

# **Tirhatuan Golf Club**

## Information For New Members

Firstly, A warm welcome to you as a new member of Tirhatuan Golf Club.

If you have never been a member of a golf club before, or even if you have been a member at any other golf clubs, joining a new club can sometimes be a bit of a strange time until you get to know some of the members and routines of the club.

The purpose of this information sheet is to help you settle in to Tirhatuan Golf Club and enjoy your golf with us. The first thing to remember is that all of our members were once new, with the same questions and apprehensions that you might be feeling, so, if there is anything you're not sure about, don't be afraid to ask any of our members questions. They will all help you.

Tirhatuan Golf Club is not a large, impersonal club where you are just another number on the membership books. We are a golf club with a keen social spirit and friendly atmosphere and will actively encourage you to take part in our golfing and social events. As golfers we embrace the ethic of fair play and respect to all our members.

### **First Things First**

When you join our club, the first thing we need to do is to establish an official Australian handicap for you. An official handicap is necessary for you to play in any competition. If you already have an established playing handicap, you can play in our competitions as soon as your membership and handicap has been confirmed. If you don't have a handicap, we need to establish one for you. In the case of men, we calculate your handicap on the results of three completed rounds of golf which have been verified by a bona fide handicapped golfer. For women, the required number of completed rounds is also three.

Once your playing handicap has been established, each and every round of competition golf you play is recorded in a national computerized handicap data base and adjusted automatically for you, usually within twentyfour hours of your completed round.

The organization that monitors your handicap is called **GOLF LINK**.  
<http://www.golflink.com.au/>

As a member of Tirhatuan Golf Club, you are also a member of Golf Link. Golf Link issues you with a unique identity card which shows your membership number. This card proves who you are and allows you to confirm your playing handicap at almost every course in Australia, which of course is very handy if you like to play in

competitions at other clubs and courses. It also allows you to check your handicap at any time by going to the Golf Link website.

### **Competition Days**

Mens golf competitions are played every Tuesday and Saturday.

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In addition, the club plays Pennant, Shield and interclub matches at various times and days.

Tirhatuan Golf Club, whilst being an independent entity, does not own or manage the golf course. Tirhatuan Golf Course is a public course, and our club is obliged to operate in co-operation with the course administrators. To ensure the smooth running of the club, and the course, dedicated tee off times are made available to our club members for competition days, but it is a requirement that players wishing to play in our competitions indicate their intentions to play by entering their name in advance on the time sheets made available in the clubhouse or in the Pro Shop.

All new members should ask their sponsors, or any committee member, for help in knowing where our time sheets are situated and how to make their time booking.

Our clubrooms are open to members and their guests on every competition day.

### **Competitions**

Our club conducts competitions right throughout the year. A full schedule of all events is contained in our club syllabus, a copy of which is provided to every member.

Also, check out the website for all competition results, news and information and a host of other stuff!

**<http://www.tirhatuan.com/>**

As a new member, you may be unfamiliar with some forms of the various golf competitions we play, so don't hesitate to ask your sponsors, committee members or playing partners as to how some of the formats are played.

When playing golf, it is particularly important to understand the rules, so, over time, please familiarize yourself with the rules of golf and how they are applied. If you're new to golf this can seem a little daunting, but don't worry, we were all new once. The most important thing to remember is that if you are uncertain about something, ask someone!

As a new member, it is important that you take some time to read the guidelines set out within our club syllabus regarding our club ethics, golf etiquette, competition guidelines and our general expectations of you as a club member. The standard of our golf club will be judged by the etiquette of our members.

### **In Conclusion**

We're pleased to welcome you as a new member and appreciate you being a member of our club.

All golf clubs evolve their own traditions and ways of doing things, so if anything seems strange or unclear, just ask someone. Above all, have fun and enjoyment whilst maintaining the great ethics of fair play, sportsmanship and camaraderie that this great game we call golf is famous for.

***GOOD GOLFING!***

Tirhatuan Golf Club. <http://www.tirhatuan.com/>

