

## **HACIENDA RIQUELME GOLF SOCIETY CONSTITUTION**

### **INTRODUCTION**

We are based on Hacienda Riquelme golf resort in the Murcia region of Spain. If you are a property owner or long-term renter on the resort, come and join the society and play with us every Monday morning at preferential rates. We also welcome nearby neighbours to join us.

One of our primary objectives was to help build friendships and a strong community spirit amongst the golfers and their families and guests. A truly international society with members from the UK, Ireland, Spain, Belgium, Sweden, Netherlands and more.

In addition to our weekly games, we also have a number of larger events where we take over the course for the day. Players compete for the prestige of having their name added to the "Honours Board" in El Cason. So come along, meet your neighbours, make new friends and test your golfing skills in our competitions.

1.1 The name of the Society is The Hacienda Riquelme Golf Society (HRGS).

1.2 The Golf Society was updated on 18 Sep 22.

1.3 The address of the society is: Hacienda Riquelme Golf Resort, Sucina, 30590 Murcia, Spain

1.4 The Society agrees to abide by the Rules of Golf as laid down by the Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews and Spanish Golf Federation.

### **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

2.1. To promote the game of GOLF, providing fun, competitive golfing opportunities for male and female players of all ages and abilities.

2.2. To provide Social Activities for Members on a regular basis.

### **3. MEETINGS SCHEDULE**

3.1. The Constitution can only be amended by a majority vote at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) or at an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM). EGM's can be called providing 1/3 of current paid up members support the motion from which the meeting will have been proposed and seconded.

3.2. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place in May of each year. The Secretary will notify the Members, on behalf of the Committee, the time and place of the AGM together with the agenda.

3.3. Proxy votes will be available for those unable to attend both AGM's and EGM's.

3.4. Regular Management Meetings will take place as required not less than every 2 months. A quorum of 50% of the Committee is required to vote on matters. Proxy voting on committee matters is permitted. The Chairperson has a casting vote should this be necessary.

#### **4. THE COMMITTEE**

4.1. The committee structure is shown at Annex A

4.2. All Society Committee Members including the Chairperson shall be elected or re-elected annually by majority vote from all paid up members of the Society present at the AGM personally or via proxy.

4.3. The Committee will be formed from members of the Society and be responsible for the day to day running of the Society. The Committee's decision on all matters is final. However, at any AGM or EGM any paid up member can challenge decisions made or proposed.

4.4. If for any reason one of the Members is unable to continue during the year, the other Members are empowered to co-opt a Replacement.

#### **5. MEMBERSHIP**

5.1. Golf Playing Membership is open to any male or female golfer; no handicap is required prior to membership.

5.2. Membership of the Society shall not be limited in numbers.

5.3. It is the obligation of each and every Member to practice correct golf etiquette at all times.

5.4. The Committee will have the sole discretion regarding the suitability of an individual for Membership and its decision will be final.

5.5. If the conduct of any Member of the Society (whether on or off the course) is considered, by the Committee, to be injurious to the interests and smooth running of the Society, the Committee can take whatever reasonable action it deems necessary against the said Member, including suspension and cancellation of membership, and will notify him/her in writing of their decision. The Member will have the right to appeal within 14 days to the Committee. The full Committee must hear and decide upon appeals.

#### **6. MEMBERS DETAILS**

6.1. The Committee Member with responsibility for Membership is to maintain a register of all active members of the Society. Names of all members are to be kept within password protected electronic media and information other than member name and handicap may only be viewed if society business dictates. All personal member details will be destroyed when a person ceases to be a member.

#### **7. FEES**

7.1. Initially, the annual rates of subscription are as follows and shall be reviewed each year at the AGM:

|                        |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| Golf Annual Membership | Euros 20 |
| Members Monday Entry   | Euros 2  |

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Visitors Monday Entry      | Euros 5  |
| Annual Honours board comps | Euros 10 |

## **8. FUNDS**

8.1. The Society Treasurer will manage the Society Funds on behalf of the Society members.

8.2. The Society Finances will be audited independently annually in August (before the AGM) by a volunteer Society Member with a financial background. Committee members will not take the role of auditor. The examining members should produce a statement of their findings within 7 days of their completed examination. These findings will be published on the website and presented at the AGM.

8.3. Should dissolution of the Society become necessary for whatever reason, an EGM will be called whereby the Funds, Assets and Property of the Society shall be distributed as decided by a majority of the members present, including proxies.

## **9. HANDICAPS**

9.1. Handicaps is a complex area and the accompanying Annex B has been produced to guide readers.

## **10. GUESTS**

10.1. The society welcomes all guests to participate in competitions, subject to the availability of tee times, and to join our members socially after these events.

10.2. If tee times are limited then full society members will take priority over visitors and other guests.

## **11. COMPETITION RULES**

11.1. All members with an active Society handicap are eligible to compete in all competitions. All federated singles competitions will count for handicapping purposes, unless specifically stated otherwise. Guests will need to produce a certified handicap certificate (e.g., CONGU, WHS) to participate.

11.2. All competitions will use the relevant Spanish Golf Federation course/tee to determine the course playing handicap. (Strokes received)

11.3. A competitor who enters a nil return or is disqualified will not be eligible for any prizes including nearest the pin or longest drive, nor will any competition entry fee be refunded.

11.4. Everyone is encouraged to attend the prize giving presentation after the day's golf.

11.5 Members are requested to ensure their guests are aware of the competition rules.

11.6 In the event of a tie, Spanish Golf Federation rules are to be applied. In a medal round, the highest handicapper is considered to have played better against their handicap than a lower handicapper against theirs and is therefore awarded first place. In a stableford competition, the lower handicapper is considered to have played better with a fewer stroke

allowance and is therefore awarded first place. In the event of both (or more) players having the same handicap, the best inward 9 holes (and then 6 holes and 3 holes) is awarded the higher prize.

11.7. In the event of a “ghost” players score being counted for a team with depleted numbers, the ghost player can only receive any prize awarded to their own team and NOT a prize awarded to the team who they were a ghost for.

## **12. DISCIPLINE AND SANCTION PROCEDURES**

12.1. All members are to abide by the Rules as laid down in this Constitution. The rules dictated by the Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews and the Spanish Golf Federation are to be fully adhered to. Particular attention is to be paid to Golf Course Etiquette.

12.2. Any member of the Society who, by their actions, brings the reputation of the Society into question be it through conduct during play or socially, will result in an investigation by the Committee. The Committee has the right to suspend or terminate membership.

12.3. Those members who from time to time fail to attend their tee time (NO SHOWS) can undermine the good relationship we have with the Pro Shop, cause difficulty in producing a balanced Order of Play and generally have members waiting around in expectation the member may just be late. If you are unable to make a booked Society time, you should cancel as soon as possible using the “cancel” option on your email booking receipt or, once the booking has closed, by emailing HRGS admin on [haciendariquelmegolfociety@gmail.com](mailto:haciendariquelmegolfociety@gmail.com). No Shows occur for genuine reasons, however without a genuine reason they will not be tolerated, and the committee reserves the right to take action against repeat offenders.

## **13. VOTING RIGHTS**

13.1. Proxy votes are permitted but must be notified to the Secretary at least a week before the AGM or EGM.

## **ANNEX A**

### **HONORARY PRESIDENT**

- Figure Head of the society who will be required for Major Trophy presentations and any other task they wish to be involved with.

### **CAPTAIN/CHAIR**

- Providing leadership in all matters concerning the Golf Society
- To ensure the committee are fulfilling their roles
- In conjunction with other committee members, organize and run the Monday Games
- Calling and chairing regular committee meetings
- With assistance from the committee complete all Handicap Master inputs including: start sheets, emailing, scoring and publishing results

### **SECRETARY/TREASURER**

- Assisting the Chairperson with communications. Responsible for arranging AGMs and when necessary, EGMs.
- Recording minutes of meetings.
- Publishing the agenda.
- Accountable to the committee for all financial matters concerning the Golf Society including budget forecasts and 6 monthly audits

### **COMMITTEE MEMBER**

- In conjunction with other committee members, organize and run the Monday Games
- With assistance from the committee complete all Handicap Master inputs including: start sheets, emailing, scoring and publishing results
- Assist in organising the Annual competitions where required.

### **TECHNICAL ASSISTANT**

- Keep up to date with all developments with regards to HANDICAP MASTER and advise the committee on software updates.

## **ANNEX B**

### **HANDICAP RULES**

B-1 The society follows the Worldwide Handicap System rules for Handicap calculations.

B-2 HRGS believes that a good speed of play is essential to enjoyable golf and encourages playing "Ready Golf" at all times

B-3 All non-RFEG members must supply a current recognised authority handicap. If a member cannot provide a handicap certificate, they will be awarded a society handicap on submission of 3 independently signed scorecards.

B-4 Members or guests competing in Society events without a handicap, will not be eligible for a prize.

B-5 HRGS society playing handicaps (strokes received) will be awarded and controlled by the committee, in conjunction the Handicap Master software and the Technical Assistant.

B-6 Just as the RFEG conduct a computed handicap review of RFEG members handicaps, HRGS will complete a similar review for Society based handicaps which may then be adjusted accordingly.

### **Guest Rules**

B-7 The Society welcomes all guests to participate in competitions and join our members socially events.

B-8 A guest wishing to enter a HRGS competition must provide a current recognised handicap certificate. If a certificate cannot be provided, that guest may still play, but is not eligible for a prize.

B-9 If tee times are limited, Society members will have priority over all guests at the competition committee's discretion.

### **Competition Rules**

B-10 All competitions will use the relevant course slope to determine the Spanish Golf Federation course/tee playing handicap (strokes received).

B-11 A competitor who enters a nil return or is disqualified will not be eligible for ANY prizes including nearest the pin or longest drive, nor will any competition fee be refunded. A competitor who has decided to enter a nil return but continues to play will not be eligible for any prizes.

B-12 All competitors, their families and guests are encouraged to attend the presentation awards and any evening entertainment provided.

B-13. Members are asked to ensure their guests are aware of this policy.

## **ANNEX C**

### **ANNUAL COMPETITIONS**

#### **THE MASTERS**

- The event was originally sponsored by Kevin and Donna Wilson in 2012 who provided the Cup, medals and jacket.
- The Ladies Cup was sponsored by Wilhelmine and Neville Custance.
- The only scratch medal competition in the golfing year.
- Hacienda Riquelme Golf champion (ladies and gents).
- The Saturday before the May Day Bank Holiday.
- Limited to 60 players and maximum handicap index of 20.0.
- Handicap order and handicaps to be confirmed 2 weeks before the tournament.
- Only one major prize per competitor.
- The 'Club Champion' (best gross score) is presented with a winner's medal, a cash award and, in true Masters tradition, a wine-coloured jacket. The champion also gets his/her name added to the 'HR Masters Honour Board' in the clubhouse.
- In addition to the main award, the 'best gross score' runner-up also receives a medal and cash award. There are additional awards for: 'Best Lady Golfer' (gross score), 'Best Men's Nett' score and 'Best Ladies Nett' score. There is also a Best Guest prize.
- Tees used for this competition will be yellow for men and red for ladies (Full Plates)
- There is a qualification entry for this competition which requires the players to have completed 4 HRGS rounds in the preceding 12 months, These include all HRGS annual and Monday morning competitions, but do not include participation in Golden Bear or Amigos society games.

#### **THE ROWLEY CUP**

- The first society tournament inaugurated was the Rowley Cup in 2010.
- It was sponsored by Arthur & Irene Rowley and is still presented by them.
- Team Stableford competition which takes place the day after the Masters in May.
- No handicap index limits.
- Shotgun start.
- After the event the El Cason restaurant team prepare and serve tapas & paella to all golfers after everyone returns to the clubhouse.
- The event is open to all society members and their guests.
- Prizes are awarded on the Sunday evening (alongside the HR Masters prize giving) and the team with the best stableford score is presented with the Rowley Cup (temporarily), a crystal trophy they retain and all players in that team get their name added to the 'Rowley Cup Honour Board' in the clubhouse.
- In addition to the main award, the runner-up team members also receive a crystal trophy each.

## **MARGARET DANIELS TROPHY**

- The Margaret Daniels Trophy was first played in 2011.
- It is named after Margaret, who was the Hacienda Riquelme Community president for the first three years.
- Typically played on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in September.
- Singles stableford competition with a shotgun start.
- Handicap index limits are 32.0 (men) and 33.0 (ladies) plus slope.
- Prizes are awarded on the evening after the event at El Cason. There is a Men's and Ladies winner.
- The winners receive a trophy – a claret jug (only temporary ownership), a crystal trophy to keep, a cash award and get their names added to the 'Margaret Daniels Honour Board' in the clubhouse. There is also Ladies and Gents runner-up prizes.
- There is a qualification entry for this competition which requires the players to have completed 4 HRGS rounds in the preceding 12 months, These include all HRGS annual and Monday morning competitions, but do not include participation in Golden Bear or Amigos society games.

## **ECLECTIC COMPETITION**

This is a competition that runs throughout the calendar year. Each card presented in an individual stableford Monday game are stored in the Handicap Master system.

The NETT eclectic table provides a record of every individuals best NETT score for each hole, creating a best score over 18 holes. The GROSS eclectic is calculated in the same way, with the omission of handicap allowance being included.

The Eclectic tables will be updated on a monthly basis.

## **RAY ATWELL TROPHY**

The Ray Atwell Trophy is another competition which takes place over the calendar year and is similar to the Eclectic in that scores are accumulated from presented scores on a Monday individual stableford. The winning score is taken from the individual's best 4 scores.