



STELLENBOSCH GOLF CLUB

BYLAWS, RULES AND POLICIES

(promulgated in terms of Section 15 of the Stellenbosch Golf Club Constitution)

1. BYLAWS

1.1 BACKGROUND

These bylaws must be seen as directional regulations which supplement the SGC Constitution. They are based on decisions made by the Committee of the Club and can be amended from time to time by the incumbent committee without reverting to a General Meeting of the Members of the Club.

1.2 GENERAL

1.2.1 Members and Visitors must respect the enjoyment of the Club's facilities by all and should behave accordingly.

1.2.2 Each player must use his/her own clubs and bag, i.e. play from one bag by two or more players will not be permitted.

1.2.3 Green fees must be paid before play commences and any member who has prepaid for rounds must register his/her round at the Proshop before play.

1.2.4 Reserved parking may only be used by officials or nominated persons as indicated.

1.2.5 Arrangements regarding the use of caddies must be made with the designated person. Only caddies that are accredited by the club may be hired during play.

1.2.6 Players must acquaint themselves with the local rules before play commences.

1.2.7 Each player is required to have a sandbag or when in a cart, a sand bottle.

1.3 PLAYING TIME

1.3.1 Total playing time for 18 holes may not exceed 4 hours and 35 minutes (2 hours 10 minutes per 9 holes and 15 minutes at half way). When play takes longer than the prescribed time, players must finish their game within 15 minutes of the four ball ahead of them. Playing times will be recorded by staff members.

1.3.2 A penalty of two strokes or disqualification may be imposed by the Committee or its designated representative for not complying with this rule.

1.3.3 All requests and instructions by the marshal or any other official of the Club, such as to speed up play, terminate play, which tees to use, when and where golf carts may be used, the repair of divots and/or pitch marks, and the raking of bunkers must be adhered to at all times.

1.4 DRESS CODE

Strict regimentation of dress is generally unacceptable today and it is consequently undesirable to prescribe specific dress codes for the Club.

However, even when attire is casual, members and guests are required to be neat and presentable at all times. Extremes in casual dress will not be condoned.

The enjoyment by members and guests of the facilities of the Club as well as its ambiance, are of paramount importance to the Committee and Management. They accordingly reserve the right to decide whether dress is appropriate or not.

Kindly help us to maintain the desired standard of dress.

2. LOCAL RULES

The rules of the game of golf shall be those of the Royal and Ancient Golf club of St Andrews ("R&A"). The local rules set out below were therefore adopted by the Stellenbosch Golf Club Committee in accordance to rule 33 – 8 of the "Rules of Golf" as approved by the R&A. All references to a specific rule also relates to the "Rules of Golf" as approved by the R&A and published from time to time by "R&A Limited".

OUT OF BOUNDS (RULE 27-1) All boundary fences and white stakes on the course. Objects defining out of bounds such as fences and stakes are not obstructions and are deemed to be fixed. A ball is out of bounds when all of it lies out of bounds.

Match Play – Loss of hole; Stroke Play – Two strokes

WATER HAZARDS (RULE 26-1) (Defined by yellow stakes)

a. The dam around the 18th green,

b. The dam in front of the 12th green. The player may proceed under rule 26-1 or may use the permanent dropping zone provided.

Match Play – Loss of hole; Stroke Play – Two strokes

LATERAL WATER HAZARDS (RULE 25-1) (Defined by red stakes)

The dam to the right of the 5th fairway and right of the 2nd tee; the dam to the left of the 12th fairway; the dam to the right of the 16th green.

Match Play – Loss of hole; Stroke Play – Two strokes

DRAINAGE DITCHES All drainage ditches are an integral part of the course and the ball must be played as it lies. There is no relief from drainage ditches.

Match Play – Loss of hole; Stroke Play – Two strokes

CULTIVATED GARDENS (RULE 25-1) All cultivated gardens are ground under repair from which play is prohibited. If a player's ball lies in the area, or it interferes with the player's stance or the area of his intended swing, the player must take relief. Exceptions to this rule: On the 6th hole the demarcated drop zone must be used. The bushes to the left of the 8th green is not considered a cultivated garden.

Match Play – Loss of hole; Stroke Play – Two strokes

PROTECTION OF YOUNG TREES (RULE 24-2) Protections of young trees are identified by blue stakes. If such a tree interferes with a player's stance or the area of his intended swing, the ball must be lifted, without penalty, and dropped in accordance with the procedure prescribed in Rule 24-2b (Immovable Obstruction). Exceptions to this rule: A player may not obtain relief under this Local Rule if (a) it is clearly unreasonable for him to make a stroke because of interference by anything other than the tree or (b) interference by the tree would occur only through use of an unnecessarily abnormal stance, swing or direction of play.

Match Play – Loss of hole; Stroke Play – Two strokes

FALLEN TREES All fallen trees are abnormal ground conditions and rule 25-1 applies. (The rule does not provide relief for the line of play)

Match Play – Loss of hole; Stroke Play – Two strokes

EDGING GROOVE Identifiable as a groove about 5mm wide 10mm deep around the putting green. The player may without penalty lift the ball clean it and place it out of the groove in the nearest position to where it lay whether on or off the putting green, which is not nearer the hole.

ROADS AND PATHS (RULE 24-2) All roads and cart paths are immovable obstructions. Interference by an immovable obstruction occurs when a ball lies in or on the obstruction, or when the obstruction interferes with the player's stance or the area of his intended swing. If the ball lies through the green, the player must lift the ball and drop it without penalty within one club-length of and not nearer the hole than the nearest point of relief. When the ball is dropped within one club-length of the nearest point of relief, the ball must first strike a part of the course at a spot that avoids interference by the immovable obstruction (road or path) and is not in a hazard or on the putting green.

Match Play – Loss of hole; Stroke Play – Two strokes

STONES IN BUNKERS (RULE 24-1) Stones in bunkers are considered movable obstructions.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR (RULE 25-1) The areas defined by either white paint or an appropriate GUR sign are ground under repair from which play is prohibited. If a player's ball lies in this area, or if it interferes with the player's stance or the area of his intended swing, the player must take relief.

Match Play – Loss of hole; Stroke Play – Two strokes

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES (RULE 14-3) A player may use a distance measuring device to obtain distance information (Decision 14-3/0.5 in Decisions on the Rules of Golf 2016-2017). However, if, during a stipulated round, a player uses a device that actually provides him with information on other conditions that might affect his play (e.g. gradient or wind); the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.

Match Play – Loss of hole; Stroke Play – Two strokes

PREFERRED LIES A ball lying on a closely-mown area through the green may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, he must place it on a spot within one club-length of, and not nearer the hole, than where it originally lay, that is not in a hazard and not on the putting green. A player may place his ball only once, and it is in play when it has been placed and Rule 20-4 applies. If the player fails to mark the position of the ball before lifting it or moves the ball in any other manner, such as rolling it with a club, he incurs a penalty of one stroke.

Match Play – Loss of hole; Stroke Play – Two strokes

EMBEDDED BALL Through the green, a ball that is embedded in its own pitch mark in the ground, other than in a bunker or a hazard, may be lifted without penalty, cleaned and dropped as near as possible to where it lay but not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must first strike a part of the course through the green. Exceptions to this rule: A player may not obtain relief under this Local Rule if it is clearly unreasonable for him to make a stroke because of interference by anything other than the condition covered by this Local Rule.

Match Play – Loss of hole; Stroke Play – Two strokes

DISTANCE MARKERS (Movable Obstructions) All distance markers on the golf course are to be treated as movable obstructions from which relief may be obtained. Relief may be obtained in accordance with Rule 24 - 1.

ADDITIONAL LOCAL RULES (Abnormal playing conditions may necessitate additional local rules – please confirm with the Pro-Shop)

COUNT-OUT PROCEDURE FOR CLUB COMPETITIONS

If scores are tied during a Club competitions, the following count-out will apply:

On uneven days during the month (e.g. 1st, 3rd, 5th, etc.) the first nine holes scores will be used to determine the winner and on even numbered days (e.g. 2nd, 4th, 6th, etc.) the second nine holes score will be used to determine the winner. Should there still be a tie, a further count-out will start from hole no. 1 until a winner is determined.

3. POLICIES

3.1 BOOKING POLICY

3.1.1 MEMBERS:

GENERAL RULE:

Bookings can be made two weeks in advance

Three booking options are available:

1. Electronic booking through Club Master (smart phone and computer)
2. Phone the Proshop
3. e-mail to bookings@stbgolf.com

Terms and Conditions

- Payment must be made before teeing-off.
- Prepaid rounds available at discounted rates and can be used.
- “No-show” policy is applicable if tee time is cancelled less than 24 hours before tee-time.

Members are welcome to invite guests to play with them at SGC with the understanding that on Saturdays and Wednesdays, consideration must be shown to the availability of tee-times for full members. Any member who, in the opinion of the Committee or Management, abuses the right to invite guests will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee who may prohibit such member to invite further guests for a period.

SPECIAL DISPENSATION:

Available to members who must book well in advance due to travel or other commitments.

Bookings can be made not more than one year in advance.

Only one booking option available: e-mail to bookings@stbgolf.com

Terms and Conditions

- Must pay full amount within 48 hours of booking being confirmed by the Club.
- For Saturdays and/or Wednesday afternoon bookings, the relevant competition fee must also be paid within 48 hours of booking being confirmed by Club.
- No discount is available and pre-paid rounds may not be used for this booking.
- Refunds will only be made if a booking is cancelled more than three weeks in advance, except in the event of the course being closed by the Club.
- No more than 15 % of available tee-times on any day can be booked through this special dispensation.
- Bookings and tee times on corporate days (Thursdays and Fridays) may be unilaterally cancelled by the Club subject to giving 3-months’ notice.
- Bookings and tee-times on special “club event” days may be unilaterally cancelled by the Club subject to giving 3-months’ notice.

3.1.2 VISITORS:

GENERAL RULE:

Visitors can book three weeks in advance.

Two booking options are available:

1. Phone the Proshop or Reception
2. e-mail to bookings@stbgolf.com

Terms and Conditions

- Payment must be made before teeing-off.
- Visitors playing in Wednesday afternoon and/or Saturday competitions must play with members and are limited to not more than 15% of available tee-times.
- Visitors playing with or without members can book any available tee time, 48 hours before a respective Wednesday afternoon and/or Saturday

SPECIAL DISPENSATION:

Available to visitors who must book well in advance due to travel or other commitments. Bookings can be made not more than one year in advance.

Only one booking option available: e-mail to bookings@stbgolf.com

Terms and Conditions

- Must pay full amount within 48 hours of booking being confirmed by the Club.
- For Saturdays and/or Wednesday afternoon bookings, the relevant competition fee must also be paid within 48 hours of booking being confirmed by the Club.
- Refunds will only be made if a booking is cancelled more than three weeks in advance, except in the event of the course being closed by the Club.
- Visitors playing in Wednesday afternoon and/or Saturday competitions must play with members and are limited to no more than 15% of available tee-times.
- Subject to above, no more than 15% of available tee-times on any other day can be booked through this special rule.
- Bookings and tee times on corporate days (Thursdays and Fridays) may be cancelled by the Club subject to giving 3-months' notice.
- Bookings and tee-times on special club event days may be cancelled by the Club subject to giving 3-months' notice.

3.1.3 UNDER 30 MEMBERS AND SCHOLARS

The Committee will, from time to time, establish rules and conditions for under-30 and scholar members.

3.2 NO SHOW POLICY

A member or a guest is expected to honour their commitment in respect of booked tee-times. A record will be kept of anyone who fails to report for a competition for which he/she entered. The following procedures and sanctions will apply in respect of "no-shows"

3.2.1 FIRST OFFENCE:

- Management will contact the member to establish why he/she could not honour their commitment. If there is no compelling reason, the defaulter will receive a polite e-mail stipulating the measures and penalties to be implemented in the event of a second or further offence.
- Management has the discretion not proceed should an emergency situation have arisen making it not possible for the member to honour his/her tee-time.

3.2.2 SECOND OFFENCE:

- The offender will be charged 75% of a member's ordinary playing fee payable to the Club on the applicable day (no pre-paid fees or discounts are to be taken into account).
- Should another member have made the booking and such booking caused or contributed to the fact that a member could not honour his/her tee-time, the person who made the booking will be charged 50% of the above playing fee.

3.2.3 FURTHER OFFENCE(S):

- In respect of any further offence within a 12 month period, the offender (whether it be the player or the person making a booking on his behalf) will be charged 100% of a member's ordinary playing fee payable to the Club on the applicable day (no pre-paid fees or other discounts are to be taken into account).

3.2.4 GENERAL:

- The purpose of the penalties described above is not to earn additional revenue but rather to identify those members who are guilty of such behaviour and to encourage them to change their behaviour.
- Should a member fail / refuse to pay the penalty referred to above, the Disciplinary Committee may suspend his/her membership for a period.

3.3 RECOGNITION FOR GOLF ACHIEVEMENTS

The SGC strives for excellence on all levels. To encourage golf to be played on the highest level, recognition will be given to those members who are selected to represent Boland Golf Union and/or South Africa in golf. The following benefits are bestowed on such members:

	CATEGORY	BENEFITS
1.	Members selected by the SAGA, WGSA, Golf RSA, DGSA, BGSA or any other recognised national golf authority to represent South Africa.	Such Member will not pay any annual subscriptions as well as green fees for the year in which he / she is selected to represent South Africa.
2.	Members selected by the Boland Golf Union to represent Boland in a national tournament in which all golf provinces participate in. Said tournaments are limited to the: IPT, under 18 IPT, Mid-Amateur IPT and Seniors IPT.	Such member may elect not to pay their any annual subscription or green fees for the year in which he/she is selected to represent Boland Golf Union.
3.	The Stellenbosch Golf Club's Men's and Ladies Club Champions.	Such member may elect not to pay their annual subscription or green fees for the year in which he/she is the Club Champion.

3.4 MEMBERSHIP OFFER TO INDIVIDUALS FROM PREVIOUSLY DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES (PDI members)

- Individuals from previously disadvantaged communities within the Stellenbosch Municipal area may join Stellenbosch Golf Club at the special subscription fee referred to below.
- Such members will be 5-day members with the rights and privileges associated with 5-day membership at SGC.
- SGC will waive the entrance fee normally applicable to all new members joining SGC.
- An initial annual special subscription fee equal to 55% of the normal annual subscription fee paid by SGC 5-day members will be applicable to PDI members.
- The special subscription fee referred to above will be phased out gradually over a period of 9 years (after which period the PDI members will pay the same annual subscription fee as SGC 5-day members).
- Should any PDI member not be able to afford the special subscription fee (as adjusted from time to time), such member may apply to the SGC Committee for a reduction in their annual subscription fee. Any reduction granted, will be based on the proven annual household income of this member.
- To achieve parity with SGC members over the said 9-year period, the special annual subscription fee payable will escalate at 5% p.a. every year for 9 years, in addition to any annual inflationary escalation payable on the special subscription fee.
- The special subscription fee will only be applicable to SGC 5-day membership. Should any PDI member elect to become a 6-day member or a full member, the full annual subscription fees applicable to 6-day members and full members will be payable.
- PDI members will be handicapped by HNA and will be affiliated to the Boland Golf Union and SAGA. The respective fees for affiliation and handicapping are not included in the annual special subscription fee referred to above.
- Playing fees on Sunday afternoons (after 11:00) for PDI members will be reduced to 75% of the usual playing fees payable by members. This reduction in playing fees on Sunday afternoons will be limited to a maximum of 40 tee-times in a financial year.
- A maximum of 50 PDI members, at any one time, can be accommodated.

3.5 STELLENBOSCH GOLF CLUB CARES FUND

3.5.1 Purpose:

To recognise that Stellenbosch Golf Club (SGC) operates within the broader Stellenbosch community, is partially dependant on goodwill from this community, and is in a position to make a difference in this community; to this end, selectively supporting chosen charity organisations, individuals and/or events.

3.5.2 Funding:

3.5.2.1 The SGCCF will be funded primarily by:

- "Rand-a-Round" donation included in playing fees;
- Specific contributions from the annual "Honourable Gentlemen of Stellenbosch" and "The Mary Queen of Scot's" golf days.

3.5.2.2 Funds may also be raised through selective events proposed by the Marketing Committee and approved by the Committee.

3.5.3 Fund Accounting:

3.5.3.1 All funds raised and expensed the SGCCF must be separately accounted for through the SGC bank account and systems.

3.5.3.2 The income and pay-outs should preferably have a zero-net balance at financial year-end.

3.5.4 Governance:

3.5.4.1 The President of the SGC will act as Patron of this fund. The Men's and Ladies' Captains and the General Manager will constitute its Steering Committee; taking responsibility for driving the initiative and ensuring agreed actions are implemented to realise the purpose of the Fund.

3.5.4.2 The Finance Committee will act as custodian of the funds raised and expensed. The Marketing Committee will be responsible for fund raising proposals and proposals on beneficiaries.

3.5.4.3 The SGC Committee must approve fund raising proposals in aid of SGCCF and proposals on pay-out beneficiaries.