**SHOREHAM (KENT) GOLF CLUB**

**NEW MEMBER INFORMATION**

**\*\*\* THE CLUB \*\*\***

* The Golf Course is a commercial venture, owned and managed by a private company - Darenth Valley Golf Course Ltd (DVGC).
* Shoreham (Kent) Golf Club (SKGC) was formed with the encouragement of Darenth Valley Golf Courses' original owner.
* The club is a member of the Kent and English Golf Unions, the National Association of Public Golf Courses and the English Ladies Golf Association. This entitles us to participate in competitive events organised by these bodies.
* A committee of 15 elected members manages SKGC. Their names are displayed on the Club's Notice Board and website - www.shorehamkentgolfclub.org.uk
* As far as DVGC is concerned, membership of SKGC confers no privileges, ie the owners do not **normally** allow blocks of tee times, you will have to telephone DVGC and take your chance with the general public.
* The Club AGM is held in March every year and is advertised in advance. It is your Club and it is your best chance to have your say. We want to hear from you.   
  **Please make the effort and try to attend.**

\*\*\* RULES AND ETIQUETTE \*\*\*

* Members of SKGC are expected to understand and abide by the R&A Rules of Golf and to be familiar with the course etiquette. We are particularly concerned about the adverse effect that **slow play** has on others enjoyment. We have undertaken to do all we can to eliminate it from our competitions. We **will** time competitors playing in SKGC 'majors' with a view to identifying and, where appropriate, penalising persistent offenders.
* Inappropriately dressed players will not be allowed to participate in Club competitions (see also DVGC dress code in the Professional's Shop).

**\*\*\* CLUB COMPETITIONS \*\*\***

* **Major Competitions** The Club holds some 25 Major competitions (at weekends and Bank Holidays). For these events we are permitted by DVGC to pre book up to 30 tee times ie 120 players plus inter-club matches.
* **Eligibility** New members can enter any appropriate competition including 'majors' but are not eligible for prizes until such time as their handicap has been assessed (more about this later).
* **Entry Sheets** for all 'Majors' are lodged with the Professional five weeks before the event is due to take place.

**DO NOT put your name on the entry sheet unless you intend to play.**

If you are entering a competition **ONLY PUT YOUR OWN NAME ON THE SHEET.**

**DO NOT** sign up for any other member, it is a breach of Club Rules and could lead to the award of a ban from winning a prize for the next two competitions (unless in a Pairs competition when the ban will be lifted, but will continue until the two matches have been recorded).

**Other points to note:**

'Majors' generally take place on Saturdays in winter and Sundays in the summer and **Bank Holiday Mondays**. Entry sheets have columns, if you do not play at weekends you can, during the week, put your name in any available slot. The Professional's Shop will accept telephone calls.

**Starting Times** are determined by random draw.

**Starting times** are posted in the Professional's Shop 6-7 days prior to the competition and on the club website.

**Withdrawals** If you have to cancel you should telephone the Professional's Shop as soon as possible, preferably as soon as possible before the close of business on the Thursday prior to the competition. You should also send an appropriate text message to Frank King on 07788379090.

**'No Shows'** If you do not show up for a competition and you have not previously cancelled there is a **mandatory** two shop penalty for the next competition you enter.

**Reporting** On competition days report in person (ready to play) to the starter at least 20 minutes before your published starting time. Failure to do so will result in a 2 shot (or 2 point) penalty.

**Ball Sweep** The Professional operates a voluntary 'Ball Sweep' at all Majors (currently £2). The proceeds are shared between all competitors scoring a 2 or better and are added to the members account in the Professional's Shop. If you have entered the Ball Sweep and scored 2 or better it is your responsibility to make sure that it is recorded on the day.

**You must**

(a) On your scorecard circle any/all 2's or 1's scored

(b) Ensure that the competition officials see your care and that they record the score(s) in the twos' book.

(c) Inform a committee member immediately if your name has not been called out. Next day or next week will be too late.

**Cards** Any question relating, for example to the interpretation of the Rules of Golf, must be resolved before the card is signed/handed in (ie get a ruling from a duty committee member).

Both the Player and Marker must sign cards. The Marker must in addition print his/her name in addition to writing their signature.

Completed cards must be posted in the box provided in the bar area on competition days.

**Prizes** Most Competitions are divided into 2 divisions (currently 0 - 15 and 16 - 28).

A 'Major prize table normally consists of up to 11 prizes.

All competitors should make the effort to remain for prize giving at the end of a competition. However, if you cannot stay but think you may have won a prize it is your responsibility to ask a fellow member who is staying (not a committee member) to collect your prize and at the same time inform the committee whom you have nominated. You will forfeit your prize if you do not follow this procedure.

**2 MONTHLY MEDALS AND STABLEFORDS**

* Each competition runs for two weeks (1st to 15th and 16th until the end of the month).
* You must enter your name in the Medal/Stableford Book in the foyer **before** you play in the competition.
* Monthly competition cards must be signed/marked by a Club member.
* For a card to be regarded as valid, the marker must print his/her name in addition to signing the card.
* Completed cards (including Non Returns) must be posted in the box provided in the foyer outside the changing rooms).
* Each competition comprises 2 divisions, depending on the number of entries. Divisional winners receive £20 vouchers and the runners-up £10 vouchers depending on the number of entries. Vouchers are added to member's accounts in the Professional's Shop.

**\*\*\* HANDICAP ALLOCATION \*\*\***

* If you have not already got an official playing handicap, then ensure that you print the words 'NEW MEMBER' in a prominent position on your scorecard, for at least the first 3 competitions you play in (Monthly Medal, Stableford or 'Major'). The Handicap Committee cannot review you handicap until you have submitted a minimum of 3 cards.
* When you have been allocated an official handicap, the legend 'NM' will be deleted from your name on the handicap list. From then on you will be able to compete for prizes in all competitions.
* **Always check** your handicap before playing in any competition. Handicap Lists and Competition Result Sheets are displayed prominently on the Notice Board in the changing room.

**\*\*\* FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS \*\*\***

* **Joining Fee** £15 (Single Payment)
* **Subscriptions**  Annual payment at prevailing rate

Please note: If at the next AGM members vote for an increase in subscriptions, you will be sent an invoice in December, to cover the difference. (Please note that fees/subscriptions are not refundable).

**SHOREHAM (KENT) GOLF CLUB**

**New Member Proposal Form**

(Please print)

Name ............................................................... Date of Birth ..............................

Address .....................................................................................................................................

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Occupation ................................................................................................................................

Telephone(s) .............................................................................................................................

Email Address ...........................................................................................................................

Previous Golf Club(s):

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..........................................................................................

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Current/Previous Handicap ...............................

Number of years playing golf .............................

Applicant's signature ...................................................................................................................

Proposer Seconder

Signature ..................................................... Signature ..................................................

Print Name ................................................. Print Name ...............................................

**Completed Proposal Forms to be returned to:**

**Frank King**

**Membership Secretary**

**Shoreham (Kent) Golf Club**

**c/o Darenth Valley Golf Course**

**Station Road**

**Shoreham**

**Kent**

**TN14 7SA**

**Tel: 02076398018 (Home)**

**07788379090 (Mobile)**

**www.shorehamkentgolfclub.org.uk**