

**RULES AND CONDITIONS OF PLAY ~~TERMS OF THE~~  
COMPETITIONS GOVERNING ALL COUNTY  
COMPETITIONS**

***Revised 2022***

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**GENERAL**

1. Throughout these Rules and Conditions **Terms of the Competitions:**
  - a. The Dorset Ladies County Golf Association (DLCGA) is referred to as the County
  - b. The Executive Committee of the DLCGA is referred to as the Committee.
2. To qualify for entry to the County Championship, Senior Championship and Junior Championship, players must be full members of the County. For all other County

competitions, players must be either full, affiliated or associate members of the County.

3. Players must play for one club in any one competition during the year. For aggregate club trophies, the club who hold the handicap records (Home Club) will be used.
4. Competitors are required to use the entry forms provided in this folder when entering for events and to conform strictly to the required entry dates.
5. The requisite entry fee must accompany each entry. No entry fees can be refunded once the closing date for the competition is reached, unless a change of handicap eliminates the player from that competition.
6. All players participating in County competitions must hold an up to date WHS Handicap Index. Players must produce current proof of Handicap Index on the first day of a competition. If not produced, or not in date, players may only go out as markers.
7.
  - a) Any changes of Handicap Index after entering any competition should be notified to the County Secretary immediately. All players must play on the correct day for their handicap division.
  - b) On the first day of the Competition, at the host venue, the Handicap Index of the player will be adjusted under the Course and Slope Rating Table to give the player a Course Handicap. Handicap Allowances will also be applied if applicable.
8. Ties in 18-hole stroke play competitions will be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes. In the event of further ties, the competition will be decided on the front 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes. If there is still a tie, it will remain a tie.
9. Any driver the player carries must have a clubhead, identified by model and loft, and named on the current list of Conforming Driver Heads issued by the R&A. (R&A Rule 4.1)
10. The ball the competitor plays must be named on the current List of Conforming Golf Ball issued by the R&A. (R&A Rule 4.2)
11. Starting times will be sent to all participating Club for all County events.
- 11a. All competitions shall be played from the Ladies' Medal Tees in accordance with the R&A Rules of golf – Definition of a '*Teeing Area*'.
  
12. Time of Starting: Penalty for Breach of Rule 5.3a: Disqualification, except in these three cases:
  - Exception 1 - Player arrives at starting point, ready to play, no more than five minutes late:** The player gets the *General Penalty* applied to his or her first hole.
  - Exception 2 – Player starts no more than five minutes early:** The player gets the *General Penalty* as above.
  - Exception 3 – If the Committee decides that Exceptional Circumstances prevented the player from starting on time:** There is no breach of this Rule and no penalty.General Penalty: Loss of hole in *match play* or two penalty strokes in *stroke play*.

- 12a. Pace of Play Policy – Available on the day of the Competition.
13. A competitor is prohibited from having a Professional golfer to serve as her caddie during any stipulated round.
- 13a. In Junior Competitions, caddies are not permitted.
14. Competitors shall walk at all times during a stipulated round unless prior permission has been granted from the Committee in accordance with the EG Transportation Policy. It is the sole responsibility of the competitor to:
- a. Liaise with the club for permission
  - b. Have 3<sup>rd</sup> party and personal liability insurances.
- The County shall in no way be liable for the use of motorised carts during County competitions.
15. From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012 Global Positioning Systems and other Distance Measuring Devices, are allowed to be used during any County competition.
- 15a. If a Local Rule E5 – Alternative to Stroke & Distance for Lost Ball or Ball Out of Bounds exists at a Golf Club, such relief is NOT permitted in any County Competition. General Penalty under Rule 14.7a for Playing Ball from a Wrong Place (Stroke Play – 2 strokes: Match Play – Loss of Hole). See also R&A Rule 14.7b.
16. Adverse Weather Conditions
- a. Strokeplay Competitions: The Committee reserves the right to alter the format of the competition in order to achieve a result.
  - b. Matchplay: Guidelines for the Humphreys Bowl, Parkin Cup and Interclub Cup competitions are as follows:
    - i) If at all possible, matches should be completed on the arranged date.
    - ii) See also paragraph 68 regarding Humphreys Bowl and Parkin Cup matches.
    - iii) Results of individual matches finished – result stands.
    - iv) Matches which have to be suspended. The position of the ball must be marked and play resumed from that spot. When play is resumed, if the spot where the ball is to be placed is impossible to determine, it must be estimated and the ball placed on the estimated spot. (R&A Rule 5.7d)
    - v) If resumption of play is not possible, for instance because the course is closed and is unlikely to be re-opened in time for the matches to be completed before dusk, then the whole match, including any individual matches which may have finished, is abandoned. The host captain should re-arrange the match for another day.
17. Any disputes or disciplinary issues arising shall be settled by the County Executive Committee whose decision shall be final.
18. Competitors may take more than one trophy but only one prize at any one meeting, with the exception of aggregate prizes. See also Note 4, Appendix 1.
19. Winners of all cups and trophies hold them for one year. The engraving of all trophies shall be undertaken by the winner's home club but will be paid for by the County as will the insurance.
20. Insurance Cover. Players and their caddies are reminded that it is their individual responsibility to insure their personal golfing equipment and belongings against loss or damage. Players should also ensure that they hold an insurance policy which covers

them or another player in the eventuality that their struck balls injure somebody or property. The County does not undertake to cover loss or damage of personal items or injury of any individual whatsoever.

### **COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP**

21. The upper Handicap Index is 12.4. If the entry is over-subscribed, those with the highest Handicap Index will be balloted out.
22. 36 holes of stroke play qualifying for the Championship. The best gross 16 scores will qualify for the Knock-out Match Play Tournament over the next two days to decide the Championship. The Automatic Draw will operate. All players entering must be prepared to participate in the Championship Match Play stages which are played off scratch.  
**Entries for the Qualifying rounds only are not allowed.**
23. There will be a banded draw for partners in twos or threes depending on the number of competitors. If appropriate, there may be a two-tee start.
24. In the event of ties, the competition will be decided on the last 18, 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes. In the event of further ties, the competition will be decided on the back 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the first 18 holes submitted. If there is still a tie, it will remain a tie and the Trophy will be shared.
25. Each match, including the final, will consist of 18 holes and, in the event of a match being all square after 18 holes, competitors will continue to play until one or other shall have gained a hole, when the match shall be considered over.
26. Gross and nett trophies and prizes will be awarded on 36 holes.
27. Gross and nett scores from the first round go forward to the Autumn Meeting for the Aggregate and Club Trophies.

### **JOHNSTONE CUP**

28. The Handicap Index range is 12.5 to 20.4. If the entry is over-subscribed, those with the highest Handicap Index will be balloted out.
29. 18 holes of stroke play qualifying for the Johnstone Cup. The best gross 16 scores will qualify for a Knock-out Match Play Tournament by Automatic Draw. All players entering must be prepared to participate in the Johnstone Cup Match Play stages which are played off scratch.  
**Entries for the Qualifying round only are not allowed.**
30. There will be a banded draw for partners in twos or threes depending on the number of competitors. If appropriate, there may be a two-tee start.
31. Each match, including the final, will consist of 18 holes and, in the event of a match being all square after 18 holes, competitors will continue to play until one or other shall have gained a hole, when the match shall be considered over.
32. Gross and nett trophies and prizes will be awarded.

33. Gross and nett scores go forward to the Autumn Meeting for the Aggregate and Club Trophies.

### **SILVER SPRING CHALLENGE**

34. The upper Handicap Index is 20.4. If the entry is over-subscribed, those with the highest Handicap Index will be balloted out.
35. There will be a banded draw for partners in twos or threes depending on the number of competitors. If appropriate, there may be a two-tee start.
36. Gross and nett prizes will be awarded.
37. Gross and nett scores go forward to the Autumn Meeting for the Aggregate and Club Trophies.

### **PRIZE GIVING – COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP, JOHNSTONE CUP & SILVER SPRING CHALLENGE**

39. The prize giving for the County Championship and Johnstone Cup meetings will be held after the relevant finals.
40. The prize giving for the Silver Spring Challenge will be on completion of play.

### **SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP**

41. The upper Handicap Index is 36.4. Higher handicaps will be balloted out if oversubscribed.
42. The format will be an 18-hole Stroke-play competition.
43. All entrants must be aged 50 or over on the day of the competition.
44. There will be a banded draw for partners in twos or threes depending on the number of competitors. A two-tee start may be used if appropriate.
45. Gross and Nett prizes will be awarded.
46. Prize giving will take place at the Annual General Meeting.
47. Scores will not count towards any Aggregate Trophies.

### **BRONZE SPRING MEETING**

48. If the entry is over-subscribed, those with the highest Handicap Index will be balloted out.
49. There will be a banded draw for partners in twos or threes depending on the number of competitors. If appropriate, there may be a two-tee start.
50. Gross and nett trophies and prizes will be awarded to players in the Low Bronze Division. Nett trophies and prizes will be awarded to High Bronze players.

51. All scores go forward to the Autumn Meeting for the Aggregate Trophies. Only the stroke play scores from players in the Low Bronze Section go towards the Club Trophies.
52. Prize giving will be held on each day.
53. Low Bronze - Handicap Index 20.5 – 28.4. One day. 18 holes of stroke play.
54. High Bronze - Handicap Index 28.5 – 40.4. One day. 18 holes stableford.

### **INTERCLUB FOURSOMES**

55. Played in three divisions – Scratch, Silver Handicap and Bronze Handicap. Clubs may enter a pair in each Division. Entry forms for each Division will be sent to all affiliated Clubs.

Silver Handicap Division: Handicap Index up to 20.4. If a Club has entered a Silver Handicap pairing and one of the players withdraws through an extenuating circumstance before the 18 holes of stroke play, the Club may, in the absence of another Silver player being available, play a Bronze Division player off the Handicap Index Limit of 20.4.

Bronze Handicap Division: Players representing their club must have a Handicap Index between 20.5 – 36.4.

56. Day 1. 18 holes of foursomes stroke play.
  - a. Scratch. The 4 best gross scores qualify for the Knock-out Match Play Tournament on Day 2. The automatic draw will operate.
  - b. Silver and Bronze Handicap Divisions. Handicap allowance will be ½ combined Course Handicaps. The 4 best nett scores qualify for the Knock-out Match Play Tournament on Day 2. The automatic draw will operate.
57. Day 2. Each match, including the final, will consist of 18 holes and, in the event of a match being all square after 18 holes, competitors will continue to play until one or other shall have gained a hole, when the match shall be considered over.
  - a. Scratch. No handicap allowance.
  - b. Silver and Bronze Handicap Divisions. Handicap allowance will be ½ the difference of the combined Course Handicaps.

58. Prize giving will be held on completion of the finals with trophies and prizes being presented to each Division.

### **AUTUMN MEETING**

59. Silver Division – one day. Handicap Index up to 20.4. 18 holes stroke play.  
Low Bronze Division – one day. Handicap Index 20.5 – 28.4. 18 holes stroke play.  
High Bronze Division – one day. Handicap Index 28.5 – 40.4. 18 holes stableford.
60. There will be a draw for partners in twos or threes depending on the number of competitors. If appropriate, there may be a two-tee start.

61. If the entry in any Division is over-subscribed, those with the highest Handicap Index will be balloted out, provided they are not in contention for the Aggregate Trophies.
62. Players moving between handicap divisions (silver, low bronze and high bronze) will play on the day of their revised Handicap Index provided they originally showed intent to play.
63. All trophies and prizes won at the Autumn Meeting will be presented at the County Annual General Meeting.

### **SCRATCH KNOCKOUT COMPETITIONS**

64. The competition will be run in two divisions, silver and bronze, and will be known as the Humphreys Bowl and the Parkin Cup respectively. The competition in each division will be run off scratch.
65. All team members playing in the Humphreys Bowl must hold a silver division Handicap Index – Maximum 20.4.  
All team members playing in the Parkin Cup must hold a bronze division Handicap Index 20.5 or above.
66. Clubs may enter as many teams as they wish. An entry charge per team will be made.
67. Clubs must be affiliated members of the County.
68. A player who has played for one team may not play in any other for that year. All finalists must have played in a previous round.
69. The knockout draw for the first two rounds will be done at the beginning and redrawn thereafter up to and including the quarter final round. There will be no seeding. If byes are necessary, they will be included in the format of the knockout. They will be split as near as possible between the top and bottom of the draw. The club drawn on top of each match is the home team.
70. Each round comprises 3 singles matches played to a win or loss conclusion with no draws. In the event of either team having secured two wins a match may be called in and a halved match recorded for results purposes.
71. The date by which rounds have to be completed will be set by the County. No extensions will be given. The teams will fix a mutually acceptable date to play with the pre-set dates.
72. Both teams are responsible for making initial contact. The home team initially offering 4 dates (of which one must be a weekend) and not including the last day of the round. This must be kept free in case of course closures. Proposed dates should not include the opposition's Ladies' day.
73. Players must be prepared to play at weekends to accommodate a team that includes working ladies. Such that in discussion, teams must consider a weekend date. Conversely, a team with all working ladies cannot expect to play all games at the weekend.
74. If teams are unable to arrange a date of play, the County will impose a date.



75. If a course is unavailable or unplayable on the day in question for a home draw, then the match reverts to the opposition's course. If both courses are unplayable then the host Captain should re-arrange the match for another day.
76. The results are to be notified to the Interclub & Knockout Secretary within 2 days of the completion of the match. The Home Team Captain is responsible for sending the match sheet, signed by both Team Captains, to the Interclub & Knockout Secretary.
77. The host clubs for the semi-finals will be:
- a. Top Half of Draw. The club that is top of the bottom half of the draw.
  - b. Bottom Half of Draw. The club that is top of the top half of the draw.
78. The Final will be held during the first week of September subject to course availability.
79. A neutral venue for the finals will be determined by rota, drawn annually. All clubs that enter the scratch knockout competitions will be entered in the draw, with the following excluded in any one year:
- a. Host clubs for Interclub Semi-finals and Final.
  - b. Venues for National, SW Regional and County Meetings (County Championships, Bronze Spring, Interclub Foursomes, Autumn Meeting).
  - c. Not due by rota

### **INTER-CLUB CUP**

80. Definitions: Whenever one of the following definitions is used within the inter club section of the rules, the word is printed in italics.
- a. *Match*. A *match* consists of 7 **5** singles, each over the same 18 holes to be played on the same day.
  - b. *Game*. A singles match played over 18 holes.
  - c. *Playing Handicap*. A player's *Handicap Index* is adjusted under the Course & Slope Rating Table, to give the player a *Course Handicap*.
81. The Inter-Club Cup is an annual competition between affiliated Clubs in the County and is played on a round robin format in 4 divisions. *Matches* will be played on 18-hole courses only.
82. A team consists of seven players. The maximum *Handicap Index* is 20.4. Any Bronze Division players selected for a team, must play off the maximum permitted *Handicap Index* 20.4. *Matches* will be played under handicap, full difference of Course Handicap, and in Course Handicap order in the form of a tournament under the Rules of Golf.
83. If a Club withdraws from the competition before the 1<sup>st</sup> April of the playing year, which results in an imbalance in the four divisions, the Executive Committee shall have authority to make an adjustment to the draw sheet as to be fair to all participating Clubs.
84. *Matches* will be played between 1<sup>st</sup> April and 15<sup>th</sup> August. The dates of the *matches*, once fixed, should be adhered to and any club defaulting (unless the two Captains agree to a postponement within the allotted time) will concede 1 point. With regard to arranging matches, Rules 72 and 73 apply.

85. No extensions will be allowed beyond the closing date for each round.

86. The host clubs for the Semi-finals and Final are determined by rote. The Semi-finals and Final will be played between the 4 divisional winners at neutral courses determined by the annual draw.
87. Time of Starting: Penalty for Breach of Rule 5.3a: Disqualification, except in these three cases:  
**Exception 1 - Player arrives at starting point, ready to play, no more than five minutes late:** The player gets the *General Penalty* applied to his or her first hole.  
**Exception 2 – Player starts no more than five minutes early:** The player gets the General Penalty as above.  
**Exception 3 – If the Committee decides that Exceptional Circumstances prevented the player from starting on time:** There is no breach of this Rule and no penalty.  
 General Penalty: Loss of hole in *match play* or two penalty strokes in *stroke play*.
88. Scoring. One point shall be scored for each individual win or walkover. Individual *games* all square after 18 holes shall score half a point, except in the semi-finals and final, when all *games* must be played to a conclusion.
89. Points. Each Club shall score one point for a win and half a point for a *match* halved with another Club. The Club which has scored the most points in each division is the winner.
90. Ties. In the event of two or more Clubs scoring an equal number of points, the tie shall be decided on the individual *games* won. A further tie will be decided on the number of holes up.
91. Committee Decisions:
- a. If a team plays in the wrong *Course Handicap* order, all the affected individual *games* are forfeited.
  - b. If a team member plays off a higher *Handicap Index*, her individual *game* is forfeited. If the order of play is affected, then 'a' above also applies.
  - c. If any members of the team fail to appear on the day of a *match*, the opposing team will be awarded a walkover for any individual *game* not played. Captains are therefore advised to take reserves. If a reserve has to be substituted for an absent player, it must be done before lists have been exchanged as failure to do this may incur the penalty at 'a' above.
  - d. Individual *games* which are forfeited or awarded a walkover should be recorded on the score sheet as 10 holes up, i.e. 10/8.
92. Provided both Team Captains agree, once team sheets have been exchanged, the playing order of *games* may be changed.
93. The 'Home' Club is to send the *match* result sheet, clearly indicating *Handicap Index & Course Handicap*, and individual *game* results, duly agreed and signed by both Team Captains to the Interclub & Knockout Secretary on the day of the *match*. Any query concerning any aspect of the *match* must be referred to the Interclub & Knockout Secretary before the *match* sheet is signed.

#### **OVER 70's 9-HOLE STABLEFORD**

94. All entrants must be aged 70 or over on the day of the competition. If the entry is oversubscribed, those with the highest Handicap Index will be balloted out.
95. There will be a banded draw for partners in twos or threes depending on the number of competitors.
96. Prizes awarded for best Stableford points depending on the number of entries.
97. Prize giving will be held on the day.
98. A Handicap Index limit of 40.4.

### **BOWMAKER**

99. Stableford in 3s, two scores to count.
100. Prizes awarded depending on the number of entries.
101.
  - a. A Handicap Index limit of 36.4. Players who hold a Handicap Index 36.5-40.4 may play but off limit.
  - b. The Handicap Index of the player will be adjusted under the Course & Slope Rating Table to give the player a Course Handicap.
  - c. Handicap allowance will be applied to the Course Handicap following EG and WHS guidelines.
102. Prize giving will be held on the day.

**Appendix 1 to Rules & Conditions Terms of the Competitions**

**Governing all County Competitions COUNTY**

**TROPHIES**

TROPHY	MEETING/ EVENT	AWARDED TO	PRESENTED AT
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Huleatt Cup Eleanor Morris Dish Ivy Carrol Cup	County Champions hip County Champions hip County Champions hip	The Winner of the Match Play event (County Champion) The Runner Up of the Match Play event The best 36-hole gross score	County Champions hip County Champions hip County Champions hip
Carter Bowl Johnstone Cup Dees Salver Threlfall Cup	County Champions hip Johnstone Cup Johnstone Cup Johnstone Cup	The best 36-hole nett score The Winner of the Match Play event The Runner Up of the Match Play event The best 18-hole gross score	County Champions hip Johnstone Cup Johnstone Cup Johnstone Cup
Sugden Salver Centenary Bowl (EWGA) Holmes Cup Banister Cup Banister Runners Up Cup Cox Cup	Johnstone Cup Senior Champions hip Senior Champions hip Low Bronze Spring Meeting Low Bronze Spring Meeting Low Bronze Spring Meeting	The best 18-hole nett score The best 18-hole nett score The best 18-hole gross score The best gross score The best gross score runner up The best nett score	Johnstone Cup AGM AGM Low Bronze Spring Meeting Low Bronze Spring Meeting Low Bronze Spring Meeting

Sime Salver	Low Bronze Spring Meeting	The best nett score runner up	Low Bronze Spring
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Craig Trophy

High Bronze  
Spring  
Meeting

The best nett Stableford score

Meeting

De Gruchy  
Salver

High Bronze  
Spring  
Meeting

The best nett Stableford score Runner  
up

High  
Bronze  
Spring  
Meeting  
High  
Bronze  
Spring  
Meeting

Scratch Foursomes	Inter Club Foursomes	The winning pair of the match play event.	Inter Club Foursomes
Scratch 4/s Runners Up Salver  Silver Foursomes  Silver 4/s Runners Up Salver	Inter Club Foursomes  Inter Club Foursomes  Inter Club Foursomes	The losing Scratch finalists  The winning pair of the match play event.  The losing Silver finalists	Inter Club Foursomes  Inter Club Foursomes  Inter Club Foursomes
Bronze Foursomes	Inter Club Foursomes	The winning pair of the match play event.	Inter Club Foursomes
Bronze 4/s Runners Up Salver  Humphreys Bowl  Humphreys Runners Up Trophy  Parkin Cup  Parkin Runners Up Trophy  Inter Club Cup  Inter Club Runners Up Trophy  Felicity Eden Bowl	Inter Club Foursomes  Silver Team Scratch Knockout Silver Team Scratch  Knockout Bronze Team Scratch Knockout Bronze Team Scratch Knockout Silver Team Handicap Round Robin Silver Team Handicap Round Robin  Autumn Meeting	The losing Bronze finalists  The Winning Team  The Runners Up  The Winning Team  The Runners Up  The Winning Team  The Runners Up  The best gross score in the Silver Division	Inter Club Foursomes  At Final  At Final  At Final  At Final  At Final  AGM



Janet Holmes Salver	Autumn Meeting	The best gross score in the Low Bronze Division	AGM
Olive James Salver	Autumn Meeting	The best stableford score in the High Bronze Division	AGM

Dorset Sword	Aggregate	The two best nett Silver and two best nett Low Bronze stroke play Scores at the Spring Meetings (includes Johnstone Cup, 1st round of the Championship or Silver Spring Challenge)	AGM
Graham-Jones Salver	Aggregate	The three best gross Silver and Low Bronze Division stroke play scores of any individual club at the Autumn Meeting	AGM
Arkell Shield	Aggregate	The three best nett Silver and Low Bronze Division stroke play scores of any individual club at the Autumn Meeting	AGM
Edward Arkell Cup	Aggregate	The Silver Division player with the best gross aggregate stroke play scores from the Spring Autumn Meetings (includes Johnstone Cup 1st round of the Championship or Silver Spring Challenge)	AGM
Bertram Bisgood Cup	Aggregate	The Silver Division player with the best nett aggregate stroke play scores from the Spring and Autumn Meetings (includes Johnstone Cup, 1st round of Championship or Silver Spring Challenge)	AGM
Elliot Cup	Aggregate	The Low Bronze player with the best gross aggregate stroke play scores from the Spring and Autumn Meetings	AGM
Dixon Cup	Aggregate	The Low Bronze player with the best nett aggregate stroke play score from the Spring and Autumn Meetings	AGM
Russell Salver	Aggregate	The High Bronze player with the best aggregate stableford score from the Spring and Autumn Meetings	AGM

Beard Salver	Autumn	The Veteran returning the best gross stroke play score at the Autumn Meeting	AGM
Blythe Trophy	Autumn	The Veteran returning the best nett stableford score at the Autumn Meeting	AGM

Over 70's Salver	Over 70's 9-hole Stableford	Winner with the best Stableford Score over 9-holes	Over 70's Competiti on
Over 75's Challenge Trophy	Spring and Autumn	The lady aged 75 or over returning the best nett aggregate stableford scores at the Spring and Autumn Meetings. If there are no entrants from both events, it will be awarded to the best nett score returned from either the Spring or Autumn Meeting. (includes Johnstone Cup, 1st round of the Championship or Silver Spring Challenge)	AGM
Lloyd Wilson Cup	All County Competitions	Order of Merit trophy awarded to the most successful club returning the best results across all divisions in both Strokeplay and Matchplay Competitions during the year. This is achieved by a points system for actual winners and Runners-Up	AGM

#### Notes

1. For the purpose of the Blythe Trophy. Stroke play scores will be converted to stableford points.
2. Where there is a tie for an Aggregate Trophy the trophy will be shared.
3. Bronze and Silver players must be in the same Division for both rounds to qualify for aggregate cups.
4. A veteran may, in addition to any Autumn Meeting or aggregate trophies/prizes awarded, win more than one Veteran Trophy but not more than one Veteran Prize.