



J.B.CARR DIAMOND TROPHY INVITATION 2026



Sponsored by:- MCM Engineering, Carlow.

MCM
Engineering Limited

January 2026.



Dear Honorary Secretary,

Woodenbridge Golf Club
Vale of Avoca, Arklow, Co Wicklow.
Telephone (0402) 35202
Email: reception@woodenbridge.ie
www.woodenbridge.ie

J.B.CARR DIAMOND TROPHY 30th ANNIVERSARY INVITATION 2026

Woodenbridge Golf Club have great pleasure to once again invite your Club to enter the 2026 All Ireland J.B. Carr Diamond Trophy Competition. This Tournament was inaugurated in 1996, the competition was the brainchild of our past Captain, the Late Fr. Jerry O'Brien. His vision was a tournament for mature golfers from all corners of Ireland. The Late Joe Carr had a keen interest in lending his name to the Tournament and was delighted to become the Patron. This year is the 30th Anniversary of the competition which has attracted clubs from all over Ireland. The J.B. Carr Diamond Trophy is now one of the largest competitions in the Golfing calendar year and we in Woodenbridge wish to record our deep appreciation to all of the Clubs and teams who have entered in the past.

We thank Willis Towers Watson for their support & sponsorship in the past and look forward to an exciting Tournament in 2026 with our new sponsors MCM Engineering Carlow.

We now enclose an application form which we would be most obliged if you could complete and return no later than the 14th February 2026 if your club wishes to take part in the competition.

The entry fee of €180.00 is to accompany the enclosed application form if paying by cheque, if making a bank payment please return entry form with a note of date of bank transfer. We look forward to receiving your entry as soon as possible. It is planned that the 2026 competition draw will be made in early March 2026. All participating Clubs will be advised of the draw by email and the draw and results will also be available on the Woodenbridge Golf Club Web site:- www.woodenbridge.ie

In 2025, the four provinces were represented at the J.B.Carr National Finals by the Provincial Champions Mulrannny GC, The K Club, Woodstock GC & County Cavan GC. Woodenbridge were again delighted to host the finals in early September when The K Club got the better of Woodstock in an exciting finish to become the very worthy 2025 All Ireland Winners.

The 2026 All Ireland Finals will be held in Woodenbridge over the weekend of 5th & 6th September 2026. The four provincial winning teams will be guests of the club for two nights B&B at the Woodenbridge Hotel and a Gala Dinner & Presentation of Prizes will take place in the clubhouse on Sunday 6th September 2026.

We look forward to receiving your completed entry form and in the meantime if we can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact us on the Club number 0402-35202 or email admin@woodenbridge.ie.

Yours sincerely

Tom Mernagh

Chairman,

J.B.Carr Committee.

J.B. Carr Diamond Trophy

Tournament Rules 2026



R&A Rules of Golf Apply – Model Rule E-5 shall not be used in matches.

1 Rules 2026

The maximum combined Handicap Index is 30 (Based on lowest Handicap Index in the calendar year 2025. **(01/01/25 to 31/12/25)**). Stroke allowances for matches will be 50% of the combined Handicap Index difference, rounded, plus courtesy shot to away team per pairing.

E.g. Home Team $12.3 + 14.8 = 27.1$.

Away Team $8.7 + 14.3 = 23.0$.

Difference 4.1 divided by $2 = 2$.

Shot Difference $2 - 1$. Courtesy = 1

The courtesy shot applies at both venues in home & away matches. The draw determines Home Advantage. In 2 legged matches the team drawn first (top in the draw sheet) will play at home in the first leg. The team at the top of the draw in Single Leg Matches have home advantage & all matches to be played at the course of the team drawn at home. Only players with a fully established handicap index (20 scores) at 31/12/25 are eligible to compete. Player's Scoring Record and lowest Handicap Index for the period can be verified by reference to Golf Ireland Clubhouse Report "Member Score Count".

2 Format

The competition format will be SCOTCH FOURSOMES MATCHPLAY for male competitors who have reached their 60th birthday on or before 1st January 2026. A team with an underage player will be disqualified.

3 Pairings

Teams will consist of 5 pairings. Players on the team may be changed throughout the tournament. A player may only represent one Club.

4 Combined Handicaps

Please note that the combined handicap index limit is 30. Pairings with a combined handicap index in excess of 30 are allowed, but they are limited to a maximum combined handicap index of 30. An incorrect upper handicap index means automatic disqualification of that pairing.

5 Postponements

All matches must be played by the date specified. Sorry, but no extensions can be permitted. Unplayed matches shall be scratched, unless one of the clubs has received a walkover. Unfortunately, we must strictly adhere to this in the interest of equity and competition efficiency.

6 Exchange of Pairings

Prior to the commencement of a team match, the respective team managers shall simultaneously interchange the names of their teams, their handicap index and the order of play. It is the responsibility of each Team Manager to check with the opposing Team Manager to ensure ALL team players are over 60 years on or before 1st January 2026 before the match commences.

7 Tees

All matches are to be played off the weekly summer competition tees. All matches to be played to a finish until an overall result has been obtained. There are no halved matches.

8 Play Offs

In the event that 2 legged matches finish with each team having won 5 matches a sudden death playoff will be necessary. Each Manager shall nominate a pairing from the 5 pairings that have already participated in the days matches to contest the play off. The Away Team will receive a courtesy shot in such play offs.

9 Buggies

Buggies are allowed only with appropriate medical certificate.

10 Meals / Drinks

After match meals and drinks costs shall be shared equally between home and visiting Clubs.

11 Results

Results of the matches must be communicated by the winning team within three days. Contact WOODENBRIDGE GOLF CLUB TEL: 0402 35202 - (from Republic) .If calling from Northern Ireland, use 00353 402 35202. Email: admin@woodenbridge.ie

12 Finals

The Provincial Champions shall play the All Ireland semi-finals and finals at Woodenbridge Golf Club on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th September 2026.

13 Disputes

In all disputes, the decision of the Woodenbridge Golf Club shall be final. Woodenbridge Golf Club reserves the right to alter and revise the Competition Rules as it sees fit.



J.B.CARR DIAMOND TROPHY

ROLL OF HONOUR

YEAR	WINNER	YEAR	WINNER	YEAR	WINNER
1996	Courtown	2006	Newlands	2016	Nenagh
1997	Galway	2007	Tuam	2017	Portumna
1998	Fermoy	2008	Tralee	2018	The K Club
1999	Galway	2009	Galway	2019	Ballykisteen
2000	The Heath	2010	Ennis	2020	Covid
2001	Galway	2011	Thurles	2021	Covid
2002	Charleville	2012	Ballinrobe	2022	Shannon
2003	Charleville	2013	Enniscrone	2023	Castlebar
2004	Charleville	2014	Adare Manor	2024	Ballinrobe
2005	Stackstown	2015	Ballybofey & Stranorlar	2025	The K Club