

LADY CAPTAINS RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PROVINCIAL UNION

The purpose of this information document is:

1. To inform the Club what the Union does for and on behalf of all its affiliated Clubs;
2. To advise them what we require from them in order for us to fulfil our duty as a Union.

The Union's Duties

The WGSA (Womens Golf South Africa) structure promotes and administers ladies amateur golf, assists with the rules and regulations governing the handicapping system, and provides opportunities for golfers at all levels, from development players through to players earning national colours. The WGSA consists of 13 Unions, of which our Union is the largest in the country (32 clubs and about 3400 affiliated members). Their Executive consists of the President, the Vice-President and the Secretary, as well as all the 13 Provincial/Regional Presidents. Executive meetings are held at the same time as national tournaments run by the WGSA i.e. the SA Amateur Championships, the 72-Hole Teams Stroke Play Championships and the Inter-Provincial Championships.

Handicapping System

Any changes to the system are passed on to us and we in turn inform our Clubs. The booklet issued by SAGA (South African Golf Association) and HNA (Handicaps Network Africa) is an absolute MUST for every Lady Captain. This is available on our website to download. www.ladiesgolfgauteng.co.za under the "Gauteng Clubs" tab.

Everything you need to know about handicaps is in this booklet.

An element of the Handicapping System is course ratings and any changes to course length should be reported to the Union. This is dealt with in the booklet and includes information such as how to measure each hole etc. The booklet also contains information about home club qualifications and privileges.

The rules governing the WGSA Silver and Bronze Medal Competitions are also in the booklet. Captains should make every effort to hold monthly medal competitions.

Any other important changes which might affect ladies amateur golf are communicated by our Union to Clubs i.e. Rules regarding loss of amateur status; lady professionals playing in our ladies open days.

Then of course, our Union runs the Gauteng League (Inter-Club Match Play). This is probably the most competitive golf that our players are exposed to on a regular basis and is, therefore, important and good for our ladies golf. We arrange the fixtures and deal with problems/disputes as well as various other Tournaments. We also select teams on an annual basis for the Inter-Provincial and 72 Holes Tournament. In addition, every few years we are called upon to act as Provincial hosts for National Tournaments organised by WGSA.

Tournaments

We make every effort to promote golf development for previously disadvantaged girls and endeavour to include these girls in our junior tournaments and assist many to participate in the SA Junior Championships in conjunction with the Girls Love Golf Programme.

During the year various Junior Tournaments are held which give juniors the opportunity to learn the rules and etiquette of the game. We are interested in all juniors so please keep us informed about new juniors joining your club.

Every year a Gauteng Squad is selected and scores for various tournaments are recorded and an Order of Merit is kept as a guideline for Provincial selection. We need information about players who show talent especially juniors with a single figure handicap and that is why Captains are encouraged to play medal rounds at their clubs.

Our Union compiles a Fixture List which is no easy task as the WGSA, Gauteng and other major Provincial Tournaments as well as league dates, public holidays, school holidays etc. have to be considered. Please make sure that these fixtures are posted on your notice board and that Club competitions are **not arranged** on these dates. Please encourage and motivate your members to participate in these tournaments. These tournaments are held for your players and it should not be necessary for us to have to phone Clubs for entries.

Invoices are sent to every Club for affiliation fees once a year. Captains need to make sure that these fees are paid to LGG.

If you would like one of your Club Members to serve on the LGG Executive, why not propose that person.

We expect either the Captain or a representative or both if preferred, to attend Captains' meetings and the AGM.

Please also mention the dress code of Clubs to your players both on the course and particularly when attending prize-giving.

Most importantly thank you most sincerely for giving the precious time you spend as a Lady Captain. We all know how trying it can be at times, but because we are all passionate about the game of golf we do our best and it can be very rewarding.

Should you have a query or problem, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or my Executive, who do so much so efficiently.

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