

## Whitaker trophy rules

(revised August 20th 2003 by rules committee)

Teams shall consist of four players, and any club playing fewer than this number shall forfeit the un-played game or games. No one may play for more than one team in the same season.

Matches shall be completed in each round on the date specified by the Competition Controller unless both teams agree an earlier date. The Home Team shall notify the Away Team of the venue at least two weeks before the fixture date.

The Home Team is responsible for providing all the necessary equipment.

Before a match begins, the captains shall exchange their team lists written out in grading order according to the grades published in the current Cumbria Grading List and List of Estimated Grades, and no subsequent alteration shall be permitted. Un-graded players may only compete if an estimated grade is obtained from the Results Secretary prior to the game's commencement. The captains shall toss for colours and the winner shall take white on the odd-numbered boards in all games.

At the agreed commencement of the match all the clocks must be started. The game of any player still absent after 45 minutes shall be forfeited.

One game only shall be played between each pair of players. Clocks must be used, and in all such games the time limit shall be all moves in 1½ hours (in an evening match) or all moves in 2 hours (in an afternoon match), subject to the BCF Rules for Quick-play finishes and Rule 4(1)(h).

Teams shall be handicapped as follows: Excluding defaulted games, gradings of each team's players will be added together and the difference between the teams' total grades will determine the Match Points Handicap as in the following table:

Total Grade Difference	Match Points Handicap
200 - 163	3½
162 - 138	3
137 - 113	2½
112 - 88	2
87 - 63	1½
62 - 38	1
37 - 13	½
12 - 0	0

If, on any board, there is a grade difference of more than 50 points, then the difference shall be counted as only 50 and the Total Grade Difference be adjusted accordingly.

On completion of the match, the Match points Handicap shall be deducted from the score of the higher-graded team. If the scores are then level, the elimination of the

bottom board(s) shall apply (each time using the above table) until a winner is resolved. If the scores are still level, then the winner shall be the team whose total grades are the lower; if the teams' total grades are equal, then the winner shall be decided on the toss of a coin.