# Donaghadee Golf Club
# Bye-Laws

# March 2025

# DONAGHADEE GOLF CLUB BYE-LAWS

## GENERAL

### Course

1. Each player must be in possession of a bag of clubs on the course.

2. Matches of more than four-balls are not permitted.

3. Practising is not permitted on any part of the course except on the Practice Academy and the putting green.

4. Persons accompanying players are not allowed to play any shots.

5. Members (all playing categories) must display current membership discs on their bags.

6. A visitor must pay his green fee to the Professional and display the ticket provided on his bag before commencing play. Members accompanying visitors are responsible for ensuring that this Bye-law is observed.

7. When a starter is in attendance he/she shall control the order of play.

8. Except when specifically approved by Council, play shall not commence at the 5th, 10th or 14th tees when players are playing the 4th, 9th or 13th holes respectively. Players starting at the 5th, 10th or 14th must give way to those playing a full round.

9. Players must be suitably attired and use appropriate footwear. Details of dress regulations approved by Council from time to time will be displayed in a prominent place in the Clubhouse.

10. Players must have adequate insurance cover.

11. The use of trolleys and buggies will be at the discretion of Council. When in use, these are not permitted on tee boxes or greens.

12. Dogs and other pets are not permitted on the course at any time.

13. Three visitors, playing with a Member, Lady Associate, Senior Member/Lady Associate, Restricted, Overseas Associate or Young Member, and one visitor playing with a Junior, may have an appropriate reduction in green fees as specified by Council.

14. Only Full, Overseas, Honorary and Young members, as well as Junior members qualifying under Rule 15.1 (e), shall be permitted to play on Saturday prior to 2.00pm (unless otherwise qualifying under bye-law 19).

15. Mobile phones may not be used in any areas of the Clubhouse other than the external balconies, passageways or locker rooms. Mobile phones may only be used on the course in case of emergency.

### Competitions

16. Competitions and matches, including men's and ladies' competitions, will be held on days specified by Council. Saturdays will normally be Men's Competition Day and Tuesdays will normally be Ladies' Competition Day.

17. On competition and match days, competitors shall have priority and when a time sheet is in operation, the starting times will be strictly observed. All non-competitors on the course must give way to those taking part in the competition if and when required to do so.

18. Players entered in competitions must take their card from the professional shop at least 10 minutes prior to their allocated starting time and be on the starting tee box not later than 5 minutes before their allocated starting time.

19. For men's Saturday competitions, the year will be divided into two distinct sections namely winter and summer. Saturday morning times will be booked twice yearly in October and March. Booking will be open to all Full Members. These sections will approximate to BST and non-BST times of year. Council will determine precisely when each section starts and finishes.

**Summer section**

During the summer section, men's competition day will start at first light and the final time which can be booked will be 3.24pm. All male members who play before 2.00pm will be required to pay the relevant entrance fee without exception.

On a Saturday, any unused tee times may be booked by 7-day members who are not playing in the competition. They should not book a time with a group playing in the competition unless the competitor is a single golfer who needs a marker. Any remaining tee times after 2.00pm, not booked by Full members, may be made available to paying visitors at the usual weekend rate(s).

Council shall have the discretion to extend the final competition time watershed for Captain's day and other major open competitions.

**Winter section**

During the winter section men's competition day will start at first light and the final time which can be booked will be determined by light conditions. Because of the restricted light men's competitions during the winter will normally be played over nine holes only.

Where less that eighteen holes are open for play, full members wishing to play on a Saturday but not in the men's competition, may also play.

20. If a player fails to remove his name from the timesheet he will be deemed to have entered the competition and must pay the relevant entrance fee. Until the fee is paid the player shall not be permitted to enter further competitions. Failure to comply may result in the player's handicap being suspended. Players who have not booked may play in the competition if a slot becomes available upon payment of the entrance fee.

21. Players entering any official club competition must return their score cards, properly completed and signed, in the box provided as required under GUI/ILGU regulations. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action as determined by Council.

22. Where the computer system for scorecard entry is in operation, players must input their scores into the computer. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action being taken, as determined by Council.

**Clubhouse**

23. Members and their guests must follow the dress code as defined by Council from time to time and as posted on Club notice boards.

24. Both upstairs Clubhouse rooms are for the use of adult members and their guests.

25. Cash may be lifted at the bar using a valid debit or credit card. Personal and third party cheques will not be accepted. Council will, from time to time, review the maximum amount that may be cashed and the level of any surcharge.

26. Cigarettes must not be sold to anyone under the age of 18.

27. Smoking is not permitted in any part of the Clubhouse including the locker rooms and toilet areas.

**Conduct**

28. Members, guests and visitors are expected to maintain a high standard of conduct at all times and to comply with the Rules and Bye-Laws of the Club. In particular, all must refrain from behaviour which causes or is likely to cause embarrassment, discomfort, offence, or fails to show respect for the Officers, Council, Employees and any other member or visitor.

## YOUNG MEMBERS YOUTHS AND JUNIORS

**Course**

29. Junior members and their guests are permitted to use the course and practice areas as follows:-

| Day | Section A | Section B | Section C |
|---|---|---|---|
| Weekdays except Tuesday | As for adult members. | When taking part in organised competition. Between 10.00am and 5.30pm. At other times only when accompanied by person over 18. | When taking part in organised competition. At other times only when accompanied by person over 18. |
| Tuesday | As for adult members. | When taking part in organised competition between 4.00pm and 6.30pm. After 6.30pm only when accompanied by person over 18. | When taking part in organised competition. After 4.00pm only when accompanied by person over 18. |
| Saturday | As for adult members after 2.00pm. Those male juveniles admitted to the A+ section may play at other times in accordance with Rule 15.1(f). | After 4.00pm only when accompanied by a person over 18. | After 4.00pm only when accompanied by a person over 18. |
| Sunday | As for adult members. | At any time when accompanied by a person over 18. | At any time when accompanied by a person over 18. |

30. A Junior member is permitted to play with only one visiting member who must be over nine years of age.

31. Temporary Junior members (visitors paying a green fee) not covered in 29 and 30 above must be at least 9 years of age. All such junior visitors must be accompanied by a person over 18 at all times. This requirement may be waived where the visiting junior is a member of another golf club and has a handicap of 28 or better (boys) or 36 or better (girls).

32. Except when playing in an approved junior competition or in a senior competition in accordance with Rule 15.1(f), juniors must give way on the course to other members and adult visitors.

33. Children under the age of 5 are not permitted to accompany players on the course at any time.

**Clubhouse**

34. Persons under the age of 18 are not permitted to use the John Nelson Room except on special occasions and with the permission of the Captain.

35. Both upstairs Clubhouse rooms are for the use of adult (over 18) members and their guests. Persons under 18 must be accompanied by adult members and must not use the room on their own.

36. Persons under the age of 18 are permitted in the Games Room provided they are accompanied by an adult member. They must not however use the gambling machines or the snooker table

37. Children under the age of 9 must be accompanied by an adult (18 or over) at all times and are not permitted to wander around the Clubhouse or precincts unsupervised.

38. In accordance with the Club's registration and the licensing laws, no person under the age of 18 is permitted to remain in the bar or other drinking areas of the Clubhouse after 10.00pm for any purpose.

**Conduct**

40. Junior members are expected to maintain a high standard of conduct at all times and to comply with the general Rules and Bye-laws of the Club. They must not engage in any behaviour that might result in injury or harm to themselves or others or cause damage to property.

41. Each Junior member must leave with the Secretary Manager the name, address and telephone number(s) of an adult who can be contacted in the event of an emergency.

**Dress**

42. Junior members, guests and visitors must comply with such Dress Codes as may be approved and published by Council. Those failing to do so may be required to leave the Course and/or Clubhouse.

**Junior Committee**

43. A Junior Committee shall be formed to administer the running of the Junior Section. This Committee will comprise not less than two adults (1 male and 1 female) and two Junior members (1 boy and 1 girl) approved by Council and shall in addition include the Designated Liaison Officer and the Safeguarding Officer. At its first meeting each year the Committee will appoint a Chairperson.

44. The Junior Committee will hold regular meetings throughout the year (10 minimum). The Junior Committee Chairperson will ensure that a written record of each meeting is prepared and presented to Council.

45. The Committee will be responsible for the organisation and supervision of junior competitions and activities and will deal with minor breaches of discipline or Club Rules and Bye-laws. Repeated or serious acts of misconduct, including allegations of verbal or physical abuse or wilful damage to property must be referred to Council.

**Bye-laws as amended by Council & EGM 28 MARCH 2025**