



## **Club Information**

### **Westgate and Birchington Golf Club Ltd**

176 Canterbury Road, Westgate - on - Sea  
Kent CT2 8LT

Tel: 01834 831115

[email: office@wabgc.co.uk](mailto:office@wabgc.co.uk)

[website: www.westgate-and-birchington-golfclub.co.uk](http://www.westgate-and-birchington-golfclub.co.uk)



## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

## Contents

- 1 Westgate and Birchington Golf Club Structure
- 2 Health and Safety Information
- 3 Course Etiquette
- 4 Dress Code
- 5 Tees and Pin Postions
- 6 Reserved Tee Times and Course Opening
- 7 Men's Knockout Competitions
- 8 Men's Competitions
- 9 Week Playing Times for Members' Guests and Non Members
- 10 1893 Club
- 11 Adverse Weather Policy
- 12 Dog Policy
- 13 Club Captain
- 14 Halfway House



## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

#### 1 Westgate and Birchington Golf Club Structure

The Board of Directors is divided into committees as follows:

- Course
- Finance, including membership
- House, including Competitions and Rules
- Handicaps
- Health and Safety

Members of these committees are detailed on the website, together with the schedule of meetings.

Club Web Site - [website: www.westgate-and-birchington-golfclub.co.uk](http://www.westgate-and-birchington-golfclub.co.uk)

The members' page is password protected. For details of this please contact the Club General Manager.



## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

#### 2 Health and Safety Information

There are inherent risks associated with the game of golf and the safety of all golfers is of paramount importance.

Please exercise due diligence and take all reasonable precautions to ensure that you endanger neither yourself nor others on the course.

Please comply with all safety, warning and directional signage on the golf course.

Westgate and Birchington Golf Club accepts no responsibility or liability for any personal injury, loss or damage caused to golfers or their property whilst on the premises.

All golfers are strongly advised to carry adequate insurance cover in terms of injury, loss or damage sustained to themselves, or their property; and injury, loss or damage to others whilst on the premises.

It is advised that golfers adhere to using the word 'FORE' in situations that may place others in danger.

Course Safety Information: <https://westgate-and-birchington-golfclub.co.uk/course-safety-information/>

**NOTICE**  
**Vehicles and**  
**contents are left**  
**here entirely at**  
**owners risk**

#### SECURITY

Members leaving any golf equipment unattended do so at their own risk.



## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

3

#### Course Etiquette

Dress Code & Etiquette <https://westgate-and-birchington-golfclub.co.uk/dress-code-etiquette/>

##### Etiquette.

Players holding up the match behind with a clear hole ahead must let the match behind play through.

Please repair all pitch marks, replace divots, and rake bunkers, leaving the rake in the bunker.

Always avoid slow play, you are reminded you only have 3 minutes to look for your ball.

We encourage Ready Golf please familiarise yourself with this.

Please extend courtesy to all players on the course. Priority is given to golfers playing the correct hole. You are reminded that green keepers always have priority on the course.

Mobile phones and all electronic devices should be turned to silent mode.

The Club encourages golfers to support the Halfway House, however play should continue in a timely manner and due etiquette must be shown to those golfers that do not wish to stop and use this facility. Please keep the course tidy.

#### PRACTICING

Practicing is permitted only in the designated practice areas.

The playing of two or more balls on any hole by one player is strictly forbidden.

#### TROLLEYS

Members are reminded not to take their trolleys onto any teeing ground or greens surround on the course.

The use of ride-on buggies on the golf course must be authorised by the Club and operation must be in accordance with the Golf Buggy Safety Policy which must be signed by members in acknowledgement of the terms and conditions.

#### PAR 3 HOLES

To eliminate excessive wear and tear on the Par 3 holes, it would be appreciated if Members would use tee pegs.

Please repair all divots.

#### GREENS

Members are reminded not to use the blade of their putter to extract the ball from the hole as this practice causes unnecessary damage to the rim of the hole.



## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

4

#### Dress Code

Dress Code & Etiquette <https://westgate-and-birchington-golfclub.co.uk/dress-code-etiquette/>

Would all people using the Golf Club please note that the following rules MUST BE STRICTLY adhered to at all times.

##### **Dress Code.**

We pride ourselves as being a friendly club where our members and visitors can enjoy their golf and socialise in our club house enjoying good quality food and drink.

There are certain standards we expect to be observed:

On the course – Smart recognised golf attire must be worn with golfing shoes. Denim clothing, collarless shirts (unless recognised golf wear) sleeveless shirts (except for ladies), rugby / football shirts, training shoes, tracksuits, cargo trousers and cargo shorts are not an acceptable standard of dress on the golf course.

Head wear – golf caps must be worn correctly with the peak facing forward.

In the Club House – As on the course, golf shoes are allowed if they are soft spiked. Smart casual wear is allowed including denim wear. The following examples are not considered appropriate as smart casual, ripped clothing (designer or not), rugby / football shirts, tracksuits.

Head wear should not be worn in the clubhouse.

These rules will be STRICTLY adhered to at all times.

Anyone NOT co-operating with these rules will be politely asked to leave the Golf Club. Staff, Committee Members and Members of the Club reserve the right to ask any persons to adhere to the above 'DressCode'



## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

#### 5 Tees

World Handicap System & Tee Positioning

Please remember if you are playing in a competition or taking out a card for handicap purposes, then use either the: - White (Slope 112), Yellow (Slope 112), Blue Men (Slope 110), Red (Slope 114), Blue Ladies (111) Tee as appropriate.

The club knockout competitions [The Hengrove, The Grieg, The Val Setterfield and The Club Scratch] should be played from the Permanent White Discs.

All other play should take place from the New Blue Tees [Non competition or Handicap Qualifying Rounds]

#### 5 Submission of acceptable scores in general play (formerly supplementary scores):

The intention to submit a card for handicap purposes outside a competition must be pre-registered (in the pro shop) the player's cdh number, name and club, plus the marker's name must be clearly printed in the register, **and the player must sign the register before play commences**

- play can be from any tee including the tee of the day, if the markers are within 10 yards of the fixed post; if not then (where permitted by the club) from the fixed marker post
- the words 'general play card' must be clearly written in the 'competition' area of score card, together with the number matching the entry in the register.
- the score card must be certified by a marker signing the card
- ultimately it is the responsibility of the player to ensure that the score for the round is included in their whs handicap index.
- for home players the completed cards (18 holes or 9 holes) must be handed back in to the pro shop.

For away players, the question should be asked of the host club if the score can be included in their daily submission. if not, the players must promptly return the score to their home club.

#### 5 Pin Postions

Pin Positions:

Yellow flag indicates pin at front of green



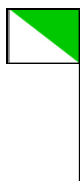
Red flag indicates pin middle of green



White flag indicates pin rear of green



Temporary Greens will be identified with a green and white diagonal flag





## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

6

#### Reserved Tees and Course Opening

Members are reminded of the following rules concerning tee times allocated to both the Ladies and the Gentlemen's section of the Club.

##### Men

The course on Sundays will be reserved for the Gentlemen members on competition days until 11 am.

Saturday Section 1<sup>st</sup> Tee reserved from 10.30 am.

##### Women

Wednesday mornings the 1<sup>st</sup> Tee will be reserved for the Ladies section between 8.30 am and 10.00 am. During the Winter period [3 months December, January and February] this will be adjusted to 8.50 am to 10.10 am.

Mixed Competitions the 1<sup>st</sup> Tee will be reserved from noon.

##### Evergreens

Tuesday mornings the 1<sup>st</sup> Tee will be reserved for the Evergreens section between 7.30 am and 8.50 am. During the Winter period [3 months December, January and February] this will be adjusted to 8.00 am and 9.00am.

##### Spring greens

Thursday mornings the 1<sup>st</sup> Tee will be reserved for the Spring greens section between 9.00 am and 10.10 am. During the Winter period [3 months December, January and February] this will be adjusted to 9.10 am and 10.30 am.

##### Play Start Times

The Course is closed until play is authorised by the Club Professional.

**Green keepers have priority on the course at all times**





## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

#### 7 Men's Club Knockout Competitions

The Men's Club Knockout Competitions are as follows:

- Club Championship
- David Grieg Cup
- Hengrove Cup
- Val Setterfield

##### Club Championship

- Singles – competition rounds to be played Summer through to Autumn
- All off scratch
- Entry List will be displayed on the Club notice board with a closing date – Mid April
- Maximum handicap – 12 playing

##### Hengrove Cup

- 4 Ball Better Ball – competition rounds to be played Summer through to Autumn
- $\frac{3}{4}$  difference between handicaps from lowest handicap player; if course on temporary greens  $\frac{1}{2}$  difference between handicaps.
- Handicap - **MAX 24 Handicap and 90% of active WHS must have submitted at least 12 cards**
- Entry List will be displayed on the Club notice board with a closing date – Mid February

##### Val Setterfield

- 2 Ball Foursomes – competition rounds to be played Winter through to Summer
- $\frac{1}{2}$  difference between the combined handicaps
- Handicap - **MAX 24 Handicap and 90% of active WHS must have submitted at least 12 cards**
- Entry List will be displayed on the Club notice board with a closing date – Mid November

##### David Greig

- Singles format – competition rounds to be played Winter through to Summer
- Full difference in handicap
- Handicap - **MAX 24 Handicap and 90% of active WHS must have submitted at least 12 cards**
- Entry List will be displayed on the Club notice board with a closing date – Mid November

##### Draw

The draw for opponents will be made by the Club General Manager.

##### Dates and Times

- Each round must be completed by the specified date
- First players are responsible for contacting each other 2 weeks prior to the closing date to agree a playing date
- 3 dates must be offered for play 1 of which must be a weekend - both players should record a contact number under their names
- If the players fail to arrange the match the match will be scratched and both excluded from the competition and following years competitions
- Matches to be played after 9.00 am and 9.30 am on sundays- please avoid bank holidays
- The closing date for each round can only be extended at the discretion of the Club General Manager - such decision being final.

##### Play offs

If after playing 18 holes the match is all square, then play will continue on holes 1, 2, 3 etc, until one player / group wins the hole on a sudden death basis.

The handicap stroke allowances will carry on through any additional holes.



## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

8

#### Men's Competitions

##### Major Competitions:

- Daniel Court Trophy – May - (scratch play)
- Read Memorial – May
- The Minnis Bay Cup – June
- Roger Game Memorial – September
- Inaugral Cup – October

##### Major Competitions Format

- Tee Times - list of reserved tee times will be booked with the pro shop.
- Start from 1<sup>st</sup>
- Medal format - stroke play apart from The Minnis Bay Cup which is Stableford format

##### Minor Competitions – Last Saturday of each month there is a QS

- KPFA QS – Feb
- RNLI QS – June
- Hospice QS – July
- RAFA QS – March
- Sonny Miles QS – October
- Christmas Hamper QS – December

##### Minor Competitions Format

- All players off the 1<sup>st</sup> Tee
- Tee times are to be booked through the Pro Shop
- All QS are to comprise of four players in each group with the booked tee times observed.



## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

9

#### Weekend Playing Times for Members' Guests and Non Members

**Saturdays:**

Green Fees accompanied by a member will be admitted on the course at the discretion of the Club General Manager or Club Professional.

Other Green Fees will be admitted on the course if tee is clear.

**Sundays:**

Green Fees accompanied by a member will be admitted on the course from 9.30 am.

Other Green Fees will also be admitted on the course from 9.30 am. However on competition days this will be from 11.00 am.

Names of guests and non-members will be entered in the register at the time the green fees are paid.

Bag tags will be issued to all non-members.



## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

10

#### 1893 Club

Wellingborough Golf Club is the founder member of the 1893 Club and there are reciprocal golf arrangements for the following clubs that have joined :

- Abernethy Golf Club, Inverness-shire Scotland
- Accrington & District Golf Club, Lancashire, England
- Baberton Golf Club, Edinburgh, Scotland
- Bellingham Golf Club, Northumberland, England
- Brechin Golf Club, Brechin, Scotland
- Brough Golf Club, East Ridings, Yorkshire, England
- Cirencester Golf Club, Gloucestershire, England
- Dudley Golf Club, West Midlands, England
- East Brighton Golf Club, West Sussex, England
- East London Golf Club, South Africa
- Enfield Golf Club, Middlesex, England
- Engadine Golf Club, Samedan, Switzerland
- Flixton Golf Club, Flixton, Manchester, England
- Foxrock Golf Club, Foxrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland
- Hampstead Golf Club, London, England
- Harborne Golf Club, Birmingham, England
- Helensburgh Golf Club, Scotland
- Holyte Golf Club, East Sussex, England
- King Edwards Bay Golf Club, Onchan, Isle of Man
- Kirby Muxloe Golf Club, Leicestershire, England
- Kircudbright Golf Club, Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland
- Long Ashton Golf Club, North Somerset, England
- Lurgan Golf Club, Lurgan, Craigavon, NI
- Malden Golf Club, Surrey, England
- Muswell Hill Golf Club, London, England
- Newtonmore Golf Club, Inverness-shire, Scotland
- Northampton Golf Club, Northampton, England
- Olton Golf Club, West Midlands, England
- Oundle Golf Club, Peterborough, England
- Robin Hood Golf Club, West Midlands, England
- Rochford Hundred Golf Club, Essex, England
- Royal Norwich Golf Club, Norwich, England
- Seascale Golf Club, Seascale, Cumbria, England
- Skipton Golf Club, North Yorkshire, England
- South Shields Golf Club, Tyne & Wear, England
- Stanmore Golf Club, Middlesex, England
- Townsville Golf Club, Queensland, Australia
- Wanstead Golf Club, London, England
- Wellingborough Golf Club, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, England
- Wells Golf Club, Somerset, England
- Westgate and Birchington Golf Club, Kent, England



## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

11

#### Adverse Weather Policy

##### **LIGHTNING:**

A decision to carry on playing during adverse weather conditions is left to the discretion of the player, who **MUST** accept full responsibility for their safety. In the event of lightning on the course, golfers out on the course are advised to cease playing.

Lightning- During outbreaks of lightning play must cease immediately and players must follow the advice given and leave the course and only return to play when it is safe to do so, and the storm has passed. Play should not resume for at least 30 minutes, after the final clap of thunder.

Whenever possible you will be warned by THREE LONG CONTINUOUS BLASTS OF THE KLAXON or when the gap between the crack of thunder and the flash of lightning is 4 seconds or less, irrespective of whether the klaxon is sounded, it is mandatory that you leave the course in safe manner. You must cease play immediately; mark your ball and take whatever action you consider most appropriate to ensure your safety.

Where there is not sufficient time to evacuate the course and there is a threat of lightning, you are advised to comply with following procedure:

Leave your golf equipment and stand away from it

Do not put an umbrella up in any circumstance or brandish clubs as they may act as a lightning conductor

Do not shelter under trees or go to high ground

##### **FOG/MIST POLICY:**

Fog/Mist- It is mandatory that all players cease playing when heavy fog or mist envelops the course. This applies to all parts of the course when visibility is less than 200yards. Whenever possible you will be warned by THREE LONG CONTINUOUS BLASTS OF THE KLAXON.

Players who continue to play and ignore the warning may be subject to sanction by the club and will be deemed to be endangering their fellow players and indeed themselves. Players must also recognise by continuing to play that if an accident occurred which is reported, personal golf insurance may well be invalidated, and the club could be sanctioned by the HSE (Health and Safety Executive). Play cannot recommence until advised by a club official or visibility is in excess of 300 yards.

##### **ICE and SNOW:**

The Club will close the course if snow and ice conditions are deemed to be too severe, however, when the Club have not shut the course, but conditions deteriorate you are reminded that if you continue to play you do so at your own risk and the club accepts no liability if you harm yourself in such conditions

##### **RE-OPENING THE COURSE:**

The course will not reopen until a club official deems it safe for play.



## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

12

#### Dog Policy

Dogs are not permitted in the clubhouse.

All dogs outside and on Club's premises must be kept on a lead at all times.





## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

#### 13 Club Captain

##### THE ROLE OF THE CAPTAIN

During his year in office, the Captain is the principal member of the Club. He should demonstrate, by example, the standards of conduct expected of fellow members and should seek to uphold the traditions of the club and the true spirit of amateur golf.

The position, of course, involves a number of responsibilities and privileges, the principle ones among them being listed below.

##### RESPONSIBILITIES

In all cases below the Captain should be assisted by his Vice Captain, who should assume his role should he be unavailable.

###### New Members:

The most effective way of introducing new members to the club is for the Captain to invite them to play a round of golf with him.

###### Conduct of Members:

Members should, at all times, conduct themselves appropriately on the course and in the clubhouse and should strictly adhere to the Rules of Golf. The Captain, if made aware of any indiscretion, should speak to the individuals concerned and try to resolve the problem. Should he be unable to do so the matter should be reported to the Club General Manager and, through him, to the Board of Directors.

###### Board Meetings:

The Captain is expected to attend the meetings of the Board of Directors throughout the year, satisfying himself that matters are dealt with in the best interests of the membership as a whole.

###### Inauguration Day:

The Captain will have a drive-in ceremony following the completion of the Inaugural Cup Competition, held on the last Sunday in October. Prior to the drive-in he will be presented with his blazer by the retiring captain, who will speak about his year in office. The Captain will speak in reply. When the Captain drives in from the 18th tee, having been accompanied there by the Club Professional, it is customary for him to present the member who returns the ball to him with a bottle of whisky. During the afternoon – possibly including a light buffet provided at his expense – the Captain will call members to order and present prizes to the winners of all the Club's major competitions played during the year.

###### Club Matches:

The Club Manager will organise the dates for these matches, currently played at home and away against St Augustine's, Sene Valley, Walmer and Kingsdown, and Whitstable and Seasalter.

The Captain will select his teams and make arrangements for the day, with the assistance of the Club General Manager if required. In the case of home matches he will greet his guests, who are usually provided with rolls and coffee on arrival. The exact format of the match will be at his discretion, but it ends, traditionally, with a formal meal at which both captains make short speeches. There are other, specific and arcane traditions associated with these matches, and the Captain is advised to consult previous captains in advance. In the past the Captain has always provided brandy before play and port during the dinner.

###### Mixed Competitions and Matches:

The Lady Captain will arrange and organise these events, guided by the Club General Manager. The Captain is expected to take part, partnering the Lady Captain.

###### Captain/Professional Challenge

The Club General Manager will post a notice inviting members to play against the Captain and the professional or assistant professional. Members will be charged a small fee for taking part, which will be donated to the Club/Course improvement fund. The pair who perform best in these matches will be rewarded by the Captain with a bottle of whisky.

###### The Evergreens [the Senior Section of the Club]:

It is anticipated that the Captain will be invited to play with the Senior Section from time to time. His involvement would be very much appreciated.



## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

#### Social Functions:

The Club General Manager will keep the Captain informed of any planned social events. The Captain should try to make himself available for these and will inevitably be invited to distribute prizes and to make a short vote of thanks as appropriate.

#### Captain's Charity:

The Captain needs to select a charity and advise members of this, organising fund-raising events throughout the year. An alternative, with the approval of the Board, would be to raise funds to support club projects or improvement plans.

#### Finals Day[s]:

The Captain, or his nominees, will be expected to referee the finals of the Club's knockout competitions.

#### League Teams:

The Club presently takes part in the East Kent League, Super Seniors League and the Kent Veterans' League. Responsibility for the running of each of the teams will be assumed by members nominated by the Captain.

#### Captain's Day[s]

This is regarded as the highlight of the year and is entirely the responsibility of the Captain. The Captain should, with the help of the Club Manager, organise sponsorship for the event and might consider setting up a half-way house on the course at his own expense. Entertainment can be arranged by the club, the Captain providing light refreshments for the members and their guests.

#### Captain v Vice-Captain Match:

This is, traditionally, a 24-a-side match on a pre-arranged date. Golf is preceded by brandy, rolls and coffee and followed by a formal, two-course meal. Brandy and port are provided by the Captain.

#### Past Captains Match for the Ron Yates Trophy:

This is a stableford competition organised by the Captain, who will invite previous captains to take part. The formal meal at the end of the event will be paid for by the Club.

#### Invitation Day:

This is a stableford competition hosted by the Captain, open to the members and their guests – who will not be required to pay a green fee. The format of the day is at the Captain's discretion, but it normally begins with coffee and a roll and concludes with a one-course meal. Members are expected to pay for their guests.

### PRIVILEGES

#### Club Subscription:

In recognition of the considerable responsibilities undertaken by the Captain, he will be afforded honorary membership during his year in office.

#### Expenses:

The club will allocate an amount, agreed by the Finance Committee, for the Captain to use to defray some of the expenses incurred during his year.

#### Club Blazer:

The Club provides the Captain with an appropriately badged blazer with which he will be presented at his inauguration. This should be ordered well before the day. The Club General Manager will provide necessary details.

#### Courtesy Golf:

Many clubs, ours included, afford visiting captains courtesy of their course. Should the Captain wish to visit another course he should ask the Club General Manager to make arrangements for him. If the Club is made aware of a visit from the captain of another club the Captain will be informed, giving him the opportunity to make his acquaintance.

#### Competition Tee Times:

The Captain is entitled to a reserved starting time in club competitions. It is anticipated that rather than playing with the same group each time he will try to play with as many different members as possible.





## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

#### First Tee:

On occasions other than formal competitions, and as a matter of respect and courtesy, members are expected to give precedence to the Captain on the first tee and invite him and his partners to play through.

#### Car Park:

A space is reserved for the Captain in the car park. It is for his exclusive use and should never be used by any other person.



## Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

### Club Information

#### 14 Halfway House – Rules for use

Players arriving at the halfway house may stop for refreshments if they so wish. If they are playing a Club Competition, however, and any member of the group does not wish to stop, they must carry on if the 14th fairway is clear to play. If the hole is not clear they must carry on as soon it becomes so. No undue delay must be imposed on a competitor who does not wish to discontinue play.

If a group has stopped with the 14th fairway is clear to play, another group arriving before play commences and not wishing to stop must be invited through.

If the 14th fairway is not clear when a group arrives for refreshments the players do not lose their place in the field providing they are ready to proceed as soon as the hole becomes clear.

If the hole becomes clear whilst refreshments are being taken, and a group taking refreshments is not ready to proceed, a waiting group must be invited through.

#### References:

Rule 6-8. The player shall not discontinue play unless: - (i) The Committee have suspended play. (ii) He believes there is a danger from lightning. (iii) He is seeking a decision from the Committee on a doubtful or disputed point. (iv) There is some other good reason such as sudden illness.

#### Decision 6-8a/2.7.

Q. May a player, between the play of two holes, enter the clubhouse or a halfway house to obtain refreshment if he then proceeds immediately to the next tee and consumes the food/drink while continuing his round?

A. Yes. A player may enter the clubhouse or a halfway house without penalty. However, the player must not unduly delay either his own play or that of his opponent or any other competitor.

**PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE TO YOUR FELLOW GOLFERS**

**PLEASE KEEP THE NOISE DOWN AND RESPECT THOSE ON THE 13<sup>th</sup> GREEN AND 14<sup>th</sup> TEE**