



## CONSTITUTION & RULES OF TEES DEAF GOLF SOCIETY

### 1. TITLE:

- 1.1 The TDGS shall be called "TEES DEAF GOLF SOCIETY" known as TDGS

### 2. OBJECTIVE OF SOCIETY:

- 2.1 The aim of the TDGS shall be to promote and encourage Deaf men and women of any age for and involvement in golfing activities.
- 2.2 For the purposes of advancing involvement in golf among the Deaf Community, the TDGS shall organise competitions and events so that its members can enjoy the sport and raise their knowledge of all matters relating to golf.
- 2.3 The TDGS shall be a non profit making Society.
- 2.4 Membership shall be available as either Full or Affiliated.

### 3. MEMBERSHIP

#### 3.1 FULL

- 3.1.1 Full Membership of TDGS is open to any male or female who are deaf.
- 3.1.2 Parents are responsible for children under 12 years old
- 3.1.3 All renewals of Full Membership shall run from 1<sup>st</sup> January each year to 31<sup>st</sup> December each year.
- 3.1.4 A Full Member is allowed to vote at any AGM.
- 3.1.5 A Full Member will receive all information about TDGS through the media.
- 3.1.6 A Full Member who cancels their membership or has had their membership cancelled as in section 14.3.3.3 is not allowed to have his/her membership fee back.

#### 3.2 AFFILIATED

- 3.2.1 Affiliated Membership of TDGS is open to all deaf male and female, including hearing people, but they are not allowed to play at any TDGS golfing matches.
- 3.2.2 All renewals of Affiliated Membership shall run from 1<sup>st</sup> January year

to 31<sup>st</sup> December each year.

- 3.2.3 An affiliated Member can attend at any AGM and is able to contribute their idea or views but are not allowed to vote at the AGM.
- 3.2.4 An Affiliated Member will receive all information about TDGS through the media same as a Full Member.
- 3.2.5 A Affiliated Member who cancels their membership or has had their membership cancelled as in section 14.3.3.3 are not allowed to have his/her membership fee back

#### 4. MEMBERSHIP FEES

- 4.1 Annual membership fees both for Full & Affiliated members shall be paid in full by 1st January each year and payable to the Treasurer.
- 4.2 The fees shall be agreed at the AGM.
- 4.3 Any member of TDGS not paying his/her Full Membership fee shall not be allowed to play in any TDGS competition or tournament and his/her name will be removed from the list of members.
- 4.4 Any member of TDGS not paying his/her Affiliated Membership fee, his/her name will be removed from the list of members.
- 4.5 Any new members, who wishes to join TDGS as a Full Member after 1<sup>st</sup> January each year, will need to pay a membership fee, payable to the Treasurer before his/her first game with TDGS.

#### 5. COMMITTEE

- 5.1 There will be a Committee elected from the Full members who will manage finances and administration of the TDGS's activities.
- 5.2 Nominations for the Committee can be taken up at AGM.
- 5.3 The Committee can ask up to two other people to become a committee [as co-optees].
- 5.4 Newly appointed committee [either Secretary, Treasurer or Media Officer] will have the support from ex committee officers for up to first three months.

#### 6. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

- 6.1 The Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Co-ordinator and the Media Officer shall be elected at the AGM and shall work for one year.
- 6.2 They shall work as a Committee from the closure of the AGM until the closure of the AGM the following Year.
- 6.3 Each Full member shall elect his/her own Committee person.
- 6.4 Every Full Member shall have one vote if they are aged eighteen or over.
- 6.5 The Committee will stand down each year but will automatically be re-elected if there is no another member has been proposed and seconded or the Committee wishes not to return to the Committee again for a further year.
- 6.6 Additional Committee members may be appointed at an AGM if necessary.

- 6.7 If the Secretary or Treasurer leaves during the year, the new Secretary or Treasurer shall be appointed by the Committee until the closure of the next AGM.
- 6.8 If a few of Committee members should resign at same time or have their membership cancelled as in section 14.3.3.3, such that the total number of Committee members becomes 2 or less, then an EGM shall be called to re-elect a new Committee.
- 6.9 If a Committee member should resign any time before the next AGM, or have their membership cancelled as in section 14.3.3.3, the Committee has the power to co-opt a replacement immediately away from the full membership of the TDGS.
- 6.10 The replacement must be proposed, seconded and elected by a majority vote from the remaining members of the Committee.
- 6.11 The Chairman or acting Chairman to have the casting vote.

## 7. ROLES OF COMMITTEE

- 7.1 All Committee members elected are expected to do their duties as outlined to them.
- 7.2 If, for some reason, they cannot continue to do their duties, they will be asked to retire from the Committee.
- 7.3 President.
  - 7.3.1 The President will be elected at an AGM.
  - 7.3.2 The appointment will be for three years or until such time as the President wishes to resign.
  - 7.3.3 The position is regarded as honorary and is known to reflect and recognised by TDGS as to the efforts by the individual on its behalf.
- 7.4 Chairman.
  - 7.4.1 The Chairman will be responsible for chairing any TDGS meeting and together with the Committee, be responsible for the running of the TDGS in agreement with the Constitution and Rules approved by the Full Members.
  - 7.4.2 If the Chairman cannot attend the meeting, Committee is to pick one member of the Committee to chair the meeting, the Secretary will have the casting vote if required.
- 7.5 Secretary/Handicap Secretary
  - 7.5.1 The Secretary shall take and keep correct minutes of all meetings of the TDGS.
  - 7.5.2 The Secretary shall be responsible for receiving and dealing with all correspondence to do with TDGS business.
  - 7.5.3 The Secretary shall be responsible for the score cards after each competition and to decide whether the handicap should be changed according to section 15 and to check members on club's handicap.
  - 7.5.4 A handicap record file to be kept and updated.

- 7.6 Treasurer
  - 7.6.1 The Treasurer shall receive and pay out all monies due to or by the TDGS, keep a correct record of accounts and financial affairs.
  - 7.6.2 The Treasurer shall present an accurate financial report and statement at the AGM, or at any other time as required by the TDGS.
  - 7.6.3 The Treasurer must have no record of being bankrupt or have a criminal record [financial].
- 7.7 Coordinator
  - 7.7.1 The Co-ordinator shall organise competitions & outings and set standards for competitions (Rulebook).
  - 7.7.2 The Co-ordinator will work with the Captain to arrange a friendly match and venue
- 7.8 Captain
  - 7.8.1 The Captain will be elected at an AGM.
  - 7.8.2 The appointment will be for three years or until such time as the Captain wishes to resign.
  - 7.8.3 The Captain shall be present for the TDGS at different friendly matches.
  - 7.8.4 The Captain shall pick the team for the TDGS Matches.
  - 7.8.5 The Captain shall report full match results to the Secretary and the Media Officer after the match.
- 7.9 Media Officer
  - 7.9.1 The Media Officer shall be responsible for the update of the TDGS website.
  - 7.9.2 The Media Officer shall be responsible for all media to do with TDGS

## 8. REMOVAL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- 8.1 Any Committee member may be removed by a majority vote of the Members present at an EGM.
- 8.2 If any Committee member dies, resigns, or is removed, becomes unfit or is not able to work as a committee member because of illness, bankruptcy or have committed a criminal offence: they shall return all books, documents, money and property of the TDGS to TDGS.

## 9. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- 9.1 The Committee shall meet once a month or as decided by the Committee.
- 9.2 All committee meetings will have a minimum of 3 committees members for the meeting to go ahead.
- 9.3 Minutes shall be kept of all committee meetings
- 9.4 The Chairman shall have a second or casting vote in the result of a tie
- 9.5 Members must behave themselves in a proper manner at all committee meetings
- 9.6 Voting on all motions/proposals shall be by a show of hands.

- 9.7 All motions/proposal, that had been voted, shall not be repeated within next 6 months
- 9.8 The president will not be allowed to vote at the Committee meeting.
- 9.9 Co-optees will not be allowed to vote.

## 10. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 10.1 An Annual General Meeting [known as AGM] shall be held each year before the start of the season [1<sup>st</sup> January] to offer a full report on the TDGS's activities and financial matters and to elect the Committee.
- 10.2 Notice of the AGM shall be posted at least 1 month before the date of AGM.
- 10.3 Agenda, forms and notice of motions shall be available on request from the Secretary.
- 10.4 Notice of Motions - Motions will be accepted up to 3 weeks before the AGM.
- 10.5 The Chairman shall have only a casting vote.
- 10.6 The President shall chair during the election of officers at the AGM until of new officers have been elected.
- 10.7 The Full Members are allowed to vote.
- 10.8 The Affiliated Members are not allowed to vote at the AGM
- 10.9 Voting on all motions shall be by a show of hands.
- 10.10 All motions shall require a majority vote of the Members present at the AGM.
- 10.11 Election of Committee shall be by show of hands, or a secret ballot taken at the AGM.
- 10.12 Those that get most votes are elected.
- 10.13 Each AGM will do the following business:
  - 10.13.1 Welcome/Apologies
  - 10.13.2 Minutes of last AGM
  - 10.13.3 Matters arising
  - 10.13.4 Chairman's Report
  - 10.13.5 Secretary's Report
  - 10.13.6 Treasurer's Report
  - 10.13.7 Media Officer's Report
  - 10.13.8 Motion/Proposal
  - 10.13.9 Election of Officers
    - 10.13.9.1 Chairman
    - 10.13.9.2 Secretary
    - 10.13.9.3 Treasurer
    - 10.13.9.4 Media Officer
    - 10.13.9.5 Coordinator
    - 10.13.9.6 Captain
  - 10.13.10 Presentations
  - 10.13.11 Close of Meeting

## 11. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

- 11.1 An Extraordinary *General Meeting* [known as an EGM] can be called by the Committee or by written demand from two-thirds of the Golf TDGS members.
- 11.2 Fourteen working days notice shall be given to members except in the case of an emergency meeting which can be called by the Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer, maximum available notice shall be given to all members.
- 11.3 Only the business detailed on the notice convening the meeting shall be dealt with at the EGM.

## 12. ACCOUNTS

- 12.1 The Treasurer shall keep full records of all financial transactions and prepare regular reports for the Committee.
- 12.2 Funds shall only be applied for furthering the Objectives of TDGS.
- 12.3 No member shall be able to make any profit and only expenses (e.g. travel) may be claimed which have been incurred during TDGS's business.
- 12.4 A bank account shall be opened in the name of the TDGS.
- 12.5 At least two signatures will be required on all cheques.

## 13. COMPETITION & RULES

- 13.1 The Winter Knock-Out competition will be played through-out the winter months [November - March].
- 13.2 These games will be played to the Medal format.
- 13.3 The members must pay the competition fee before the draw of the competition.
- 13.4 If a member plays in the competition before paying the fee, the member will be automatic disqualified from playing in the competition.
- 13.5 The Stableford League competition will be played through-out the season [March - October].
- 13.6 These games will be played to the Stableford format.
- 13.7 The maximum course fee is to be agreed at the AGM
- 13.8 In the event of a tie for the champion of Stableford League at the end of the last game of the season, the winner will be decided by continuing playing each hole till the golden stroke is achieved.
- 13.9 The Stableford league competition will be played at different golf courses through out the season arranged by the Committee.
- 13.10 If a member can not play on the date as agreed by the Committee, he or she can, if they wish, play the next day or the day before. They must have at least 2 members for the game to go ahead on a different day.
- 13.11 If the date or venue is cancelled because of the weather or is decided by the golf club, a new date or venue will be decided by the Committee.
- 13.12 The Committee has the power to change the venue and can make an executive decision on golfing days.

- 13.13 If a member says that he/she will play the stableford match and does not turn up or withdraws from the stableford match, he/she will pay a fine as agreed at the AGM unless proof of medical certificate is provided to show that they are not able to play on the day given.
- 13.14 A member must pay any fines before playing the next stableford match
- 13.15 A list of venues and start times will be available from the Secretary or the TDGS website.
- 13.16 The use of a golf buggy is allowed in the TDGS competitions except the Open Championship unless a proof of medical certificate is provided for health or mobility reasons.
- 13.17 Any Deaf golfer may play in the TDGS competitions as a non-competitor; the fee for playing will be decided by the Treasurer.
- 13.18 The rules of the game will be as the current publication of the R&A Rules together with any TDGS rules that may be added from time to time.
- 13.19 Any changes from these rules will not be acceptable to the TDGS.
- 13.20 Any member showing no respect for these rules may be disqualified from competitions.
- 13.21 The Committee may also implement the actions in section 14.3.3.1-3.

#### 14. CONDUCT OF MEMBERS

- 14.1 Members of the TDGS will expect to behave appropriately at any golf course.
- 14.2 Dress codes and local rules for the clubs / venues, where played at, will be obeyed at all times.
- 14.3 It is the responsibility of all members of the TDGS to report, in writing or by video, to the Committee about any breaking of both the rules of golf or the constitution
  - 14.3.1 If the Committee's view that a member has behaved badly in the interests of the TDGS or damage to its reputation, the Committee may ask the member to apologise for their behaviour in writing or by video.
  - 14.3.2 This must be received no more than 14 days after asked being for an apology. However, the Committee may decide to apply the action in Section 14.3.3.1-3 below, straight away upon recognition of his/her actions.
  - 14.3.3 If the apology as in Section 14.3.1 is not received within the specified time, the Committee may take such action as the Committee think appropriate which may include one or more of the following:
    - 14.3.3.1 A formal reprimand in writing or video;
    - 14.3.3.2 Suspension from TDGS golf days and competitions for a defined period;
    - 14.3.3.3 Termination or non-renewal of Membership.
  - 14.3.4 The decision of the Committee shall be final.

#### 15. HANDICAPS

**15.1 IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT WHATEVER HANDICAP IS GIVEN TO THE PLAYER FOR THE USE OF TDGS MATCHES, THIS CAN NOT BE USED AS AN OFFICIAL HANDICAP FOR ANY OTHER MATCHES THAT ARE NOT ORGANISED BY TDGS.**

- 15.2 The Handicap Secretary will work out the handicap for each player at the beginning of the season based on the average of the best 3 lowest gross scores from the last 6 games played.
- 15.3 Players who have not played six games will be given a handicap based on the Handicap Secretary's decision.
- 15.4 Each member will be given with their handicap before the start of each TDGS game.
- 15.5 The maximum opening handicap for players without a club handicap will be 38 for men and 48 for women.
- 15.6 A player's Exact Handicap is his handicap calculated to one decimal place.
- 15.7 A player's Playing Handicap is his Exact Handicap calculated to the nearest whole number (0.5 is rounded upwards).
- 15.8 The Handicap Secretary will reject cards without an explanation for the reasons listed in the Rules of the TDGS.
- 15.9 The Handicap Secretary's decision is final.
- 15.10 TDGS Handicaps are based as follow
- 15.10.1 A stableford points = par = 36 points
- 15.10.2 Example: If player gets 37 pts or more, the player will have a handicap deducted by - 0.3 for every points scored over 36. For example. If the player [handicap 38] gets 40 pts, [40 pts - 36 pts = 4 pts OVER x -0.3 = -1.2]. 38.0 handicap - 1.2 = 36.8 (37). The new handicap for the next match will be 37.
- 15.10.3 If player gets 36 pts, the player will have the same handicap for the next match.
- 15.10.4 If player [for those who have a handicap up to 28 only] gets 35 pts or less, the player will have a handicap increased by +0.1 for every points scored under 36. For example. If the player [handicap 24] gets 31 pts, [36 pts - 31 pts = 5 pts UNDER x 0.1 = 0.5]. 24.0 handicap + 0.5 = 24.5 (25). The new handicap for the next match will be 25.
- 15.11 Winter Knock-out Competition, the player's handicap will be reduced by 7/8.

## 16. FUNDRAISING

- 16.1 The Committee, where suitable, may be involved in various fund raising events.
- 16.2 The Committee themselves will take full responsibility for all fund raising activities within the TDGS.

## 17. SAFE KEEPING OF THE TROPHIES

- 17.1 Presentation of the trophies won throughout the year will follow after the last TDGS match of the season.
- 17.2 Winners/running ups will be responsible for looking after the trophies won in TDGS competitions/Open Championship and must pay for any damage or loss.
- 17.3 Winners/runner ups must sign the responsibility form before taking the trophy away.
- 17.4 Any member failing to return a trophy at the next presentation shall not take a trophy if he/she won the competitive again until the trophy is returned.

## 18. CONSTITUTION & RULES

- 18.1 Members shall be allowed to receive an up-to-date copy of these Constitution and Rules from the Secretary when asked.
- 18.2 Any changes to the constitution or rules will need a majority vote of all Full Membership of TDGS to vote in favour of that change at AGM or EGM.

## 19. DISSOLUTION

- 19.1 If TDGS had to close down at any time, it could only be agreed at an EGM.
- 19.2 The Treasurer will prepare a Final Statement of accounts.
- 19.3 The properties and monies of the TDGS shall be stopped from being used and an agreement on their future will be made by the Committee and Full Membership of TDGS.
- 19.4 If the TDGS is not set up again within the next five years, all properties are to be released and all monies shall be given or transferred to another Deaf golf society or association having Objectives similar to that of the TDGS.

Approved by the members at the AGM on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2010  
Last edited 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2010