

**A proposal has been put forward for discussion at the AGM on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7.00pm for the following changes highlighted in red to the:**

**Constitution  
Rules  
Competition Rules**



**HORSEHAY VILLAGE GOLF CLUB  
FOUNDED 1997  
CONSTITUTION**



**(A) NAME**

(A1) The name of the Club shall be "Horsehay Village Golf Club" (HVGC).

**(B) OBJECT**

(B1) To encourage the playing of the game of golf in all formats and to provide social facilities as deemed appropriate for the members of the Club.

***Horsehay Village Golf Club is a non-profit making organisation. Any surplus funds are re-invested in the Club and that, in the event of disbandment; any assets will only be distributed amongst the members or another non-profit making organisation.***

**(C) MEMBERSHIP**

- (C1) Application for membership may be from any persons who are deemed amateurs as defined by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews. Professional players may be allowed to join as Honorary Members at the discretion of the Committee, but will not be allowed to enter any Club Competitions.
- (C2) Applicants must be proposed and seconded by existing full members and sign an application form upon admission as a member that he or she shall abide by the Constitution and Rules of the Club in operation at that time. All applications shall be forwarded to The Membership Secretary, with the subscription fee due at the time of applying for membership.
- (C3) Each member shall pay the annual subscription, fixed in accordance with the rules, by 31<sup>st</sup> December of each year. Should any member default by one month then their membership shall automatically end.
- (C4) Any member may resign **or change their club status (ie. home or away member)** upon written notice to The Membership Secretary of the Club.
- (C5) Membership shall be indefinite subject to C3 and C4 or as determined in accordance with E2b.
- (C6) Membership shall be open (notwithstanding C2) and enable equal access to all, irrespective of ability, sex, religion and ethnicity.
- (C7) Full members of the Club shall be all members, other than Social and Junior members, who opt that Horsehay Village Golf Club will be their home club. Members who do not opt for HVGC as their home club will be known as Away members. Honorary members may, or may not, be regarded as Full members at the discretion of the Committee.
- (C8) Members will also be members of The Junior's, Ladies or Senior's Sections of the Club dependent upon age and gender.

#### **(D) ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (THE COMMITTEE)**

- (D1) The Officers of the Club shall be the President, Club Captain, Vice-Captain, Immediate Past Captain, Lady Captain, Lady Vice-Captain, Seniors' Captain, Club Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Handicap Secretary, Competition Secretary, Junior's Organiser, Rules Secretary, Team Captain and Greens Committee Representative. The Minutes Secretary will also be an Officer of the Club, but will be responsible to the Club Secretary.
- (D2) The Vice Captains are nominated by the Captains and approved at the respective sections AGMs. The Club Captain, Vice-Captain and Immediate Past Captain shall run in a three year cycle, i.e. The Vice-Captain shall become Captain and the Captain will become Immediate Past Captain. The President, Club Secretary and Treasurer will be appointed. They shall retain their respective positions until such time that they decide to retire or the members request that they resign. Officers in all other positions shall be elected at the AGM of the Club and will hold office for one year, but are eligible to stand for reelection. Election (if more than one candidate is nominated for an Office) will be by a majority of those present and eligible to vote at the AGM.
- (D3) Candidates for election to office **or representing any committee at the club** must be Full members of the Club no less than 10 days before the AGM and their nominations must be handed to The Club Secretary in writing. They should be signed by a proposer and seconder who must be full members of the Club no less than 10 days before the date of the AGM. If the Junior Organiser elects to be an away member of the Club, he/she may be a committee member but voting rights are restricted solely to matters relating to the Juniors.
- (D4) The Committee may, if required, co-opt any full member of the Club to fill a vacancy that may arise within the Committee.
- (D5) The Handicapping Sub-Committee shall have complete control over all handicapping matters within Horsehay Village Golf Club and shall consist of the Handicap Secretaries of each section. The Sub-Committee shall invite any members they deem appropriate to assist in peer reviews.
- (D6) Competitions shall be run by the individual sections.

#### **(E) FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

- (E1) The Committee is to meet monthly, unless a Special Meeting is called. A quorum shall be five. Decisions of the Committee will be by a majority of those present and eligible to vote.
- (E2) Subject only to the authority of a General Meeting of the Club, the Committee shall manage the finances and general affairs of the Club and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing shall have control to:
- (a) To make and alter rules governing the conduct of members of the Club and the conditions for and conduct of competitions, provided that they do not contravene the Constitution or Rules of Golf of The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews.
  - (b) To suspend the membership of, expel from membership, or impose other disciplinary sanctions as Considered appropriate, upon any member who shall, in their opinion, have broken the rules contained or referred to in E2a or to have otherwise behaved in a manner likely to bring, or to have brought, into disrepute the reputation of the Club, or the game of Golf, or behaved in a manner contrary to the interests of the Club  
Before imposing any sanctions the Committee shall give the member concerned notice of the allegations made against him or her and a reasonable opportunity to make any written or oral representations that he or she may wish.
  - (c) To delegate any of their powers or functions to Sub Committees which shall consist of **full home** members of the Club, ~~but who need not all be members of the Committee.~~
  - (d) To regulate the manner in which the "Sections" of the Club are administered in order to ensure that they comply with the Constitution and Rules of the Club. The Committee shall have the power to direct a "Section" to comply with the Constitution and Rules if a transgression is identified.

#### **(F) SUBSCRIPTIONS**

The annual subscription shall be recommended by the Committee and must be approved by full members of the Club from time to time in general meeting.

#### **(G) GENERAL MEETINGS**

- (G1) There shall be an Annual General Meeting to be held on a date determined by the Committee of each year.
- (G2) There can be an Extra-ordinary General Meeting if the Committee rule one to be necessary, or if twenty-five or more full members so request. To do this they shall inform The Club Secretary in writing and shall specify the nature of the business to be dealt with. The meeting must be held within twenty-eight days on a date to be determined after The Club Secretary shall have received said notice.
- (G3) Members wishing to raise any specific business at the AGM are to give notice to The Club Secretary of at least fourteen days in advance of the AGM. Any business, other than normally dealt with without such notice, shall only be heard at the discretion of the Chairperson.
- (G4) General Meetings shall be chaired by The Club Captain or in his absence the Vice Captain or in his absence a person elected by those present and eligible to vote at the start of the meetings. In the case of an AGM the outgoing Captain and Vice-Captain shall retain their positions until the hand-over at that meeting.
- (G5) The Club Secretary must post a notice on each Section's notice board at least fourteen days before the date of a General Meeting or give a minimum of fourteen days written notice to all members. The notice must specify the time, date and venue

of all General Meetings and must inform members of what is on the agenda. Emails will be deemed acceptable as a means of providing written notice.

(G6) A quorum at General Meetings shall be a minimum of 15 full members.

#### **(H) ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

All or part of the constitution may be altered, deleted or added to at a General Meeting of the Club provided that always:

1. At least 75% of those present and eligible to vote shall vote in favour of the amendment and
2. Written notice of the amendment proposed (from which the amendment as voted on shall not be different) shall have been given to all members with the notice of the meeting.

#### **(I) ACCESS TO THE COURSE**

The Shropshire and Herefordshire Union of Golf Clubs (SHUGC) shall be allowed access to the course of Horsehay Village Golf Centre at any time that is deemed to be reasonable and with prior notification to the Landowner (Borough of Telford & Wrekin Council)

#### **(J) DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB**

In the event of the Club being dissolved the net assets (after payment of all liabilities) shall be disposed of within the membership or to a non-profit making organisation. This decision to be made at a General Meeting of the Club.



# Horsehay Village Golf Club

## RULES



### NAME

The Club shall be known as “**Horsehay Village Golf Club**” (HVGC) and will abide by rules as laid down by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews together with any additional rules produced by the English Golf Union, the English Women’s Golf Association and those laid down by the Committee of HVGC.

### CLUB YEAR

The Club Year shall commence on 1<sup>st</sup> January and end on 31<sup>st</sup> December of each year.

### MEMBERS

Every applicant for membership must complete and sign an application form. A proposer and seconder who must be Full Members of HVGC must countersign. Membership shall commence from receipt of fees due and the Constitution and Rules of HVGC shall thereupon bind the member.

Membership shall consist of Full, Away, Social and Junior members. A Junior member will be a person under the age of eighteen at the time of joining. A Junior member will become an adult member from 1<sup>st</sup> January after attaining his/her 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

Junior members will be assigned to the Junior’s Section of the Club, but will be permitted to enter adult competitions on gaining a handicap equal to or less than the maximum handicap allowed for adult members dependent upon gender.

Adult Lady members will be assigned to the Ladies Section of the Club, but will be eligible to enter all Club competitions open to female members unless ineligible due to an age limitation.

Male members who are 55 years of age or over will be assigned to the Seniors Section of the Club, but will be eligible to enter all Club competitions which are open to male members.

Social members shall be any person who wishes to be associated with the club but is not eligible to enter any Club competitions and will not hold a **CONGU WHS** handicap.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Every member is liable to pay his or her subscription as determined by The Committee and approved by the Full members of the Club in general meeting.

Fees are due to be paid within one calendar month from the first day of January of each year, granting one month’s grace to existing members of the club.

If this is not the case, unless the Committee is informed of extenuating circumstances in writing then that person shall cease to be a member of the Club.

Any member joining after the first day of January shall be liable to pay the proportion of the fees due at the time of joining.

### COMMITTEE AND GENERAL MEETINGS

Only Full members are entitled to vote at any General Meeting.

Lady Full members are entitled to vote for candidates for Officers to serve on the Committee and shall have equal voting rights with Gentlemen Full members on all Club matters.

Social members have no voting rights on any Club matters.

Rules and regulations relating to subscriptions, competitions and any other fees payable must be strictly adhered to.

Management of the Club shall be the sole responsibility of the elected Committee. That Committee shall consist of The Captain, Vice-Captain, Immediate Past Captain, Lady Captain, Lady Vice-Captain, Senior’s Captain, The Club Secretary, The Treasurer, The

Competition Secretary, The Membership Secretary, The Team Captain, The Handicap Secretary, The Rules Secretary, The Junior's Organiser and The Greens Committee Representative. The Minutes Secretary will attend committee meetings, but will not be entitled to vote.

The President may, if he or she wishes, attend Committee meetings, but as an honorary member, will not be entitled to vote. In addition, two representatives of the Borough of Telford & Wrekin Council and the resident Professional at the Golf Centre shall be permitted to attend any or all of the Committee meetings, but will not be entitled to vote.

If any Officer should retire during the year, the Committee shall be entitled to co-opt any full member to fill that vacancy until the following Annual General Meeting.

Any officer, other than the President, who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Committee, without a valid reason, shall cease to be an Officer. The Committee shall be entitled to fill this vacancy as deemed to be fit and proper.

Given that the authority has been given to the Committee at a General Meeting, they shall be entitled to carry out any business relating to the general management of the Club, produce local rules of play to suit the course, arrange competitions and meetings and to decide any questions not specifically provided for in these rules.

The Committee shall from time to time appoint Sub Committees as and when required, but the members of these Sub Committees do not necessarily have to be Committee members.

## **DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

The General Committee shall determine the duties of the Officers as and when required but shall include the following:

### **THE CAPTAIN**

The Captain shall: chair all Committee and General meetings, or in his/her absence Committee and General meetings will be chaired by the Vice-Captain, or in his absence a person elected by those present and eligible to vote at the start of the meetings.

### **THE CLUB SECRETARY**

The Club Secretary shall: conduct the general correspondence of the Club; be responsible for the safe custody of all documents; attend meetings of the Shropshire and Herefordshire Union of Golf Clubs (SHUGC) Executive Committee and other meetings as and when arranged by SHUGC and report on these meetings to the General Committee.

### **THE TREASURER**

The Treasurer shall: keep the accounts and make available an annual statement of account that, after going through professional audit procedures, is circulated to Members prior to the AGM.

### **THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

The Membership Secretary shall: be the designated Data Controller and the Data Protection Officer. He/she shall take receipt of all subscription payments and maintain the Master Membership Record of the members of the Club. He/She will process all new membership applications and issue a Welcome Pack of information, including a bag tag, to each new member. In addition he/she will send all existing members a renewal reminder in December of each year to request their subscription payment for the following year and issue new bag tag labels to all renewing members on payment of their subscription. He/she will report to the General Committee on all matters relating to membership of the Club.

### **THE MINUTES SECRETARY**

The Minutes Secretary shall: convene all meetings of the Committee and all General Meetings. He/she will issue the Agenda for each meeting and write minutes of the proceedings at the meetings.

## **COMPLAINTS**

All complaints concerning Club matters shall be addressed to The Club Secretary in writing ~~who will inform the committee. If The Club Secretary is unable to settle the matter to the satisfaction of the complainant, it is to be referred to the General Committee. If the committee cannot settle the matter then a disciplinary sub-committee will be formed.~~ In no case whatsoever shall members reprimand or give instructions to the staff of the Borough of Telford & Wrekin Council. Emails will be deemed acceptable as a means of providing a complaint in writing.

## **CONSTITUTION, RULES AND ETIQUETTE**

All members are requested to make themselves familiar with the Constitution and Rules of the Club and with The Rules and Etiquette of Golf as, by virtue of their membership, they are bound by such Constitution and Rules.

## **INTERPRETATION OF RULES**

The Committee shall be the sole authority for settling all disputes between members relating to the affairs of the Club and the conduct of members in relation thereto.

## **ALTERATIONS**

Additions, deletions and alterations to these Rules may be made only at a General Meeting of members of the Club.

## RULES FOR H.V.G.C. COMPETITIONS

- 1) All Competitions are to be played in accordance with the Royal & Ancient Rules of Golf.
- 2) All competitors must arrive on the tee 5 minutes before their allocated time times for the competition. Failure to be on time will result in a verbal warning
- 3) It is the responsibility of the competitor to advise the Competition Secretary of their inability to play in a competition An exception to, this rule, is family emergencies; however, the Competition Secretary should still be informed as soon as possible. Failure to do so will subject the player to the same disciplinary regulations as a competitor who fails to arrive for the competition.
- 4) Any competitor who fails to arrive for a competition will be subject to the following regulations:
  - a. 1st offence in any 12 month period: A verbal warning.
  - b. 2nd offence in any 12 month period: a final verbal warning
  - c. Any subsequent offence: Potential suspension from future competitions
- 5) Entrants must be current playing members of HVGC unless otherwise specified on the rule card for the competition. Note previous year's membership will cease on 31st December each year.
- 6) Buggies will not be allowed in competitions unless a current Medical Certificate has been presented to and authorised by the Committee **or a Buggy Request Form has been completed and approved by the Committee.** An exception to this rule is for the visiting team when playing in Friendly matches, provided the visiting team has given advance notice of the need for the use of buggies by specified members of their team.
- 7) The Committee expect, where possible, all competitors to remain for food and announcements following any competition where food has been provided.
- 8) No group will be allowed to start before the first tee time published and no group will be allowed to start later than the last published tee time, unless delayed by play resulting from an earlier tee time. For an early or late tee time within the allocated tee times a request should be made to the Competition Secretary stating the reason. The Competition Secretary's decision will be final.
- 9) The Committee reserve the right to amend the rules of any competition at their discretion. Any changes to the published rules of a competition will be specified on the Entry Form and the Tee Times Notice.
- 10) Additional rules for single and team Knockout competitions. If both players / team cannot agree a match date, the Competition Secretary will book a tee and advise both players / teams of the time and date. If only one player / team is on the tee at the appointed time, he will be declared the winner, unless the other player / team arrives within 5 minutes of the appointed time. In these circumstances the player / team arriving late will be deemed to have lost the first hole and play will start on the 2nd hole (Rule R&A 6-3 applies). If neither player / team is present within 5 minutes of the appointed time, a bye will be awarded to the opponent in the next round. One player / team may concede the match should they be unable to play within the designated time frame. This will be at the discretion of the Competition Secretary. The competition round winner cannot be decided by any other means other than submitting a signed score card for the match or as described above. Disregarding this instruction will mean automatic disqualification from the competition for both players / teams.
- 11) ~~Club members, are allowed to play practice rounds from the white tees providing permission is sought and given by the Golf Centre. Any such rounds must comply with the rules of golf.~~

The Committees reserve the right to amend the rules of any competition at their discretion. Any changes to the published rules of