



# GREENACRES GOLF CLUB

## New Members Guide

### Introduction

The Council and members of Greenacres Golf Club would like to extend a warm welcome to you. Whether you are an experienced golfer, a novice or junior we hope you enjoy your golf with us.

The following information has been put together to give you an understanding of the Golf Club. We hope you find the information useful.

Whilst we all strive to be competitive and give a good account of ourselves in all competitions we all recognise that golf should be enjoyed. Good etiquette both on and off the course helps us all to enjoy the game. So please avoid slow play, repair pitch marks, replace divots and rake bunkers.

### Membership of Greenacres Golf Club

Adult, Student or Junior membership of the Golf Club is payable in addition to your centre fees. Just complete an application form and leave for the attention of the Membership Secretary in the Treasurers slot of the cabinet in the member's room. This payment is to cover the administration costs of the club and allows you to:

- Apply for a GUI recognised handicap
- Enter Greenacres Golf Club weekly competitions
- Have coverage under the Greenacres Golf Club 3<sup>rd</sup> party insurance policy
- Represent, if selected, Greenacres Golf Club in interclub events.
- Access to the club officials for advice and assistance when needed.

### Playing Handicaps

To apply for a handicap please forward a current handicap certificate if you are transferring from another club to the Match & Handicap Secretary.

Alternatively, a player must submit a required number of nine and/or eighteen cards played over a measure course at his home club. Any permutation of nine and eighteen cards may be submitted but must total a minimum of 54 holes. Each card must be marked and signed by a member with a CONGU handicap. At Greenacres the measured courses are the full eighteen holes or holes 1 to 9 played of either the White or Blue Tee Markers. Please indicate on the score cards being submitted which tees were used.

Once the card has been completed please place it into the Match & Handicap Slot of the cabinet in the members room and either with the first or last a brief note of any playing experience. Examples:

- Was a member of X Golf Club Y years ago and played of Z handicap
- I'm member of a society and play X times a year; society handicap is
- I'm just starting to play golf

Until the cards and accompanying information have been submitted and a handicap has been allocated new members can play with another member in any club competition from the competition tees.

Once the Match & Handicap Committee has calculated your handicap and verified with the membership secretary the club membership fee has been paid, your name will be added to the GUI managed Golfnet website. Shortly afterwards the GUI will post to the Golf Club your GUI card and you will then be eligible to play in 'open' competitions at other GUI affiliated clubs.

To enter these competitions, you will be required to produce your GUI card and / or a valid handicap certificate.

Handicap Certificates can be requested by completing a request slip and placing it in the Match & Handicap slot of the cabinet. You should request all certificates at least one week in advance. Certificates will be available for collection from the Golf Centre reception.

### **Club Computer / Touch Screen**

The club uses the CONGU licensed Club Systems to manage members handicap. Members can then access this through the touch screen in the member's room and their individual scores and season progress through [www.howddido.com](http://www.howddido.com) and [www.golfnet.ie](http://www.golfnet.ie) websites.

A week after submitting the cards for handicap, new members should use the touch screen and/or the howdidido website to check if their handicap has been allocated.

### **Club Competitions**

The club organises competitions throughout the year with the main competitions being held on a Saturday. During the summer months, additional Stableford competitions include the 5 Day Members Trophy, Over 60 Trophy, Midweek and Sunday competitions.

The Saturday competitions are managed by the club and are open to all members\*. Tee times are controlled via a start sheet which is published three weeks in advance by the club.

\* Five day members must pay the appropriate fee to the Golf Centre and juniors must have handicap of 20 or less.

The midweek competitions are managed on behalf of the club by the Golf Centre. Again, all Weekday / 5 Day members are welcome to play the Sunday competition provided they pay the relevant green fee to the Golf Centre. Tee times for these competitions should be booked in advance through the Golf Centre.

During the winter months, the club runs a Winter League for members playing on a Saturday, Sunday or Midweek as well as a 60 Plus Winter Trophy. Details for each of these events will be published on the notice boards and the club website.

### **Saturday Start Sheet**

The Saturday start sheet allocates members a tee time, with the first group teeing off at around 6.30am during the summer months followed by groups at 8 minute intervals. Earlier tee times are popular so unfortunately new members to the club will need to either avail of the later tee times or seek an earlier time as it becomes available. To have your name added to the start sheet write to the Match & Handicap Secretary stating your preferred time slot.

The start sheet is managed through the touch screen in the member's room and the [www.howdidido.co.uk](http://www.howdidido.co.uk) website. All members are required to remove their name from it by Friday evening at 5.30pm, if they are unable to play. This means that individual spaces become available throughout the time sheet. Other members are free to enter their name into a free space.

Members who fail to remove their name from an assigned tee time will be fined the competition entry fee and will be ineligible to compete in future competitions until the fine is paid. Members failing to withdraw their name for 3 subsequent weeks will automatically lose their entitlement to that tee time. If exceptional circumstances apply you must notify the Match & Handicap Committee in writing.

Until the three cards have been submitted and a handicap has been allocated new members wishing to play during a Saturday competition should contact the Match & Handicap Secretary.

### **Saturday Competitions**

Upon arrival at the club members are required to sign into the competition on the club computer before reporting to the starter at least 10 minutes before their allocated tee time. Failure to do so will result in a 2-shot penalty and may result in disqualification from the competition. Entry into a Saturday competition will be £5.00 unless otherwise stated.

On occasions the starter will require you to move from your regular fourball. It is expected that players will respect and facilitate instructions from the starter. The starter is there to facilitate your entry to the competition. If he/she imposes a fine or penalty it is at the request of the club council. Please respect the authority given to the starter – do not get into a dispute with the starter. Please forward your appeal or details of your dispute in writing to the Match & Handicap committee. Any verbal abuse directed at the starter or such appointed officer on duty will be brought to the attention of the council.

Upon completion of the round your score should be entered onto the handicapping system using the touch screen and the SIGNED card placed into the relevant slot in the cabinet. If you have been lucky enough to score a 2 or better, place the card into the 2's slot. All score cards should be returned at the end of the round even if the score is not entered onto the computer. Failure to enter a score onto the computer or return a card will result in a No Return.

Please ask the starter for help signing in and entering your score.

### **No Return Policy**

A player entering a club qualifying competition must return his card to the committee as soon as possible after completing his round i.e. enter his score in the computer and/or return his card. Consequently, the following actions will be taken against members who do not return their score cards:

<b>NR</b>	<b>Action</b>
1st	Player will receive a written warning
2nd	Player will be suspended from all club competitions for 1 week
3rd	Player will be suspended from all club competitions for 1 month
4th	Player will be referred to the council for further action

### **Midweek / Sunday / 60 Plus Competitions**

These competitions may be entered as a 2 ball.

Upon arrival at the club members are required to sign into the competition on the club computer and pay the relevant entrance fee at reception before proceeding to the first tee.

Entry into the Sunday and Wednesday competitions will be £5.00 with the 60 Plus Competition entry fee to be confirmed.

Upon completion of the round your score should be entered onto the handicapping system using the touch screen and the SIGNED card placed into the relevant slot in the cabinet. The no return policy applies to these competitions.

**IMPORTANT:** Junior members must play with at least one adult member in a Sunday / Wednesday competition.

### **Captains Day & Presidents Day**

Members must have submitted at least three qualifying scores in the current year. New members must have submitted a minimum of three cards after handicap allocation.

### **Prizes**

During the summer, unless otherwise stated, for a Saturday competition prize vouchers will be awarded as follows:

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Prize</b>	<b>Section / Division</b>	<b>Handicaps</b>
Overall or Gross	£30		
1 <sup>st</sup> Section	£25	Division 1	up to 12
2 <sup>nd</sup> Section	£20	Division 2	13 to 17
3 <sup>rd</sup> Section	£15	Division 3	18 to 28

Sunday / Wednesday competition prize vouchers will be calculated based on 70% of entrance fee collected, with prizes awarded for 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> whenever possible.

The voucher issued for **each** 2 will be calculated by dividing the entrance fee collected by the number of 2's returned. If there is a hole-in-one the member will receive half the prize fund with the remaining divided evenly by the number of 2's returned.

### **Vouchers**

Instead of issuing vouchers for every competition, a record of all prizes is kept in your Members Account. Vouchers can be requested by completing the request slip and placing it into the appropriate slot in the cabinet. Vouchers are valid for 6 months and once issued can be collected from the starter on a Saturday or from reception during the week. Vouchers can be used as full or part payment in all golf shops. Vouchers can also be used as full or part payment of your Centre fees however vouchers can not be used against the Club fees. You can check the amount in your Members Account via the Club website or the Match & Handicap Secretary.

### **Club Competitions**

Posted on the club notice boards and the website you will find the dates for all the Saturday competitions which include your Captain and President's Day in addition to qualifying events for several other external competitions.

### **Matchplay Competitions**

To coincide with the start of the summer competitions the club organises a singles and doubles matchplay competition. All members are eligible to enter, provided they have an official GUI handicap. Further information will be posted on the notice boards and the website.

**Note:** *It is the responsibility of both members to contact their opponent to organise the match before the deadline for each round.*

### **Inter Club Competitions**

All members are eligible to play in our interclub competitions if you hold a playing handicap and meet the requirements of the GUI sponsored competition. If interested, further details will be posted on the notice boards and the club website.

### **Website / Email Alerts**

The club website is a source of information especially if you are unable to visit the Centre during the week. On it you will find the latest news, club and inter-club competition details, login area to check your voucher totals plus all the results. We would also encourage you to sign up to the email alerts mailing list and/or the text alerts via the Centre which are used to inform members of course closures on a Saturday and give details of other important events.

### **General Play**

Members are asked to place completed cards into the Match & Handicap slot of the cabinet for consideration along with the *Annual Review* and/or *General Play* handicap adjustments.

### **Dress Code**

The dress code is as with all clubs, no denim's, collarless tee shirts, football tops or tracksuits on the course.

### **Local Rules**

A copy of the local rules can be found in the accompanying document and on the club website.

### **Facilities, Council and Crawford Family**

We are extremely proud of the facilities we have available here at Greenacres and the relationship we have with Stephen and Colin Crawford who have built an exceptionally challenging 18 hole parkland course, 9 hole par 3 course and state of the art driving range. Greenacres Golf Club is here to complement the work of Stephen and Colin and to ensure that you get the most from your financial commitment. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact any of the council members, we are here to help.