

Kinsale Golf Club

Non-Return of Scorecards Policy

21st March 2017

Below is a notice from the Munster Branch of the GUI, issued in November 2016.

NOTICE

N/Rs and Incomplete Cards

Following an audit of players' returns in all qualifying competitions for the current year, a pattern has emerged amongst a certain number of players who are persistently returning incomplete cards and/ or NR's.

Under Clause 8 of the CONGU Manual it clearly states:

"The UHS is based on the premise that a player will endeavour to make the best score he can at each hole in every qualifying round he plays and will return all such rounds for handicap purposes"

If these players in question persist with this pattern they may have their handicaps adjusted as per Note 1 to Clause 7 of the CONGU Manual 2016 / 2018.

Status of Incomplete Cards and 'No Returns'

- (a) All cards must be returned in Qualifying Competitions, whether complete or not.
- (b) It is expected that every player who enters an 18 hole Qualifying Competition intends to complete the round.
- (c) **Since an incomplete card and a 'No Return' may have the effect of increasing a player's handicap, the club would be justified in refusing to accept a card or record a No Return when the player has walked in after playing only a few holes.**
- (d) Cards should not be issued to players when there is obviously insufficient light for them to complete the round.
- (e) Sympathetic consideration should be given to players who have had to discontinue play for any cause considered to be reasonable by the organising Committee.
- (f) **Clauses 23 and 24 of the UHS give clubs the discretion to deal with players who persistently submit incomplete cards or make 'No Returns' if the Handicap Committee consider that players are attempting to "manipulate their handicap".**

The committee fully supports the statement and so introduces this policy.

NO RETURNS

It is each player's responsibility to ensure that all competition cards in Qualifying Competitions, whether complete or not complete, are returned to the Committee, and make such computer entries as may be required. The entry of the scorecard onto the computer system must accurately represent the details on the scorecard. Any deviation must be reported or the member may be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension.

Players who do not return cards are impacting on the calculation of the Course Standard Scratch

(CSS), which in turn impacts on the handicaps of all competitors. As Munster Golf report, there is a high incidence of players entering qualifying competitions and not returning cards or inputting scores to the computer. The Committee, following advice from the GUI, has decided to implement the following in order to reduce the number of “no-returns” and improve the accuracy of the CSS calculations.

Failure to Enter Scores on the Computer

1. From the 1st of April 2017 it will be a Condition of Competition entry that all players who enter a qualifying competition **must** return a valid scorecard and input the correct details into the computer.

2. Players who do not return a card or enter their scores on the computer will face the following sanctions:

1st Occurrence The member will be requested to provide an explanation to the committee.

2nd Occurrence The member shall be suspended from any club competitions for the following week

3rd Occurrence The member shall be suspended from any club competitions for the following month.

4th Occurrence The member shall have their handicap suspended for 1 month.

Players who have a valid reason for not returning a scorecard and inputting it to the computer should email the honorary secretary within 48 hours of the competition outlining the reason.

Players who face sanctions for breach of the Competition Conditions will be notified by email during the week following the competition.

In accordance with the GUI advice, members who do not return a card may not receive the +0.1 adjustment to their handicap.

Competition Entry & Scorecard Return Procedure

Members must sign into the computer before playing.

Signing into the computer represents your official entry to the Competition.

You **MUST** ensure that your name and handicap on your card with the date of the competition and the name of the competition. Competition entry in the Pro Shop will issue a sticker containing this information and is as such a valid entry.

Score cards must the signature of player and signature of marker. Write-overs must be initialed.

Scorecards must be returned immediately upon returning to the clubhouse. If a round is not completed, enter the scores made and enter a 0 for the holes not completed.

All scorecards must be returned whether or not you complete the round and must be entered in the computer. Failing to do so is in breach of the competition rules and the committee will be obliged to apply the appropriate sanction. Any player who fails to enter their score into the computer after playing, will automatically disqualify themselves from winning a prize.

A scorecard is deemed to be returned after it is returned to the Competition box, a card cannot be changed after it has been returned.

Please make sure that your card is marked and signed by someone holding a current CONGU handicap,