as that occupied by the pair one of whom has taken ill or has been withdrawn.

6. Prizes

- a) Provincial Section: The winning club shall be awarded a Provincial Pennant and the runner-up a plaque.
- b) National Section: Gold Medals and Brooches will be awarded to the men and ladies of the winning team, Silver Medals and Brooches to the runners-up and Bronze Medals and Brooches to the defeated semi-finalists and the winning Club will be awarded a National Pennant. Non-playing Team Captains will be awarded a special medal.
- c) The Cup shall be held for the year by the winning club.

Leinster Golf Conditions For Cups & Shields

The respective Captains of the two teams about to engage in a match shall interchange simultaneously the names of members of their teams in their order of play, together with the names of reserves, not less than 30 minutes before the start of the match. In addition, a copy of the "Cups & Shields Handicap Report" generated from Golfnet which provides evidence of the lowest handicap held and the number of qualifying scores for each member of the team, in the previous calendar year, must be exchanged with the team sheet between the team managers. If the report is not available on the day of the match, it must be forwarded to the opposing Team Captain and Branch Office within one working day. Failure to comply with this rule will lead to the disqualification of the team concerned.