

THE DARENTH SENIORS - Constitution

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1. NAME AND OBJECTIVES

The Section shall be called 'THE DARENTH SENIORS' (hereinafter referred to as the Section) and its objectives shall be:

- 1.1 To enable members to get the greatest enjoyment from their golf.
- 1.2 To have the opportunity to advance their understanding of both the rules and etiquette of golf.
- 1.3 To improve their golf in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere and to facilitate competitive golf.
- 1.4 To enlarge their circle of friends and enhance their fellowship by engaging in social activities.

2. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 Be male, 50 years or over, hold a current playing permit at The Darenth Golf Course (hereinafter referred to as TD) and have paid the Section's joining fee and annual administration fee.
- 2.2 An administration fee will become payable to the Section on 1st April each year.

3. ORGANISATION

To spread the organisational workload and make the running of the Section as smooth as possible the following arrangements will be put in place each year.

- 3.1 OFFICERS – Hon-President; Captain; Vice-Captain; Immediate Past Captain, Secretary; Treasurer; Competition & Handicap Secretary, Match Secretary and Social Secretary.
- 3.2 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) - will consist of the Hon- President, Captain, Vice-Captain, Immediate Past Captain, Secretary, Treasurer, Competition & Handicap Secretary, Match Secretary and Social Secretary. Four members will constitute a quorum. The Committee will normally meet at least four times each year, one meeting to be held shortly before the AGM.
- 3.3 COMPETITION and HANDICAPPING COMMITTEE - will consist of Captain, Vice Captain, Competition & Handicap Secretary and Secretary.
- 3.4 ELECTION OF OFFICERS - the following officers will be subject to election each year Hon-President, Vice-Captain, Secretary, Treasurer, Competition & Handicap Secretary, Match Secretary and Social Secretary. The Vice Captain on election will be expected to serve as Vice Captain, then Captain the following year, without further election.

At the Annual General Meeting members will vote on those nominated for the above posts. Incoming officers to take office on 1st April each year. Incumbent officers to remain in posts until 31st March each year.

Nominations must be sponsored by at least two members of the Section. Such nominations must be submitted to the Secretary in writing 14 days prior to the AGM and will be posted 10 days prior to the AGM.

In the event of more than one candidate being nominated for office a secret ballot will take place at the AGM/EGM under the supervision of two scrutineers appointed at the meeting.

An auditor will be appointed each year.

- 3.5 CO-OPTION - The Committee has the power to co-opt other members to the Committee during the year should the need arise. An Almoner is normally appointed each year.
- 3.6 SUB COMMITTEES - The Committee may set up sub committees to examine specific issues and report back to the Committee with its findings. The Committee will determine terms of reference, membership, timescales, etc. for any sub committee it establishes.

4. NUMBER OF MEMBERS

- 4.1 The Section is open to all TD subscribers meeting the requirements set out in clause 2 above. The Committee reserves the right to suspend membership entry if the "Reserved Tee Time" for Thursday competitions is insufficient to accommodate all members.

5. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 5.1 The Annual General Meeting will take place during the month of March each year. Notice of the meeting will have been publicised at least 14 days prior to the meeting on the Section's Notice Board and Website. Agenda items must be with the Secretary at least 14 days prior to the AGM. The agenda will be published at least 7 days ahead of the AGM. A quorum of 10 members is required for the meeting to be valid. If required, two scrutineers will be nominated to oversee and count votes. The business to be conducted at the AGM will include the following.

The Captain will present his annual report.

The Treasurer will present the Financial Report and audited Accounts.

The election of Officers will take place.

Appointment of Auditor.

Members' proposals.

Any other business, at the discretion of the Chairman.

6. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

- 6.1 An Extraordinary Meeting will be called by the Secretary on receipt of a written application by 10 or more members of the Section stating the purpose of the meeting. Notice of a meeting must be posted on the Section's Notice Board and Website at least 14 days prior to the meeting taking place. A quorum of 10 members is required. If required, two scrutineers will be nominated to oversee and count votes.

7. FINANCE

- 7.1 An annual fee will be payable by all members, dependent on the budget submitted by the Treasurer, to cover organisational expenses. A joining fee will be set, and adjusted from time to time, by the Committee.
- 7.2 The Treasurer will maintain a Bank or Building Society Account in the name of the Section. Withdrawals from the account can only be made against the signatures of two Committee Members. This should be the Treasurer and the Secretary. However, if for any reason the Treasurer or Secretary are unable to sign, the signature of another Officer included on the bank mandate will be accepted.
- 7.3 Running totals are to be kept and all financial records to be available for inspection by any member at any reasonable time. The Committee has authority to use small amounts for purchasing sundry items, e.g. books, ledgers, papers etc. Decisions on the disbursement of substantial amounts from the bank will be taken in consultation with the Committee. The cost of purchase for trophies and engraving of perpetual trophies will be met from general funds.
- 7.4 A levy may be set to recompense the Captain's legitimate expenses.
- 7.5 Financial year-end will be 31st December. Audited accounts will be submitted to the Section's A.G.M.

8. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- 8.1 Any amendment to this Constitution shall receive the assent of not less than two thirds of the Members of the Section present and voting at any AGM or EGM called for the purpose of making such amendments.

9. GUIDANCE NOTES

- 9.1 The Committee will maintain a set of Guidance Notes. These will contain those matters that are helpful for the effective running of the Section, however do not belong within the Section's Constitution.

10. DISSOLUTION

- 10.1 If for any unforeseen circumstances it becomes necessary to wind up the Section, the Committee shall have power to dispose of any assets held by, or in the name of, the Section, as they deem fit.

11. MEMBERS DISCIPLINE

- 11.1 The Committee reserves the right to exclude any member breaching generally accepted standards of behaviour. In the event of a challenge to an exclusion, the Committee shall appoint three Past Captains, who have not been party to the exclusion, to hear the appeal.

12. THE DARENTH GOLF COURSE

- 12.1 Nothing in this Constitution shall contravene any rules or instructions set from time to time by The Darenth.

(Approved at Seniors Section AGM - 8th March 2018)

Notes regarding previous history changes to Section's Constitution

Note: January 2018 - (start of the Section at The Darenth)

March 2025 – (Minimum age criteria reduced from 55 to 50, AGM agreement)