



**ARMY  
GOLF**

# **Army Golf Association Charter**

Reviewed August 2023

## CHAPTER 1

### GENERAL

#### INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Army Golf Association (AGA) was formed in 1974 to promote the interests of all golfers, both officers and soldiers serving in the Army.

1.2. Since then, it has encouraged Army personnel to take to the golf course and importantly enable those leaving the Army to continue to play in Army Golf competitions. Since 2011 members of the Reserve Forces have also been able to participate in the Army Golf Championships on an even footing. The Association has some 1800 members, both Serving and Retired.

#### AIM OF THE AGA

1.3. The aim of the AGA is to promote the interests of all golfers serving in the Army whilst providing continued opportunities for its retired members.

#### CORE OBJECTIVES

1.4. The AGA has the following core objectives:

- a. To encourage maximum participation in the sport of golf.
- b. To provide the infrastructure for the efficient administration of golf within the Army, both in the UK and Overseas.
- c. To organise Service-level team and individual competitions, thereby encouraging Army, Corps and Unit participation in Army Golf.
- d. To organise Association level team and individual competitions to encourage participation of Army Reserves and retired members.
- e. To organise representative teams of the highest possible standard to compete in fixtures that will enhance the reputation of the Army and raise the profile of the game within the Service.
- f. To maintain a firm management and financial base.
- g. To maintain a communications strategy that supports the management and financial plans, promotes members' interests and the sport of golf in the Army.
- h. To maintain a membership management system.

#### MEMBERSHIP

1.5. There are three categories of membership:

- a. **Full Membership.** Full Membership is open to all serving Commissioned Officers, Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers of the Regular and Reserve Army.
- b. **Associate Membership.** Associate Membership is open to:
  - (1) All retired Army personnel.
  - (2) All serving members of the Navy, RAF and Overseas Forces, who are fulfilling appointments on the staff of British Army Headquarters, units or establishments or who are attending courses at any Army Training or Education facilities, provided that their appointment or course is more than 6 months duration. On retirement they may retain their membership.

(3) Civilians during the period that they are employed by the MOD (Army) in a HQ, unit or establishment, provided it is more than 6 months duration. On retirement they may retain their membership.

(4) Dependents of current members are eligible to join provided they are over 18 and have a bona fide recognised WHS handicap.

c. **Honorary Membership.** The General Committee may elect Honorary Members from those distinguished in the world of golf or those who have given outstanding service to the Association over many years. This list of Honorary Members is to be maintained by the Operations Manager and reviewed annually by the Executive Committee.

1.6 **Professional Status.** Individuals turning professional before or after they have left the Army as a playing golfer, are not permitted to play in any AGA events, unless specific approval has been authorised by the AGA Management Committee. Individuals qualifying as coaching professionals or are ex-professional golfers in the process of regaining their amateur status, are allowed to participate in AGA events and represent the Army in team events.

1.7 **Membership Applications.** Membership applications are available on the AGA Web Site ([www.armygolf.co.uk](http://www.armygolf.co.uk)).

1.8. **Resignations and Termination of Membership.** Members are required to inform the AGA Office if they wish to resign their membership. The Executive Committee is empowered to terminate the membership of any member who is deemed to have brought the AGA into disrepute, or to deny a membership application where such a membership being granted would be liable to bring the Association into disrepute.

## FINANCE

1.9. **Subscriptions.** An annual subscription is to be paid by Full and Associate members. The amount will be determined by the Executive Committee for endorsement by the General Committee.

1.10. **Sponsorship.** Sponsorship, particularly of the Association's major events, is essential if the costs to members are to be maintained at levels that encourage wide participation. It is important that all members are aware of this and treat sponsors with appropriate courtesy. Without a steady stream of new sponsors then it is inevitable that entry fees and subscriptions will rise.

1.11. **Grants.** Grants will be made annually from the Association's funds to support regional level golf and periodically to provide financial assistance to overseas tours of both the Army Men's and Ladies teams. The Executive Committee will determine the amounts of these grants. It should be noted that applications for grants for tours for Corps level and below will not be eligible for AGA funding; applications should be made for grants from the Army Sports Lottery (ASL).

1.12. **Qualifying Status.** The majority of AGA Major Competitions (Army Matchplay Championships (Stableford elements), AGA Strokeplay Championship, AGA Stableford Championship and Quill & Club Trophy) are deemed qualifying events by England Golf, Scottish Golf and Wales Golf. This status is ratified annually.

1.13. **Dissolution.** In the event of dissolution of the Association, the funds, assets and properties of the Association shall be distributed as directed by the Executive Committee, having taken advice from the Army Sport Control Board (ASCB).

## RECOGNITION

**1.14. ASCB and Charitable Status.** The Association is part of the Army Sports Control Board and recognised as a registered charity by the Charities' Commission. The Charity Number is 1123854.

**1.15. Royal and Ancient Golf Club and England Golf.**

- a. The Association will abide by the Rules of Golf as laid down by the Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews, together with such local rules as may be authorised by the Tournament Committee or the golf clubs concerned.
- b. The Association agrees to abide by the Rules of Amateur Status as laid down by the Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews.
- c. The Association recognises that England Golf is the Governing Body for men's and ladies amateur golf within England and as such recognises its authority to govern the game.
- d. The Association agrees to accept the conditions laid down by England Golf in respect of the England Golf Registered Golf Society Scheme and agrees to adopt such changes as may from time to time be determined by England Golf.

**AGA CREST, TIES AND BROOCH**

**1.16. The AGA Badge.** The AGA Badge is the British Army Royal Crest and Crown (2007 version), with the "Army Golf" lettering underneath, as used on the front cover of this document.

**1.17. AGA Ties.** There are three types of ties as follows:

- a. The AGA members tie is maroon with 45° 4 mm wide green stripes bounded by 0.5 mm white at 25 mm centre spacing measured perpendicular to the stripe. All members may wear this tie.
- b. The AGA Colours tie is the same tie as the members' tie except that it features the Lion & Crown Badge. It is awarded to male players who have represented the Army in three or more Army representative fixtures, or one Inter Service Championship.
- c. The AGA Officials' tie is the same as the members' tie except that it features a golf club crossed with a quill pen aligned top right to bottom left. Only current or past AGA officials may wear this tie.

**1.18. AGA Brooch.** The AGA brooch is 3 cm long by 2.5 cm wide with an Army logo and "golf" lettering on a black background. It is awarded to female players who have represented the Army in three or more Army representative fixtures, or one Inter Service Championship.

**PRIVILEGES**

**1.19.** All members may:

- a. Wear the AGA ties, brooch (see restrictions in Paragraph 1.17 above) and approved clothing.
- b. Compete for AGA trophies at specified events as allowed by the rules of each competition.
- c. Represent Regional teams in AGA competitions.
- d. Arrange a match between the AGA and any recognized Golf Club or Society subject to obtaining, through the appropriate Regional Golf Secretary, the permission of the Executive Committee.
- e. Benefit from such financial arrangements (e.g., reduced green fees, reductions from retailers, etc) as the Association is able to negotiate.

## **ARMY COLOURS**

1.20. Army Colours may be awarded for representative golf. To be eligible for Army Colours, a player must represent the Army at the Inter Service Championships as follows:

- a. Colours Tie or Brooch. Awarded for representation in three or more full Army representative matches or one Inter Service Championship.
- b. Blazer. Awarded for representation in two or more Inter Service Championship.

1.21. Recommendations for the award of Army Colours will normally be submitted by the Captains to the Executive Committee for consideration and endorsement.

## **ETIQUETTE**

1.22. All AGA Members are required to familiarise themselves with the Rules of Golf and etiquette of the game and ensure that they are always observed.

1.23. The Association will not condone any breaches of etiquette or rules. A serious incident may lead to the forfeiture of membership. At AGA competitions, all incidents will be considered by the Tournament Committee for an immediate decision. All serious incidents, including behaviour during general play and conduct outside AGA organised events, are to be reported to the Executive Committee and a decision made. This decision will then be promulgated to the individual or individuals concerned and briefed at the next General Committee Meeting.

1.24. Should the member appeal against the decision, then the matter will be referred to the General Committee Meeting for a final decision.

## **ALTERATION TO RULES**

1.25. No proposal for the alteration in the Charter of the Army Golf Association, or in the conditions under which the competitions are currently played, shall be adopted unless it obtains the support of two-thirds of the members present at the Annual General Committee Meeting.

1.26. Any such proposal must be submitted in writing to the Association Operations Manager at least two weeks prior to the General Committee Meeting.

## CHAPTER 2

### MANAGEMENT

#### APPOINTMENTS

2.1. **President.** The President of the Association shall normally be a General Officer with a keen interest in the game of golf. The President is normally selected by the outgoing President, in consultation with the Chair. The President will normally chair the Association's Annual General Meeting. The President's appointment will be formally endorsed by the CEO of Army Sport.

2.2. **Chair.** The Chair of the Association shall be a senior officer, preferably OF5 or above, who has a sound knowledge of the game of golf and is familiar with the organisation and administration of Army golf. The Chair will normally be found from a serving member of the Executive Committee and will be appointed by the President and outgoing Chair of the Association. The Chair is responsible for:

- a. Chairing the Executive and General Committee Meetings, and the Annual General Meeting if the President is unable to attend.
- b. Production of the annual AGA Management Plan.
- c. Producing the annual AGA 5-Year Financial Plan for incorporation in the annual AGA Management Plan. In addition, briefing the Committee meetings on the Association's finances, recommending spending plans (including the allocation of funds for the forthcoming year to AGA cost centres) and ensuring the accounts are audited annually in accordance with Service Funds Regulations.
- d. Maintaining a strong relationship with the CEO and Chief of Staff (COS) of Army Sport and representing the Association at central Army sports meetings.
- e. Briefing the President on significant issues.
- f. Reviewing the Association's Executive Committee annually and ensuring all appointments are filled.
- g. Attending all AGA Major Championships but with priority of attendance given to the AGA Strokeplay Championship, the Army Matchplay & Inter Corps Championships and the Inter Service Championships, in support of the AGA Committee, players and officials and present prizes where the President or official sponsor is unable to attend.

2.3. **Vice-Chair.** The Vice-Chair of the Association shall be an officer or retired officer, who has a sound knowledge of the game of golf and is familiar with the organisation and administration of Army golf. The Vice-Chair will be appointed by the Chair in consultation with the President, and the appointment will be ratified by the General Committee. The Vice-Chair is responsible for:

- a. Producing the communications strategy and overseeing the development of AGA communications.
- b. Producing and updating the AGA Charter.
- c. Determining, with the Operations Manager, the composition of the tournament committee at major AGA events, roles and responsibilities, information display and reviewing prizes before the event. Attending all AGA Major Championships but with priority of attendance given to the AGA Stableford Championship, the Inter Unit Championship, the High Handicap Championship, and the Inter Regional Championship in support of the AGA Committee, players and officials and present prizes where the President, Chair or official sponsor is unable to attend.

- e. Be prepared to assist the Chair with split attendance at the Army Matchplay & Inter Corps Championships and stand in for the Chair at any other Championship when he/she is unable to attend.
- f. Overseeing the affairs of AGA Regional Golf and attending at least 3 Regional events per year.
- g. Overseeing the affairs of the AGA Corps/Arms Golf and attending at least 3 Corps events per year.
- h. Ensuring that an accurate membership system is maintained.

**2.5. Team Captains.** The Men's and Ladies' Captain shall be an Army representative standard golfer and respected member of the Association. They will be appointed by the Chair in consultation with the President, and the appointment will be ratified by the General Committee. The post is generally held for two years but can be extended by the Chair. The Captains are responsible for:

- a. Preparing the representative team fixture list for the forthcoming season.
- b. Selecting the Team and Team Captain for all representative matches.
- c. The co-ordination of Army Team and Development Team matters and administration.
- d. Presenting the recommended Army Team selection for the Inter Service Championships to the Chair.
- e. Presenting nominations for the award of Player of the Year and Most Improved Golfer to the Chair.
- f. Presenting nominations for the award of Army Colours to the Executive Committee after consulting with the Chair.
- g. The Captains will ensure that all Army Team affairs are conducted within the budget allocated to them annually by the Chair, as endorsed by the General Committee.
- h. The Captains will, normally, on completion of their term as Captain identify a suitable replacement to be nominated/appointed by the Chair in accordance with para 2.5 above.
- i. The incoming Captain may, should they wish, review the composition for their supporting committees, primarily the Vice Captain, Team Manager and Development Manager, presenting new nominations to the Chair for endorsement.

**2.6. Vice-Captains.** The Men's and Ladies' Vice-Captain shall be an Army representative standard golfer and respected member of the Association. They will be appointed by the Chair in consultation with the President and Captains and will be ratified by the General Committee. The Vice-Captains are to assist the Captains and, in the absence of the Captains, will assume the Captain's duties.

**2.7. Operations Manager.** The Operations Manager (formally the Secretary) of the AGA is appointed by the Army Sport Control Board and is, in addition, the Operations Manager of the Army Winter Sports Association and the UK Armed Forces Winter Sports Association. The Operations Manager is assisted by the Assistant Operations Manager. The Operations Manager's main responsibilities are to:

- a. Provide the daily management of the Association.
- b. Be the Association account holder and manage the Association's finances.
- c. Book venues and manage and co-ordinate the main AGA competitions and events.

- d. Produce the Association's annual calendar of events.
- e. Manage the Association's membership records and subscriptions.

2.8. **Team Managers.** The Men's and Ladies' Team Managers, if appointed shall be a soldier or officer, serving or retired and are responsible for coordinating fixtures and players in detail. They are to:

- a. Confirm player availability and coordinate with Captains/Vice Captains on team selection.
- b. Organise travel and accommodation, the latter in conjunction with the Assistant Operations Manager.
- c. Brief administrative elements of all events to players and staff as necessary.
- d. Arrange team preparation, including practice rounds where appropriate.
- e. Confirm funding requirements and a location with their respective Team Captains before the match.
- f. Submit a match report to the Operations Manager/Assistant Operations Manager immediately after each match.
- g. Team Managers may be invited to be members of Tournament Committees.

2.9. **Development Officers.** The Men's and Ladies' Development Officers are responsible for identifying and nurturing golfers with potential to represent the Army teams. When required they are to co-ordinate any Inter Service Development Team fixtures and in conjunction with their respective Captains, select an Army Development Team accordingly.

## COMMITTEES

2.10. **General Committee.** The General Committee shall consist of:

Chair  
 Vice-Chair  
 Operations Manager  
 Assistant Operations Manager – ex officio  
 Captains  
 Vice-Captains  
 Team Managers  
 Regional Secretaries  
 Director of the Army Sports Control Board – ex officio  
 Secretaries of Arms/Corps Golf Associations (non-voting)

2.11. **Executive Committee.** The Executive Committee shall consist of:

Chair  
 Vice-Chair  
 Men's Captain  
 Men's Vice-Captain  
 Lady Captain  
 Lady Vice-Captain  
 Operations Manager  
 Assistant Operations Manager

2.12. **Sub-Committees.** The Chair and Vice-Chair may convene other sub-committees for specific business as required.



## RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMMITTEES

2.13. **General Committee.** The General Committee will meet once each year, usually in October, and must consist of a quorum of at least 7 members. Any decisions requiring a vote must have the approval of at least two-thirds of the members present. The Committee will:

- a. Ratify the following Executive Committee appointments:
  - Chair
  - Vice-Chair
  - Men's Captain
  - Men's Vice-Captain
  - Lady Captain
  - Lady Vice-Captain
- b. Confirm the General and Executive Committee Meetings for the following year.
- c. Confirm the annual Calendar of Events for the following year.
- d. Review the findings of the current year's audit board and any other relevant financial business.
- e. Confirm the annual subscription and decide the Association's spending plans and the policy for grants to each region for the following year.
- f. Decide on any appropriate alteration to the Rules of the Association.
- g. Ratify the decisions made by the Executive Committee on any serious incidents of breaches of the rules of the game, poor etiquette, behaviour, or discipline. Where an appeal on the decision has been made, the General Committee will decide and confirm the appropriate final course of action.

2.14. **Executive Committee.** The Executive Committee will normally meet annually, usually in March/April, and must consist of a quorum of at least 3 members. Any decisions requiring a vote must have the approval of at least two-thirds of the members present. The committee will:

- a. Be responsible for the supervising the administration of the Association.
- b. Determine the amounts of money up to which the Operations Manager may authorise payments from the accounts.
- c. Review any serious incidents of breaches of the rules of the game, poor etiquette or indiscipline, and decide and confirm the appropriate course of action.
- d. Consider any other business relevant to the Association.
- e. Convene, if necessary, an extraordinary meeting of the General Committee, giving at least 14 days notice.

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

2.15. The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at the conclusion of the Army Matchplay Championships. The President will usually chair the meeting but, if the President is unable to attend, it will be chaired by the Chair.

2.16. The Meeting has no executive powers and can only make recommendations to the Executive Committee. Any proposal or recommendation that has the support of at least two-thirds of the members present will be considered by the Executive Committee for a final decision and subsequent ratification or otherwise at a General Committee Meeting.

## **ROLE OF ARMY REGIONAL OFFICIALS**

2.17. Regional Golf Chairs and Secretaries are to foster the game of golf within their geographical areas by organising competitions and matches for the benefit of members.

2.18. Regional Secretaries are to maintain close liaison with the Association Operations Manager. They are to:

- a. Organise annual regional competitions, with the priority given to events that feed into Army level competitions.
- b. Forward to the Association Operations Manager the names of their officials and the dates of their major competitions.
- c. Forward to the Association Operations Manager all applications for membership to the Association and changes of status or address of existing members.
- d. Ensure that players competing in competitions and matches are members of the Association.
- e. Apply to the Association Operations Manager for annual financial grants.
- f. Provide statistical attendance data to the Association Operations Manager post each Regional Golf event.

## **ROLE OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS**

2.19. All members are required to:

- a. Conduct themselves at all times in a manner that reflects positively on the Association.
- b. Support the Association in its aim of promoting the interests of all golfers of the Regular Army.
- c. Pay their annual subscriptions by the due date. Failure to do so may result in forfeiture of membership.
- d. Inform the Association Operations Manager of any change in circumstances.

## **TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE**

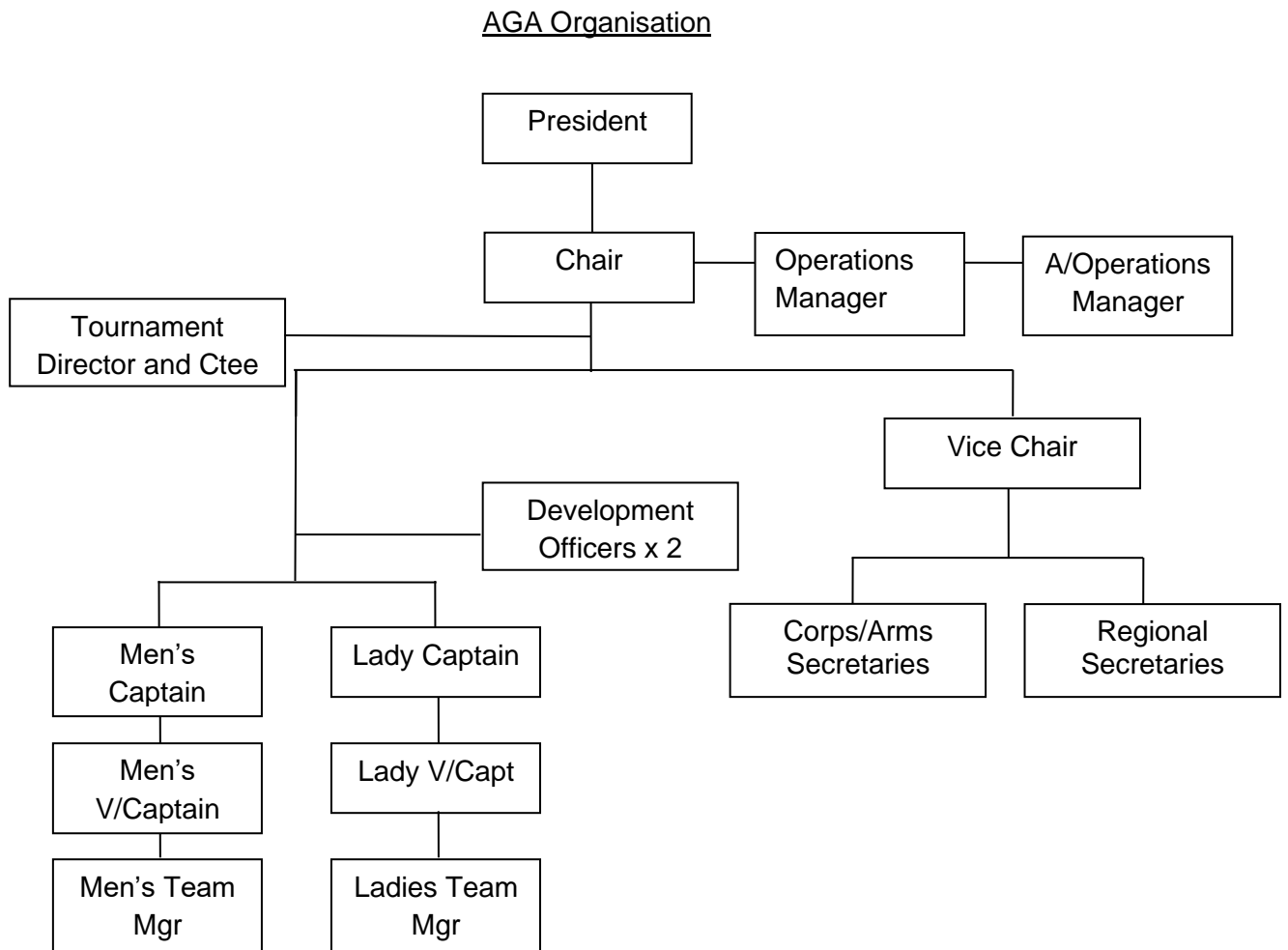
2.20. The Association Operations Manager will appoint a Tournament Director and Committee for each AGA competition.

2.21. The Tournament Committee is to determine the conditions for each competition and supply all members and the England Golf with details of the conditions.

2.22. The Tournament Committee shall keep full records of entrants and results as determined by the England Golf for all competitions. These records are to be retained by the Operations Manager for 12 months and be available upon request.

## AGA ORGANISATION

2.23. The AGA is a large organisation. The outline structure is detailed in the organogram below:



## CHAPTER 3

### COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

#### AIM

3.1. The aim of the AGA Communication Strategy is to develop the flow of accurate and up to date information between members, Regional Secretaries, and the Association Operations Manager and Executive Committee, to promote the interests of all golfers serving in the Army.

#### CORE OBJECTIVES

3.2. The core objectives of the AGA Communication Strategy are:

- a. To communicate Army golf news, including Army and Regional competition details and results, to all members.
- b. To promote the 2-way flow of information between members, Regional Secretaries, Corps Secretaries and the Executive Committee.
- c. To develop an accurate membership database.
- d. The timely publication of information on the AGA Website, Facebook and other social media platforms.

#### OUTLINE PLAN

3.3. **Programme of Events and Competition Details.**

- a. The AGA Website is the primary means of communication of Army level golf news and for entering AGA competitions. However, the current practice of promulgating competition information through DINs and Defence Connect is to continue.
- b. The long-term plan is the development of the AGA Website so that all Army golf news, membership information and fees, and competition entries and fees are processed via the Internet.

3.4. **Golf News.**

- a. **Annual General Committee Meeting.** Significant proposals and changes to the organisation and running of the AGA will be discussed at the Annual General Committee Meeting. Decisions made at this Meeting will also be promulgated at the AGM, which is held in July at the Army Matchplay Championship. Minutes of the meetings will be posted on the AGA Website by the Media & Comms Officer.
- b. **Publications.**
  - (1) **AGA Annual Magazine.** The Association's annual magazine 'Through the Green' is published in March and promulgated to members in early April. This is an online edition accessed via the AGA Website.
  - (2) **Soldier Magazine.** Golfing events for the forthcoming season are to be sent for publication in the February edition of 'Soldier' magazine. Reports on significant golfing events and achievements are to be submitted for publication in 'Soldier' magazine.
  - (3) **Other Media.** Regional and Corps Secretaries are encouraged to publish articles and information on their AGA Webpage through the Media & Comms Officer, and in their own newsletters and magazines at every opportunity. Publication in Army-wide or national media is to be co-ordinated through the Association Operations Manager.

3.5. **Membership Database.** An accurate membership database is essential if the Association is to function efficiently and cost effectively. The Assistant Operations Manager will continue to oversee the updating of the existing membership database, in order that all members are identified and pay the correct annual fees. Each member will be issued with a membership number electronically. Elements of the membership database will be made available to Regional Secretaries in line with current GDPR regulations.

3.6. **Members' Opinions.** Members are encouraged to express their opinions on all aspects of golf in the Army. All members have direct access to Executive Committee Members, though the preferred route is for views to be channelled through Regional Secretaries. Alternatively, member's views can be channelled through Corps Golf Association Secretaries. Secretaries can be contacted through the AGA Website. Members are invited to propose agenda items for the AGM. A direct link for contacting the AGA Operations Manager is available within the AGA Website.

3.7. **AGA Media & Comms Officer.** The AGA Media & Comms Officer is responsible for the development of the AGA Website in order that it becomes the primary means of communication for all AGA members. In particular, the Website is to include:

- a. Diary of future events, including entry forms.
- b. Timely publication of competition results.
- c. Timely publication of draws/start times for major AGA competitions.
- d. Regional pages on the website are to be maintained by Regional Secretaries through the Media & Comms Officer.
- e. Corps pages on the website are to be maintained by Corps Secretaries through the Media & Comms Officer.
- f. Develop corporate advertisement within the Website to improve the benefits for AGA Members through discounts or revenue for the AGA.
- h. Utilise mainstream social media platforms to include Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, this list is inclusive but not exhaustive.

## CHAPTER 4

### COMPETITIONS

#### **ARMY GOLF TOURNAMENTS**

4.1 **General.** This Chapter covers the main Army level competitions organised by the AGA each year. Specific details for each event are contained in the annual DIN and detailed on the website; they are not repeated here.

4.2 The main events are:

a. The Army Championships normally held in early July at Saunton Golf Club comprising:

(1) The Army Matchplay Championship. Open only to male serving Regular and Reserve officers and soldiers.

(2) The Army Ladies Matchplay Championship. Open only to female serving Regular and Reserve officers and soldiers.

(3) The Army Inter Corps Championship. Open only to male & female serving Regular and Reserve officers and soldiers.

b. The Army Inter Unit Championship. Normally held in mid June at one of the three “ex-Army” Golf Clubs – Catterick Garrison, Army and Tidworth Garrison. Open only to male & female serving Regular and Reserve officers and soldiers.

c. The AGA Strokeplay Championship. Held in mid May at a suitable venue determined by the Executive Committee and is primarily for lower handicapped golfers. Open to all members.

d. The AGA Stableford Championship. Normally held at the beginning of August at Whittington Heath Golf Club and is primarily for higher handicapped golfers. Open to all members.

e. The AGA High Handicap Championship. Normally held in early June at Test Valley Golf Club and is for higher handicapped golfers. Open to all members.

f. The Army Inter Regional Championship. Normally held in early September at Worksop Golf Club. Open to all members as selected by Regional Secretaries.

4.3 **Rules for Mixed Golf.** The rules for mixed golf are at Annex A.

4.4 **AGA Membership.** Membership of the Army Golf Association is a mandatory requirement for entry to all AGA events.

4.5 **Handicaps.** All members wishing to play in a major event are required to have bona fide handicaps, in accordance with the World Handicap System (WHS) and England Golf, certified by their golf club. In exceptional circumstances, such as returning from overseas service, the Association Operations Manager may authorise a temporary handicap that has been approved by a Regional or Corps Operations Manager.

4.6 **Event Trophies.** The AGA holds a considerable number of trophies in the Army Sport for the various events, which are insured under the overall Army Sport insurance plan. Trophies are presented to the winners at the various events but only in exceptional circumstances, to prevent damage or even loss, will be trophies be permitted to be kept by the winners. If a trophy does leave with a winner then proof of insurance must be presented to the Association Operations Manager within 7 days

4.7 **AGA Website.** Tournament details will be listed on the AGA Website ([www.armygolf.co.uk](http://www.armygolf.co.uk)) by the Media & Comms Officer, including event application forms, etc.

Annex:

A. The Rules for Mixed Golf.

## **THE RULES FOR MIXED GOLF**

References:

A. CONGU Manual dated 1 Jan 19, Appendix O

1. This document is designed to dispel the myths surrounding mixed gender competitions. It is to be noted that this has been ratified by the National Governing Body, which in our case is England Golf.

2. The rules are summarised as follows:

a. In sum, regardless of the format of the Golf Competition (Matchplay or Strokeplay), golfers play from their own competition tees; men usually white and ladies usually red.

b. **Matchplay.**

(1) In any matchplay competition where competitors play from different tees, the Standard Scratch Score (SSS) difference needs to apply to the player from the higher SSS. Any handicap allowance is then taken from this adjusted handicap.

(2) In the example of Men's Tees SSS 70 and Ladies' Tees SSS 72, a man with a handicap of 13 plays a lady off handicap 20. The Lady's handicap is adjusted to 22 and she receives 9 strokes (full handicap allowance).

(3) In a scratch matchplay event (ie the Inter Corps Championship), using the SSS Men of 70 and Ladies SSS of 72, despite it being a scratch event, the female golfer would receive 2 strokes.

(4) Reference A strongly recommends that the Men's stroke index is used for mixed matchplay competitions.

c. **Strokeplay – Medal.**

(1) England Golf is keen to ensure that the player with the lowest nett score is identified as the winner. In a handicap event, a player "plays to their handicap" against the SSS of the course and not the Par. This will result in 2 players playing from different tees both playing to their handicaps with different nett scores.

(2) In an example of Men's Tees SSS 72 and Ladies' Tees 74, both the male and female golfers have a handicap of 10; the man scores an 82 and lady and 83. In order to compare the two players' scores, the lady would receive an additional 2 strokes to her handicap, which would adjust her score down to a nett 71, beating the man with a nett 72.

d. **Strokeplay – Stableford.**

(1) Where there is a difference in the number of Stableford points needed to "play to handicap" an adjustment is made to the handicap and not the Stableford points.

(2) In an example of Men's Tees SSS 69 Par 70, 37 points are required to play to handicap. For the Ladies' Tees SSS 73 Par 72, 35 points are required to play to handicap. The difference between 37 and 35 points is 2, which is added to the lady's handicap prior to the start of the round.



e. **Handicap Adjustments.** Any handicap adjustments for mixed golf are for completion results or play only. Club Handicap adjustment will apply on individual player's exact handicap.

3. In summary, Ladies play from their competition tees regardless and adjustments are made when necessary. Play from the white tees and offering "courtesy shots" is not acceptable nor is it within the spirit of the game.

4. Any queries that arise should be discussed with the Operations Manager and Assistant Operations Manager in the AGA Office on 01252 787078 for further clarification.