## **CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY**

DRUIDS HEATH GOLF CLUB LTD

**RULE 1 of the Rules of Golf** apply to all players whilst at Druids Heath Golf Course. See player's edition pages 18-19

### **Standards of Conduct:**

- Safety is paramount
- Act with integrity
- Show consideration to others
- Take good care of the course

### Safety:

- Ensure no one is standing close by or in a position to be hit by the club, the ball or any stones, pebbles, twigs or the like when you make a stroke or practice swing.
- Ensure players in front are out of range before hitting your ball, particularly important in 'ready golf'.
- Be alert to the whereabouts of green staff & Marshall's on the course. Do not make a stroke which may endanger them.
- Where there is any possibility of a ball, or other object hitting an individual a warning shout must immediately be given. Traditionally by shouting 'FORE'.
- Do not carry out any action which may put others or self at risk of injury, either physically or mentally.
- Ensure all buggies/personal motorised golf vehicles are driven carefully, at recommended speeds and advised route for the course conditions. When unattended ensure the vehicle is switched off and brake(s) applied.
- Where the course has a boundary with private property/land players MUST NOT venture on to that property/land.
- If the left hand bunker on the 1st hole is not visible from the blue tees then players MUST NOT tee-off.

# Act with integrity:

- It is a player's responsibility to know the appropriate penalties and when to apply such.
- If prompted/alerted by a fellow player that a breach of a rule has occurred or a penalty needs to be taken, if agreed, the penalty must be taken/recorded in accordance with the rules. If disputed then players should first refer to the rule book, referee or committee member if available. If not available then mark the score card accordingly and seek a decision from the committee/nominated person on return to the club house and before submitting your card.
- Players must play a round in the order stated for the specific competition. A round played in the wrong order will incur penalties.
- Players are responsible for keeping an accurate record of their score, flagrant misuse/abuse of scoring will not be tolerated. Suspected deliberate misuse should be reported to the committee. Players should give an account of their score any where on the course when requested.
- We operate a ready golf/prompt pace of play approach as detailed in our 'Pace of Play Policy', for which there are penalties if breached. See Pace of Play Policy.
- Player's are responsible for the correct completion and timely handing in of their score cards.

#### Show consideration to others:

- Always show consideration for other players on the course and do not disturb their play by moving, talking or making unnecessary noise or distracting actions.
- Ensure any electronic devices do not distract other players.
- On the teeing area DO NOT tee your ball until it is your turn to play.
- Players must not interfere with or hinder another player's line of play by either standing too close or directly behind the ball, or the hole, when a player is about to play. On the green a player must also not cast a shadow over another player's putting line.
- Use of vulgar/offensive language, verbal and/or physical aggression will not be tolerated and is regarded as an act of serious misconduct.

### Take good care of the course:

- Bags, carts and trolleys are not allowed on the putting greens.
- Players should carefully replace divots and repair any divot holes you make, or see, in the general area of the course.
- Divot repair bags are usually available on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> tees. Players are encouraged to take at least one bag to use for repairing divots.
- Repair pitch marks on the putting green and any damage made by the impact of ANY ball, even if it is not your own. Before players leave the putting green, also repair all damage caused by shoes.
- Ensure no damage is done to the putting green when laying down the flag stick. Properly replace the flag stick before leaving the hole.
- Players should avoid causing damage to the course by removing divots when taking practice swings or by hitting the head of a club, or any other implement, into the ground, whether in anger or for any other reason.
- The club buggy policy and any additional notices in relation to buggies/personal golf carts must be strictly adhered to.
- When notices stipulate NO trolleys this must be strictly adhered to.

All players are required to follow the Club's dress code as detailed in Druids Heath Golf Club Ltd Rules booklet.

#### BREACHES OF THIS POLICY WILL LEAD TO THE PENALTIES/SANCTIONS GIVEN BELOW.

Initially the person breaching a rule(s) will be interviewed by the handicap/competition sub committee where penalties/sanctions will be decided on, relevant to the degree of the seriousness and frequency of the breach/offence.

If a member(s) continue(s) to disregard the Club's Code of Conduct, the Director of Handicap & Competitions will, if it is thought appropriate, inform the Executive Board. They will consider the alleged breach of conduct and may decide to instruct the Secretary to organise a meeting of the Disciplinary Panel as detailed in 'Paragraph 12.4 Discipline Procedures' of the Articles of Association. The Panel will determine the case before it and decide what action is appropriate. Any act considered by the handicap/competition sub committee to be one of serious misconduct will be referred directly to the Executive Board.