

HARDY LEAGUE RULES (Updated December 2021)

► Handicap index

- Clubs will use the players handicap index to qualify for either Hardy A (handicap 10.0 and under) or Hardy B (Handicap 8.0-18.0), then follow the new process to calculate your playing handicap for the course of the day. This could see a Hardy A player whose handicap is 10, play off 8 or 12 (depending on the course index) or a Hardy B player with a handicap of 11 playing off 9 or even an 18-handicapper playing off 20.

► The Maximum handicap index will be as follows:

- Hardy A Under 10.0 (Handicap Index)
- Hardy B Between 8.0 and 18.0 (Handicap Index)

► Strokes Received:

- Singles – FULL difference
- Betterball – 90% difference

Hardy A

1. Each match will consist of eight singles games, maximum handicap index of 10.0 (see above)
2. Each game will be played over 18 holes, using the FULL handicap allowance.
3. Teams will play in handicap order with full handicap difference allowed.
4. It is recommended that all matches in the **have a half-hour tee buffer before their matches.**
5. Matches should not be paired up e.g., playing in fourballs rather than singles.
6. The league will operate on a promotion and relegation basis, agreed at the AGM.
 - a. Division 1 - Five Teams, Two to be relegated
 - b. Division 2 – Five Teams Two to be promoted and two to be relegated
 - c. Division 3 – Seven Teams Two to be promoted and two to be relegated
 - d. Division 4 - Six Teams Two to be promoted.
7. Hardy A 10 points are available for a Win (5 points for a draw) + 2 points for each game won (one point for a drawn match) = Max 26 points
8. . In the event of a tie on points at the end of the season the team with the best games results will be the winning team.
9. It was agreed at the 2017 AGM that ex professionals with active club handicaps can now represent your home club rather than the pre-agreed 2 year absence from the Hardy leagues.
10. Both HOME and AWAY captains will register results on the website.
11. Ladies can play, – but must play off the tee of the day as it is a single tee competition – no curtesy shots.

Hardy B

1. Each match will consist of five fourball games for handicap indexes 8.0 to 18.0. (see above)
2. Each game will be played over 18 holes off handicap on matchplay basis of 9/10 difference.

3. 10 points will be available for a Win (5points Draw) + 2 points for each game won (one point for a drawn match) = Max 20 points.
4. The league will operate on a promotion and relegation basis, agreed at the AGM.
 - a. Division 1 – Five teams, Two to be relegated.
 - b. Division 2 - Five teams Two to be promoted and two to be relegated.
 - c. Division 3 - Five Teams Two to be promoted and two to be relegated.
 - d. Division 4 - Five Teams Two to be promoted and two to be relegated.
 - e. Division 5 – Seven teams, two promoted
5. Both HOME and AWAY captains will register results on the website.

Hardy A & B Cup Matches

1. The first-round cup matches will now be drawn at the AGM.
2. Future rounds will be drawn for the home tie (via the bonus ball) – the two captains to agree the venue.
3. In the event of a tie in a cup match one player or pair nominated by each club before play commences shall play a sudden death. In the event of a holes count, being unable to separate teams in the final then the trophy shall be shared. I e: - A 6 and 5 win would count 11points, 6 & 4 10 points, 5 & 4 9 point etc. down to 1 up counting 1 point. Therefore, the team with the highest hole count being the winner.
4. The semi-finals in both leagues shall be played on a neutral course, where this is not possible the teams shall toss for choice of venue.
5. The final to be played over two legs (home and away).
6. Cup matches to be played by: (for exact dates – please confirm on the website)
 - a. 1st Round - 2nd Sunday in April
 - b. 2nd Round - last Sunday in May
 - c. 3rd Round - 2nd Sunday in July
 - d. Semi Final - last Sunday in Aug
 - e. Final - and both legs of final by last weekend of September.

These dates shall be strictly adhered to.

7. It will be the duty of the HOME CAPTAIN/SECRETARY to contact the visiting team offering, at least, two SEPERATE weekend dates. This should be done immediately their tie has been completed or within one week of the LAST FINAL PLAY BY DATE.
8. League secretaries should have results in case of doubts about opponents.
9. If the home side cannot offer any dates in the time frame, they must either forfeit the match or offer to play at their opponent's course, providing that their opponents can offer two separate weekend dates.
10. If these conditions cannot be fulfilled the tie will be decided by drawing lots If the away team cannot play on any of the dates offered. They must forfeit the match.
11. Should a match be abandoned or postponed, due to course closure or bad weather, with a date within seven days of the final 'play by date', AN EXTENSION OF A MAXIMUM OF TWO WEEKS will be allowed with the home side being given the opportunity to offer, at least one date within that period. If no date can be offered, the conditions above will apply.
12. Cup finals – players from both teams MUST have played in a minimum of two cup games prior to the final

13. The Hardy plate cup finals could be played over one leg if the captains agree – if so a bonus ball can be used for home advantage.

General Rules

1. A player can only play for first team he played for in the season regardless of joining a new club mid-season.
2. League and cup matches will be played on agreed dates and times.
3. If a match is stopped due to unforeseen circumstances the match will be replayed, unless all games have completed the NINTH hole in which case the result will be the state of the match at the cessation of play.
4. Games cancelled at short notice, less than 48 hours will result in the game being forfeited (resulting in an 8-0 \ 5-0 victory for the team that didn't cancel) with the team who cancelled also being deducted 10 points.
5. Each club shall finalise its league fixtures and register them online by the 31st January after the A.G.M.
 - a. These dates are to be considered as SET IN STONE and in the event of a match needing to be rescheduled after having been set it may by mutual consent be rescheduled before the final date for matches to be completed.
6. All matches to be played by the end September. In the event of a league match being abandoned or cancelled it shall be re-arranged by mutual consent.
7. If a match is cancelled within 28 days of its arranged date, unless Course Closure forced the cancellation, then a cancelling Hardy "A" club will lose 5 points and a Hardy "B" club 2 points and the matches must be reorganised.
8. A club will not be allowed to forfeit a match. Hardy League secretaries to be informed Points may be shared if promotion or relegation is not affected.
9. The results of all matches shall be communicated to secretaries as soon as possible by both teams.
10. League trophies and KO cups will be presented engraved at the AGM.
11. A meeting of all member clubs shall be held annually in the autumn when an annual subscription shall be set.
12. An emergency committee comprising three clubs selected on rota basis shall assist the secretaries in resolving any dispute, these will be picked from clubs in other leagues who are not impacted by the dispute.
13. If the course is open, but has a significant number of temporary greens - it was agreed that a maximum of two temporary greens could be played on. If more than two temps were in play then the match would need to be rearranged.
14. Non playing captains are allowed to walk the course and offer advice to his players.
15. Caddies – if caddies are required then the two captains need to agree this is acceptable. This is ensure fairness in matches and not create a two against one mentality.

FOOD

1. Food is not mandatory for the HOME clubs to provide, however if the HOME club requests for food to be taken then the AWAY team will need to respect the HOME team's decision.
2. The full cost of meals for each team will be paid by both clubs.
3. The two captains to liaise, at least ONE week prior to the match, to decide the TYPE of meal to be had before or after the match. The AWAY captain to have the final option on type of meal.