



## **PROBATIONARY MEMBER CATEGORY**

### **DEFINITION:**

The Probationary Member (hereafter called Probationer) shall be any person who has been positively assessed by one of the Club's professionals. This can be achieved either by completing the New to Golf Pro Package or undertaking a 5 hole assessment. Once the Probationer has reached an appropriate level of playing ability, they will be expected to attain a handicap index and to achieve this within the original three month membership period. Then the Probationer will be invited to attend an interview with a view to formally join Thorpe Hall Golf Club.

### **PRECONDITIONS:**

The candidate should complete an application form signed by a Proposer and Secunder (if possible) and will be invited to attend an interview with the Men's/Ladies Committee in order to assess the suitability of the candidate to become a Probationary Member.

The candidate will have been assessed by one of the Club's professional staff.

The Captain, Vice-Captain or Committee member will also play 9 holes with the candidate during the Probationary membership.

The Probationer will abide by the Club's rules and course etiquette which includes the practice areas.

### **PERIOD OF MEMBERSHIP:**

The Probationer shall be given three months to achieve a handicap index. For the Ladies: 45.9. For the Men: 31.9

Exceptionally, an extension of up to a further three months may be granted at the discretion of the Section Committees.

### **FINANCIAL CONDITIONS:**

The three month Probationary term will commence on receipt of the full Probationer subscription and hospitality levy payment (if applicable). Social Membership is also included. A share certificate from Thorpe Hall Golf Club Ltd will be issued to the Probationer once they have been accepted as a playing member and have attained a handicap index.

### **ACCESS TO CLUBHOUSE FACILITIES:**

The Probationer will have unrestricted use of the clubhouse and access to all social activities of the club. They are also permitted to bring guests to the clubhouse. However, Probationers are not permitted to bring guests or visitors to play or practice on the golf course.

#### **ACCESS TO PRACTICE FACILITIES:**

**Summer (April to October inclusive):** Probationers may practice unaccompanied from 12 noon on the putting green and the Practice area next to the 8<sup>th</sup> hole.

**Winter (November to March inclusive):** One hour earlier than shown above.

#### **ACCESS TO PLAYING FACILITIES:**

Providing the club professional's criteria has been met, the Probationer will be entitled to play unaccompanied.

Probationary Members are encouraged to play together providing they have both been assessed by one of the club professionals. They are subject to the following playing hours and times:

#### **Weekdays and Bank Holidays:**

**Summer (April to October inclusive):** From 14:00.

**Winter (November to March inclusive):** From 13:00.

It is important that the Probationer is aware of any **course restrictions** and **tee closures** displayed on the Club's car park notice board or online via ClubV1. Every effort should be made to avoid times when the course is fully occupied by playing members. Priority on the course and practice area must be given to playing members and the Club's professional staff.

#### **Upgrade to Playing Membership**

A Probationer must complete three cards (**3 x 18 holes, 6 x 9 holes, or a mixture of both**) and must be signed by a member or one of the Club professionals. A handicap index will then be assigned by Section Committee.

Once the three month probationary period of membership has been successfully completed, the Probationer will be able to formally apply to become a "playing member". In exceptional circumstances, a Probationer may request an extension to the Section Committees for a further 3 month period. If approved, an additional three month payment is required.

The membership playing categories of the Club are 5 day, 7 day restricted, or 7 day. However should there be a Waiting List for all categories, then the Probationer is able to join the Waiting List and membership will be offered as soon as vacancies arise.

Once a Probationer is upgraded to a playing member they will be able to enter competitions and play earlier than the above tee times apply.

An applicable Joining Fee is payable once an upgrade to playing membership applies.