

O'Grady Cup Rules 2026

Rules for O'Grady Cup Competition agreed at AGM held at Forrest Little Golf Club on Wednesday 11th March 2026

Players limited to FULL MEMBERS, ASSOCIATE MEMBERS and 5-DAY MEMBERS in BOTH CATEGORIES

Teams shall consist of 5 pairs (each consisting of 1 male and 1 female player)

Any person who plays in The Irish Mixed Foursomes Competition will not be eligible to compete. (Subs. who do not actually play on the Irish Mixed Foursomes Team and meet the Handicap conditions for this Cup, can of course participate).

Handicaps: Minimum Male 10, Female 20. To be eligible players must have a combined Handicap Index not lower than 30.0 (players with a combined Handicap Index of 29.9 are not eligible) and have combined maximum Handicap Index of 48.0 (players with a combined Index of 48.1 are not eligible) on Date of Play.

***Managers must have a list of their teams and their Handicap indices as and From Jan1st 2026 available to the opposing manager on match day-Committee decision 28/3/2024**

Playing Handicap: A player must have a valid Handicap index on **1st January**. The players Qualifying Handicap **on THE DAY OF PLAY** must use their **current handicap Index** to calculate their Course Handicap on the day. The pair's Playing Handicap is 50% of their combined Course Handicaps. The maximum number of strokes given or received in any one match shall not exceed 9.

Regulations:

- 1.** The competition is foursomes' match play
- 2.** 3 pairs shall play at the home venue (top of the draw) and 2 pairs at the away.
- 3.** Males drive at the odd numbered holes; Females drive at even number holes.
- 4.** Players must play using their current Handicap Index in combined Playing Handicap order at each venue.
- 5.** Pairs playing at home have the honour on tee.
- 6.** A match is won when one side leads another by a number of holes greater than the number remaining to be played. If there is a tie the round is extended by as many holes as are required for a match to be won.
- 7. Up to the final** All matches must be played to a finish unless one team has already won.
- 8. The final** is played over **two legs** the **top team** in the draw having the option to have home advantage in the first or second leg, Matches halved only during the final can be counted to avoid extra play off holes unless still level.

If after the 5th match on second leg {10th match including Both Legs} the result is 5 wins each. (All square)

The final match is treated as still alive and only those two pairs can continue until there is an eventual overall winner.

9. For permission to use a buggy, please refer to the Golf Ireland Transportation Policy

10. Suspension of play.

The results of matches already played stand. Remaining matches shall be played on an agreed date. Players who had already started may not be substituted and must continue from the hole at which play was suspended.

Players may be substituted for any match that had not started.

11. The Result must be communicated to the Competition Secretary as soon as possible to allow teams arrange the next Match to be played by due date.

12. Extensions of match completion dates will only be allowed were

- a match was postponed due to course closure
- a match was postponed due to a sudden bereavement within the club,
- an exceptional circumstance arises