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MATCHPLAYS REGULATIONS 2025

1. PARTICIPATION

All Matchplays are reserved for members of Clube Palheiro Golfe, affiliated to the Portuguese Golf Federation, with a WHS Handicap Index and an active federated licence.

The competition will only take place if there are exactly 8 or 16 players (for the individual mode) or 8 or 16 teams (for the team mode). Places are limited and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

2. CATEGORIES

Men and Ladies.

3. TEES

Men	White
Ladies	Blue

4. MAXIMUM HANDICAP INDEX

Men	28
Ladies	36
100% of the handicap is taken into account.	

5. HANDICAP QUALIFICATION

No.

6. ENTRIES

Entries must be made exclusively by email by 20th February 2025. (patricia.rodrigues@palheiroestate.com).

7. ENTRY FEE

Each player will pay €9.00 per match, regardless of how many games are needed to progress through the stages (foursomes, greensomes, singles or scratch), including the qualifying stages, semi-finals and final.

Payment must be made by 21.02.2025 by bank transfer to IBAN: PT50 0018 0000 3913 2717 0014 2 (Banco Santander Totta - Clube Palheiro Golfe).

The entry fee is non-refundable.

8. DRAW

The draw will be published on 01.03.2025.

Each player/team plays a minimum of 2 matches.

The winner of the 1st match moves into the green column, while the other player/team moves into the orange column. After the 2nd match, the games will be played in a knockout format. See the example on page 3 of these regulations or by clicking here.

9.DEADLINES:

Elimination Rounds	Of all matchplays
1st	14.04.2025
2nd	30.06.2025
3rd	30.10.2025
Semi-Final	24.11.2025
Final	08.12.2025

10. NUMBER OF HOLES

Matches are played over 18 holes, from hole 1 to hole 18. If after 18 holes there is no winner, the players must continue playing on hole 1 (keeping their strokes) until a winner is found.

11. MATCHPLAY FORMATS

Singles Scratch (no handicap). Singles Individual (with handicap). Greensomes (teams of 2 players) Fourball Better Ball (teams of 2 players).

SCRATCH SINGLES: zero handicap.

INDIVIDUAL SINGLES, with handicap.

The player with the higher playing handicap receives the total difference in playing handicap between the two players. The additional strokes will be applied according to the order of difficulty of the holes (stroke index). If both players have the same handicap, the match will be played without additional strokes.

GREENSOMES:

Each team member plays their ball from the tee. They choose the best ball and from then on play alternately with only 1 ball (until the ball enters the hole).

The 2nd stroke is played by the player whose ball was not chosen.

Team handicap calculation:

60% of the lowest handicap.40% of the highest handicap.Each team plays with its own handicap.

Example:

Team A:

Player 1 - handicap 20 (highest handicap) - $20 \times 40\% = 8.0$ Player 2 - handicap 12 (lowest handicap) - $12 \times 60\% = 7.2$ Team A handicap - (8.0 + 7.2 = 15.2) = 15**Team B:** Player 1 - handicap 18 (highest handicap) - $18 \times 40\% = 7.2$ Player 2 - handicap 10 (lowest handicap) - $10 \times 60\% = 6.0$ Team B handicap - (7.2 + 6.0 = 13.2) = 13

Note: (0.5 is rounded up. Rounding is only done at the end).

FOUR BALL BETTER BALL:

Each member of the team plays their ball on each hole. Only the best Stableford score of the 2 players goes on the card. The player with the lowest playing handicap will play with a zero handicap and will give the 3 players handicap strokes corresponding to 75% of the difference between the playing handicaps.

Example:

Team 1: player A handicap 10 and player B handicap 20 Team 2: player C handicap 15 and player D handicap 25. Player A has the lowest handicap, he will play with a zero handicap. Calculating the difference between the other 3 players: Player B: handicap 20 - 10 (player A handicap) = 10 X 75% = 8. Player C: handicap 15 - 10 (player A handicap) = 5 X 75% = 4. Player D: handicap 25 - 10 (player A handicap) = 15 X 75% = 11.



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12. DISTRIBUTION OF STROKES

The strokes are distributed among the holes with the lowest stroke index. Example: If player B is entitled to 8 strokes, he will receive one stroke on the holes with stroke index 1 to 8.

13. CONCESSIONS

During match play, it is permissible to concede strokes, holes or even the match to your opponent. For example, if a player thinks his opponent is going to make a short putt easily, he can 'concede' the shot, saving time. A player can concede a shot, a hole or the match to his opponent at any time. This concession must be clearly and verbally communicated. Once granted, the decision cannot be reversed.

14. SCHEDULING MATCHES:

The scheduling of matches is the sole responsibility of the participants. It is up to both players/teams to get in touch and agree on a date for their match. The deadlines set in the regulations for matches must be respected.

Date proposals:

Each player/team must present their opponent with at least three date options for the match, one of which must be on a weekend. The unavailability of members who are not on the island must be taken into account. If a player/team does not accept any of the three dates without pro viding a valid justification, the match will be awarded to the opponent.

Consequences of Failure to Book:

If neither player/team takes the initiative to book and play within the established timeframe, both will be disqualified. We recommend that matches are booked as early as possible, within the stipulated dates, to avoid unforeseen circumstances.

Rules and Partner Changes:

All matches must be played according to the official match play rules, with no exceptions by agreement between players/teams. Before the first match, it is possible to change the playing partner in team competitions, provided the Technical Commission approves it.

15.PROCEDURES AND BEHAVIOUR ON THE GOLF COURSE

Players must maintain an appropriate pace of play and respect the rules of etiquette on the course. If a player fails to complete a hole or plays an irregular shot, the opponent may consider the hole as won, provided that the rules of match play are correctly applied.

If in doubt about a rule, the player must resolve the issue with the opponent before playing the next shot. If they cannot reach an agreement, the player may request a decision from the Technical Committee before the result of the hole is made official, in accordance with Rule 20.1b(2).

16. TIE-BREACK CRITERIA

If a match ends in a tie after 18 holes, the tie-breaker will be decided on additional holes in a 'sudden death' format. The players must restart on hole 1, maintaining the applicable handicap strokes, and if necessary, go on to the following holes (2, 3, etc.) until one of the players wins a hole, thus determining the winner of the match.

17. CONDITIONS FOR POSTPONEMENT OR CANCELLATION OF PLAY

Games postponed due to bad weather must be rescheduled respecting the availability of both players, informing the Technical Committee. If a player is unable to attend, he must inform his opponent and the Technical Committee in advance.

18. PENALTIES AND DISQUALIFICATION

Players who do not turn up to the match at the scheduled time, without valid prior justification, will be disqualified and the victory will be awarded to their opponent. A player may be disqualified if he violates any of the basic rules of golf, fails to respect the decisions of the Technical Committee or demonstrates unsportsmanlike behavior.

19. PROTESTS

Any protest must be submitted in writing to the Technical Commission no later than 30 minutes after the end of the match. The Technical Commission will analyze the protest and issue a final decision.

20. PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded to the winner(s) and runner-up(s) of each discipline. The prize-giving ceremony will take place at the Yellow Ball Tournament scheduled for 13.12.2025.

21. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

- 2 (two) Palheiro Golf Club representatives (Duarte Rodrigues & Élia Handa).
- 2 (two) Palheiro Golf representatives (Edgar Rodrigues & Patricia Rodrigues).

Any cases not covered by these Regulations will be decided by the Technical Committee, in accordance with the rules of the Royal and Ancient Golf of St Andrews.

The Technical Committee reserves the right to supplement or amend these Regulations at any time, or to suspend or cancel the competition.

Note: Players registered for the Matchplay at Clube Palheiro Golfe authorize their telephone number and email address to be given to the opposing player/team.

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