



HANDBOOK

Incorporating

GENERAL INFORMATION & COURSE RULES

April 2018

GENERAL INFORMATION

Sharnbrook Golf Club is a 9-hole course, with narrow fairways running close to each other. It is important for the safety and enjoyment of everyone on the course that the Rules and Etiquette of Golf and the Sharnbrook Golf Club rules are fully observed.

Any member found breaking these rules may be asked to leave the course and may have their membership revoked.

The Sharnbrook Golf Club course is owned by Unilever PLC.

The Greenkeepers are employed by Unilever. They are **NOT** employed by the Golf Club.

Greenkeepers working on the course have priority; play is not allowed if the greenkeepers are at risk of being hit.

The club officers and committee are all honorary and unpaid.

Club Information is posted on the noticeboards inside and outside the cabin.

Competition entry forms are posted on noticeboards inside the cabin.

All club members are also members of Colworth Sports and Social Club and are allowed to use the bar, changing rooms and showers when they are open. The bar is manned by volunteers.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Insurance

Included in the annual subscription (and guest green fee) is comprehensive personal accident/public liability insurance. Members are also covered when playing on other UK golf courses and up to 120 days per year worldwide, Full details are available in The Cabin.

First Aid

The on site security officers are trained first aiders and carry an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and oxygen. They can be called in an emergency on **01234 222999**.

Within the club house is another AED and a First Aid box. In the event of an emergency these are available for your use. The AED is simple to use with audible instruction given as you use it. **You cannot cause harm and may save a life.**

On site security should be informed of any incident (Phone - 01234 222264). Please also inform any Club Officer or Committee Member.

Club facilities

The changing rooms, toilets etc are open all day and there is a kitchen with basic facilities for tea making etc (provide own consumables). The bar is usually open at lunchtime and early evening, with a range of hot and cold drinks and snacks.

COURSE RULES

Only members and their guests are entitled to use the golf course.

A member may bring up to 3 guests at any one time and is fully responsible for their behaviour whilst on the course. The appropriate Green Fee, ruling at the time must be paid for each guest **before play commences** and the green fee ticket must be displayed. Failure to do so may result in members and their guests being asked to leave the course.

Suitable golfing footwear should be worn.

Golf bags/clubs **may not** be shared by players.

Any member found not displaying a current membership bag tag and year sticker may be asked to leave the course.

It is in the interest of safety that junior members under the age of 14 are accompanied by a parent or guardian, who is responsible for their safety and behaviour. Players under 12 are not allowed without adult supervision. (This is a requirement for insurance cover purposes.)

No more than 4 people may play together unless specified in an official club competition.

Members are asked to play a maximum of 2 balls only when playing the course for recreation.

Dogs are not permitted on the course.

The use of mobile phones is not permitted on the course (except in an emergency).

CONSIDERATION FOR OTHER PLAYERS

Playing from any hole other than the official starting hole is only permitted if the previous hole is clear and other players will not be held up.

In the interest of all, players should play without delay. No player should play until the players in front are out of range.

Players searching for a ball should signal the players behind them to pass as soon as it is apparent that the ball will not be easily found. They should not continue play until the players following have passed through and are out of range.

If a match fails to keep its place on the course and loses more than one hole on the players in front, it should allow the the match following to pass.

When the play of a hole is completed, players should immediately leave the putting green.

PRIORITY ON THE COURSE

Club Matches and members playing in official club competitions have priority over social golfers.

The **white tees** may only be used by men playing in official club competitions or matches. The **yellow tees** are for men's general play.

The **red tees** are for the use of ladies and Juniors.

Unless otherwise determined by the committee, priority on the course is determined by a group's pace of play. Any group playing a whole round is entitled to pass a group playing a shorter round. The term group includes a single player.

Players teeing off from the 8th tee have precedence over those teeing off from the 1st tee.

Players who have completed nine holes and are just moving off the 9th green shall have precedence over players about to start their round. If more than one properly constituted match is ready to commence they must alternate with those coming off the 9th green.

CARE OF THE COURSE

Through the green, a player must ensure that any turf cut or displaced is replaced at once and pressed down, and that any damage to the putting surface, especially pitch marks, is carefully repaired.

Divots taken on the tee must not be replaced but any damage should be repaired using the divot mix provided.

Before leaving a bunker, a player must carefully rake through and fill up any holes.

Rakes must be replaced in their holders.

The side of the bunker furthest from the green must be used to enter and leave bunkers.

Trolleys must **NOT** be taken onto tees, greens, collars around the greens and between green-side bunkers and the greens.

COURSE CLOSURE AND USE OF TROLLEYS

When club competitions are taking place the course may be closed to non participants. The committee's or green staff's decision to close the course for any reason must be observed.

There is a telephone message service for members to use to find out if the course is open/closed. It is updated as necessary.

To protect the course the use of trolleys may be prohibited.

Phone **01234 222524** for the latest information.

LOCAL RULES

Local Rules are printed on every scorecard available in the cabin. They must all be followed. In particular for security and safety reasons:-

NO attempt must be made to retrieve balls that have gone over the security fence to the left of the 1st fairway.

Do **NOT** play from the 9th tee if cars are passing along the road to the left of the 9th fairway.

Do **NOT** play an approach shot to the 8th green if cars are passing on the road behind it.

Compliance with these simple codes of conduct will make the Sharnbrook Golf Course enjoyable for everyone.

COMPETITIONS

Competition entry

In order to enter a competition you must have an official CONGU handicap. For new starters this can be obtained by submitting cards for any combination of 9 or 18 hole rounds (total 54 holes), played off the yellow tees and marked by a player with an official handicap. In order to play in club matches and knock-out competitions a player must have an 'active' handicap.

Rules of Golf

All competitions must be played to the Rules of Golf. Members are advised to make themselves acquainted with these rules. (Free copies are available in the cabin). If whilst playing in a competition, you break a rule either by ignorance or intent, the appropriate penalty must be applied. Do not waive any rule in friendly games to help your partner or yourself. This is always wrong and means disqualification in any competition for both sides in match play and those competitors concerned in stroke play.

Marking of Cards

No card marked for a competition is valid unless signed by both marker and competitor.

Order of Play

In club competitions, competitors shall start from the first tee unless specified by the committee.