

BAWBURGH GOLF CLUB - MEN'S SECTION
RULES FOR 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, and who have 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, 5 of which need to be played at BGC** 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, and players will be allocated a Playing Handicap based on 100% of their exact Course Handicap on the day of the match. Members with a higher Handicap Index may still enter but will be required to use a Handicap Index of 36.0.

The stroke allowance for the Competition will be 50% 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. Playing partners may be changed from the original entry, but only prior to the pairs first game of the competition. However no refund will be given to any player or players unable to play once the draw has been made.
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, carried out by the golf office and if possible overseen by a member of the Men's Section Committee.

8. There will be a 50% concession of any additional green fees payable by a 5-day or non-peak member, but no concession will be made to a player who has a points membership by virtue of the fact that he needs to use more points due to 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 all players to agree 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. The committee reserves the right to grant will an **extension but only in exceptional circumstances** to the specified closing dates, and 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.

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 Captain and Vice-Captain will adjudicate, 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, losing semi-finalists and losing quarter 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 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 PG Order of Merit competition, in accordance with allocations agreed and published.
16. The winners will also qualify for The Champion of Champions competition in the next calendar year.

Updated 31/3/2026 and remains current until further notice.