

# **RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION**

**Approved at the AGM 2021**

## **1. TITLE**

The Association shall be known as “Dorset Ladies’ County Golf Association”.

## **2. DEFINITION**

The Association shall consist of affiliated Clubs and Members. Any Club in the County wishing to affiliate may do so on collection and forwarding by the due date to the Association the per capita levies from all playing members of their Club.

## **3. CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP**

In accordance with England Golf regulations the following categories of membership will be available.

### **a)**

#### **i) FULL MEMBERSHIP**

Playing members of Affiliated Clubs who possess one or more of the qualifications laid down by EG shall be entitled to Full Membership of the County Association. Full Membership entitles them to compete in the County Championship, Senior Championship and Junior Championship and to play for the County Team. It also entitles them to play in events organized by the Association.

#### **ii) ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP**

Those playing members of Affiliated Clubs who do not qualify for Full Membership will become Associate Members of the County Association. Associate Membership entitles them to play in events organized by the Association, but does not allow them to compete in the County Championship, Senior Championship and Junior championship or to play for the County Team.

All playing members of affiliated clubs will qualify for either Full or Associate Membership of the County Association. The per capita levy for both categories will be the same.

A player is personally responsible for ensuring that she is a Full Member of only one County Association (the penalty being suspension, for up to 12 months, to be applied by EG). If a player holds Full Membership of one County and Associate Membership(s) of other Counties, she is responsible for ensuring that the Counties of which she is an Associate Member are aware of this fact. A player holding Associate Membership may only convert to a Full Membership if she possesses one or more of the required qualifications and has previously resigned any other Full Membership.

### **b) JUNIORS AND INTERMEDIATES - DEFINITION**

A Junior is any girl under 18 years of age at 00:01 hours on 1st January of that year.

An Intermediate is any female over 18 years of age and under 30 years of age at 00:01 hours on 1st January of that Year.

Juniors and Intermediates may apply to the County for financial assistance when competing in County and National Events. This to be awarded at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

**c) VETERANS**

All members of the Dorset Ladies' County Golf Association shall, in addition, become members of the Veterans' Section on reaching the age of 60 and letting this be known to the Veterans' Section Officers.

**d) SENIORS**

All members of the Dorset Ladies' County Golf Association shall, in addition, become a Senior on reaching the age of 50.

**4. SUBSCRIPTIONS**

The per capita levy shall be such sum as is prescribed annually at the Annual General Meeting.

Members joining Clubs during the year shall pay the full per capita levy which will be held by their Club on behalf of the Association and forwarded by the Club to the Association the following January.

Clubs must have forwarded the per capita levies on behalf of their members to the Association before they or their members can enter any events organised by the Association.

If a player has dual membership within the County, the Association will only collect one fee from their Home Club. However, fees will be payable to each County if the member's clubs are in different counties.

**5. EXPULSION**

The County Committee shall have power to expel any member from any County Competition. Before exercising this power, it shall first give written notice to the member concerned. She shall then have the right to have the question of expulsion considered by an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association if within twenty-one days from the date of the written notice she gives written notice of her desire to exercise this right to the Honorary Secretary who shall as soon after the receipt of such notice as is practicable call an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association (giving at least twenty-one days' notice thereof to all members). If the member fails to give such notice as aforesaid or if the Extraordinary General Meeting by a majority vote confirm her ban she shall at once cease to be a member of the Association. Unless and until either of these events occurs, she shall remain a member. No liability whatever shall attach to the Association or any member thereof or to the County Committee by reason of any decision or action taken by them under this rule.

**6. OFFICERS OF THE COUNTY COMMITTEE**

The management of the Association shall be in the hands of a County Committee which shall comprise the following: The Executive Committee comprising - The President, Captain, Vice-Captain, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary, Assistant Honorary Secretary, and the South West Regional County Representative.

The other Officers of the Association – one Delegate (or substitute) from each Club. In addition, there shall be the following: the Veteran's Captain, Veteran's Secretary, County Welfare Officer, Interclub & Knockout Secretary, First and Second Team Managers, County Junior Organiser, County Handicap Adviser, Communications and Web Site Officer and the USGA Course Rater.

The Junior Committee is a sub-committee of the County Committee.

The Executive Committee and Officers of the County Committee shall each have power to co-opt not more than two persons with full voting rights in any one year.

**NOTE:** It is recommended that every Delegate appointed to the County Committee should be a Member of her Club Committee or co-opted as such during her term of service on the County Committee.

**7. MANAGEMENT**

The Management of the Association shall be carried out by the County Committee in accordance with the rules of England Golf.

A quorum shall consist of the County Captain or Vice Captain, 2 members of the Executive Committee and four other County Committee Members. (Delegates)

The President, or in her absence the Captain, shall chair the Annual General Meeting and any Extraordinary General Meeting. The Captain shall chair Executive and Delegates Meetings: in her absence, the Captain shall nominate a Chairperson. In the event of equality of votes, the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.

**8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Individual Officers of the Committee shall be elected each year at the Annual General Meeting.

The President, Captain and Vice-Captain shall be nominated by the Executive Committee. The President, the Captain, the Captain and Secretary of the Veterans' Section, the Honorary Secretary and the Assistant Secretary shall not normally hold office for more than two years in succession.

The Captain and Vice-Captain shall each hold office for one year.

The Vice-Captain and Assistant Secretary will be expected to become Captain and Secretary respectively after these periods.

The Honorary Treasurer shall hold office for three years. The County Junior Organiser, Interclub & Knockout Secretary, First and Second Team Manager shall hold office for two years.

All these officers shall be eligible for re-election on a yearly basis in special circumstances.

Nominations with seconders for all Officers of the Association, excluding President, Captain, Vice-Captain, Veteran's Captain, and Veterans' Secretary shall be submitted in writing by Clubs to the Honorary Secretary. From the nominations submitted, the Executive Committee will appoint the posts of Assistant Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, County Welfare Officer, and Junior Committee posts. The Executive Committee will hold interviews, if necessary, to assess compliance with Job descriptions. The Veteran's Captain and Secretary will be nominated by the Vets Captain and Secretary in situ, from the next Club on the 'Rota for the Veterans' Captaincy' circulated in July 2000. If that Club is unable to fulfil these nominations, then the nominations will go on to the next Club on the Rota. All other nominated posts will be voted on by Members at the AGM.

The Handicap Adviser, USGA Course Rater and the County Representative on the South West Regional Committee are England Golf appointments.

**9. HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

Subject to the requirements of this Rule, Honorary Life Membership may be conferred on any member who has given exceptional service to the Association in any way.

Names may be put forward by any Member, or Club, and submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration. Those accepted will be discussed by the County Committee and if confirmed, will be voted for by the general membership at the next Annual General Meeting. Honorary Life Members may not hold office, but may vote at General meetings, and participate in all County playing events.

**10. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

An Annual General Meeting shall be held once a year on a date to be determined by the Executive Committee. All notices of business to be brought before such a meeting shall be sent to the Honorary Secretary in writing at least six weeks before such meeting.

The Honorary Secretary shall notify each member, through the Club Delegates, not less than fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting, a notice of the business to be transacted together with a copy of the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting for display in the Club. A copy sent to the Delegate after each Annual General Meeting to be retained in the Club Delegate's file for reference.

Meetings of the County Committee shall be called at the discretion of the Captain and the Honorary Secretary, or at the written request of not less than five members of the County Committee.

#### **11. GOLF MEETINGS**

- a) There shall be inter alia an Annual Spring Meeting during which the County Championship shall be played, the winner to be County Champion and to hold the Trophy for one year. There shall also be an Autumn Meeting.
- b) The Junior Section shall hold an Annual Championship and other events during the year.
- c) The Veterans' Section shall have a Closed Meeting in the Spring and Autumn each year.
- d) A County Team, Second Team and Junior Team shall be formed from the Association, the expenses of which may be defrayed by the Association to such extent as the Executive Committee may determine.
- e) The Veterans and Senior Teams shall be formed from the Association, the expenses of which may be defrayed by the Association to such extent as the Executive Committee may determine.

#### **12. COUNTY COLOURS**

County Brooches to be given to Members of the First Team, who have represented their County not less than ten times.

#### **13. COUNTY COLOURS**

County Brooches to be given to Members of the Second Team who have represented their County not less than eight times.

#### **14. DUTIES**

The Honorary Secretary shall keep full and correct Minutes of all proceedings of the Association which shall be produced at all meetings. The Honorary Treasurer shall keep full account of all monies received and disbursed, and shall account to date at the Annual General Meeting, and send to each Club a Statement of Accounts at the end of the Association's financial year.

#### **15. BYE-LAWS**

The County Committee shall be empowered to make Bye-Laws to meet temporary emergencies or such as they may think necessary for the well-being of the Association, which shall have effect until the next Annual General Meeting.

#### **16. COMPLAINTS**

All complaints to be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary, who, should she be unable to deal with them herself, shall submit them to the Executive Committee whose decision shall be final.

**17. ALTERATION OF RULES**

No rule of the Association shall be repealed or altered, and no new rule shall be made, save by a twothirds majority of the members present at a general meeting, and six weeks notice of the intention to propose any new rule or alteration shall be given to the Honorary Secretary, who shall send notice of the same to every member, through the Club Delegates, at least twenty-one days before the general meeting. Amendments to any proposed resolutions must be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least seven days before the General Meeting.

**18.** Every member shall be bound by and submit to the rules and bye-laws of the Association.