



## GENERAL RULES FOR NORTHERN COUNTIES BOYS' GROUP QUALIFYING

1. The English County Championship Rules and the England Golf General Conditions relating to all Championships and Tournaments shall apply where appropriate.
2. The venue shall be chosen annually by Counties in rotation: Yorkshire, Cumbria, Cheshire, Durham, Northumberland, Lancashire.
3. The Championship Committee shall consist of the Chairman and Hon. Secretary, one nominee from England Golf and any other persons nominated at a meeting of the Group, three of whom shall form a quorum and whose decision shall be final.
4. Each County shall enter a team of six players. The **best five scores** will be taken over 36 holes and the County returning the lowest aggregate score from these scores will be declared the winner. In the event of a tie, the winner will be the County returning the lowest aggregate score of all 6 players.  
If a tie still arises:
  - a. Ties shall be decided on the 2<sup>nd</sup> round and then the 1<sup>st</sup> round.
  - b. Should that fail to produce a result, ties shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3, or 1 holes of the last completed round. If a tie still arises it shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the first nine holes of the last completed round. If a tie still arises, each of the preceding rounds played shall be treated in the same way (taking each round in the reverse order to that in which they were played) until a decision is reached.
5. If play has to be suspended because of adverse weather conditions, and it is impractical to continue on the following day, the winner shall be decided over 18 holes. If 18 holes have not been completed, then play shall be abandoned and another date arranged when play may be over 18 or 36 holes at the discretion of the Championship Committee.
6. Each County Union shall nominate their team of six players plus one reserve and present their team of six players in playing order to the Group Secretary no later than 12:00hrs on the day prior to the Qualifying Rounds. Should the need arise for a County Union to replace one of their nominated team for any reason prior to the first round, up to and including the start time for their sixth man, the County Union may do so provided the replacement plays in the team position in the draw sheet of the player he is replacing. Prior to the first round only, should any sudden illness, injury, accident or other emergency reduce the team to less than six players (including the reserve) the Committee (at its total discretion) shall allow substitutes. **No replacement, for any reason, may be made to a team once the sixth man has teed off in the first round.**
7. The Player must start at the time established by the Committee. If the Player arrives at his starting point, ready to play, within five minutes after his starting time, the penalty for failure to start on time is loss of the first hole in match play or two strokes at the first hole in stroke play. Otherwise, the penalty for breach of this Rule is disqualification. Disqualification shall be for that round only. Rule 6-3a.
8. Caddies under the age of 18 on the 1<sup>st</sup> January in the year of this championship are allowed.
9. The local Rules which apply will be issued to all players.

10. Advice by a team captain or nominated person is not permitted in accordance with the note to Rule 8.
11. On practice days, players must use the tees indicated by the Club's tee markers for that day. One ball only may be played during the practice rounds with the following exceptions: If a player misses the green with his shot to the green, he may play one additional shot or where the rules of golf apply a player may practice putting or chipping on or near the putting green of the hole last played provided a practice stroke is not made from a hazard and does not unduly delay play.
12. Players must use a ball which is included in the current list of Conforming Golf Balls, issued by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews. Penalty for breach – Disqualification.
13. Conforming Driver Heads. Any driver the player carries must have a clubhead, identified by model and loft that is named on the current List of Conforming Driver Heads issued by the R&A. Exception: A driver with a clubhead that was manufactured prior to 1999 is exempt from this condition. Penalty for carrying, but not making stroke with, club or clubs in breach of condition: Stroke play – Two strokes for each hole at which any breach occurred; maximum penalty per round – Four strokes. In the event of a breach between the play of two holes, the penalty applies to the next hole. \* Any club or clubs carried in breach of this condition must be declared out of play by the player to his marker or fellow competitor immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred. If the player fails to do so, he is disqualified. Penalty for making stroke with club in breach of condition: Disqualification
14. Distance-Measuring Devices (Rule 14-3 and Appendix 1-7, page 153
  - a. In all Northern Counties Championships, a player may obtain distance information by use of a distance measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g. elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3. for which the penalty is two strokes and a subsequent offence Disqualification.

Note 1: A multi-functional device, such as a smartphone or PDA, may be used as a distance-measuring device, but it must not be used to gauge or measure other conditions where doing so would be a breach of Rule 14-3.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF Rule 14-3: Two Strokes and subsequent offence  
Disqualification

Note 2: This Local Rule applies to team captains in both stroke play and match play championships. If a team captain uses a device in breach of this Local Rule, any distance information sought and received by a player from that team captain or given by that team captain and willingly received by a player, will result in the player's disqualification
15. Prizes will be for: -
  - a. Each member of the winning team, (the travelling reserve and its Captain/Manager).
  - b. The best individual 36 hole score. The winner will also receive the John V. Todd Trophy.
  - c. The best first round
  - d. The best second round.
  - e. Note: the winner of (b) cannot win either (c) or (d).
16. Winners responsibilities. The winning County will be responsible for the John Todd Trophy from the time it is presented until it is relinquished. They shall also ensure that the Trophy is returned to the Northern Counties in readiness for the following year's event