2027
Pennant Handbook

Men's Pennant

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Men's Pennant Terms of the Competition

Definitions

Defined terms are shown in the Terms of Competition in italics.

(i) **Championship Committee:** is the Committee appointed under Term 5.1 below.

(ii) **Code of Conduct:** means the GPV Code of Conduct.

(iii) **Contest:** The competition between two clubs' teams is known as a 'contest'.

(iv) **Decided Contest:** A contest is 'decided' when all matches have been completed or one club has won more than half the individual matches.

(v) **Division:** Where the number of competing clubs in any GPV Pennant competition exceeds a minimum number, as determined by the Match Committee, the competition will be divided into *Division*s in accordance with Terms 1.2 and 5.3 below.

(vi) **Golf Peninsula Vic (GPV):** is the governing district association for the Peninsula region in Victoria.

(vii) **International Golfer:** is a non-permanent resident of Australia who holds an R&A World Ranking of less than 1,000 as at 1 January of the year of the competition.

(viii) **Interstate Golfer:** is one that has represented, or has been selected to represent, another state/territory in the current or prior year at the Men's, Women's, Boys' or Girls' Australian Interstate Teams Matches except for a player who has permanently resided in Victoria for a minimum period of twelve months.

(ix) **Member Club:** means a Member Club as defined in the GPV Constitution.

(x) **Match Committee:** this Pennant competition is under the control of GPV.

(xi) **Out of Position:** The first match of a *contest* will be considered to be out of position if at any point in the round the match is taking more than an average of 12 and a half minutes per hole to play.

Any following match will be considered out of position if it

(a) falls a clear hole behind the preceding match; and

(b) is taking more than an average of 12 and a half minutes per hole to play.

(xii) **Professional Golfer:** is one who is not an amateur golfer. Professional golfers include members of a professional golfer's association and players who have made application to regain amateur status.

(xiii) **Round:** The *contest*s grouped together in the draw generally played at the same venue on the same day is a 'round'.

(xiv) **Team Manager:** may be appointed under Term 4.8 below and is also the 'advice giver' in accordance with Rule of Golf 24.4.

(xv) **Weekend**: In the context of the different competitions conducted by GPV, the Term 'weekend' refers to the same consecutive three-day period: Friday to Sunday.

Men's Pennant

1. Format

1.1 General

(i) Men's Pennant is a club teams scratch match play competition played between *Member Club*s of Golf Peninsula Vic. Men's Pennant are separated into *division*s, in accordance with finishing positions of the preceding season and the provisions of Term 5 of these Terms of Competition.

(ii) The Men's pennant season consists of 'round robin' rounds of *contest*s between clubs in each *division*, followed by a Final.

1.2 Divisions

When it is determined that a Pennant competition requires separate *division*s, the *Match Committee* will allocate clubs to those *division*s according to the following principles.

(i) Wherever possible, 7 teams will play in each *division*.

(ii) Allocation of teams to each *division* is according to the promotion and relegation procedures, as specified in Term 5.3. Newly affiliated *Member Club*s participating in Pennant for the first time, or *Member Club*s returning to Pennant after an absence, are allocated to the lowest *division* of the Men's Pennant competition for their inaugural season.

(iii) Where the total number of competing teams in any of the competitions do not allow the participation of 7 teams in every *division*, the *Match Committee* will determine the most equitable and practical solution.

1.3. Draw

(i) The draw for each competition will be determined by the *Match Committee*.

(ii) Unless determined otherwise by the *Match Committee* or the *Championship Committee*, each *contest* will be played at the venue and at times and from the tees specified in the draw. Clubs with more than one course must indicate to the *Match Committee* which course will be used and, where possible, this will be published in the draw.

2 Eligibility

2.1 Clubs

(i) Each *Member Club* may enter one team in the Men's Pennant competition.

Exception: upon annual application to the *Match Committee*, a joint team fielded by two or more clubs may be permitted. Any participation so granted will be reviewed at the conclusion of each season.

(ii) Each Club participating in any Pennant competition must be financial in accordance with the GPV Constitution and By-Laws prior to the first *round* of the season. Any club that does not satisfy this requirement may be precluded from participating in that season's competition(s) or forfeit *contest*s played during the period it was unfinancial.

2.2 Players

(i) A player is eligible for Men's Pennant if they are a financial member with playing rights of the club they represent.

Except that a player who has participated in the previous year's Men's Pennant season must be a member of the club they represent by January 1 of the year of competition.

The membership must be an annual or longer-term membership and a bona-fide category in accordance with the Club Constitution and/or by-laws. It should generally not be a category that restricts players from playing competitions within the Club. **If a club is in any doubt as to the eligibility of a member in a particular category, they should seek advice from the *Match Committee.***

Note: Players should not be in a category of membership solely for the purpose of playing Pennant.

A player is eligible for Men's Pennant if he is a male golfer.

Players must comply with the GA Gender Policy.

Notes:

1. Standard 6-day, 5-day, country and junior members are eligible to play pennant.
2. Clubs should submit to GPV a copy of the relevant clauses of their constitution or by-laws setting out the rights and obligations of any doubtful class of membership (particularly scholarship/subsidised membership programs) for determination of the eligibility for pennant of members of that class.
3. Honorary members are eligible to play pennant where GPV considers that member to be a long-standing member of the Club concerned. The member is required to have been a fee-paying club member for a minimum of 10 years prior to being granted Honorary Membership.

(ii) *Interstate, Overseas* and *Professional and Trainee Professional Golfers* are not permitted to participate in GPV Pennant.

(iii) No player may represent more than one Club/Team in any one season of Men's Pennant.

(iv) Male players are ineligible to play in both Men's Pennant and Men's Masters Pennant.

(v) Finals Eligibility – Notwithstanding all other Pennant eligibility Terms, a player must have played at least two Pennant matches for their club in the relevant season to be eligible to compete in the season's Pennant Finals.

Exception: Upon application, the *Match Committee* will consider an exemption being granted to a club for this Term.

(vi) The penalty for an ineligible player competing in a pennant match is loss of the specific individual match.

3. Terms of the Competition

3.1 Team lists

(i) In Men's Pennant, a representative of each team will submit in Golfbox the list of team players, plus emergency and team manager (if applicable), by 10 pm on the evening before the team's contest, with no restrictions on the order of players. The team list in correct playing order must then be submitted by 30 minutes before the scheduled hit-off time for the first match of the team's contest.

(ii) Team lists may be amended up to 30 minutes before the scheduled hit-off time for the first match of the team's *contest*. Clubs are encouraged to submit their team lists in Golfbox by 10 pm the day before a Pennant *round*. Should a club's team have a sick, injured or absent player on the day of the *contest*, the team list may be amended in any manner prior to 30 minutes before the scheduled hit-off time for the first match of the team's *contest*. See also Term 3.2.

(iii) The penalties for late or no submission of a team list in Men's Pennant as follows:

Team list not submitted:	**Penalty:**
by 30 minutes prior to scheduled hit-off time.	The team's highest-handicap player will lose the 1st hole of his match. Play will commence from the 2nd hole.
by 15 minutes prior to scheduled hit off time.	The team's highest-handicap player will lose his match.
prior to scheduled hit off time.	The team will lose the *contest*.

Note: A breach of this Term must be reported by the host club to the Championship Committee (or its representatives) as soon as possible.

3.2 Starting tees, late arrival, player substitution and walkovers

(i) *Contest*s will commence from the designated starting tees at the times and in the order listed on the draw unless otherwise advised by the *Match Committee*, the *Championship Committee* or host club.

(ii) It is a Term of the Competition that a player will be at their starting tee, ready to play at their starting time. The starting time for the highest-handicap player in Men's Pennant is the time listed in the draw, unless commencement of play has been delayed due to course congestion or there has been a suspension of play, in which case the starting time is when play is resumed. The starting time for subsequent players is in seven (7) minute intervals from the time listed in the draw unless otherwise advised by the starter. The penalty for breach of this Term is as specified in Rule 5.3a.

(iii) If both players arrive at the starting tee, ready to play, within five minutes after the starting time, play will commence from the 2nd hole with the match all square.

(iv) If a nominated player is not in attendance or is otherwise unable to play when required to do so, the emergency (if named) may be immediately substituted for the nominated player, but only in that player's listed team position. An emergency player can only be substituted up to and including the hit-off time of the listed player who has failed to appear. If not required, emergencies must not play on the day of the *contest*.

(iv) If a Men's Pennant team consists of fewer than 7 players, walkovers will be given from the 7th position. If a club intends to give a walkover in an individual match or a *contest*, the captain or manager of the opposing team and the host club should be notified prior to the match or *contest*; if possible, on the day prior to the *contest*. If a walkover has been given, the opposing player or team need not be present on the day of the match or *contest*.

3.3 Honour, match duration and hit-off order

(i) Players from the first-named team on the draw have the honour on the designated starting tee in all matches.

(ii) All matches in the Men's Pennant season will be played over eighteen holes match play from the tee markers as directed by the host club. If a match is square after the completion of eighteen holes, the match is halved. In Men's Pennant finals, if a match is square after the completion of eighteen holes, the match will continue until one player secures the advantage.

However, in all Pennant Finals or Semi-finals, the captains of both teams may agree that a match may terminate without a winner if the *contest* is decided. In this case, the match is halved.

(iii) Individual matches will be played in order beginning with the highest-handicap players and concluding with the lowest-handicap players.

(iv) Once play has commenced in any match, the penalty for any player playing in the incorrect team position is disqualification (loss of match). **Exception:** If an emergency player is substituting for a listed player.

3.4 Pace of play

(i) All matches are expected to complete 18 holes in a maximum time of 3 hours and 45 minutes (12 and a half minutes per hole). In exceptional circumstances (such as extreme playing conditions), the *Championship Committee* has the authority to modify this time requirement.

(ii) The first match of a *contest* will be considered to be *out of position* if at any point in the round the match is taking more than an average of 12 and a half minutes per hole to play.

(iii) Any following match will be considered *out of position* if it

(a) falls a clear hole behind the preceding match; and

(b) is taking more than an average of 12 and a half minutes per hole to play.

(iv) If a match is *out of position*, loss of hole penalties may be issued by either the members of the *Championship Committee* or appointed Referees to an individual who, by their pace of play is responsible for such delay. Officials are not required to issue warnings prior to imposing penalties. A player receiving a penalty under this Term is also in breach of the GPV Code of Conduct and may be subject to additional penalty under the Code.

Note:

As part of implementing this Term and in the absence of mitigating circumstances, any match may be timed if it is *out of position*. From the commencement of timing, if any player exceeds 50 seconds on a 'first to play approach shot (including Par 3 tee shot), chip or putt', or 40 seconds if it is a tee shot or 'second or third to play shot', they shall be deemed to have had a bad time.

When Timing Commences:

Other than on the putting green, the timing of a player's stroke will begin when it is their turn to play and they can play without interference or distraction. Reasonable time spent by the first player to play in determining their yardage will not count as time taken for the next stroke.

On the putting green, the timing of a player's stroke will begin after a player has been allowed a reasonable amount of time to mark, lift, clean and replace their ball, repair damage and remove loose impediments on their line of putt. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.

(v) If both players in a match are equally contributing to an unacceptable pace of play, they may be 'walked' a hole(s) until they are considered to be in position. Any player 'walked' under this Term is also in breach of the GPV Code of Conduct and may be subject to additional penalty under the Code.

(vi) Repeated infringements of the Pennant pace of play requirements in the current season may be referred to the *Match Committee* and may see a player subject to further action in accordance with the GPV Code of Conduct.

3.5 Suspension of play and abandonment of *contest*s

(i) In the event of heavy rain, lightning, fog, extreme heat, unplayable course conditions, extreme wind making play dangerous or for any other reason, the *Championship Committee in conjunction with the host club* will be responsible for deciding whether to suspend or resume play. The signal for suspending play will be one continuous siren blast. The procedure when play is suspended is outlined under Rule of Golf 5.7b.

(ii) When the course is ready for play, players will be advised to return to their various locations. The signal for the resumption of play will be one long siren blast. Every effort should be made to complete all *contest*s on the scheduled day.

(iii) If the *Championship Committee* determines that completion of Men's Pennant is not possible on the scheduled day and less than half the *contest*s have been decided, the round will be abandoned.

(iv) If the *Championship Committee* determines that completion is not possible on the scheduled day and at least half the *contest*s have been decided, play in all unfinished matches should be resumed on a day or days to be determined by the *Match Committee* in consultation with the host club (prior to the set date of the Pennant Finals, or Semi-finals if applicable, to the *division*/s with incomplete matches). Matches will resume from where they were discontinued (see Rule of Golf 5.7c). In exceptional circumstances, the *Match Committee* may appoint an alternative venue for the conclusion of unfinished matches. The result of any decided matches will stand in this instance.

(v) If resumption of play is not possible on the determined day or days, the *Match Committee* will determine the action to be taken.

3.6 Practice

(i) Players are not permitted to practise on the course on the day of competition prior to the commencement of their matches. Breach of this Term will be disqualification of the player or players involved. Prior to the commencement of their matches, players may practise on the designated

practice areas of the host club and/or practise putting or chipping on or near the first teeing area in accordance with Rule of Golf 5.2.

(ii) Following the commencement of their matches, players may practise in accordance with Rule of Golf 5.5. However, players should note that penalties may still be applied in accordance with Rule of Golf 5.6 to any player who delays play by such actions.

3.7 Locomotion

(i) Players are not permitted to ride in or on any form of mechanical locomotion during the play of a hole. Caddies and team managers may use carts without pre-conditions.

(ii) In accordance with the GPV Terms of Competition, an exemption from Term 3.7 (i) may be granted by the *Match Committee.*

A certificate or letter from a Medical Practitioner to gain exemption must be produced by 30 minutes before the scheduled hit-off time for the first match of the team's *contest*. The certificate or letter must state:

a) the disability by which the player is affected;

b) the medical practitioner's opinion that the disability necessitates the player requiring the use of automotive locomotion in order to participate in the competition.

An exemption from Term 3.7(i) may be granted to players aged 70 years and over.

GPV accepts no responsibility for the availability of automotive locomotion at host clubs, or as to whether or not permission is granted to use automotive locomotion. When an exemption is granted, the use of such locomotion must solely serve the purpose of transportation — the use of mechanical locomotion must not provide the player with a benefit greater than a walking player may achieve.

(iii) The penalty for breach of either Term 3.7 (i) or 3.7 (ii) by a player is: The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which there is a breach of this Local Rule. If the breach occurs between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.

Use of any unauthorised form of transportation must be discontinued immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred. Otherwise, the player is disqualified.

Exceptions

(a) To assist the pace of play, Referees and/or *Championship Committee* members may utilise mechanical locomotion to transport a player without penalty.

(b) The *Championship Committee* is authorised to permit all *team manager*s at a venue to use carts if there are sufficient carts available for all managers after satisfying the requirements of all Championship Committee members and Referees.

(c) Where a player is granted permission to utilise motorised transport during the Pennant season, the player's caddie is permitted to ride with the player for any stipulated Pennant round without separate permission being required.

3.8 Team Manager

(i) Each team may appoint a *team manager*. The *team manager* must be a member or employee of the team's club. An employee may include a club manager, professional or member of staff. The *team manager* must be identified on the team list submitted prior to the start of the *contest*.

(ii) In accordance with Rule of Golf 24.4, a *team manager* is defined as an 'advice giver' and is authorised to give advice and other help as allowed in Rule of Golf 10.2b(2) to members of their team. A T*eam manager* is not part of a match and is considered to be an outside influence. Clubs appointing a *team manager* ineligible under Term 3.8 (i) will be subject to penalty as determined by *Match Committee*.

(ii) A player accepting advice from persons other than their *team manager* or their caddie will be subject to penalty in accordance with Rule of Golf 10.2.

3.9 Distance Measuring Devices

In accordance with Rule of Golf 4.3a(1), a player may obtain distance and direction information by use of a distance-measuring device. The provisions of Rule 4.3 apply in relation to Use of Equipment.

3.10 Dress, footwear and course requirements

(i) Players and caddies are required to wear footwear in accordance with host club policy. Penalty for breach: Disqualification of player.

(ii) Caddies must be attired in accordance with host club dress standards and any caddie not attired in this manner will be withdrawn.

(iii) Players or caddies who fail to adhere to the host club's dress and course requirements (e.g. failure to carry/use sand buckets, slicks on buggies, returning buggies to the pro-shop; littering; leaving the car park in an untidy state etc) will be subject to sanction in accordance with the GPV Code of Conduct.

(iii) Clubs are strongly encouraged to ensure that their supporters are attired in accordance with the host club's dress standard.

4. Adjudication

4.1 Championship Committee

(i) Each Pennant venue will have a *Championship Committee*. The *Championship Committee* is responsible for administering the competition at the venue, monitoring slow play (and issuing penalties if required) and determining any Rules of Golf dispute which may arise or is referred to the committee.

(ii) The *Championship Committee* will comprise the Referee, and no more than two nominees (normally President, Captain or members of the club's Match Committee or equivalent) of the host club. The members of the *Championship Committee* should be determined, and should be published by the host club, prior to the commencement of play at the venue. At any time the *Championship Committee* may seek a second opinion from GPV.

(iii) In the absence of the full *Championship Committee*, in the first instance a minimum quorum of two such members as may be present at any time may give a decision, and any decision will be deemed the decision of the full *Championship Committee*.

Should no nominees of the host club or the Referee be available, GPV's Match Committee Chair, or such person they have delegated this authority to, may join the Championship Committee Meeting by telephone or means of electronic communication, and is deemed to be present under this Term.

(iv) Should any Pennant Term or competition administration dispute arise at a Pennant venue, prior to determining any such dispute, the *Championship Committee* is required to ascertain relevant details (either orally or in writing) from one representative of each club or clubs involved and any other relevant party. Following consideration of the matters of the dispute, the Committee decision must be conveyed to each representative from the club or clubs involved.

(v) Unless otherwise indicated, the *Championship Committee* does not have the authority to alter or vary any Pennant Term.

4.2 Referees

(i) Host clubs are responsible for providing Referees at each Pennant venue to adjudicate on rules queries between players and pace of play issues as they arise (including issuing of penalties if required) and, will act as a member of the *Championship Committee*. Rules queries and pace of play issues may also be directly determined by a member of the *Championship Committee*.

Note: There is no right of appeal against any decision given by a Referee or individual member of the *Championship Committee*.

(ii) At each Pennant venue, Rules of Golf or pace of play matters will be considered by the *Championship Committee* only on the direct referral by a Referee or the member of the *Championship Committee* who has directly adjudicated on such a rules/pace of play matter. Any rules or pace of play decision

made by an appointed Referee or individual *Championship Committee* member is final unless such official refers the matter to the *Championship Committee* for consideration.

(iii) Prior to determining any Rules of Golf or pace of play matter, the *Championship Committee* is required to ascertain relevant details (either orally or in writing) from one representative of each club or clubs involved and any other relevant party. Following consideration of the matter, the Committee decision must be conveyed to each representative from the club or clubs involved.

5. Results

5.1 General

(i) It is the responsibility of each Team Manager to advise and confirm the individual match results for the respective contest to the host club;

(ii) It is the responsibility of each host club to submit results into the GolfBox Tournament Management System for all contests (including individual match results) as soon as possible after the completion of each contest;

(iii) Results are deemed to be officially announced upon entry into GolfBox.

(iv) A Team Manager may dispute either a contest result and/or individual match result up until 5pm on the first working day following the day of the contest. All contest and individual match results are deemed to then be final.

5.2 Ladders

(i) Prior to the final round, *Division* ladders will be calculated as follows:

(a) teams are positioned on their ladder in descending order of *contest*s won;

Note: In Men's Pennant a halved contest is recorded as half a contest win in the determination of ladder position.

(b) teams tied on *contest*s won are ordered by numbers of matches won;

(c) teams still tied are ordered by the result of the most recent *contest* in the current season between the two teams;

(d) if the *contest* was undecided or the teams have not played each other in the current season, teams still tied are ordered alphabetically.

(ii) At the conclusion of the last round of a season, teams still tied after (c) above and who are being considered for playing in a Final or Semi-final, or for relegation, will be ordered by the number of matches won by the player or players who played in the number 1 position during the current season. In the event of teams still being tied, teams will then be ordered by the number of matches won by the player or players who played in the number 2 position during the current season, and so on until a finishing order is achieved. If teams are still tied after completing this process, the matter will be referred to the *Match Committee* for decision.

(iii) Ladders will be published on the GPV website, as soon as practicable after each round.

(iv) No *contest* or match wins will be awarded to any team receiving a bye.

5.3 Finals and divisional winners

(i) At the conclusion of the round robin *contest*s in the Men's Pennant, the leading two teams in *division*s in which there are no Semi-finals will qualify to compete in divisional Finals. In *division*s in which there are Semi-finals, the leading four teams will play two Semi-finals: The first placed team will play the fourth placed team and the second placed team will play the third placed team. The winners of the two Semi-finals will play in the Final. In the event that in either or both the Semi-finals there is no decision, the higher-placed team/s on the ladder at the conclusion of the round robin *contest*s will play in the Final.

(ii) All Finals will be played on neutral courses.

(iii) The winner of each *division* will be the team winning the Final in those Pennant competitions with finals, unless Term 5.3 (iv) applies.

(iv) In Men's Pennant finals, if a match is square after the completion of eighteen holes, the match will continue until one player secures the advantage.

However, in all Pennant Finals or Semi-finals, the captains of both teams may agree that a match may terminate without a winner if the *contest* is decided. In this case, the match is halved.

(v) If in a Final or Semi-final the *contest* is not decided and play is suspended, and is unable to be resumed on that day, play will be resumed on a day and at a time to be determined by *Match Committee* in consultation with the host club. In the event of the Final not being decided and not being able to be resumed, the higher-placed team on the ladder at the conclusion of the round robin *contest*s will be declared the winner.

(vi) Winning teams will be presented with flags in recognition of this achievement. Members of the winning teams will be presented with mementos in recognition of this achievement.

5.4 Promotion and relegation

(i) In all but the highest *division*, the winning team of the Final will be promoted to the next highest *division* for the following season's competition.

(ii) In all but the lowest *division*, the lowest placed team will be relegated to the next lowest *division* for the following season's competition.

(iii) In the case of a change in the number of clubs participating in a succeeding season, the *Match Committee* reserves the right to modify this Term, in accordance with Term 1.2.

5.5 Undefeated players

In Men's Pennant, players who have played all, or missed no more than one, of their round-robin *contest*s and who are undefeated will be awarded a memento in recognition of this achievement. This clause does not include halved matches.

6. GPV Code of Conduct

(i) All players, caddies and club officials are required to abide by GPV Code of Conduct.

(ii) In the event that a person is reported for a possible breach of the GPV Code of Conduct, such report will be considered by GPV.

7. Images

GPV may arrange for promotion of Pennant, for radio, internet and television broadcasting and other exhibition and publication of the competition or excerpts thereof in any and all media, whether now known or hereafter developed. For players under 18 years of age, by accepting selection in a competing team the parent/guardian consents to the use by GPV, or persons authorised by GPV, of their child's name, likeness, voice and references to them and photographs and other images of them and their play connected with their appearance in the competition, or any portion(s) thereof, in connection with such media promotion, broadcasting and other exhibition and publication of the competition. GPV may utilise the rights granted it hereunder in connection with the promotion of this competition as well as other GPV Championships and GPV. The cooperation of players with authorised representatives of the media is required, provided that no pre-competition activities outside of those activities which are part of the competition will be required and provided that the player's competition play is not unreasonably interfered with.

8. Anti-Doping

The Golf Australia anti-doping policy applies for GPV Pennant. The GA anti-doping policy is the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy, effective 1 January 2021, and can be found: https://www.golf.org.au/competitionpolicies

Notes for Host Clubs, Club Captains and Pennant Team Managers

1. Dress Regulations

All players, officials, caddies and supporters are required to observe dress standards and regulations advised by host clubs. **Unless otherwise specified by the host club, Pennant team playing uniforms are permissible for all after match and official functions.**

Where playing uniforms are being worn at after match functions, the condition of the clothing must be maintained at the highest levels. Players with wet or dirty playing uniforms should change prior to entering the clubhouse.

2. Course Regulations and Care

It is the responsibility of all players to observe their obligations as guests when playing away from their own club during both lead up practice rounds, regular season play and finals.

GPV is greatly appreciative of all clubs that host the GPV Golf Program and additionally in the case of Pennant, provide players with practice opportunities on the course. In return, it is expected that players would appreciate this opportunity and behave in a respectful manner when enjoying such access.

All players should note that, in accordance with Rule of Golf 1.2a, a player can be disqualified by the Committee for acting contrary to the spirit of the game if it finds a that the player has committed serious misconduct.

Referees will be monitoring the field during the Pennant Season to ensure appropriate course etiquette is being adhered to by all players.

While the conduct expected of all players is fully outlined in Rule of Golf 1.2a, players should give particular attention to the following etiquette issues during Pennant:

- The carrying of sand buckets and use of sand to repair all divots.
- The repair of pitch marks on greens.
- The placement of litter in rubbish bins.
- The raking of all bunkers after playing from them.
- Behaviour that distracts the attention of fellow-competitors including the use of audible obscene language and club throwing.
- Non-emergency use of mobile telephones.

Players who are observed to display serious breaches of etiquette may be disqualified in accordance with Rule of Golf 1.2a.

In addition, after completion of each round all sand buckets must be returned to sand bucket dispenser units. Under no circumstances may sand buckets be left scattered in the club car park. Players who are observed to leave sand buckets in the club car park will be subject to action in accordance with the GPV Code of Conduct.

Notes

a. Clubs having any further or special course requirements such as golf shoe requirements are asked to provide such details to visiting clubs with adequate notice.

b. Club towels must not be removed from clubhouses.

3. Match Times and Starters

In all divisions, contests are to commence from the starting tees as stated in the draw. All clubs should use the 1st and 10th tees (or equivalent) for Pennant.

The host club is responsible for the appointment of suitable personnel to start matches and providing them with the Starters Instructions. Please see Starters Instructions – starters are requested to be fully familiar with requirements.

4. Reciprocal Playing Rights

The issue of reciprocal playing rights being provided to host club members by other divisional clubs on Pennant days is to be discussed and finalised between clubs prior to the commencement of the season.

5. Hole Locations and Course Setup

It is at the discretion of the host club with respect to providing hole locations (pin positions) to all Pennant teams.

GPV believes that the difficult set-up of courses has contributed to some slow play issues experienced during the season. It would be appreciated during the Pennant Season that courses be set up no harder than are used for club medal day competition. Particular problems previously experienced have been:

- greens being excessively fast;
- pin placements overly severe; and
- holes being played to full length despite prevailing weather conditions experienced.

The GPV guidelines regarding hole locations should be strongly adhered to for all Pennant contests, particularly on days of inclement weather. The guidelines state as follows:

It is strongly recommended that holes should not be placed closer to the edge of the green than 5 metres; they should not be placed in any position in which a player who is on the green has a putt the line of which would take them off the green; they should not be placed on excessive slopes or in tricky positions; the level or slope should be fairly constant in the immediate vicinity of the hole. Consider the holding quality of the green, the length of the shot to the green, the probable conditions for play, and the design of the overall hole.

When a club makes use of what is usually a practice hole as part of the course, it should place signs at the hole to ensure players do not inadvertently practice on the course.

6. Practice Opportunities

The issue of practice opportunities is to be discussed and finalised between clubs prior to the commencement of the season.

However, it is the recommendation of GPV that practice opportunities are to be made available with a minimum requirement that practice opportunities are to be provided to teams playing the host club in the forthcoming Pennant round. Practice rounds are to be restricted to Pennant team members only with tee times arranged between club General Managers.

7. Car Parking

Clubs are requested wherever possible to set aside reserved car parking for the Captain and President of all visiting teams.

8. Scoreboard and Score Updates

The host club is requested to provide and maintain a scoreboard in a prominent place, (outside if weather permits) giving a summary of progress in each match. The Results Sheet as provided in the Handbook could be used for this purpose.

9. Referees

It is requested that clubs note the following arrangements in relation to Referees for the Pennant season.

- Each club is encouraged to provide at least one (1) Level 2 Referee.
- If a club is not able to supply a Referee, GPV will endeavor to provide one subject to the availability of individual referees. **Note:** Clubs must advise GPV if they require a Referee by 31 January. GPV will confirm the name and phone number of the Referee (if available) prior to the round.
- Referees should be easily identifiable (e.g. in a golf cart clearly marked Referee). Clubs must provide this identification.
- All Referees are responsible for resolving any rules and pace of play issue that is referred to them by competing players or which they become aware of whilst on the course. Clubs should note that, in accordance with Pennant Term No. 4, rules and pace of play decisions made by Referees are final. There is no right of appeal against any decision given by a Referee.

  The Referee may:

  - refer the situation to the Championship Committee if they require an additional opinion in relation to a ruling;
  - correct or revise an incorrect decision prior to the player playing a stroke.
- Wherever possible it would be appreciated if each host club could provide the following for nominated Referees:
  - Copy of Contest sheets including player names.
  - Copy of the club's Local Rules and any Temporary Local Rules.
  - Course map.
  - Food/drink voucher (one per Referee) redeemable either in the clubhouse or at any on-course food service area (eg, barbeque).
  - A golf cart for each Referee (usually 3 carts are required in the morning and afternoon).

Notwithstanding individual club policies on mobile telephones, host clubs are requested to permit Team Managers or players to make telephone calls from the course to either clubhouse or any Referee for rules or foremergency assistance. Mobile telephones should then be used to contact Referees. Such a policy may speed up response times to rules issues.

10. Results Procedure

GPV uses the GolfBox online tournament system for submitting Pennant scores directly to the GPV website.

Specific instructions on how to access and use this system will be sent to each host club prior to the commencement of the seasons. In addition, *Match Committee* representatives will also be available on each day of the competition to assist with any GolfBox/IT issues that may arise.

To ensure the timely reporting of Pennant scores to GPV, clubs are required to submit results online via GolfBox on the day of the competition, preferably as soon as contests are completed.

Note: Once results are submitted to GolfBox, any subsequent changes required (e.g. correction of incorrect match result; misspelling of player's name etc) should be directed to the GPV *Match Committee* for such amendment to be made.

10.1 Liaison Officer Appointment

Each host club is to appoint a Liaison Officer who is responsible for the coordination of match results of all Pennant contests (as applicable) played at the host club.

10.2 Liaison Officer Duties

On the day of the competition the Liaison Officer is required to:

- Collect the team sheets from the host club office and prepare results sheets;
- Coordinate team managers/captains to advise of contest and individual match results;
- Compile all Pennant contest results played at the host club and submit to GolfBox as outlined above. Assistance with this process can be gained via contacting the GPV *Match Committee* immediately after all contests are completed and results known. Please do not leave this matter until after presentations.

11. Other Special Arrangements

It is the responsibility of host clubs to advise all visiting teams of any local or other special requirements.

12. Results and Ladders

All Pennant draws, results and ladders can be found at http://www.gpv.net.au/

Guide to After Match Entertainment

1. Morning Tea

The host club is requested to provide morning tea/coffee during the morning to enable officials of host clubs and competing clubs to meet and mix.

2. After Match Entertainment

2.1 Catering

For all Pennant and Matchplay competitions, the provision of simple lunches will be on a reciprocal basis, at the expense of each host club.

In order to effect cost savings for host clubs, the Match Committee recommends the following be adopted in relation to after-match functions:

- Cost effective catering is encouraged (e.g. sandwiches or finger food). This is at the host clubs discretion.
- There is no requirement to have any formal proceedings, (e.g. speeches).
- Drinks (e.g. coffee, tea, alcohol) to be purchased at the cost of the individual.

Should players, caddies and/or officials require either an alternate or more substantial meal they may purchase this at their own expense.

2.2 Dress

All players, officials, caddies and supporters are required to observe appropriate dress standards and special regulations advised by host clubs. Unless otherwise specified by the host club, Pennant team playing uniforms are permissible for all after match and official functions.

Where playing uniforms are worn at after match functions, the condition of the clothing must be maintained at the highest levels. Specifically, players with wet or dirty playing uniforms should change prior to entering the clubhouse/bar area.

2.3 Participants

Each club is to be represented by a maximum of 8 players, 7 caddies and 2 club/team officials.

Total: 17

Note. When submitting team lists, Team Managers are requested to advise the host club office of anticipated numbers for catering purposes.

3. Finals

Post-golf meals following finals will not be provided for the competing teams. In addition to the food/beverage cost to host venues, it's viewed that competing teams prefer to depart the finals venue upon completion of the formal presentations to celebrate/commiserate with other club members/family/friends at their own clubs.

Guidelines for Starters

A Championship Committee will be present at all host clubs. That Committee consists of the Referee and two host club representatives (one of which could include the Club's Liaison Officer).

The Championship Committee is responsible for the administration of Pennant. One specific duty is to decide whether to suspend the start of matches or abandon matches due to heavy rain, lightning, fog, extreme heat, unplayable course conditions or other reason. Starters should obtain the assistance of members of the Championship Committee when in doubt whether play should commence.

Referees will attend each venue. Referees may also be of assistance to starters in the application of the Rules of Golf or Pennant Terms of Competition.

If the starter is in doubt on any issue they should consult with a member of the Championship Committee or a Referee.

Starters Duties

The starter's primary duty is to announce to the tee each match.

The starter should also be aware of the following Terms of Competition and act as required.

1. Players and caddies MUST adhere to the host club's dress regulations.
2. Players MUST adhere to host club course requirements (e.g. using sand buckets, wide tyres on buggies, etc)
3. Matches are played in the order appearing on the draw. The team listed first on the draw has the honour.
4. Play is in pairs.
5. Play is from tee markers as directed by the host club.
6. No 7 player play first, followed by no 6/4 players etc.
7. Players MUST play in the position listed on the team lists. A loss of match penalty applies if a player plays out of position.

   Exception – an emergency player may be substituted only in the position of the player they are replacing.

8. If a player arrives at their starting tee, ready to play, within five minutes after their starting time, in the absence of exceptional circumstances preventing the player starting on time, the penalty is loss of the first hole in the match. Play will commence from the second hole.