



## ***Crompton and Royton Golf Club***



### **Men's Section Rules of Competition and Conditions of Playing**

**All golf, whether a competition, general or social round, must be booked through BRS.**

All qualifying competitions are played under R & A Rules, the current regulations from England Golf and any local rules made by the Handicap and Competitions Committee.

The Club holds an 18-hole (White Tees) competition for members each Saturday and Tuesday throughout the season. There is also a 9-Hole Stableford Competition each Tuesday (holes 1 to 9 off the Yellow Tees) running concurrently. This is for members who find it difficult to play 18 holes and/or have a limited time to play.

Saturday and Tuesday are designated as Competition Golf Days. The BRS timesheet is in operation; there is no alternative starting point to that tee timesheet/s.

Social golf can only be played from 30 minutes after the competition tee times conclude.

**Saturday and Tuesday Tee Reservations:** The BRS online booking system goes "live" each Wednesday evening at 19:55, 10 days prior to each Saturday competition and at 20:05, 6 days prior to the following Tuesday. Players unable to book a later tee-time on Wednesday at 20:05 can call the Pro's shop after 8-00am on Thursday to book on a 10<sup>th</sup> tee timesheet.

- For all Major competitions<sup>1</sup>, members enter their name only in any particular time-slot.
- For all other singles competitions members can enter their own name and two others
- For team events and 4BBB events, members can book a full tee time slot, i.e., four names.

On a Tuesday, the course will be closed to the 18-hole competition for a period of time between 1-30pm and 4-00pm dependent on daylight hours, to allow the course to clear. Then, dependent on daylight hours, between 3-30pm and 6-00pm, the 10<sup>th</sup> tee will also open for play in the 18-Hole competition. Players booked on the BRS timesheet must commence play from the 1<sup>st</sup> tee; players booked on the Pro's timesheet must commence play from the 10<sup>th</sup> tee.

**In the hours the course is closed for the 18-hole competition members may continue to play in the 9-hole Stableford competition. These times will be defined clearly on the BRS Timesheet.**

Play in all competitions will be governed by sunrise and the course set-up conditions determined by the Course Manager. Tee time intervals will be decided by H and C to maximise the tee-times with due consideration for the safety of all golfers.

As a courtesy, the Club Captain, President and Chairman of Handicaps & Competitions will be allowed to book their tee times on BRS in advance. The Directors are extended this courtesy twice in any month, should they wish to exercise it.

---

<sup>1</sup> Except the Eddie Hopkinson Memorial Major [midweek].

Two members of H and C who are responsible for closing the competition on a Saturday or Tuesday are extended the same privilege.

H and C reserve the right to make an exception should a member have a justifiable reason for requesting a specific tee-time; this will only be in exceptional circumstances.

## **Your Playing Responsibilities in Competition**

Competitors should pay the entry fee as stated, on the Player Score Input (PSI) terminal **before playing**. This will usually be by club swipe card or entering your surname on the PSI Terminal in the 19th but may be through the Professional's Shop. **NB: The current COVID regs. regarding payment.**

Players who collect their personal scorecard from the Pro's Shop are deemed to have entered the competition and, **as the competition is closed, any unpaid fee will be deducted from their account. The Handicaps and Competitions Committee reserve the right to disqualify a player who fails to pay his fee repeatedly.**

In any competition, a player shall ensure that his Course Handicap is recorded on his scorecard before it is placed in the competition box. If no CH is recorded on a scorecard, or if the recorded CH is higher than the one to which he is entitled and this affects the number of strokes received, **he shall be disqualified from that competition.**

It is **strongly recommended** that each player writes his Handicap Index, Course Handicap and Playing Handicap on his card before play; to help him and his playing partners complete his scorecard correctly.

Competition scores must be submitted via the PSI terminal located in the 19<sup>th</sup> hole or the Manual Score Input (MSI) facility on the HowDidiDo phone app. as soon as possible after the round is completed. **Failure to do so (by the end of that day) will automatically disqualify the player<sup>2</sup>.**

If you cannot enter your score in the PSI terminal or via the MSI on the App, please write that on your card and post in the competition box.

The card should be signed by both the player and their marker<sup>3</sup> and should be placed in the competition box as soon as possible after it has been completed. **Failure to do so will disqualify the player.**

**No alteration to a score card may be made after it has been recorded on the PSI terminal or by MSI on the App and placed in the competition box.**

**All regular competition is split into Divisions based on the number entrants :**

Division 1: PH -10 to 10, Division 2: PH 11 to 16, Division 3: 17 to 28, for an entry 95 players or more;

Two divisions if between 64 and 94 enter; One competition if less than 64 enter.

Prizes are awarded in each Division.

H and C reserve the right to amend the number of Divisions and the monetary value of prizes at their discretion in order to spread the winnings over an even field.

If a tie occurs in regular competition, the winner will be determined by a card play-off (CPO)<sup>4</sup> i.e. back 9 holes, back 6 holes, back 3 holes, last hole then 1<sup>st</sup> hole, 2<sup>nd</sup> hole etc. on the scorecard.

Where the Course Manager determines the course fit for buggies, they are allowed in competition.

On any day of a competition or a play off in which he is involved, a competitor shall not practice on the competition course. This includes the short "Practice Hole" behind the 14th Green, but not the "chipping area" adjacent which has clearly defined marker posts.

For non-competitors, the practice hole is out of bounds for the day when the men's 17<sup>th</sup> tee is in use during a competition; the designated chipping area defined by marker posts MAY be used.

---

<sup>2</sup> This has become a Rule of Golf, to enable the correct PCC to be calculated for all players at the end of each day.

<sup>3</sup> This may be subject to change (i.e. COVID restrictions) where clear guidance will be relayed by a club communication.

<sup>4</sup> Appendix 1 of the Rules of Golf

A player may use a caddie: he/she should be distinct from any ‘followers’ at all times. A professional golfer is not permitted to act as a caddie; **failure to comply will disqualify the player.**

A player can only be disqualified from a qualifying competition by the H & C Committee **or** himself.

If a player feels an H & C Committee ruling is unjust, he may appeal to that Committee in writing within 2 weeks of the competition date. The H & C Committee will consider the appeal and if deemed to be reasonable, convene a review committee and inform the player of the time and location of the hearing.

If a hearing is convened, the player may call relevant witnesses to support his appeal. After the appeal, the Committee shall inform the player of their decision, in writing.

**NB: The decision of the Review Committee is final.**

Once a member has entered his name or has been entered by a playing partner into a competition on BRS **it is his responsibility for that tee time** and he is bound by the Competition Rules.

**If a player is up to 5 minutes late on the tee:**

- |                                                       |                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • In Medal or Stableford play:                        | Two shot penalty                 |
| • In Match Play:                                      | Loss of the 1 <sup>st</sup> hole |
| • If a player is more than 5 minutes late on the tee: | Disqualification                 |

**If a player Fails to Honour a Tee-time: A No Show**

A ‘**No Show**’ is a player who fails to remove his name from a BRS competition up to 60 minutes prior to his tee time.

- A ‘No-Show’ is regarded as an infringement of the Club Rules.
- BRS will remain open up to 60 mins before each competitor’s tee time.
- **It is the responsibility of the player to remove his own name** within this timeframe
- Failure to do so will constitute a ‘No Show’ and the sanction will be a ban from entering a subsequent Tuesday and Saturday competition.
- If a player fails to arrive for a Major competition, his ban will include a Tuesday competition and the next single Major competition.
- Should a player not have access to a computer or similar device then contact should be made via the Pro’s Shop or the Chairman of H and C, to remove his name within this timeframe.
- A player who needs to use a buggy is responsible for withdrawing from a competition within this timeframe if a ‘buggy ban’ is put in place.
- These rules apply to both individual and team competition. In team competition:
  - An individual/two ball who turn/s up to play but are let down by team-mates will not be penalised.
  - A three-man team who turn-up to play have the option to play or withdraw from the competition, without penalty.
- A player has the right to appeal the decision of the committee<sup>5</sup>
- A player who decides to appeal should make his reasons known to the Secretary of H and C within one week of the date of the letter informing him of the ‘No Show’, by email or by letter.

---

<sup>5</sup> Arriving too late, forgetting or disclaiming responsibility for a tee-time are not reasons for making an appeal.

- The Chairman, the Secretary and one other member of the committee will consider the reasons and decide accordingly. This sub-committee will consider a dispensation in only exceptional circumstances.
- A player who infringes on a second occasion within the season can anticipate a more serious penalty.

Members are required to display their membership date discs on their golf bags in order to distinguish the current members of the club and to avoid improper use of the course.

## **Local Rules<sup>6</sup>**

### **1. Out of Bounds**

- |                           |                                                                                   |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (a)                       | Beyond any wall or fence bounding the course or practice area.                    |
| (b) 9th hole              | Beyond the white 'chain-link' fence behind the green.                             |
| (c) 14th hole             | Beyond the 'chain-link' fence and white line on the right.                        |
| (d) 3 <sup>rd</sup> hole  | Beyond the boundary fence behind the 3 <sup>rd</sup> green.                       |
| (e) 4 <sup>th</sup> hole  | Beyond the boundary fence to the right of the 4 <sup>th</sup> hole.               |
| (f) 16th hole             | Beyond the 'out of bounds' posts to the right and behind the 16th green.          |
| (g) 17 <sup>th</sup> hole | (a) and beyond the white line between the 17 <sup>th</sup> and the practice area. |

### **2. Defining Bounds & Margins.**

Out of Bounds: White Stakes.  
 Penalty Areas: Yellow Stakes,  
 Penalty Areas : Red Stakes.  
 Bridges are part of the penalty area.

### **3. Built-up Tees**

Steps and the drinking fountain are integral parts of the course.

### **4. Immovable Obstructions**

- |     |                                                            |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------|
| (a) | All buildings within the bounds of the course.             |
| (b) | All bell-posts, guideposts, footpaths and yardage plates.  |
| (c) | Metal covers on the wells on the 8th, 11th and 16th holes. |

### **5. Loose impediments in Bunkers.**

Rule 12.2 allows players to remove loose impediments and movable obstructions from a bunker This includes any reasonable touching or movement of the sand in the bunker that happens while doing so.

### **6. Trees and Hedges.**

All trees and hedges are an integral part of the course with the exception of newly planted trees identified by yellow topped stakes. If such a tree interferes with stance or swing relief must be taken at the nearest point of relief, and the ball dropped within one club length not nearer the hole (Rule 24.2b).

### **7. Fixed Sprinkler Heads**

All sprinkler heads and water hydrant covers are immovable obstructions and relief from interference by them may be obtained. In addition, if a ball lies off the putting green but not in a penalty area and such an obstruction on or within two club lengths of the ball intervenes on the line of play between the ball and the hole, the player may take relief. The ball may be lifted and dropped at the nearest point to where the ball lay which (a) is not nearer the hole, (b) avoids such intervention and (c) is not in a penalty area or on a putting green.

### **8. Drainage Holes**

Drainage holes on any green or apron of green:

If a ball comes to rest on or near a drainage hole it may be lifted without penalty and dropped as near as possible to the spot where it lay but not nearer the hole.

---

<sup>6</sup> Are printed on the scorecard.

On the putting green the player shall place the ball at the nearest spot not nearer the hole which avoids the situation.

### 9. Overhead Power Cables

Overhead power cables on the 15th and 17th holes:

A ball striking overhead power cables **must** be re-played from the same position without penalty.

### 10. Distance Measuring Devices

A player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only.

A player must not use a distance measuring device designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g. gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.). These facilities must be de-activated prior to play in any competition. Failure to do so will result in **disqualification** from the competition.

### 11. Penalty Areas

- (a) The stream between the 5th and 6th holes.
- (b) The stream between the 9th and 10th fairway.
- (c) The stream between the 15th and 16th hole.
- (d) The posts determine the margin of the penalty area.
- (e) The bridges are part of the penalty area.

**12. Temporary Local Rules:** will apply if displayed on the noticeboards immediately outside the Professionals Shop and/or in the competition's corridor.

## Qualification for a Major Competition

To qualify and enter for a major competition, a member must have met the following requirements:

- Have submitted a minimum of three cards in the previous season, in which the score must be under 100 gross on each card  
Each card must have played the full 18 holes and completed a gross score for each hole.
- Any member not qualifying under rule the above must submit three cards<sup>7</sup> in any singles competition during the current season, also under 100 gross. Each card must have played the full 18 holes and completed a gross score for each hole.  
These three cards must be submitted and verified prior to entering the Major
- 9 Hole rounds do not qualify
- A player who has not fulfilled either of the above may enter the Major and win a subsidiary prize or enter and win any Subsidiary competition being held on the same day.
- Players with an unbroken membership of twenty (20) years or longer do not need to comply with the above and are eligible to enter and win any Major Competition.
- Juniors may enter and win Major Competitions. However in the Captain's Prize, President's Prize and Centenary Trophy, they are not eligible to win the competition<sup>8</sup>.
  
- Juniors must play off their HI up to a maximum **HI of 16.8; a maximum CH of 19.**

### The Annual Major Competitions :

The following 10 Majors are Medal Play off 95% Course Handicap.

- **President's Prize**                      36 holes; 18 holes each round
- **Captain's Prize**                        36 holes; 18 holes each round
  
- **Veterans' Trophy**                      Members aged 55 or over; 18 holes
- **Long Handicap Trophy**              Playing Handicaps 17 and over; 18 holes
- **Final Day Medal –**                      At least one medal round of 70 or less in the year; 18 holes
  
- **Seven Cup**                                18 holes

---

<sup>7</sup> These cards can be completed in Medal or Stableford competition.

<sup>8</sup> Juniors can win any of the other prizes.

- **Hall Cup** 18 holes
- **Zacharias Cup** 18 holes
- **Centenary Trophy** 18 holes
- **Holden Cup** 36 holes on the day<sup>9</sup>.
  
- **Eddie Hopkinson Memorial Trophy** Single Stableford, 95% CH; Tuesday Major, 18 Holes.
  
- **Royton Sword** Amateur Open Event; 36 Hole Scratch Medal Northern Order of Merit.
- **Club Championship** 36 Hole Scratch Medal
  
- **Highfield Cup** Singles Match Play Knockout; 18 holes
- **Top Dogs Trophy** Fourball Betterball Matchplay Knockout; 18 holes
- **Scratch Competition** Singles Scratch Match-play Knockout; 18 holes<sup>10</sup>
  
- **Howard Trophy** Aggregate Best 6 [net] Club Competition medal rounds in the season.
  
- **Mixed Foursomes Trophy** Match Play; 18 holes<sup>11</sup>.
- **President's Salver** Amateur Open Mixed Event; Foursomes Medal; 18 holes
  
- **Junior Captain's Prize** 36 holes; 18 holes each round; 95% Course Handicap
- **Junior President's Prize** 36 holes; 18 holes each round; 95% Course Handicap
- **Junior Challenge Trophy** Singles Match Play Knockout; Full CH; 18 holes
- **Junior Trophy** Aggregate Best 6 [net] Junior Medal rounds in the season.
- **Junior Centenary Trophy** Medal 95% CH; 18 holes.

The Club also hosts three other prestigious events:

- **Seniors Opens [2]** 4BBB Stableford; May and September; 18 holes
- **Charity Shield** Amateur Open Mixed Event; Greensomes Medal; 18 holes

In the event of a play-off:

**Captains and Presidents Prizes (inc. Junior Majors), Eddie Hopkinson, Seniors Open and Charity Shield** : A Card Play-Off

**All other 18-hole Majors**<sup>12</sup>: Play-off over 18 Holes; if still undecided the players shall continue for the next six holes (holes 1 to 6) and the player with the best return from those six holes will be declared the winner. The net score for these six holes will be calculated by subtracting **exactly** 1/3 of a player's handicap from the player's gross total for the six extra holes played.

If the match STILL remains "all-square" after the extra holes players go to the 7<sup>th</sup> and play a hole by hole "sudden death" competition until a winner emerges, using **exactly** 1/18th of their handicap on each hole.

The only exception to this is the Club Championship where the extra six and any subsequent 'sudden death' holes will be gross scores.

**Note: - Players should be aware of how their Handicaps are adjusted to the six holes and any subsequent hole by hole competition!**

Match Play: Play-off hole by hole from the 1<sup>st</sup> tee, same handicaps, until one player/team wins a hole.

<sup>9</sup> Played on the same day as the Club Championship.

<sup>10</sup> See under Knockouts for further details.

<sup>11</sup> See under Knockouts for further details.

<sup>12</sup> Including the Club Championship & Holden Cup.

**All Cups and Trophies remain the property of the Club.**

## **Rules for Knockout Competition**

### **Highfield Cup , Top Dogs , Men's Scratch Knockout and Mixed Foursomes**

The draw for the Competitions will be made using Club V1 software. Entrants will be notified of their fixture and deadline date by email. The draws can be viewed on the HowDidDo app via 'More' 'Knockouts'.

All entrants are expected to show flexibility when arranging matches. 5-day members may be required to play at weekends and will be charged a member's guest fee.

When the draw is made the first person/team drawn must contact their opponents **within 7 days of receipt of the email** and offer at least 3 dates including 1 at a weekend.

*Using email/text/WhatsApp for communication will assist in creating a timeline of communication between opponents, assisting players and H&C should any dispute be raised.*

**The opponent/s then have 7 days to reply** and set a date for the fixture. The match must be arranged and booked on BRS within 14 days of the fixture being drawn. Any issues with arranging a match within 14 days must be lodged with H&C who will seek to resolve any issues. There is no need to wait for all the previous round ties to be completed.

Should the match not be arranged/or and played, both competitors/teams will be disqualified. In certain conditions H&C may allow a tie to be decided by another method that is acceptable to both players/team.

All play must commence from the 1st tee.

Matches should not begin any later than 4 hours before sunset.

Should a match be all square after 18 holes, the match will be decided by sudden death over the original course, applying the same handicap terms. Should bad light etc halt play, then the match must restart from the hole where it was halted and continued to the next tee.

#### **All Finals Day:**

- All entrants must be available for All Finals Day. The date will be notified prior to entry.
- Should any player/team be unavailable they must concede their match **immediately**.
- Prior to competitors playing a **Quarter Final**, they shall indicate their availability to play on "All Finals" Day by notifying the Competition Organiser/s.
- If winning **Semi-Finalist/s** find/s that he/they are unable to play on "All Finals" Day, he/they shall be disqualified<sup>13</sup> and their opponents in the Final shall have a "walkover".
- Should there be any objection to the Winners, H and C will investigate; **their decision is final**.

**It is the aim of H&C to ensure all fixtures are played within the set timeframe.**

**There will be NO extensions to the competition deadlines under any circumstances.**

#### **HIGHFIELD CUP:**

- A Single match-play knockout played from the white marker plates.
- Last season's winner and the top 63 of last season's Howard Trophy qualify automatically. Should the top 64 places not be filled, subsequent places will be filled by members indicating a wish to enter in descending order from 64<sup>th</sup> downwards.
- Handicap allowance is difference between Course Handicaps **to a maximum one shot per hole**.

---

<sup>13</sup> Other than in the most exceptional of circumstances e.g. family bereavement, serious illness or injury.

- Fixtures shall NOT be played in a Tuesday or Saturday Singles competitions.

## TOP DOGS

- A 4BBB match-play competition, played from the white marker plates.
- Lowest handicapper to concede strokes to the other three players based on 90% of the difference between their Course Handicaps **up to a maximum one shot per hole.**

## MENS SCRATCH

- A Single match-play knockout played from the white marker plates.
- All players to play off zero handicap.
- Fixtures shall NOT be played during Tuesday or Saturday competitions.

## MIXED FOURSOMES

- A 4BBB Match Play Team Event; 18 holes.
- Allowance of 50% of combined Course Handicap, to maximum 18 strokes
- Men to play from the White marker plates, ladies to play off Red Blocks

## Juniors may play in the:

Highfield Cup, if qualification is met through the Howard Trophy standings

Top Dogs, with an adult member as a partner<sup>14</sup>.

Mixed Foursomes

Juniors must play off their HI up to a maximum **HI of 16.8; a maximum CH of 19.**

## Presentation Nights and Prizes

There will be a number of Prize Presentation Nights during the season. They will be notified via email and a notice posted in the competitions corridor at the start of each season.

The following Club Rules will apply to all Prize winners:

- All competition and major winners are expected to attend; 2<sup>nd</sup> place and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners are not required to attend.
- Major Winners must be dressed in jacket, collar and tie; a short acceptance speech is expected.
- Other Prize Winners may wear smart casual attire i.e. normal golfing wear. **Shorts and trainers** are not allowed.
- All winners who for whatever reason are unable to attend must:-
  - Give their apologies to the Chair of H and C committee.
  - Arrange for another member to collect their prize at the appropriate presentation.

---

<sup>14</sup> Any member over the age of 18.



- If the winner or their representative member are unable to attend the first presentation, there will be an option of deferring until the next agreed presentation date.
- Failure to attend on this 2<sup>nd</sup> occasion will result in the prize being forfeited.

Prizes are awarded in each competition. The value of the prizes in regular competition is determined by H and C according to the number of entries to the competition.

No member shall be allowed to win more than one of the main prizes in any one competition.

Prizes are in the form of a voucher to be spent either in the Professionals Shop or added to the member's bar card.

Members will be required to nominate a default position for their winnings. Winnings can be changed to another location by contacting the Chairman of H and C within 48 hrs of winning the competition.

The winner of a Major Competition will have their name written on the relevant board and will have a choice of receiving either the normal monetary voucher with a replica trophy or a higher monetary voucher with no replica trophy.

All winners must inform the Chairman of Handicaps and Competitions at the Prize Presentation Night as to which account they would like their voucher placing.

## **Health and Safety: Golf Can Be A Dangerous Game**

Members and visitors should be aware of the obligations they have for the safety of others when they are playing; fellow golfers, pedestrians and in particular the Greens Staff when working on the course. An employee being hit by a golf ball is a particular hazard given the activities they carry out on the golf course and especially when they are working on the greens.

**You must ensure you understand and comply with the following requirements as a player:**

- Do not drive off or hit your ball if it is likely that you may hit a fellow golfer, employee or pedestrian
- Consider mis-hit shots; consider every potential trajectory of your shot; could it go onto adjacent fairway/s; are there golfers/pedestrians within sight on adjacent fairway/s?
- If you inadvertently hit a shot which maybe close to other people **DO NOT HESITATE** to shout **"FORE"**.
- If you hear the shout "FORE" immediately crouch down and protect your face and head. Crouch behind your bag or trolley if possible; under no circumstances look for the oncoming ball.

## **Inclement Weather**

The Course Manager and/or his deputy will have sole responsibility for declaring the Course "Open" or "Closed" on the morning of any competition.

In an effort to help competitors and the volunteering competitions committee, on a day of inclement weather, the Professional will make the following decision in the hours that his shop is open for business, after which the responsibility is that of the H and C committee:

- (a) to suspend play for a period of time not exceeding one hour
- (b) to cancel the competition.

Various matters have to be considered when reaching the decision. They include the extent of water on the greens; the local weather forecast and any support from members. The decision shall **always be made in line with the Rules of Golf**.

Once play has started and conditions make play impractical, a klaxon will be used to advise players regarding the decision above.

One long continuous sound will mean that (a) is implemented; members must mark their ball until play is restarted or cancelled.

Three short sounds will mean (b) is implemented; members must return to the club house.

If a competition is abandoned and cannot be continued (**for all entrants**), that competition shall be cancelled and members shall be refunded their competition fee.

Member's assistance with squeegeeing water from the greens using the designated devices would be appreciated in an effort to continue play. (should their use be permitted)

**R & A Rule 6-8 Discontinuance of Play; Resumption of Play:** A player must continue play unless:

- The Professional or H&C has suspended play;
- He believes there is a danger from lightning;
- He is seeking a decision from the Committee on a doubtful or disputed point;
- Another good reason such as sudden illness or injury.

**Bad weather is not in itself a justifiable reason for discontinuing your play.**

When play is suspended by the Professional or H&C for a dangerous situation e.g. lightning, players **MUST** discontinue play **IMMEDIATELY** and not resume play until the Professional or H&C has signaled a resumption in play.

If a player or players fail to discontinue play immediately, he/they shall be disqualified.

A Defibrillator Unit is in place in the Club's foyer, Alan Crickett (Bar Manager), John Osbaldeston (Hon. Treasurer) and Martin Beaty (Professional) have been trained in its usage.

Notices are posted in prominent positions around the Club premises informing all persons of the location of First Aid equipment.

## The Etiquette of Golf

### Behaviour During Play

Players should play without delay. No player should play until those in front are out of range.

Players searching for a ball should signal the players behind them to pass as soon as it becomes apparent that the ball will not easily be found; **they should not search for THREE minutes before doing so.**

They should not continue play until the players behind them have passed and are out of range.

When the play of a hole has been completed players should **leave the green immediately**; they should not linger to mark scores.

No one should move, talk, stand close to or directly behind the ball or the hole when a player is addressing the ball or making a stroke.

The player who has the honour should be allowed to play before his opponent or fellow competitor tees his ball.

A player who has incurred a penalty stroke should indicate the fact to his opponent as soon as possible.

Each competitor holds a position of trust in respect of the whole field of players, and it is his duty to play and to see that his partner plays the game strictly in accordance with the rules.

The marker should see each stroke played and the ball holed out.

Members are reminded that excessive noise on the course is disturbing to other competitors.

All Buggies and Trolleys should be kept outside the white lines around the greens.

Any permitted use of the 10th tee as an alternative starting point must be used with caution, such that no members starting at this point, arrive at the 1st tee when exclusive use applies.

### Priority on the Course

The Captain and President **must** be offered the courtesy of the course at all times.

**The courtesy of the course shall be extended to all players (including Juniors) engaged in Club**

### **Competitions and Club Matches.**

Priority on the course is determined by a group's pace of play. Any group playing a whole round is entitled to pass a group playing a shorter round. The term "group" includes a single player. Single players are now entitled to pass any 2, 3 or 4 ball matches. In the absence of special rules, two-ball matches also have precedence and are entitled to pass any three or four ball matches.

If a match fails to keep its place on the course and loses more than one clear hole on the players in front, it should allow the match following to pass.

### **Slow Play**

#### **You are deemed to be playing slowly if you lose ground on the players ahead.**

There may be exceptions to this e.g. the players in front are particularly fast, but this is a good working definition.

To encourage members to think of their "pace of play", signs have been posted at the 6th, 10th and 14th Tees.

If you see a gap opening ahead of you, you should attempt to hasten your play to close it; letting people through tends to delay players further behind.

If you cannot close the gap and lose more than one clear hole on the players in front you **must** let the players behind through.

**Immediately a search commences for a lost ball, the players should signal to the players following them to pass** and should not continue their play until those players have passed and are out of range.

If you find your ball, you may proceed to play on, only with the permission of the people you have waved through.

Some players are unaware that they have a very deliberate set-up. Ask your partners if they think you are slow, particularly on the greens. Each member has a duty to advise others and particularly their partners if they are slow.

The following may help you to improve your rate of play:-

- Walk quickly between shots.
- If you think a fellow player has lost a ball, go to help him search immediately.
- When you arrive at the green, leave your bag or trolley on the side nearer to the next tee. You then move out of range of the following player's shots into the green more quickly.
- Assess your next putt (or other stroke) whilst your fellow player is playing if you can do so without distracting him.

If, in spite of being warned, a fellow competitor still plays so slowly that ground is being lost, you are advised to take the following action:

- Warn him that you will report him to H and C, explaining that unless you do this, his fellow competitors are also liable to be penalised.
- If this fails to produce improvement, you should report the case in writing to H and C.
- The Committee are then responsible for deciding upon the penalty.

Please remember that this is a Club for people to enjoy their leisure. Some people are naturally slower than others but should realise that they oblige players behind to play as slowly. With so many members it is anti-social not to follow the wishes of the majority who prefer to play at a reasonable pace.

### **Care of the Course**

A player should ensure that any turf cut or displaced by him is replaced at once and pressed down.

Whilst taking practice swings, players should avoid causing any damage to the course and in particular the tees. Players should see that no damage is done to the course when putting down their bags,

Before leaving a bunker a player should carefully fill up and rake over all holes and footprints; players should replace the rake in the bunker with its handle resting on the side of the hazard.

Any damage to the putting green made by the ball or the player should be repaired carefully.

Players should ensure that they do not damage the hole by standing close to it when handling the flagstick or removing the ball.

The flagstick should be properly replaced in the hole before players leave the putting green.

Members should not enter into dispute with any of the Club's staff at any time but should refer any concern to the Greens Chairman.

## **Dress**

Sleeved shirts or sleeved sweaters/pullovers and the correct footwear must be worn. Tailored shorts are allowed. Players should wear only shoes/boots designated as golf footwear and no other footwear.

On the Course, the practice Putting Green and the "Short Game" practice area (behind the 14th green) the following items are **not** considered to be suitable attire:-

Jeans or Denim Clothing of any design; Tracksuits, Football Jerseys or Football Shorts.

Caps/Hats worn back to front. Shirts worn outside trousers.

Round neck sweaters/ pullovers without sleeved shirt underneath.

Members and Visitors are **not** allowed to bring dogs, with the exception of guide dogs, on the course when they are playing golf. This restriction also applies to anyone accompanying the player and includes the practice putting green and other practice areas.

## **Membership**

Changes in membership category will only be permitted at the start of the membership year.

Members may resign membership by notifying the Secretary in writing before the end of the membership year. Failure to do so makes the member liable for the payment of subscriptions for the following year. Every such member shall cease to be a member of the Club on the expiration of the current year and their liability under clause V of the Memorandum of Association shall determine on the expiration of 12 months covered by said notice.

A member whose subscription is in arrears for six weeks shall not be entitled to make use of the Club or exercise or enjoy any privilege of membership, **until arrangements for payment is made.**

Should his subscription continue unpaid, the Board may determine that the member be removed from the Club and their name erased from the register of members. England Golf will be informed of this failure to maintain their subscriptions, which may impinge on the possibility to join another Golf Club.

## **Temporary Members**

Visitors should be proficient at the game of golf and play with an appropriate clubs, clothing and footwear. If they fail to do this they will be asked to leave the course.

Visitors must pay a green fee to the professional and comply with these conditions before they play the course or use the Club facilities.

Members introducing visitors **must** sign the green fee book before commencing play. The visitor must also sign the book along with details of his or her club (if any).

Visitors may not play the course on Sundays during the season until after 9.30am or at all when times are designated as a competition.

Visitors may Pay & Play at restricted times only by application to the Professional.

The L.G.U. County Card scheme is not available on Saturdays, Sundays & Bank Holidays.

5-day Members wanting to play at weekends can pay a fee as though playing with a Member

The Board reserve the right to refuse temporary membership without giving a reason.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND ENJOY YOUR GOLF**