



Wrekin Golf Club – Member information notes



Wrekin Golf Club members are proud to be part of the friendliest Golf Club around, and will go out of their way to help you get maximum pleasure from your membership. This note is intended to be a simple guide for new and existing members to help them join in with the life of the club.

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1. Timetable for new members joining

When a completed application form is received it is displayed on the club notice board for seven days. The Secretary will then contact the candidate and their proposer and seconder to invite them to come for an interview with the Captain and Secretary. If a potential member does not know members of the club the Secretary will arrange for a proposer and seconder. The main aim of the interview is to welcome potential new members and to help them understand how they can make best use of the club. On payment of the annual subscription and any joining fee in force, either in instalments or as a lump sum, they will become members of the club.

2. Membership card

When you join the club you will be given a membership card that operates the entry devices on the front and back door. If you notice the door is on the snip, i.e. the entry device is disengaged, please take the snip off. The membership card also entitles members to a 15% discount on drinks and crisps etc. at the bar; as we price our drinks cheaper than local public houses (even without the discount) drinks are a bargain. Please check your receipt, if the total isn't negative you have spent all the money on the card and if it isn't topped up at the bar before the end of the day you need to ask the Secretary to top it up.

3. Opening hours

Bar opening hours and times when hot food is available are publicised on the bar. If you want to eat when food is not available, e.g. you are planning on returning to the club house after golf when food serving has finished you can ask the bar staff to arrange for sandwiches to be put aside for you. There is normally no catering in the club on Mondays.

4. Catering

Catering is managed as a service to members. Members are encouraged to book meals or private parties (e.g. for a birthday or anniversary) with other club members or guests. To help the club to plan please complete a request form and return it to the Secretary with as much notice as possible (to enable any conflict with other events to be managed). Guests to the club (not playing golf) should be 'signed in' in the book at the top of the stairs

5. Social events

Social events are publicised in the fixture book and on the social notice board at the top of the stairs. Recent events have included Irish Night; St. George's Day; Wrekin Rocks; Bonfire Night; Carols Evening; Wrekin's Got Talent; Indoor Putting; and monthly Quizzes during the winter. Most people feel that they are great value for money and they are very popular so keep an eye out and if you are interested get your name down. You can reserve all the places on a table or book for one or two. The organisers will do their best to make sure that tables are well balanced.

6. Dress Code

On the Course – men should wear golf shoes, long trousers or tailored shorts and a shirt with a collar tucked into trousers.

Ladies may also wear shirts or skirt / shorts and do not need to tuck their shirts in.



For Social events, dinners and prize giving – unless the notice advertising the event says differently men must wear a jacket and tie.

Blue denim jeans, combat trousers and trainers are not appropriate at any time.

7. Start sheet

We only have a start sheet for competitions, and even then we have a “dead time”, usually 11:30 until 14:00, when anyone can play either in the competition or a friendly game. Only those playing in a competition with their names on the start sheet have priority on the course.

8. Tee reservations

There is a board outside the door leading to the course and this shows when the tee is reserved, for example for competitions, matches and visiting parties. Those known when the fixture book went to press are shown on it; a more up to date calendar is available on the club website www.wrekingolfclub.co.uk under the “club” tab.

9. Competitions

The fixture book shows the competitions that have been planned for the year. There are competitions on some Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays. The majority are in the main golf season from April until September although there are competitions throughout the year.

For men’s competitions there are start sheets in the corridor between the front and back door where if you wish to play enter your name. If something happens and you can’t play please cross out your name and if your playing partner doesn’t have someone to play with let them know or notify the Professional. On the day of the competition sign-in with the Professional who will give you a card and invite you to join the twos (those who score a two or less on one of the two nominated holes share the proceeds as balls). When you have completed the round both you and your marker sign the card and you then enter the score on each hole on the computer in the spike bar (on the first floor). NB You can use your membership card to locate your details on the computer.

10. Handicaps

If you have a handicap from your old club please tell the Professional and it will be transferred. If you haven't got a current handicap you need to submit three cards to the professional. Before each round please tell the Professional that the card is to get a handicap. Then after playing have the card signed by your playing partner (who must have a handicap) and give it to the professional. NB the same person can't sign all three cards.

11. Reciprocal agreements to play at other clubs

The club has reciprocal agreements with Bridgnorth, Church Stretton, Kington, and Ludlow Golf Clubs and is seeking to extend the list. Wrekin full members play golf at each of these clubs for the same fee as a member's guest, typically £15 a round. To arrange to play contact the Professional at the club you plan to visit.

12. Friendly matches

We play friendly matches with most of the local clubs and everyone is invited to play, just put your name on the sheet posted in the corridor. The match organisers for 2011 are Roger Hogben for the Men, Sally Goulds for the Ladies, Derek Taylor for the Men's Seniors and Andy Patterson and Jane Curel for the mixed matches and they will be happy to answer any questions. If you play in the matches you only pay for the meal (no green fees).

13. Fiddles

Probably because we don't have start sheets except for competitions the men have fiddles. These are when groups of members (and possibly green fee paying guests) meet at a regular time and draw for partners. They are great way to meet a range of members in the club and new members are always welcome. Rules differ, for example some have seemingly arbitrary handicap cuts for doing well or when playing late in their season. Some of the most popular are:

- Wednesday boys – 12:00 every Wednesday all year round
- Monkey lads – 13:30 on Friday afternoons and 11:00 on Saturdays
- Sun risers – 0800 every Sunday from October until April
- The Wickets – 09:30 every Sunday from November to March
- Winter tour – 12:00 every Sunday from October until April

Just turn up and you'll be made welcome.

14. Ladies

Each Tuesday throughout the year the Ladies section have the first tee reserved until 11:30 and have priority on the course for the rest of the day. The Ladies section has a full programme of competitions throughout the year and they also play matches with other clubs. Notices for Ladies competitions etc. are posted inside the Ladies locker room.

15. Seniors

The Senior Men's section have regular competitions through the golf season and friendly matches with other clubs (normally on a Thursday when at Wrekin). The seniors have priority on the course for their competitions, normally held from 8:30 until 9:30 on a Monday. Any playing member aged over 60 is welcome to join the section on payment of a £3 annual fee (contact Cliff Smithies or Geoff Richards). All competitions and matches are posted on the Senior Men's notice board in the ground floor corridor. The Senior men's section normally play their competitions (but not matches) over 15 holes (rather than 18) and have their own handicapping system.

16. Juniors

We are keen to encourage Juniors to join the club and enjoy their golf. Fritz Drummond is the Junior Organiser and works closely with our professional Matt Lea. The Juniors have a full programme of competitions and also play matches against juniors at other clubs.

17. GolfMark

GolfMark is a national scheme that identifies and recognises junior and beginner friendly golf facilities. Wrekin was one of the first clubs in the county to be awarded Golfmark, and was successfully reassessed in 2010. The three key areas within the golf club which are assessed are:

- Coaching & Playing
- Club Environment (including sports equity & ethics)
- Child Protection & Duty of Care

Wrekin Golf Club also took the opportunity to use the GolfMark approach to review member contact processes.

18. Speed of play

Nobody like slow play and it can generally be avoided by, for example: placing clubs where you will leave the green, deciding line of putt or club while your partner plays and marking cards when your partner is teeing off. Generally a four ball can play a round at Wrekin in 3.5 hours or less. If there is a gap ahead of you and a group of players is behind please let them through. It doesn't matter whether they are on their own or in a 2, 3 or four, if they are playing faster than you please let them through.

19. Communications

Wrekin Golf Club is owned by the members and each year at the Annual General Meeting (held late in January) they get the opportunity to elect the Committee and examine how their club is being run. There is normally a Captains Forum for a more informal discussion about issues interesting members, and special forums, to look at the implications of the Equality Act, for example. The Captain and committee use a range of mechanisms to keep members informed, including regular newsletters, the club website www.wrekingolfclub.co.uk, a Twitter Feed "golfatwrekin", Facebook pages "Wrekin Golf Club" and "Wrekin Golf Club Junior Section" and notice boards in the clubhouse.

Please register your email address, either by sending an email to the secretary@wrekingolfclub.co.uk or by filling a form (obtainable from the secretary or the professional). The club will not pass you email address on to others, it will only be used to keep you up to date with club news or to send papers from the club, for example Annual General Meeting paper work.

20. Captain and Committee

The Captain and Committee are the Directors of the club and are responsible for setting policy. They are voted into office at the Annual General Meeting and are accountable to club members (we hope that you will attend). If you have any suggestions on improving the running of the club please contact them. There is a notice on the stairs with the names and photographs of Committee Members and the Captain's and Ladies Captain's photographs are above the bar.

21. Club staff

Our Secretary (Barrie Everitt) handles club administration. Our Steward and his wife (Ann and Steve Wild) manage the bar and provide catering. Our Green staff (Chris Robert (consultant), Harry Jones, Garry Turner and Alan Parker) are responsible for the course and everything outside the clubhouse.

Please do not address issues directly to our greens, bar or catering staff unless they are urgent. It is much better to use the course suggestions and problems book maintained by the Professional (the fastest route) or the general suggestions book in the TV room.

22. Club Professional

Our head Club professional is Matt Lea and he is ably assisted by professional Joe Folker. They can be contacted on the club number 01952 244032 option 4, mobile 07966849083 or by email at wrekinproshop@gmail.com. The pro shop is fully stocked with the leading brands and they will match the price of any genuine quote. Where they don't have an item in stock they can usually source it.

Tuition is available with either Matt or Joe either here at the Wrekin, or on the driving range at Horsehay. Please pop into the shop and introduce yourself!

There will be unintended omissions in this note so if you are in any doubt ask other members or any of the staff, and also drop the secretary a note so we can continuously improve the information we provide.