



WBA SUPPORTERS GOLF SOCIETY

OFFICIAL SOCIETY RULES

NEW REVISED ISSUE DATED JANUARY 2023 – ALL PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE NOW OBSOLETE

1. The WBA Supporters Golf Society was formed to offer an alternative leisure activity for supporters or friends of West Bromwich Albion Football Club. The society also welcomes others to enjoy sport and celebrate the social camaraderie.

2. Membership year & Societies accounting year is from 1st January to 31st December.

Members are recruited upon the full completion of the Societies official Membership Application Form, payment of the agreed membership fee, agreement to the Societies Code of Legislated Conduct and then finally sanctioned by the WBASGS Committee.

Applications may be rejected by the WBASGS Committee which reserves the right to veto any applicant who it deems unsuitable to become a member of the Society. An appeal regarding this decision can be made to members.

3. Members are requested to always behave in a civil & dignified manner. Abusive non conducive behaviour will NOT be tolerated, and anyone found guilty of improper conduct will be banned from the Society with immediate effect.

4. The Society is managed by an elected Management Committee. The main positions of the committee are the roles of Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary & current years society captain. These roles are not exhaustive and dependant on needs of the society can have additional members added to the committee on AGM approval.

5. Election onto the main Management Committee cannot be considered unless the member applicant has served a full 2 years as a general committee member. This rule can only be contradicted or changed under the most extreme circumstances that are apparent at the time or by special concession & instruction from the Chairman.

6. Full Members will have voting rights. Votes can only be cast at the Society's Annual General Meeting. The Society Chairman will have the final casting vote if required.

7. Any issues that any member may wish to raise must be, in the first instance, made in writing to the Secretary & Chairman at least four weeks before the AGM.

8. Honorary Membership can be given to members, who the management committee considers worthy in respect of commitment, dedication, and goodwill, or have shown diligence, above the call of duty, in establishing and improving the Society for the benefit of all members.

9. Membership Fees are reviewed annually. New members for the first year include Membership of the official WBA Supporters Club, plus the Societies embroidered collared shirt. Renewal membership fees will be used towards the promotion of events, purchase of tournament prizes and general administration expenses, supported by CASC funding from travel mileage donations in which participation is accepted by all members. Membership rates for new & renewal membership will be agreed at the AGM. Renewal fees are due for payment in the month of January. Fully paid membership must be received prior to taking part in any event of the society.

It is important to note that Green Fees & Travel mileage donations are payable **IN ADVANCE** of each event.

Following the COVID Pandemic along with the changing of bank processes and availability, it has been decided that **all payments are to be paid via bank transfer.**



WBA SUPPORTERS GOLF SOCIETY

OFFICIAL SOCIETY RULES

10. Events are chosen in advance, and it is planned to organise Ten events per calendar year at various Golf Clubs throughout the UK including an Annual Charity event which is held to raise funds for deserving Charities.
11. Dress rules must be adhered to. The Society polo shirts **MUST** be worn by members when playing or representing the society in any tournament. General etiquette to be observed (i.e., society polo shirts MUST be tucked into trousers or shorts, no T-shirts, Jeans or Denims are allowed. During summer months tailored shorts are allowed - but NOT Hawaiian style or brightly/heavily patterned shorts, or shorts with patch pockets. In addition to the society dress rules, it is the members responsibility to make sure of the venues dress code and adhere to such ruling.
12. Official handicaps are now insisted by most golf clubs. Our Society is unable to issue officially recognised handicap certificates, however we do have our own unique 'Trust Handicap' system, please refer to the Handicap or Society Secretary for further information.
13. All golf clubs have common local playing rules, and it is important that members familiarise themselves with these rules BEFORE commencing play. These rules are usually printed on the Golf Clubs score cards.
14. All official Society events that include 'Player of Year' (POY) points are played under Stableford rules and points scoring system in which only registered members can participate. In ALL events ALL players will play off their CURRENT **WBASGS 'Trust Handicap'**. Guest players are allowed to win on-course prizes (such as two's, Nearest the Pin, Nearest the pin in two), but are not eligible to win main event trophies (i.e. Annual Event trophy or any placing medals/trophies etc.).
- Guest player results/points score will not contribute towards the WBASGS Player of the Year (POY) trophy while playing as 'Guest' status. Scores will not be counted retrospectively.
15. The WBASGS Golf Society has now established a unique Trust Handicap system. A NEW member if registered and paid in full before the event, will be allowed to win from the first event entered.

The Society Handicap applies at all society events and only the Handicap Secretary can adjust. **Maximum handicap for any player is thirty-six.** Each society player will be allocated a Society '**Trust**' **Handicap** which will be used for ALL society events. Existing members have been allocated a trust handicap based on their performance from the previous year.

NEW members who join the society who are not members of an official golf club will be given a 'Trust' handicap immediately, this to be verified by the person introducing them.

HANDICAP MOVEMENTS:

At the beginning of each year & prior to the first society game, **ALL society** handicaps will be reviewed and evaluated by the handicap secretary & any adjustments will be made at this time in readiness for the new society season. Current members will be notified of their new WBASGS 'Trust' handicaps at the beginning of the year (February) and before the first society game.

Due to the limited games played by the society within the calendar year, adjustments are made FOLLOWING EACH GAME and are subject to the limited movements listed below (In **exceptional** circumstances, additional movement can be made by the handicap secretary).



WBA SUPPORTERS GOLF SOCIETY

OFFICIAL SOCIETY RULES

As society events occur monthly from February to November, these adjustments are aimed at reflecting the performance(s) of the player(s) golfing abilities.

EVENT SCORE MOVEMENTS:

Score of 41+ Stableford points	= Reduction is 3 shots:
Score of 39-40 Stableford points	= Reduction is 2 shots
Score of 37-38 Stableford points	= Reduction is 1 shot.
Score of 25-36 Stableford points	= No change
Score of 24 or less Stableford points	= Addition of 1 shot

EVENT ADDITIONAL H/C MOVEMENTS:

In addition to the above movement:

WINNER	= Reduction is 1 shot.
LAST PLACE	= Addition of 1 shot.

16. A bank and deposit account must be held in the name of the Society, with the Chairman & Treasurer of the committee having access to go about the general business and requirements associated with the society.

17. All Annual event trophies & boxes are owned by the Society. Each event winner will be presented with the annual trophy at the event and allowed to take this home to keep for a limited time (usually upto 4 weeks, but this may be asked for return earlier). It is the players responsibility to return the trophy back to the society when requested and in the same condition as given. Any damage or loss would be repaired/replaced at a cost to the player.

18. Personal information or photographs relating to competition, meetings, marketing purposes or publishing on the website are for society records only and will NOT be passed on to third parties. **Data Protection Act 1998 & GDPR 2018 apply. Please read the Act.**

19. On the dissolution of the Society any money held in the bank account will not be returned to members but paid into a Dream It Believe It Achieve charity account. Any unspent grant will be returned to the grant-making body if this was the condition upon which it was made.

20. The society vision is to have a collective of people with a common goal to enjoy the game of golf, enjoy the camaraderie between members and to always be polite and respectful when representing the WBA Supporters Golf Society. All members joining or renewing membership agree to abide by the WBASGS rules as listed. Failure to adhere to these rules will result in termination / refusal of membership.