

All By-Laws are to be read and considered in conjunction with the Rules of the Club as contained in the Constitution. In the event of any ambiguity the Rules will take precedence. The authority of the Committee of Management to create and/or amend By-Laws is described in the Club Constitution at Rule 40 in part 5.

**ETIQUETTE - BY-LAW**

AS AT – JUNE 2014

- Notes: (i) The abbreviation COM refers to the Committee of Management..*  
*(ii) Notes regarding Officers and Ordinary Members are references to the elected and/or appointed Members of the COM*  
*(iii) Notes regarding Entitled Members include all Club Members covered by that description in the Club's Constitution.*  
*(iv) The major reference for these Rules is, the R&A Rules of Golf – Etiquette; Behaviour on the Course.*  
*(v) The overriding principle is that consideration should be shown to others on the course at all times.*

**Introduction**

This By-Law provides guidelines on the manner in which the game of golf should be played, and the expectations of the Club in respect to dress standards for both Golf and Bowls. If they are followed, all players will gain maximum enjoyment.

The game relies on the integrity of the individual to show consideration for other players and to abide by the Rules, irrespective of how competitive that Member may be.

A summary of key points about etiquette can be found in the Club's Annual Programme booklets. The low marker in each game is responsible for the observance of Etiquette standards including the pace of play.

The Club does have a relaxed dress code but Members, Guests and green fee players need to be aware that there are limitations. Dress Standards are also prominently displayed at the Club.

Players must also comply with the Codes of Conduct contained in Club By-Laws.

**1. Safety:**

- a) Players must conduct themselves in accordance with the Club's OH&S Policy.
- b) Pitching into the practice putting green is only permitted when it will not risk the safety of, nor disadvantage other Players, and not from beyond a radius of 5 metres at any time.

- c) Players should ensure that no one is standing close by or in a position to be hit by the club, the ball or any dislodged material when they make a practice swing or stroke.
- d) Players should not play until the players in front are out of range.
- e) Course staff, assisting volunteers or contractors have right of way at all times and they must be alerted if a stroke might endanger them.
- f) If a Player plays a ball that is in danger of hitting someone they should immediately shout a warning. “Fore” is the traditional shout of warning.

## **2. Consideration for other players:**

No disturbance or distraction

- a) Players should not disturb the play of others by moving, talking or making a noise.
- b) Mobile phones or similar devices, if taken onto the course, should be switched to silent or turned off during play.
- c) A player should not tee his ball until his turn to play.
- d) Players should not stand close to or directly behind the ball or the hole, nor unreasonably close to the forward line of play, when another is about to play.
- e) On the putting green, players should not stand on, nor cast a shadow over another player’s line of putt.

Ready to play and pace of play

- a) Bags or carts should be left in such a position as will enable quick movement to the next tee and no delay or interference to following players.
- b) In order to keep the game moving at an enjoyable tempo, when the play of a hole has been completed, Players should immediately leave the putting green. And, the Player who has the honour should be ready to tee up straight away.
- c) Consideration may also be given to highest handicappers playing first rather than all waiting for the group in front to be out of range of the longest driver, for example on the first tee of the round. Except where this would be against the rules or inappropriate in a particular type of competition.
- d) Players should be ready to play as soon as it is their turn.
- e) Players should play in accordance with local rules about pace of play, and at a pace that enables them to be as close as practical to the group in front without danger of ‘hitting up’ nor creating undue pressure.

- f) When a group has lost one clear hole on the group in front they should invite the following group to 'play through'. Alternatively, the following group may request to be allowed to 'play through'.

#### Lost Ball

- a) If a Player considers their ball to be lost outside a water hazard, or to be out of bounds, they should play a provisional ball.
- b) Players searching for a ball should signal the group behind to play through as soon as it is apparent it will not easily be found. They should not search for 5 minutes before doing so.

### **3. Care of the course:**

- a) Players should avoid causing damage by removing divots with practice swings or by hitting a club into the ground in anger.
- b) Players should avoid damage to the putting green or the hole when putting down bags or the flag or leaning on a club. They should not stand too close to the hole. The head of a club must not be used to remove a ball from the hole.
- c) Any impact damage made to a green by the Player's ball or that of someone else, and any made by golf shoes should be repaired before leaving the green.
- d) A sand bucket should be carried and used by each Player to fill their own or others divots.
- e) Before leaving a bunker Players should fill up and smooth all holes and footprints using a rake if available, and returning the rake to its designated position.
- f) Motorised carts are only to be used in accordance with Club By-Laws and rules of hire where applicable. Blue line and signage directions must be followed.
- g) It is the duty and responsibility of lowest handicapped player to see that their fellow players observe the etiquette and rules of the game.
- h) Practice with more than 2 balls must be confined to the practice area.

### **4. Standards of dress:**

The Committee accepts that there will be times when visitors and even Members do not meet the expected standards. For instance, guests attending functions being conducted to the financial benefit of the Club. Or Members gathering socially after work. It is not inappropriate that differences apply in such circumstances. But, that tolerance does not diminish the abiding responsibility of Members and authorised Visitors to always endeavor to meet and promote the Club standards.

### **Clubhouse Standards**

- a) Neat attire is required at all times.
- b) No beachwear, singlets, tracksuits, football attire, or t-shirts with offensive slogans or logos.
- c) Casual shoes or clean joggers with or without socks, and sandals are permitted. Thongs or bare feet are not.

### **On the Golf Course**

- a) Neat golf attire is required with Golf Shoes or Joggers
- b) Footwear should have soft spikes or flat soles only.
- c) Collared shirts are required and may carry small sponsorship logos or brands.
- d) Dress shorts may be worn with socks or sockettes.
- e) Board or surfing type shorts, t-shirts without collars and/or shirts with large or offensive slogans or logos are not appropriate

### **On the Bowling Greens**

- a) Dress Code for all games shall be neat casual attire.
- b) Only shoes with flat soles are permitted on the greens
- c) Approved Club uniform is required for the final round of Club competitions and some sponsored days.

### **5. Penalties for Breach:**

- a) If a player blatantly or consistently disregards these guidelines during a round or over a period of time, to the detriment of others or the course, the Committee, the Match Committee or the body controlling the particular competition will take appropriate disciplinary action.
- b) This may result in suspension of playing rights or suspension from the Club for a time.
- c) Or disqualification under Rule 33-7 of the R&A Rules of Golf.