



New Forest Golf Club

Southampton Road
Lyndhurst
Hampshire
SO43 7BU

NEW FOREST GOLF CLUB MEMBERSHIP

We are delighted you have chosen to join our Club and include here a few notes that might help you to understand how we are organised and ensure you get full value for your membership fee.

History

The Club has been in existence since 1888 when play commenced on heathland the other side of the main Southampton Road to the site it now occupies. Ownership has gone through a variety of hands but importantly the Club was purchased by the members in 2004. At this stage several members funded the purchase, but these loans have been repaid as the Club has moved to a position of financial strength.

Management

The Club has a Council made up of elected members who are ultimately responsible for its management. Many members help in numerous ways with the Club's running, and you are urged to consider whether this is something you might like to get involved in.

Course and Grounds

The Club operates under licence with the course and Clubhouse area sited on land which is owned by the Crown. As part of the New Forest, you will appreciate that there are stringent rules we need to abide to, and we pay particular attention to these. The areas we maintain are largely limited to greens and tees and these are by modern standards, small.

Naturally therefore, we wish to do everything we can to protect tees and greens and do ask members and visitors to pay particular attention when using. Trolleys should not be taken on tees, greens, or their surrounds. Practice swings should not be taken on tees and any damage to greens such as pitch marks should be repaired as soon as possible.

Occasionally the greens are subjected to damage when ponies, cattle or deer run across them and if you encounter any damage of this sort and can help repair as you play, it would be appreciated. On the tees are blocks designed for you to place broken tee pegs in and the use of degradable type tees is encouraged. Local rules are included with our scorecards, and we encourage you to become familiar with these.

Clubhouse

Our Clubhouse, which serves excellent food and drink at competitive prices, has a friendly and enjoyable atmosphere.

Booking

You can register to use our online booking system via our website, www.newforestgolfClub.co.uk Select 'Tee booking', 'Online member booking', enter your membership number as your username then click 'Register' and complete the form. When this is done, we will receive an automated email to activate your online access. Please allow up to 3 days for this to go through.

If you are a PlayMore Golf Member you will need to book your tee times through the PlayMore Golf portal, in accordance with their terms and conditions.

Membership Bag Stickers and Cards

If you have not yet collected your green bag tag and membership sticker, please pop into the shop on your next visit. This should be on display attached to your bag and shows to others on the course that you are a member.

As a new member of the Club, you are entitled to a Members Club Card which offers 10% discount off food and drink in the Clubhouse. If you would like a Members Club Card, please ask in the shop. A minimum pre-load of £10 is requested and then this can be topped up by card or cash via the shop or bar.

Lessons

Our Golf Professional is Michael Lord. Lessons with Michael can be booked in the shop, by phone, or via email to thepro@newforestgolfClub.co.uk. A price list for his services can be found on our website www.newforestgolfClub.co.uk

Course etiquette/ dress / handicap

You may be totally familiar with golfing etiquette, aware of suitable attire to wear on the course and golfing proficient with a handicap. But in need we can arrange for you to have a discounted introductory session (at a cost of £30) with our professional who will give you a lesson and play a couple of holes on the course.

If you do not have a handicap and wish to have one, you will need to play and complete three cards; please speak to the office to arrange this. Once you have a handicap you can download the England Golf App which will provide an updated handicap for you.

Our dress code is relaxed however, to avoid any embarrassment, please no jeans, jogging trousers, football shirts or vests on the course. Also, in the Clubhouse we are anxious to preserve the fabric and do not allow golf shoes of any nature or hats to be worn. Thank you for your cooperation in observing these issues.

Playing

A number of members play golf singly or in small groups, but the Club does encourage mixing and participating in sectional activities. During the week the Seniors and Ladies section meet and there are small groups who meet and would welcome new members to play. There are also mid-week competitions held with entry in the Shop.

On Saturdays there is a group that meets early morning and generally plays a competition. There are also two groups that meet and do welcome anyone to join them. Our secretary can arrange any introduction.

The following may help you decide the way forward -

Men's Section

The Men's' Section is very active and has many competitive opportunities internally and externally. There is an early start Saturday morning Men's Group who play competitions throughout the year (£3 to enter) with prize money distributed generally to the first three placed players. Sunday mornings (8am) are the largest gathering of the Men's section with regular weekly competitions held **throughout** the year (£4 to enter). These are traditionally a shotgun start (everybody starts at the same time from different tees) which means everybody finishes at the same time and then meets in the Clubhouse to swap stories, have a drink, and receive prizes. The Club Captain will also issue out humorous fines, with all proceeds going towards his chosen charity. Signing up to play is a simple call or email to the Club office. If it's your first Sunday please let the office know and they will start you off with a member of the committee, just to help you along the way. In the winter months the section runs a pairs winter league.

The section also has matches against other Clubs in Hampshire and Dorset. Details are on the Club notice board and on the website. Players are selected by the Captain, and he will try to make sure that anyone who puts themselves forward for the selection will get a game. The matches are usually 'friendly', but we also enter teams in County matches.

The Club plays a midweek evening league during the summer months against the other Clubs in the Forest known as the Monty League.

Seniors Section

The Seniors section is open to all members of New Forest Golf Club over the age of 55 years. It is renowned for its friendliness and camaraderie.

Their aim is to provide members with competitive and social golf in a friendly atmosphere on a Tuesday and Thursday morning starting at 8am (8.30am in the winter) with a shotgun start. If you want to join in the fun either register in the folder held in the Clubhouse, turn up on the day or give the Club a ring and you will put you on the start sheet. After play the format is similar to the Sunday Men although the Captain prefers to use the term 'donations' instead of 'fines'!

They also play social matches against other Clubs in Hampshire and Dorset. The Seniors' Captain selects players, and he will try to make sure that anyone who puts themselves forward for the selection will get a game.

Ladies Section

The Ladies section play regular games on Wednesday mornings and Sunday afternoons. Every first Wednesday of the month is treated as a fun game, these have a variety of formats but as the name implies are designed to give that added enjoyment to the regular meetings; often the occurrence of a birthday means cake is in plentiful supply! They also compete in friendly matches with our Junior, Senior and Men's Club members.

During the summer months the Ladies get together with other Clubs for friendly matches, home and away, which give great opportunities to make more golfing friends and, improve golfing skills playing on other courses. For the more competitive players, they have a range of in house and external competitions

Juniors Section

The Juniors section is a very important part of our golf Club.

In the last year the Junior section has increased quickly due to regular weekend coaching. Central to the development of the Junior membership is our coaching system, which takes place every Saturday afternoon at 3.00pm. Small groups of similar ability are taught the technique of the swing and how much fun you can have when put into practice on the golf course.

As the season progresses Junior competitions will be held on a regular basis and junior golf camps will be organised during the summer holidays.

Any Junior who registers on the coaching courses, which start in April, will receive a 50% reduction on their annual membership fees.

Social Events

The Club has an exciting programme of social events ranging from race/quiz nights through golfer/non-golfer fun evenings to our annual dinner dance. A draw is held at each function and if in attendance you stand to win a cash prize.

All social events are publicised on our website or notice boards.

Reciprocal and Open Competitions

As a member of our Club, you can also play in other Clubs open competitions, details of these are displayed in the Club or through your section.

As a member you can play other courses on our reciprocal list, currently 14 courses are available.

We need to book these on your behalf, so pop into the office or give us a ring.

Michael Lord (Golf Manager, Club Professional and Junior Organiser) 023 8028 2752

Club Office: Fiona or Bekky 023 8028 2484

Reciprocal Agreements

- Ampfield 7 days
- Andover GC, Andover 7 days
- Ashley Wood GC, Dorset 7 days
- Bulbury Woods GC, Poole Mon-Fri
- Came Down GC, Dorchester Mon-Fri
- Crane Valley GC, Verwood Mon-Fri
- Ferndown GC, Ferndown Mon-Fri
- Freshwater Bay GC, Isle of Wight Mon-Fri
- Ifield GC, Crawley 7 days
- Marlborough GC, Wiltshire Mon-Fri
- Mid Sussex, East Sussex Mon-Fri
- Ryde GC, Isle of Wight Mon-Fri
- Scene Valley, Folkstone 50% off Green Fee
- Southwick Park, Portsmouth Mon-Fri
- Sutton Green, Guildford 7 days

General – there is a lot of reading here but hopefully it will help you get involved at our Club. You will no doubt require further information on topics as you start to get involved and the following are useful office contacts for you –

Office – Fiona, Bekky and John
Michael – Golf Manager / Professional
Email – info@newforestgolfclub.co.uk
Telephone - 023 8028 2484

If you feel additional information would be useful for new members, please do let us know and we can amend this note. Thank you and good golfing!