

THE PLYMOUTH AREA LEAGUE RULES (2026)

- 1) The competition will take place for the Plymouth Area Golf League Trophy. The trophy will be contested by the winners of the Cornwall and Devon leagues.
- 2) The entry fee of £60 for each team will be used towards the cost of the final, which will be arranged at a neutral course. In the absence of a sponsor for the event, one club from each league will organise the League for one season in alphabetical order. In these years, the inter-league final will be organised in rotation at one of the member clubs not involved in the final.
- 3) Fixtures will be played on a "County League" home and away basis; the winners of each league will play off for the Plymouth Area League Trophy. In the event of 2 teams finishing with the same number of points, between the side involved will decide the winner. If still tied a play-off between the teams will take place as soon as possible at a mutually convenient date on a neutral course.
- 4) Each club will provide one team of 10 Gentlemen players with a maximum Handicap Index of 16.0 (if a players HI is over 16.0 he must use 16.0 when calculating his Course Handicap). No more than 5 players may have a handicap Index of 5.0 or less. Players may only represent their home club, i.e., the club which holds their handicap at the start of the season. **Each player must have 3 eighteen hole (or 9 hole equivalent) registered scores on the system in the preceding 12 month period. If someone plays who does not have 3 scores registered, the pair will forfeit that pairs match.** A player cannot play for a club if he has already represented another club that season.
- 5) Should a club enter 2 teams, once a player had played for one team he will not be allowed to play for the other. Team sheets to be submitted after each game.
- 6) If a club fails to turn up for a fixture the absent team will incur a 3-point deduction, but the match must still be played on a rearranged date. Should this happen twice then the club may be excluded from the following year's competition. In the event of a player being late and the match is already on the course then Rule 23.4 in "The Rules of Golf" will be used.
- 7) Food costs for 2026 season
It was agreed that ALL clubs would provide a hot meal following each league or knockout match upto a maximum price of £15pp. The method of payment for the away teams is to be agreed between the team captains prior to each fixture.
- 8) The matches will be 4 ball better ball and will be played in descending order of combined aggregate handicaps Indexes. The Course Handicap should be calculated for each player, with shots then calculated by taking 75% of the difference between that of the lowest player and each other player in the group.

- 9) Each pair's difference is limited to a maximum of 6.0 between their respective Handicap Indexes, and all handicap Indexes are to be shown on the result sheets. If there is a delay on the arrival of the first pair, team pairs do not have to start in strict handicap order and the next pair can commence their match.
- 10) Where a side plays more than the permitted number of players with a Handicap Index of 5.0 or less, the individual match(es) involving the additional players shall be forfeited. Where a side field a pair with a difference in handicap Index greater than 6.0, the higher handicapped player in such a pairing will use a handicap Index no more than 6.0 higher than his partner.
- 11) It is the player's responsibility to ensure that he is playing off the correct handicap Index, including any alteration made from his last qualifying competition or casual score (which may well have been played in the same week as the League match). It is the captain's responsibility to check his teams' handicap Indexes with each individual player before producing the team list.
- 12) Points will be awarded for each complete fixture as follows: 1 point for each individual game won, or ½ point for a game halved. **There will NOT be any bonus points for a winning team or for a halved match.**
- 13) League fixture dates to be set on a Friday evening; however, these can be rearranged by agreement between both clubs on a date prior to the end of the month the match was due to be played. If agreement cannot be reached between the clubs, then the set Friday date will stand. All matches to be completed by the last fixture date unless extension agreed due to weather cancellations.
- 14) Matches outstanding will be forfeited to enable the final to be played in good time. The final will be played on a neutral course.
- 15) All teams are encouraged to turn out in their club colours for all matches.
- 16) In the event of approaching darkness during a match, or abandonment due to the weather, play can be stopped and started again from the hole at which each match finished. This is to be with the same partnerships, on an agreed day and time with the captains. (If any pairings have completed their match the result will stand). The rearranged match is to take place within 4 weeks, or by the end of August whichever is the earlier. If, as is likely, it is not possible to return on a future date with the same pairings, the unfinished matches will be declared null and void, and replayed in full at a date agreed between the clubs. (Any players who completed their matches would be ineligible to play in the rearranged fixture). If the clubs cannot agree on the way forward, the entire match is to be declared null and void and replayed within 4 weeks or by the end of August, whichever is the earliest.
- 17) No buggies are to be used by any team members during the fixture unless the player has a certified disability, or as previously agreed by both Captains, subject to local club rules.

- 18) Only the nominated Captain of the day can give advice to players during the fixture.
- 19) Caddies are permitted but may only advise the players in their game.
- 20) All fixture results must be sent to the nominated organiser within 2 days of the match, by the home team Captains. This will enable league tables to be produced regularly throughout the season.
- 21) The use of GPS/Laser equipment is allowed in accordance with the R&A/EGU rules.
- 22) The final will take place as soon as possible on completion of both leagues, and with the agreement of the participants, on a Saturday or Sunday at a neutral venue. In the final each match must be played to a conclusion.
- 23) In the event of any dispute, a disputes committee consisting of minimum three nominated representatives from clubs in the respective league will consider the issue.

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Contact: Keith Rendell | Tel: 07940 556975 | Email: knrendell1@gmail.com

- 1) Please can all Captains provide their results by Sunday evening at the latest, via text or email:

Please send results to one of the following:

Text: 07572 577607 | Email: allend660@gmail.com

- 2) The fixtures, results & league tables can be found here:
<https://www.staddonheightsgolf.co.uk/pal>