



Visitor Information

www.newforestgolfclub.co.uk

Issue 1 June 2009

'INTRODUCTION'

We offer a warm and friendly welcome to all visitors to the New Forest Golf Club, whether you are here to play golf or just to look around and use the facilities of our clubhouse. Playing golf at our club offers a unique opportunity to experience a natural forest course set in idyllic and beautiful forest heathland portraying the typical tranquil ambience of the New Forest. We are confident that you will enjoy such an experience and would be most pleased to see you here again as a visitor or more permanently as one of our members. Details of our facilities and the course can be obtained from some of the other literature within the clubhouse or from our comprehensive website. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact a member of staff.

'CLUB HISTORY'

New Forest Golf Club began its history in the latter part of 1888, when a meeting of residents in and around Lyndhurst was called to try to obtain the permission of the 'Commissioners of Woods and Forests' for the right to play golf on the open heath. The annual subscription was half a guinea and the headquarters was Classhayes, which is now the Lyndhurst Park Hotel. Eight holes were built on the 'Bench' and ten holes within the Old Lyndhurst racecourse. Permission was granted for this and also to cut holes three inches deep and to roll the ground for a distance of five yards around each hole. Following this, another meeting was called and it was unanimously decided to form a club, to be called the New Forest Golf Club. After the First World War, permission was withdrawn to use the 'Bench' side and so the course was concentrated within the 'racecourse'. The nine hole course prospered until the Second World War, when, in 1939, the army pitched the largest camp ever sited in the forest and the course became a training ground for tanks. The long climb back to recovery started again for the Club after the war. Compensation for damage was claimed, but by the time it was paid, it proved just enough to build one green – the present 5th – and apart from one short spell when the Club broke even the going was tough, until in 1959, heavily in debt, the Club was about to close when Peter Swann a professional golfer, fell in love with the Forest and decided to purchase the club. He eventually paid off the Clubs debts and, armed with just a spade, set about re-building the course, while his wife, Gladys looked after the 'shed' that was the Clubhouse, where the 11th green now stands. As Brian Huggett MBE wrote: 'it is always nice to relate success stories and when they are about a fellow professional, then it is even more of a pleasure. Today, there is a fine testing 18-hole golf course, a more recent Clubhouse with all amenities, a healthy membership and a most popular venue for visitors. As Peter Alliss wrote, "If you want to become involved in one of the really nice things in golf, go along to the New Forest Golf club and have a game; in these days of high powered chrome fronted clubhouses, it is nice to get among the real people in golf". The Course is laid out in a typical stretch of the New Forest, on high but flat ground near the village of Lyndhurst and is enclosed on three sides by forest. The Club has an unrivalled reputation for friendship, social activities and golf competitions and is unique in its Sunday morning competition. Every Sunday morning at eight, members report to the Club and using numerous starting tees, play a competition. At 1.15pm they are in the Clubhouse, winners being presented with their trophies by the Club Captain. What an atmosphere is created – no wonder the place is so popular and the members lucky enough to get their names on the starting sheet, the envy of other golfers. In 1996 Ross MacDonald purchased the Club. Ross, a keen golfer himself and with a sincere passion for the New Forest environment achieved his aim to provide enjoyable and affordable golf for all. In May 2004 the Club was purchased by the members and, with their backing and energy and enthusiasm, they are looking to take the club forward, whilst still keeping up the traditions of this great old club. Since acquiring the club the members have invested significantly in the course and clubhouse making improvements to benefit both members and visitors.



'DRESS CODE'

On-Course Dress Code - What is acceptable

- all golf clothing and footwear, produced specifically for the purpose of playing golf
- smart tailored trousers with integral or external pockets
- smart tailored shorts of any length, with integral or external pockets
- ankle or knee length socks
- non-golf shirts with collar and sleeves
- headwear worn as it is designed to be worn
- mobile phones must be in silent ringing mode, used only in emergency and with consent of their playing partners

On-Course Dress Code - What is NOT acceptable

- vests, blue denim clothing, track-suits, football and rugby shirts and shorts, and beach-wear
- trainers
- golf shoes without socks
- non-golf shirts without collar and/or sleeves (applies to men only)
- mobile phones being used other than as described above

Dress Code in the Clubhouse - What is acceptable

- smart casual and formal wear
- clean smart footwear, with or without socks
- mobile phones must be in silent ringing mode and used only in the changing rooms

Dress Code in the Clubhouse - What is NOT acceptable

- golf shoes worn on the course
- not wearing any footwear or wearing flip flops
- vests, blue denim clothing, track-suits, football and rugby shirts and shorts, and beach-wear
- soiled clothing of any description
- hats of any description
- mobile phones used in the bar, lounge or restaurant

'LOCAL COURSE RULES'

- all players are requested to respect the rights of the general public to walk across the course
- preferred lies, within 6 inches, are in play at all times in or within the encompassed area of the fairway line of the hole being played, Rule 33.8 Appendix 1; the position of the shot must not be improved, Rule 13.2
- relief may be taken for a ball lying in or affected by animal damage or droppings 'through the green' including in bunkers and on the greens but excluding water hazards, Rule 25.1
- stones in bunkers may be removed without penalty
- immovable obstructions are fairway lines, fencing, direction posts, water hydrants and sprinklers, man made paths and roads; relief may be taken as per Rule 24.2
- out of bounds are marked by white stakes left of fairway on 1st and 3rd fairways, right of fairway on 10th and 12th holes, beyond 3rd, 9th, 10th and 11th greens, inside clubhouse perimeter fence, the car park and greenkeepers' enclosure
- water hazards are marked with yellow stakes and lateral water hazards with red stakes; hazards extend vertically and where applicable include sections of bridges; care should be taken in water hazards as they can become very wet and boggy
- a ball lying in stone filled ditches not designated as hazards; relief may be taken as per Rule 25.1

'ETIQUETTE AND RESPECT

FOR THE COURSE AND COUNTRYSIDE'

Please enjoy your time with us and the unique course which is set in an area of outstanding natural beauty but remember that conservation and safeguarding of the wildlife and surrounding countryside is an absolute priority. Members and visitors are requested to respect this area of the New Forest National Park and preserve the special feel of the long established course.

To help, will you please:

- ◆ use bio degradable tees where possible and place broken tees in the provided receptacles
- ◆ replace and press down all divots and repair pitch marks on greens
- ◆ avoid slow play
- ◆ observe any trolley restrictions and do not take trolleys or bags onto tee boxes or greens
- ◆ do not play until players in front of you are out of range - **YOU HAVE A DUTY OF CARE**
- ◆ in the event of adverse weather and the sounding of a horn, mark your ball and return to the clubhouse

'PACE OF PLAY'

To help ensure all golfers enjoy their round our Course Marshal will be helping with the 'Pace of Play' during busy periods.

The following guidelines will help achieve this.

- be aware of your position with regard to the group in front
- it is your groups responsibility to keep up with the group in front
- do not concern yourself with the group behind; the fact that you are not holding them up is irrelevant
- if you feel that your group is falling behind, advise the other players in your group
- if your group is behind, try to catch up quickly
- if you fall behind by a clear hole and are delaying the group behind, or if there is no group in front of you and you are delaying the group behind, invite the group behind to play through
- do not wait until it is your turn to play before putting on your glove, calculating yardage or selecting your club
- look at your own line of putt while others in the group look at theirs (within the bounds of etiquette)
- at the green, position your bags so as to allow quick movement off the green to the next tee
- move off the green as soon as all players in your group have holed out; mark score cards at or on the way to the next tee
- play a provisional ball if your ball may be lost or out of bounds

Guide timings for your round

| | Total time for holes 1 to 10 | Total time for holes 11 to 18 | Total time for 18 holes |
|--------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2 ball | 2hrs 5 mins | 1 hr 10 mins | 3hrs 15 mins |
| 3 Ball | 2hrs 15 mins | 1hr 20 mins | 3hrs 35 mins |
| 4 Ball | 2hrs 25 mins | 1 hr 30 mins | 3hrs 55 mins |

'THANK YOU FOR VISITING US'

A 'What do you think' card is available from the rack in the clubhouse for you to let us know your thoughts, feelings and suggestions for improvements. This helps us in our continuous aim to meet your needs and expectations.