

22. Open competitions (other than Championships): clubs hosting an open singles competition MUST have the 36 nett as the first prize in each gents grade. There cannot be any local or visitors prize at any open competition. All players will compete for the same prizes.
Definition: An open competition is one where players from more than two clubs may compete.
- 22.1 Handicap adjustment for prize winners shall be applied immediately by the promoting club, on the basis of the SRS. The promoting club shall within seven days notify the Central Office of:
- (i) The SRS for gents and/or ladies.
 - (ii) The player's score.
 - (iii) The handicap adjustment made.
 - (iv) List of prize winners, their club handicaps, and registration numbers.
- The Central Office shall transmit this information to the appropriate registrars and clubs.
- (v) Clubs that give out prizes to winners without first checking registration cards and marking same will lose the following years open.
- 22.2 To get the SRS for gents competition, drop the overall Nett Prize Score and then add the 36 nett of the senior, intermediate and junior gents grades together, and divide by six.
 Example: Senior Nett 92 + Inter Nett 86 + Junior Nett 89 = 267 / 6 = 44.5 (Disregard fractions).
 SRS = 44. For 36 and 54 holes multiply by 2 and 3 respectively, subject to maximum SRS of 90.
 Each winner is cut a mandatory one shot for winning and one shot for three strokes below SRS, up to a maximum of two shots for 36 and 54 holes prize winners with no additional cut for 18 hole prize winners. If a player beats the SRS by four or more shots, then a review of the cut must take place.
 A gent player will not be cut a shot in an open singles competition if he wins a prize but does not break the SRS. If the player wins more than one prize in open competitions off the same handicap and does not break the SRS he **will** be cut one shot.
- 22.3 Gents with handicap of -2 or -3 who win a first prize whether open or confined to grade shall have their handicap reduced by one stroke.
- (i) Gents with a handicap of -1 must:
 - win three open prizes off this handicap before being further reduced by one stroke, or
 - win six competitions in open foursomes, threeball or fourball, or any combination of the above before being further reduced in handicap. It is mandatory for committees in charge of competitions to record such wins, whether with cuts or not, on competitors' registration card.
 - (ii) Gents with a handicap of -4 must:
 - win three open prizes off his handicap before being further reduced by one stroke, or
 - win six competitions in open foursomes, threeball or fourball, or any combination of the above before being further reduced in handicap. It is mandatory for committees in charge of competitions to record such wins, whether with cuts or not, on competitors' registration card.
- 22.4 Ladies: adjustments to handicap shall be effected by the following SRS. The SRS is determined as follows: Best 36 Gents Senior nett score plus 4, subject to a maximum SRS of 93. Ladies who beat the SRS and win will be cut by one shot. Ladies who win and do not beat their SRS are allowed three wins off the same handicap before being cut one shot. Overall prize winners will be looked at separately.
- (i) Ladies with a handicap of -5 and - 6 must:
 - win three open prizes before being further reduced by one stroke, or
 - win six competitions in open foursomes, threeball or foursomes or any combination of the above before being further reduced in handicap. It is mandatory for committees in charge of competitions to record such wins, whether with cuts or not, on competitors' registration card.
 A club may not reduce a player with a - 5 handicap but may reduce a player with a - 6 handicap for club competitions.
Note: Ladies with handicap of -4 or lower are under the control of the NEC and Clubs may apply to the NEC for such a reduction in a player's handicap but only after County/Regional Board approval has been given. (See Section 67.2 of the Constitution).
- 22.5 Players on entering competitions should produce their registration card, also prize winners prior to receiving their prizes must present their Registration Card, which shall be altered by the promoting club who in turn shall immediately advise clubs of prize winners involved. Players who remove their cards from open events to avoid winning, will be cut the number of shots as for winning and claim no prize.
- 22.6 The committee promoting the competition may not alter Rule 22.5.
- 22.7 Where a player wins three prizes of any nature in open foursomes, open fourballs or open threeball competitions, his handicap shall be reduced by one shot for every three prizes won off the same handicap. He shall not carry forward a win from one season to the next.