

BY-LAWS

1. RULES OF GOLF: The Royal and Ancient, A.G.U. and Local Rules – including etiquette and dress shall apply at all times.

2. DRESS AND BEHAVIOUR:
 - (a) Players must be neatly attired at all times. Singlets and thongs are not permitted at any time on the Golf Course.
 - (b) Attire outside of Dress Rules and behaviour likely to bring the Club into disrepute will not be tolerated.
 - (c) We are ambassadors for the Golf Club and the Merrylands R.S.L. Club Limited and should set a good example at all times.

3. DRAWS:
 - (a) *Any member who hasn't removed their name from the nomination sheet and is included in the starting draw and fails to play for whatever reason, shall pay a minimum fine of \$5, prior to any playing any further game. Repeated offences may result in an increase in the fine up to the cost of the green fees or a Club ban. Any increase in the penalty shall be at the Discretion of the Executive Committee, and their decision shall be final.*
 - (b) Lady members are to be included in all draws.
 - (c) Lady members shall be allowed to play in groups with the men.
 - (d) *The Match Committee shall roster a starter for each game.*
 - (e) *A member must be in the starting draw to compete in a Major Event.*

4. PUNCTUALITY: All players are to report to the 'starter' 15 minutes prior to the Club tee off time at each game. Any person who fails to respond to 'the starters' call for hit off, may forfeit such position in that group and forfeit a match should it be a competition game, and be relegated to the rear of the field to hit off at the discretion of 'the starter'. Repeated offences may result in a ban from future games.
5. GREEN FEES
6. PRIZES

The club will operate with a Division 1 and Division 2, with vouchers for 1st 2nd & 3rd. The Grades will revert back to A, B, & C when there are 30 or more players nominated at the time of the draw

VOUCHERS

The value of vouchers to be issued as prizes are as follows:

2 X 1st prizes @ \$25.00,

2 X 2nd prizes @ \$20.00,

2 X 3rd prizes @ \$15.00

3 X N.T.P. @ \$15.00

1 Drive & Chip @ \$15.00, 1 Ladies @ \$25.00, 1 Juniors @ \$25.00

In the event that there are not enough juniors to implement a competition, the Junior would receive a voucher if their score was at least equivalent to the winning score in the grade they would be in.

In the event that there are not enough ladies to implement a competition, the lady will receive a voucher if her score is equal to a winning men's score in Division 2.

In the event that a lady does not win a prize, a \$5 reduction from green fees will be made.

If the Ladies competition comprises 5 or more participants a 2nd prize voucher of \$15 applies.

A minimum of 4 players per grade must compete to allow for a second placed voucher to be awarded.

When a men's competition consists of sixteen players or less, the prizes will be distributed at the Committees discretion.

EAGLES NEST

An Eagles Nest shall be on the 6th green at Rosnay. Distance from the pin to be 40cm with a prize of 1 dozen golf balls.

7. HANDICAPS:

- (a) All new players shall be required to submit three (3) cards signed by a member before a handicap is given.
- (b) The Handicap System of the Merrylands R.S.L. Social Golf Club shall be devised by the Committee.
- (c) Any member of the Golf Club who has not played with the Club for a period of one (1) year shall be required to re-submit three (3) cards for a revised handicap which shall not exceed two (2) strokes higher than his previous handicap, before being eligible to play in a trophy event.
A member who has not played within the past (6) months will play off a handicap of $\frac{3}{4}$ of his last recorded handicap.
- (d) Only members holding a Club handicap may participate in Club Championships or Representative games.
- (e) To be eligible to play in the Club Championships, a member must have played six (6) Club or Representative games in the past twelve (12) months with three such games within the past six (6) months or, at the discretion of the Match Committee eg., washed out games, long illnesses or legitimate work commitments.
- (f) All players must play off their lowest handicap if they hold 2 (two) or more handicaps. This includes members who hold affiliated handicaps from AGU.
- (g) The Maximum handicap for ladies is 45, and in accordance with the current handicap system for the men.
- (h) There is to be one spread of handicaps on one day.
- (i) The maximum handicaps for associates and juniors at Ambrose events is:
 - 36 – 4 Ball Ambrose
 - 32 – 2 Ball Ambrose
- (j) The course rating for all courses is 40.
- (k) All visitors playing at the October long weekend are to be granted a handicap of no more than 18

- (k) Handicaps for each grade will be determined by the number of members who attend each game.

Grades will be based on :

A Grade 50% of the field

B Grade 50% of the field

Additional players will play in those grades as per handicap.

Handicaps for the club championships will be decided at the close of nominations prior to the first round of the championships, and based on the above.

8. MAJOR TROPHIES AND PERPETUAL EVENTS

The close off date for all Major Trophies shall be the 2nd week in November of each year to allow for engraving and finances to be put in place. Any event beyond that date shall be regarded as not contested.

Qualification for major and perpetual trophies (except RSL Presidents Shield) shall be in line with those for the Club Championships. Viz 6 club or representative games in the past 12 months, and 3 of these games in the past 6 months.

Or at the discretion of the match committee (e.g. washed out games, long illness, or legitimate work commitments)

TOM CLARK TROPHY.

A "Qualifying Round" for this event shall be played after which, the best eight (8) net scores – after 'count backs' shall qualify for the ¼ finals.

Those top 8 players will go into an open draw to be held at the conclusion on the day of the qualifying round.

The next four (4) best net scores – after 'count backs' shall be deemed reserves. Any player qualifying for – including reserves – who shall not be available for all three (3) rounds of this event must withdraw immediately and be replaced. Players will be handicapped after the Qualifying Round and will retain such revised handicap for the Tom Clark Trophy until eliminated.

The Tom Clark Match Play Trophy will be perpetuated as the Clubs Match Play Championship.

A Runner Up Trophy will be awarded for the Tom Clark Match Play Championship

ROY BUCKLEY SHIELD

All players contesting The Roy Buckley Shield must be complete their round at the scheduled game regardless of the weather conditions.

The venue for the Roy Buckley Shield can be altered to a course other than Kandos.

FRANK GHIONI SHIELD

The Frank Ghioni Shield to be contested at Antill Park.

The Frank Ghioni/Jim Dunn Shield will only be played once per year.

THE PATRICIA BALCOMBE MEMORIAL TROPHY

A ladies trophy is to be instituted for the long weekend away at Cessnock and named after the late secretary Pat Balcombe, and contested in a format to be decided.

RSL PRESIDENTS SHIELD

The RSL Presidents/Ted and Kay Byrne Shield will be known as the Merrylands RSL Presidents Shield and be inscribed "Donated by Ted and Kay Byrne". This Shield is to be carried on by all future Presidents of the Merrylands RSL Golf Club. The Shield will also have the date it was donated under Ted and Kays name.

Qualification for the RSL Presidents Shield Day will be open to all with a current handicap.

PRESIDENTS CUP

The cut off date for the Presidents Cup is the 2nd last game of the year.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Club Championships are to be played over three rounds in the various grades.

'Net' Grade winners are to be conducted in conjunction with the Club Championships and trophies awarded to these winners at the Presentation Night.

The championships will operate with a Division 1 and division 2.

The Grades will revert back to A, B, &C when there are 30 or more players nominated at the time of the draw.

The 'Net' Grade winner will be played in conjunction with the club championships, and will be awarded provided that the grade is contested by a minimum of five (5) players

Ladies

The Ladies Championship will be awarded only if it is contested by two (2) or more players.

Juniors

The Junior Club Champion Trophy is renamed: "The Daryl Wolfenden Memorial Trophy, Junior Champion- Merrylands RSL Golf Club".

Play-offs in lieu of count-backs are to occur for runner up and handicap trophies.

9.0 GENERAL

The Golf Club and its members prefer trophies and not vouchers for away games.

Retail style vouchers may be awarded at the October long weekend away games.

The Golf Club Presentation Night will be held on a separate night to all other sports.

10. SCORE CARDS:

All scores are to be marked on the game cards ie; marker to insert players score and his own score. Failure to do this will result in the marker being disqualified from the days event and ineligible for any trophy for that day. A player with a dispute or query on his card must confide in the marker and resolve the matter. Should this be inconclusive both persons are to take the dispute/query to the Match Committee immediately before signing the card.

The Handicapper is in charge of the cards and rating of the course.

11. DISPUTES/PROTESTS/QUERIES:

All disputes, protests or queries are to be submitted to the Match Committee immediately with applicable unsigned cards. Match Committee will either deliberate on the matter then and there or may set a date/time for such deliberation. The result shall be advised to the applicable persons as necessary. Upon a decision being given, no further discussion on such matter is to be forthcoming.

12. COURTESY ON THE COURSE:

(a) Consideration for other players – In the interest of all, players should play without delay. No player should play until the players in front are out of range (unless ‘called up’ by such group. Players searching for a ball, should signal following players through as soon as it is evident the missing ball will not be found easily, they should not search five (5) minutes before doing so. They should not continue play until such called through players are out of range. When the play of a hole has been completed all players should immediately leave the putting surface.

Slow Play – Any group identified as falling two holes behind will be subject to punitive action by the Committee. Two will be allocated the Starters duties at the next (or any subsequent) game. The others will be allocated the Starters duties at the following game.

(b) Behaviour during play – No person should move, talk or stand close to or directly behind the ball or hole when a player is addressing the ball or making a stroke.

(c) Priority on the Course: - In the absence of special rules, two-ball matches should have precedence of and entitled to pass any three or four-ball matches. A single player has no standing and should give way to a match of any kind. Any match playing a whole round is entitled to pass a match playing a shorter round . If a match fails to keep it’s place on the Course and loses more than one clear hole on the players in front, it should allow the match following to pass.

Club Championships – A Grade will hit off last behind the “eligible players” on the last day of the Club Championships.

13. CARE OF THE COURSE

(a) HOLES IN BUNKERS – Before leaving a bunker, a player should carefully fill up and smooth over all holes and footprints made by him.

(b) REPAIRING DIVOTS, BALL MARKS AND SPIKE DAMAGE. – Through the green a player should ensure that any turf displaced or cut by him is replaced at once and pressed down and that any damage to the putting surface should be repaired on completion of the hole.

(a) DAMAGE TO GREENS BY FLAGSTICKS, BAGS etc., Players should ensure that when putting down flagsticks or bags no damage is done to the putting green and that neither they nor caddies damage the hole by (a) standing close to it, (b) in handling the flagstick, or (c) in removing the ball from the hole. The flagstick should be properly replaced in the hole before the players leave the green. Players should not damage the green by leaning on their putters particularly when removing the ball from the hole.

- (b) GOLF CARTS/BIKES – Local Notices regulating the movement of these or the use of should be strictly observed.
- (c) DAMAGE BY PRACTICE SWINGS – In taking practice swings, players should avoid causing damage to the course – particularly trees and removing divots.

15 PLAYING CONDITIONS

Teeing Ground

All adult male members are to play off the Social Tees.

Adult female members are to play off their appropriate tees.

The ladies play off the red markers or social markers (whichever is the closer to the green) when games are played at Goulburn and Morissett.

Two tee shots must be used by each player during Ambrose events, other than the Frank Ghioni/Jim Dunn Shield.

Handicaps for Ambrose teams of five are to be calculated on the first four chosen and the fifth member shall be equivalent to a B Grade player.

Fairways

The definition of fairways will be the outside of two trees lining the fairway, and closest to the centre of the fairway.

Amended AGM 2005

Course Improvements

Cultured gardens are to be considered in conjunction with the Local Rules of the course

Signed by the duly appointed Committee at Merrylands in the State of New South Wales on the:

Twenty First Day of *October* 1993.

E.F.Hynds
E.F.Hynds
PRESIDENT

Neville King
N.J.King
VICE PRESIDENT

P. Harding
P. Harding
TREASURER

Geoff Balcombe
G.D. Balcombe
ASSISTANT TREASURER/
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Pat Balcombe
P.A.Balcombe
SECRETARY

Michael McCormick
M.J. McCormick
VICE CAPTAIN

WITNESS:

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE