



## WG001 - The Constitution

1. The name of the society is WGGC Golf Society. (Wyken Green Golf Club)
2. The correspondence address of the society is: 72 Elizabeth Way, Coventry CV2 2LR.
3. The objective of the society is to provide a vehicle to maintain existing friendships formed outside the world of golf, and to encourage new friendships to form between society members previously unknown to one another.
4. A committee was formed who are responsible for the running of the society and whose decision is final.
5. The committee will be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
6. The committee are empowered to co-opt a Replacement Officer if for any reason one is unable to continue during the year.
7. The society was formed on December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2003, with non-recorded events in 2004 to prepare us for the official start in 2005.
8. The members of the society are posted on the website along with all competition and communication material, this can be found at [www.wggc.co.uk](http://www.wggc.co.uk) (This is the societies formal communication portal and should be used by every member)
9. The society's financial year will end on the 1st December each year. The Captain will notify the members of the Annual General Meeting, which will take place in December of each year.
10. Membership will be open to any individual who has attained the age of 18 years (or is in their 17th year and is related to a current member) and has satisfactorily completed the application form and submitted it to the Committee with the agreed membership fee.
11. The Committee will have the sole discretion regarding the suitability of an individual for membership and their decision will be final.
12. The membership fee will be £25.00 non refundable.
13. Travelling to & from golf days is no responsibility of the society legally or financially.
14. Match day "Feature Fines" will be 50p for any sand, water or "out of bounds" attained on any of the 18 holes during a match day. All guests are expected to pay feature fines. The maximum any person will be expected to pay on any golf day in the UK will be £2.50.
15. There will be no reduction of membership fee regardless of the date of joining.
16. All competition day fees will be paid prior to the day of the event by following the agreed payment terms shown below.

### Payment Rules

- A Regular payment of at least £50.00 each month (for new members) or for each golf day is required by standing order only.
- Payment by standing order is the preferred route for season 2007 onwards. The same rules apply as above for amount and frequency. Please see latest document WG022 for regular payment details.

### Payment Terms & Conditions

- All monies collected will be deposited into the society account and used to fund events & prizes.
- Any individual who does not attend a golf day but follows the constitutional guidelines will have his advance payment carried forward to the next event. Failure to follow the constitution will result in a fine for the individual.

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- The agreed amount is to cover the golf only and other expense will have to be covered by the individual. (Such as drink, travel etc.)
- A financial record will be kept by the treasurer to track the individual's contributions over the year and track over and under payment. Status is available on request from the captain
- The society's account will be used to pay for all events.
- If for any reason the regular payment amount does not cover the next event the committee can meet to ask members for an extra contribution. (Exceptional circumstances only)

17. Non-attendance on a competition day will not be tolerated, and if Pete is not informed by **Wednesday 6pm** prior to the match day, the match day fee will become the fine & forfeited by the individual, the committee will also demand an explanation. (This action will be at the discretion of the committee and exceptional circumstances will be taken into account)

18. If back-to-back non-attendance occurs the committee will meet to decide on releasing the individual from the society.

19. All subscription fees to be paid before the 1st of January each calendar year.

20. The Committee may terminate memberships where deemed appropriate and their decision will be final. Members have a right of appeal if additional facts or information are forthcoming.

21. All guests will be allowed to claim match days prizes except for Stableford winner. They are expected to contribute to match day feature fines to become eligible.

22. This constitution can only be amended by a majority vote at the Annual General Meeting or any Special General Meeting decided upon by the Committee. Members will be informed by email to their last known address, but each member has one vote, which can only be by personal attendance at the meeting.

23. A special General meeting will be arranged if 5 or more members request one by notifying the Chairman or the Secretary in writing. All society funds remaining on dissolution will be shared equally between all paid up members.

24. Insurance is the responsibility of the individual and the society cannot be held responsible for any claim or part claim for or against an individual or society.

25. Match day Stableford winner will be decided on the person with the highest score after 18 holes, calculated based on their society handicap which is concurred and agreed by the handicap committee. (Using Handicap Master software to concur cards) The course SSS and other factors will be considered if anyone feels the course was playing too easy or hard. (This will be decided on the golf day by the committee discussing just before the results are calculated)

26. The match day Stableford position Count back rule is defined by strokes taken over last nine holes, then over last six holes, then over last three holes and finally the last hole. This is used in cases where there are two or more people tying for a prize. See below for competition count back rules and other tie details that may occur during the season.

- **OOM** will be decided if there is a tie on the 8th event and then the 9th event. If still a tie after that the committee will meet to discuss.
- **Par 3, Par 5, and Leitchy Cup** (*Formally Clubhouse Cup*) competitions will be shared if all score and best 8 are identical
- **WBH Grand Prix series** will be based on the number of highest finishes then count back is the most first places followed by 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> etc.
- **Divisional Round Robin** will be decided on the individual's head to head result, if there is still a tie after this then the highest Stableford score is used. After that it will be deemed a draw and the prize shared. You cannot win this competition if you have already won a league knockout competition. If a 3 way tie occurs it will be decided on a "Head to head" basis.

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- **Foreign Tour** will be decided on the highest individual Stableford score, then the second highest and finally the third. After this it shall be deemed a draw. (Comes into play from the 2012 season)
- 27. Any nearest the pin competition can only be won if the ball is on the putting surface. If no one wins on the day the prize remains in the society.
- 28. Longest drive competitions can only be won if the ball remains on the fairway. (Rarely ran)
- 29. Match day fee for guests will be the full price of the event, rounded up to the nearest full pound.
- 30. Individuals league placing will be set prior to the start of each season by the committee. They will remain in that division for the whole season.
- 31. The movement of players between divisions at the end of the year will be totally down to the discretion of the committee. (This will take place at the AGM)
- 32. It is the responsibility of each member to notify the Captain or any committee member that he will not be attending. It is assumed that no correspondence is agreement of attendance. (All venues, dates and times are published on the society website prior to the start of the season. See society website at [www.wggc.co.uk](http://www.wggc.co.uk))
- 33. Any new member joining the society will have to abide by the "New Member Handicap Ruling" Please see document WG010 for full details.
- ~~34. The society agrees to pay to the English Golf Union annually on 1st November the registration fee as decided by the Executive Committee of the English Golf Union. The EGU have suspended this for all societies from 2008 but we still remain on their list and our official number is 0213. (The EGU has ceased to control but this line item has been left in for reference, line items 36 to 39 inclusive have been removed)~~
- 35. Competition formats rules and organisation structures are defined in document WG007, but may also be mentioned in this constitution.
- 36. Each golfer is expected to complete the WGGC supplied "Match Day Scorecard" for each golf day making sure they complete all sections. Please obtain the players signature you are scoring, before signing it yourself prior to handing to the committee for addition into the official competition scoring system.
- 37. No golfer will be allowed to join any league or season competitions once the draw for these has taken place prior to the start of each season. They will be allowed to join the Associate Member section.
- 38. An Associate member is allowed to play in as many golf days as he wishes providing there is space available on the day. He must abide by all the rules of the constitution and inform the committee his intentions by paying a match day deposit of £35 in advance. He will be expected to make up any shortfall on the day in line with rule 34. (A associate member will not be asked to pay the WGGC subscription fee of £25)
- 39. An Associate Member will comply with the handicap rules document WG010. He is only allowed to take part in the nearest the pin competitions on each match day and will be expected to contribute to the match day feature fine.
- 40. When drawing the Wyder Cup pairings and singles an even number will always be used when possible. If an odd number occurs the single person will play odds and evens against the other two opponents. Pick one player for all even holes and the other for all odd numbered holes. This needs to be agreed before teeing off on the first.
- 41. Each member of the society will be subject to an annual handicap review, using the society guideline document WG055 - Handicap Annual Review.doc. The committee will meet at the AGM and discuss anyone who falls into the category highlighted in this document.
- 42. Details of all competition formats added to the constitution for clarity.

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- **Par 3 Championship** - The results take into account 8 out of the 9 events you drop your worst score.
- **Par 5 Challenge** - The results take into account 8 out of the 9 events you drop your worst score.
- **WBH Grand Prix Series** - Points will be awarded for your finishing position on each golf day, with 36pts for 1st place down to 1pt for 36th place. It will award points for a nearest the pin win using 10 points of golfer in division one, 15 points for a division two golfer and 20 points for a division three golfer, and your Captains Combo points will also be included in the match day total. The results take into account 8 out of the 9 events you drop your worst event day's score. Your finishing position is determined from your Stableford score on each golf day.
- **Divisional Round Robin** - Each player plays against all the others in his division in a straight Stableford knockout with the winner receiving 3 points, 1 point for a draw and no points for a win. Non attendance is deemed a loss, and if both golfers are not at the event they will receive one point each. If you win the OOM or any of the knockout competitions then you are not eligible to win the round robin. (From season 2013) If a 3 way tie occurs it will be decided on a "Head to head" basis.
- **Division Knockouts** - Played twice a year from April to June inclusive and July to October inclusive.
- **Leitchy Cup** (*Formally Clubhouse Cup*) - This competition is aimed at all society members equally. It takes all the clubhouse holes (1st, 9th & 18th) on each golf day and adds the Stableford scores for them together. The results take into account 8 out of the 9 events you drop your worst event day's score.
- **Committee Shield** - A straight forward MatchPlay format (from 2013 onwards) knockout competition consisting of all society members regardless of their division. Non attendance is deemed as a loss and you opponent will move forward to the next round. If an individual gives advance notification of non attendance then the person they are playing in the prior round will move forward. If the preliminary round of this event falls on a Wyder Cup event day it will be contested using standard Stableford points scoring rather than MatchPlay.
- **Pairs Championship** - Each match result will be determined by the total Stableford score of both golfers. 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw & no points for a loss. If there is a tie at the end of the season the highest Stableford for total will determine the winner. Then the normal society countback will kick in, last 9, last 6, last 3, 2, 1. If you partner does not turn up on any event, one of the other pairing has to beat your score to win that match and claim the points, failing that you win the points for your pair. This is denoted by a \* after the score in the result table below. If there is an odd number of golfers the AGM will decide the course of action for the coming year. The winners of each pool go directly through to the Stableford format final.
- **Divisional Order of Merit (OOM)** - Individuals Stableford points are added together during the season and the golfer with the most points collated from 7 of the 9 events is determined the Order of Merit winner for each division.
- **Andy Leitch Mr Blobby** – Individuals total number of blobs during every event of the season will be collated and the winner will be the person with the most. (New for 2018)

43. Anyone indicating they cannot attend a future event will be deemed to forfeit the next knockout round of either the committee shield or there league knockout, and their opponent will be deemed the winner and progress regardless of how they finish on the day. This rule will also apply if we find out after a golf day, this way it reduces the need for unnecessary bye's
44. The General Committee currently comprises of seven people (increased from five for the 2012 season), the Captain, Treasurer and other members. With the exception of the Captain who is

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selected by the immediate past Captain, the committee will be elected from the membership by a vote made annually at the AGM. The committee may vary in number but must always contain an odd number. In the event of a forced change to the committee, the committee will be at liberty to co-opt a member, or members of the society, to the committee for the remainder of the committee's elected life. The committee is also the Handicapping Committee and will perform the annual handicap review at each years AGM. They may be called into action at any time to discuss a players handicap deemed worthy of a review.

45. Match day SSS guidelines. If 25% of golfers break par then the SSS will be considered. If 75% of golfers fail to break buffer zone then again the SSS will be considered. See latest constitution here.
46. The "Code of conduct" should reflect the honesty, integrity and support the best interests of "WGGC Golf Society". All society members should behave in a courteous and convivial manner to all members of host clubs whilst on the course and within their clubhouse. Never should we loose sight of the fact that we are their guests.
  - Be prompt
  - Pay on time
  - Impeccable behaviour while observing the proper etiquette on and off the golf course
  - Shows the utmost respect and dignity to fellow members and those of the golf courses we visit during the season
  - Has a professional and healthy regard for confidentiality
  - All members must be mindful of the standard of dress required by the society whilst on the premises of a golf day venue
  - Prior to playing a stroke or making a practice swing, the player should 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 which may be moved by the stroke or swing.
  - No one should move, talk or stand close to or directly behind the ball or the hole when a player is addressing the ball or making a stroke
47. If the club disbands or an individual requests a settlement fee, the committee will review the request using the following criteria;
  - Minimal of 4 years full membership
  - Take into account code of conduct
  - Have a positive society bank balance
  - Credit history and payment cadence to be in good order
  - Any pay-out prorated against percentage of events attended
  - The committee decision is final, subject to 28 days written appeal
48. A midyear handicap review will now take place after 5 events to asses all handicaps. The handicap formula will not be used just a review of scores and performances.
49. Society handicap range increased to 34 (2019 Season) in line with latest Congu regulations. Individuals will be asked if they wish to extend their handicap above 28 (Personal decision).
50. WGGC Committee reserve the right to adjust the league structure on number of appearances
51. WGGC Committee reserve the right to adjust the handicaps after every event to take into account exceptional scoring (match day exceptional scoring review) (exceptional scores inconsistent with the players handicap that isn't suitably adjusted by the natural handicap changes)

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## Terms in Detail

The Buffer Zone is the range of Nett Differential within which an Exact Handicap remains unchanged. Handicaps are divided into the following categories each with a Buffer Zone:

Category	Handicaps	Buffer Zone	Lowest Score before Change
Category 2	Handicaps of 6 to 12	36 to -2	34 (applied at 33 points)
Category 3	Handicaps of 13 to 20	36 to -3	33 (applied at 32 points)
Category 4	Handicaps of 21 to 28	36 to -4	32 (applied at 31 points)
Category 5	Handicaps of 29 to 34	36 to -5	31 (applied at 30 points)

## Adjustment of Handicaps

If a player returns a Nett Stableford Points score with a Nett Differential:

1. Within the Buffer Zone, the handicap is not changed. For every shot above the Stableford scratch (36) the Exact Handicap is increased by the following amounts
2. Below the Buffer Zone, the Exact Handicap is increased once by the following amounts.

Category	Handicap	Score above handicap; Add Once Only	Score below handicap & buffer zone; Subtract for each stroke below
Category 2	6 to 12	0.1	0.2
Category 3	13 to 20	0.1	0.3
Category 4	21 to 28	0.1	0.4
Category 5	29 to 34	0.1	0.5

## Annual Handicap Review

We are required under CONGU regulations to carry out an Annual Review to identify players whose general playing performance and scoring pattern over the year is better or inferior than expected and should have a handicap reduction or increase. (CONGU regulations 23.1 & Appendix M) As part of continuous improvement CONGU has introduced the Annual Review Report. This has been designed to assist Clubs in carrying out the Annual Review by providing a guideline that "flags up" players who, through the period, have performed better than (or worse than) expectations. See the WGGC detailed Annual Handicap Formula

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## Change History

Revision	Name	Description	Date
V6.0	Peter Shaw	Minor modifications in layout and format. Points 50 & 51 added	4 <sup>th</sup> January 2020
V5.0	Peter Shaw	Various modifications after 2018 AGM	5 <sup>th</sup> January 2019
V4.0	Peter Shaw	Point 49 and details of the handicap formula, buffer zone and handicap reviews added. Various grammatical and spelling changes to support 2017 AGM	6 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
V3.0	Peter Shaw	Various modifications after 2016 AGM	14 <sup>th</sup> January 2017
V2.9	Peter Shaw	Various modifications after 2015 AGM	10th January 2015
V2.8	Peter Shaw	Various modifications after 2014 AGM	28th December 2014
V2.7	Peter Shaw	Various modifications after 2013 AGM	29th December 2013
V2.6	Peter Shaw	Various modifications after 2012 AGM	29th December 2012
V2.5	Peter Shaw	Various modifications after 2011 AGM	29th December 2011
V2.4	Peter Shaw	Various modifications after 2010 AGM	27th December 2010
V2.3	Peter Shaw	Various modifications after 2009 AGM	21st December 2009
V2.2	Peter Shaw	Point 49 added. Wyder Cup draw for person being left on there own.	1st February 2009
V2.1	Peter Shaw	Various modifications after 2008 AGM	30th December 2008
V2.0	Peter Shaw	Addition of Associate Guest section and wording change of club to society. Modification to point 23 and deletion of points 21 & 2 and addition of points 45 to 48	25th April 2008
V1.9	Peter Shaw	Various modifications after 2007 AGM	30th December 2007
V1.8	Peter Shaw	Various grammar changed	17th December 2007
V1.7	Peter Shaw	Modified to suit meeting on 24th July 2007	24th July 2007
V1.6	Peter Shaw	Various points modified after 2007 AGM.	7th January 2007
V1.5	Peter Shaw	Society correspondence address updated	5th January 2007
V1.4	Peter Shaw	Points 39 to 43 added for compliance to the EGU.	18th May 2006
V1.3	Peter Shaw	Modified to suit meeting. See detail MM06-May 7th	7th May 2006
V1.2	Peter Shaw	Modified to suit meeting. See detail MM06-March 1st	1st March 2006
V1.1	Peter Shaw	Modified to suit meeting. See detail MM06-Jan 18th	18th Jan 2006
V1.0	Peter Shaw	Initial Document Release for season 2006	31st Dec 2005