



**Palmerston Golf and Country Club
Incorporated**

Club Policy

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1. Introduction

The following are the policies set by the Golf Match Committee and are to be adhered to by the golfing members of the Palmerston Golf and Country Club.

2. The Golf Match Committee

The Golf Match Committee, hereinafter referred to, as “the committee” shall be elected annually by a majority of fully financial club golfing members at a meeting convened for that purpose. The meeting is to take place prior to taking up office on January 1st of the following year.

To ensure the continuity of the Match Committee’s duties and objectives, it is necessary to alternate the elected terms of the office bearers. Each term is held for two years. On even numbered years the elections will be held for the following positions:

- Club Captain – Men’s
- Minute Secretary
- Committee position
- Junior Co-ordinator

On odd numbered years, the elections will be held for the remaining positions:

- Vice Captain – Men
- Captain – Ladies
- Handicapper
- Committee positions

3. Office Bearers

The above office bearer’s positions will become vacant in the following events:

- By resignation of the office bearer;
- The member is expelled or suspended from the club and not reinstated;
- The office bearer is absent from (3) consecutive meetings of the committee without a valid reason and/or failing to give satisfactory notice;

- The member is declared bankrupt or insane by a court of competent jurisdiction;
- The member dies;
- The member acts contrary to the rules/etiquette of golf to the extent that in the unanimous opinion of the committee, other than a vote from the member in question, brought disrepute to the game and/or club is deemed to have resigned.

In the event that an office bearer of the committee resigns or is unable to continue as an office bearer, such vacancy may be filled until the next annual election by an ordinary or life member of the club, elected by a majority of committee members.

A full-time employee of the club may serve as an office bearer of the committee.

4. Committee Meetings

The committee shall meet a minimum of once per calendar month and as otherwise required to manage the club's golfing activities. A quorum for all meetings shall be more than half the number of positions filled.

All office bearers of the committee shall have a single vote on all resolutions of the committee. In the event of a tied vote, the motion is to result in the negative.

In the event of the absence of the minutes secretary, another committee member shall be appointed as acting minutes secretary for that meeting only.

The minute secretary shall keep minutes of all committee meetings in a proper and adequate form. Such minutes shall be placed on the public notice board in the clubhouse within seven days of confirmation. The confirmed minutes of each committee meeting shall be tabled at the subsequent management committee meeting.

The committee may, at any time, call on such other club members as it sees fit to form a sub-committee and shall prescribe the functions and powers thereof. However, such persons co-opted will not be entitled to vote at any committee meetings.

5. Committee Objectives

The objectives of the committee are:

- To promote and encourage the game of golf;
- To accurately set and enforce the rules, conditions and standards of conduct;
- To use authority and discretion in settling disputes in accordance with the rules of golf;
- To arrange reciprocal relations with other golf clubs, both locally and interstate;
- To promote the development of junior golfers and junior golf competitions;
- To promote goodwill and harmony amongst all members of the club.

6. Committee Duties

The duties of the committee are:

- To provide input to the management committee regarding facilities, machinery and equipment;
- To accurately define the golf course. This includes it's outer perimeter and areas within the course that are determined to be out of bounds, hazards and integral parts of the course and ground under repair (GUR);
- To define and publish local rules for normal and abnormal seasonal conditions which do not contradict the rules of golf;
- To maintain the currency of members' handicap records and ensure all members handicaps are displayed on an appropriate handicap board;
- To develop, publish and make available to all members, a competition calendar for the club's annual, weekly and major competitions;
- In conjunction with the club manager, arrange sponsorships for the annual competition program and major tournaments;
- To arrange and promote golfing programs and competitions for the members, with the members of other clubs, in accordance with the rules of golf and guidelines set out by the Australian Golfing Unions;
- To charge fees in respect of competitions, tournaments and special events and to ensure that appropriate contributions and costs are deducted;

- To arrange the selection and purchase of competition prizes and trophies within the financial constraints of the club and the limits set by the Australian Golfing Unions;
- To keep and maintain a written record of all competitions. This includes the number of competitors, the winners, runner-ups and their handicaps and scores;
- To keep and maintain a written record of all perpetual trophy winners and ensure the winners names are displayed on the appropriate trophies or honor board;
- To report the operations and activities of the committee to each monthly meeting of the club management committee. The Club Captain or Captain's delegate is responsible for this reporting function;
- Compiling forecasts for inclusions in the club's budget as laid down by the finance & planning committee, including updates to the course five-year plan.

7. Reciprocal Players

Players from clubs who hold reciprocal rights with our club are welcome to play in any golfing event/tournament that the club may host, however they cannot win the event/tournament unless it's an open tournament.

8. Handicaps

Provisional handicaps no longer apply.

Any member wishing to establish a handicap must be a financial full PGCC golfing member and

- Submit three (3) nine or eighteen hole score cards;
- Ensure the correct name is on the card (no nicknames);
- Sign, date and number each card (i.e. 1 of 3, 2 of 3 etc);
- Have the marker, who has a current handicap, sign the card and ensure "For Handicap" is legibly written on the card;
- Record a score against each hole, and
- Ensure the card is legible.

Members, whilst establishing their handicap, may win gross events, nearest the pins, long drives, eagles nest, hole-in-one or other minor prizes as recommended by the committee. New members without a handicap may play in individual club

competitions, except monthly medals, but cannot win net handicap prizes.

Members without a handicap, or are establishing/reinstating their handicap, are not eligible to play in monthly medal competitions, without prior permission from the committee.

It is imperative that upon completion of any competition, the committee checks the presence of the following information on each player's scorecard:

- The correct handicap;
- The card has been signed by the player;
- The card had been signed by the marker;
- A score is recorded against each hole, and
- Ensure that the correct date is on the card.

Club handicaps for Ladies are:

- Division 1: Scratch – 25
- Division 2: 26 – 45

Club handicaps for Men are:

- "A" Grade: Scratch – 12
- "B" Grade: 13 – 18
- "C" Grade: 19 – 27
- "D" Grade: 28 – 36

9. Deciding Ties In Events: (Australian Count-back System)

Ties in events shall be decided whenever possible by a playoff, but if the committee considers this to be inexpedient, the following count-back method shall be used:

- In an 18-hole stroke competition, the last 9 holes score is used less half the player's handicap. If a tie still exists, then the last 6 less $\frac{1}{3}^{\text{rd}}$ of the handicap and then the last 3 less $\frac{1}{6}^{\text{th}}$ of the handicap. If a tie still exists then a count-back is done from the 18th hole to the 1st hole.

- In 27, 36, 54 & 72 hole events, the last 18 holes score shall be used. If a tie remains then continue as per above.
- In a 9-hole event, the last 6, then the last 3 holes is used. If a tie still exists then hole by hole from the 9th hole to the 1st hole.

In all cases, the last holes are as per the scorecard, not necessarily as they were played.

In handicap events, the relevant handicap or fraction thereof shall be applied.

10. Competition Fees

The competition fee is \$10 for all Competitions from the 1st January 2010. The break-up is:

- \$5.00 to the club;
- \$5.00 to the prize pool (vouchers/balls etc).

11. Junior Golfers

Juniors must have a club handicap and be recommended by the club's Junior Coordinator before they are permitted to compete in club competitions. A maximum of two (2) juniors per group of three or above is permitted.

Male juniors on a handicap of 28 and above and female juniors on a handicap of 45 MUST be invited to play by an adult member.

Male juniors on a handicap of up to and including 27, and female juniors who can play to 25 or less may compete in club events without an invitation.

On monthly medals competition day, juniors with handicaps up to and including (18) will compete in their respective grades only. Juniors with handicaps of 19 and above are eligible to win their respective grades and win the junior monthly medal.

12. Major Perpetual Events

a. Opening Day Ambrose

This is an 18-hole, 3-person Ambrose, shotgun start competition. Two groups play the holes together and mark the alternate team's card. The draw is made the night before, or on the morning of competition. At least 1 player in each group must have a club handicap.

b. Palmerston Open

This is a 36-hole stroke competition open to men and ladies. Awards are presented on daily and overall gross and net scores to men in divisions A, B, C & D and to ladies in divisions A and B. The draw for round 1 is match committee allocated and completed the night before play, while the draw for round 2 is a seeded draw.

c. Mixed Foursomes

This is a 36-hole competition open to 1 male and 1 female player combining to form a team. Tee times are open. To determine the team's handicap, both players' handicaps are added and then halved. Best gross are honor board winners, while awards are also presented on net scores.

d. Captain's Shield

This is an 18-hole competition open to men and ladies. Tee times are open. Best gross in men and ladies will be awarded the Captain's Shield, while awards are also presented on net scores.

e. Foursomes

This is a 36-hole competition open to pairs of men and pairs of ladies. Tee times are open. To determine the team's handicap, both players' handicaps are added and then halved. Best gross are honor board winners, while awards are also presented on net scores.

f. Captain Versus President

This is an 18-hole stableford shotgun start competition open to men and ladies. The draw is made on the morning of competition and players are informed by the starter which team they will represent – either the Captain's team or the President's team.

At the completion of play, the winning team will be determined by adding all the stableford scores together for each team and dividing by the number of players to determine an average stableford score for the team.

g. Club Championships

This is a 72-hole stroke competition open to men and ladies. The draw for the first 3 rounds is open, while the draw for round 4 of competition is a seeded draw completed the night before competition.

Best gross for men and ladies are honor board winners, while awards are also presented on net scores.

h. Patron's Shield

This is a 18-hole stroke shotgun start open to men and ladies. Best gross in men and ladies are awarded the Patron's shield, while awards are also presented on net scores.

13. Other Trophies.

a. Ken Fuller Cross-Country

This is an 18-hole stroke novelty event played on the back 9 holes. The course is set by the sponsor. Prizes are awarded based on best Net.

b. Jay Boyd Memorial (Black Stump Challenge)

This is a 9-hole Ambrose competition with players from Palmerston GC competing against players from Humpty Doo GC. The best overall total aggregate net is declared the winner, and retains home team advantage for the following year.

14. Representative Players

A resolution was passed by the Management Committee on the 27th July 1998, that the Club would financially support any representative players of the Club to a maximum of \$100.00, who represent the club at State, National or International level.

15. Conditions Of Play

- a. All players must report to the club's Pro Shop prior to play.
- b. All play is governed by the rules of golf issued by the Royal and Ancient Club, St Andrews, the regulations set out in this manual and/or displayed on the noticeboard.
- c. Players should check the competition noticeboard for details of temporary local rules that may be in place.
- d. All competitions are 18-hole events, unless stated otherwise.
- e. Opening and Closing Day Ambrose events are for open to visitors.
- f. With the exceptions of open events and club championships, the club uses a format of mixed fields for competitions. Although the field is mixed, golfers will participate in separate men's and ladies competitions - unless the starting sheet states otherwise.

16. Golflink

The club is connected to the Golf Link system, therefore players should register for competitions with their swipe card prior to play and check their current handicap on the Golflink terminal.

The Golflink terminal, NOT the handicap board, is the official handicap. Incorrect or suspicious handicaps are to be reported to the handicapper ASAP.

17. General Play

The main competition day of the week is Sunday. Start sheets for each competition are placed in the club's Pro Shop.

The lowest marker of each group of players is responsible for the observance of the following points:

- Slow players/groups must permit faster groups through;
- Players should move quickly between shots and mark cards at a time which will not delay play;
- Players are requested to smooth bunkers with rakes where provided.
- Players must replace all divots, and to make use of the sand and buckets provided.

Presentations held on Sunday afternoons are conducted at approximately 5.30pm, and it would be appropriate if winners of trophies were present to thank the respective sponsor.

18. Other Competitions & Golf activities:

- Wednesdays, 9 or 18 hole competition – all day;
- Friday Chook run - all afternoon;
- Saturdays, 9 or 18 hole competition - all day

19. The Siren

The Golf Course Siren will be used for the following purposes:

- Shot gun starts;
- Suspension of play (due to lightning threat, play must cease immediately);
- Suspension of play (due to bad weather), and
- Resumption of play

Players are reminded to read their rulebook when play is suspended:

- Rule 6-8a Discontinuance of play, and
- Rule 6-8b Procedure when play is suspended.

20. Cancellation Of Competitions

If a competition is cancelled after play has started and cannot be rescheduled there will be no refund given for competition fees already paid. Players who have paid their competition fees will have their cards placed in a lucky card draw for a prize determined by the committee.

With reference to club competitions, players with incomplete scorecards who fail to complete their round due to weather that renders the course unplayable (for the remainder of the day of competition) will not have their scores recorded for handicapping purposes.

21. Rules And Code Of Conduct

The rules and code of conduct items set out in this section do not change or compromise the rules of golf in any form. They are intended to amplify the rules of golf where possible, and assist in the overall management and control of the club's facilities and golfing activities.

22. Dress Standards

The minimum dress standard for all competition players is:

- MEN - Dress shorts, collared shirt or high-cut collared T, socks and shoes.
- LADIES - Dress shorts, skirt or culottes, shirts (may be collarless), socks and shoes.

The minimum dress standard for green fee and social players is:

- Neat and tidy casual clothing of an acceptable appearance.

NOTE: SINGLETs AND THONGS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.

23. Tee Markers

The following markers indicate the tee positions on the course:

- BLUE
- RED
- YELLOW

24. Sand And Buckets

Sand and sand buckets are provided for all golfers to repair their divot holes, not only on the fairway, but also on tees and rough areas. All players are to carry and to use sand buckets as necessary for the good maintenance of course areas.

25. Practice

A maximum of 3 practice balls may be played during a practice round. Players are not to hold up play while practicing on tees, fairways, or onto greens.

26. Course Priorities

Competition players have priority over green fee and social players on the course. All players are to observe and respect this rule.

Greens staff hold right of way, ie: all players are required to give way to greens staff in the performance of their duties.

27. Safety On The Course

No player should play a stroke until those in the group in front have played their strokes, and are out of range. Similarly, no player should play to any greens until the group in front has moved on.

All players are to observe common sense on the golf course, to ensure their own safety and the safety of all others using the course. This includes giving right of way to any machinery or vehicles in the course of their maintenance duties.

28. Golf Buggies, Bags And Motorised Carts

Each player must have a set of golf clubs during the course of play.

Club and members' motorised buggies are permitted on the golf course with the understanding that the club shall not be liable for any claims for fire and extraneous perils including accidental

damage, malicious damage, burglary or theft. Buggies must be registered and a copy of current registration certificate lodged with the Secretary/Manager.

All players are requested to park buggies, bags or motorised carts to the rear of greens or the side of the green nearest the next tee position.

Motorised carts are not permitted on tees or greens, or the surrounds of those areas. Every effort should also be made to protect fairways, especially where the ground is wet and soft.

Motorised buggies can be hired from the club's Pro Shop, under the terms and conditions of hire. All drivers must hold a current drivers license.

29. Bunkers

After playing out of a bunker, players are expected to carefully rake over and smooth the area of the bunker they have used. If time permits, players should also rake over bunker areas that have been left disturbed for the benefit of following players.

30. Score Cards

Although this matter is well covered in the rules of golf, all players are reminded that it is their personal responsibility to check that the:

- Handicap recorded on the scorecard is correct;
- Correct score has been recorded for each hole, before teeing off at next tee;
- Card has been signed by the player and the marker before submission to the committee;
- Player's name is legible, and
- The home club is recorded on the card.

The committee is responsible for the checking of scores, additions and application of handicaps recorded on the cards.

31. Failure To Attend A Competition When Nominated

Members, who place their names on competition start sheets, and then do not attend without a valid reason, or without informing the starter at least 24 hours prior to the start time, may still be liable to pay competition fees. Such neglect may also result in those members being barred from competing in the succeeding club competition.

Members who cannot attend their nominated starting times are required to advise the starter by phone as early as possible on the day. Failure to do so may result in either of the above penalties being enforced.

Any objections to a 'Breach of Conduct Notice' should be in writing and submitted to the Match Committee within 7 days.

32. Introduction Of New Members

Members who nominate and/or second a new member to the club should:

- Be prepared to play at least three (3) rounds of golf with them;
- Ensure that they are aware of the rules of golf, course etiquette and all club rules, and
- Introduce them to a wider section of other club members as soon as possible.

33. Alcohol On The Golf Course

Alcohol (max 6 cans) may only be permitted on the course only if it has been purchased from the club. Players are reminded of the rigid requirements governed by the Liquor Act and the Racing and Gaming Act, and the implications for our Club if these requirements are not strictly observed.

34. Domestic Pets On The Golf Course

Pets are NOT permitted on the course.

35. Unacceptable Conduct

The following is a list of conduct considered unacceptable:

- Deliberate or neglectful damage to the course or the course equipment;
- Failure to repair divot holes in fairways;
- Failure to repair 'plug' marks in the surface of greens;
- Slow Play (Refer Rule 6-7 of the Rules of Golf). This also relates to time spent between the 9th and 10th holes, during any 18-hole competition;
- Improper and/or unacceptable attire;
- Physical or verbal abuse of any official, opponent, spectator, or other person;
- Deliberately breaking the rules of golf;
- Failure to comply with any local Rules - including these rules.
- Undertaking any measures designed to manipulate your handicap, and
- Unsportsmanlike-like behaviour, e.g. temper tantrums; club throwing or club abuse.

36. Penalties

Subject to compliance with the rules of golf, the committee may suspend any member from the golf course if, in the opinion of the committee, such member has been guilty of any conduct detrimental to the best interest of the club. This penalty may also apply to any social golfers found disregarding the requirements.

MAXIMUM PENALTY: 14-DAY SUSPENSION.

However, if in the opinion of the committee there has been a particularly serious breach of conduct, a recommendation may be put in writing to the Palmerston Golf & Country Club Management Committee. Such action could then result in a Member being expelled or suspended under Sections 34/35 of the Club's Constitution.

37. Competition Prizes

Prizes won in any competition can only be collected from the club's Pro Shop with Pro Shop vouchers being valid for 6 months.

Competition results are placed on the notice board inside the clubhouse each week.

Competitors are requested, as a courtesy to the sponsor, to make every effort to attend the club's presentation each week.

38. Rakes in bunkers

The bunker's rake is to be left in the shallow end of the bunker with the rake placed parallel with the fairway. The head of the rake should face the direction of play.