

Three Rivers Golf Members

Frequently Asked Questions



How can I get an official Handicap?

Our golf club is affiliated via the English Golf Union to The Council of National Golf Unions (CONGU). CONGU lays down the rules and procedures for allocating and maintaining Handicap.

To get a handicap you need to play a minimum of 3 rounds of golf during a 6 month period with a member of the Club who already has a CONGU handicap. During each round he will fill in a scorecard which you must sign as the player and he must sign as the marker. After each round, the completed card must be endorsed "For Handicap Purposes" and placed in the appropriate Course Box under the computer touch screen in the bar entry area. The cards will then be assessed and a handicap allocated. Initially your handicap will be marked as a "Competition" handicap. This will allow you to enter and be declared the winner (if you get the best score of course) of official Club competitions during the calendar year.

Once your handicap has been allocated it will be automatically submitted to the "Central Database of Handicaps" (CDH) maintained by the Englandgolf. You will then be given a unique CDH number which will allow you to track your handicap irrespective for changing clubs or entering competition at other clubs.

To maintain a "Competition" handicap beyond this initial period you will need to submit valid Scorecards from either a minimum of 3 Qualifying Competitions, or 3 Supplementary Scorecards during each calendar year. If you do not do this your handicap will default to a "Non-competition" handicap. Although this does not prevent you from entering competitions you cannot be declared the winner of those competition even if you had the best score.

What are Qualifying Competitions?

These are competitions organised by the club that are played under the R&A's Rules of Golf. They are the primary method by which members maintain their handicap. Information about the competitions organised by the Club can be found under the various course menu options on this site.

Our Competition Rules can also be found under the menu option "Club Rules" on this site.

What do I need to do to enter a Club Competition?

Most competitions can be entered on the day of play and require no pre-booking. On the day you will need to register your intention to play by entering your name on the Entry Form and Entry Payment Envelope in the Pro-shop before you play. You also need to confirm your intention to play by signing in via the computer touch-screen in the bar entry area. After play you must ensure that your Scorecard is correctly completed and that your name and the markers name are legible. Both the player and the marker must sign the Scorecard. Your score should then be entered into the computer touch-screen in the bar entry area. Finally, place the Scorecard into the appropriate box under the computer touch-screen.

Entry forms for those competitions that require pre-booking are posted on the main notice board. These include knock-out competitions, event competitions where a meal is included and our Club Championship.

Our Competition Rules, including who is eligible to sign your card as a marker, can be found under the menu option "Club Rules" on this site.

How do I know if I have won a Club Competition?

The results of Club competitions are usually proceeded a few days after the competition has finished. The results are posted on the notice-board next to the computer touch-screen in the Bar entry area. Results are also

posted on the website HowDidIDo. You will need to register with HowDidIDo to gain access to information held on the site.

Winners of our monthly medal competitions are awarded engraved medals. Notices are posted on the notice-board next to the computer touch-screen advising winners when their medals are available.

Winners and runners-up of our trophy competitions also receive memento awards. These are presented at our Annual General Meeting which takes place in September. Notices are posted on the notice-board next to the computer touch-screen advising winners that they can collect their award at the AGM.

What are Supplementary Scores?

Supplementary Scores provide an alternative way by which players, who find it difficult to play in sufficient Qualifying Competitions can maintain an accurate official handicap. Supplementary Scorecards also count towards the number of cards needed to maintain a "Competition" handicap.

To use the Supplementary Score mechanism you must register your intent to do so before playing the round. You do this by registering in the Supplementary Score book in the Pro-Shop. If you do not do this, then your core card cannot be dealt with as a Supplementary Score card.

What is the Annual Handicap Review?

All CONGU affiliated golf clubs are required to carry out an annual review of all handicaps at the beginning of each year to ensure that they reflect the individual player's current playing ability. The review is carried out by the Handicap Committee. To do this the Handicap Committee uses a report from the handicap computer system that compares the scores returned by a player with a target score that is calculated from a mathematical formula provided by CONGU. The Handicap Committee also takes into account any other information about the player that is likely to have had an impact on his /her playing ability. The Annual Handicap Review can increase or decrease an individual player's handicap.

How can I obtain a Handicap certificate?

There are 2 ways to obtain a handicap certificate.

Ask in the Pro Shop. They will place your name on a request list. The Handicap Secretaries will then printout your certificate and leave it in the Pro Shop for you to collect. You need to allow at least 7 days to complete this process.

The other way is via the "How Did I Do" website. To access the site you need register directly at www.HowDidIDo.com (free of charge). You will then be able to printout your certificate at home. You can find a direct link to the "How Did I do" web site on our "Useful Links" page.

I would like to join one of the Vets groups at the Club?

There are 2 Vets groups within the Club. There is a men's group on the Kings Course and a mixed Vets group on the Jubilee Course. Both groups usually play on a Wednesday and Friday morning. To join one of the groups simply jot down your name and a contact details on a piece of paper and place it in the appropriate Course Box under the computer touch screen in the Bar entry area. Someone will then contact you and explain how to join in.

I would like to become more actively involved in the golf section of the Club?

Golfing activities within Club are run by 3 committees, the Main Advisory Committee, the Ladies Section Committee and The Jubilee Course Committee. If you would like to be considered to serve on one of these committees you should write down a brief CV about yourself, address it to the committee you wish to serve on and put it into the appropriate Course Box under the computer touch screen. Someone will then contact you to explain about eligibility, vacancies and the election process.

My child would like to join the Cadets, does the Club have a child protection policy?

Absolutely. All member's of staff and golf club members' who help with the cadets are aware of the Club's Child Protection Policy. Our policy and practices are continually re-appraised to ensure that best practises are in place. You can see the Club's Child Protection Policy by going to our "Rules" section on the website.