

Greenock Golf Club - M&H Handbook 2022

This handbook has been created to provide New (& Existing) Members with a greater insight to the key Match & Handicap activities associated with being a Member @ Greenock Golf Club.

Match & Handicap Club Management system

Greenock Golf Club has adopted the Scottish Golf Venue Management System (VMS) for the management of our Membership, Courses, Handicaps, Competitions and Club Facilities.

SCOTTISH GOLF APP

To take advantage of this system Members are encouraged to download the Scottish Golf App onto their Mobiles or Tablets. (There is also a computer interface but this doesn't have the same level of functionality that the Mobile interface has).

To Download the App:

Android app

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.ocs.scottish.golf&hl=en_GB

Apple app

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/scottish-golf/id1446466032>

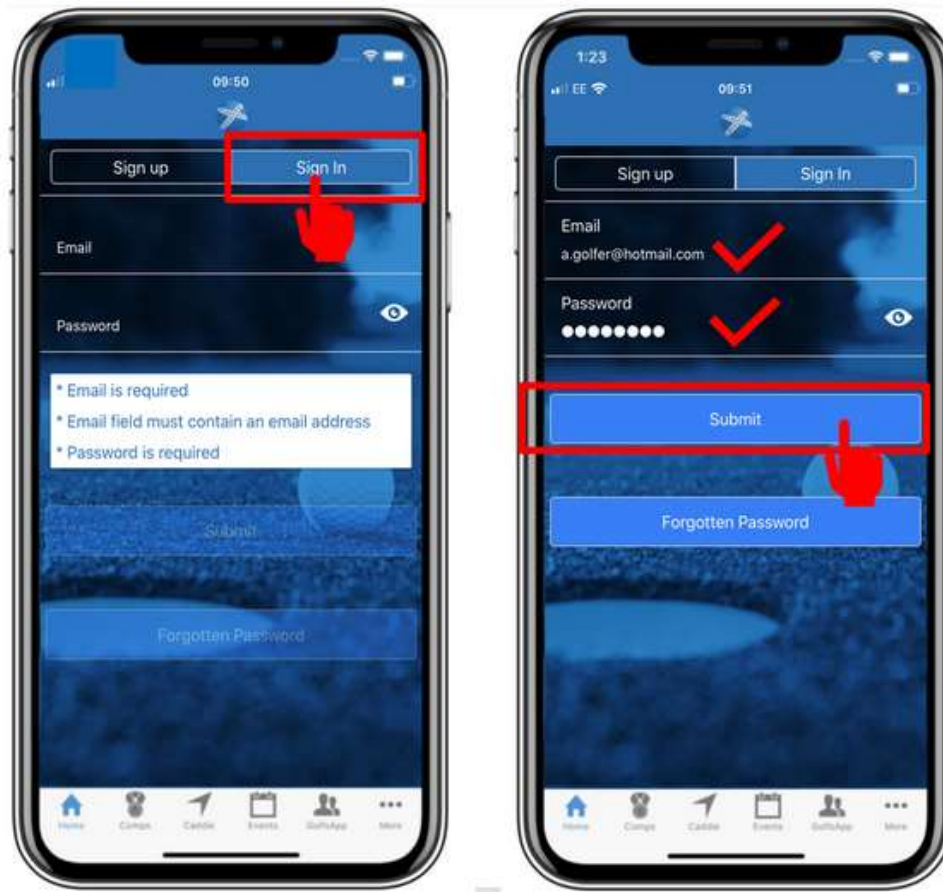
If you don't have access to a Mobile or Tablet then the Computer Weblink is :

<https://4102522000.scottish.golf/>

Once you have downloaded the App you need to click 'Sign In' (**DO NOT CLICK 'SIGN UP' AS YOU WILL ALREADY BE REGISTERED BY THE CLUB ON VMS**).

To sign in for the first time, it's important that your e-mail address matches the e-mail address your golf club has on record for you on VMS and secondly, you must have access to that e-mail address.

Your golf club can set you up with log-in credentials by sending you a notification. The e-mail will ask you to verify your e-mail address and will also contain a password which will look something like this: LP-123456



Accounts

In the Scottish Golf App each member has 3 accounts.

- 1) General Account – This is used to pay for competition entries, twos entries, guests and other facilities (Such as Buggies).
- 2) Membership Account – This is your subscription account.
- 3) Pro Shop Account – Any winnings from competitions will be issued to your Pro Shop account and this money can be used to purchase goods from the Starters Shop.

To view these accounts, from your Scottish Golf App Home Page – Select More... - My Accounts.

If you click on these Accounts, you can see all your transactions.

Here is a link to a video showing how to top up on the App.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mGq1SRJO-7U>

TOP UP – Members are requested to ensure their General Account is always topped up, as this is used for Competition Entries. If this has insufficient funds then members may not be able to enter the competition or if they get into a prize slot then the system will not pay out any money if the entry hasn't been paid.

Note: When topping up your account please try to top up with as big an amount as possible as for each transaction the Golf Club incurs an admin fee. E.g., if you top up with £50 then the club incurs 1 charge, however if you top up with £15, then another £15 and then £20 the club will incur 3 charges.

Making a Tee BOOKING

This link will show you how to Book or Cancel a Tee time. Please note this is for **Normal Tee times**, Competition tee times are provided via competition entry.

Bookings can be made 7 days in advance

<https://www.greenockgolfclub.co.uk/docs/2020/VMS/Howtobookandcancel.pdf>

Also, please remember that you can also look for assistance from our Starter. If you have any problems getting a time, I'm sure they will do their best to help you out.

The phone number for the Starters shop is 01475 787236 (press 3)

Junior Access Times

Juniors Under 15

Weekdays – Start play not later than 3:30pm

Saturdays – Not at any time

Sundays – Only if accompanied by an Ordinary Member

Juniors Over 15

Weekdays – Must not play between 5 & 6 when a Gents Competition is on or Team Matches.

Fridays – No Restrictions

Saturdays – Must not play before 3:30pm

Sundays – No Restrictions

Getting a Handicap

If you are new to golf or have been away from it for a while and no longer have a handicap then you will need to submit 3 scores. (54 Holes).

Prior to getting a handicap each player needs to have a CDH number. This will be registered with Scottish Golf by Match & Handicap when you join and loaded into VMS.

You can submit scores using the General Play facility on the Scottish Golf App. The Link below shows you how to invoke and submit a score using General Play.

USING GENERAL PLAY ON THE APP

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_9KHvSzK1s

If you are unable to submit scores on the App, then simply fill in a card, take a picture and send to the Match & Handicap Convenor email address.

mandh@greenockgolfclub.co.uk

Once you have 3 scores you will receive a handicap and this can be viewed on the Scottish Golf App.

Entering Competitions & Scoring

The **Fixture list** can be viewed in the SG App - To view from your Scottish Golf App Home Page – Select - More... - Club Documents.

Competitions at Greenock Golf Club are usually Saturday & Wednesday. Players can enter the competition via the App, Entry opens 8 days prior to the competition @ 19:00 hrs.

Competition Sweep Entry is £1.50 and Two's Entry is £1.50

Competitions - This link shows a video on how to Enter a Competition and how to do Scoring.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9plfUB-HG0s>

Note: Please ensure your General Account is Topped Up so that you can Enter Competitions.

If players are unable to complete their scores on the Mobile App they should ensure they complete their score on the iPad in the Clubhouse Hallway.

Players should have a fully verified (signed) card, otherwise they will be disqualified.

In the event that the player cannot complete on the App or on the iPad then the player must complete a scorecard, take a picture and send to M&H email address. Please let M&H know reasons for being unable to complete.

Note: there is a 2nd Ipad available for use in the Golf Shop in the event the one in the Clubhouse is down or busy.

World Handicap System (WHS)

From November 2020 all Scottish Golf Clubs moved onto a new handicap system WHS.

Each player will now have a Handicap Index. This Index is based on a players' best 8 scores from their last 20 (or less if players don't have 20 scores recorded). Players can view this on the Scottish Golf App or on the SG website (<https://scottishgolf.org/members-area/>)

Scottish Golf recommend that players submit as many scores as they can as this should help ensure that your handicap reflects your current playing ability.

Players will also have a Course Handicap; this is dependent on which course and set of Tees a player is using.

For example. If a player with a 6.3 Index is playing White Tees @ Greenock Golf club.

White Tees @ Greenock have a Slope Rating of 123.

To work out a players Course Handicap the formula is...

Course Handicap = Handicap Index x Slope Rating/113

CH = $6.3 \times 123/113 = 6.8$ (This is rounded to 7).

But also note that for a competition you will have a **Playing Handicap**, which is the **Course Handicap x Handicap Allowance**. For Medal/Stableford Competitions the HA is 95%.

Using the example above the CH is 6.8 so if playing in a medal this is multiplied by 95% = 6.4 (This is rounded to 6), so the Strokes Received in the competition results page would be your Gross score minus 6.

The Handicap Allowance for Matchplay competitions is 100% of Course Handicap, so if the person above was playing in the Challenge Cup they would play off of 7.

TIP: You can find your Course Handicap on the App Home Page – Click on **'Course Lookup'** Button – Type in Greenock and Select.

Note: When using a scorecard, a player should add their Handicap Index & Playing Hcap to the card.

There is also a very good page on the National Club Golfer about WHS.

‘Everything you need to know about the World Handicap System’

To access this here is the link: →

<https://www.nationalclubgolfer.com/news/world-handicap-system-explained/>

Etiquette & Pace of play

- 1) Keep Course Tidy – Members should always use Litter bins provided or take home their Bottles, Cans, Snack papers etc... Please do not throw rubbish into bushes.
- 2) Replace Divots – Members should ensure they replace divots after hitting shots.
- 3) Fix Pitch Marks – Players should repair at least one Pitch Mark on every Green. This will ensure pitch marks are not an issue.
- 4) Pace of Play – Always look to play with urgency especially when other games are behind.

Tips for Preventing Slow Play

1. PLAY WITHOUT DELAY

If the fairway or green is clear, then play immediately.

2. MARK SCORES WHILE OTHERS ARE HITTING

Don't spend time marking up scores if it is your turn to play, do this while others are playing.

3. PLAY READY GOLF

If you are ready to hit and it is safe to do so then go ahead, especially if your playing partner isn't ready.

So even if you are closer to the hole then go ahead if you are ready rather than wait for your playing partner if they aren't ready.

When approaching your ball, you should be thinking about what club to play rather than starting your routine when it is your turn to play.
Get ready to play your shot or putt whilst others are playing and therefore be ready to PLAY IMMEDIATELY it is your turn.

4. PLAY A PROVISIONAL IF YOU THINK YOUR BALL COULD BE LOST

Play a provisional ball if you think your ball could be lost or out of bounds & remember, when looking for a ball take no more than 3 MINUTES and wave game behind through if they are waiting.

5. KEEP UP WITH GAME IN FRONT

Always be aware of your position on the course & always look to keep up with the game in front rather than ahead of the game behind. It is good etiquette to let others through if you have lost ground and are holding the game behind up.

6. CLEAR GREENS QUICKLY & EFFICIENTLY.

At the green position your bags and trollies to the side that allows you to walk directly off the green in the direction of the next tee

7. DON'T PLAY PROVISIONAL IF YOUR BALL GOES INTO RED PENALTY AREA.

If your ball clearly goes into the red staked areas (eg, between 15 & 17) then you do not need to play another ball - you can play from the where the ball entered the RED staked under one stroke penalty.

Open Competitions.

Greenock have 3 Open Competitions during the year and these are available for Members & Non-Greenock Members to enter. This is a great opportunity for members to invite friends or colleagues from other clubs.

Tennent Trophy – Format: Gents Pairs - 4 Ball Better Ball

Greenock Open – Format: Gents Singles – Net & Gross Prizes (Part of Race to Mar Hall)

Seniors Open – Format: Gents Stableford - Age 50+

SUPPORT - For these competitions M&H would welcome any members willing to give up a couple of hours to assist in the running of the competition, either on the front desk to welcome players and checking scorecards or even as a Marshall at major Prize holes.

SPONSORSHIP – These competitions provide an opportunity for sponsorship. This sponsorship comes in various levels such as a Main Sponsor, or Sponsoring a hole, or even a specific prize. If anyone has a business that they would like to promote then please contact M&H to discuss.

There are also a number of County competitions. These can be booked via the link below....

<https://www.renfrewshiregolfunion.co.uk/book-now/>

Competition Guidance

The Match and Handicap Convenor has the following authority available in performing his role at Greenock GC.

- Delay to Start of Play - In the event of certain circumstances, such as mist, frost, vandalism or inclement weather which is predicted to cease or any other unforeseen situation, then a 1 hour delay to the start of play can be implemented if feasible (ie, if there are sufficient slots later on that would allow the course to catch up). All members times move forward by 1 hour.
- Restructure of the Competition – If the Match and Handicap Convenor considers that the condition of the course is not conducive for the reasonable play of a competition, then, as soon as is practical, he can change the competition into a sweepstake. He cannot change the competition into one where a trophy is at stake or where qualification to a Matchplay event takes place.
- 90% Rule – When a situation arises where more than 90% of the entrants have returned their scores (No Returns included) and the competition is called off, possibly due to extreme bad weather or holes being flooded, then the 90% Rule shall be applied as follows. The competition shall be declared null and void. The affected players shall have their entry monies refunded into their Pro shop accounts. The remaining participants shall be deemed to have taken part in a sweepstake competition and the monies shall be allocated in the normal fashion. No trophies shall be awarded.

Strokeplay Competition resolution:

- In the event of a tie in any of our normal Strokeplay / stableford etc.. competitions the system will resolve by checking the best inward half. Using the following algorithm. Countback holes order: 9 6 3 1 15 12 (i.e., if a tie cannot be resolved on the back 9 then it will revert to last 6 on front 9 then last 3 on front 9. In the unlikely position it is still a tie at that point it should show up as a tie)
- Please note that the system resolves by allocating strokes at the relevant stroke holes according to your playing handicap. E.g., if your playing handicap on the day was 6 then you would receive shots at 11, 15 & 17.

Greenock Golf Club Championship

- All members are playing in the same sweepstake competition and top 16 Gross scores over week 1 & 2 will qualify for Matchplay rounds
- There will be a random draw for the matchplay rounds.
- The presentation of the Syd Montford Trophy shall take place as soon as is practical after the completion of round two.
- In the event of one of the rounds being cancelled, then qualifying will take place over the remaining single round.

18 hole Matchplay Rounds will take place on:

- Monday, Wednesday & Friday (starting at 5pm)
- Players should be ready to tee off at their allocated time as per rules of golf. Any player who has difficulty with his tee times should contact the M & H convenor.
- Rule 6-3a shall apply

36 hole Matchplay Final will take place on:

- Saturday. (First 18 starting at 0830 and second round at 1300).

The Reid Rose Bowl

From a strokeplay qualifying competition, the 16 players with the best net scores shall progress to a matchplay stage.

A random draw shall take place and the draw shall be displayed in a position of prominence.

In the event of a tie for places from the strokeplay round, then, the Standard Countback Procedure shall be used.

The Matchplay rounds shall take place on dates determined by the committee.

Full handicap differential is applied.

The Lyle Medal

There are 3 competitions played throughout the season. The Spring, Summer and Autumn meetings.

The Lyle Medal is awarded to the player who has the best 2 round aggregate Net score from these.

In the event of a tie, then the player with the best net score from his third round shall be declared the winner.

The Robert Spence Trophy

The Robert Spence Trophy is a scratch competition where the trophy is awarded to the player with the best 10 scratch score total achieved during the season.

Eligible rounds are all Saturday and Wednesday strokeplay competitions, up to and including, the Kinnaird Trophy.

In the event of a tie, the eleventh score shall be used to decide the winner and so forth.

The Syd Montford Trophy

The Syd Montford Trophy is awarded to the player who has the best scratch total score over the 2 rounds of the club championship.

In the event of a tie, then the player with the better second round score shall be the winner. If there is still no winner, then the Standard Countback Procedure shall be applied, starting with the second round.

The Challenge Cup

All ordinary members may enter the Challenge Cup, which is a handicap Matchplay competition.

Members can enter via the Scottish Golf App.

A random draw shall take place and the draw shall be posted on the App.

The Matchplay rounds shall take place on dates determined by the committee.

Full handicap differential is applied.

The Seniors Championship

The Seniors Championship is a scratch competition for members who are aged 55 or over on the day of the qualifying round. It is an 18 hole strokeplay qualifier followed by a series of Matchplay rounds.

From the strokeplay qualifying competition, the 16 players with the best scratch scores shall progress to a matchplay stage.

A random draw shall take place and the draw shall be displayed in a position of prominence.

In the event of a tie for places from the strokeplay round, then, the Standard Countback Procedure shall be used.

The Matchplay rounds shall take place on dates determined by the committee.

The final shall be played over 18 holes and shall take place on the same day as the Club Championship final.

The Whinhill Seniors

The Whinhill Seniors is a handicap competition for members who are aged 55 or over on the day of the qualifying round. It is a strokeplay qualifier followed by a series of Matchplay rounds.

From a strokeplay qualifying competition, the 16 players with the best net scores shall progress to a matchplay stage.

A random draw shall take place and the draw shall be displayed in a position of prominence.

In the event of a tie for places from the strokeplay round, then, the Standard Countback Procedure shall be used.

The Matchplay rounds shall take place on dates determined by the committee.

The Captains' Foursomes

All ordinary members may enter the Captains' Foursomes, which is a handicap Matchplay competition for the play of Foursomes.

An entry sheet shall be posted in the clubhouse before the start of the season and players can append their name and that of their partner.

A random draw shall take place and the draw shall be displayed in a position of prominence.

The Matchplay rounds shall take place on dates determined by the committee.

The handicap differential is half the difference in the two teams' totals.

The Provost Trophy

The Provost Trophy is a handicap competition for teams of two members playing together in a Fourball Better Ball event.

From a Saturday fourball betterball Strokeplay qualifying competition, where each player receives 85% handicap allowance, the 16 couples who have the best net scores shall progress to a match play stage.

In the event of a tie for places from the Strokeplay round, then, the Standard Countback Procedure shall be used.

A random draw shall take place and the draw shall be displayed in a position of prominence.

The Matchplay rounds shall take place on dates determined by the committee.

The handicap differential is determined by each player receiving 90% handicap allowance against the handicap of the lowest player in the group of four.

An entry fee is levied from all participants and the money is donated to the Provost of Greenock's charity fund.

How to work out shots for the Provost Matchplay.

The new method is:

- 1) Each player works out their Course handicap using lookup charts for the 18 Hole White Tees.
- 2) Each player works out their Playing Handicap which is 90% of their course handicap.
- 3) Shots received is the difference between the lowest player and the other players.

Example

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Player A & Player B v Player C & Player D

Player A: HI = 4.1, CH = 4, PH = $4 \times 90\% = 3.6 = 4$

Player B: HI = 15.2, CH = 17, PH = $17 \times 90\% = 15.3 = 15$

Player C: HI = 10.6, CH = 12, PH = $12 \times 90\% = 10.8 = 11$

Player D: HI = 17.5, CH = 19, PH = $19 \times 90\% = 17.1 = 17$

Therefore, Player A would be the low handicap, Player B would receive 11 shots, Player C would receive 7 shots and Player D would get 13 shots.

The Navy Cup

The Navy Cup is a Greensomes event for teams of two players.

A Greensomes format is not recognised form of golf by the Royal and Ancient, so no formal rules are set in place.

Subsequently, Greenock GC organise this competition using our own handicapping system. However, the rules of golf shall be strictly adhered to during play.

The winners of the trophy are the team who has the best net score on the day of the 18 hole competition.

Handicaps are allocated to each team in the following manner:

The better player shall receive 0.6 of his handicap and his partner shall receive 0.4. The two results are added together to give the team handicap.

Both players will tee off at each hole and, from their resultant positions, shall decide which ball to play from there on, using alternate strokes.

The other ball is discarded.

In the event of a tie for places from the Strokeplay round, then, the Standard Countback Procedure shall be used.

The Challenge Quaich

The Challenge Quaich is a handicap Matchplay competition.

The qualifiers for this event are those players who have played and lost a single round (either in the preliminary or first round proper) in the Challenge Cup.

A random draw shall take place and the draw will be posted on the Scottish Golf App.

The Matchplay rounds shall take place on dates determined by the committee.

Full handicap differential is applied.

The Bennett Cup

There are 6 Wednesday medal competitions played throughout the season during the months of April, May, June, July, August and September.

The Bennett Cup is awarded to the player who has the best 2 round aggregate Net score from these.

In the event of a tie, then the player with the best net score from his third round shall be declared the winner. A further tie would be resolved by using the fourth best net score.

The Willow Trophy

There are 6 Wednesday Willow medal competitions played throughout the season during the months of April, May, June, July, August and September.

The Willow Trophy is awarded to the player who has the best 2 round aggregate Net score from these.

In the event of a tie, then the player with the best net score from his third round shall be declared the winner. A further tie would be resolved by using the fourth best net score.

The Laurie Trophy

This is a handicap competition for players who have reached the age of 55 years on the day of the competition.

The Laurie Trophy is awarded to the player who has the best net score from the handicap Strokeplay competition.

In the event of a tie the Standard Countback Procedure shall be used.

The Turner Quaich

This is a handicap competition for players who have reached the age of 65 years on the day of the competition.

The Turner Quaich is awarded to the player who has the best net score from the handicap Strokeplay competition.

In the event of a tie the Standard Countback Procedure shall be used.

The Crawford Bogey

This is a handicap Bogey competition.

The Crawford Bogey is awarded to the player who has the best result against the course during the handicap Strokeplay competition.

Players are awarded 95% handicap allowance and they then play a match against the course, using the stroke index table.

If a player's net score at a hole is "Better than Par", then he wins that hole.

If his net score is "Equal to Par", then he halves that hole.

If his net score is "Poorer than Par", then he loses that hole.

In the event of a tie the Standard Countback Procedure shall be used.

The H G McLennan Trophy

This is a handicap competition played over two successive weekends.

The H G McLennan Trophy is awarded to the player with the best two round total score from the two handicap Strokeplay events.

In the event of a tie the trophy will be awarded to the player with the better second round score. If this does not resolve the competition then the Standard Countback Procedure shall be used and applied to the second round in the first instance.

The Kinnaird Trophy

This trophy is regarded as Greenock GC's medals final.

The event is held in October each year, in conjunction with a sweepstake for non-qualifiers.

Members may qualify by winning their relevant medal prize in each of the monthly medals which run from March to October.

The Kinnaird Trophy is awarded to the qualified player with the best net score on the day of the competition.

In the event of a tie the Standard Countback Procedure shall be used.

The Captain's Day Trophy

This is a handicap strokeplay competition.

The Captains Trophy is awarded to the player with the best net score on the day.

In the event of a tie the Standard Countback Procedure shall be used.

The Centenary Quaich

This is a handicap strokeplay competition.

The Centenary Quaich is awarded to the player with the best net score on the day.

In the event of a tie the Standard Countback Procedure shall be used.

The Charity Salver

This is a handicap strokeplay competition.

The Charity Salver is awarded to the player with the best net score on the day.

In the event of a tie the Standard Countback Procedure shall be used.

There is an entry fee, determined by the management committee. All funds from this shall go to the club's charity fund and be distributed, as seen fit, by the committee.

The Tri Am Trophy

This is a handicap strokeplay competition.

The Tri Am Trophy is awarded to the player with the best net score on the day.

In the event of a tie the Standard Countback Procedure shall be used.

There is an entry fee, determined by the management committee. All funds from this shall go to the Tri Am Fund and be distributed, as seen fit, by the Tri Am committee.

The winner of the Tri Am Trophy shall be given a place in the Tri Am competition.

The R C Johnstone Trophy

This trophy is awarded to the most improved golfer in the club over that particular season, as regards handicap.

Only Ordinary members may win this award and the person must have been a member for over one year (not joined during the year in question).

A sliding scale of factors are applied to all members who have had their handicaps reduced.

In the following categories the following factors are multiplied against each stroke of handicap reduction:

0 – 5 = by 4

6 – 12 = by 3

13 – 20 = by 2

21 – 28 = by 1

In the event of a tie, then the player who has the lowest actual handicap at the end of the season is deemed the winner.

The Murray Cup

This is a handicap strokeplay competition played over the “Wee Course”.

The Murray Cup is awarded to the player with the best 2 round net total score.

Players are required to play over the “Wee Course” during the months of March through to September. Members may play as often as they like and their two best scores over the year will count.

In the event of a tie the best third round score is used and then the fourth etc.