

# KC Cup Conditions of Competition

## 2021 Men's Competition

**Spirit of the Competition.** The KC Cup is designed to foster spirited competition among golfers of all walks of life. The conditions of the competition are written to provide a fair playing field for all clubs, public and private.

Notwithstanding any other provision of these conditions, a team or player may at any time be disqualified from the competition and prohibited from participation in future competitions at the discretion of the Rules and Competition Committee, for repeated actions that violate the spirit of the game of golf, even if those actions do not of themselves violate any Rules of Golf. Examples of such conduct are repeated violations of the Etiquette section of the Rules of Golf by a player, statements made to an opponent suggesting that the player making the statements is ineligible for the competition, and any other gamesmanship whose purpose is to inflame one's opponent while having no direct bearing on the match being played.

### 1. **Administration of the Competition.**

(a) Ultimate responsibility for administration of the Competition rests with the Rules and Competition Committee of Central Links Golf.

(b) The Committee may appoint a Coordinator of the Competition, who shall be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Competition, and who shall have the authority to resolve disputes regarding the interpretation of these Conditions.

(c) Any Team Captain dissatisfied with a decision of the Coordinator may appeal by submitting a written notice to the Executive Director of Central Links Golf. The Executive Director may, in his or her discretion, refer the appeal for resolution by the Committee. In either event, the decision of Central Links Golf, whether made by the Executive Director or the Committee, shall be final.

(d) The Central Links Golf President may also appoint a KC Cup Advisory Council to provide advice and recommendations to the Rules and Competition Committee for the ongoing improvement of the Competition.

2. **Format.** The Competition shall consist of Rounds in which one club plays against another club. Each Round shall in turn consist of eleven (11) matches, each of which is worth one Match Point. The winner of each Round shall be the team that has won the most Match Points.

### 3. **Eligibility.**

(a) **Teams.**

(i) Any Kansas City area Central Links Golf member club in good standing with an active and certified handicap committee may enter one or multiple teams into the competition. In the event club enters multiple teams all golfers (professionals and amateurs) must declare which team they will be representing during a particular calendar year. No player (amateur or professional) will be allowed to play for multiple teams from one club. A handicap committee shall be "certified" by providing to Central Links Golf a list of its members upon request. In addition, at least one member of the

committee must have attended a USGA Handicap Seminar. A club that fails to certify its handicap committee shall not be eligible until its handicap committee has been certified.

- (ii) All members of every team must meet the individual eligibility criteria set forth below. Captains have 48 hours following the completion of a match to log a complaint with the KC Cup Coordinator regarding ineligible players participating in a match. The existing policy will only be enforced up to 48 hours following the match.
- (iii) If an ineligible player participates in a Match, his team shall forfeit that Match. If the Committee determines that the player knowingly participated in a Match while ineligible, the Committee may, in its discretion, disqualify the player from the Competition for the remainder of the year, and/or disqualify the player from the Competition for the following year.
- (iv) If the Committee determines a club knowingly used an ineligible player, the Committee may, in its discretion, (a) declare the club to have forfeited the Round in which the ineligible player participated, (b) disqualify the club from the Competition for the remainder of the year, and/or (c) suspend the club from participation in the Competition for the following year.
  - (b) Amateurs.
    - (i) Age. All players must be at least 25 years of age at the time of the Match. All players participating as a senior must be at least 50 years of age at the time of their Match. All players participating as a Super Senior must be at least 60 years of age at the time of their Match.
    - (ii) Limit on Number of Clubs Represented. No player may compete for more than one club during a particular calendar year.
    - (iii) Women. Amateurs who are women may play in any match only if the facility they represent does not have a team participating in the Women's KC Cup and she meets all eligibility requirements. All women will play the same tees as the men and the World Handicap System adjusts the handicap appropriately for all handicap matches.
    - (iv) Handicap Index. All players must have an active USGA Handicap Index established at the club they represent.
    - (v) Maximum Handicap Index. If a player in a Handicap Match has an USGA Handicap Index that exceeds 18.1, he will play in that match with an index of 18.1.
    - (vi) Amateur Status. Payment of the team's entry fee and the cost of uniforms or travel expenses for a player do not violate the USGA Rules of Amateur Status.
    - (vii) Number of Scores Posted. All players must have posted home course scores at the club they represent pursuant to the following schedule. Scores posted for a KC Cup Match may not be counted.

Date of Match	Minimum # of Home Course Scores Posted After March 1, 2021
Before May 5	1
May 6-May 26	2
May 27-June 16	3
June 17-July 7	4
July 8-July 28	6
July 29-August 18	8
After August 18	10

(viii) **Waiver of Score Posting Requirement.** The Committee may, in its discretion, and upon timely request, modify or waive the above schedule for teams whose home courses are closed during part or all of a year.

(ix) **Active Military Personnel Waiver.** Any active military personnel that are transferred into the Kansas City area during the KC Cup season, are exempt from the minimum number of Home scores posted requirement. In addition, the Handicap ID number may be transferred from any previous club.

(c) **Professionals.** Professionals may play only in the Professional/Amateur Four Ball Match. Any professional must:

(i) Be a full-time employee or an exclusive contractor of the club he or she represents at the time of any Match in which he or she participates; and

(ii) Be certified by the Central Links Golf Rules & Competition Committee. To be certified the Team Captain must submit the names of the club’s professionals to the KC Cup Coordinator by April 1. Additionally, a professional’s name may be submitted for certification after April 1, but no professional shall be certified after August 1. If a professional’s certification is rejected or rescinded, the team captain will be notified by email. A list of all certified professionals will be posted on the Central Links Golf website.

(iii) **Age.** All professionals must be 25 years of age, unless he or she is a member of or registered in the PGA or LPGA apprentice program, in which case there is no age requirement.

(d) **Right to Audit.** By participating in the KC Cup, a club grants Central Links Golf the right to enter onto its premises at any time during normal business hours and review any records Central Links Golf deems, within its sole discretion, to be necessary to determine the eligibility of any player or team. If the Central Links Golf Rules & Competition Committee determines any club has refused to make its records available, or has otherwise impeded any requested audit, the Committee may impose whatever disciplinary action it deems appropriate, up to and including a permanent expulsion from eligibility to participate in the Competition.

4. **Entries.**

(a) The entry fee is \$650.00 per team and must be paid to Central Links Golf with the official entry form.

(b) Entries will be accepted beginning at 9 a.m. on January 6, 2021. The deadline for entries is March 8, 2021 at 3 p.m. CST. Entries must be received in the Central Links Golf office to be considered filed. Any entries hand-delivered to the Central Links Golf office must be physically handed to a member of the Central Links Golf staff, i.e., entries may not be left at the Central Links Golf exterior door outside of normal business hours.

5. **Field Composition and Size.**

(a) Teams will be placed into divisions of four, unless an odd number of teams applies, in which case the Competition Committee will determine the size of the divisions.

(b) Teams will be entered into the competition in order of received paid entry.

(c) The 2021 field shall be comprised of 25 teams.

6. **Team Captain.**

(a) **Designation.** Each team shall designate a Team Captain. The Team Captain shall be identified on the club's entry form; any change of the Team Captain must be communicated to Central Links Golf

(b) The Team Captain may designate one or more team members to fulfill his responsibilities when the Team Captain is not available.

(c) **Duties.** The Team Captain shall have the following responsibilities:

(i) Attendance at the mandatory Captains' Meeting, either in person or through another member of his team designated by the Team Captain;

(ii) Communication with the Coordinator and opposing Team Captains regarding Round scheduling and other matters;

(iii) Submission of the team's lineup to the opposing Team Captain before each Round;

(iv) Representation of the club in all disputes or claims;

(v) Certification of the eligibility of each member of his team;

(vi) Attesting of the Score Report and reporting the results of each Round; and

(d) The Team Captain or his designee may not give advice to members of his team, except when the Team Captain is playing in a Match with a partner, Rule 24.4c.

7. **Grouping of Teams.**

(a) The grouping of teams shall be by blind draw, with no adjustments, and shall be conducted at the Team Captains' meeting will be scheduled for March 17.

(b) Teams shall be placed into divisions based on final number of entries received. Prior to the draw, teams shall be placed into one pot and drawn at random, ensuring the stipulations listed above are met per division.

8. **Team Composition.**

(a) Clubs may use as many eligible players during the year as they deem appropriate.

(b) Teams shall designate 18 players for each Round, who shall play the following Matches:

(i) One Professional/Amateur Four-Ball Match played at scratch. The team for this match may consist of any combination of professionals and amateurs.

(ii) One Senior (50+) Singles Match played at scratch.

(iii) One Senior (50+) Singles Match played with handicaps (Maximum index of 9.0)

(iv) One Open Singles Match played at scratch.

(v) One Open Singles Match played with handicaps (Maximum index of 9.0)

(vi) One Super Senior (60+) Four-ball match played with handicaps, team index maximum of 25.0

(vii) One Senior (50+) Four-Ball Match played with handicaps, team index maximum of 25.0.

(viii) Two Four-Ball Matches played with handicaps, with no age restrictions on the players, team index maximum of 25.0.

(ix) One Senior (50+) / Open Four-Ball Match played at scratch, Open player from the scratch tees Senior player from the handicap tees.

(x) One Open Four-Ball Match played at scratch.

9. **Scheduling.**

(a) Number of Rounds. Each team shall six Rounds within in its division, three home matches and three away matches. Central Links Golf shall announce the schedules, and the deadline for each Round to be played, at the pre-season mandatory Captain's meeting.

(b) Impact of Course Closure. If a team will be unable to play one or more of its home Rounds as scheduled due to anticipated renovations that will result in the closure of its course, its Team Captain shall notify Central Links Golf as soon as possible so the schedules may be revised.

(c) Scheduling of Rounds. After the announcement of the divisions' composition at the Captain's Meeting, time shall be set aside for Captains within a division to meet and discuss potential

schedules for Rounds. All Rounds must be scheduled and submitted no later than April 5, 2021 to the KC Cup Coordinator. At the mandatory captains meeting:

- (i) Offering Date. The captain of the home team shall select three potential dates for a Round and advise the captain of the visiting team of those dates by the Offering Date set forth in the Scheduling Chart attached to these Conditions. Unless specifically agreed by both captains or as mandated by Central Links Golf, no Round may begin prior to noon.
- (ii) Selection Date. The captain of the visiting team shall choose one of the three potential dates, and advise the home team captain of the date chosen by the Selection Date set forth in the Scheduling Chart.
- (iii) Rain Date. On or before the Selection Date, the captains shall also establish a Rain Date upon which the Round shall be played and/or completed in the event inclement weather causes the postponement or suspension of a Round. In the event inclement weather prevents the playing of a Round on the selected Rain Date, each captain must provide within two business days of the Rain Date to the Coordinator five potential Make-Up dates for the Match to be played. The potential Make-Up dates must be within two weeks of the Rain Date. The Coordinator shall then establish the Make-Up Date. If inclement weather prevents play on the Make-Up Date, the process shall be repeated until the Round is played.
- (iv) Notification Date. Both captains shall notify the KC Cup Coordinator of the date selected for the Round, and the Rain Date, by April 1, 2021.

(d) Inclement Weather/Suspension of Play. The following procedures shall be followed in the event a Round, once begun, is delayed due to inclement weather or other reasons that justify a suspension in play:

- (i) No Match may be postponed until there has been a waiting period of at least one hour from the time play was scheduled to begin or the time the Match was suspended. If conditions improve such that play may be resumed within that one hour period, the Match shall begin or resume as the case may be. The captains may, by agreement, extend the waiting period.

If a Match has not started:

If a match has not started, it shall be rescheduled on the pre-determined Rain Date. If a match has not started players may be substituted as long as they meet the eligibility requirements. The current handicap index at the date the match is played is the one to be used for handicap matches.

- (ii) If a Match has been started then suspended:

If a match has been started, and then suspended due to inclement weather, no player may be substituted; all original players are required to finish the match. It is the responsibility of those players involved in the match to agree upon a date to finish the match. Any suspended Match shall be resumed from the point at which play was suspended (Rule 5.7c). If necessary, individual Matches may be resumed at different times, so long as all Matches are completed by the applicable deadline. If it is not feasible for players to start from the point where play was suspended (because, for instance, the course must start players from the 1<sup>st</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> tees), they may play informally until they reach the point where

the Match is to resume. The handicap index that was used at the start of the match, before it was suspended, is the handicap index to be used for the completion of the match, regardless if a new handicap revision is available.

- (iii) If a Match is postponed, it shall begin or resume at a time and date each side agrees upon. If a mutually agreed upon date cannot be determined, then the Match must be started or resumed on the pre-determined Rain Date. If a side is unable to play on the Rain Date, then it shall forfeit the Match.
- (iv) In the event any Round is postponed, the Coordinator shall be notified by the close of the next business day, and advised of the Round's status at the time play was postponed.

10. **Administration of Rounds.** Team captains are expected to administer Rounds and make good faith efforts to resolve any rules disputes without involving the Coordinator or the Committee. However, if a dispute cannot be resolved, the team captains should contact Central Links Golf, so long as doing so does not unduly delay a Match or Round.

11. **Match Procedures.**

- (a) **Rules.** All play shall be according to the 2019 Rules of Golf and the Local Rules of the host club (where not in conflict with the Rules of Golf).
- (b) **Form of Play.** All Matches shall be contested at match play, over a round of 18 holes.
- (c) **Handicaps.** The following procedures shall be used in Handicap Matches.
  - (i) Players in Handicap Matches are responsible for knowing their correct USGA Handicap Index as of the day **before** Round unless captains agree on a different revision date. (See Rule 3.2c(2))
  - (ii) Each player in a Handicap Match shall receive 80% of his Course Handicap. (The Course Handicap is determined from the host course's Handicap Chart.)
  - (iii) The player with the lowest Course Handicap shall play at scratch, and the other player(s) in the match shall play at the difference between their handicaps and the player with the lowest handicap.
  - (iv) Players entitled to handicap strokes shall take them in the order designated on the scorecard.
  - (v) Handicap Four-ball matches are played with a team maximum index of 25.0.
- (d) **Lineups.** The visiting team shall provide their lineup to the home team at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the first starting time (including Rounds that begin or are to be completed on a Rain Date or Make-Up Date). The home team will then exchange their lineup with the visiting team at this time. Once lineups have been exchanged, no changes shall be allowed unless due to illness, injury or other extenuating circumstances that prevent a player from participating in the Match for which he was scheduled. In such an event, the player whose circumstances necessitated the change shall not be permitted to participate in the Round.
- (e) **Starting Times.** The home team shall set aside between 60 and 90 minutes for starting times. The order of the Matches may be played in any order upon agreement of the captains. If an agreement cannot be reached, the order of the Matches shall be as follows:

- (i) Professional/Amateur Four-ball
- (ii) Senior Singles Matches (Scratch and Handicap)
- (iii) Open Singles Matches (Scratch and Handicap)
- (iv) Super Senior Handicap Four-ball
- (v) Senior Handicap Four-ball
- (vi) Handicap Four-ball 1
- (vii) Handicap Four-ball 2
- (viii) Senior/Open Four ball
- (ix) Open Four-ball

(Note: Players in the singles matches are not partners and are therefore not permitted to request advice from or give advice to one another, Rule 10.2a.)

(f) Tees. Central Links Golf shall confirm the tees from which all Matches will be played as designated by each Club on their entry form and shall notify the captains of the designated tees at the pre-season Captains' Meeting. Tees to be played:

Scratch Tee Matches	Handicap Tee Matches
Open Scratch Singles	Senior Scratch Singles
Open Handicap Singles	Senior Handicap Singles
Professional/Amateur Four-ball	Super Senior Handicap Four-ball
Scratch Four-ball	Senior Handicap Four-ball
	Open Handicap Four-ball # 1
	Open Handicap Four-ball # 2

In the Open/Senior Scratch Four-ball match, the Open player will play the scratch tees and the senior will play the handicap tees. If two seniors play in this match, one must play the scratch tees and the other must play the handicap tees. Two open players may not play as partners in this match.

Female professionals and senior (50+) professionals shall play from the handicap tees.

(g) Scoring. The winner of each Match scores one Match Point for his team. If, at the end of 18 holes, a Match is tied, each team shall receive one-half Match Point. There will be no playoff for Rounds which end in a tie during the regular season.

(h) Ties in Playoff Rounds. If teams are tied (5 ½ to 5 ½) at the conclusion of a Playoff Round, there shall be a playoff using the following procedure:



- (i) There shall be three sudden-death playoffs, involving the teams' regular singles *scratch* players, the Senior singles *scratch* players and the Handicap # 1 Four-Ball team.
- (ii) Each playoff shall be worth one point, and the team winning two points shall win the Round.
- (iii) All playoffs shall begin on the same tee(s) designated for the match.
  - (i) Forfeits.
    - (i) Any team that wins a Round by forfeit shall be deemed to have won seven Match Points in the Round.
    - (ii) A team that forfeits a Round may be subject to suspension from the Competition for one year, at the discretion of the Committee.
  - (j) Reporting of Results.
    - (i) Individual Player Responsibility. Each player in a Singles Match, and at least one player per side in all other Matches, is required to report the Match result to the home course's golf shop immediately following a Match. In addition, each player's individual score must be reported (either by the player himself or his partner). Failure of a player to report his score will result in the posting of a penalty score equal to the lowest differential in the player's scoring record. A player who does not complete a hole must determine his most likely score for the hole in accordance with Rule 3.3 of the USGA Rules of Handicapping and should ensure that his opponent(s) agree with that score. Scores for holes not played shall be determined in accordance with Rule 3.2 of the USGA Rules of Handicapping.
    - (ii) Team Captain Responsibility. The home Team Captain (or representative of the team) shall report to the KC Cup Coordinator all results and scores via an attested scoring report within 48 hours of completion of the Round to the KC Cup Coordinator. The report shall be submitted by email to [todd@clgolf.org](mailto:todd@clgolf.org), using only the official KC Cup Results form, provided to the captain at the Mandatory meeting. Failure to report within the specified time will result in a loss of the Round's points, and the deduction of a win from the team's overall record.

12. **Score Posting.** In accordance with Rule 2 of the USGA Rules of Handicapping, all amateur players other than professionals, are required to post an 18-hole score if they play at least 14 holes, and a nine-hole score if they play 13 holes or less. Scores must be posted to the individual's scoring history on the date of the match

(a) The Committee may, after the conclusion of each Round, conduct a random audit to verify that players' have been accurately posted.

(b) Failure to post a score or posting an incorrect score may result in an adjustment of the Round by deducting 1 point from the team's total points for the Round. The Committee shall also post a penalty score equal to the affected player's lowest differential in his scoring record. All incorrect scores must be corrected.

13. **Regular Season Standings.** The winning team of a Round shall receive three (3) Division Points. If a Round ends in a tie, each team shall receive one and a half (1 ½) Division Points. Teams shall be ranked within divisions in the order of their Division Points.

14. **Playoffs.**

(a) **Qualification.** The top 3 teams of each division will comprise the field of 15 teams that will qualify for the playoffs. The overall number one seed will receive a bye to the Quarterfinals. The round of 16 and the Quarterfinals will be played at the better seed's home course. The semi-finals will be a home and home series with the championship being played at a neutral site to be determined by Central Links Golf.

(b) **Seeding.** The division winners will be seeded (1-5) and the second-place teams will be seeded (6-10), the third-place teams will be seeded (11-15). Ties within a division will be broken first, then tiebreakers will be applied to teams across divisions for overall seeding.

(c) **Breaking Ties for Division Champions, Runners Up and Third Place.** If two teams in a division end the regular season with the same number of Division Points, the tie shall be broken based on the following criteria, in order of their application:

- (i) Head-to-head Division Points earned;
- (ii) Head-to-head Match Points earned;
- (iii) Most overall Match Points earned;
- (iv) Most points earned in all Open Singles Matches;
- (v) Most points earned in all Senior Singles Matches;
- (vi) Most points earned in Open Handicap Singles Matches;
- (vii) Most points earned in Senior Handicap Singles Matches;
- (viii) Most points earned in all Super Senior Handicap matches;
- (ix) Most points earned in all Professional/Amateur Four-ball matches;
- (x) Most points earned in all Senior Handicap Four-Ball matches;
- (xi) Most points earned in all Handicap Four-ball # 1 matches;
- (xii) Most points earned in all Handicap Four-ball # 2 matches;
- (xiii) Most points earned in all Senior/Open Four-ball matches;
- (xiv) Most points earned in all Open Four-ball matches;
- (xv) Lot.

(d) Breaking Ties for Seeded Positions. If two or more teams are tied for a seeded position at the end of the regular season, the tie shall be broken based on the following criteria, in order of their application:

- (i) Most overall Match Points earned;
- (ii) Most points earned in all Open Singles Matches;
- (iii) Most points earned in all Senior Singles Matches;
- (iv) Most points earned in Open Handicap Singles Matches;
- (v) Most points earned in Senior Handicap Singles Matches;
- (vi) Most points earned in all Super Senior Handicap matches;
- (vii) Most points earned in all Professional/Amateur Four-ball matches;
- (viii) Most points earned in all Senior Handicap Four-Ball matches;
- (ix) Most points earned in all Handicap Four-ball # 1 matches;
- (x) Most points earned in all Handicap Four-ball # 2 matches;
- (xi) Most points earned in all Senior/Open Four-ball matches;
- (xii) Most points earned in all Open Four-ball matches;
- (xiii) Lot.

(e) Determination of Home Team. The round of 16 and quarterfinal rounds are hosted by the team with the better seed. The Semifinal will be played as a home and home series, with the team accumulating the most points over the two rounds advancing to the finals. The finals shall be played at a neutral site.

15. **Practice Rounds.** A home club may, but is not required, to provide an upcoming opponent the opportunity to play the home club's course prior to a Match during the regular season. In the event a Playoff Round will be played on a club's home course, the home club is strongly encouraged to offer a practice round to its opponent. If a practice round is offered, the following guidelines should be followed:

(a) Only the Golf Professional or Captain of the visiting team may call the home club to request tee times or make any other necessary arrangements.

(b) The Home Club's normal guest or green fees shall apply.

(c) **Cart and Guest/Green Fees/Caddies.** Players may walk, use carts or use a caddie during a Match. The home club shall provide carts at no charge to the visiting club. No greens fees or guest fees may be charged for Matches by the home club.

16. **Uniforms.** Central Links Golf shall provide each team with 24 customized hats.
17. **Dress Code.** Players shall adhere to the dress code of the home team's club. The home team is responsible for notifying the visiting team of the applicable dress code.