

RMGC Policies & Procedures

Policy #20: Competition Framework

A. Introduction

The objective of this policy is to try and improve the allocation of tee times to create more opportunities to play for members, who do not play in competitions, and visitors, who bring extra revenue to the Club.

B. Planning

1. Ideally, all those entering fixtures should get together when finalising the full calendar to ensure that the guidelines in this Competition Framework are adhered to.
2. Consult Head Greenkeeper to avoid dates when course will be closed, unavailable or unsuitable for competitions because of scheduled over-seeding, course improvements or other factors.
3. Consult General Manager to avoid dates of private or corporate group bookings.
4. Consult MGA to avoid dates of their competitions:
 - a. MGA Shield
 - b. Generation Cup (in School Holidays in early Summer).
5. Consult MGA to avoid dates of international representation so that best Maltese players can be in Malta for our Majors.
6. Consult Happy Gilmores to try and limit play on Fridays when times are reserved for Men's Friday play.
7. Avoid adding to an already busy fixture list, especially at weekends.
8. When dealing with new Sponsors, persuade them to sponsor existing competitions rather than create new ones.
9. Consult known Sponsors as early as possible to fix their competition dates in order to minimise disruption should they request last-minute alternative dates.
10. Avoid scheduling Sunday competitions on the dates that clocks go forward/back in March/October.
11. Avoid playing Juniors' competitions on Sundays which clash with other Sunday fixtures such as Fenston Cup.
12. Avoid full shotgun starts:
 - a. Multi-tee starts free up 1st Tee much earlier, especially if 8th Tee is not used;
 - b. Fields should be optimised to create the lowest number of flights possible, with no divisions or matched draws etc;
 - c. Small fields (<37) should all play off 1st Tee, use reverse or forward shotgun or play off 1st & 14th Tees;
 - d. Very small fields (<19) should all play off 1st Tee.
13. Avoid Sunday competitions completely in December and January.
14. Reserve/Contingency days should not be entered into the calendar until they are needed so as not to block out tee times for visitors and members unnecessarily.
15. Avoid putting play by dates for knockout competitions too close together, especially in the early rounds when there is a large field.
16. Play by dates should be on a Weekday to take pressure off Sundays.
17. Avoid competitions on Mothering Sunday (in May) and Easter Sunday.

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18. Place traditional events in fixed slots in calendar:
 - a. Captains' Drive-In as close as possible to AGM in June;
 - b. Malta v Rest in late May or early June;
 - c. Creasy Cup dinner last Friday in October;
 - d. Men's & Ladies' Championships for a week in late May;
 - e. Monthly Medals early each month. Be aware that course conditions and closures due to the weather might still mean changes can occur;
19. Avoid playing any significant competitions in the Summer (July – August) as major maintenance work is often carried out during this period.

C. Once Finalised

1. Allow for review of calendar/fixture list by Men's, Ladies', Juniors' sections, Happy Gilmores and then by BoM, prior to general publication.
2. Communicate course requirements to Head Greenkeeper in advance so he can plan pin & tee positions.
3. Double-check dates are correctly reserved on BRS and that the minimum necessary number of tee times are reserved for Men's Friday play and Ladies' Saturday play.
4. Once fixture list finalised, Competition Secretaries must keep Saffron informed of catering requirements.

D. During Season

1. Ensure spare/unused tee times are released on BRS via the Office as soon as numbers are known, so they can be re-booked by members/visitors.
2. When changes occur, update Master Fixture List on website promptly and inform Office to update BRS.
3. Once a fixture has been established in the calendar, its format should not be changed to cater for individual requests.

Prepared by Captain's Committee: 6th November 2019

Reviewed and Approved by BOM: 20th April 2021