



THONOCK PARK – MEMBERS CONSTITUTION

1. Name

The name of the club shall be Thonock Park ('the Club'). The Club is a proprietary club, the proprietor and sole manager of which is Ping Europe Ltd. ('the Proprietor').

2. Objects

The Club is formed to provide the golf members with facilities for the enjoyment of golf and social activities.

3. Conduct of the Game

- a) The members will abide by the rules of golf and the rules of amateur status, as laid down by the R & A and the rules of the appropriate golf unions and associations.
- b) The Club agrees to comply with the governing bodies and operate the active national handicap system stipulated by governing bodies.
- c) Subscriptions to all governing bodies will be collected by the Proprietor at membership renewal and forwarded to the relevant bodies.

4. Financial Liability

- a) Member financial liability to the Club is limited to the payment of fees, set and paid for on an annual basis.
- b) All rates and categories of membership are set at the sole discretion of the Proprietor and are payable on an annual basis.
- c) Members are responsible for their own personal and public liability insurance. It is strongly recommended to take out a personal golf insurance plan.

5. Membership

- a) Members shall have all the rights and privileges of their individual membership. All members shall have the right to play in Club competitions at such times as their category of membership shall allow and for which they are eligible under the rules laid down by the Club Committee.
- b) Members are responsible for the conduct of their guests and to ensure they conform to the current Club rules.
- c) Honorary members, who shall be entitled to all the privileges of membership, subject to the prior approval of the proprietor, shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) and must be elected with two thirds of the membership present and voting.
- d) All new members shall be required, in addition to their subscription, to pay an entrance fee as set by the Proprietor.
- e) The Proprietor will organise a meeting for each new member in order to explain the daily operations of the Club. Each new member will be expected to attend.
- f) All matters relating to the election, resignation, suspension or expulsion of members are referred to in the Club rules.

6. Club Rules and Regulations

The Members' Constitution is issued in addition to the current Thonock Park Rules and Regulations and should be read in conjunction with the rules. The constitution may only be amended at an AGM by a majority vote. The Club Rules and Regulations may be amended from time to time, as determined by the Proprietor.

7. Conduct

- a) All members shall show courtesy and consideration to all other members and visitors whilst using the facilities at the Club.
- b) No member shall be allowed to rebuke, direct or abuse a member of staff. Any complaints and suggestions at the services provided must be directed to management or a Club Committee member.
- c) All members and their guests are required to abide by the dress code as published on the Club notice board.
- d) Thonock Park has adopted the England Golf procedures to administer all matters of a disciplinary nature involving any member.

8. The Club Committee

- a) The members of the Club shall, through elections at the AGM, form a Club Committee. The Committee shall comprise the following 15 officers: Men's Captain, Ladies' Captain, Men's Vice-Captain, Ladies' Vice-Captain, Immediate Past Men's and Ladies' Captains, Senior Men's Captain, Men's and Ladies' Competition Secretaries, Social Secretary, Committee Secretary and four members of the Club, nominated by the members.
- b) The Men's or Ladies' Captain will become Committee Chairperson for the term of office. The position will alternate between each Captain annually. In the event the relevant Captain declines to take the position of Committee Chairperson, the position will be offered to the other Captain. If neither of the Captains take the position, the Management Committee will appoint a Committee Chairperson, after discussions with the Club committee.
- c) The Committee shall meet as frequently as it considers necessary but not less than six times per annum.
- d) A quorum for the Club Committee meetings shall be eight persons, including the Men's Captain or Vice-Captain and the Ladies' Captain or Ladies' Vice-Captain. Questions raised at these meetings will be decided by a majority of votes. In the case of an equality of votes, the Committee Chairperson shall have a second and casting vote.
- e) In the event of the Committee Chairperson being absent from the Club Committee meeting, the Club Committee shall appoint a temporary Chair for the meeting.
- f) Minutes shall be taken of all such meetings by one or other of the Committee so appointed. A copy of these minutes shall be provided to the Proprietor who will post them on the Club notice board.
- g) The Club committee shall:
 - i) Be responsible for carrying out the policies laid down by the Club and the Proprietor, organising golf competitions and obtaining support for social events, arranging inter-club matches, selecting teams to represent the Club, dealing with or passing on members' complaints and suggestions and liaising with the Proprietor on behalf of members and vice versa.
 - ii) Subject to its agreement, undertake such other responsibilities as the Proprietor may from time to time delegate to it.
 - iii) Form a competitions and handicap sub-committee. This committee shall allocate handicaps in accordance with the handicapping scheme as laid down by the Council of National Golf Unions.
 - iv) Ensure the Ladies' Members handicaps are administered in accordance with the current requirements of England Golf as laid down by the Council of National Golf Unions
 - v) Form a social committee to handle all social activities at the Club. A Proprietor's representative will be elected to this sub-committee.
 - vi) Form any other sub-committee as it may require. It may delegate to any such committee any of its powers and responsibilities that it should see fit
 - vii) In conjunction with the Proprietor, be responsible for ensuring all members adhere to the policies as laid down in the Members' Constitution and Club Rules and Regulations.
 - viii) Refer all matters outside its jurisdiction to a member of the management committee.
 - ix) Liaise between Proprietor and member.
 - x) Handle member complaints and suggestions in relation to golf competitions.
 - xi) Refer any other complaints and suggestions outside of their control to the Proprietor for response and communication to the member.

The above will be the extent of the powers and responsibilities of the Club Committee. For the avoidance of doubt, the Club Committee shall have no power that may require the Proprietor to expend money.

9. Appointment of officers to the Club Committee

- a) The term of office for the Men's and Ladies' Captains and Men's and Ladies' Vice-Captains will run for one year from the date of the AGM to the AGM in the following year.
- b) The Men's and Ladies' Vice-Captains will succeed the Men's and Ladies' Captains.
- c) The incoming Vice-Captains shall be nominated by the incoming Men's & Ladies' Captains respectively but the nominations shall be subject to the prior approval of the Club committee and the Proprietor.
- d) For the election of Club Committee members, other than the Captains and Vice-Captains, a notice of the positions available will be posted on the Club notice board at least one month prior to the AGM. Members wishing to serve on the committee must be proposed and seconded by full members of at least one year's standing.
- e) Any member who is unsuccessful in applying for a specific post will automatically be included in the vote for the non-specific committee vacancies.
- f) Club Committee members shall hold office for a period of two years, after which they must retire by rotation. A retiring Club Committee member can stand again for election for a further two-year period, if approved at the AGM.

10. The Annual General Meeting

The AGM shall be held every year on the first Thursday in November, except in the case where it falls on 'Bonfire Night' when the committee may, at its discretion, choose a more suitable date. The AGM shall be chaired by the Committee Chairperson. The AGM will:

- a) Elect all members to serve on the Club Committee
- b) Receive a report from the Proprietor detailing all relevant activities on behalf of the members.
- c) Be notified one month in advance to all members with a notice being placed on the Club notice board.
- d) Be the forum should the members constitution require change from time to time. Any changes must be approved by a simple majority present at the AGM. In the event of a tie, the Committee Chairperson shall have a second and casting vote. Any such changes can only be implemented in the case of a minimum of 70 members being present. Any such change shall require the prior consent of the Proprietor.
- e) Enable all playing members, other than juniors, the opportunity to vote for their representative on the Club Committee.
- f) Be recorded and minutes provided by the Club Secretary.
- g) Enable any member to raise questions at an AGM, subject to the Club Secretary receiving notice of the question in writing at least two weeks prior to the date of the AGM.

11. Extraordinary General Meeting

An extraordinary general meeting (EGM) may be called, should members wish to discuss any matters. An EGM may be called by a minimum 25% of the voting membership expressing a desire to do so. The request for EGM must be a written, signed document to the Proprietor, detailing the matters and issues to be raised.

12. The Management Committee

- a) Will consist of the following representatives: Two Proprietor representatives, Men's Captain, Men's Vice-Captain, Ladies' Captain, Ladies' Vice-Captain and Club Secretary.
- b) The Proprietor will chair this meeting and all matters will take the form of discussion but with the final decision resting solely with the Proprietor.
- c) The Management Committee shall meet a minimum of three times per annum with minutes produced and copied to the Club Committee.
- d) The purpose of the Management Committee will be to discuss and decide on any matters that lie beyond the control of the Club Committee. Such decisions will mainly be in respect of required expenditure or policy decisions that may affect the daily operation or potential income generation of the Proprietor's business.