

**BAWBURGH GOLF CLUB - MEN'S SECTION**  
**RULES FOR 2023 ALEX BIRRELL PAIRS KNOCKOUT TROPHY**

1. The competition will run from April through to September each calendar year, or as determined by the Men's Section Committee. Any matches that are cancelled or abandoned due to weather conditions shall be rearranged in accordance with the Men's Section Bad Weather Policy.
2. The Rules of Golf, plus any Bawburgh Golf Club Local Rules at the time of the competition, will apply.
3. The Competition will be open to all male members of Bawburgh Golf Club, except for juniors aged 10 or under, with an official WHS Handicap Index as at the date of the first-round draw, and who have played in at least **8 Handicap Qualifying Competitions**, Appeals will be heard by MSC for any new members transferring in from away clubs, and new members, reviewing each case on its merits during the 12 months prior to the draw.
4. The Competition will be in the form of a foursomes knock-out competition, with each match drawn and being decided over 18 holes match-play, with stroke allowances applying, from the white tees.

In the event of a tie after 18 holes, additional holes will be played from the first hole onwards under match-play conditions, with stroke allowances applying, until one pair wins a hole.

5. The WHS Handicap Index for the Competition will be limited to 36.0, however members with a higher Handicap Index may still enter but will be required to use a Handicap Index of 36.0.

Pairs will be allocated a combined Playing Handicap based upon 50% of their calculated Course Handicap on the day of the match.

The stroke allowance for the competition will be 100% of the difference between the combined Playing Handicaps of each pair.

6. Players may enter by adding their names to the entry list as issued by the Men's Section Committee
7. The entry fee, as specified by the Men's Section Committee, **must** be paid prior to the first-round draw; if not paid, then the player will not be entered in the draw.

All names appearing on the entry list, and having paid their entry fee, will be entered and the order of matches will be decided by one straight draw, without seeding, conducted or overseen by the Men's Section Captain and/or Vice-Captain and published by the Golf Office.

8. There will be no waiver of any additional green fee payable by 5-day or non-peak members, nor will any concession be made to those who have a points membership by virtue of the fact that they need to use more points because of the day or time the match is to be played.
9. All matches in each round must be played before a stipulated closing date. The players shall arrange the match at a mutually convenient time but, if one pair advises the other that they are unable to play a) on a weekday, the match shall be played on a weekend, and/or b) at an off-peak time, the match shall be played at a peak time.

It will be the responsibility of the **first drawn pair** to offer three dates for the match to be played. That contact **should** be made within 10 days of the commencement of the round, and contact **should** be acknowledged by the other pair within 4 days.

If the match is not played due to failure to make contact or acknowledge that contact in accordance with this rule, or if one pair advises the other that they are unable or unwilling to play before the stipulated closing date, that pair will forfeit the match by default.

If, for any other reason, the match fails to take place by the specified closing date, both pairs will be disqualified. There will be **no extensions** to the specified closing dates, unless due to course or weather conditions and as declared by the Men's Section Committee.

10. Buggies may be used during any round of the Competition, subject to course conditions allowing, but no extension to the specified closing date will be granted on the basis that buggies were not allowed.

11. In the event of a dispute, the players should advise the Golf Office at the end of the round and ask for a ruling. If the Golf Office is unable to make a ruling, then the Men's Section Captain and Vice-Captain will settle, and their decision will be final and binding.
12. No official scorecards are required for this Competition, but it is recommended that both pairs keep a record of the scores to avoid or resolve any later dispute.
13. The winners of the Alex Birrell Knockout Pairs Trophy will be the pair winning the match within 18 holes, or winning the play-off, in the final.
14. Prizes will be awarded to the winners, runners-up and losing semi-finalists, as agreed and specified by the Men's Section Committee before the first-round draw and based upon the number of entrants.  
  
The winners will also have their names added to the Men's Section honour board and will represent Bawburgh Golf Club in Daily Mail Foursomes in following calendar year.
15. Players reaching the "round of 16" and beyond will be awarded points in the annual Order of Merit competition, in accordance with allocations agreed and published.