



## **MEMBERS HANDBOOK**

# **Handicaps, Competitions & Rules of Play**

**Bromsgrove Golf Club**

*(Updated May 2023)*

## **Index of contents:**

1. About the Club
2. Mission Statement
3. Getting Started – booking a tee time.
4. Order of Tee Times if Course Opening has been Delayed.
5. Handicaps and Competitions
6. Handicap Index
7. Obtaining a Handicap
8. Submitting cards for handicap
9. General Handicap Information
10. Handicap Review
11. Club V1 Members App
12. Using HowDidIDo App
13. Mobile Score Input (MSI)
14. Club Rules
15. Types of Competitions
16. Trophy & Major Trophy Competitions
17. Competition Rules & Regulations
18. Trophy Competitions Formats
19. Major Trophy Competition Formats
20. Local Rules
21. Players Safety Guidelines
22. Hazardous Weather Conditions
23. Personal Insurance
24. Dress Code & Course Etiquette
25. Care of the Course
26. Members Benefits
27. Golf Society & Club Pre-Booked Tee Times
28. Communication with Members
29. Mobile Phone Policy.
30. Data Protection

## 1. ABOUT THE CLUB

Welcome to Bromsgrove Golf Club, which operates within the family owned and run Bromsgrove Golf Centre. The Club was formed in 1993 and its affairs are managed jointly by a members committee and the proprietors of the Centre, a partnership that has guided the Club to become one of the most progressive and successful in Worcestershire.

The proprietors are responsible for all aspects of the Golf Centre, including the course, its facilities and in addition manages the Membership. The Club, which is run on a day-to-day basis by the Members Management Committee, is responsible for organising members competitions and managing handicaps in accordance with the World Handicap System. The Members Fund contribution, as part of the Membership Fee, is used towards the running costs of the Club.

The joint objective of both the Centre and the Club is to provide members with the opportunity to learn and play in a friendly environment and to promote golf at Bromsgrove for the enhancement and enjoyment of its members as detailed within the Mission Statement.

## 2. MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission, in conjunction with the Centre, is to provide our members and guests, of all ages and abilities, with the opportunity to learn, play and progress their golf in a friendly and welcoming environment whilst upholding the integrity and traditions of the game.

## 3. GETTING STARTED

### BOOKING A TEE TIME

When you join Bromsgrove so long as you have provided us with a valid email address, we will automatically register you to use our Online Tee Time Booking Service (BRS). This will be confirmed by email from BGC and the booking system. The online booking system is by far the best way to book and cancel any tee times.

**Online booking** - provides up to 18 days in advance, max 1 tee time per person/day. See '[Before Making a Booking](#)' below. Please note that the booking sheet opens daily at 6.45am.

**Booking by telephone or over the counter** - provides up to 17 days in advance, max 2 tee times per person/day.

To enable us to handle your call as efficiently as possible, please have your membership number to hand.

Please observe:

- Single Player bookings are not accepted at peak times.
- Only bookings for 18 holes of golf are allowed off the 1<sup>st</sup> tee during weekend mornings or Christmas week.
- 9-hole bookings may be accommodated off the 10<sup>th</sup> tee for the first 1½ hours of each days play, subject to tee time availability.
- During peak periods the Golf Centre reserves the right to join up smaller groups to form 3 or 4 balls
- Individual Club Match Play Knockout Competitions (e.g. Morris/Ann Morris Bowls, Winter Match play League), following an agreement reached with the Members Committee the Centre reserves the right to join up players to make 3-4 balls in all matches up to the semi-final stage. For both the semi-final and final stages of these competitions the Centre agrees to reserve the tee time solely for the use of the finalists providing they receive prior notification of the status of the match from the competition co-ordinator and/or the players involved.

### Before Making a Booking

If you have provided us with an email address, we would have already sent you a confirmation that you are set up to use this facility. However, we advise that before you make any bookings that you change the temporary password that you have been issued. Go to <http://www.bromsgrovegolfcentre.com/>

Click on “**Online Booking**” button and select “**Members On-line Booking**” and you will then be directed to the on-line booking system page.

- Enter your “User Login” details:
- Username: (enter your **Membership Number** on the **rear** of your new membership card)
- Password: (enter the temporary password usually *golfer*) then select: Login”
- In the initial login screen, choose “forgot password” to change the temporary password that you have been provided.
- The “Online Booking Facility” is now ready to use. Please remember that you must cancel any un-required tee times and log out after each use.

### **Making an Online Booking**

- Go to [www.bromsgrovegolfcentre.com](http://www.bromsgrovegolfcentre.com)
- On the homepage, click on ‘Member Booking’ link at top of page.
- **Log onto BRS using your ‘username’ and ‘password’.**
- Select the day you wish to play. Remember you can book early morning 9-hole rounds off the 10<sup>th</sup> tee.
- Follow the instructions on the screen to make a booking. The booking must include your own name together with fellow players from the drop-down list. *Note: any unused places are available for other members to book and join you*
- Only bookings made online can be cancelled online.
- The facility for reserving buggy’s online is not yet available, please book at Reception (Tel. 01527 575886)
- All names of the players intending to play must be added at the time of making the booking.
- Members who want to book a tee time with friends or colleagues who aren’t members must telephone golf reception to get their guest names added to your tee time booking (as their names are not listed on our members database). We advise that this is undertaken at the earliest opportunity after the initial booking has been made to secure the tee time for your party. Your guests will be allocated the daily green fee rate appropriate for the time of day which will require paying for at the time of checking in upon your arrival.

### **Amending or Cancelling a Tee Time Booking**

All members have an obligation to honour the bookings that they have made or if not required, take the appropriate steps to cancel the booking – preferably at least 24 hours in advance. Each individual is solely responsible for making sure the booking is fully honoured.

During periods when tee times are in demand, the Centre takes a strong stance on those players who fail to show consideration for others by failing to honour tee times that are booked or those who tend to regularly book for more than are intending to play. In either of these cases the Centre will take the following action on players in breach of these rules:

#### ***Members registered for online booking.***

First penalty - suspend online booking facility for 2 weeks. Further penalty - suspend booking facility for 2 months.

#### ***Members booking over the counter/by telephone.***

Booking allowance reduced to 7 days for a period of 1 month.

**Note:** If this action fails to remedy the problem, the Golf Centre will inform the Golf Club Secretary of the actions of the individual member with a view to the Club commencing disciplinary action. Adverse weather conditions on the day of the booking will be taken into consideration when determining whether or not there has been an abuse of the booking system. Refer to Section Handicaps and Competitions for penalty when failing to honour tee times in block booked/trophy competitions.

### **To Cancel / Amend an Online Booking**

- Access the system as described above to view bookings made and click ‘timesheet’.
- Click ‘edit’ to the right-hand side of the screen.
- Select all the players you wish to amend / remove from the booking and click on ‘confirm booking’ then ‘logout’

**BEFORE COMMENCING PLAY**

**It is the responsibility of all Members to read and comply with (in letter and in spirit) Club Rules together with any notices displayed on the Notice Boards or on the tee before commencing play.**

- All members, including Silver & Gold categories, **must check in at Reception**, before entering the course.
- Any green fees due must be paid prior to teeing off.
- The green fee receipt must be retained and ready to present to the Starter/Marshal upon request.

#### **4. ORDER OF TEE TIMES IF COURSE OPENING HAS BEEN DELAYED DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS**

This information is provided to assist members in choosing whether to travel to the Golf Centre or not when the course is pending an inspection due to poor ground conditions (following inclement weather) and to also confirm the order of tee times if the course does subsequently open.

It is in the interest of members that we are reluctant to make a pre-determined decision on whether the course should close for the whole day (or part day) due to poor ground conditions. It would be simpler for us to make a call and close the course for the whole day, but we would like to give our members an opportunity to play if there is any chance of getting any part (or all of) the course open.

Inspecting the course first thing in the morning when it's dark is difficult to fully assess and make a sensible, safe decision, considering all relevant factors, which is why we allow a period before a follow-up inspection. This allows us the opportunity to fully Risk Assess and view the course with the advantage of better light. This also provides the opportunity to amend tee and hole positions if needed and adjust roped off areas if required.

We know that a decision on opening the course may go either way and the difficulty members face having to decide whether to travel or not, we apologise for this inconvenience, but as we said, we would rather allow members to play some golf, should conditions permit, rather than take the easy route of announcing we're closed for the day. Taking this into consideration we advise any members who are considering making the journey, to not travel if they are in any way inconvenienced from the course remaining closed.

Should the course fully re-open then we will try our best to get any backlog of players whose tee times have gone, and those still pending onto the course in a methodical and organised manner with the priority given to those whose tee times are in arrears. Both the 1st tee and the 10th tee shall be utilised to catch up so please be aware that 18-hole rounds may be compromised. We will make every attempt to join players up to 4 balls to reduce the waiting time and hope that members will understand and work with us.

If we are restricted to opening only 9 holes, then there is going to be even more pressure on the tee time system, but once again tee times will be prioritised as per the original tee sheet of the day. Members joining up to form 4 balls will be even more important to give everyone an equal chance to play and please note, play will be strictly restricted to 9 holes only.

Full Gold and Silver members with a reservation are reminded that they are allowed a free basket of balls on the range should the course be closed for the day. Tokens/ Balls must be used on the day.

#### **5. HANDICAPS AND COMPETITIONS**

Golf is a great game for all participants, the game that encourages all ages to come together to have fun, keep fit, enjoy the fresh air and beautiful surroundings that is frequently reported to reduce stress levels. It is also a fantastic sport for catching up with friends and just as importantly making new ones. At BGC we proudly support the opportunity provided and welcome everyone, whatever stage they are at in their golfing adventure. One of the big attractions to being a member of a golf club is being able to obtain a handicap and then eligible to take part in the competitive side of club golf. This is not something that is always available for the casual golfer.

Bromsgrove Golf Club provides a vast array of competitions to cater for our Bronze Silver and Gold Members including age specific categories. All members are welcome to participate on the basis that you have a current WHS handicap index (see below). Much of the fun of golf is taking part in Club Competitions and competing generally on

a level playing field with players of varying abilities. Here at Bromsgrove, there are three main types of Club Competitions. (please see below for more information)

There is no better sport for bringing people together and, with its winning combination of exercise, personal challenges, competition and social interaction, golf is the perfect tonic for promoting good health and wellbeing.

Many members have found that obtaining a handicap gives their game a new meaning and opens many exciting opportunities and the opportunity to play in various competitions. Quite simply, a golf handicap is a gauge of a player's ability to play golf. It allows players of all abilities to compete against each other equally and is one of the real benefits of membership.

Unlike many sports golf is played, for the most part, without the supervision of a referee or umpire. The game relies on the integrity of the individual to show consideration for other players and to abide by the Rules. All players should conduct themselves in a disciplined manner, demonstrating courtesy and sportsmanship at all times, irrespective of how competitive they may be.

Complimentary Rules of Golf books are available from Golf Course Reception.

There is a Handicap Committee responsible for allocating handicaps and maintaining handicaps based on individual performance in competitions.

Once a new member has submitted the required number of cards marked by a Full or 7 day restricted member then a handicap will be allocated and published on the notice board in the relevant locker room and on the website.

## **6. HANDICAP INDEX**

A handicap index calculated under the World Handicap System (WHS), as published by R&A and USGA and administered by England Golf, provides you with a portable measure of your demonstrated playing ability that is consistent with how all other golfers will be measured around the world in order to compete with others on a fair basis.

A handicap index is converted into a Course Handicap which will determine the number of strokes a player will receive when playing from any set of tees on a given course. The conversion process is easy and can be done by using a look-up table located near the first tee or the England Golf App.

A player's handicap is adjusted according to their score in Qualifying Competitions as well as social scores submitted. However, the Handicaps Committee have the authority to reduce or increase the handicaps of members. This rule allows such adjustments to be made with regards to a player's 'general play.' The Committee will invoke this rule when necessary.

## **7. OBTAINING A HANDICAP**

A minimum number of 54 holes must be played in order to be awarded a Handicap Index, either complete 9-hole or 18-hole rounds or a combination of these can be used to make up these 54 holes. Scores for initial handicap purposes to be submitted from the Red Course (Ladies) and yellow course (Men).

There is no requirement for players to pre-register prior to playing a round to determine the initial handicap, however the scores must be marked by a Member of a Golf Club with a Handicap Index and played in accordance with the Rules of Golf.

After obtaining a Handicap Index, Social Scores may be submitted for handicap purposes. All scores will need to be pre- registered on the 'HowDidiDo or Members V1 app before play. There is no limit to the number of social scores that may be submitted.

Handicap certificates are available from the members' online facility 'HowDidiDo' and the Member V1 App.

## **8. SUBMITTING CARDS FOR HANDICAP**

Cards for handicaps **should not** be submitted until you have completed 54 holes of golf. Once you have, clip all the cards together and deposit in the Men's / Ladies Handicap slot allocated adjacent to the club's electronic 'Player Score Input' (PSI) system near the bottom of the stairs in the clubhouse.

Upon being processed, your handicap will be displayed within the 'HowDidiDo' and 'Club V1' App. You are advised to refer to the handicap list on a regular basis to ascertain your current handicap. Confirmation may also be obtained on-line (See note below – General Handicap information)

## **9. GENERAL HANDICAP INFORMATION**

- MEN – Handicaps cannot be obtained or altered during the winter months when there are more than two temporary greens in play as this is not a measured course.
- Golfing Society Handicaps will not be recognised as official handicaps.
- Any NEW member joining the club who holds a handicap from another Club is to submit a copy of their Certificate, Playing Record or CDH number to the Handicap Chairman as soon as possible.
- Players holding a Handicap at another Club must advise the Handicap Secretary immediately of any adjustment.
- Members requiring proof of handicap i.e. Handicap Certificate, should download a copy from the 'ClubV1 Members' App

## **10. HANDICAP REVIEW**

The handicaps of all members are reviewed annually and examined under pre-determined criteria agreed by the Handicaps Committee. Adjustments are made accordingly. Any member who is of the opinion that their handicap does not genuinely reflect their playing ability is entitled, at any time, to request a handicap review. Any such request should be made in writing, to the Handicap Secretary, stating the reasons behind such a request.

Members are ultimately responsible for their own handicaps but may seek advice at any time from the Handicap Secretary or Club secretary. Members should inform the Handicap Secretary of any scores from other courses so that they may be taken into account at the annual review.

## **11. CLUB V1 MEMBERS APP**

ClubV1 Members App is a fully secured area, containing Member information which is automatically updated. Search for 'ClubV1 Members Hub' in Playstore or IOS Apps. For guidance on downloading, registering, and using this facility please see instructions listed on BGC website under 'Members Area'. The App provides members with the facility to:

- Update their personal information online.
- Members can insert or change a profile picture.
- View Real time course status.
- View Latest Club News and Newsletters.
- Login to the App and you are automatically Logged into BRS to make Member bookings.
- Book into and view Competitions directly through the ClubV1 app.
- Handicap information is displayed, number of qualifiers entered and statistics.
- Facility for member to print their own handicap certificate.
- Shows Members account balance and allows Members to top up their levy card and pay subs online.
- Collates a schedule of all public events created in our diary
- Facility to view important Members documents i.e. competition posters, forms rules, minutes etc.
- You can contact other members if they have elected to show their personal details.
- Competition results displayed including KO comps.

## 12. USING HOWDIDIDO APP

The app is downloaded to your phone from your Apple App Store or Android Google Play. Alternatively, the app is available on your computer internet browser at <https://www.howdidido.com>. The username is the same email address that you have registered at the Golf Club on the Club V1 system. If you don't know your password there is an option to reset it when logging into HowDidIDo on your internet browser.

### Check that you have sufficient funds on your members club card

Players can check the balance of their club card on the 'Club V1 Members Hub app' (selecting the "Card" option from the menu). If you need to add funds select the "Top up purse" option and follow the instructions. If you don't have the Club V1 Members Hub app it can be downloaded from your Apple App Store or Android Google Play.

### Instructions to enter a competition using the 'HowDidIDo' or 'Members V1' app

- Once you open the app, select "Today's Golf" option from the menu at the top right of the screen (three lines).
- Sign Into the competition.
- Select the "Sign In" option, and then select today's competition e.g. "June Stableford", and then "Sign In".

### Entering your score on HowDidIDo at the end of the round

Enter the scores for each hole, toggling backwards and forwards through the holes, using the + and – buttons to select the correct score. Enter a "0" for any hole with a no-score.

Once all scores are entered select "Finish", and then "Confirm" to confirm the score is correct and agreed with your partner. Your score will then be submitted to Club V1. You should select "Finish" to conclude the score entry.

### Live Leader board and results

You can select the Live Leader board option to view a summary of the scores returned. At the end.

## 13. MOBILE SCORE INPUT (MSI)

Mobile Score Input is a feature provided in our mobile app, which allows players to sign in and enter competitions, pay entry fees plus optional fees such as 'Two's sweep, and enter their score via their membership card account all from the convenience and safety of their own smartphone.

The feature is available on Android and Apple iPhones under the heading 'Today's Golf' and is one of the simplest features to use. For guidance on downloading and using this facility please see instructions listed on website under Members Area.

## 14. CLUB RULES

*(Updated May 2023)*

These Rules must be read in conjunction with all notices published or posted from time to time. All Rules are additional to the matters contained within the Club's Constitution.

- A system of booked tee times will be operated. All members have an obligation to honour the bookings that they have made or if not required, take the appropriate steps to cancel the booking – preferably at least 24 hours in advance.
- Players are not permitted to use the course as a practice ground.
- Members are not permitted to retrieve golf balls from the fields adjoining the course.
- Members retrieving balls from the Range do so at their own risk.
- Trolleys/buggies may be prohibited during winter months, at the discretion of the proprietor and/or when conditions dictate may only be allowed with 'winter wheels' fitted.
- No member can represent the Club in matches, including friendly's without holding a 'World Handicap System (WHS)' handicap index and must have returned a **minimum of 3 Acceptable scores** within the previous 12



months of the date of the fixture or entry to the competition to be eligible for prizes in Club Trophy or Major Trophy competitions.

*An Acceptable Score is a score from an authorised format of play in which the player has competed in and submitted an 18-hole qualifying competition card. These can either be from qualifying competitions at Bromsgrove Golf Club or at another golf course with a current course slope rating – Refer to Competition Rules & Regulations.*

- When representing the Club at away matches it is often the agreement that courtesy of the course is offered by the home club in order for Bromsgrove Golf Club to be able to reciprocate and pay the Centre for the tee times required for the return fixture, a levy is charged to each and every team player (including 'All Inclusive' yearly green fee members) when playing in matches both home and away. This levy is payable in addition to any charge for food (the payment of which is the responsibility of the individual member) which may be made by the Home Club (details of the current levy are displayed in the Changing Rooms and within the 'Members Area' on the website).
- Competition Rules & Regulations - see below.
- It is the responsibility of all members to read and comply with (in letter and in spirit) Club Rules and notices displayed on the Notice Boards in and around the Clubhouse, and on the Tees before commencing play, and to acquaint themselves with Local Rules and Winter Rules.
- Notices may only be posted on the boards, by those authorised by the Proprietor and/or Club Officials.

### **MEN'S & LADIES MORNINGS**

- Looking for new playing partners?
- Looking for some fun & camaraderie?
- Wishing to gain a handicap?

Regardless of age or ability our Ladies and Men's mornings provide the perfect opportunity to socialise and meet other members of the Club. Come along and have a chat or just add your name on the list to play in the changing rooms (or the Men's in the corridor).

Men's Morning: every Tuesday. For further information contact the Senior Gentlemen's Captain.

Ladies Morning: every Thursday. For further information contact the Ladies Captain.

### **SENIOR COMPETITIONS**

(Those over fifty five = TOFFS)

Those members aged 55 years and over are eligible to play in Seniors Competitions organised by the Club. The Senior Captain and Vice-Captain are elected annually at the Clubs AGM.

Monthly competitions are held, many being in a mixed format.

A number of friendly fixtures against neighbouring clubs are also arranged throughout the season and full details can be found in the Members Diary within the Club V1 App. A list is displayed on the notice board 2/3 weeks prior to the fixture and those who would like to be considered for selection to the team are asked to complete the required details.

Note: Membership category green fees apply. (Senior concessionary green fees apply from age 65 years).

### **JUNIOR SECTION**

The junior section of Bromsgrove Golf Club has gone from strength to strength over recent years. The section comprises junior members, of all playing abilities, between the ages of 10 and 17 years of age.

An Annual Presentation Evening of the Juniors Section is held annually to award trophies to the winners of the various leagues and competitions.

The Junior Captain, Vice-Captain, Junior Organiser and members to serve on the Junior Committee are elected annually at the Clubs AGM.

Regular competitions are held throughout the year played in a league format. Those who have achieved a handicap of 28 or below play in league A (played over 18 holes) and the remaining junior members enjoy 9 hole competitions in league B.

A Junior Club Championship is held annually open to those juniors with a playing handicap of 28 or less. As members of the Junior West Midlands League, junior members with handicaps of 36 and below are able to represent the Club in these inter-club matches.

Upon reaching the age of 18 years juniors then move up to the Intermediate Section of the Club until they attain 30 years of age where the Adult rate applies.

### **Juniors entering competitions**

Juniors who wish to play in weekend medals or stablefords must play their round with at least one adult playing within the two, three or fourball. Failure to play with an adult will result in the juniors being ineligible for winning prizes and further will result in disqualification from the competition. The scores of all juniors disqualified as a result of applying this rule would count towards handicap adjustments.

#### **Trophy Competitions**

Junior boys with a handicap of 30 or less and junior girls with a handicap of 38 or less can play in Club Trophy Competitions.

A maximum of two juniors can form part of any team entered for all trophy or major trophy competitions.

### **SAFEGOLF**

The SafeGolf accreditation process is designed to enable clubs, through easily accessible documents and templates, to ensure they are delivering a safe environment for the sport to be played in. This will become part of the England Golf affiliation process from April 2021 and county bodies must also achieve SafeGolf accreditation.

The Five Main areas for compliance are:

- The Club to adopt the required England Golf policies, including 'Children's and Young Persons Safeguarding policy' and 'Safeguarding Adults policy'.
- Appoint a Club Welfare Officer and will have attended a 'Safeguarding and Protecting Children' and 'Time to Listen' workshop.
- Ensure DBS checks are obtained for relevant club personnel working in a 'regulated activity'.
- Club staff and volunteers to obtain any required qualifications.
- PGA Professional(s) to be included on PGA SafeGolf Coaches Register

## **15. TYPES OF COMPETITION**

### **MONTHLY COMPETITION INFORMATION**

Regular monthly competitions in the form of Medal and Stableford are provided throughout the main season i.e. April to September, being run as 1-day competitions which you may enter on one or both of these days.

Whilst Weekday (5 day) members are restricted to weekday competitions, Full (7 day) members can play in both midweek and weekend events.

Various competitions are run throughout the year, details of which are displayed in both the 'Members V1' and 'HowDidIDo' apps with results displayed in the same apps.

**ENTRY FEES:** (Enter through HowDidIDo or Members V1 app, sum automatically deducted from Members Card).

18-hole Medal/Stableford:      - Entry Fee - £2.00

Ball sweep (Men's Competitions) – 2's (Optional) £0.50p

9-hole competitions:                      Entry fee - £2.00

## **MONTHLY COMPETITION WINNERS**

All winnings, including the ball sweep will be credited to members' card accounts. Winnings are distributed equally between Divisional Winners, after a percentage of the entrance fees are deducted for Club funds.

**Note:** In the event of the competition being cancelled due to poor weather the entrance fees will be credited back onto member's card accounts.

### **MENS:**

#### **18 hole - WEEKEND MEDAL OR STABLEFORD**

- Each day is run as a separate competition.
- Run as three divisions - Division One 0-12 Handicap, Division Two 13- 20 Handicap, Division Three 21 + Handicap.
- The winner, Runner-up, 3rd & 4th place of each division receives – cash award
- Ball Sweep winner/s receive - Cash Award  
(Cash award for winner only when less than 6 entries)

#### **18 hole - MIDWEEK MEDAL OR STABLEFORD**

- Each day is run as a separate competition.
- Run as two divisions - Division One 0-18 Handicap, Division Two 19 + Handicap,
- The winner, Runner-up & 3rd place of each division receives – cash award.
- Ball Sweep winner/s receive - Cash Award  
(Cash award for winner only when less than 6 entries)

#### **9 hole - MIDWEEK STABLEFORD (One day competition)**

- Run as one Division
- Winner, Runner-up & 3rd place receives – cash award.

(cash award for winner only when less than 6 entries)

### **LADIES:**

(All competitions as one Division)

#### **LADIES MEDALS ARE RUN ON WEEKDAY AND WEEKEND DAYS, EACH DAY IS RUN AS A SEPARATE COMPETITION**

(Competitions are run on selected Saturdays, Sundays Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays)

- Winner, Runner-up & 3rd place receives – cash award.

#### **18 hole – WEEKEND/ MIDWEEK STABLEFORD OR 9-hole STABLEFORD**

- Winner, Runner-up & 3rd place receives – cash award.

(cash award for winner only when less than 6 entries)

## **16. TROPHY & MAJOR TROPHY COMPETITIONS**

Regular programs of competitions are run throughout the Club season with a range of playing formats to suit the interests of all.

Although these competitions are run on Weekends (excluding Senior Section competitions), a number of these fixtures are also open to Weekday (5 day) members as detailed below.

(Please note that the appropriate weekend green fees apply).

- Spring Scramble (April)
- Fun Day (May)
- Club Championship (June)

- Captains Day (August)
- Fare & Feather (December)
- Santa's Scramble (December)

As well as being listed on the website, each competition is promoted by means of a poster which is displayed on the Club Notice Board, approx. 7 weeks prior to the competition date.

The poster includes details of the

- competition format,
- entry fee
- name and contact number of the person co-ordinating the competition
- the closing date by which entries must be received.

In the event that you wish to participate in the competitions or represent the club in matches, including friendlies you will require a '**WHS Handicap index**' and **complied with the qualifying criteria**. See Section 'General Handicap Information' and Competition Rules & Regulations.

Prior to entering a competition, members are advised to familiarise themselves with the Competition Rules and Regulations – which are published on the day of the Trophy Competitions

## 17. COMPETITION RULES & REGULATIONS

*(Updated May 2023)*

(To be read in conjunction with individual competition rules where posted)

**Buggies:** No restrictions apply to the use of buggies during competitions but are subject to availability and allocation is on a first come basis.

1) The maximum number of players on any tee time will not exceed four, no matter what type of match/ competition.

2) All qualifying competitions will be played from:

- Men's & Junior Boys Competitions - White Markers
- Ladies & Junior Girl Competitions - Red Markers

3) Score cards: All members are responsible for checking their score for each hole, signing their card and ensuring that the marker has signed the card, before returning it. In addition the date and their name should be recorded on the scorecard, together with their handicap. Members are also obliged to submit all cards, failure to do so without a valid reason will lead to penalty scores being applied. Incorrect completion of the scorecard may result in disqualification.

4) Monthly Competitions (Medal / Stableford): - see page

- i) Failure to show for a block booked competition: The members committee in conjunction with the proprietors have agreed that all members who enter a competition that is block booked by the club and fail to honour that tee time, without giving 24 hours notice to the coordinator, will be expected to pay a 'No show penalty' of £10.00 in addition to the loss of the competition entrance fee, before entering any further competition. Offending member's names will be posted on the notice board one month from notification of failing to comply, and subsequently membership suspension may occur.
- ii) Please note – All member's may be subject to disciplinary procedures if not adhering to this rule. ii) The Competition coordinators name will be on all notices and they will define the competition rules. Any request or dispute must be addressed to the coordinator, who will have authority to make decisions on behalf of the committee. iii) Prize money for winners and place winners will replace vouchers and payments will be credited to member's card accounts. Prize money will be determined by the entry levels.

5) Individual Knockout Competitions

All Group matches to be played by the "play-by" date as shown on the draw.

- i. There will be NO EXTENSION OF PLAYING TIME for the GROUP MATCHES unless there are extenuating circumstances agreed by the co-ordinator, prior to the 'play by' date.
- ii. All 9 hole competitions will be run over holes 1-9

If there is a dispute on this matter, it should be brought to the immediate attention of the competition co-ordinator who will make a decision on the match.

All knockout matches to be completed by the due dates as advertised unless weather conditions require an extension (decided by the Co-ordinator).

The final to be played by the stipulated date, unless there are exceptional circumstances, and an extension is agreed by the Competition & Handicap Committee and the Competition Co-ordinator. The co-ordinators decision is final.

## 6) All Trophy Competitions

i. Handicap Index limits: Men – 28, Ladies - 36. Members with a higher handicap can enter and play off the maximum handicap limit.

ii. Individual Club Match Play Knockout Competitions (e.g., Morris/ Ann Morris Bowls, Winter Match Play League) Following an agreement between the Centre and Bromsgrove Golf Club Members Committee the Centre reserves the right to join up players to make 3/4 balls in all matches up to the semi-final stage. For the semi-final and final stages the Centre agrees to reserve the tee time solely for the use of the finalists providing they receive prior notification of the status of the match from the Competition Co-ordinator and/or the players involved.

iii. Entrants must enter the competition online by using the Club V1 app. Complete the details required and non-refundable entry fee will be deducted from your Members Card Account at the time of booking. Tee times for these competitions shall be block-booked by the competition co-ordinator.

iv. Qualifying Criteria: Entry to these competitions will be restricted to players who comply with the eligibility criteria detailed below.

- All Members must have a World Handicap Index
- Members must have returned a **minimum of 3 Acceptable scores** within the previous 12 months of the date of entry, to be eligible for prizes in club Trophy Competitions and Major Trophy Competitions  
*For this criteria, an **Acceptable Score** is a score from an authorised format of play in which the player has competed in and submitted an 18-hole qualifying competition card. These can either be from qualifying competitions at Bromsgrove Golf Club or at another golf course that has a current Course and Slope Rating.*
- New members who were members of another golf club can bring their playing record from their previous club as validation of these criteria.
- Any player without the requisite number of acceptable scores may enter competitions, but will not be eligible to win the main trophy or any prize

v. In addition to the competition entry fee, green fees are still due payable by those members who would usually pay a green fee on the day unless stated otherwise on the competition poster.

7) Times of starting in a Club competition. The Rules of Golf (Rule 5.3a) state:

'The player must start at (and not before or after) his or her starting time.'

'If a player arrives at the teeing ground ready to play no more than 5 minutes late or the player starts no more than 5 minutes early, the general penalty (Loss of hole) is applied to the first hole in match play or 2 strokes in stroke play instead of disqualification.' **NOTE:** Otherwise, the penalty is – disqualification.

Further Rule 23-4 Best Ball and Four Ball Match play, states:

'A side may be represented by one partner during all or any part of a round; it is not necessary for both partners to be present, or if present, for both to play on each hole. If a partner is absent and then arrives to play, that partner may start play for the side, only between the play of two holes.'

## 8) Temporary Greens during a Medal or Stableford Competition:

The Rules of Golf state: “The position of each hole and each teeing ground must be in the same position for all competitors, on any one day of competition and the length of the course played must not vary by more than 100 yards (91 metres) from the length of the measured course”.

If the course is shortened because of the moving of the flag stick (temporary greens) before the start of the competition, the competition will be a non-qualifying event for that day, but if the flag stick is moved once the competition has started it becomes a non-competition.

In the event of a Qualifying Competition extending over more than one day, the Competition Scratch Score (C.S.S.) shall be calculated for each day. If on the first day of the competition full greens are in play then the event is a qualifying competition, but if on the second day the course changes (i.e. temporary greens) before the start of that days competition it will be a non-qualifying event for that day. If subsequently the flag stick is then moved during the competition it will become a non-competition and vice versa for full greens on the second day.

9) In the event of Hazardous Weather Conditions affecting play during competition, please refer to the section headed ‘Hazardous Weather Conditions’ for further clarification

## 10) Pace of play

i) Under Rule 5.6, the Committee has determined that a maximum Pace of Play target time should be in force for all competitions of 4 hours and 10 minutes.

ii) The Competition Co-ordinators appointed by the Committee will be on the course during the competition to act as marshals with regards to pace of play.

iii) Under Rule 5.6, the Committee has determined that the Competition Coordinators may issue warnings where appropriate with regard to pace of play and if warnings are not heeded, a one penalty stroke shot may be applied to each member of the offending group.

11) Ready Golf In stroke play, there is no penalty for playing out of turn, and players are both allowed and encouraged to play out of turn in a safe and responsible way for convenience or to save time. Because the order of play is central in match play, if a player plays out of turn, the opponent may cancel that stroke and make the player play again or to save time you and your opponent may agree to play out of turn.

12) Distance- Measuring Devices For all competitions run by the Club at this course, a player may use equipment to obtain distance or directional information. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses, a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g. gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 4-3a, for which the penalty for the first breach is “General penalty” and for the second breach -disqualification.

13) The winner of each match, in every round, is responsible for entering their name on the displayed draw sheet immediately after the completion of the match or before the completion date of that round. Failure to do so will lead to disqualification.

## Free Warm-up Basket of Balls for Trophy Competitions

It has been agreed by the Centre to provide **A Free Warm-up Basket of 30 Balls** prior to teeing off, to all entrants of the **Trophy Competitions** listed below. These will be provided on the day the competition.

**Spring Scramble**

**Captains Shield**

**Fun Day**

**Dallaway Shield**

**Terry Matthews Salver**

**Club Championship**

**Ladies Club championship**

**Porter Dickson Cup**

**Summer Scramble**

**Junior Club Championship**

**Foursomes Cup**  
**K Johnson Cup**  
**Collier Cup**  
**Captains Day**  
**Pairs Stableford**  
**Bogey Challenge**  
**Fare & Feather**  
**Santa Scramble**  
**Senior Men's Pairs Open**  
**Ladies AmAm**

## 18. TROPHY COMPETITION FORMATS

*(Updated May 2023)*

Note, the reference to handicaps in all competitions refers to WHS Handicap Index.

Handicap Index limits: Men – 28, Ladies 36. Members with a higher handicap can enter and play off the maximum handicap limit.

\* Denotes also open to Weekday (5 day) members

### LADIES & GENTLEMENS TROPHY COMPETITIONS

- \*Spring Scramble – Open to all Club members with a WHS handicap Index – Teams of four (can be mixed) - Enter as a team. Handicap 25%, 20%, 15% & 10% from lowest to highest handicap.
- Captains' Shield – Full (7 day) members with a WHS handicap Index only –individual Medal Format – 3 clubs of choice plus putter – Full Handicap. Captains will drive in prior to this event.
- Dallaway Shield – Full (7 day) members with a WHS handicap Index only – Pairs better ball Stableford - Teams of two (enter as pairs) can be mixed. Handicap allowance 85% each player.
- \*Fun Day – Open to all members – Format decided by Vice Captains.
- Foursomes Cup – Full (7 day) members with a WHS handicap Index only – enter as Pairs – (Not Mixed) Handicap 50% of combined handicap.
- Committee Cup – Committee Members only - Pairs Stableford can be mixed– 85% Handicap.
- \*Captains' Day – Open to all members with a WHS handicap Index – Format and Handicap allowance decided by Captains.
- \*Summer Scramble – Open to all Club members with a WHS handicap Index – Teams of four (can be mixed) - Enter as a team. Handicap 25%, 20%, 15% & 10% from lowest to highest handicap
- Porter-Dickson Cup – Full (7 day) members with a WHS handicap Index only Fourball Better ball Stableford– Teams of four (enter as teams of four – can be mixed. Max 2 juniors) – Handicap 85% each player – best two net scores out of four to count on each hole.
- Pairs' Stableford – Full (7 day) members only with a WHS handicap Index – (Enter as teams of two – not mixed) – Handicap 85% each player. Best Stableford score each hole.
- \*Fare and Feather – Shot gun start – 8.00am. Open to All Members with a WHS handicap Index – Pairs better ball Stableford – Enter as pairs (not mixed) Handicap 85% each player – max 112 entry.
- \*Santa's Scramble – Shot gun start – 8.20am. Open to all members with a WHS handicap Index- Teams of Four (can be mixed) - Enter as a team. Handicap 25%, 20%, 15% & 10% from lowest to highest handicap
- K. Johnson Cup – Full (7 day) members with a WHS handicap Index only Pairs Medal Greensome competition – (enter as pairs – can be mixed) – Handicap Allowance: 60% of low handicap + 40% high handicap.

- Greensome Foursomes Knockout Cup – Full (7 day) members with a WHS handicap Index only – Pairs of players choosing own partners (2 men or Ladies – Not Mixed) Handicap – 50% of combined team handicap.
- \*Pairs Winter League Knock out Trophy – (including Plate Competition for first round losers) – Open to ALL members with a WHS handicap Index (5-day members must be prepared to play at weekends) - Better ball – Match play – Handicap 85% difference off the lowest player. No mixed pairs.
- \*Winter Singles Competition - Open to all members - Ladies and Men - 6 best aggregate scores from 24 rounds to count - best 32 aggregate players scores qualify for the Knock -Out stages. Full Handicap and all players must use the Men's White Stroke Index. Knock out stages Full Handicap difference.

## **MENS TROPHY COMPETITIONS**

- Bogey Challenge – Bogey/Par competition (Full handicap) Qualifiers are all divisional winners of 18 hole, Monthly, Weekend & Midweek, Medal & Stableford competitions from April to September inclusive. Holders qualify automatically for the next year's competition.

## **LADIES TROPHY COMPETITIONS**

- Bogey Challenge – Bogey/Par competition (Full handicap) Qualifiers are all divisional winners of 18 hole, monthly, Weekend & Midweek, Medal & Stableford competitions from April to September inclusive. Holders qualify automatically for the next year's competition.
- \*Ladies AmAm Open – Open to all members -Details to be posted
- \*Ladies – 9 Hole – Pairs Winter League. Open to seniors (age 55yrs and over) with a WHS handicap Index. Pairs Betterball – Matchplay, Handicap 3/8 differences.

## **SENIORS' TROPHY COMPETITIONS**

- \*Collier Cup – Open to seniors (age 55yrs and over at start of competition) with a WHS handicap Index- Pairs Greensomes (Medal) –Enter as mixed pairs – will except individual entries. Handicap Allowance: 60% of low handicap + 40% high handicap.
- \*Terry Matthews Salver – Open to seniors (age 55yrs and over at start of competition) with a WHS Handicap Index. Pairs Stableford, enter as individuals, mixed teams of 2 (depends on entries) to be drawn – Handicap 85% each player.
- \*Walton Shield Knockout – Open to all seniors (age 55yrs and over at start of competition) with a WHS handicap Index. Enter as Mixed Pairs– Fourball Better ball Matchplay – 85% of Full Handicap.
- \*Senior Gentlemen's Winter League – Senior Men Fourball Better ball – Matchplay. Handicap allowance: 85% of difference. League followed by Knock out. All players must be aged 55yrs and over and have a WHS handicap Index.
- Senior Gentlemen's Pairs Open – Open to Senior Men over the age of 55yrs with an official Club handicap Index.

## **JUNIORS TROPHY COMPETITIONS**

Junior Club Championship – open to Junior members with a Competition handicap (boys 28, girls 36) or less. 18 holes individual medal.

## **19. MAJOR TROPHY COMPETITION FORMATS**

*(Updated May 2023)*

Note, the reference to handicaps in all competitions refers to WHS Handicap Index.

Handicap Index limits: Men – 28, Ladies 36. Members with a higher handicap can enter and play off the maximum handicap limit.

\* Denotes also open to Weekday (5 day) members.



## **MEN'S MAJOR TROPHY COMPETITIONS**

- \*Club Championship – Open to All Members with WHS handicap Index – 2 x 18-hole individual Medal rounds (played over 2 days) – Handicap Scratch / Full.
- First round is played in handicap order; second round to be played in order of gross scores within their division.
- Slideslow Cup – Qualifiers are the (optional) top 31 net scores (+ last year's champion) from the May Weekend Medal competition – Individual match play knockout (Full handicap difference) - Open to Full (7 day) members.
- Morris Bowl – Open to Full (7 day) Members with a WHS handicap Index – Individual Matchplay Knockout– Handicap full difference.

## **LADIES' MAJOR TROPHY COMPETITIONS**

- Ann Morris Bowl – Open to Full (7 day) Lady Members with WHS handicap Index. Individual Matchplay knockout– Handicap full difference.
- \*Ladies Club Championship – Open to All Lady Members with WHS handicap Index.– 36 Holes Medal (played over 1 day) Handicap Scratch/Net.

## **SENIORS' MAJOR TROPHY COMPETITIONS**

- \*Gentlemen's T.O.F.F.S. Trophy (The Over 55's) Senior men with a WHS handicap Index – Matchplay Knockout – Handicap full difference.
- \*Ladies T.O.F.F.S. Trophy (The Over 55's) Senior ladies with a WHS handicap Index. Matchplay Knockout – Handicap full difference.
- \*Gentlemen's Vets Trophy – (The over 70's) with a WHS handicap Index - Matchplay knockout – Handicap full difference.
- \*Ladies Vets Trophy – (The over 70's) with a WHS handicap index– Matchplay knockout – Handicap full difference.

## **20. LOCAL RULES**

Please refer to the scorecard for details of Local Rules.

From time-to-time new local rules are introduced either on a permanent or temporary basis. Existing rules are also sometimes changed. This means that the scorecard may not always be up to date, if this is the case then any revisions will be made as at 1st January of each year with complete revisions being undertaken when scorecards need re-printing.

A copy of the fully updated local rules will be displayed prominently in the clubhouse, locker rooms and in the 'Members Area' on the website and Club V1 app.

### **HOLE IN ONE**

The Members Committee provide a bottle of whiskey to be used at the time by the member concerned to fulfil the old tradition of providing a round of drinks after achieving a hole-in-one during an official 'Club qualifying trophy competition' held on main greens. See notice in changing rooms.

### **PRESENTATION NIGHT & AWARDS**

At the end of the season the Club holds their Presentation Night. This is the evening when the Club honours the major competition winners and runners up by presenting them with their trophies. The event is open to all members, with priority offered to those who have been successful in winning a competition where any Monetary

Awards will be credited to members card accounts and where applicable, names entered on the Club's 'Honour Boards' displayed in the foyer.

The evening usually takes the form of the Presentation by the Club Captains to the winners, and an excellent buffet prepared by the Centre's Chefs. This is a date to be remembered and entered in your diary.

## REPRESENTING THE CLUB

*(Updated May 2023)*

The Club have several teams entered in various Inter-Club leagues, which provide members of all playing standards with the opportunity to represent the Club. A list is displayed, on the notice board, at the start of every season by each team captain asking for the names of members who would like to be considered to represent the club.

No Member can represent the Club in external leagues, friendly matches, and Trophy Competition entry without complying with the eligibility criteria as follows. A player must have returned a **minimum of 3 Acceptable Scores** within the previous 12 months of the date of the match – Refer to 'Competition Rules and Regulations'.

When representing the Club at away matches, courtesy of the course is usually offered by the home club. For Bromsgrove Golf Club to reciprocate and pay the Centre for the tee times required for the return fixture, a levy is charged to each and every team player (including 'All Inclusive' yearly green fee members) when playing in matches both at **home** and **away**. Details of the current levy payable are displayed on the notice board headed 'Competition Entry Fees'. This levy is payable in addition to any charge for food (the payment of which is the responsibility of the individual member) which may be made by the Home Club (details of the current levy are displayed in the changing rooms).

## 21. PLAYERS SAFETY GUIDELINES

It is the responsibility of all persons playing or practising golf to take all possible Care (and appropriate precautions) for the health and safety of themselves and other users of the golf course and Centre.

- Always wear proper golf footwear. During winter and wet conditions, hard spikes are recommended.
- Stand a safe distance away from other golfers, when you or they are preparing to take a swing and be aware of golfers nearby who may be playing towards you.
- Never hit your ball until you are confident that any golfers or footpath users ahead are clear and out of range.
- Players retrieving golf balls from the Golf Range or the lake perimeter on the 16th hole, do so at their own risk.
- Shout "FORE" if you drive further than expected, hit a wayward shot or if golfers ahead suddenly become visible, in order to inform the person's likely to be endangered.
- Upon hearing FORE, immediately turn away, take cover where possible and protect your head with your arms.
- Please note that Greenkeepers have priority. DO NOT PLAY to where greens staffs are working until they have moved aside or called you through.
- Protect yourself from exposure to the sun with a strong sunscreen and wide brimmed hat. Avoid dehydration by drinking plenty of water.
- Drive Golf buggies sensibly and with care, avoiding high speeds, steep banks, and golf course hazards i.e. bunkers and tree lined areas. Comply with safety instructions displayed.

## 22. HAZARDOUS WEATHER CONDITIONS

**Suspension of Play due to Lightning:** (See 'Competition Play' below) A decision to carry on playing during adverse weather conditions is left to the discretion of the player, who MUST accept full responsibility for his/her, safety. The Centre, however, strongly recommend you stop play particularly when thunder and lightning is prevalent in the area. Remember thunder means lightning is nearby.

Where there is an imminent risk of lightning and play is suspended (Denoted by - 1 long blast of the klaxon), the instructions below MUST BE STRICTLY adhered to:

- One long blast - it is mandatory that you cease play and leave the course.
- If the Klaxon is not sounded and a player believes there is a real danger from lightning by proceeding, he/she is entitled to discontinue play under Rule 5-7 (a & b).
- If you are golfing and there is not sufficient time to evacuate the course, the clubhouse is too far away and there is a threat of lightning, your best protection is to leave your clubs and crouch down in a bunker.
- Keep as low as possible and ideally crouch down in the nearest bunker/hollow make yourself as small a target as possible.
- Leave your golf equipment where it is and stand away from it.
- Do not use a mobile phone – make sure it is switched off.
- Do not put an umbrella up under any circumstances.
- Please note that golf buggies do NOT give protection from lightning.
- It is the player's own responsibility to discontinue play when, in his/her opinion, a danger from lightning exists.
- If there is a resumption of play, even if this occurs on a subsequent day, notified by the sounding of the Klaxon (2 short blasts – repeated), players must resume play from where it was discontinued. (Rule 5-7c.)
- Bromsgrove Golf Club/ Centre accept no liability for any Member or Guest who fails to co-operate with any decision to suspend play and close the course.
- Any refunds of green fees due because of play being suspended, is the responsibility of the Golf Centre, and will be subject to their normal policy on refunds (Where agreed the refund will be in the form of credit vouchers. No cash refunds will be given).

#### **Suspension of Competition Play due to Lightning:**

*(Updated May 2023)*

Scenarios 1. Play is suspended for the duration of the lightning storm but reopens as soon as it has passed:

- As required by the Rules of Golf, if the Centre (Committee) reopens the course after the suspension of play, then those Members who have entered a competition are required to go back out and complete their round from the point where they had marked their ball.
- Failure to do so means disqualification from the competition and players may incur a Penalty Score if play is suspended but they fail to resume play when instructed to do so. This is an invalid reason for not completing the round

Scenarios 2. Play is suspended due to the lightning and the course doesn't reopen within a reasonable time (eg: within 1 hour of the actual time of suspension).

- The competition will be abandoned, and no winners will be declared.  
*Abandoned rounds (competition or general play) occur when play is stopped for dangerous or extreme weather conditions, and it is not possible for play to resume. These rounds do not result in Penalty Scores because the reason for suspending play is valid.*
- Players who have completed their round, at the time play is suspended, will submit their scores as usual.
- Players who have completed at least 10 holes will be required to submit their score which will be scaled-up automatically to 18 holes by the WHS platform.
- Any player who has completed less than 10 holes do not have to submit a score.
- The returned scorecard should be processed using the actual scores achieved on the holes completed but designating those not played as "not started".  
*When this situation arises, anyone who has completed 10 holes or more must enter their score for handicap purposes. As the competition is abandoned then entry fees for all entrants will be refunded.*

## **Fog:**

- In the event of fog reducing visibility on the course, it is the individual member's responsibility to stop play if they believe that the likely landing place of the ball is not visible from where they are playing their shot.
- Competitions – Medal or Stableford: - If play is stopped due to poor visibility and there is no resumption of play, the competition will be treated as a 'Non qualifying' event for that day. Competitions – Match Play – where play is discontinued by agreement between the players, they are not subject to disqualification, unless by doing so the competition is delayed.
- Any refunds of green fees due to play being suspended, is the responsibility of the Golf Centre, and will be subject to their normal policy on refunds (Where agreed the refund will be in the form of credit vouchers. No cash refunds will be given).

## **23. PERSONAL INSURANCE:**

Members should note that the proprietors, management, and staff of Bromsgrove Golf Centre will not accept any responsibility or liability for any loss or damage to equipment and/or property, or injury sustained by you or caused to other people whilst on Bromsgrove Golf Centre land or property. It is the responsibility of everyone to make sure they are adequately insured for any loss or damage to their own equipment, howsoever caused, and legal liability to third parties for bodily injury or damage to property whilst playing or practising at Bromsgrove Golf Centre.

## **24. DRESS CODE and COURSE ETIQUETTE**

### **Dress Code**

Although our dress code is relaxed, we respectfully ask players to still adopt a smart/casual appearance when using the golf course.

Our Dress Code is smart/casual Please ensure you have the correct footwear If unsure, our staff are always happy to advise Golf apparel is available in the Golf Shop Guidance on what is deemed to be Inappropriate attire is detailed below.

The following items of clothing are **NOT ACCEPTABLE**, Tracksuits, shell suits, football shirts or any Team shirts with emblazoned logos, Combat Trousers, Baggy Cargo's, Denim jeans, Hoodies, T Shirts, Sleeveless tops.

For Ladies – please wear appropriate clothing to protect your modesty.

### **Pace of Play**

A round of golf is meant to be played at a prompt pace. In stroke play, play "ready golf" in a safe and responsible way. All players should acquaint themselves with the guidance provided on the notice at the first tee and observe the target times displayed. See also Sections 19 - Competition Rules & Regulations.

## **25. CARE OF THE COURSE**

- A well-maintained golf course is a pleasure to play. Please do your utmost to keep your course in good condition by following these simple rules.
- On the Tee Take your practice swings OFF the tee.
- DO NOT replace divots. Use the sand/ seed mixture in the Seed Boxes provided on the tee to fill divots.
- Never pull your trolley over a teeing area. Local notices regulating use must be strictly observed.
- On the Fairway Keep to paths and walkways where possible.
- Avoid damage to trees and shrubs In the Bunker Carefully rake to smooth over all footmarks and holes by using the rake, as you leave. It is recommended that the rake be left inside the bunker in such a position as to cause the least interference to play.

- Always enter and leave bunkers by the lowest part of the bank or the point least likely to displace sand. NEVER climb out of the bunker by the steep face.
- CARE OF GREENS A pitch mark on the Green takes a few seconds to repair.
- If you do this as soon as you arrive on the Green, the grass will recuperate in 24 hours. If the pitch mark is left for only one hour, the grass takes 2 weeks to recuperate completely. Therefore, the quality of the Green partly relies on the golfer's good etiquette. Take care when removing or replacing the flagstick so as not to damage the hole.
- Please take a few seconds of your time to repair your pitch mark, shoe damage (such as spike marks) and scrapes or indentations caused by equipment or flagstick. Restore divots, repair ball marks and damage by spikes In the General Area, a player should ensure that any turf cut or displaced by him is replaced at once and pressed down.
- Golf Buggies/Golf Trolleys Local notices regulating use must be strictly observed. Note: Trolleys/Buggies may be prohibited during the winter months, and at other times at the discretion of the Proprietor.

## 26. MEMBERS BENEFITS

### County Membership Scheme

Members of Bromsgrove Golf Club, who have an official WHS Handicap Index can take advantage of the County Membership Scheme which allows holders of the County App to visit up to 1200 golf clubs across the UK and enjoy reduced green fee rates in the process.

All Men and Boys who are affiliated to a Worcestershire Club are entitled to a free County App, through the payment of their normal affiliation fee.

The Scheme, run through Intelligent Golf, which the County uses for their website and competition package is very simple to use when set up. Thus, the Intelligent Golf App is available to anyone (men and boys) in Worcestershire, and costs nothing to download onto your mobile device.

To obtain your card:

- Log into your normal app store on your phone.
- Search for ig golf (or intelligent golf) and then locate ig County App – it is free.
- Load and Install the App.
- Enter the County Card part of the menu.
- Enter your details as requested – every member will need their CDH number (please note if you don't have an official handicap you are not eligible for a County Card)
- Refresh the screen.
- County Card should be displayed, including County Logo, members name, current date, home club and handicap, and will be available every time you subsequently open the App and log in
- OR, you can save the County Card to the "wallet" on your phone

You only need to go through the upload process once, and then the card is there forever, provided **you remain** a member of a Worcestershire affiliated club.

### Life Membership

In recognition of Members loyalty to Bromsgrove Golf Club, those Senior members who have reached the age of 85 on or before their renewal date in the qualifying year, will be awarded a Life Membership by the Golf Centre. To qualify, Members must have been a Silver or Gold Member for a continuous period of 10 years prior to the qualifying date. The category of Life Membership awarded will reflect the same type of membership that the Member had prior to the award. Life Membership means that the main element of annual membership subscription fee will be covered by the Golf Centre, but members will still be liable for England Golf Union Fees and Members Fund Contributions and any locker hire if applicable, as detailed on the annual renewals.

Members may also be provided with a Golf Buggy Discount Mobility Card which will enable them to hire at a reduced rate.

Life Memberships are awarded annually to those who qualify with a presentation being made at the AGM.

### Reciprocal Golf

Arrangements have now been put in place for our members to enjoy a low cost round of golf at other clubs. The Clubs which have agreed to this (with the same arrangements being mirrored at Bromsgrove) are:



**Gaudet Luce Golf Club**, Droitwich. Telephone number 01905 796375.

<http://www.gaudet-luce.co.uk/>



**Kington Golf Club**, Bradnor Hill, Kington, Herefordshire, HR5 3RE

<http://www.kingtongolf.co.uk/>



**Brickhampton Court Golf Complex**, Cheltenham Road, Gloucester. GL2 9QF

<https://www.brickhampton.co.uk/> 01452 858600

We are thrilled to confirm details of our blossoming relationship with Brickhampton Court Golf Complex, members will receive a fantastic (reciprocal) 50% off green fees upon production of their current BGC membership Card.

On our main larger Corporate/ Charity days that may impact on members playing enjoyment we have also agreed a block booking of tee times that enables our member to receive FREE golf and benefits associated with their cards. For Example, Members card discounts for F&B and Buggy Hire and Range Discounts.

When making a booking, telephone the Pro Shop and quote '**Reciprocal Golf**' and present your **Bromsgrove Golf Club Members Card** upon arrival.

### Network Golf

We are delighted to be part of Network Golf, a group of over 30 like-minded clubs that have teamed together to offer our members FREE reciprocal golf on weekdays. Weekends and Bank Holidays will be available but at a special guest rate applied by the host club.

This offer applies to our **Full ADULT 12-month gold and silver members** who can play up to a maximum of **5 times a year** at each participating club. For further information, T&C's and a list of our partner clubs go to [www.network.golf](http://www.network.golf)

To enjoy these benefits, members will need to purchase a NETWORK.golf card at an annual rate of £10.00.

### Short Game Area

As a member you are free to use to our unrivalled high-spec short game practice area which is accessed via the corridor after passing through the left-hand range bays. This unique facility comprises of large green with a contoured surround ideally suited for chipping of various lies together with two practice bunkers. Members must use their own balls, not range balls.

### Members Benefit when the Course is Closed

Should the golf course be closed due to unfavourable weather conditions, those Silver & Gold members who have a tee time reservation booked on the day but are then unable to play, are entitled on the day to a basket of 30 Range balls to use with Trackman on the range (for their own use) as per below:

Gold Members – balls available Monday to Sunday

Silver Members – balls available Monday to Friday

Note: members must understand that no discount/ reduction will be provided to those who pay All-Inclusive fees but are unable to play due to unfavourable weather conditions. It is an understanding that members will play much more golf in the summer months than the Winter and membership is on the basis that you take the rough with the smooth.

## 8 Month Membership

Available to those Members who find the Winter months a little bit heavy going and would prefer to play their golf when conditions are more favourable. Please ask for details.

## Buggy Discount for members with restricted mobility

- Restricted Mobility – Discount Card  
Members who have restricted mobility and are able to provide a valid 'medical confirmation of disability' (as provided by a registered GP or Consultant) may qualify for a Buggy Discount Card which provides Buggies at a reduced hire rate. To apply for a discount card (or to establish if you qualify) please provide the required evidence or contact a member of the reception team.

## GUESTS OF SILVER AND GOLD MEMBERS

Silver and Gold members have the added benefit of being able to introduce up to three guests at a discounted rate on each visit, subject to the conditions below:

- The concession is based upon 18-hole rounds only.
- The Gold/ Silver member **must be** present during the registration of the guest and accompany them during the 18-hole round.
- Gold members can introduce guests on any day of the week.
- Silver members can only introduce guests during Monday-Friday (including Bank Holidays).

## 27. GOLF SOCIETY & CLUB PRE- BOOKED TEE TIMES

Pre-booked tee times are often frowned upon by other members as they are often considered an infringement upon their playing opportunities. However, members must be aware that club matches and Golf Societies are an important element in maintaining both a healthy membership and the viability of the Centre. In agreement with the Members Committee, tee times are restricted to set (agreed) times to reduce the impact on members.

## 28. COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS

- Web Site - The Centre's Web Site ([www.bromsgrovegolfcentre.com](http://www.bromsgrovegolfcentre.com)) has an area specifically for members where a host of information can be found, including forthcoming events, latest news and a number of useful links. Please note that Members data is not stored on the website and not required to access the members area.
- Facebook – The Golf Centres Facebook page is also a great way to keep up to date with many things going on behind the scenes and again is accessible via the Centre's website. If you would like to receive immediate notification of the latest news, simply sign up and then 'Like' our page.
- Suggestion Box - Constant feed-back from the membership is considered to be an important element in retaining a healthy club. To enable members to communicate their ideas, concerns or observations, a 'Suggestion Box' is located on the Golf Reception counter, sharing the same slot as the 'Competition Entries'.
- Members Newsletter – regular newsletters are sent out to Members who have registered their email

addresses with the Centre. Don't miss out inform Reception of your email address if you would like to receive a copy.

- BRS App - The BRS Golf Members App provides an alternative and most convenient way to book your next tee times. The app is now available free of charge via the iOS App Store or Google Play stores.
- My England Golf App - Provides England Golf Club members with access to their golfing scores, profile and monitoring of your handicap, view your scoring record for each round and receive notifications such as handicap updates.
- Notice Boards Please remember to familiarise yourself with the various bits of information that are displayed on the Clubhouse notice boards. Please note, only notices authorised by the Proprietor or Club Officials may be posted on these boards.

### **39. MOBILE PHONE POLICY**

- Mobile phones should be on silent or vibrate mode at all times on the course and in the clubhouse. They may be used on the course only in emergencies.
- We would ask that should Members wish to make or respond to a voice call whilst in the clubhouse they may do so discreetly preferably outside the confines of the building.
- The Club understands that mobile phones are now used for more than voice calls and WiFi is available in the clubhouse.
- The Club requests that due respect is given to fellow members and guests.

### **30. DATA PROTECTION**

Your privacy is important to us, so we'll always keep your details secure and never use them for marketing communications that you haven't agreed to receive. We may share your information with credit reference agencies and other companies for use in credit decisions, for fraud prevention and to pursue debtors, together with disclosure of information in fulfilment of the membership contract to England golf, BRS Golf, Club Systems and World Handicap System Competition software.

We will ask you to agree for your appropriate personal data to be disclosed to BRS Golf, Club Systems and World Handicap System to run and administer the handicap and competition information and tee booking system. If you choose to hear from us, we will from time to time send you relevant information based on what is most relevant to your membership category. This may be about membership, events, or competitions. We will never share your information with companies outside Bromsgrove Golf centre for inclusion in their marketing. If you agree to receive marketing information from BGC, you can change your mind and opt out at any time. We will also ask for your consent for your contact details to be included in the members Diary.