

Discussion paper on whether the Summer Home Golf is played over 15 or 18 Holes

Gentlemen,

Shortly a decision will be made regarding our Summer golf competitions played at **Home**, as distinct from the **Away** outings where we will continue with the usual format of playing 18 holes.

For the Home competitions we can continue with the format of recent years of playing 15 competitive holes off the **Yellow** tees or we can opt for playing 18 holes off the **White** tees. Playing 18 holes off the yellow tees is not an option as it would play havoc with the handicaps.

Below is a discussion document which has been prepared as an aid in helping you to come to a decision. Clearly, not all the Pros/Cons are included, as people will have their own thoughts on the matter.

What is proposed is that we will take a vote from the members by the end of March, and in the meantime you are asked to carefully consider the two options and we are at your disposal to answer any queries you may have.

For the sake of clarity and fairness it would be appreciated if most of the queries could be asked in open forum after the presentation of prizes during the next few weeks.

As regards the vote; each member's vote will be recorded by Tommy and you may vote for 15 or 18 or either.

The following are thoughts on the Pro's and Con's of playing either 15 or 18 Holes (not exhaustive)

Preamble

In early December last The chairman (Richard Lee) and Tom O'Reilly met with your committee, at their request, to discuss how the club might engage more with the Thursday Seniors and take on board any suggestions that we might have to make.

In that regard they said that Pat Egan has taken on the role as contact person for the Seniors. An important issue for them was how could the club encourage the Seniors to take part in club competitions, specifically the Open Tuesdays and Sundays.

After some discussion, it was suggested that a good solution for the club would be to have a separate competition on Tuesdays and Sundays for Seniors and in that way they would be competing on a level playing field with each other off the white tees.

Seniors could opt to play in the regular competitions if they so wished. Richard and Tom agreed and said it would be taken on board and followed up in due course.

Competition Format playing at Home on Thursdays

Your committee is putting forward two possibilities for the competition format for summer golf on home Thursdays.

1. Continue with the 15 competitive holes format (playing 18) as before, off the **yellow** tees.
2. Play 18 competitive holes off the **white** tees.

PRO's and CON's

15 Hole Yellow Tee format.

- Players are cut only if they score 35 points or more over the 15 holes.
- There are no handicap upward adjustments i.e. no 0.1's back.
- Not playing 3 holes competitively can sometimes affect a players concentration.
- Prizegiving for the winners are presented on the day normally within about 15-20 minutes after the last card is in.
- The course layout is designed for playing off the white tees.
- No need for players to register on the competition computer.

18 Hole White Tee format.

- Handicaps are adjusted, up or down, automatically, based on the SSS on the day, in full compliance with GUI rules.
- Players will have to register on the competition computer and enter their scores when finished.
- Due to timing difficulties, The prizewinners will be presented with their prize a week in arrears, which diminishes the immediacy of the occasion and may impact on the numbers attending the presentation.
- The presentation of the previous weeks competition will take place as soon as the last player has finished.
- Playing 18 holes off the White Tees is good practise for the Tuesday and Sunday competitions. (see above)
- Handicaps are adjusted to a player's ability on a continual basis.
- The white tee on the 9th hole may be a particular added difficulty for some players.