

BACKWORTH GOLF CLUB

GUIDELINES FOR NEW MEMBERS

1. General Play.

Alternative Use of the 1st/10th Tee

When there are a number of groups waiting to tee off the following procedure must be adhered to:

- a) The group teeing off the 1st tee for their first nine holes should be complete and ready to play. The next to play will be the group about to the 10th, who should also be complete and ready to play i.e. this all of this group **must** have completed the 9th hole in order to claim the tee.
- b) In all instances care should be taken to ensure that the preceding group are out of range before teeing off.
- c) Please observe golf etiquette at all times and remember that slow play must be avoided. Please ensure that quicker groups following are allowed to pass through.

2 Rules of dress.

- a) Please observe the correct rules of dress both for yourself and for any guests you wish to invite to the club. These rules, as instructed by the Welfare Management, are set out in the locker room and on other notice boards around the building (please see below).

The following modes of dress will not be allowed on the Golf Course

- 1) *Jeans*
 - 2) *Tracksuit bottoms*
 - 3) *Tee Shirts*
 - 4) *Vests*
 - 5) *Untailored Shorts*
 - 6) *All footwear other than recognized golf shoes.*
- b) Players must be suitably equipped for the game and must not share golf equipment etc.
 - c) Please note that any necessary disciplinary action may be taken for breach of these rules

3 Competition Play

- a) In order to play in club competitions members must have an active Club Handicap issued by the Handicap/Competition Secretary

- b) Active Handicaps can be obtained by returning cards from three competitions during the competition season. (Mid April until the end of September).
- c) Members **can not** win a competitions until an active handicap has been awarded
- d) Cards to be used to set your handicap **must** be marked “**FOR HANDICAP**” and signed by a club member with a current handicap. The card must be left in an envelope for the Handicap Secretary by leaving in the Competition.

4 **Procedures to enter a Weekend Competition.**

- a) Enter your name on the Start Sheet provided either in the bar on the Friday of the previous weekend or in the downstairs Locker Room. There are three time blocks: -

7:00 am to 8:30 am

10:30 am to 12:00 noon

2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

This allows each of the three blocks to play through without needing to wait at the 10th tee.

- b) Simply select your time and enter your name along with that of your partner in your preferred time block. Please ensure that your names are entered in **one** time slot only.

NB *Each group may only book in one time slot i.e. 3 players for Medal, Stableford and Bogey competitions or 4 players in a Four Ball event. It is against club rules for the individual members of a group to book into different time blocks. **Breach of the rule may result in disciplinary action being taken and could result in suspension from competitions.***

- c) Competition sheets are put up eight days in advance of the competition :in the bar from 7:00pm . **Competitors are not allowed to insert their names prior to that time.**
- d) In midweek competitions e.g. Monthly Medals and Seniors’ Competitions there are no fixed tee reservations and, members not in the competition -although allowed to play - must give way to those members playing in the Competition. .
- e) Payment to take part in competition is currently £2.00. There is also an additional optional sweep that is also £1.00. These sums must be paid before commencing play by placing the payment in the envelopes provided. The envelopes must be correctly completed and placed in the Competition Box. At the end of your round your score must be recorded on a computerized Personal Score Indicator (P.S.I) situated in the downstairs locker room using a Personal Identification number allocated with your Club Handicap All scorecards, irrespective of final score and including non-returns, are to be returned to the Competition Box. Members are reminded that it is imperative to enter their score even if they wish to enter a “Nil Return”

- f) Should a competitor need to cancel his tee time, he must inform the Handicap Secretary, the Secretary or a Committee Official beforehand and, if at all possible, notify his playing partners

5 Ladies' Competitions.

- a) Reservations of tees – The Ladies' Section have tee reservation every Tuesday from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm and 5:30 pm to 5:45pm throughout the year. Any Male golfers must ensure that they are passed the 10th hole by 10:20 pm.
- b) Do not under any circumstances cross from the 8th Green to the 2nd tee box in order to get in front of any Ladies playing the 1st. Such actions cause unnecessary aggravation and can result in disciplinary action being taken by the Welfare Committee.
- c) The Ladies' Section has other times reserved through the year as advertised.

League Teams.

There are three teams

- 1) The Seniors play in the Northumberland Senior League in midweek and a sub- committee makes selection of this team. Details of entry can be obtained from the Seniors Secretary
- 2) The Newcastle and District League play on a Thursday evening between April and August. The standard of play is very high, as are our aspirations. Your support for the team is always welcome and the opportunity to caddie is also available. This is a good experience to watch a good standard of amateur golf.
- 3) Juniors play League golf on a Sunday afternoon from April until August (tee reservations as printed).

6 Fixture Books.

- a) Fixture Books are available from the bar, the locker room or the Secretary from around the end of March. These cannot be completed until after the Annual General Meeting which is held during February. Please ensure that you read your Fixture Book as it gives you a weekly guide to all the up and coming fixtures as well as rules and guides to events. The fixture book also contains some local rules that members should be aware of.
- b) Occasionally additional tee times are reserved by the Welfare, in conjunction with the Golf Secretary, after printing has been completed. Please be aware that any changes or additions will be included on the recorded message as well as the notice board.

7 Care of the Course.

Owing to Backworth being a 9-hole course the tees and the greens get twice usage of an 18-hole course. It is therefore to everyone's benefit that the following guidelines are followed: -

- 1 Use tee pegs are used on all tee boxes
- 2 Always replace your divots.
- 3 Repair all your pitch marks and any others you may see.
- 4 Rake all bunkers after use.
- 5 Keep trolleys behind the white lines marked in front of greens and use pathways provided.
- 6 Be prepared to obey the rules of the course by using fairway mats during the winter months.
- 7 Dispose of Rubbish, cans etc in bins provided.
- 8 Report any trespassers or unauthorized persons to the Welfare or Golf Club Officials. We have more than our fair share so a description will help

8 Notice Boards.

These are situated in the Main Hall and in the downstairs Locker Room. Apart from club activities, they also advertise Open events that are to be held at other courses, as well as Northumberland County Members and Northumberland Junior Patrons Society events. Both societies are worthwhile joining and are inexpensive and good value days out. Further information is available from the Secretary or Herbie Meldrum on 0191-2971889

10 Complaints or Problems.

These are to be made in writing to the Secretary. It is not considered “good etiquette” to approach committee members on the golf course, unless it is absolutely necessary.

11 Other Information.

A recorded course information system is in place that also gives details of forthcoming events. This can be accessed by dialing 0191-2689131 (charges at local rate).

Further information can be obtained from www.backworthgolf.co.uk

Annual fees are due by the 1st January each year. They will be displayed on notice boards. **Please be aware that no reminders are issued.**

1st

The Captains have the courtesy of the course at all times.