

NIKEGOLF ROOKIETOUR 2012

RULES :

ELIGIBILITY

Any player wishing to take part in the Tour must be a member of a Club affiliated to SCGU or SLCGA. This Club shall be the player's 'Home Club' that holds and manages their handicap.

There will be four playing groups: U14, U12, Girls and YIG (Young Improvers Group)

Any player taking part must fit the age and handicap criteria below:-

U14 Boys: 13 or under on the 31st December of the previous year. CONGU handicap of 36 and below

U12 Boys: 12 or under on the 31st December of the previous year. CONGU handicap of 36 and below

U14 Girls: 13 or under on the 31st December of the previous year. CONGU handicap of 36 and below

U13 YIG: 12 or under on the 31st December the previous year. Handicap 37-54, plus those with no official handicap. Once a YIGs player's official Club handicap reaches 36 or below they will then transfer to the main RookieTour series of competitions.

There will be 11 regular season events for the U12 Boys, U14's Boys & U14 Girls. A player may initially enter up to a maximum of 9 events. Approximately two weeks before an event any spare places will be offered through a group email. These spare spaces will then be filled on a first come basis.

To enter a YIG player must be able to complete nine holes on a par 3 course unaided

There will be a minimum of 5 events for the YIGs.

All players must submit a Rookie Tour Health and Safety form before playing their first competition.

All players, not including YIGs, must submit an up to date Handicap Certificate that is no older than 2 weeks **every time** they check in for an event. Failure to do so may result in the players score in this event being ineligible for a prize or OoM points.

Any player withdrawing from an event must send a text to the RookieTour mobile 07950 041562. Players are allowed one late cancellation within 24 hours of their tee time. Subsequent "late cancellations" will result in the player being suspended for the next entered event. A refund will be given for the suspended event only.

No shows will not be tolerated. A "no show" player will be suspended from their next entered event and will receive a refund for the suspended event only.

COMPETITION FORMATS

Boys U12 & U14 Competitions will comprise both Scratch and Handicap Stableford formats.

Girls U14 & YIGs competitions will be Handicap Stableford format only.

The majority will be played over 18 holes and will be handicap qualifying events. A small number of the events will be played over adjusted or Par 3 courses and will be considered as non- handicap qualifying events.

Officials will be monitoring and spot checking score cards during play. If any evidence of irregular scoring is found then the player will be spoken to and may be disqualified from the competition. If the infringement happens again with the same player he/she will be removed from the rookie tour for the rest of the season.

YIG competitions will be over 9 holes and only on Par3 Courses and are all non handicap qualifying events.

The final competition of the year will be the 'Race to the Stars'. Entry is by invitation only and will comprise of the top 12 players in each of the five Order of Merits in the main RookieTour at the end of the season

As there are two Order of Merits for each Boys age group (scratch & handicap) there may be players in the top 12 of both, the invites will then be offered in the following way :-

- * The Scratch OoM will always take preference.

- * If a player is in both the Scratch and Handicap OoM top 12 then their invite will be offered to the next eligible player outside the top 12 of the Handicap OoM.

- * If there is a 2nd player in the Scratch OoM top 12 who is also in the Handicap OoM top 12 then their place will be offered to the next eligible player outside the top 12 in the Scratch OoM.

- * If there are multiple cases of players who are in the top 12 of both the Scratch and Handicap OoM, then the above process will continue to alternate between the Handicap and Scratch OoM until the invites are exhausted.

- * If a player does not take up their invite then that place will be offered to the next eligible player in that OoM.

The player's points scored at this event will count towards both the scratch and handicap OoM's.

The top 6 in the girls group will be invited to take part in the 'Race to the Stars' and their points scored will also count toward the final OoM

ORDER OF MERITS. (OoM)

There will be Order of Merits for Boys U14 and U12 Scratch and Handicap competitions and Girls handicap competitions. There will not be an Order of Merit for the YIG's.

Order of Merit points will be awarded for each competition as follows :-

Best Stableford score	-	35 points for Boys	-	10 for Girls
2 nd Stableford score	-	32 points for Boys	-	7 for Girls
3 rd Stableford score	-	30 points for Boys	-	5 for Girls
4 th Stableford score	-	29 points for Boys	-	4 for Girls
5 th , 6 th 7 th Etc	-	down to 1 point	-	down to 1 point

For tied stableford scores, OoM points will be added and averaged.

At the end of the season the players' best 6 OoM points will be aggregated to find a final total. The player with highest points total will be the winner except where these best 6 OoM points are tied then the best 5 will be taken. If still tied then the best 4 etc.

CADDIES, PARENTS AND OTHER SPECTATORS.

Caddies are not allowed in any competition.

All spectators watching U14, U12 and Girls groups must remain at least 25 yards from the players at all times. No assistance or advice is to be given on the course or back in the Club House until all cards have been checked by the officials. Contravention of this rule will result in one warning with a further breach resulting in disqualification. Assistance with the Rules of Golf is not considered advice, as referred to above, and is permitted. Ball spotting for players is acceptable.

For YIG groups the same rules as above apply but there will be an official RookieTour helper appointed to accompany each group of players in order to keep the groups moving and to assist with score cards ensuring that players enter scores correctly at each hole before proceeding to the next. The helper will keep a master card with all players' scores. No other assistance or advice shall be given, other than on the Rules of Golf.

Any U10 players shall each have a parent present (25 yards rule still applies) for child protection purposes only. As above no assistance or advice shall be given. Contravention of this rule will be dealt with as above.

HANDICAP ADJUSTMENTS

It is a player's responsibility to ensure that handicap adjustments are made.

Whilst all results will be forwarded to all players' Clubs, players should not wait to be informed by their club of any handicap adjustments, but check with their Club before coming to the next competition to ensure that any adjustments have been made.

If this is not possible and the player is in doubt the player should cut themselves in accordance with Clause 20 of the 'CONGU Unified Handicapping System'.

Help with this can be obtained from the following two websites:-

<http://www.golfclubwebsites.net/dgc/members/memhccalc.php>

<http://www.mygolfexperience.com/golf/uk/golf-handicap.asp>

Players that repeatedly check in with incorrect handicaps will be disqualified.

Where a YIG has scored an excessively high score in a Par3 and their Club has not, as a result, adjusted their handicap the Rookie Committee may make an adjustment to their handicap in fairness to other players.

Such adjustments will apply to Rookie events only.

PRIZES.

Prizes will be awarded for:-

1st, 2nd and 3rd in all competitions for both Scratch and Handicap.

If a player has a score in the top three of both scratch and handicap competitions then, applying the principle of only one prize per person the player's highest placing in either scratch or handicap takes precedence. The other placing then goes to the next highest player.

A player equally placed in scratch and handicap then the scratch takes precedence. The other placing then goes to the next highest player.

Note : This procedure does not affect the players OoM points.

1st, 2nd and 3rd for all final Order of Merit scores.

A player finishing in the top three of both scratch and handicap OoM will keep both prizes.

If a player should win both scratch and handicap OoM then one larger prize will be awarded instead of two smaller prizes. The player is however still Champion of both.

A Birdie trophy will be awarded to the player who scores the most gross birdies in the season.

All prizes will be presented at a special end of season event towards the end of the year at a venue to be announced nearer the time.

No Cash alternative will be offered.

Any decisions or amendments made by the RookieTour Committee, related to these rules, will be considered final and no further correspondence will be entered into.