

The purpose of this statement is to explain to new junior members and their parents what is expected of them and what the club hopes, to achieve within the junior section.

Your child is joining a club with a small junior section but one that is friendly and very committed to growing and becoming a welcoming and excellent centre of golf. We are committed to helping all children enjoy their golf and to provide the opportunities and training to develop and improve their play as much as possible.

We have a Junior Organiser responsible for all aspects of the junior section and who can be contacted by parents and juniors alike with any queries and problems. We also have a junior committee with responsibilities for specific areas of the junior section and they can be contacted when necessary and telephone numbers are on the Junior Notice Board.

Their areas of responsibility are as follows

1. Competitions Organiser
2. Team Manager
3. Handicap Secretary
4. Coaching and Training
5. New Members and Recruitment
6. Opens, County and National Competitions Co-ordinator

The main club committees are fully supportive of the junior section and are helping to develop a co-ordinated approach within the club.

When applying to join the club your child will have either been sponsored, played with a member of the junior committee or attended several coaching sessions run by the club professional. After assessment they will be allocated to the appropriate section of the juniors. Please find below the requirements and procedures of the section.

### **Basic Equipment Requirements**

1. **Golf shoes** are essential. Trainers are not allowed as they are unsafe.
2. **A golf bag and some clubs.** We can organise the loan of some to begin with.
3. **Clothes** that match the dress code. This has been sent to you.
4. **Golf balls.** Some are available in the junior room.
5. **Tees, ball markers and divot repairers** can be obtained from the shop or the Junior Organiser. (The use of these will be explained.)

## Structure of the Junior Section

There are two parts to the junior section.

### 1. ROSS RANGERS

This section is for those who have never played golf or have no handicap. They will need to have lessons from the professional or be assessed before they can play on the course as they will be expected to achieve a certain standard of dress and play and a minimum knowledge of golfing etiquette before they can do so. This can be gained from private lessons with the professional or by attending the coaching sessions arranged by the section (see notice board). When the professional thinks they are ready to go on the course they can play three rounds of eighteen holes or six rounds of nine holes (three on each half of the course) with an adult or nominated junior member marking a card for them (this can be arranged for them). When these are given to the Junior Handicap Secretary they will be given a first handicap of 54 or less. This is a **Club Handicap** which will be calculated according to the guidelines given in the **CONGU** handbook. (CONGU is the national body responsible for all golfing handicaps). They can then play in the **Rangers'** competitions and move through the handicap divisions towards becoming a **JUNIOR**.

The Handicap Divisions are:-

Boys Beginners	54-36	play off red tees	Girls 54-36	Play off red tees
Boys Intermediate	36-28	play off yellow tees		
Boys Congu	28-0	play off white tees	Girls 36-0	Play off red tees

For new members who enter with some experience and, perhaps, a handicap they will either have to bring proof of handicap or play three rounds marked by an adult member or their sponsor and give the cards to the Junior Handicap Secretary who will give them a handicap. They will then join the appropriate handicap division. **All new members must attend at least three coaching sessions organised by the junior section.**

**Rangers** can play in all junior competitions appropriate to their handicaps. This will be indicated on the Junior notice board which is in the spikes bar. All junior information will be posted on this board.

For those whose first handicap is 28 or below for a boy or 36 and below for a girl they will enter the Junior Section **subject to approval by the junior committee**. This approval requires the achievement of the appropriate standard of behaviour, etiquette and knowledge of the rules of golf.

## 2. ROSS JUNIORS

1. This section is for members with a handicap of 28 or less for boys and 36 or less for girls and is run in accordance with CONGU unified handicapping system.  
**New members will need proof of handicap.**
2. **Competitions:** - Club Cup and Medal competitions are run regularly- see junior notice board.
3. **Coaching:** - As arranged by junior committee –see junior notice board. Team coaching sessions take place on Thursday evening at 5.00pm and no junior will play for the team unless he/she attends team coaching (subject to permitted exceptions). There will be a small charge for these sessions.
4. **Matches** The Juniors play in the Gloucester Alliance League and play as required by the yearly fixture list.

**To improve your handicap.** The best way is to play in the competitions organised by the junior section. There are stroke play, match play, pairs and team competitions arranged. There are fun competitions with other sections of the club and to play in as many of these competitions as possible is the best way to learn golf and to enjoy the game.

Junior boys with a handicap of 18 or less and girls with a handicap of 36 can also play in men's and ladies' competitions, subject to permission from the Junior Organiser and the Captain's Committee.

### Teams

We have a team that plays in the Gloucester County Golf alliance against other clubs in their County Division. The team members are chosen by the Team Manager on the criteria of skill, commitment and behaviour.

## DO'S AND DON'TS for JUNIORS

### DO'S

ALWAYS SIGN IN AT THE PROFESSIONAL SHOP BEFORE GOING ON THE COURSE AND BEFORE LEAVING.

1. Check with professional to make sure you play off the correct tees and tee times.
2. Be polite and quiet when people are playing.
3. Wear suitable clothes as detailed on the dress code. No trainers are allowed in the clubhouse so remember to bring another pair of shoes with you.
4. Be polite to all members and staff of the golf club.
5. Check the junior notice board for competitions and information
6. Make sure you know your correct handicap. If your home club is other than Ross you are responsible for bringing Ross your changes of handicap

### DON'TS

1. No dawdling on the course. If you lose a ball, let the next team come through. You have only 5 minutes to find a ball.
2. Do not swing clubs when walking along the course, the putting green or car park or standing talking to friends. THIS IS DANGEROUS.
3. Do not take your trolley between the green and the bunkers.
4. Do not run down the front of tee boxes. Use the steps.
5. Do not play around on the putting green. This is for putting practice .
6. Don't be noisy or impolite
7. Do not play on the snooker table without permission