

The SGA Golf Club



The SGA Golf Club Constitution

1. Name

- a) The name of the Club shall be the SGA Golf Club, hereafter referred to as 'the Club'.
- b) The Club shall 'affiliate' to the English Golf Union, and Lancashire Union of Golf Clubs and the Lancashire Ladies County Association.

2. Objectives

The Club shall hold the following as its aims and objectives and shall strive to fulfil these aims and objectives at all times:

- a) To fulfil the general objectives and functions of a Golf Club by undertaking such activities as may be reasonably necessary and/or incidental to such objective;
- b) To generally promote the game of golf for the benefit of members and the wider community;
- c) To promote and abide by the Rules of Golf as they are fixed from time to time by The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews;
- d) To provide access to golf for players of all standards in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere that does not discriminate on the grounds of gender, age, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or disability;
- e) To arrange competitions and matches for members;
- f) To play at the Southport Golf Academy Golf Course at Leisure Lakes, Mere Brow, Preston, Lancashire ;

3. Membership

3.1 The membership of the Club shall exclusively consist of

- a) 7 day Members
- b) 5 day Members
- c) Senior members (over the age of 60)
- d) Junior members (up to the age of 18)

each of whom hold Contracts to play at Southport Golf Academy hereinafter called "a contract"; and

- e) Honorary members appointed by the Executive Committee.

Upon joining the Club all members (with the exception of Honorary members) shall pay an annual membership fee; the membership fee shall be decided by the Executive Committee

3.2 All members joining the Club shall be deemed to accept the terms of this Constitution and any Standing Orders/Byelaws from time to time adopted by the Club in particular

including the requirement to conduct themselves in accordance with any conduct rules, equality policy and disciplinary procedures.

3.3 The Club shall include within its Standing Orders/Byelaws the process for any person seeking membership of the Club. This process shall reflect that membership is open to all and no application shall be refused on grounds of gender, gender reassignment, age, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity or disability. The Club has adopted The Diversity Policy of the English Golf Union Ltd, a copy of which is displayed on the Club notice board and on its website

3.4 Annual subscriptions shall be due on the 1st January in each calendar year or at the time of new members joining the Club. Subscriptions not paid within two months of the renewal date for existing members may result in the membership ceasing.

3.5 The Club shall provide notice of subscriptions due, including methods of payment available to members.

3.6 To play in club competitions – with the exception of Winter Leagues and invitational events from time to time – players will be required to be paid up members of the Club.

4. Management of The Club

4.1 There shall be an Executive Committee responsible for the overall management of the Club.

4.2 All committee members must be members of the Club.

4.3 In the event of a potential disciplinary incident, the Executive Committee will appoint 3 members from that Committee to act as a “Disciplinary Committee” to investigate the matter, prior to deciding an outcome. There will be a right to appeal that outcome.

5. Composition and Responsibilities of Executive Committee

5.1 The Executive Committee shall consist of the following officeholders:

Chair

Treasurer

Honorary Secretary

3 ordinary members.

5.2 The Chair of Golf Sports Management Limited (“GSM Ltd”) will be the Chair

5.3 The Treasurer and Honorary Secretary will be Directors of GSM Ltd.

5.4 Ordinary members of the Committee will be elected at the AGM, and will serve for a maximum of three years, following which they will be eligible to stand for re-election for a further term.

5.5 The Club has adopted The Diversity Policy of the English Golf Union Ltd, a copy of which is displayed on the Club notice board and on its website

5.5.1 Election to any position on the Executive Committee cannot be limited by or on the grounds of gender, gender reassignment, age, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity or disability.

5.6 The Executive Committee shall

5.6.1 be responsible for the Standing Orders/Byelaws of the Club

5.6.2 be responsible for ensuring the Club, its officeholders and employees have in place adequate and relevant insurance cover at all times

5.6.3 be responsible for the general administration of the Club’s business and such other activities required by this Constitution

5.6.4 set annual subscriptions, membership and entrance fees

5.7 The Executive Committee will not have power to purchase, sell, or lease heritably without specific authority of members at a General Meeting

6. Conduct of the Game, Affiliation and the Governing Body

- 6.1 The club agrees to recognise the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews as the ruling body of Amateur Golf and shall abide by the Rules of Golf and Amateur Golf and shall abide by the Rules of Golf and Amateur Status as laid down from time to time by the R & A.
- 6.2 The club agrees to comply with the Council of National Golf Union's Regulations and Rules of the SSS & WHS Handicapping Scheme (and any conditions imposed within the scheme by The English Golf Union Ltd.).
- 6.3 The club agrees to comply with the Constitution and Rules of The English Golf Union Ltd. and of its County Union as laid down from time to time.
- 6.4 The club shall pay all subscriptions due to the County Union and to The English Golf Union Ltd. in respect of every playing member of whatever category.
- 6.5 The club shall duly exercise the disciplinary powers delegated to them under The English Golf Union Ltd. Constitution.
- 6.6 The Club operates the World-Wide Handicapping System as approved by the English Golf Union
- 6.7 Rules 6.1 to 6.6 and this Rule shall not be amended or revoked without the prior written consent of The English Golf Union Ltd.

7. General Meetings

A General Meeting may be called by the Executive Committee or by written submission to the Honorary Secretary by no less than thirty members of the Club.

- 7.1 At least 21 calendar days' notice of a General Meeting must be given to the full Club membership, by e mail to the last known e mail address of each member and by posting notice on a noticeboard at the club premises.
- 7.2 All members (save Junior members) of the Club may vote at General Meetings
- 7.3 A quorum at a General Meeting shall be one quarter of the Club members (excluding Junior members)
- 7.4 Subject to paragraph 11.1, any decisions shall be reached by a simple majority of the voting members present.

8. The Annual General Meeting

- 8.1 The AGM shall be held once per calendar year, and shall have as its main business:
 - 8.1.1 The presentation of the Executive Committee Report for the past year.
 - 8.1.2 The election of Ordinary Committee Members to the Executive Committee
 - 8.1.3 Approval of the minutes of the last AGM and any other General Meetings held during that year
 - 8.1.4 Approval of the audited accounts for the last financial year and appoint any auditors if it is a legal requirement.
 - 8.1.5 Deal with any other business deemed to be relevant by a previous meeting of the Executive Committee
- 8.2 An agenda giving notice of the AGM must be circulated along with a copy of the audited accounts to all Club members at least 21 calendar days in advance.
- 8.3 The quorum for any AGM shall be one quarter of Club members (excluding junior members).
- 8.4 Voting on any matters shall be by simple majority of Club members present and voting.
- 8.5 Nominations for ordinary Executive Committee members must be posted at least 30 calendar days in advance of the AGM and closed 21 days before the meeting.
 - 8.5.1 Each nomination shall require one proposer and one seconder each of whom shall be a member of the Club.

- 8.5.2 In the event of there being no nomination for a post within the stipulated time then nominations may be accepted at the AGM.
- 8.6 Elections shall be conducted on a simple majority of Club members present and with voting rights.
- 8.7 Members unable to attend in person may vote by proxy in accordance with any guidance produced by the Honorary Secretary for this procedure.
- 8.9 Failure to fill a post may result in the Executive Committee co-opting a member at any time during the year, such co-option required to be a unanimous decision of the Executive Committee.

9. Finance

- 9.1 The financial year shall run from 1st January to 31st December
- 9.2 The Treasurer shall be responsible for securing the preparation of Annual Accounts of the Club and laying these before the AGM.
- 9.3 If it is a legal requirement the accounts shall be certified by the Club's independent Auditor as approved at the AGM.
- 9.4 All payments from Club Funds to be agreed by the Treasurer and one ordinary member, with a written record kept.
- 9.5 All members of the Club shall be jointly and severally liable for the financial liabilities of the Club.

10. Dissolution or Winding Up of the Club

- 10.1 The Club is non-profit-making and all profits and surpluses will be used to maintain and or improve the Club facilities or to carry out the objectives of the Club.
- 10.2 No profit or surplus shall be distributed (other than to another non-profit making body on a winding up or dissolution of the Club).
- 10.3 If upon winding up or dissolution of the Club there remains after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities any property whatsoever this shall be transferred either to any association to which the Club is affiliated or, to some other organisation or organisations having objects similar to the Club. This organisation shall be determined by the members of the Club by resolution passed at a General Meeting.

11. The Constitution.

- 11.1 The Constitution shall only be altered by consent of a two-thirds majority of members present at a General Meeting.
 - 11.1.1 No amendment to the Constitution may be considered at a General Meeting until approved by the Executive Committee and circulated to all Club members (together with reasons for the amendment) no less than 21 days before consideration.
- 11.2 The Constitution and Standing orders/Bylaws in force from time to time shall be binding on the Club officeholders and members.

This constitution has been approved in accordance with 11.1 above, and accepted as the constitution for the SGA Golf Club, signed,

Chairman.....

Witnessed.....