

NEW MEMBERS HANDBOOK Ladies' section

Welcome to Redbourn Golf Club – we look forward to you joining the Ladies' Section and playing golf together.

This booklet should help you gain a better understanding of the Ladies' Section as we know that it can be a bit daunting joining any club, especially if you are new to the game of golf. We hope the following information is of use to you and will help you through the early weeks at the club. The main thing to know is that there is always someone within the section who will be able to help you.

Whether you are a competitive golfer, like to play for your own pleasure, a high or low handicapper, experienced player or novice, there are opportunities for you to get involved throughout the year. We run competitions on a weekly basis, Club competitions and Inter-club competitions. Please read this booklet in conjunction with the Rules of Etiquette available at the end.

1. THE LADIES' COMMITTEE

The ladies' section is managed by a committee currently comprising of 11 members.

- The Chair usually the previous years' Ladies' Captain
- The Ladies' Captain holds office for one year
- Ladies' Vice- Captain will be Captain next year
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Six Committee Members this number can vary at the discretion of the Ladies' Captain

The term of office for Committee Members is usually 3 years.

The duty of the committee is to further the interest of golf within the section and to maintain and regulate all ladies' handicaps, competitions and matches.

A Committee Member is nominated as being responsible for introducing and supporting New Members into the Ladies Section.

The names of all the Committee members are shown at the end of this handbook.

2. A BRIEF GUIDE TO HANDICAPS

To join the Ladies' Section you will need an official handicap. The handicap system allows golfers of differing degrees of skill to compete against each other. In 2020, The World Handicap System was introduced to welcome more players, make golf easier to understand and to give all golfers a handicap which is portable around the globe.

Handicap Index

Handicap Index is a measure of a player's demonstrated ability calculated against the Slope Rating of a standard course. This represents your potential scoring ability and is the baseline used to determine your actual course handicap and playing handicap at a particular course or competition, based on the difficulty of that course.

Course Handicap

Every course has a Slope Rating, which is a measurement of difficulty of a golf course for an average amateur golfer. It also allows golfers to go to different golf courses and adjust their handicap index up or down depending on how difficult each course plays. The Slope Rating is applied to your handicap index to determine your Course Handicap. The standard Slope Rating against which the Handicap Index is quoted is 113. The Slope Rating for Ladies on the Red Tees at Redbourn is 125. To calculate your Course Handicap you multiply your Handicap Index, as shown on How Did I Do, by 125 and divide by 113.

Playing Handicap

The Playing Handicap is calculated by applying the appropriate handicap allowance to your Course Handicap. For example, for competition formats where handicap allowance of 100% is adopted, your Playing Handicap will be same as your Course Handicap. In some competitions, your handicap allowance is reduced, for example, in an Individual Strokeplay or Stableford competition, your Playing Handicap is 95% of your Course handicap.

Obtaining your handicap

Handicaps are required to be eligible to play in all competitions and inter-club matches. In order to obtain a handicap you will need to register three scorecards amounting to 54 holes. Your score card must be marked by a member with a handicap. If you don't have anyone to mark your scorecard, please speak to one of the contacts below who will do all they can to help to arrange a game with someone who can mark your scorecard. You then submit your scorecards to the club administration office. You can submit them individually, but it is probably best to submit all three together.

From those scorecards an initial Handicap Index will be provided. You will be registered onto the club's computer software, HowDidIDo (HDID) which is an App that can be downloaded onto a smartphone that provides golf clubs an online home for competition results and handicap lists. On HDID you can find details of your previous qualifying rounds, your handicap and lots of other

useful information. Some parts of HDID can also be accessed via the Player Score Input (PSI) facility, which is a screen situated on the left in the corridor that leads to the ladies' locker room.

When 20 cards have been submitted you will have your fully developed Handicap Index whereby your index is calculated as an average of the best 8 scores from your last 20 submitted score cards. However, whilst you are working up to 20 cards a sliding scale of your best cards are used i.e. the average of 2 best scores from only 6 cards entered, the average of 4 best cards from only 14 cards entered etc.

Once registered on HDID you can enter as many scorecards as you like. However, you must preregister on HDID if you want to submit a score from a casual round that is to count towards your Handicap Index. If you do pre-register on HDID, then you MUST submit a score, otherwise England Golf will penalise you. If there are difficulties, then the Club officers can help you.

3. COMPLETING SCORECARDS

When starting a round of golf, you will fill in the top section of a scorecard and the following details are essential:

- Name of Competition
- Date
- Players Name (in Player A box)
- Handicap Index, Course Handicap and Playing Handicap. These are shown on HDID when you sign in.

You then swap cards with one of your playing partners and they will 'mark' your scorecard and you will 'mark' their scorecard. It is advisable to keep a record of your own score – use the 'Marker's Score' column. Examples of how to complete a scorecard for Team Competition, Stroke Play and Stableford is attached at Appendix A and B.

4. CLUB DIARY

Club Diaries are produced annually and are readily available at the shop counter. They include details of all competitions throughout the year, together with contact details of the various Captains, including the Lady Captain. The Diary is also available in the Members section of the Redbourn Golf website - https://www.redbourngolfclub.co.uk/members-ladies-section/.

If you cannot log into the Members section, please contact the Club office for your log in details.

5. ACHIEVED YOUR HANDICAP - YOU CAN START TO PLAY WITH THE LADIES' SECTION

The Ladies' Section play on Sunday and Wednesday mornings with reserved tee- times. If you are a 7 day member you can play on either or both days. Five day members can play with the ladies section on Wednesday mornings. Details of the Ladies Section Committee are available in the members section of the RGC website (see Club diary section above). New members should contact

the Captain or Vice -Captain in the first instance. They will arrange for someone to welcome you to golf days and ensure someone is available to escort you through your first outing.

We play Individual, Pairs and Team competitions as well as just for fun on occasion! Some are Qualifying Competitions, which means your score contributes to your Handicap Index. We compete for Cups and Trophies throughout the year on both Sundays and Wednesdays. In addition, there are mixed competitions arranged with the Events committee. You have the opportunity to play competitions against other clubs, both at home and away.

There is a separate section for Senior Ladies, and this is called the Doves. Ladies over 55 years are eligible to join. The Doves have reserved tee times on Monday mornings. As a member of the Doves, you have the opportunity to play in competitions throughout the year, except when the Monday is a bank holiday. Several ladies play in both the Ladies section on a Wednesday and with the Doves on a Monday.

6. PLAYING WITH THE LADIES SECTION.

Entry Fees

In order to cover prize monies, engraving of trophies, replicas etc. there is a modest fee each time you play in the Ladies' Section. Current fee in most cases is £2.00.

You will need to set up a competition account. To do this please make a BACs payment to:

Redbourn Golf Club Ladies Section Sort Code: 30 97 25 Account: 01863835

Please also send an email to the Ladies Section Treasurer letting her know you have made the payment. She will then update your Competition account on HDID. You can see the balance on your Competition account if you swipe your Redbourn membership card into the PSI machine (opposite the Club office). If the card does not work then contact either the Treasurer or the Club office, and show them your Redbourn Membership card. They can then ensure the computer systems have the right information to let you see your balance on the PSI machine.

Booking your place to play with the Ladies Section

All competitions are registered in advance on HDID. To enter, go onto the HDID app and at the top of the front screen, you will see 'bookings'. Tap on this and you will see all the upcoming competitions and the closing dates. Tap on the competition you wish to enter and add your name. The Draw Officer will compile the draw for the competition using all the names booked in and this will be circulated about 8 days in advance. It will give details of your tee time, who you are playing with and details of the Duty Officer for that day in case you have to cancel.

It is important to let the Duty Officer know as soon as possible if you find you are unable to play.

Sometimes ladies wish to play at the back of the field 'Not in Competition' (NIC) possibly because they don't wish to enter the qualifying competition or aren't able to play the full 18 holes.

Arriving at the club to play in the ladies' section

You should arrive at the Club and register with the Duty Officer at least 30 minutes before your due tee-off time because there are quite often changes to the draw order and you might end up teeing-off earlier than originally planned.

Next, sign in to the Competition for the day, either via the PSI System or the HDID App on your phone. At this point the competition fee will be deducted from your account.

If you do not know the ladies you are playing with the Duty Officer will gladly point them out to you or find someone who can. You should be at the first tee ready to tee off about 10 minutes before your tee time.

7. WINNING TROPHIES WITHIN THE LADIES' SECTION

Ladies are eligible to win trophies within the Ladies' Section once they have played 3 qualifying competitions within the section. If you have had a handicap for more than a year, then you will also need to have completed at least 8 qualifying matches in the last rolling 12 months. A qualifying match can be done either within the Ladies section, or by playing in a Casual Round (found under Today's Golf in the HDID app, or on the PSI machine) and selecting qualifying round. Any qualifying round will count towards your handicap.

8. VARIOUS FORMATS OF COMPETITIONS

STROKE PLAY: Add up your total score for each hole played and then at the end of

the game your handicap is deducted giving a Nett Score.

STABLEFORD: This is a point scoring system based on your handicap. Rather than

counting the total number of strokes taken, as in stroke play, it involves scoring points based on the number of strokes taken at each hole. Unlike traditional scoring methods, where the aim is to have the lowest score, under Stableford rules, the objective is to score the

highest points!

The number of strokes you are allowed to complete the hole is determined by your playing handicap. For example:- if your playing handicap allows you 2 shots on a par 4, you must complete the hole

within 6 shots to get 2 points.

If you complete the hole in less shots i.e. 5 shots you get 3points, if

you complete the hole in 7 shots you get 1 point and so on.

GREENSOMES: Played with a partner, both players Tee off, select the best ball and

continue to play alternate shots with that ball for the rest of the hole.

FOURSOMES: Also played with a partner, one player drives on the even numbered

holes and the other drives on the odd numbered holes, alternate

shots thereafter.

MATCH PLAY: When a player(s) plays against another player(s) (rather than against

the field) over each hole over a round of golf.

FOUR BALL BETTER BALL: Played with a partner, the better score of each player being recorded

for each hole. This can be either Matchplay or Stableford.

9. TYPE OF COMPETITIONS

ECLECTIC COMPETITION

This is a competition which runs throughout the Ladies Section each year between 1st May and 30th September. This is a bonus competition that runs concurrently over this period alongside any of the Qualifying competitions. The best score for each hole over a maximum of 6 permitted rounds are taken to make a new 18-hole scorecard. That is your eclectic score. You must nominate in the Eclectic Book before you go out to play if you wish your round to be included. Full details are contained within the Eclectic Book and this will be with the Duty Officer at registration.

PAR, BIRDIE AND EAGLE BOOK

This is a competition which runs throughout the Ladies' Section each year between 1st February and 30th November. Pars, Eagles and Birdies count on Wednesday or Sunday. 7 day members must nominate which day they wish to count. Regardless of handicap, any player can record an Eagle or Birdie. Only those players with a handicap index of 27 or above can record a par.

Pars, Eagles and Birdies only count in the following competitions and only on main greens (not temporaries):

- Qualifying Competitions;
- Lady Captains Day;
- Club Championships;

Full details are contained within the Par/Birdie/Eagle Book and will be available for entries when you come in from playing your round of golf.

COMPETITIONS FIVE DAY MEMBERS CAN TAKE PART IN AT WEEKENDS

Currently, members of the Ladies' Section who are five-day members can also take part in the following competitions at a weekend without paying any extra green fees:

- Men's CAPTAIN'S DRIVE-IN
- ERIC RUSSELL TROPHY
- CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

LADIES' SECTION TEAMS MATCHES AGAINST OTHER CLUBS

FRIENDLY MATCHES

These are matches played midweek and are an excellent opportunity for five-day members of the Ladies' Section to experience match-play against teams from other Clubs. Details of matches, together with sign- up sheets and contact details are located on a notice board in the Ladies' Locker Room.

BUSINESS LADIES MATCHES

These are matches played at weekends and are for seven-day members of the Ladies' Section to experience match-play against teams from other Clubs. Details of matches, together with sign-up sheets and contact details are located on a notice board in the Ladies' Locker Room.

• PEARSON TEAM LEAGUE

This is a League run over several Counties and is for Ladies with handicap index of between 13 and 34. Full details are emailed out by the Pearson captain at the start of each season (normally October). The first round is normally played October to April.

10. LADIES' SECTION NOTICE BOARD

The Ladies' Section Notice Board is situated in the Ladies' Locker Room. It gives details of upcoming events and general information. Increasingly however, information is shared either on HDID or by email.

11. MEN'S NOTICE BOARD AND COMPETITIONS NOTICE BOARD

The Men's Notice Board, which is located on the right of the corridor leading to the ladies locker room, also gives details of Mixed matches and other functions. These include:

MIXED MATCHES AGAINST OTHER CLUBS

These are matches arranged throughout the golfing season (generally March – October) and signup sheets are posted on the Notice Board some weeks in advance of the match.

CLUB MIXED MATCHES

These are matches generally arranged for Sunday's or Bank Holiday Mondays. 7 day members are eligible to play in the Sunday matches and all members of the Ladies Section are eligible to play in the Bank Holiday Monday matches. The sign-up sheets for these are posted on the Notice Board some weeks in advance.

12. GOLF ETIQUETTE

Attached at the end of this booklet is a guide to general 'Etiquette'.

13. USEFUL CONTACTS

• Ladies' Captain: Sheryl Tye (email: sheryltye5@gmail.com) Tel 07765 896534.

Committee Chair: Shirley Deudon (email: shirley.deudon@yahoo.com)

Ladies Vice Captain: Linda Hill (email: Lindawhtp@hotmail.com)

Treasurer: Nicky Holmes (email: nickyholmes2012@hotmail.co.uk)

Secretary: Mary Bromfield:

Committee Member and

Draw Officer: Sarah Hogben (email: sjhogben@aol.com)

• Committee Member for

New members: Denise Woodland (email: denise.woodland62@gmail.com)

• Committee Member: Bernie Marcus

Committee Member: Sue Hickman-Jameson

Committee Member: Di Ritson-Hall
 Committee Member: Pauline Byrne
 Doves Captain: June White

Weekday Friendlies: Shirley Deudon (email: shirley.deudon@yahoo.com)
 Pearson Captain: Sue Hickman-Jameson (email: Sue2025@live.co.uk)

REDBOURN GOLF CLUB - LADIES' SECTION

GOLF ETIQUETTE

1. PLAYER CONDUCT AND SPIRIT OF THE GAME

It is one of the central principles of the game of golf that players play by the Rules of Golf, and the Local Club Rules (most of which are printed at the end on the back of each scorecard). All players are expected to play in the spirit of the game by acting with integrity – for example, by following the Rules, applying all penalties, and being honest in all aspects of play.

2. SHOWING CONSIDERATION FOR OTHERS

Arrive in good time before you are due to play

You should arrive at the Club and carry out any necessary sign-in/registration procedures at least 30 minutes before your tee time. You should be at the first tee 10 minutes before you are due to tee-off.

Pace of play

Over the past few years (and particularly from 2019) changes have been made to R&A Rules regarding Etiquette on the Golf Course. The 2019 changes have been made with the intent on reducing slow play on the course. These include:

- Playing Ready Golf
- Putting with the Flagstick in the hole
- Time allowed searching for lost ball reduced from 5 to 3 minutes.

You should always play at a good pace. Your group is responsible for keeping up with the group in front. If you are a full hole behind the group in front and delay the group behind, you should invite the group behind to play through, irrespective of the number of players in that group. Where a group has not lost a clear hole, but it is apparent that the group behind can play faster, they should also invite the faster moving group to overtake them.

Be ready to play

'Ready Golf' is a term now used which indicates that players should play when they are ready to do so, rather than adhering strictly to the 'farthest from the hole plays first' principle. You should be ready to play as soon as you can.

'Ready Golf' is not appropriate in match play due to the strategy involved between opponents and the need to have a set method for determining which player plays first. In these cases the person who won the last hole tees off first, thereafter the player furthest from the pin plays first. As a courtesy one player may invite a player not on the green but nearer the pin to come onto the green, but that player may decline in favour of the person further from the pin.

When on or near the putting green, leave your bags or trolleys just off the green on the way to the next tee. When the play of a hole has been completed, leave the putting green quickly.

Ready Golf has been incorporated into the R&A Rules book and can take many forms including:

- Hitting a shot when safe to do so if a player farther away faces a challenging shot and is taking time to assess their options;
- Shorter hitters playing first from the tee or fairway if longer hitters have to wait;
- o Hitting a tee shot if the person with the honour is delayed in being ready to play;
- Hitting a shot before helping someone to look for a lost ball;
- Hitting a shot if a person who has just played from a greenside bunker is still farthest from the hole but is delayed due to raking the bunker;
- When a player's ball has gone over the back of a green, any player closer to the hole but chipping or putting from the front of green should play while the other player is having to walk to their ball and assess their shot;
- Leave your bag where you intend to leave the green rather than where you get on to it. You
 may need to mark your ball to allow others to play whilst you do this.
- Study your next shot while others are preparing for theirs, both on and off the green;
- o Consider putting out a short putt even if it means standing close to someone else's line;
- If you can't score, quit putting and pick up;
- Marking scores upon immediate arrival at the next tee, except that the first player to tee off marks their card immediately after teeing off.

• Lost Ball or Out of Bounds

If you think your ball may be lost outside a penalty area or is out of bounds, to save time, play a provisional ball. This reduces the time it would take to walk back to the tee, play another ball and then walk on to catch up with your playing partner(s).

Players searching for a ball should signal the players in the group behind them, if they are waiting, to play through as soon as it becomes apparent that the ball will not easily be found. They shouldn't search for three minutes before doing so. Having allowed the group behind to play through, they shouldn't continue play until the group coming through has passed and is out of range.

No Disturbance or Distraction

You should always show consideration for other players on the course and take care to not disturb their play by moving, talking or making unnecessary noise.

You should also ensure that any electronic devices taken onto the course don't distract other players.

Only tee your ball up when it's your turn to play and remember not to stand close to the ball of other players, either directly behind it, or directly behind the hole, when a player is about to swing.

• On the Putting Green

On the putting green, you should be careful not stand on another player's line of putt or, when they are putting, cast a shadow over their line.

You should remain on or close to the putting green until all other players in the group have holed out.

• Scoring

In stroke play, if you're acting as a marker, on the way to the next tee you should check the score with the player you are marking and record it.

Safety

Ensure that no one is standing close by or in a position to be hit by the club, the ball or any stones, pebbles, twigs or the like when they make a stroke or practice swing.

Wait until the players in front are out of range before taking your shot. Players should always alert green staff nearby or ahead when they are about to make a stroke that might endanger them.

If your ball's heading in a direction where there is a danger of it hitting someone, shout a warning immediately. The traditional word of warning is "fore".

3. TAKING GOOD CARE OF THE COURSE.

Bunkers

Before leaving a bunker, players should carefully fill up and smooth over all holes and footprints made by them and any nearby made by others. If a rake is within reasonable proximity of the bunker, the rake should be used for this purpose. The rake shall be left in the bunker, with the head facing towards the pin.

• Repair of Divots, Ball-Marks and Damage by Shoes

Players should carefully repair any divot holes made by them and any damage to the putting green made by the impact of a ball (whether or not made by the players themselves). On completion of the hole by all players in the group, damage to the putting green caused by golf shoes should be repaired.

Preventing Unnecessary Damage

Players should avoid causing damage to the course by removing divots when taking practice swings or by hitting the head of a club into the ground, whether in anger or for any other reason.

Players should ensure that no damage is done to the putting green when putting down clubs or the flagstick.

In order to avoid damaging the hole, players and caddies should not stand too close to the hole and should take care during the handling of the flagstick and the removal of a ball from the hole. The head of a club should not be used to remove a ball from the hole.

Players should not lean on their clubs when on the putting green, particularly when removing the ball from the hole.

The flagstick should be properly replaced in the hole before the players leave the putting green.

Local notices regulating the movement of golf trolleys and buggies should be strictly observed.

Litter

Litter bins are present on the course. Please use them or take your litter home.

4. DRESS CODE

Players must be appropriately dressed on the golf course and in the clubhouse. For ladies, typical golf attire includes a skirt, skort, dress, shorts or trousers. Golf tops should have some form of collar- traditional winged collar or a more contemporary mandarin collar is acceptable. Denim attire is not acceptable. Steer clear of oversize/baggy tops, halters and crop tops! Golf shoes should be worn as they are designed to provide traction and good grip.

APPENDIX A

SAMPLE SCORECARD FOR FOUR BETTER BALL COMPETION

INITIAL OF PLAYER WHO'S SCORE HAS BEEN RECORDED in Markers team

COMPETITION PING 4888 Date & Time 26/5/21 High Course Playing the												
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Player B JUNE WHITE Miship No. 692 : Player C Miship No.								2925	SR	125 125	123	7.12
-	Marker's	White	Par	Yellow	Stroke		Score		#/-	Red Yards	Par	
D1	6/1	Yards 354	4	Yards 341	Index 1	A	6	C	Points	309		14
D2	-10	467	5	449	8		8		1	434	5	6
D3	62	422	4	401	4	6	0		2			2
N 4	42	143	3	138	18	0	4	10/25/201	2	131	3	18
D 5	3/2	333	4	316	14	5	1	133	2			10
N 6	63	441	4	430	2	6		1888	2	421	7.5	8
D7	42	178	3	154	10		4		2	127		16
N 8	功	372	4	357	12	5			3	309		4
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	18	3125	35	2988	OUT	1		The same	17	2755	37	OUT
PLEASE AVOID SLOW PLAY AT ALL! TIMES												
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N 11	3/1	199	3	178	11		4		1	100		17
N 12	-	455	4	437	3	1	1		1	301		13
D13	5/2	-	4	347	13	6		1	2	349		131
D 14	1-	392	4	384	5	6	5		3	328	1	5
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DETAILS TO BE INCLUDED

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SIGNITURES ESSENTIAL – CERTIFIES THAT BOTH ARE HAPPY THAT SCORES ARE CORRECT

APPENDIX B

SAMPLE SCORE CARD FOR INDIVIDUAL STABLEFORD COMPETITION



PLEASE ENSURE ALL DETAILS ARE INCLUDED

ONLY USE B AND C IN TEAM COMPETITI ONS – DO NOT INCLUDE ALL YOUR PLAYING PARTNERS

SIGNITURES ESSENTIAL – CERTIFIES THAT BOTH ARE HAPPY THAT SCORES ARE CORRECT