

Withington Golf Club Juniors



Mission Statement

Enjoy golf in a safe and friendly environment
Build confidence and increase self esteem
Participate fully in the activities of the Golf Club.

243 Palatine Road, West Didsbury
Manchester M20 2UE

Tel. 0161 445 9544

www.withingtongolfclub.co.uk

Welcome to Withington Golf Club

Dear Junior Member

A very warm welcome to Withington Golf Club

This booklet has been prepared to help junior golfers, especially those new to golf, to join in the many activities arranged for young members at Withington Golf Club.

It is only a guide, but read it carefully and if you have any further questions or you are unsure what to do next, please contact me or any member of the junior committee.

Best wishes, I hope you enjoy being a member of Withington Golf Club and achieve the level of golf that you hope for!

Paul Higgins

Junior Organiser

Withington Junior Committee

Junior Committee 2012 – 2013 Season			
Paul Higgins	Junior Organiser	(h) 0161 973 8849 (m) 07766 603811	paulwgc@hotmail.com
Jake Eyre	Junior Captain	(h) 01925 758463 (m) 07854 122485	brian@pslprint.com
Brian Eyre	Committee Member	(h) 01925 758463 (m) 07889 352404	brian@pslprint.com
Gary Unsworth	Committee Member	(h) 0161 282 9877 (m) 07802 555144	gary.unsworth2@ntlworld.com

Playing the Course

No junior is allowed to play on the course on their **own**. This is for your own safety.

There are no specific tee times for juniors and the computer booking system is the principal method of organising a tee off time.

Juniors must tee-off from the first tee. A tee time must be booked or a start time agreed with the professional. Please ensure no one is waiting who has already booked.

The appropriate golf wear and shoes must be worn at all times. An umbrella and waterproof trousers should be carried in the bag at all times.

A mobile phone may be carried, for safety reasons, whilst on the course. Please do not allow this device to become a nuisance for other club playing members. It should only be used in an emergency and always be set to silent.

All juniors must be aware of personal safety playing on the course. If anything untoward happens (to you or a playing partner) call the professional shop 0161 445 4861 or report the matter to the nearest golfer. Tell them exactly what has happened and ask that they contact the professional shop immediately. (Nothing has ever happened to any junior member at this club whilst on the course, but it is important to be aware of the above recommendations).

If golfers in front have created more than a one-hole gap and the golfers behind are waiting, call them through and stand safely to one side of the fairway.

If following golfers are in an official club competition, they have priority; stand safely to one side and let them through.

Keep track of the direction of any golf ball and should it be heading towards another golfer, shout 'FORE' loudly in their direction. Should a ball enter a private property i.e. at the 2nd, do not retrieve it. The club has an accidental damage insurance policy and no member will be liable (membership fee paid).

All ponds and ditches are potentially dangerous, do not attempt to retrieve your ball from the water.....it is just not worth the risk.

Behaviour on the course should be exemplary. There are many members on the course who are likely to report any inappropriate behaviour.

On completion of the round, always shake hands with other players. Then at a safe distance away from the final green check the scorecards and agree the scores before signing the cards. The most important things to check to avoid disqualification are gross score for each hole and that the card is signed by both player and marker. The card should be dated and the name of any competition added.

Be very careful in the Car Park and when crossing over to the putting green.

On the Course

Please dress appropriately. Jeans and Tee Shirts are not permitted. Training shoes may be worn by younger members (under 14); however, golf shoes are more appropriate and will help keep feet dry and steady during the golf swing.

Bunkers

Please remember to rake the sand after playing a shot from the bunker. The rake should be left on the stand in the bunker.

Pitch Marks

Please make every effort to repair your own and all other pitch marks on the greens. An unrepaired pitch mark takes several weeks to mend, but one that is repaired immediately is unnoticeable after a few days.

Repairing a pitch mark takes a few seconds. Make the time!

Staked Trees

Relief must be taken from all staked trees if such a tree interferes with a player's stance or intended swing. (Rule 24-2b(i)).

Plantations of saplings marked by white posts or a white line are deemed to be "Ground Under Repair" from which relief must be taken (Rule 25-1).

Casual Water

Relief may be taken from casual water, without penalty, when it interferes with play on the fairways or greens. The ball should be dropped or placed (only if on the green) at the nearest point of relief, not nearer the hole. The water should not interfere with either your stance or ball position, and on the green, you are not expected to putt through a puddle.

In a bunker, relief may be taken, without penalty by dropping the ball at the nearest point of relief **within the bunker**, not nearer to the hole.

Winter Rules

Usually winter rules mean that when your ball lands in a closely mown area, it may be marked, lifted, cleaned and replaced within six inches of the marker, but not nearer the hole.

When directed, mats should be used in these conditions when playing from the fairway. Notification of this will be displayed and should be adhered to for the protection of the course. An alternative option is to drop your ball in the rough. Mats are obtained from the Professional shop, initially free of charge.

Information will also be displayed where specific holes may be closed due to bad weather or repair work

On the Course

Do not be guilty of slow play!

Arrive in good time for your tee time.

Be ready on the first tee, with ball on tee peg and club in hand.

Don't leave trolleys in the way of those waiting behind you.

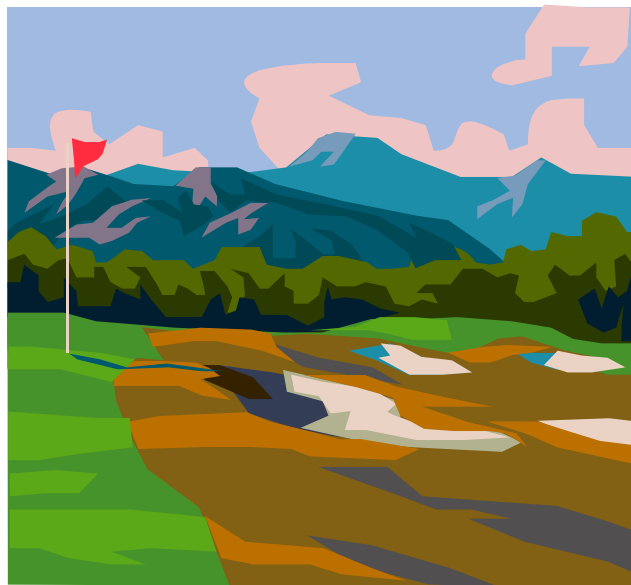
Think where you are going next. Keep up with the group of players ahead of you, to lose a full hole is an indication that you are playing slowly.

Lost ball? Help each other to find balls, keep an eye on each others shots.

In a Stableford competition if you cannot score, pick up your ball and play no more. This means move on to the next hole rather than hold up the players behind you.

If you are unavoidably delayed allow the group playing behind you to play through.

We do not encourage parents to follow golf matches on the course and it is preferred that non players or supervisors remain on the viewing areas in front of the professional shop.



Obtaining a Handicap

To obtain a Club handicap, it is necessary for you to submit three scorecards.

The cards must be marked by an eligible marker i.e. a person approved by the Junior Handicap Committee.

Ideally the card should be for the full 18 holes however juniors may submit cards with a minimum of 6 holes completed. Cards submitted when some temporary tees or greens may be in use, will still be accepted, however please mark the card accordingly to indicate a shorten course.

Cards should show the gross score (actual number of shots taken, including penalty strokes) for each hole. Each card should be signed by both player and marker, dated, headed 'For Handicap Purposes' and highlighted card no1, card no.2 or card no.3 as appropriate.

Completed cards should be handed to a Junior Committee member or handed in at the Professional Shop or placed in the white box situated in the Centenary Lounge.

Generally, a handicap is allocated equivalent to the difference between the lowest gross score and the standard scratch, up to a maximum of 45.

Lowest Gross	103
Standard Scratch	73
Difference	30
Handicap	30 (at the discretion of the handicap Committee)

Or

Lowest Gross	120
Standard Scratch	73
Difference	47
Handicap	45

Junior playing in Junior Medal Competitions from the white tees will be assessed for a CONGU handicap.

Competitions

Competitions are open to all Withington Golf Club Junior Members.

To participate an individual will need to hold a current handicap.
All competition tee times may be booked via the club website
(www.withingtongolfclub.co.uk)

Regularly check the Junior Noticeboard and your e-mails. Events will be highlighted in advance and the calendar for this year is already confirmed.

If you do not have access to the internet a terminal is available in the clubhouse lounge or times may be reserved via the professionals shop.

If you are still having problems accessing the web site, please let a member of the Junior Committee know of your intention to play or that you have to withdraw.

If you have signed up for a competition but at a later date have to withdraw, please notify your playing partners.

At the discretion of the Junior Committee there may be a small participation fee in relation to Medal Competitions to cover prizes and administrative costs.
Typically White and Yellow tee competitions £1, Blue tee competitions £0.50p.

We will run a three-tier competition system; scratch to 28 handicap juniors can enter the main "white tee" competition. 29-45 handicap juniors will have a separate competition playable from the yellow tees over at least 9 holes. Our youngest players will have the opportunity to play on our 6 short hole course in a non-competitive supervised event.

External competitions are open to youngsters with an official club handicap. Details of invitations can be found to the right of the trophy cabinet in the main lounge. Please do not take the one and only application form away with you as other may wish participate.

Junior players with CONGU handicaps are permitted to play in the Saturday Gentlemen Competitions providing they are permitted to do so by the Junior Organiser or Junior Committee.

A junior player may only sign the availability sheet on the day before the competition and may only play if there is a vacant space available. All entries must be via the computerised booking screen and a junior will be liable for the appropriate competition fee payable in the pro shop prior to playing.
Any queries on this should be discussed with Junior Organiser.

Playing for the Team

If selected to play for the team you will be an ambassador for our club, so please observe and act on the important points below. These rules apply for both home and away venues.

Be at the clubhouse at the requested meet time. If there is a problem contact the person in charge of the team or the Junior Captain or leave a message in the professional shop.

Ensure parents/carers are aware of arrangements regarding the event.

Remember to wear the requested team shirt. On occasions there will be a meal after the match and players are expected to change in to appropriate clothing.

Observe the rules of any venues visited, while playing on the course and in the clubhouse.

Should there be a dispute on the course, remain calm but continue the round and seek guidance from the event organiser on completion. Play two balls if necessary.

On completion of your round, put your clubs in a safe place.

Remember to collect all your belongings.

Notify the Team Manager or any accompanying Junior Committee member if you are leaving, i.e. when collected by a parent.

Inform the Junior Team Manager or a Junior Committee Member if you feel unwell immediately.

Selection for the team will generally be based on current playing handicap and performance in white tee medal competitions.

In the Clubhouse

It is expected that juniors will behave correctly and show respect to all other members and staff

The Clubhouse dress code is relaxed but must be observed. Soiled or wet golf wear, golf shoes must not be worn.

The purchase or consumption of alcohol is not allowed if you are less than eighteen years of age.

Members can obtain a discount on drinks bought at the bar using the club membership card. There is no discount on food; however for convenience the membership card can be used. Transactions will only be authorised up to the balance on the card. To top up the card at any time tender to money you wish to add at the bar.

A smoking ban exists in the clubhouse.

Mobile phones are permitted but should be used discreetly

The changing rooms must be used for that purpose; juniors must not loiter in that area for any other reason.

Never leave golf equipment unattended, whether at this club or at a visiting club.

Never leave valuables or money in a golf bag. Report any suspicious behaviour around the clubhouse or in the locker room to a member of staff.

The Snooker Room is out of bounds to junior members aged 14 and under without the full supervision of an adult. Over 14 may play, however they are to have an existing competency and knowledge of the game.

Parents are very welcome to use the club house and the bar area. It is appropriate to sign the visitors book which the bar staff will make available.

Points of Note

Fair Play

We have adopted the European Code of Sports Ethics, which means that golf at Withington Golf Club is played in a spirit of fair play

"Much more than playing within the rules, fair play incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always playing within the right spirit. Fair play is defined as a way of thinking, not just a way of behaving. It incorporates issues concerned with the elimination of cheating, gamesmanship, doping, violence (both physical and verbal) exploitation, unequal opportunities, excessive commercialism and corruption".

Bullying

We aim to have a bully-free junior section at Withington Golf Club. Juniors must report any incidents of physical or verbal bullying to a Withington Golf Club Junior Committee member their parent or whoever they feel comfortable talking to.

Coaching and Etiquette

We offer a 10 week coaching course for younger members which includes etiquette lessons (basic rules and how to behave). This will be under the guidance of our resident PGA professional Steve Marr. There may be a small fee.

Insurance

Withington Golf Club has an insurance policy in force for all members whilst playing on the course. This covers a golfer for third party claims for damage to property. Please ensure that you have adequate cover for anything outside of club liability i.e. for loss of clubs or equipment.

Swipe Cards

After joining the club and paying the appropriate fees, you will be presented with a swipe card. This will enable you to buy food and drink at discounted prices. You simply present the card to the bar or catering staff with a sum of money, which will be registered on the card. When purchasing food or drink, present the card and you will be issued with a receipt that will tell you how much is left on the card. There is a menu in the clubhouse specifically for juniors.

County Recognition

Regular reports and updates are sent to the Cheshire Golf in respect of promising juniors golfers. Please ensure that you inform the junior organiser if you receive an invitation to attend a county coaching session.

Medical Records

To conform to EGU/ELGA guidelines a ‘‘Player Profile Form’’ must be completed in respect of all juniors.

General Information

The club secretary and the team in the professional shop are on hand during the day and will give advice where necessary. Make yourself known to these people at the appropriate time.

Club Secretary Patrick Keane (tel. 0161 445 9544 x 5)

Club Professional Steve Marr (tel. 0161 445 9544 x 2)

Assistant Professional Andy Parrington

Please carry your membership card with you at all times when you are playing or visiting the course.

Junior Code of Conduct Form

All juniors and parents must sign and return a Junior Code of Contact Form

The code of conduct has been written to ensure that all juniors know the standards of behaviour expected of them when in the clubhouse, playing golf, attending coaching courses or whilst representing Withington Golf Club.

Presentation Evening

It is our intention to organise a presentation evening towards the end of the summer usually a Sunday in September in order to:-

Recognise the achievement of our young players.

Review the season

Select a Junior Committee for the following term.

Everyone will be welcome to attend and we encourage full participation.

Mr Captain, Lady Captain and Junior Captain

Junior members should show courtesy to the Club President, Club Captain and Lady Captain with the appropriate form of address "Mr President ", "Mr Captain" and ""Lady Captain" respectively.

If while on the course they catch you up, it is expected that you will offer to let them through.

The Junior Captain need not be addressed as such but it is important that you recognise and respect his position and offer your help when asked.

Captain – Bob Bolton

Lady Captain – Helen Card

President – Shay Daly

Junior Captain – Kieran Bullock

Notes