



Minchinhampton Golf Club

Code of Conduct Members, Guests and Visitors

Introduction

Minchinhampton Golf Club deems that upon payment of membership or green fees, all members, guests and visitors have given their consent to be bound by the terms set out in this code of conduct. Members shall be liable for any breach committed whether by themselves or their guests.

The intention of this is to establish clear and acceptable behaviour expectations for Minchinhampton Golf Club members, guests and visitors.

It is not intended to restrict the rights of anyone but rather to ensure that all members, guests and visitors can expect to be treated with respect while enjoying the golf courses, practice facilities and clubhouses.

This code of conduct has been designed to ensure that all members have a point of reference providing the minimum standards expected when participating in golfing activity. All members should ensure that they are fully conversant with the code and should strive to meet the code at all times.

Responsibilities

- Members must always act within constitution & bye-laws, club policies and procedures. These can be found on the club website and are available from the Club's office. No member shall be absolved from their effect on any allegation of not having received a copy.
- Be respectful to all those you come into contact with at the Club. Respect differences in gender, disability, culture, race, ethnicity and religious beliefs between yourself and others, and avoid giving offence. Do not engage in any form of sexual, racial, religious discrimination or harassment. Do not conduct yourself in any rude or immoral manner, including the use of profane language, gestures, insults or other such misbehaviour. See MGC's Equality & Diversity Policy for more information.
- Challenge discrimination and prejudice.

- Ensure that all golfers are able to participate in golf without fear of ridicule, harassment or restriction.
- Treat other golfers with the same respect and fairness you would like them to show you.
- Demonstrate fair play on and off the course.
- Look out for yourself and the welfare of others.
- Do not engage in any irresponsible, abusive, inappropriate or illegal behaviour.
- Challenge behaviour that falls below the expected standards of the county or club.
- Speak out if you have concerns about anything, your own needs or the needs of others.
- Be organised and on time.
- You must not consume illegal and performance enhancing drugs.
- When using social media in connection with the club, its officials or members, do so in a manner which could not be deemed offensive. See MGC's Social Media Policy for further details.
- As well as avoiding actual impropriety, conduct yourself in a manner which does not damage or undermine the reputation of the Club (especially when you are representing the club) and do not take part in any activity which conflicts with the objects of the Club, or which might damage the reputation of the Club.

On the Course

- Avoid slow play, apply ready golf principles, and allow other golfers to play through as appropriate.
- Adhere to the dress code and observe proper golf etiquette as well as R&A and local rules of the course. See MGC's Dress Code Policy for further information.
- Respect the rights of other players and golf course staff. Golf course staff always have right of way when actively engaged in work on the course – do not play your ball if there is any risk to staff or equipment.
- The Club Starter carries the authority of the Club and must be respected at all times.
- Respect and obey all signage on the golf course.
- Act honestly in all occasions during play. Conduct yourself in a sportsmanlike manner and do not knowingly cheat, throw clubs, disrespect employees, officials or fellow competitors.
- Taking or making a call on a mobile phone is not permitted on the course, although may be carried and used in an emergency.
- Take pride in the physical appearance of the golf course as it is reflective of you as a member. Replace divots, rake bunkers and fix pitch marks.
- The course, its environment and wildlife must be respected at all times.
- The New Course has a footpath crossing The Cherington and The Avening courses and the safety of walkers must be respected at all times.
- The Old Course is on Common Land and the safety of other Common users must be respected at all times.

- All players must exercise discretion regarding their own safety and the safety of others at all times especially when playing near trees and walls.
 - All players use these facilities at their own risk and sole responsibility.
- Please see MGC's "Pace of Play", "Ready Golf" and "Course Guidelines" documents for more information.

In the Clubhouse

- Respect clubhouse facilities and staff.
- Comply with the Management's requests, observing and adhering to any signs or posters.
- Golf shoes and wet or muddy clothing is not permitted.
- The use of foul or abusive language such as swearing has no place in the clubhouse and any member heard using unacceptable or offensive language will be asked to either stop or leave the premises. Where someone is observed consistently using bad language after being warned then their continued membership will be reviewed accordingly. Whilst fully acknowledging that adult banter contributes to increasing a healthy atmosphere amongst members, these rules are to safeguard others who should not have to hear language that they would not personally use or make people feel uncomfortable.
- Smoking or the use of e-cigarettes is not permitted within any of the club buildings or on the balconies. Smoking is only allowed in the designated smoking areas.
- The use of mobile phones for making or receiving calls is not permitted inside the Clubhouse. Mobiles phones should be placed in silent mode before entering the building.

Complaints & Disciplinary

The Club will follow the procedures of England Golf, adopting detailed procedures in sympathy with Club circumstances at the time of any complaint. Please see England Golf regulations for detailed guidance.

To ensure consistent application of every disciplinary issue, from any Section of the Club or the membership, any complaint must be in writing and placed before the General Manager in the first instance. A record will be kept for each written instance reported.

The General Manager acts as the Club Compliance Department and will investigate the complaint either to resolve matters or to refer it to the Vice Chairman of the Board for further consideration. See MGC's Disciplinary Policy for more details.

Version Control:

Version	Risk Committee review date	Board endorsement date	Changes
V1		July 2021	New document
V1.1	Aug 2023	Sept 2023	Annual Review
V2.0			Published Oct 2023