

**Rules of
THE GOLF SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN**

NAME

1. The name of the Society is “The Golf Society of Great Britain”.

AIMS

2. To promote goodwill amongst golfers and to help further the interests of amateur golf in all aspects. It is a non-profit making Society, run by a properly constituted Executive elected annually by its members.

OBJECTIVES

3. The Society is an unincorporated Society and has been formed for all or any of the following objects and purposes, namely:-

(a) To assist in any manner whatsoever, the promotion and furtherance of the game of golf.

(b) To promote and assist, whether financially or otherwise, the promotion or organisation of competitions, tournaments, matches and other similar activities.

(c) To compile, publish and circulate any bulletins, magazines, or other publications concerning the Society’s aims and objectives.

(d) To publicise the aims and objectives of the Society and in any other manner to increase its membership and activities.

(e) To afford members the privilege of playing golf over courses of Golf Clubs with whom arrangements for this purpose may be made. To establish and maintain a scheme for the purpose comprising Golf Clubs being hereinafter referred to as ‘Participating Clubs’, the names of which shall be set forth in a list to be appended to the Bye-Laws of the Society.

(f) To raise monies by way of subscription or donation or in any other manner and make provision for grants to be applied for or towards all or any of the objectives specified in these Rules.

(g) To provide or make available to, or for, the members such other advantages, facilities and conveniences as may from time to time be determined.

(h) To do all such other things, whether of the nature herein before described or not as may be incidental or conducive to the attainment of the Society’s objectives.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

4. The Officers of the Society shall consist of a President, Chairman, Hon. Treasurer and Secretary. Except for the Secretary, all officers shall be full members of the Society. The Secretary shall be appointed by the Executive which shall have the power to appoint any successor in the event of any such office being vacated. All officers (other than the Secretary) shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting in each year but any officer retiring shall be eligible for re-election. The position of Chairman will be of a three year duration, after which a successor will be elected at the next Annual General Meeting following the termination of his/her period of office. Any vacancy occurring may be filled by the Executive but the officer co-opted shall hold office only until the next Annual General Meeting when he or she shall be eligible for election.

THE EXECUTIVE

5. The Executive shall consist of:-

(a) The Officers of the Society and the secretary.

(b) Not more than nine full members of the Society elected to serve three years. Up to three members shall retire by rotation annually but shall be eligible for re-election but for no more than two consecutive terms of three years, after which there shall be a one year break before he/she becomes entitled to be nominated for election again.

6. (a) All members other than Associate members shall be eligible for election to the Executive.

(b) Candidates for election to the Executive shall be proposed and seconded by members entitled to vote at a General Meeting. The nomination of such candidates for election, signed by their proposers and seconders, (together with written acceptance by the candidate of such nomination), must be sent to the Secretary twenty-eight days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

7. If there are more candidates than vacancies, election shall be by a show of hands, or a poll shall be held (if required, by at least three quarters of the total number of members present and voting), in accordance with these Rules, and the result of the poll shall be announced at the meeting.

8. If the number of candidates for election is equal to, or less than, the number of vacancies to be filled, all candidates shall be deemed to be elected.

9. The office of a member of the Executive shall be vacated:-

(a) If he or she ceases to be a member of the Society, or be suspended for any period of membership.

(b) If he or she be absent more than 50% of meetings of the Executive, reckoned from after the Annual General Meeting.

10. Any vacancy occurring among the nine elected members of the Executive between one Annual General Meeting and the next, may be filled by the Executive, but the member so co-opted shall hold office only until the next Annual General Meeting, when he or she shall be eligible for election.

DUTIES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE

11. The management, administration and operation of the Society's affairs shall be vested in the Executive who, (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing), shall have full power to direct or approve the objects or purposes of the foregoing), shall have full power to direct or approve the objects or purposes for which the funds of the Society shall or may be applied. The Executive may define the duties of the Officers (who shall in all respects be subject to the control of the Executive), and may from time to time make, alter and repeat Bye-laws for the regulation of the Society's affairs and the use by the members of the Society or any of them of all or any of the rights, privileges and facilities from time to time afforded by it or otherwise made available to the members or any of them.

12. The Executive may meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn or otherwise regulate their meeting as they think fit, but they shall meet at least three times a year.

13. The Executive shall appoint a Secretary of the Society, (who shall be non-voting) and such other officials as they shall deem necessary, and at such remuneration as they shall think fit.

14. Any three members of the Executive may convene a meeting of the Executive, by notice in writing, addressed to the secretary of the Society stating, so far as practicable, the business to be transacted.
15. Questions arising at any meeting of the Executive shall be decided on a majority of votes, and, in case of any equality of votes, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.
16. The Chairman of the Society shall take the chair at Executive meetings, but in his absence, the members of the Executive present shall choose one of their number to be Chairman of such meeting.
17. The Executive may at anytime appoint area representatives for the Society, with such powers and for such period as may be determined. Provided always that the number of such representatives does not exceed six.
18. Any member of the Society may, if the Executive authorise it, be paid any expenses actually incurred by him or her in the business for or on behalf of the Society.
19. The Quorum for meetings of the Executive shall, unless otherwise be determined, be six.
20. The Executive may appoint committees from among themselves, and may fix the Quorum thereof, and may delegate any of its power to such committees and may make rules for regulating the proceedings of such committees. The Chairman of the Executive shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.
21. The Executive shall cause proper books of accounts to be kept of all income and expenditure and of all dealings with assets of the Society, and shall present to the Annual General Meeting in each year, a duly audited income and expenditure account and balance sheet as at the previous 28th February.
22. The Executive shall cause proper minutes to be made of all proceedings of the Executive and any sub-committees and of the attendances thereat.

MEMBERSHIP

23. The members of the Society shall comprise amateur golfers of either sex, elected to the membership of the Society in a manner hereinafter provided, except that Associate members as hereinafter defined are not required to be amateur golfers.
24. Subject to the provisions of the foregoing Rule 23, the classes of membership of the Society shall be:-
 - (i) Full Playing (General) Members
This class of membership shall be sub-divided into (a) full members up to the age of 25 years and (b) full members over 25 years. This class of membership will be open to all persons resident within the United Kingdom.
 - (ii) Participating Club Members
This class of membership is open to all full playing members of Participating Clubs and shall carry the privileges of full membership. Participating Club status shall cease when the member is no long a full playing member of a Participating Club.
 - (iii) Non-Participating Club Members
This class of membership is open to all full playing members of non-participating clubs and shall carry the privileges of full membership.
 - (iv) Overseas members
This class of membership is open to all persons permanently resident outside the United Kingdom and shall carry the privileges of full playing membership.

(v) Joint Members This class of membership is open to husband and wife. To qualify for Participating Club status both must be members of a Participating Club. In the case of lady members in all classes of full-playing membership, their handicap is limited to 36.

(vi) This class of membership is open to all persons and such members may be resident either within or outside the United Kingdom. This class of membership shall not entitle the members to play over any of the golf courses of the Participating Clubs but in all other respects shall carry the privileges of full membership, subject to Rule 6(a).

(vii) Honorary Members

This class shall be persons whom the Executive shall deem worthy of being appointed Honorary Members and shall carry the privilege of full membership.

25. In case of any member wishing to change from one class to another, the Executive may, in its discretion, authorise or permit any such change upon such conditions (if any) as the Executive may determine.

26. Every member shall pay, as and when due, all contributions, fees or subscriptions for which he or she may at any time be liable in accordance with these Rules or any Rules or Bye-laws made in pursuance thereof. However, he or she shall not by reason of their membership be under any financial liability except for the payment of their annual subscriptions to the Society.

27. The annual subscription shall be such sum as the Executive may from time to time determine and shall be payable on the 1st March in each year. The Executive shall have power to adjust as it thinks proper, the amount of the first subscription payable by a member joining before or after the first day of March in any year. The amounts of the respective annual subscriptions shall be published in the Bye-laws for the time being in force.

28. Any member who has failed to pay his or her subscription within two months of it becoming due shall, ipso facto, cease to be a member and his or her name shall be removed from the register. Such member shall nevertheless remain liable to the Society for the amount due, and, upon payment in full within six months of his or her subscription becoming due, may, upon application be reinstated by a vote of the majority of the members present at any meeting of the Executive. No member will be entitled to play in any Society meeting whilst his or her subscription remains unpaid.

29. Every candidate for a full playing membership of the Society must be a full playing member of a recognised Golf Club and have a recognised 'Home' Club handicap. Ladies' handicap is limited to 36. He/she must be proposed by a member of the Society and seconded by the Secretary/Manager of the candidate's home Golf Club. Candidates shall sign a form of application giving the particulars required by the Executive and, if elected, an undertaking to be bound by the Rules and Bye-laws of the Society. Proposers must be fully paid-up members of the golf Society of Great Britain and have at least one Year's full membership of the Society.

30. Every candidate for Associate membership of the Society must be proposed and seconded by two members of the Society. Candidates shall sign a form of application giving all relevant details and, if elected, an undertaking to be bound by the Rules and Bye-laws of the Society.

ADMISSION OF MEMBERS

31. All elections of members shall be by the Executive or by sub-committee appointed by the Executive and the Executive or such sub-committee shall have full power to elect or to postpone the election of a candidate without giving any reason for so doing. The Secretary shall maintain a register recording the names of all members of the Society for the time being.

CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

32. Any member wishing to resign from the Society shall notify his or her intention in writing to the Secretary on or before 28th February, otherwise he or she shall be liable for the subscription for the ensuing year.

33. The Executive may, in their absolute discretion, and without assigning any reason, at any time cancel the membership of any membership of any year.

VOTES OF MEMBERS

34. All members shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote at General Meetings of the Society in a manner hereinafter provided.

35. At any General Meeting of the Society, every member, other than Associate members, shall be entitled to one vote upon every question, the votes being cast by a show of hands; and in the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or a casting vote.

36. On a poll at a General Meeting, and on ballot for the election of members of the Executive, every member, other than Associate members, shall have one vote.

MEETINGS

37. Meetings of the Society for the transaction of business, and the consideration of matters relating to the direction and management of the affairs of the Society, shall be either Annual General Meetings or Special General Meetings.

38. The Chairman of the Society shall take the chair at all General Meetings. If he is absent, the chair will be taken by a member appointed by the members present.

39. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in any month after the 31st March as the Executive may determine in each year, a minimum of fourteen days notice of which shall be sent to each member. Notice in writing of any resolution or nomination to be proposed at this meeting shall be received by the Secretary twenty eight days before such meeting.

40. At the Annual General Meeting, the Executive shall submit for approval of members, its report on the affairs of the Society and past year's transactions, together with the accounts, made up to the previous 28th February and signed by the Chairman, Treasurer and the Auditors. The election of members of the Executive and the appointment of Auditors shall also take place. No other business shall be considered unless the same be specified in the notice convening the meeting, except it be deemed a matter of urgency by the majority of members present.

41. The Executive may at any time, and shall, upon a requisition signed by at least 25 members, within twenty-one days of receipt of the requisition, call a Special General Meeting. Every such requisition and notice shall specify the purpose for which such meeting is called. No other business shall be considered at such a meeting.

FUNDS

42. All monies received, or for the time being held by the Society, shall be paid into, or placed on deposit with a bank.

AUDITORS

43. The Executives shall have the power to fill any vacancy in the office of Auditor.
44. A Notice or any other document may be served by the Society upon any member, either personally, or by sending through the post a prepaid letter addressed to such member at his or her last known address, and any such Notice or document if posted shall be deemed to have been served on the day of posting. The accidental omission to give any such Notice or document to, or the non-receipt of such Notice or document by, any such member shall not invalidate any resolution passed or election or appointment connected therein.

NEW RULES

45. These Rules may, from time to time, be revoked, altered or added to by the Executive, provided that the consent of the Society, given by a resolution passed at a General Meeting of the members of the Society, by the vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting at the meeting, shall be required for the revocation or alteration of or addition to these Rules, which would have the effect of:-
- (a) Altering the objects of the Society or the qualification for membership to the Society
Or
(b) enabling the Executive to expel members otherwise than in accordance with Rule 28.

DISSOLUTION

46. If at any General Meeting of the Society a resolution for the dissolution of the Society shall be passed by the votes of a majority of members present and voting, and such resolution shall, at a Special General Meeting held not less than one month thereafter, be confirmed by the votes of two-thirds of the members voting thereon, the Society shall thereupon, or at such future date as shall be specified in such resolution, be Dissolved, and the property of the Society shall, after discharge of the Society's liabilities be disposed of or dealt with by the Executive.

INTERPRETATION

47. Any dispute or difference which may arise as to the meaning or interpretation of these Rules or the Bye-laws for the time being in force, or as to the powers of the Officers or committees or the validity of any election at or procedure of a General Meeting of the Society or procedure of any committee shall be determined by the Executive whose decision shall be final and binding on all members of the Society.

**Bye-Laws of
THE GOLF SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN**

GENERAL NOTES

1. List of Participating Clubs as at 1st January 2021

Addington, The	Lyme Regis
Aldeburgh	Middlesbrough
Alwoodley	Moor Park
Bath	Moortown
Blackmoor	Northamptonshire County
Blackwell	Northumberland, The
Bradford	Pannal
Broadstone	Prince's
Camberley Heath	Ross-on-Wye
Cirencester	Royal Cinque Ports
Conwy	Royal St. David's
Edgbaston	Saltburn-by-the-Sea
Fairhaven	Sandihay
Frinton	Sand Moor
Gog Magog	Seascale
Goswick	Southport & Ainsdale
Hornsea	St Mellion Resort
Kenilworth	Trentham
Little Aston	Vale Resort
Littlestone	West Lancashire, The
Luffenham Heath	Woodhall Spa

2. In their own interest, all members of the Society are recommended to make advance enquiries of the Secretary of the Participating Club which they propose to visit, in order to verify that the course will be available to them on the date or dates of their visit.
3. Members of the Society may, subject to the rules and particular restrictions and regulations mentioned below, have the rights of temporary membership of Participating Clubs but Associate members will not be entitled to play as of right derived from their Associate membership of the Society.
4. Reduced green fees will be charged by Participating Clubs. The privilege of playing will be subject to permission by the Participating Club.

REGULATIONS

5. Members of the Society will not be granted the facility of reduced green fees at Participating Clubs if they reside within a prescribed radius of the Club concerned. Where this rule varies, separate instructions will be issued. Participating Clubs reserve the right to be the sole arbiters as to whether or not a residence is within the radius applicable.
6. Members of the Society may only introduce friends to Participating Clubs in accordance with that Club's individual rules and Bye-laws.
7. Membership of the Society does not confer upon its members any right to take part in the management of Participating Clubs.
8. Members of the Society who, as members of other Societies are taking part in such other Society's meetings at Participating clubs, will not be permitted to enjoy

the privilege of GSGB membership, but will be required to pay the green fee which is being charged to the members of such other Society.

9. Before full members of the Society may play over the course of a Participating Club they must produce their current membership card.

10. Before playing over a Participating Club's course or using its premises, members are required to make themselves aware of that Club's rules and Bye-laws with which they are required to comply.

11. Some Participating Clubs have separate and specific requirements and these will be listed and issued separately.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

12. Society competitions will, wherever possible, be arranged to take place on participating Club courses from time to time, and in agreement with the governing bodies of those clubs. Competitions will be played under the rules of the R&A, in conjunction with any local rules for the time being in force at the Club over whose course the competition is being played. The Executive of the Society shall be the deciding authority as to the conduct of all competitions and all matters arising in connection therewith.

13. No liability shall attach to the Society if any such facilities as covered in these Bye-laws are withdrawn at any time and the Society will, so far as practicable, keep members closely advised of any extensions granted by other clubs with who the Society may reach agreement from time to time.