

2023 Club Championships Survey Results

Executive Summary

The survey was conducted by Match Committee in July 2023, to obtain Member's Feedback regarding a change to the format of the Club's Championships. The following suggestions were put to members.

- Adopting a Match Play format
- Changing the current stroke format so that only the top 8 players qualify to play off in the final round.
- Introducing more tee options
- Introducing Stableford for Men's and Women's C & D Grade Players where applicable.

Background

The current format of the Club championships is as follows:

Men (Played off Blue Tees)

Club Championship (A Grade Men) - Stroke 72 Holes

B & C Grade Championship – Stroke 54 Holes

Women (Played off Red Tees)

All grades – Stroke 54 Holes

All events are played over two consecutive weekends in October.

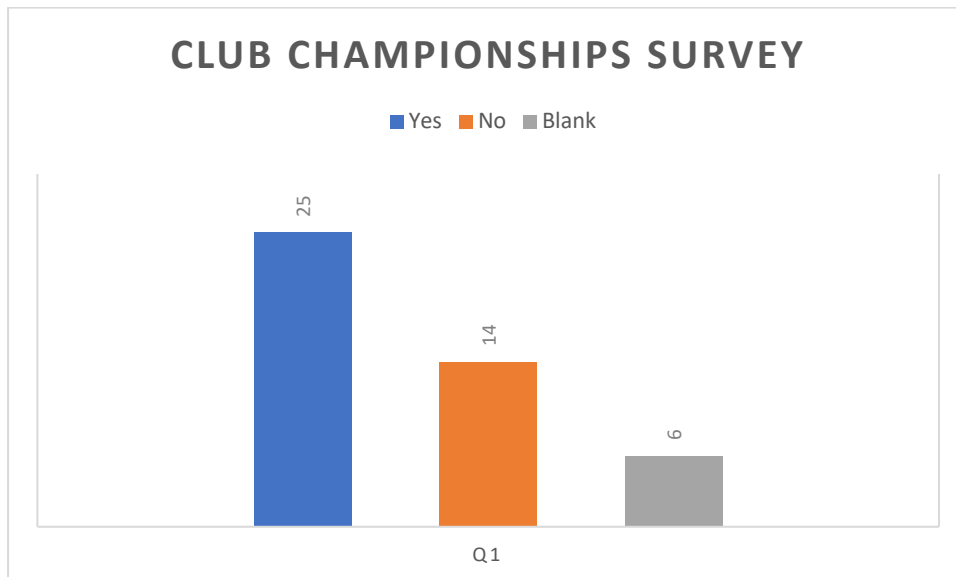
Survey Reach

The survey was sent out to 202 Members of which, 44 Members responded.

It should be noted however that, not all members play in club championships and therefore may not have deemed it necessary to respond. In 2021 51 Men and 21 Women competed in championships with numbers reducing to 31 Men and 11 women in 2022.

Survey Results

Q1. Would you be interested in Match Play? Top 8 qualify playing seeded Matchplay in each grade?



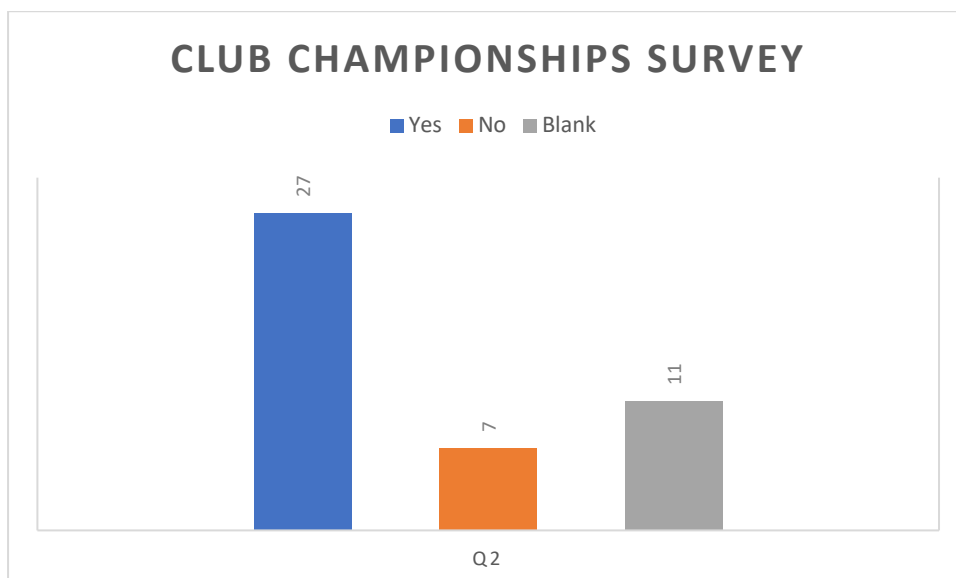
Comments

Respondent 23 - "I think Match Play is the way to go."

Respondent 29 - "Men perhaps"

Respondent 36 - "Yes, I believe this would encourage more players, even out the competition and create a great atmosphere around the finals - more spectators."

Q2. Have more tee options.



Comments

Respondent 25 - "This only applies to men. What are other options for Ladies?"

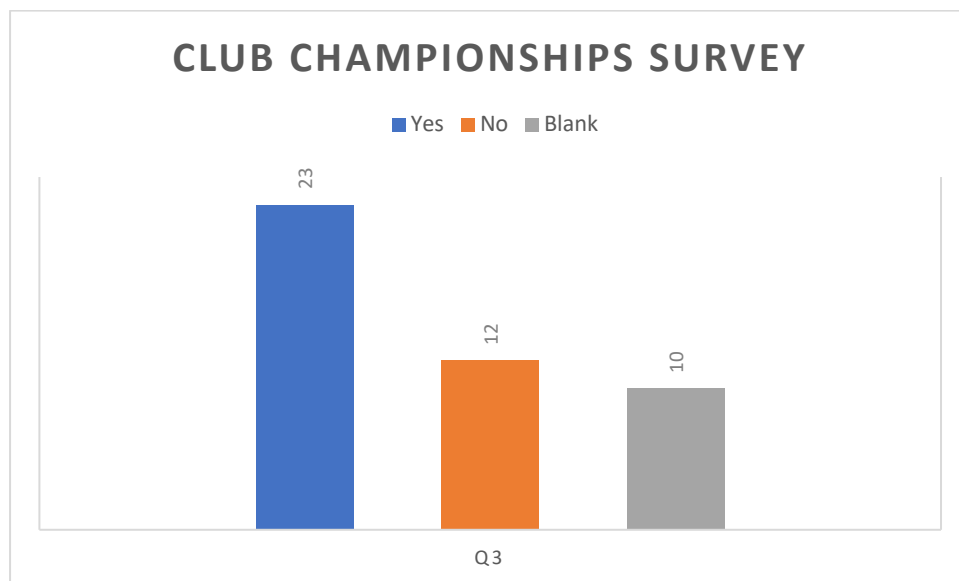
Respondent 34 - "Only applies to Men".

Respondent 35 - Ladies "C" Grade play off Orange Tees (takes most of the water out of play).

Respondent 42 - "I believe all grades for men should be off the Championship Blue Tees. Good luck with your survey and you're doing a good job."

Respondent 43 - "My opinion for what it is worth is match play on different tees for different grades."

Q3. Men & Ladies "C" Grade play Stableford (possibly "D" Grade for men).



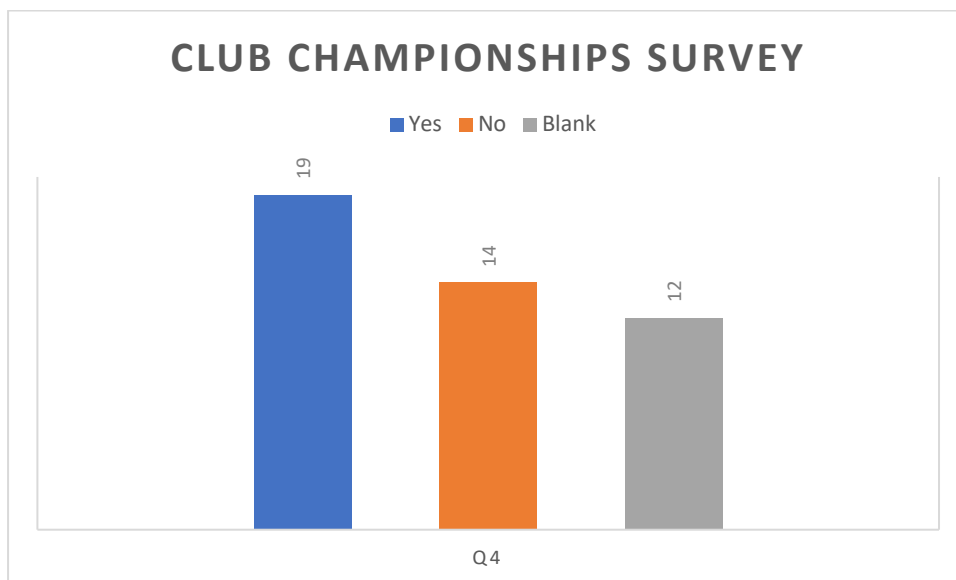
Comments

Respondent 25 - "We already have a Ladies' mid-week Plate".

Respondent 34 - "Only if would attract more players albeit I believe Championships should be stroke".

Respondent 35 - "We already have an annual 4BBB Stableford Honour Board event "

Q4. Have a cut after 36 holes so only the top 8 play a final round.

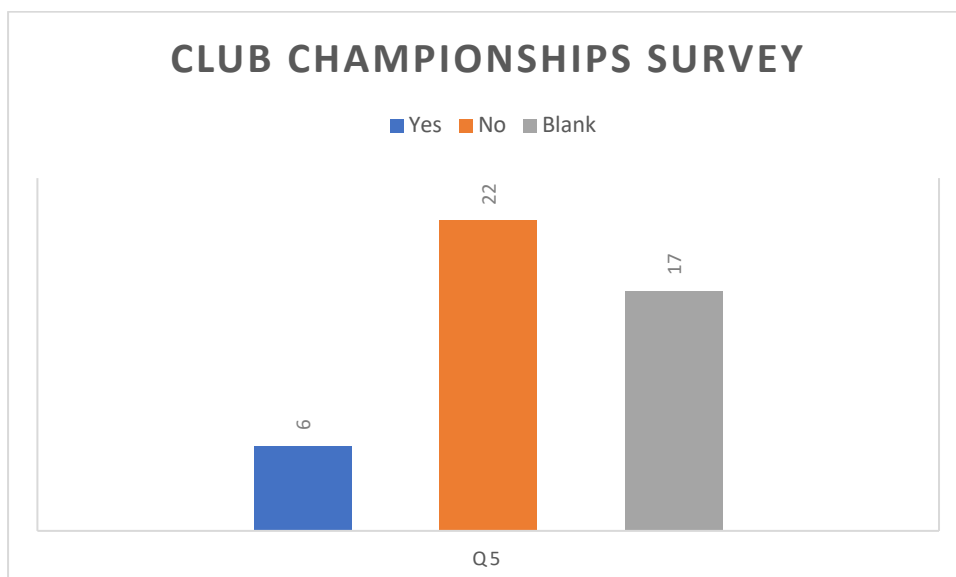


Comments

Respondent 29 - "I believe it needs to be 54 Holes - best two results".

Respondent 34 - "Women's playing numbers may not meet with top 8 qualifying requirements".

Q5. Leave as is.



Comments

Respondent 29 - "Leave as is for this year, Match play next year if positive result".

Q6. Any other suggestions (other comments):

Respondent 4 - "Add additional 1 min between tee off on 1st tee".

Respondent 25 - "Can the Club Members please be informed of the results from this survey e.g., number returned answers for and against." "Not sure what "positive feedback" means".

Respondent 33 - "Thank you for the opportunity to present my points re Club Championships. Last year's final round proved very successful finishing on the 18th Hole as a stroke round with a good viewing crowd on the lawns which concluded in the club house with champions announced and recognized. The introduction of drinks on the lawn enhanced the atmosphere of the occasion and could be considered for future championships. Email to all members as invitation to attend final day activities. Match Play which I have never been involved in as a club championship event could make the above a non-event as it is possible all matches could be concluded from the tenth hole onwards with no matches finishing on the 18th hole?? I like the idea of grades going off the three tees. I also like the A Grade at 72 holes, B & C Grades 54 or 36 holes with all grades finishing on the final Sunday. If the above is not considered I recommend leaving the championships as they are."

Respondent 35 - "Championships are to find and celebrate the strongest Man/Woman player in our Club over 3/4 consecutive stroke rounds. All contestants play stroke."

Respondent 36 - "If go to Match Play, 3 qualifying stroke rounds - best 2 to count - this gives the option of missing one round due to other commitments."

Respondent 41 - "A Grade must be stroke. Golf buggies should be allowed."

Respondent 44 - "As a suggestion, this type of survey can be sent out as a Survey Monkey making it easier to respond to and collate the responses. I'm not in favour of mixing formats for the A grade championship. 4 days of stroke rewards the most consistent player of the tournament. Given we are a smaller club I don't believe a cut for A grade is needed. I don't believe it would be appropriate for me to make too many comments on how B & C grade should be played, however I am in favour of having C grade play from the yellow tee's if this promotes c graders playing."

In Conclusion

Based on the feedback received the majority were in favour of having Match Play Championships.

Moving forward, Match Committee will now, in consultation with members, look at introducing the Match Play format for our 2024 Club Championships and beyond.

For information, in addition to conducting this survey, research was also undertaken to ascertain what format most Clubs within Southern Golf Group use for their Championships. It was interesting to note that most other Clubs have Match Play Championships.

Match Committee wish to sincerely thank all members who took part in this survey.

McCracken GC Match Committee

24th August 2023