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Although our course is compact and relatively flat, we do have a limited supply of buggies which can be rented from our Club Professional by prior arrangement.

The Professional's Shop satisfies all your golfing equipment needs, but if you seriously want to improve your game, try a course of lessons with Martin Daniels.

Catering: Food is available between 10am and 3pm daily, Carvery is available every Sunday and must be pre-booked.



Welcome to Gillingham Golf Club



An introduction for new members, guests and golfing societies

Structure of the Club:

Gillingham Golf Club is a Members Club and is financed solely by Members' subscriptions.

The Club is run and managed by:

The **Club Captain's Committee**

and

The **Management and Finance Committee**

The Captain's Committee is elected at the Club's Annual General Meeting, usually held in March each year. It handles Club policy and the day-to-day running of the Club's affairs including the organising of competitions, social events and entertainment, maintenance of the course, clubhouse and facilities and catering.

Various sub-committees look after specifics like Greens, House, Competitions and Entertainment.

The Management and Finance Committee, (MFC), closely monitors all spending and staffing matters. The MFC comprises the Club's Chairman, (see below), The Club Captain and Ladies Captain, the Finance Chairman and chairmen of the spending sub-committees.

Both Committees meet regularly, (usually once a month), and are supported by the Club's Secretary/Manager who actions the Committees' instructions, provides the administration for the Club and provides line-management function for all the Club's staff and contractors.

The Club Captain and Ladies Captain hold office for one year and the Chairman for three years.

Members may submit items for discussion at the Annual General Meeting through the Secretary/Manager who should also be contacted in the event of any complaints.

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Social Events

The Club organises many social events and all Members are invited to participate.

Some events are FORMAL, in which case Formal Dress for Ladies and Gents apply.

Some events are listed as “Smart Casual” where the dress code is slightly relaxed.

All Members are usually enabled to bring along family and friends, but some events may be limited to Members and partners plus two guests only.

Some events are free to attend, with catering staff on hand to provide bar-meals as required.

Other events are inclusive of a meal which can range from hot buffet to full 4-course formal dinner.

All events are publicised well in advance, along with cost, food details etc. and Members are requested to book over the bar so that we can provide adequate seating and staff.

Our caterers are happy to meet any special dietary requirements at such events.

The caterers also provide daily “Specials” and lunches. The Sunday carvery is popular.

Gents Formal Dress:

Dinner suit and tie or lounge suit and tie.

Gents “Smart Casual”:

Slacks and shirt (with or without jacket and tie).

Captain’s Committee

Club Captain
Ladies Captain
Chairman Finance
Chairman House
Chairman Greens
Junior Organiser
Club Professional
Elected Committee Members
Ad Hoc Committee Members

Management & Finance Committee (MFC)

Club Chairman
Club Captain
Captain Elect
Ladies Captain
Chairman Finance
Chairman House
Chairman Greens

The Club supports several Sections:

Juniors

Ladies Each of which has its own organiser or committee,
Veterans reporting as required to the Captain’s Committee.

Gents

Equality

Gillingham Golf Club is fully compliant with current equality legislation.

Subscriptions

Subscriptions are due annually and are invoiced to Members. Subscriptions must be paid by 31 December each year in advance of the playing year in question. A monthly credit system is available and instalments are paid by Direct Debit.

Lockers:

Lockers are available for Members to rent. Please check availability with the Secretary/Manager.

Membership

Playing Membership is available in all sections of the Club providing the applicant is deemed to be safe to allow on the course. An officially handicapped player will automatically be accepted as a Member so long as his application is supported by an existing Member or the Captain's Committee. Applicants without a handicap will be assessed by the Club's Professional and may be required to take some basic lessons before being accepted.

Corporate Membership allows a Company to take out Membership in its name and members of that company may use the Club's facilities but MUST be accompanied by specified members of the company involved.

Social Membership is non-playing membership and is available to suitable applicants for a low annual membership fee. Social Members are able to use the Club's non-golfing facilities including catering and entertainment events and can purchase a key-fob entitling them to discounts on bar expenditure, (but not food).

Membership Benefits:

Use of the Club's key-fob.

Each Member receives a Club key-fob on payment of a small fee. The key-fob allows entry into the Clubhouse and changing rooms and can also be used to make purchases over the bar. Monies can be "loaded" on to the key-fob either over the bar or in the Secretary/Managers office using cash or debit cards. Bar purchases, but NOT food, are discounted by 15% if payment is made by key-fob.

The spouse or co-habiting partner of any Full Member is automatically afforded the status of a Social Member and may use the Club's facilities in their own right.

General behaviour.

All Members, Visitors and Guests are required to act and conduct themselves in a manner befitting an old-established golf club and to maintain decent standards at all times.

Swearing and offensive behaviour is not tolerated.

Smoking is not permitted inside any Club building but is acceptable on the Clubhouse balcony where ashtrays and sand buckets are provided.

Use of mobile 'phones in the bar or restaurant areas is not permitted. Please use the landings or balcony.

On the course, mobile 'phones should only be used in an emergency, or, when the Cabin is open, to pre-order food.

Abuse of Club staff or Officers will be regarded as a disciplinary matter and dealt with by the Club's Disciplinary Procedures which are available for inspection from the Secretary/Manager.

In view of recent legal cases affecting golf clubs, all members and users of Gillingham Golf Club facilities must be prepared to sign a waiver absolving the Club from legal action resulting from injuries received whilst using the course and its access and egress routes.

Respect the Course

In order to keep our course in the best possible condition, Members should note:

Unless in an official Club competition, play should normally be from YELLOW tees, (Gents). In Club competitions, the WHITE tees should be used.

Ladies may use the BLUE tees in casual play if they wish, but are required to use RED tees for all qualifying and non-qualifying competitions.

Juniors with 36+ handicaps should play from the BLUE tees..

No practicing on the course is allowed.

Sand/seed divot mix boxes are provided on the par 3 tees. Please use the mix to fill in any divots taken from the tee. Do not tread back divots on tees.

Replace and tread back ALL divots taken from fairways.

Repair all pitch marks on greens. (Yours and at least 1 other if possible).

Replace rakes INSIDE bunkers please.

Do not take trolleys of any description on to tees, greens, aprons or between greenside bunkers and greens.

Do not run on greens surfaces. Avoid walking on greens if possible.

Walk ROUND them.

Look out for temporary greens on approaches to main greens and avoid hitting shots from them in casual play. Take relief. The Club maintains temporary greens so that play can continue on the course even in severe weather periods. So, look after them.

Do not take practise swings on tees.

ALWAYS take relief from areas marked GUR, (Ground Under Repair), or from tees and temporary greens in casual play. Roped-off areas are in place to allow the grass to recover and may not be official GUR. You may play from that area and temporarily remove the posts but please replace them after and avoid walking on that area wherever possible. Try to avoid walking on any bare ground. Let it recover.

Respect Greens staff when they are working on the course. **THEY HAVE PRIORITY.**

Do not give instructions to Greens staff. If you need to comment or complain, please do so by notifying the Secretary/Manager.

Handicaps:

Official Club handicaps are allocated according to CONGU rules, on the basis of the player's current performance in "Qualifying" competitions. Casual competitions generally are not qualifying, but competitions such as the Monthly Medals are and are played off the Competition Tees, (WHITE for gents and RED for ladies).

Getting a first Handicap:

New Members without an official handicap must submit 3 cards, signed by a Member with an official handicap, to the Club's professional. An official handicap will then be allocated and the Member will qualify to play in official competitions.

Handicaps of all Members can be viewed on the Club's website at gillinghamgolfclub.co.uk in the "Members" area.

Handicaps must be maintained by submitting at least 3 cards for Qualifying Competitions each year. Failure to do so will result in the Member's handicap lapsing.

New Members Competitions

The Club occasionally organises competitions specifically for newly-joined Members and the intention is to introduce new Members to others and to the ways that competitions are staged. All new Members are encouraged to make the most of these events by participating if possible.

It is also possible for gents to submit extra cards for

handicapping purposes by informing the Professional BEFORE playing, that you intend to submit a handicap card after your round. You MUST then submit the card, signed by a Member with an official handicap, regardless of the recorded score. It is not possible to submit a card AFTER playing a round unless your intention to do so has been stated to the Professional before play.

Competitions:

Club competitions may only be entered by players with an official handicap unless otherwise stated.

Each of the Club's sections organise their own competitions programme and they are published annually in the Club's diary as well as being posted on the Club's website in the "Members" area.

Most officially organised competitions are deemed "Qualifying" and the resulting cards, properly completed and signed by the player and the marker will be used to adjust that player's handicap.

Do ensure that all cards are properly completed and include the player's current handicap otherwise the player may be disqualified. Disqualifications do not prevent adjustment being made to the player's handicap.

Entering competitions:

Details of all competitions, as well as being notified in the Club's diary, are posted on appropriate notice boards in the Club.

"Calling Sheets" are normally posted on:

Gents:	The notice boards in the Gents Locker Room
Ladies:	The notice boards in the Ladies Locker Room
Veterans	The notice boards in the course entrance to the Gents Locker Room
Juniors	The notice boards in the course entrance to the Gents Locker Room
Mixed	The notice board in the approach to the locker rooms in the vestibule

It is NOT usually necessary to enter competitions in teams. Feel free to enter your name on a calling sheet wherever a vacant slot is available. (e.g. If a calling sheet states "Enter in 4s", if you see a slot with only three names entered you may take the remaining place).

Please check with appropriate Sections for their own procedures.

The Ladies Section organises most MIXED competitions which may be drawn for partners or entered as pairs. If you have no partner, enter your name with PP (Partner Please), against it.

Dress Code (General)

Gillingham Golf Club expects Members, Guests, Visitors and Societies to observe and respect the Club's dress codes.

As a general rule, all *recognised* golf clothing is acceptable and this includes the latest collarless *golf* shirts and trainer-type socks as long as they are visibly evident.

The Club's Secretary/Manager, Professional and any Member have the authority to enforce the code.

It can sometimes be difficult to assess whether or not particular clothing is acceptable on the course, so please remember:

IF IN DOUBT, DO NOT WEAR IT.

In the bar and restaurant areas, the bar staff, catering staff, the Secretary/Manager and Club Members have the authority to point out inappropriate dress and ask you to change or move into the stud bar where dress code is relaxed.

Gillingham Golf Club Course Dress Code (Ladies)



TOPS

Tops must have collars and/or sleeves. (A sleeveless top must have a collar)

Tops with no collar must have a round neck or a crew neck with long or short sleeves.

Low-cut or strappy tops are not allowed.

Long/Cropped Trousers, tailored shorts, golf skirts or skorts are all acceptable.

IF IN DOUBT, DO NOT WEAR IT

Monthly Medal Competitions (Gents)

The 1st weekend of each month is allocated to the Gent's Medal Competitions. Saturday and Sunday Medal Competitions are SEPARATE events and Members may enter both competitions if they wish, providing that the competitions are not over-subscribed. Only the first entry qualifies for prizes. Calling sheets are posted in the locker rooms.

A small entry fee applies to all medal competitions and MUST be paid before playing in the competition..

A properly completed card must be submitted after each competition to avoid disqualification.

Disqualification or failure to turn up for a Medal competition without giving at least 24 hours' notice to the Club Professional will result in that player being disallowed play in Club competitions for up to 3 months.

Ladies Medal Competitions are played monthly on Thursdays and at weekends for ladies who work during the week. Calling sheets are posted in the ladies locker room. Temporary visiting members are not eligible to play for the Ladies major trophies. These members may play in the competition but they are not eligible to win.

General play:

Please be courteous to other players. Keep up with the game in front, NOT just ahead of the game behind. If you lose a complete hole on the game in front, call the game behind through. Don't wait to be asked.

Never drive balls past the game in front. Always ensure that the game ahead is beyond your range before taking your shot and never play on to a green if it is occupied.

Do not drive from the 11th or 14th tees if the 1st or 10th greens respectively are occupied. Conversely, do not play on those greens if players are teeing off the respective tees.

VETS

The Veterans medal competitions are also played monthly. Veterans must be at least 60 years old.

Dress Code:

Gillingham Golf Club is a progressive Club and respects the fact that fashions change. Consequently we have recently introduced a more enlightened dress code for the BAR ONLY.

The Bar:

CLEAN golf clothing, but NOT golf shoes, may be worn.
Clean, smart jeans are acceptable, but NO tie-dyed or splits.
Casual shoes and clean trainers are acceptable.
Sandals may be worn with socks.
Tailored shorts may be worn with socks.
“Cargo” shorts or trousers are not acceptable unless specifically manufactured for golf.

The Restaurant:

Smart casual attire is acceptable at lunch-time and up to 7.00 pm, after which Gents must wear jacket and tie UNLESS the Captain’s Committee has designated the event as Smart Casual.
Jeans, shorts and sandals are NOT permitted in the restaurant at any time.

It is important to respect the SPIRIT of the dress code rather than interpret it word for word.

Anyone unacceptably dressed will be asked to change or possibly move in to the STUD BAR where dress code is relaxed.

Dress Code. On Course:

The Club operates a strict ON-COURSE dress code.

All Members, Guests, Visitors and Societies must comply with the dress code set out below.

Failure to observe the Course Dress Code will result in being asked to change or leave the course.

**THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS
MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO LEAD BY EXAMPLE**

Gillingham Golf Club Course Dress Code (Gents)



Cargoes are NOT acceptable unless manufactured specifically for golf. Collarless golf shirts and trainer socks are permitted.