



GAME of GOLF

SCORECARDS 6: FOUR-BALL BETTER BALL

FOREWORD

Through our colleagues at the Golf Clubs Managers Association we have the pleasure to bring to you the sixth and final article written by David Weston, the former secretary of Enmore Park GC.

The six articles treat separately the following forms of play:

- 1) Individual Medal
- 2) Individual Stableford (Ladies & Gents for differing Stroke indices)
- 3) Individual Par/Bogey
- 4) Bowmaker (3-Ball Team)
- 5) Pro-Am 4-Ball Team
- 6) 4 Ball Better Ball Pairs

For each there is an explanation sheet and an example of a correctly submitted card.

In all competitions, it is imperative that the player should be able to identify his ball.

We realize that this series of articles becomes repetitive after its third installation. This is purposely done in an endeavor to put across the most salient responsibilities of the player(s).

There is one more aspect that requires to be reiterated – the need for a card to be marked as neatly as possible. The Competitions/Handicapping Secretaries are not there to decipher illegible numbers. It is a duty of the player(s) to ensure that the cards are legible.

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INTRODUCTION

For the benefit of the PLAYER and those members of the Competitions Committee or Professional Staff who have to check that Cards in all types of competitions, it is important that the score cards have been correctly marked and submitted. This sequence has been devised to try to ensure that all Competitive Cards fulfill the requirements of the Rules of Golf.

In those Competitions where a computer is in use, the computer will total the Medal score, calculate the Stableford score or work out the Bogey/Par result.

The most common errors are:

- a) The GROSS SCORE is absent or something other than, or in addition to, the GROSS SCORE is included in the box for the Player; and/or
- b) The PLAYING HANDICAP of the player is not recorded on the card; and/or
- c) The SIGNATURE of either the Player or the Marker is missing.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMITTEE (Rule 33) AND OF THE PLAYER (Rule 6)

The obligations of the Committee and of the player are exactly the same as they are for Medal golf – please refer to the first publication in this series.

It is strictly the responsibility of the committee to work out the Stableford points.

In reality, however it is unrealistic to expect a volunteer Committee to make out every card during the competitive season. Most golfers will take only a minute or so to fill in the following details on their card, and their help in this way is much appreciated. At the end of the game and before submitting the score card to the Committee, each team is therefore requested to:

- a) Check that the gross scores for each hole are correct.
- b) Apply the handicap on each hole according to the Stroke Index of each hole to determine the net score or Stableford points for that hole.
- c) Add up the total net scores or Stableford points for each hole, for each 9 holes and the total points for the round.

It is important to remember that any incorrectness in the calculation of the points or in the addition of the points will not disqualify the team. The team will be disqualified if they return a wrong gross score for a hole.

FOUR-BALL BETTER BALL

This is a pairs' competition, with the better net score of the pair to count on each hole. The Committee must establish a 3/4 handicap allowance for each player in this type of competition. The playing handicap for each player must be noted in the scorecard. It will be helpful to the Committee that the allowed handicap for each player is also noted in the scorecard.

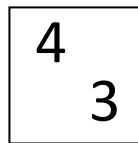
If Stableford, the calculation for points is exactly as an Individual Stableford round, and therefore

3 shots under net par	=	5 points
2 shots under net par	=	4 points
1 shot under net par	=	3 points

Net par	=	2 points
1 shot over net par	=	1 point
2 shots over net par	=	0 points

Although the players cannot be obliged to pick up if they cannot score, it is advisable that players do not proceed to hole out in these circumstances so that the pace of play would not be slowed down. A Stableford round should be quicker than a medal round.

Incorrectly marked cards which are received regularly contain either both the gross and net scores in the player's column, or the gross score and the points. For example:



The above is incorrect and may be taken as a score of 43 for the hole. No points would be given for a hole marked in this way.

The players' scoring columns should contain only the gross score for the hole. Similarly, the markers scoring columns should contain only the gross score for the hole as in Medal play.

It is sufficient for the card to be signed by one player representing the team and countersigned by one marker.

Prior to starting the players may put a mark or cross at the side of each hole at which they are entitled to a stroke and 2 marks or crosses at each hole where there is an entitlement of 2 shots. Some players prefer to circle or double circle the square. This makes it easier for the marker to calculate the points for the hole and record it in the column provided.

Finally, always submit your card, even if it is no return (N/R) as the Committee finishing the competition needs the number of entries to tally with the cards received in order to calculate the CSS of the competition.

The following is an example of a correctly marked card.

Competition:	FOUR BALL BETTER BALL				Date:	4 JULY 2009			
A:	G. ZAMMIT	HCP: 20	ALL: 15	C:	C. BONELLO	HCP: 17	ALL: 13		
B:	A. GRAZI	HCP: 5	ALL: 4	D:	P. SCICUNA	HCP: 12	ALL: 9		

PLEASE AVOID SLOW PLAY AT ALL TIMES

NAME	HOLE	PAR	MEN		PLAYERS			PLAYERS			LADIES	
			YDS	S.I.	A	B	RSLT	C	D	RSLT	YDS	S.I.
The Horseshoe	1	4	276	11	5		2		4	2	266	11
Twin Palms	2	4	256	17		4	2	3		3	253	17
The Mistral	3	4	432	1		5	2		6	1	390	1
Bougainvillea	4	4	426	5		5	1		4	3	406	5
Mimosa Run	5	3	196	9	3		3	3		3	186	9
Maid's Bedroom	6	3	159	13	4		2		2	3	143	13
The Trap	7	3	152	15		3	2	2		3	133	15
The Scirocco	8	5	512	3	6		2		5	3	481	3
The Marsa	9	4	344	7		4	2	5		2	283	7
	OUT	34	2753				18			23	2541	

NAME	HOLE	PAR	YDS	S.I.	A	B	RSLT	C	D	RSLT	YDS	S.I.	
The Chapel	10	4	382	2	4		3		5	2	368	2	
The Dyke	11	4	309	12		4	2	6		1	297	12	
The Brook	12	4	403	6		4	2	5		2	368	6	
The Ridge	13	3	171	14	2		4		3	2	167	14	
Oleanders	14	4	321	8	5		2		5	2	318	8	
San Bastian	15	5	523	4		5	2	6		2	467	4	
The Knoll	16	3	210	10		3	2		3	2	172	10	
Devil's Ditch	17	3	139	16	3		2		3	2	131	16	
Hooker's Delight	18	4	273	18		3	3	5		1	274	18	
	IN	34	2731				22			16	2562		
	OUT	34	2753				13			23	2541		
	TOTAL	68	5484				40			39	5103		
LESS HCP													
NET SCORE												RESULT	
Markers signature					Players signature				A. Grazi				40