

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

These terms and conditions are relevant to membership of the Golf Networks organisation, and the regional groups operating under licence within the framework.

### **1. Membership**

- 1.1. Membership is provided on a corporate basis, using the company name to register. Companies can nominate 1 to 4 named members.
- 1.2. Substitution - A named member may substitute their place in an event, with a fellow employee in any given month, but the nominated person may attend no more than 2 times per year, and will not be eligible to accumulate league table points.
- 1.3. A named member may transfer his/her name of membership to a fellow employee, this may happen once in the calendar year. Staff taking on this membership should be operating in a senior position and able to network effectively.
- 1.4. It is the intention that those named members are principle decision makers within the company, Directors, Sales & Marketing Directors, and Financial Directors, senior management...etc. This is to maximise the potential for effective business networking.
- 1.5. Named members will be eligible to register for all events in the year, which will run from April to October, as well as the end of season social and prizegiving dinner. They will also have access to member benefits as published on the website and other materials.

### **2. Payment & Fees**

- 2.1. Membership is for a season, representing events from April to October. Renewals are collected in April of each year. Anyone joining for the first time in mid-season will be eligible for an agreed pro-rata annual fee for the first year. Annual Subscriptions are per individual or multiples thereof (up to a maximum of four)
- 2.2. The standard **annual rate for membership is £100 per named member**, with two options for payment:
  - Invoice in April, payable within 14 days.
  - Standing order of £10 per month over 12 month period (£120).
- 2.3. The annual and monthly charges will be reviewed and updated by March of each year.

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- 2.4. Refunds or cancellations of memberships are at the sole discretion of regional licence holder and group management.

### **3. Guests**

- 3.1. Invited Guests. Each named member may invite guests to regional group golf days, as per guidelines below:
  - 3.1.1. A named member can invite up to 3 guests per event, and can apply for them to play as a group, or mingle with rest of network.
  - 3.1.2. Should a corporate member wish to use the network structure for their own corporate hospitality by inviting a significant number of guests, then this will be considered and approved by the regional organisers after application.
  - 3.1.3. Any one guest may attend up to two events in a calendar year.
  - 3.1.4. Guests will be eligible for the monthly guest prize, but not for league points or any other membership prizes.
- 3.2. As a guide, guests should be operating at senior level in their respective organisations in order to maintain the integrity of the networking element of the group.
- 3.3. Guest Fees will vary from month to month depending on venue costs. The rate will be published on the region's website in advance, once dates and timings confirmed.
- 3.4. Guests should be able to provide proof of handicap if required.

### **4. Event Entry Procedure**

- 4.1. Event details will be published on the website, and emailed around the membership when confirmed. The details will include venue, timings, guest fees and any other relevant information.
- 4.2. Members are expected to register for events on line or via email to the regional organiser. Early booking advised if restrictions in numbers apply.
- 4.3. Applications for guests are also to be made through email or online registration. Payment must be received before the event, or on the day in cheque or cash payment.
- 4.4. The website will contain short profiles of named members and their organisations (with links to emails), which can be used by members to review to assess potential playing partners and make requests accordingly. In the interest of data protection, no personal information will be visible to non-members.

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- 4.5. Additional Costs & Optional Extras. Regional organisers will negotiate certain preferential rates for courses and facilities, including pre-negotiated green fee rates, range balls, buggy hire, rooms etc.
- 4.6. In addition, the members may choose to increase their profile through sponsorship, member offers on the website or other means. Such approaches should be made to the regional group organisers.

## **5. Summary of Member Benefits**

- 7 annual golf days with like minded business executives in the region, utilising different areas and venues and course types.
- Monthly prizes and changing handicaps meaning more chances of prizes and points accumulation.
- Opportunity to meet and develop relationships through an informal and non-pressurised networking environment.
- Website for registration, requests for playing partners, review of photos and video images
- A website link and short company profile for all members.
- Member discounts on e-commerce store for balls, clothing and other goods..
- End of season prize giving dinner.
- Sponsorship opportunities for events.
- Access to personal golf tuition and development through a PGA professional at some events.
- ...and many more.

REMINDER – our aim is to create an informal business networking community in the region, revolving around a shared interest of golf.

## **6. Accuracy**

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information (including prices), in our brochure, on this website and in any other literature or media. Regrettably changes and errors occasionally occur. We reserve the right to make changes to and correct errors in advertised prices and other details at any time.

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### **7. Cancellations/Amendments/No Shows**

#### 7.1. By regional group

It is recognised that the event payments cover the actual charges of organising the events, arranging prizes, meals and other running costs. The aim is to attract as many members and guests to our events, but from time to time, the numbers may not make an event justifiable.

Should a regional group have to cancel an event due to major and unavoidable reasons, then event payments will be refunded in part or in full to affected members and registered guests.

Please note the above options are not available where any change made is a minor one. If we have to make a significant change or cancellation we will pay you compensation if appropriate, subject to the following exceptions;

- 1) Compensation will not be payable and no liability beyond offering the above mentioned choices can be accepted where we are forced to make a change or cancel as a result of unusual and unforeseeable circumstances beyond our control, the consequences of which we could not have avoided even with all due care.
- 2) No compensation will be payable and the above options will not be available if we cancel as a result of your failure to comply with any requirement of these booking conditions entitling us to cancel.

#### 7.2. By You

Should you, or a guest, register for an event, and not show up, then the full amount will still be chargeable. Cancellation is required at least one week in advance to secure full refund. After this time, any rebate will be subject to the discretion of the organiser after discussions with the member and the host course.

#### 7.3. Force Majeure

Except where otherwise expressly stated in our event or booking conditions, we regret we cannot accept liability or pay any compensation where the performance or prompt performance of our contractual obligations is prevented as a result of "force majeure". In these Booking Conditions, "force majeure" means any event which we or the supplier of the service(s) in question could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid. Such events may include war or threat of war, riot, civil strife, actual or threatened terrorist activity, industrial dispute, natural or nuclear disaster, adverse weather conditions, fire and all similar events outside our control.

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### 7.4. Liability

If you have any complaints concerning any services we provide (as opposed to any service provided by any third party such as a hotel or golfing venue for whom we are not responsible), you must inform us immediately in writing and in any event within two weeks of the end of any arrangements booked through us. We regret we cannot accept any liability if we are not so notified. Our maximum liability to you if we are found to have been at fault in relation to any service we provide is limited to the fee paid or commission we have earned or are due to earn in relation to the booking in question.

We do not exclude or limit any liability for death or personal injury which arises as a result of our negligence or that of our employees whilst acting in the course of their employment.

### 7.5. Governing Law and Jurisdiction

Your contract and all matters arising out of it are governed by English law. You agree that any dispute, claim or other matter which arises out of or in connection with this contract or your event will be dealt with in the courts or any part of the UK in which you live. If you live outside the UK it will be dealt with in the English court

## **8. Insurance**

- 8.1. All competitors / golfers should have their own personal liability insurance in the event of accident or injury. We recommend you Golfplan (or similar).

## **9. Enquiries and Special Needs**

- 9.1. Members are expressly requested to notify us of any particular special needs, particularly physical limitations or dietary requirements.
- 9.2. The website will have a clear link for members to lodge complaints, make requests and to place other enquiries. These will be handled by our administration functions and dealt with promptly and in confidence.

## **10. Golf & Network Management**

- 10.1. Golf networks intend to make the website the focal point of the organisation, and are willing to listen to ideas for development of the network and its members.

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10.2. From a golf perspective, the group will consider resources and links to help in a number of areas to maintain interest and enthusiasm, including:

- Scoring & Results
- Handicap Management
- Game Analysis (*with link to coaching program*)
- Photos & Video Upload
- Rules of Golf...etc.

10.3. From an organisation perspective, we welcome member support, and once mature will look at development of the network in a number of social and business ways. These will include (as an indicator):

- Organising a golf tour to prestigious locations for members.
- Setting up a committee for governance and development.
- Development of sponsorship packages
- An on line shop for purchase of golf items at discounted rates.
- Published member benefits from other member organisations.

10.4. Handicaps

Some hotels/golf courses will require handicap certificates before accepting visitors, which we will endeavour to advise you of at the time of booking. Whilst a certificate of playing ability is not essential on all courses, knowledge of etiquette and the rules of golf is expected and each hotel/golf course reserves the right to refuse access if it is judged that individuals do not display the required knowledge. We cannot be held responsible in these circumstances.

Your regional group will require a “current” handicap certificate, so that you are eligible to enter the competition and annual league that we administer through-out the calendar year.

Golf Networks will adjust handicaps accordingly for the purpose of the events, depending on results and scores achieved. This is to level the field in terms of winning prizes and therefore to maintain interest in the events and Order of Merit award. It is the player’s responsibility to ensure that their scores are accurately recorded, and both their play and etiquette are conducted in line with the established rules of golf. Any cheating or falsification of scores will lead to event disqualification and potential exclusion from the regional group.

### **Do not have an official handicap?**

Should you be an occasional golfer, or someone who is just starting, then a starting handicap will be agreed for your first event. Thereafter, this will be adjusted in line with the established handicapping rules..

If you require assistance with your game, enabling you to achieve a competent level of play please contact Mark Stancer of North East Golf

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Network to agree a plan of action or get an introduction to a local professional in your region..

### 10.5. Competition Format

- Individual Stableford points.
- Maximum Handicap Limit  
Men 28  
Ladies 36
- Handicap Allowance – full.
- Local Rules and other information will be advised on registration on the day.

Handicaps will be adjusted according to performance in between events, and changes will be administered by the organisers and communicated through the website.

### 10.6. Attire

It is your responsibility for you and your guests to wear appropriate golf attire on the event day. Your regional network organisers carry no responsibility in any ruling by the venue concerned if any event competitors are unable to play due to inappropriate attire.

As a guide the majority of golf clubs do not permit blue denim of any kind, collarless or sleeveless shirts and ask for shirts to be tucked into trousers at all times. Soft spikes are required on some courses.

If you have any doubts or questions please contact the venue directly, via the contact details we publish on the Web site.

### 10.7. Tee Times

Your regional group will liaise with the hosting venue to confirm suitable tee times; however hotels/golf courses do reserve the right to alter preferred tee times. If for any reason your tee times should not be available, you will be offered the nearest possible alternative. Tee times are based on playing in four-balls and therefore any group number not divisible by 4 may be paired up with other golfers on the day.

### 10.8. Playing Conditions

Course conditions may vary from time to time. The regional group is not responsible for the course condition at any time; however we will at all times share information from the venue on this matter. Closure of the golf course, use of temporary greens/tees, trolley or buggy bans are at the discretion of the Golf Club and the decision is normally made on the day concerned. Any closure will be advised to the organiser as soon as we are made aware. In the event of the course being closed

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on the day, we will endeavour to obtain preferential access to alternative dates, plus refunds for the golf element, at the relevant contracted rates. This is however dependant upon the time of year, and subject to approval and at the discretion of the venue. Under no circumstances will your regional group be responsible for consequential loss arising from course closure.

Adverse conditions.

Should you choose not to travel due to adverse weather conditions, the booking will be subject to the cancellation policy / contract as described in clause 4.