

## **FOREWORD**

A visitor to Baltinglass Golf Club cannot but be impressed by the striking beauty of the countryside. Looking down towards the town the former Presentation Convent and the Church stand out. Nestling in the Slaney Valley stands the ruins of the Cistercian Abbey, founded by a group of Cistercian monks from Melifont, on lands granted to them by Dermot McMurrough, King of South Leinster in 1148. The Abbey became the focal point of learning and activity until its suppression in 1541. The lands comprising of 59,000 acres included several castles and water mills. The golf course stands on part of the lands owned by the monks.

After the Reformation, the Abbey and lands were granted to the Eustace family and this was followed by a succession of landlords during the 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. These included Sir Henry Harrington, Sir Charles Wilmot and Sir James Carroll, Sir Thomas Roper and the Stratford family, who represented this area in the House of Commons and the House of Lords. It was Benjamin O'Neill-Stratford II, born in 1808, who lived at Stratford Lodge, site of the present Clubhouse. In 1856 he built a balloon house beside his residence. This mansion was destroyed by fire, but the balloon house was saved. He left Ireland and died at Alicante in Spain in 1875. The balloon house was dismantled and the granite was used to build the bell tower at St. Joseph's Church, Baltinglass in 1887.

In the late 1920s the Land Commission acquired some of the estate from the descendants of Catherine Dora St. John.

In 1927 Baltinglass Golf Club was founded. Approximately 168 acres was acquired from the Land Commission on a "Trust Estate" lease under the Irish Land Act, 1903 (record No.S3804). The original trustees were: Miss Violet Tynte, Rev. Albert Byrne CC (First Captain), Dr. W.G. Lyons, Colonel Meade J. Dennis, Patrick J. Ronan, Hugh C. Doyle and Major C. Mitchell. Development of the course was confined to nine holes, which was designed by Lionel Hewson. Membership in the 1930s/1940s was very small, varying between 20 and 30 mainly business and professional people. Individual members took care of course maintenance and it was not until the late 1940s that Christy Foley became the first permanent employee.

In 1954 with the Club unable to meet its financial commitments, a decision was taken to return 80 acres of land to the Land Commission. The popularity of golf improved in the late 1960s and early 1970s and by the early 1980s membership of the Club was full and new entrants were mainly confined to the local area.

Various options were considered in the early 90's to extend the course to 18 holes, without success. On the 28<sup>th</sup> February 1999, at a Special General Meeting, attended by close on 300 members, virtually unanimous approval was given to a plan to extend the course to 18 holes.

On 27<sup>th</sup> July 2002, the New Nine Holes were opened.

Almost 80 acres of the land, which had previously been returned to the Land Commission, was purchased on the 20<sup>th</sup> August 1999, from Coillte. The layout of the new nine holes was designed by Eddie Connaughton. In 1999 the Minister agreed to unwind the "Estate Lease" and transfer ownership of the original nine holes to the members of the Baltinglass Golf Club.

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# BALTINGLASS GOLF CLUB

## CONSTITUTION

### 1.0 PRELIMINARY DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires:-

- Shall Mean*
- |      |                  |  |
|------|------------------|--|
| 1.1  | COMMITTEE        | Club Committee of Baltinglass Golf Club  |
| 1.2  | MEN'S SECTION    | Members affiliated to G U I  |
| 1.3  | LADIES' SECTION  | Members affiliated to I L G U  |
| 1.4  | ORDINARY         | As defined under rule 4.3.   |
| 1.5  | MEMBER           | A person elected as a Member in any category   |
| 1.6  | THE TRUSTEES     | Currently elected and serving Trustees   |
| 1.7  | AGM              | Annual General Meeting   |
| 1.8  | SGM              | Special General Meeting  |
| 1.9  | GENERAL MEETINGS | AGMs and SGMs  |
| 1.10 | BALLOT           | A written ballot paper.  |
| 1.11 | CLUB PROPERTY    | Course, premises, furnishings, and other assets owned, leased, used or hired by The Club |
| 1.12 | GUI              | Golfing Union of Ireland   |
| 1.13 | ILGU             | Irish Ladies' Golf Union   |
| 1.14 | SECTIONS         | Ladies' or Men's or both Sections  |
- 1.15 Rules herein are indicated by consecutive numbers.
- 1.16 Clauses are indicated by consecutive numbers preceded by Rule numbers.
- 1.17 Sub-Clauses are indicated by consecutive numbers preceded by Rule and Clause numbers.
- 1.18 Subsub-Clauses are indicated by consecutive numbers preceded by Rule, Clause and Sub Clause numbers.
- 1.19 The Men's Section shall mean the group of male amateur golfers operating under a Constitution acceptable to the GUI to which the Men's Section is affiliated
- 1.20 The Ladies' Section shall mean the group of female amateur golfers operating under a Constitution acceptable to the ILGU to which the Ladies' Section is affiliated.
- 1.21 The Club shall mean the Club formed through the amalgamation of the two groups of amateur golfers defined in Rules 1.19 and 1.20 above for the purpose of administering the affairs (other than the game of golf and its related activities), of both the Men's and Ladies' Sections including the provision and maintenance of the facilities owned by or available for use by the Members.
- 1.22 Effective: This Constitution of the Baltinglass Golf Club shall be effective from the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2011.

### 2. TITLE AND OWNERSHIP

- 2.1 The name of the Club shall be Baltinglass Golf Club.
- 2.2 The official address of the Club is Stratford Lodge, Baltinglass, Co Wicklow.

- 2.3 The ownership of the Club property shall be vested in the Trustees for the time being of the Club on behalf of the Ordinary Members as defined in Rule 4.3. The Ordinary Members and other members with the same rights and privileges as Ordinary Members shall have control of the affairs of the Club.

### **3. OBJECTIVES**

#### **Objectives of the Club:-**

- 3.1 The Main Objective of the Club shall be to promote the Amateur Game of Golf amongst its members. In furtherance of its main objective the Club shall have the following subsidiary objectives:
- 3.1.1 To provide facilities for the playing of and promotion of the Amateur Game of Golf and generally promote other social activities amongst its members.
- 3.1.2 To act in the promotion and advancement of the interests of the Club and the improvement of the facilities available to members.
- 3.1.3 To act in the administration of the affairs of both Sections which shall include:
- 3.1.3.1 Collection of and adherence to the existing rates of Annual Subscription.
- 3.1.3.2 Responsibility for the provision of the maintenance and upkeep of the Course and Clubhouse and their environs to a standard desired by Club Members;
- 3.1.4 To be fully committed to the safety and well being of its Members. Every individual in the Club shall, at all times, be aware of their rights, responsibilities and conduct themselves in a way that reflects the Objectives of the Club.
- 3.1.5 Office Holders, should be shown due respect in the cause of their duties.

### **4 MEMBERSHIP**

- 4.1 Categories: the following shall be categories of members:
- 4.1.1 Ordinary Members
- 4.1.2 Life Honorary Members
- 4.1.3 Honorary Members
- 4.1.4 Senior Ordinary Members.
- 4.1.5 Community Membership
- 4.1.6 Junior Members
- 4.1.7 Juvenile Members
- 4.1.8 Pavilion Members
- 4.1.9 Corporate Members
- 4.1.10 Temporary Members

- 4.2 The Club: The Membership of the Club shall consist of all members and all other members duly elected from time to time.
- 4.3 Ordinary Members shall be persons who, having paid the Entrance Fee, if any, Annual Subscription and Levy (if any), shall be entitled to attend and vote at all General Meetings of the Club and enjoy all the facilities.
- 4.4 Election of Life Honorary Members shall be made only at a General Meeting of The Club. Life Honorary Members will have the same rights and privileges as Ordinary Members.
- 4.5 Honorary Members shall be persons whom The Club Committee wishes to acknowledge as having rendered exceptional service to The Club or to the game of golf or whose distinguished position or public service would render their membership of special advantage to the Club. Their election shall terminate at the close of the current year, or the defined period as stated in the minutes, for a maximum of five (5) years, made on the occasion of their election. Honorary Members shall have the same rights and privileges as ordinary Members.
- 4.6 Ordinary Members and Members with the same rights and privileges as ordinary Members shall be entitled to attend and vote at all General Meetings of the Club.
- 4.7 Senior Ordinary Members are defined as Ordinary Members who have reached the age of 65 years before the 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year and who have held Ordinary Membership for 15 years. On reaching the age of 65, prior to 1<sup>st</sup> January, members shall pay 75% of the annual subscription. On reaching the age of 70 years, prior to 1<sup>st</sup> January, they shall pay half the annual subscription until they reach the age of 75 years. Thereafter they will pay a subscription as recommended by The Club Committee and approved at AGM or SGM. Senior Ordinary Members will have the same rights and privileges as Ordinary Members.
- 4.8 Community Membership is confined to Religious and Missionary Institutions, as are elected from time to time by The Club Committee.
- 4.9 Junior Members shall comprise of undergraduates and students of any recognised Third Level Education Institution, as The Club Committee decides. Such membership shall cease on the 1<sup>st</sup> January following graduation or qualification or on the 1<sup>st</sup> January, six years after the date of election – whichever period shall be the shorter. Junior members shall be eligible to play in such club competitions, and at such times, as The Club Committee may decide. Members in this category will be required to provide certification of their qualification for this category annually.
- 4.10 Juvenile members are defined as members under 18 years of age on the 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year and who have no other category of membership. The hours, during which Juveniles may play on the course, shall be determined, from time to time by The Club Committee. Juveniles with a club handicap issued in accordance with the Standard Scratch Score and Handicapping Schemes as prescribed by the Council of National Golf Unions and the Irish Ladies Golfing Union shall be eligible to play in such club competitions and at such times as the relevant sections may decide.
- 4.11 Pavillion Members shall be persons over twenty-one years who wish to enjoy the facilities of the Clubhouse. They shall not be entitled to use the course without the appropriate Green Fee.
- 4.12 The Club Committee shall have the power to admit to Corporate Membership of the Club, nominated personnel from Commercial Undertakings who may avail of facilities as determined by the Club Committee.

- 4.13 The Club Committee may introduce other categories of membership as deemed appropriate from time to time.

### **Membership of the Club**

- 4.14 The membership of the Club shall consist of all categories of membership of the Sections, and other subscribing Members, each of whom has been elected to membership of the respective section in accordance with the provisions of this or any earlier Constitution of the Club.

### **Membership of the Sections.**

- 4.15 The membership of the Men's Section shall consist of Male Members and membership of the Ladies' Section shall consist of Female Members who are Ordinary Members, Honorary or Life Honorary Members, and other subscribing Members, each of whom has been elected to membership by the Club Committee in accordance with the provisions of this or any earlier Constitution of the Club.

### **Entitlements of Members of the Club**

- 4.16 All categories, having the rights and privileges of Ordinary Members, shall be entitled to:

4.16.1 Attend and vote at all General Meetings of the Club;

4.16.2 Nomination for and election to Membership of the Club Committee

4.16.3 Nominate or second nominations of candidates for election to membership of the Club Committee;

4.16.4 Propose or second notices of motion for General Meetings of the Club;

4.16.5 Propose or second candidates for election to any category of membership.

4.16.6 Members shall have the same rights and entitlements in their respective sections.

## **5 TRUSTEES**

- 5.1 The Trustees shall be not less than two (2) and not more than five (5) members of The Club and shall be elected by the members at a General Meeting of The Club.

5.2 Nomination (with the consent of the nominee) for the election of Trustees shall be posted to the Club notice board at least 14 days prior to the General Meeting of The Club. All nominees must be properly proposed and seconded by members of the Club.

5.2.1 To be eligible for election as a Trustee of The Club the nominee must hold the same rights and privileges as an Ordinary Member of Baltinglass Golf Club for at least five (5) years.

5.2.2 The Club Committee shall have the power to fill any Trustees vacancies during any year. The persons so appointed shall hold office until the AGM of that year.

- 5.2.3 The office of any Trustee shall be vacated by such Trustee resigning there from, or on ceasing to be a member of The Club, or being removed by a resolution at the A.G.M. or an E.G.M. of The Club, or in the opinion of a qualified medical practitioner, becoming incapable of performing the duties of a Trustee.
- 5.2.4 The Trustee shall appoint one of their number as their nominee to the Club Committee
- 5.3 The Club premises and all other property of The Club shall be vested in and under the legal control of the Trustees and such Trustees shall deal with the property of The Club as directed by a resolution of The Club Committee of which an entry in the minute book shall be conclusive evidence.
- 5.4 If the Trustees, when directed by a resolution of The Club Committee to perform a certain act, consider that the performance of such act is one of such importance that they consider that the members of The club should be consulted, then the Trustees may refuse to perform such act until the members of The Club have been consulted at a General Meeting and a resolution is passed at such meeting authorising or refusing to authorise the Trustees to perform such act as was originally directed by The Club Committee.
- 5.5 A majority of one shall be sufficient to decide any question under discussion by the Trustees.
- 5.6 The Trustees shall be indemnified from the property and assets of The Club in respect of all transactions directed by a resolution of The Club Committee and against all liabilities and expenses necessarily incurred as a result of their trusteeship and in the event of The Club property and assets being deficient, such deficiency shall be made good by the Ordinary Members on whose behalf the property and assets of The Club are held.
- 5.7 The Trustees for the time being of The Club be and are hereby authorised to borrow in their own names on behalf of The Club such sums of money to an extent not exceeding such amount as may be authorised from time to time by the Club Committee and on such terms and conditions as may be authorised by The Club Committee. As security for the aforementioned borrowings the Trustees are authorised to give such security over the assets and lands of The Club as may be authorised by the Club Committee from time to time.

## **6 Management:-**

### **Allocation of Functions:**

- 6.1 The business and affairs of each Section shall be under the jurisdiction and control of a Committee, consisting of Office Holders of the relevant Section (President, Captain, Vice Captain, Section Secretary, Competition Secretary) and four (4) other Members of the Section, elected in accordance with Clause 7.
- 6.2 The business and affairs of the Club shall be under the jurisdiction and control of a Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "Club Committee"), consisting of Captain, Vice-Captain and one elected Representative, who may be the President if they so wish, of each Section, Immediate Past Club Captain, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Trustees Representative and five (5) elected at the AGM in accordance with Clause 7
- 6.3 The Club Committee, and respective Section Committees, may each exercise its powers notwithstanding that there might be a vacancy or vacancies in its membership.

6.4 Nothing in this Rule shall preclude a Member of either Section Committee, with the same rights and privileges of an Ordinary Member, being also a Member of the Club Committee, or vice-versa.

## **7. Election of Office Holders and Members of Committees**

7.1 The Presidents shall hold office until the AGM of the following year. At the end of that period, or on resignation, they shall not be eligible for re-election to the office of President until ten (10) years have elapsed.

7.2 The Captains and Vice-Captains shall hold office until the AGM of the following year.

7.3 All Members of the Committee concerned shall retire annually and shall be eligible for re-election.

7.4 The election of Members and Office Holders of The Club Committee and Section Committees shall take place at the respective AGM of the Club, the Men's Section and the Ladies' Section. The term of office shall commence on the first working day following the Club Annual General Meeting.

7.5 Nominations shall be made (with the consent of the Nominee), for election to any position as a Member of the:

7.5.1 Club Committee by any two Ordinary Members of the Club.

7.5.2 Section Committees by any two Ordinary Members of the relevant Section.

7.6 The Committee or Section Committees concerned shall have power to fill vacancies arising, in any of the Membership positions, during any year, by co-option. The persons so appointed shall hold the office until the AGM of the following or until their resignation or removal from the relevant Committee.

7.7 The Club Committee. All Members of the Club Committee shall retire annually and shall be eligible for re-election

7.8 The Club Captain shall be the Chairperson of The Club Committee, or in his/her absence the Captains or Vice Captains of the sections. The Club Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer are not eligible to be elected as Chairperson.

7.9 Nominations (with the consent of the nominee) for election of Members of the Club Committee and Section Committees shall be posted to the Club notice board at least seven (7) days prior to the relevant Annual General Meetings. All nominees must be properly proposed and seconded by members with the same rights and privileges as an Ordinary Member.

7.10 The position of any Committee Member shall be vacated by such Committee Member resigning therefrom or ceasing to be a member of The Club, or being removed by a resolution at the A.G.M. or a S.G.M. of The Club, or relevant Section.

## **8. Club and Section Committee Meetings**

8.1 Meetings of the Club Committee shall be held at least twelve (12) times per annum. Meetings of the Men's Section and the Ladies' Section shall be held not less than nine (9) times a year.

- 8.1.1 Any Member of any Committee who is absent for three consecutive meetings, or five in all, without acceptable reason, may be deemed to have resigned (at the discretion of the Committee concerned) from that Committee and the vacancy may be filled by co-option.
- 8.1.2 Upon a requisition signed by not less than five (5) members of The Club Committee, stating the nature of the business to be transacted, the Captain or Honorary Secretary of The Club shall call a special meeting of The Club Committee for the consideration thereof. If the Officers designated above neglect or refuse to call such meeting within seven (7) days the same may be convened by notice signed by five (5) members of The Club Committee.

## **8.2 Conduct of Club and Section Committee Meetings**

- 8.2.1 At meetings of The Club and Section Committees fifty per cent plus one (1) member of those entitled to attend and vote shall form a quorum.
- 8.2.2 The Chairperson at a meeting shall in addition to a deliberative vote have and shall exercise a casting vote.

## **8.3 Appointment of Club Sub-Committees.**

- 8.3.1 The Club Committee shall have power to appoint Sub-Committees and to define the scope of their authority and to delegate and confer upon such Sub-Committees the powers necessary for the discharge of the function(s) for which such Sub-Committees were formed. Each Sub-Committee may co-opt not more than three (3) non-Club Committee Members, and such co-options must be approved by The Club Committee. All Sub-Committees must report to The Club Committee.
- 8.3.2 The incoming Club Captain shall nominate the Sub-Committee Chairpersons from within the Club Committee for approval at the first meeting of The Club Committee.
- 8.3.3 Each Sub-Committee shall retire at the AGM or when the function, for which it was appointed, is completed.
- 8.3.4 The quorum of each Sub-Committee shall be defined at the time of appointment.
- 8.3.5 Not more than forty per cent (40%) of the Club Committee Members may sit on any one sub committee.

## **8.4 Employment of Staff**

- 8.4.1 Only The Club Committee shall have power to appoint a paid Secretary Manager and other Staff upon such terms and conditions as may be determined, to terminate such appointments and also to appoint substitutes from time to time.

## **8.5 Management Regulations**

- 8.5.1 The Club Committee is empowered to make, and from time to time alter, such Bye-Laws and regulations for the management of The Club as it may consider necessary.

- 8.5.2 The Club Committee is also empowered to make such local rules (provided same are not at variance with the Rules of Golf) and regulations for the use of the course as are required in the interests of all members.
- 8.5.3 Every member of every category and every visitor or other person using the clubhouse or course shall be subject to, and must comply with, all rules, Bye-Laws and regulations in force.

## **8.6 Administration**

- 8.6.1 The Honorary Secretary of the Club shall be responsible for the day to day affairs of the Club except such duties which are specifically assigned to another Office Holder of the Club or to a Secretary/Manager.
- 8.6.2 Complaints. All complaints shall be in writing. All written complaints concerning matters under the jurisdiction and control of The Club Committee shall be referred primarily to the Honorary Secretary, who if unable to resolve same, shall place the complaint on the agenda for the next meeting of The Club Committee whose decision shall be final (Rules 14 and 15). The Honorary Secretary shall acknowledge the receipt of the written complaint in writing.
- 8.6.3 The Club Committee has at all times the right to examine, withdraw or confiscate all property or documentation relating to any club business.

## **9. FINANCE**

- 9.1 The financial affairs of The Club shall be operated as follows:
- 9.2 Records. The Honorary Treasurer of the Club shall keep full and detailed accounts, books and records, showing the financial affairs, receipts and disbursements of the Club. The books and records remain the property of The Club.
- 9.3 Bank Account(s) shall be kept in the name of The Club or the Trustees of the Club (and shall be clearly identified as such) in such banks as The Club Committee may from time to time determine. All debits shall be authorised in accordance with a resolution of The Club Committee.
- 9.4 The Honorary Treasurer of The Club shall issue a financial statement, which will include income and expenditure account, balance sheet and cash flow statement of the affairs of the Club, prepared by an independent qualified accountant, for the financial year ended the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September for consideration by The Club Committee and for presentation and approval by the members at the Annual General Meeting of The Club on the date as specified in Clause 16.1.1
- 9.5 Payments to GUI/ILGU. The Club Committee shall be responsible for the payment of the Annual Subscription and the Provincial Levy payment to the GUI/ILGU in respect of the members of the relevant sections.

## **10. ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

- 10.1 The election of all members shall be decided by the Club Committee.
- 10.2 Procedure for the Election of New Members.

- 10.2.1 Proposer and Seconder. Each candidate for election must be proposed by one member and seconded by another member, which members must be an Ordinary Member of The Club.
- 10.2.2 Applications. The applicant will submit a fully completed application form to reach the Club Honorary Secretary not later than the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the month, to be considered at the next Committee Meeting. Such applications to be posted to the Club Notice Board fourteen (14) days before the next meeting.

## **11. LEAVE OF ABSENCE (LOA)**

- 11.1 Leave of Absence shall be at the discretion of the Club Committee.

## **12. SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- 12.1 Annual Subscriptions to The Club for the following year for all classes of members, will be determined by a Club General Meeting.
- 12.2 An Entrance Fee may be introduced by The Club Committee from time to time.
- 12.3 Levy.
- 12.3.1 The Club may vote to introduce a levy on members. The amount of such levy shall be payable at the same time as the Annual Subscription or such other time as may be determined.
- 12.3.2 The Club may vote to introduce a compulsory spending charge for bar and/or catering within the Clubhouse on such categories of member as it considers appropriate.
- 12.4 GUI/ILGU Levies. An additional charge to meet the Annual Subscriptions to the Golfing Union of Ireland, The Irish Ladies Golfing Union and Provincial and District levies may be made against all classes of members, as appropriate, in accordance with the Rules of GUI/ILGU.
- 12.5 Insurance. An additional amount to be decided by The Club Committee may be charged to all members to cover insurance.
- 12.6 Payment Deadline.
- 12.6.1 The Club year starts on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January each year. Subscriptions decided at the Annual General Meeting are payable on this date by the following methods.

Payment for the full amount determined at the aforementioned meeting. Payment by direct debit in equal amounts, processed on the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month to discharge the full liabilities due, the final payment must be received no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> September.

After the 31<sup>st</sup> January each year, members whose subscriptions for the current year remain unpaid, or have not signed an arrangement for payment by direct debit, shall be ineligible for any competitions held by The Club or to represent The Club in inter club competitions, nor shall members in arrears be entitled to vote at any meeting of The Club, Club Committee or section.

- 12.6.2 The Club Committee have the power to set penalty payments which will be levied on members who have not paid their subscriptions, or levies in full, on or before January 31<sup>st</sup> each year, or such other time as may be decided.
- 12.6.3 A member must notify the Honorary Secretary in writing of his/her intention to terminate membership, failing this, that person shall be liable for their subscription.
- 12.6.4 Members whose subscription, penalty and/or levy remain unpaid at 31<sup>st</sup> March following the Annual General Meeting and who have not applied to The Club Committee in writing for postponement will be deemed to have resigned their membership but may be re-elected without entrance fee, re-nomination or re-posting within six (6) months from the date the subscription became due, provided all liabilities are discharged within two (2) weeks of notification or a signed arrangement for payment by direct debit has been entered into to discharge all liabilities by 15<sup>th</sup> September.
- 12.6.5 A newly elected applicant who fails to pay his/her entry fee or subscription, or has not signed an arrangement for payment by direct debit to discharge all liabilities by 15<sup>th</sup> September, within one (1) calendar month from the date of the Honorary Secretary's notification of his/her election shall thereby render such election null and void.

### **13. VISITORS/SOCIETIES**

#### **13.1 Introduction.**

13.1.1 Members may introduce visitors.

13.1.2 Green fee rates and times of play for visitors/societies shall be determined by The Club Committee. Such conditions must be posted in the clubhouse.

13.2 The Club Committee shall have authority to suspend the rules permitting the introduction of visitors at any time, and to refuse permission for any particular visitor to use the clubhouse or course, and The Club Committee shall not be required to assign any reason for such action.

### **14. FINES AND SUSPENSIONS**

14.1 The Club Committee may impose fines and/or suspensions for breaches of any of Rules or Bye-Laws of The Club, or for breaches of the etiquette of golf and may also at any time temporarily withdraw the use of the clubhouse and course from any member whose breaches of the Rules or Bye-Laws may, in the opinion of The Club Committee, justify this course of action.

14.2 Any member about whom an allegation has been made regarding a breach of the Rules or Bye-Laws of The Club, or for breaches of the etiquette of golf, will receive written notification of the allegation and be given sufficient time to reply and make such case to The Club Committee, as he/she thinks fit, before The Club Committee makes its decision.

14.3 Any member failing to pay a fine within one (1) calendar month after notification thereof shall be suspended from the use of the clubhouse and course until such fine shall have been paid.

### **15. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

15.1 The Club Committee shall have the power, to be exercised only in accordance with the provision of this rule, to deprive a member of membership of The Club.

- 15.2 The Club Committee may, by a majority of not less than two thirds of its members then present at The Club Committee meeting, decide that a member shall be called on to resign membership of The Club, when in the opinion of The Club Committee the conduct of the member, either inside or outside The Club shall be injurious to the character and interests of The Club.
- 15.3 If the member resigns voluntarily, at the request of The Club Committee, his/her subscription for the current year (if paid) shall be returned.
- 15.4 Upon receipt of a complaint requesting, or deemed serious enough to warrant, a member being deprived of membership of The Club, the Honorary Secretary must convene a meeting of The Club Committee to discuss same. Such meeting must be held within five (5) days of receipt of the complaint.
  - 15.4.1 Each member of The Club Committee must be given an outline of the issue to be discussed with the notification of the meeting.
  - 15.4.2 At the same time a copy of the outline and notification must be sent to the member(s) concerned.
  - 15.4.3 The member may request to be allowed to appear before The Club Committee in person or for a written reply to be read on his/her behalf.
  - 15.4.4. If the member fails to exercise his/her rights as outlined in 15.4.3. The Club Committee may interpret this as they see fit.
- 15.5 The Club Committee may set up a Special Body consisting of an Office Holder and two (2) other Ordinary Members, one of whom may be nominated by the member in question, to enquire into all relevant aspects of the case and to make a recommendation to The Club Committee. The member may make an oral presentation of his/her case to a meeting of the Special Body. At least seven (7) days notice will be given to the member to attend that meeting and he/she shall have the right to call such evidence and make such case as he/she sees fit.
  - 15.5.1 The Club Committee, having considered the report and recommendations of the Special Body shall have the power, by majority of not less than two thirds of those present at the meeting to implement clause 15.6.
- 15.6 The Club Committee may implement any of the following:
  - 15.6.1 Withdraw the notification requesting the member to resign, in which case no further action shall be taken or
  - 15.6.2 Impose a fine and/or
  - 15.6.3 Suspend the member for a specified period or
  - 15.6.4 Terminate membership.
- 15.7 Within seven (7) days of the decision of The Club Committee the member shall be given notice of the decision, in writing, by the Club Honorary Secretary. Such member shall have the right to appeal against the decision within seven (7) days of the date of notification. If the decision of The Club Committee is the expulsion of the member such member shall have the right to have the appeal heard at a Special General Meeting requisitioned under Clause 16.3.1 provided that the necessary signatures for such requisition are procured either by such member or any other Ordinary member. This SGM shall by a simple majority of those present, decide whether the expulsion shall be confirmed or repealed. Should the signatures provided for in Clause 16.3.1 not be obtained within fourteen (14) days from the date of the notification The Club Committee shall have the power to deem the appeal to be lapsed and to enforce the decision forthwith. The expelled member's name

shall be removed from the list of members of The Club, he/she shall cease to be a member of The Club and the current years subscription (if paid) shall be returned to the former member or retained by The Club at the absolute discretion of The Club Committee.

15.8 All voting under this rule shall be by secret ballot.

15.9 Notice: Notice shall be deemed to be duly given if sent by prepaid registered post to the member's last address appearing in the records of The Club.

## **16. GENERAL MEETINGS**

16.1 The Club.

16.1.1 The Annual General Meeting of The Club shall, save in exceptional circumstances be held at 6 p.m. on the first Sunday of December for receiving the Annual Report of The Club Committee and the Financial Statement, in accordance with 9.4, for the year ended the previous 30<sup>th</sup> day of September, for electing Officer Bearers, Committee Members, appointing an independent qualified accountant, for revising Rules and transacting such other business of The Club as may be on the Agenda.

16.1.2 Fourteen (14) days notice, at least, of such Annual General Meeting shall be given to the members of The Club, entitled to attend and vote if the date or time specified in 16.1.1 are altered. Such notice shall be deemed to be given by posting on the club notice board, email, text messaging and posting on the club website.

16.1.3 Notice of Motion must be made to the Honorary Secretary of The Club in writing not less than fourteen (14) days before the meeting.

16.1.4 Such notice referred to in 16.1.3 shall be posted on the club notice board at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.

16.1.5 Amendments to such motions (with proposer's and seconder's names attached) may be posted on the club notice board five (5) days prior to the meeting.

16.1.6 All motions so posted cannot be withdrawn and must be discussed at the Annual General Meeting. The chairperson may, if he/she wishes, allow one amendment and one only, to any motion.

16.1.7 Nominations of Office Holders and Members of The Club Committee shall be in accordance with Clause 7 and must be posted on the club notice board at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

16.2 Agenda of Annual General Meeting.

16.2.1 The Minutes of the previous AGM and any subsequent SGM(s) will be read and adopted.

16.2.2 The Captain's address

16.2.3 The Honorary Secretary's report will be presented.

16.2.4 The Financial Statement, to be presented to the A.G.M. in accordance with 9.4, will be available from the Honorary Secretary five (5) days prior to the meeting.

16.2.5 The income and expenditure account of the Club as presented to the Annual General Meeting shall include a forecast for the coming year of projected income and expenditure for approval by the meeting. This report shall include, for the information of members, the actual comparative

expenditure of the previous and current year together with the budgeted figures of the current year as presented to the previous year's meeting.

16.2.6 Decisions involving major essential expenditure not presented in Sub-clause 16.2.5 must be sanctioned by the Trustees.

16.2.7 The independent qualified accountant for the following year will be appointed.

16.3 Special General Meetings. (SGM)

16.3.1 Special General Meetings of the Club may be called at any time by direction of The Club Committee or on a requisition to the Honorary Secretary signed by at least twenty per cent (20%) of members entitled to vote at such meeting and stating the business to be transacted.

16.3.2 No Business other than that named on the Notice shall be brought before the S.G.M.

16.3.3 Save in circumstances deemed to be exceptional by the Club Committee at least fourteen (14) days notice of an S.G.M. shall be given to Members entitled to vote, specifying the time and place of the Meeting and the business to be transacted. Such notice shall be deemed to be given by posting on the club notice board, email, text messaging, and posting on the club website.

16.4 Quorums at General Meetings.

16.4.1 The quorum for The Club shall be 10% of the members entitled to vote.

16.5 Chairperson at General Meetings.

16.5.1 The Captain of The Club shall preside at all General Meetings of The Club.

16.5.2 The Captain shall be Chairperson of the Annual General Meeting, or in his/her absence, A Section Captain or Vice-Captain. The Club Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer are not eligible to be elected as Chairperson.

16.5.3 If all of the foregoing Office Holders are absent a Chairperson shall be elected by the meeting.

16.5.4 The Chairperson shall, in addition to a deliberative vote, have and exercise a casting vote.

16.6 Mode of voting at General Meetings.

16.6.1 No proxies shall be allowed.

16.6.2 Voting shall either be by a show of hands or a ballot.

16.6.3 Ballot shall mean a vote on voting paper.

16.6.4 Elections will be by ballot when there is competition for appointments.

16.6.5 A cast ballot must have an equal number of votes as vacancies. A ballot paper containing a greater or lesser number of votes than the number of vacancies shall be deemed invalid.

16.6.6 A majority of one shall be sufficient to decide any question under discussion unless a greater majority is required by some other Club Rule.

- 16.6.7 If in the election of Office Holders or Committee Members there is a tie the tie shall be decided by a separate ballot of members.
- 16.6.8 If any member at a General Meeting propose that the mode of voting on any particular matter shall be by ballot and this is seconded by another member, then the question of whether voting should be by a show of hands or by ballot shall be decided by a show of hands.

## **17. MINUTE BOOKS**

17.1 The Club shall keep:

- 17.1.1 Minute Books which shall be the property of The Club. In one such book shall be recorded the minutes of Annual General Meetings and Special General Meetings (Rule 16). The minutes of all Club Committee meetings shall be recorded in a separate minute book (Clause 8).
- 17.1.2 The respective minutes shall be read out at the next Annual General Meeting and/or Club Committee meeting and, when approved as being a correct record, shall be signed and dated by the Chairperson.

## **18. RULES OF GOLF AND LOCAL RULES**

- 18.1 The Rules of the game of golf for The Club shall be the Rules of Golf as approved by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews.
- 18.2 In addition, The Club Committee, in compliance with Clause 8.5.2, shall from time to time prescribe such Local Rules as it considers necessary having regard to the nature of the course or otherwise provided such Local Rules are not contrary to or at variance with the Rules of Golf or directives issued by the respective Unions to which the members are affiliated.

## **19. PLAYING FACILITIES**

19.1 Days and Times.

- 19.1.1 The Club Committee shall prescribe the days and times when the members of the Club shall have the use of the course or when the course is closed or reserved for team matches or Union, Branch or District events. It shall also decide on the facilities available to Societies or other groups subject to the proviso at Rule 13.
- 19.1.2 The Club Committee shall also be empowered to direct the days and times when fourball, singles or other formats shall have priority commencing play and generally regulate the use of the course for the benefit of members.

## **20. PERSONAL PROPERTY**

- 20.1 Any personal belongings of members, visitors, and others, brought to, kept at, or left on the premises of The Club (either in the clubhouse or outside in the car park or on the course) shall be at the sole risk of the owners, and neither The Club nor any committee shall be responsible for any loss or damage thereto however arising; but this Clause shall not prejudice any claims by The Club or the owners against insurance companies in case of fire, or when otherwise covered by insurance.

## **21 REGISTRATION OF CLUBS ACTS AND INTOXICATING LIQUOR ACT**

- 21.1 No person other than a member (as defined in Rule 4 hereof) shall order or pay for refreshments in the clubhouse. Payment must be made for every expense incurred in the clubhouse before the person ordering leaves the premises.
- 21.2 No visitor shall be supplied with excisable liquor on The Club premises, unless on the invitation and in the company of a member, and that member shall, upon the admission of such visitor to The Club premises or immediately upon his/her being supplied with such liquor, enter his or her own name and the name and address of the visitor in a book which shall be kept for the purpose and which shall show the date of such visit.
- 21.3 The Club Committee may prohibit the admission of any visitor to The Club premises and no member shall bring any person whose admission is prohibited into The Club premises.
- 21.4 No excisable liquor may be sold or supplied for consumption outside the premises of The Club, except to members of The Club, between the hours of eight o' clock in the morning and ten o' clock at night.
- 21.5 No excisable liquor shall be sold or supplied in The Club premises to any person under the age of eighteen (18) years.
- 21.6 No Office Holder or Member of The Club Committee or Section Committee and no employee of The Club shall have any personal interest in the sale to The Club of supplies of excisable liquor or the profits arising from such sale.
- 21.7 No member or visitor shall, without prior approval of the Club Committee, bring any alcoholic beverages (e.g. wines or spirits) into the clubhouse for the purposes of consumption therein.
- 21.8 The Club shall comply at all times with the intoxicating Liquor Acts and the Registration of Clubs Acts as amended in all respects.
- 21.9 Any amendments to the Registration of Clubs Acts and/or the intoxicating Liquor Acts, which necessitate amendments to the Rules of The Club, can be made by the Club Committee and do not require a S.G.M.

## **22. CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION AND RULES**

- 22.1 No Rule or Clause of the Baltinglass Golf Club Constitution shall be repealed or altered or new rule made except at a General Meeting of The Club, by a two thirds majority (except in accordance with Rule 21.9)
- 22.2 The Committee's decision on the interpretation of the Constitution of The Club shall be accepted unless altered at an AGM or SGM.

## **STANDING ORDERS**

### **SO1. Procedures at General Meetings.**

- 1.1 The decision of the Chairperson on any question shall be final. Should he/she be in doubt, the matter must be settled by the majority present.
- 1.2 When the Chairperson stands to speak, all present will immediately be seated and remain silent.
- 1.3 No person shall address the meeting until called upon by the Chairperson.
- 1.4 All remarks will be addressed to the Chairperson.
- 1.5 Interruptions, improper conduct, repetition and unseemly language are deemed as bad manners and are calculated to interfere with the expeditious and satisfactory conclusion of business. The members should give the Chairperson full support for the maintenance of good order.
- 1.6 No member will be permitted to speak more than once on the same motion, except the proposer, who will have the right to reply. The proposer shall be allowed four (4) minutes and other speakers two (2) minutes.
- 1.7 Whenever an amendment is moved to any motion in accordance with 16.1.5 no other amendment shall be taken into consideration until this amendment is disposed of.
- 1.8 An amendment may be moved to any motion without notice being given. It shall be in writing, signed by the mover and seconder and handed to the Chairperson before the original motion is put (ie. before the members are asked to vote). The Chairperson may, if he/she wishes, allow one amendment and one only, to any motion. No member can move more than one amendment to the original motion.
- 1.9 Amendments that are passed will be incorporated in the original motion and this substantive motion will be put to the meeting. If it is lost, the motion in its original form will not be raised again at the meeting.
- 1.10 Motions, when put, and any other matters for decision will be decided by a show of hands. In the case of a tie, the Chairperson shall, in addition to a deliberative vote, have and exercise a casting vote.
- 1.11 Elections will be by secret ballot when there is competition for appointments.



