

## **BYE-LAWS OF SGA GOLF CLUB**

### **1. GENERAL**

- 1.1. These bye-laws ("Bye-Laws") shall form part of the rules and regulations ("Rules and Regulations") of the SGA Golf Club (the "Club") and shall be revised, added to, altered, supplemented or replaced in accordance to Rules 7.6 and 7.7 of the Rules and Regulations.
- 1.2. All Bye-Laws are to be strictly adhered to and any violation is considered to be prejudicial to the interests of the Club for which action may be taken as provided for and in accordance with these Bye-Laws and the Rules and Regulations.
- 1.3. The interpretation of the meaning and intent of these Bye-Laws by the General Committee shall be final.
- 1.4. Terms and expressions used herein are as defined in the Rules and Regulations of the Club.

### **2. RULES OF GOLF**

- 2.1. The Rules of Golf as approved by the R&A Rules Ltd together with the Bye-Laws shall apply to all form of play of golf and to all golf games, competitions and tournaments organised by the Club unless otherwise expressly laid down by the Golfing Committee.

### **3. THE GOLFING COMMITTEE**

- 3.1. The Golfing Committee shall consist of persons mentioned in Rule 9 of the Rules and Regulations.
- 3.2. Disputes relating to the Bye-Laws and to any matter relating to the play of golf organised by the Club shall be referred to and decided by the Golfing Committee and where appropriate, the General Committee.
- 3.3. Disciplinary action to be taken in respect of any breaches of any of the Bye-Laws shall be in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Club.

### **4. THE HANDICAP COMMITTEE**

- 4.1. The Handicap Committee shall consist of persons mentioned in Rule 10 of the Rules and Regulations.
- 4.2. The Handicap Committee is responsible for all aspects of the Club Handicap System including the computation of each Member's Handicap Index.

## **5. GOLF GAMES, COMPETITIONS AND TOURNAMENTS**

### General

- 5.1. The fees, dates, times, courses, terms and conditions and rules relating to and regulating any golf game, competition or tournament organised by the Club shall be determined by the Golfing Committee.
- 5.2. All Members who participate in any golf game, competition or tournament organised by the Club shall:-
  - 5.2.1. abide by and comply fully with all the rules and regulations and bye laws of the club/course at which the golf game is played or at which the competition or tournament is held ("Participating Club"); and
  - 5.2.2. promptly pay, in addition to any fee which the Club may charge for such golf game, competition or tournament, the green fees and other costs as determined by the Participating Club.

### Eligibility for golf games, competitions and tournaments

- 5.3. The Club shall determine eligibility for any golf game, competition or tournament it organises and may in connection therewith impose requirements on play such as age, the possession of a current USGA Handicap Index or a Proficiency Certificate issued by the Club.

### Reservations/Bookings/Registration

- 5.4. Unless otherwise expressly indicated by the Golfing Committee, all reservations/bookings to play at a golf game, competition or tournament organized by the Club shall be made in person and no Member may make a reservation/booking on behalf of another Member.
- 5.5. When making a reservation/booking to play at a golf game, competition or tournament organised by the Club, Members are to state their name, membership number and indicate the names of the other Members in the flight. If the names of the other Members in the flight are not so indicated, the Golfing Committee reserves the right to include other Members in the flight without further reference to the Members who made the reservation.
- 5.6. Before the start of a golf game, competition or tournament, every participant shall register in the manner determined by the Golfing Committee. Any participant failing to observe this rule shall automatically be disqualified and any green or other fees paid by such participant to the Club shall be forfeited.

### Penalty for failure to appear

- 5.7. In any competition or tournament where a draw has been made, no further entries shall be accepted and participant shall play at the time shown in the draw. Any participant who fails to appear at the starting tee

at the appointed time shall be disqualified and any green or other fees paid by such participant to the Club shall be forfeited.

5.8. Any participant who is unable to play in the golf game, competition or tournament shall notify the Club of the same in writing no later than 48 hours prior to the date of the golf game, competition or tournament, failing which any green or other fees paid by such participant for the same shall be forfeited by the Club. If a written explanation is given for the late notice and such explanation is accepted by the Golfing Committee, the Golfing Committee may, at its absolute discretion, refund the participant any fees paid.

#### No refund of fees

5.9. There shall be no refund of the green or other fees paid once the Member has teed off or is unable to complete a round for whatever reason or if the course is closed for whatever reason and the Member decides not to continue with play after the course is re-opened or playable. The decision to close the course shall be determined by the Participating Club.

#### Competitions/Tournaments

5.10. Rules on stroke competitions and tournaments, match play, ballsweeps and scratch competitions shall be as determined by the Golfing Committee.

5.11. If a Member belongs to more than one club and has golf handicaps in more than one club, in any competition or tournament organised by the Club, he/she shall play off the lowest Handicap Index.

#### Cancellation of Competition/Tournament

5.12. In competitions or tournaments extending over one day, the Golfing Committee may at any time on the first day declare play cancelled if it considers that the course is not playable or that insufficient light renders the proper playing of the game impossible. If, however, play is not declared cancelled on the first day, but the course is closed on any subsequent day, the competition or tournament may be decided on the play that has already taken place.

#### Completion of Competition/Tournament

5.13. In any 18-hole competition, if, for any reason, the competition is cancelled after two thirds of the competitors have completed their round of 18 holes, the competition shall be deemed to have been completed.

#### In the event of a tie

5.14. In match play competitions, if a match finishes all square, that match shall continue in the same sequence as the first 18 holes until one side

has gained a hole whereby the match shall have been won. In handicap play, stroke shall again apply as in the 18 hole round.

5.15. In stroke play competitions, in the event of a tie, the Club countback system shall follow that which is set out by the Participating Club.

#### Scores and score cards

5.16. In any competition or tournament organised by the Club, the scores shall be recorded and the scorecard countersigned by the participant's opponent or fellow competitor.

5.17. In all competitions involving stroke play, players shall return their cards whether completed or not at the conclusion of play. Any player who fails to comply with this Bye-Law may lose his/her eligibility to enter the next competition.

#### Concessions

5.18. Where any concessions are given, adequate proof of status required for such concession must be shown at the time of registration for the golf game, competition or tournament organised by the Club.

#### Insurance

5.19. Members shall ensure that they obtain, at their own expense, sufficient insurance coverage for all golf games, competitions and tournaments they participate in. If there are sufficient numbers, the Club may, on the Member's request, assist Members in arranging for group insurance. Payment for all premiums for such group insurance shall be at the expense of the Members who wish to obtain such insurance.

5.20. Members shall, upon the Club's request, promptly furnish to the Club evidence satisfactory to the Club, of the insurance he/she has obtained.

5.21. Members will not be permitted to participate in any golf game, competition or tournament organised by the Club if they do not have insurance coverage or have insufficient insurance coverage, the existence and sufficiency of insurance coverage being determined by the Golfing Committee whose decision shall be final.

#### Indemnity

5.22. Members shall hold the Club harmless and indemnify the Club from all losses, damages, costs and expense incurred or suffered by the Club and from all demands, claims and suits made on the Club arising out of or in connection with any act, omission, neglect, default, negligence of the Member in the play of golf or while at the course or premises of a Participating Club.

5.23. Members who refuse to provide the Club with the aforesaid indemnity or such other indemnity as the Club shall determine will not be permitted to participate in any golf game, competition or tournament organised by the Club.

## 6. **LIABILITY**

6.1. The Club shall not be liable in anyway for any loss of or damage to property or any injury suffered by or caused to Members arising from or in connection with any golf game, competition or tournament organised by the Club.

## 7. **CLUB HANDICAP POLICY**

### Club Handicap System

7.1. The Club Handicap System shall be based on the USGA Handicap System and any other local procedures promulgated by the Singapore Golf Association ("SGA"). Members' Handicap Index shall be printed in a handicap register ("Handicap Register") at each monthly revision. Such Handicap Register will be displayed at the Club and also available online at the SGA National Handicap Book.

### Procedure to Obtain a Handicap Index

#### Beginner or Member with no previous recognized handicap

7.2. A Member, who is a beginner or with no previous recognized handicap, wishing to obtain a Handicap Index must first pass a Proficiency Certificate (PC) Test as well as attend and pass a workshop on Rules of Golf and etiquette, in accordance with provisions and standards set down by the Handicap Committee.

7.3. He may then apply to go for a Courtesy Round after he has submitted five 18 hole scores or ten 9 hole scores to the Handicap Committee. The scores submitted must be from golf courses that meet with the USGA Handicap System requirements, ie, the course must have a USGA Course Rating and Slope Rating and must be at least 1,350m long for 9 holes or at least 2,700m for 18 holes.

7.4. The Club shall arrange for the Courtesy Round to be carried out at a golf course and it shall be conducted by a member of the Handicap Committee. The Member shall pay a Courtesy Round fee and the appropriate green and buggy fees.

7.5. If the Member satisfies the standards set for the Courtesy Round, the Club will process the scores that have been submitted and a Handicap Index will be generated for the Member. The Handicap Index will be displayed in the Handicap Register at the next revision date.

- 7.6. If the Member is not up to the required standard, he may apply to re-take the Courtesy Round after he has submitted another five 18 hole scores or ten 9 hole scores.

#### New Member with USGA Handicap Index.

- 7.7. A new Member who holds a USGA Handicap Index and has available for transfer, his full scoring records, ie, previous records of scores including dates, courses played, Course and Slope Ratings and Handicap Differentials, will have his Handicap Index generated at the next revision date.

- 7.8. If his full scoring records are not available, the Member may be assigned a Handicap Index by the Handicap Committee based on documentary evidence provided and after a Courtesy Round. The assigned Handicap Index will be identified with the remark "Committee Assigned Handicap".

- 7.9. The Member's assigned Handicap Index will be replaced with an earned Handicap Index after he has submitted five 18 hole scores or ten 9 hole scores.

#### New Member with handicap from a recognized handicap body

- 7.10. A new Member with a handicap from a recognized handicap body such as The Council of National Golf Unions (CONGU), European Golf Association (EGA), Japanese Golf Association (JGA) or the Australian Golf Union (AGU), may be assigned a Handicap Index based on documentary evidence provided and after a Courtesy Round with a member of the Handicap Committee. The assigned Handicap Index will be identified with the remark "Committee Assigned Handicap".

- 7.11. The Member's assigned Handicap Index will be replaced by the earned Handicap Index after the submission of five 18 hole scores or ten 9 hole scores.

#### Handicap Revisions

- 7.12. The Club follows the revision date stipulated by SGA for all Handicap Index revisions. This is carried out on the first working day of each month.

- 7.13. The Handicap Committee has the ultimate authority to revise and adjust the Handicap Index of Members under any circumstances that it feels necessary to do so. A Handicap Index adjusted by the Handicap Committee becomes effective when the Handicap Committee makes the decision and takes effect at the next handicap revision date. A Member may appeal and if his appeal is upheld, the Handicap Committee may change his Handicap Index the day after the appeal.

### Posting of Scores

7.14. A Member should submit a score immediately after the round or as soon as practical. The following information should be provided:

- 7.14.1. Member's name and Club membership number;
- 7.14.2. Date;
- 7.14.3. Course Name;
- 7.14.4. USGA Course Rating and Slope Rating of course played;
- 7.14.5. Tee Box played, eg, Black, Blue, White, etc; and
- 7.14.6. Adjusted gross score.

7.15. If 7 to 12 holes are played, a Member must post a 9 hole score. If 13 or more holes are played, a Member must post an 18 hole score.

### Penalty Scores

7.16. If a Member fails to submit an acceptable score thirteen days after completion of the round, a penalty score equal to the lowest Handicap Differential in the Member's scoring record will be posted by the Handicap Committee on the fourteenth day.

7.17. When a Member has accumulated penalty scores which comprise 30% or more of his total scoring records, "Excessive Penalty Scores" will be appended in the remarks column. This will be removed when it drops below 30% and will be done during the monthly handicap revision date.

7.18. Members with excessive penalty scores will not generally be eligible to participate in any tournaments. However, the Golfing Committee may allow them to play with a lower Course Handicap than they would be entitled to.

### Handicap Index Withdrawal

7.18. The Handicap Committee has the authority to withdraw a Handicap Index of a Member who repeatedly fails to submit all acceptable scores or does not otherwise observe the spirit of the USGA Handicap System.

### Members Who Have Lost Their Amateur Status

7.19. A Member who has lost his amateur status after accepting an improper prize will continue to hold his Handicap Index. His status will be identified with the remark "Lost Amateur Status".

7.20. He will not be eligible to participate in any tournaments, except the Club's closed competition, subject to the Golfing Committee's approval. He may use his Handicap Index for the Club's closed competition. He must continue to submit his scores whenever he plays social golf and will be subject to penalty scores if he does not.

7.21. The maintenance of the Member's Handicap Index will facilitate his re-entry into the ranks of amateur golfers after he has served his penalty period of 1 – 2 years depending on the value of the improper prize.

Club Handicap Card

7.22. Any Member shall be entitled, on request, to be issued with a Club Handicap Card stating his Handicap Index.