



Ticknham Golf Centre

Welcome Booklet For New Golfers & Club Members



We have a Defibrillator located in The Clubhouse
Call 01275 856626 in emergency

Welcome to Tickenham Golf Centre this welcome booklet will provide you with all the essential information you will need to help you along your journey learning golf as well as providing some insight into the golf club.

Key Personnel Contact Details:

- **Proprietor: Steve Pockneall**

Steve Pockneall is the owner of the Tickenham Golf Centre . If you have a query, please do not hesitate to contact.

Tel No: 01202 876096

Email: steve@ferndownforest.co.uk

- **Director of Golf: Leigh Jones**

Leigh is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the site and the management of the team of staff. Leigh works in the Pro Golf Shop and delivers coaching. Members are to contact Leigh as your first port of call with questions about the Club.

Tel No: 01275 856626

Email: info@tickenhamgolfcentre.co.uk

- **Handicap Secretary, Vice Captain & England Golf Rules Ambassador: Mike Barton**

Mike is responsible for managing handicaps for the member's competitions. Please feel free to ask any questions about your handicap and results as well as any questions about how the system works.

Email: mikeb2384@sky.com

- **Membership Secretary: Hannah Gale**

Hannah is responsible for managing the membership database and renewals.

Email: hannah@ferndownforestgolfcourse.co.uk

- **Club Welfare Officer(s):** Graham Featherstone Tel: 07986 516174

Email: graham.featherstone@icloud.com

John Purcell

Tel: 07930 303422

Email: jpurcell132@outlook.com

PGA Professionals & Shop Staff

All our staff and our team of PGA Golf Professionals are on hand to help with any query or question you may have. Their roles are to help you to enjoy the experience of the facility and get the most out of your visit and your membership.

Greens Staff

Our greens team are responsible for the upkeep of the course; they normally work during the early part of the day to avoid the busy playing times. The green staff take-priority on the course so please be patient if they are working on the hole you are playing, as they will only be a few minutes.

Our Golf Club Facilities

Here at Tickenham Golf Centre we have a variety of facilities to cater for our members and visitors:

- 9 Hole woodland Golf Course
- Floodlit Driving Range
- Floodlit Putting & Chipping Green
- Hot and Cold Drinks
- Outside Seating Area

Club Information

All our club information can be found on our website which is updated regularly with news and important messages and please see the additional places listed below where club information can also be viewed:

Email Newsletter: The Club send out a regular email newsletter that keeps you up to date with special offers, upcoming events, competition results and general goings on at the club. Please give your email address to the Pro Golf Shop if you do not currently receive these messages.

Noticeboards: This can be found in the Members Seating Area between the Pro Golf Shop and Driving Range. These are a good source of information for members. Some notices are there for information, and others require your input, such as signing up for matches, entering competitions and social activities.

Tee Times & Reservations: Members can book their tee times on the BRS Golf App, Online or in the Pro Golf Shop. Members may book up to 14 days in advance. Members need to be aware that visitors are an important income for the golf club and will be made welcome as this subsidises the yearly membership subscriptions. Here at the Golf Centre we operate a booking system where you book your tee time in advance and where you turn up on the designated competition day and time.

What do you need to play Golf?

Clothing

Our clubs dress code is relaxed and for beginners we recommend wearing flat soled shoes and comfortable clothing. Golf shoes are a benefit as they assist with your grip as well as being waterproof.

What should be in your golf bag?

Here is a selection of equipment that you should have in your golf bag:

Up to 14 clubs - Every Golfer must have their own bag of clubs. Sharing clubs is not allowed and bag hire is available from the Pro Golf Shop.

Towel to clean clubs

Umbrella and Waterproofs

Ball marker and pitch mark repairer - Repairing pitch marks on greens is vitally important to the ongoing greens quality.

Golf balls and tees - Golf balls should be uniquely marked so you can identify your golf ball on the course

Hat and golf glove

Mobile phone - To contact the clubhouse if any issues or medical emergencies.

Drink and snacks – An 18 hole round of golf can take 3-4 hours. It is essential to keep hydrated and your energy levels up.

Pocket rule book - Available from the golf shop free of charge

Scorecard and pencil - Available from the golf shop free of charge

Playing the Golf Course

Tees are the starting point of a golf hole, normally a flat piece of land, which is mown neatly and may be called the Tee Box. The teeing area is identified by two coloured markers. These vary in position and are coloured to show which tees should be used. You tee off between the markers up to two club lengths behind them.

- **Yellow:** Everyday use for Men and Lady golfers. Used in competitions.
- **Red:** Used for Ladies Competitions, open to use for all Men and Lady golfers, and used by all in some midweek competitions.

The Scorecard Explained

01883 344244

COMPETITION														Please indicate which tee used.	
DATE				Handicap	Strokes Rec'd	TIME				Handicap	Strokes Rec'd	PAR	SSS		
Player A						Player B						PAR	SSS		
Player C						Player D						PAR	SSS		
Hole	Marker's Score		White Yards	Yellow Yards	Stroke Index	Par	Red Yards	Stroke Index	Score		+ OR -	S/ford			
	C	D							A	B					
1			318	311	16	4	303	6							
2			144	139	14	3	121	14							
3			287	258	6	4	222	4							
4			235	229	12	4	221	12							
5			307	300	4	4	285	2							
6			139	125	10	3	108	8							
7			182	163	2	3	118	18							
8			274	249	18	4	236	16							
9			366	351	8	4	339	10							
			2252	2125	OUT	33	1953	OUT							
PLEASE AVOID SLOW PLAY AT ALL TIMES															
10			176	157	11	3	144	11							
11			297	288	9	4	280	17							
12			332	302	7	4	284	1							
13			154	147	15	3	135	13							
14			403	365	5	4	320	5							
15			479	460	3	5	386	3							
16			353	316	1	4	287	7							
17			127	110	17	3	98	15							
18			441	421	13	5	383	9							
			2762	2566	IN	35	2317	IN							
			2252	2125	OUT	33	1953	OUT							
			5014	4691	TOTAL	68	4270	TOTAL							
STABLEFORD POINTS OR PAR RESULT			HANDICAP			NETT SCORE									
Marker's Signature Player's Signature															

Here is an example of a scorecard. Once you have filled your card in with your name, date, competition, handicap, shots received, and course/ tees played you then exchange your card with one of your playing partners.

Each hole has a number, or score listed for it, which is called Par. Depending on the length of a hole, it may be rated as Par 3, Par 4 or Par 5 and you can use the Par standard to help measure your own skill on different holes.

Next to the column with listing the par of each hole is a column titled SI, which stands for Stroke Index. SI is the even distribution of strokes for Matchplay competitions. It can also be used to determine the difficulty of the holes on the golf course with SI 1 being the hardest and SI 18 being the easiest.

Benefits of being a Golf Club member

Good for your health - A round of golf works off over 1000 calories and social interaction is proven to increase life expectancy.

Access to Competitions & Social Events - Throughout the year you can play competitions and social golf. A great way to keep those competitive spirits going in a friendly environment.

Sense of belonging and meeting new friends - Members are proud to play for the club and represent the teams against other clubs. We actively encourage and create opportunities for you to pay with new people.

Access to other golf courses through matches, competitions, and reciprocals - We play competitive and friendly games against other clubs.

Obtaining an official golf club handicap. - This enables you to play in Open competitions, club competitions, regional leagues, and alliances. When playing other courses, you may be required to show proof of an official handicap

Reciprocals:

We have a great range of courses that our members can play free of charge as well as some local courses that offer TGC members a helpful discount. These courses are constantly changing so please look at the website. All reciprocals are to be booked through the Pro Golf Shop.

Social Roll Ups:

At Tickenham we are very active at encouraging social golf. We operate different social roll ups each week where you can meet other like-minded golfers in a relaxed atmosphere and play some non-competitive golf. Please see the noticeboards or ask in the Pro Golf Shop for details.

These are a great way for you to meet new people and to start your route in to playing club events and competitions.

Handicapping

What is a handicap and why do I need one?

A golfer's handicap is a number assigned to him/ her, which defines their skill/ ability level. A handicap gives all standards of golfers an opportunity to play together or compete against one another on an equal level. In a stroke play event, a golfer's handicap is deducted from his/ her "gross" score (total shots taken) to provide a "nett" figure (total shots taken minus handicap). In a match play event, a player's handicap determines how many shots they will either give to, or receive from, an opponent.

Golfers are divided into the following categories:

- CATEGORY 1 – handicaps of 5 or less
- CATEGORY 2 – handicaps of 6 to 12
- CATEGORY 3 – handicaps of 13 to 20
- CATEGORY 4 – handicaps of 21 to 28
- CATEGORY 5 – handicaps of 29 to 36
- CATEGORY 6 - handicaps of 37 to 54

How to obtain your first handicap:

A TGC club member can be allotted an official WHS handicap. Please hand signed scorecards in that you have played at TGC which can be either 3 x 18-hole rounds, or 6 x 9-hole rounds. Another member who already possesses a handicap can mark these. We can happily arrange games for you so you can achieve your handicap.

How do I improve my handicap?

A player's handicap is worked out from a mean average of their best 8 scores from their previous 20 rounds. To improve your handicap, you must improve the scores of your best 8.

Supplementary Scores:

You can also enter General Play scores throughout the year to adjust your handicap. If you would like to play a General Play round, please register on the desktop computer in the Pro Golf Shop before starting your round. You then enter your scores on the desktop computer after your round and the card will be processed overnight to adjust your handicap.

Members are recommended to use the England Golf app to keep track of their own handicap and obtain course ratings and shots allowed on this and other courses. This is very useful for playing in matches and formats as detailed below.

Competitions & Matches

We run various club competitions, which vary in format and will endeavor to cater for golfers of all abilities. Some will be run at the club, others may involve playing at other clubs, through alliances and local leagues. All our competitions and fixtures are published on our website and the noticeboards. Please ask in the Pro Golf Shop for information on how to enter the different events.

Stableford Competitions: We hold a club Stableford every weekend of the month (Tuesday and Wednesday). It is open to all members. There are also extra Stableford events throughout the year. This is a popular format for competitions, as one or two bad holes do not ruin your scorecard. Rather than the number of shots for the hole, you have a points system.

Points are awarded in the following way:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| • Above bogey | 0 points |
| • Bogey (1 shot over par) | 1 point |
| • Par | 2 points |
| • Birdie (1 shot under par) | 3 points |
| • Eagle (2 shots under par) | 4 points |
| • Albatross (3 shots under par) | 5 points |

Your shots are based on your handicap as per the following example for an 18-hole round:

- A player off a 6 handicap gets a shot at the holes with stroke index 1–6.
- A player off an 18 handicap gets a shot at each hole.
- A player off a 24 handicap gets 2 shots at stroke index holes 1–6 and 1 shot at stroke index holes 7–18.

Stroke Play Competitions – Handicap: This is the format most used by golf clubs for their monthly medals and other medal competitions. A player subtracts their handicap away from the total shots taken to give their nett score.

Medal Competitions – Scratch: This is where only gross scores count, handicaps are not taken into consideration. This format is normally used for the Club Championship.

Foursomes: In this format players (in pairs) hit alternate shots. Each player will hit 9 tee shots and then take it in turns until holing out. It is a quick format of golf as players can walk ahead to a point near to where their partner will hit the ball. You can either play in medal or Stableford format.

Greensomes: This format is very similar to foursomes, the difference being that both players tee off at each hole, then pick one of the players drives (normally the best one) and the other player then plays and in turn from there until holing out.

Texas Scramble: This is played in a 3 or 4 player team format. You all tee off, all the players hit their second shot from where the best drive landed, then all hit a 3rd shot from where the best 2nd shot finished and so on until the hole is completed.

Match Play: A form of competition in which each hole is a separate competition, players can either win, lose or halve a hole, the winner is determined by the number of holes won rather than the gross, nett or Stableford score. Once a player is up by a number of holes and there are less holes left to play, then they have won, i.e. 5up with 4 holes to play, the player has won 5&4. If a match is all square at the end, then you may need to play extra holes until there is a winner, referred to as sudden death.

Knock out Competitions: Using the match play format, most clubs will run a variety of knock out competitions, these can either be singles, foursomes, better ball, mixed or for handicap categories.

Entry Fees & Prizes

Entry Fees:

Each competition has an entry fee. These are payable on the day of the event.

2's Sweep:

In addition to the entry fees there is an additional £1 entry to the 2's sweep. This money is shared between every entrant that achieves a 2 on a hole. If a player achieves more than one 2, they receive the additional share of the pot. If a hole in 1 is achieved in the competition, the player receives all of the 2's sweep money.

Prizes:

The club keeps 25% off entry fees to contribute to the members fund for trophies, engraving etc. The remaining money is distributed to the top 3 players in each division on a 60%, 30%, 10% split. The money is placed on the Pro Golf Shop account of the player to be spent in the golf shop on any goods or services. You may see a statement of your account at any point by asking in the golf shop.

Results & Handicaps

You can track competition results, your scores, statistics, and handicap record online. Please enter through the members area on the website or go to www.masterscoreboard.co.uk.

Club events are published on the fixture list. The Competitions and results are published online, and if appropriate, on the noticeboard in the members' seating area between the Pro Golf Shop and driving range.

Coaching

Our team of Professionals can help you with all aspects of your game and offer individual or group coaching packages for all ages and abilities. All the details are on the Golf Coaching section of the club website or call 01275 856626.

Golf Shop and Custom Fitting

Tickenham Pro Golf Shop stocks all the leading golfing brands. You can now get fully custom fitted for your new clubs in our Trackman studio, and our price match guarantee will ensure you get the best UK price on your custom orders.

Full details are on the Golf Shop section of the website or call 01275 856626