

1. **Name:** The Club shall be called "Mahee Island Golf Club."
2. **Objects:** The Club is formed to provide for the members a Golf Course, and to provide to the members, licensed permission from Mahee Island Golf Club Limited to use Mahee Island Golf Club for playing of the game, and generally to further the interests of golf. Mahee Island Golf Club Limited is a separate entity from the Club.
3. **Rules of Golf:** The game shall be played according to the Rules of Golf for the time being adopted or approved of by the Golfing Union of Ireland, except where otherwise provided for by the local rules of the Club. Every member shall be bound by and submit to the Rules, Bye-laws and Local Rules of the club.
4. **Officers:** The Officers of the Club shall be a President, Captain, Vice-Captain, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, who shall be elected by the whole body of the members at the Annual General Meeting. They shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting, when they shall retire, but shall be eligible for re-election from year to year. The President shall hold office for a period of two years.
5. **Council:** Nominations for election to Council, together with the names of the proposer and seconder of the nominee, must be given in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting. The Honorary Secretary shall post details of such nominations on the Club notice board at least seven days before the Annual General Meeting. The Council shall be composed of the five Office Bearers, the Past Captain and ten elected members who shall be elected by the general body of members at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office for a period not exceeding two years when they shall retire, but shall be eligible for re-election; five to form a quorum. Any member of Council absent from four consecutive meetings without reasonable excuse shall be compulsorily retired.
6. **Casual Vacancies:** In the event of a vacancy occurring amongst the officers of the Club, the place shall be filled by a member of Council elected by that body who shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting. A member can be co-opted to fill a vacancy on the Council.
7. **Powers of Council:** The Council in addition to the powers hereinafter specially conferred on them shall have the control of the finances of the Club insofar as they are defined by the terms of the licensing agreement with MIGC Ltd and Rule 13 of the Club rules, along with power to engage, control and dismiss Club employees, supply refreshments, and have such administrative powers as may be necessary for properly carrying out the objects of the Club in accordance with these Rules. The Council shall hold meetings when necessary for the transaction of club business, and may appoint sub-committees from amongst their number, and delegate to any such sub-committees any of their powers except the election or removal of members. The Council shall have power to delegate to the Ladies Committee such matters as may be found necessary from time to time for them to deal with in the interests of the Club.
8. **Duties of the Honorary Secretary:** The Honorary Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Club, shall have the custody of all documents belonging to the Club and shall keep full and correct minutes of all proceedings.
9. **Duties of the Honorary Treasurer:** The Honorary Treasurer shall keep the Accounts and Books showing the financial affairs, receipts and disbursements of the Club, and prepare a statement thereof to be submitted after audit at the Annual General Meeting.
10. **Auditors:** Two members who shall not be members of Council shall be appointed auditors at the Annual General Meeting. They, or one of them, shall audit the Annual Statement of Accounts and Balance sheet before submission to the Annual General Meeting. In the event of both of the Auditors ceasing to be members of the Club during the financial year The Council shall be empowered to appoint their successors.
11. **Membership:** Candidates for election to membership must be proposed and seconded by full members of the Club. The candidate's names shall then be submitted to the Council and a vote shall be taken where a four-fifths majority is required for election to membership subject to a subsequent interview. Candidates voted upon and not elected shall not be proposed again for election within a period of twelve months. On the election of new members the Honorary Secretary shall notify them in writing and request them to pay their entrance fee and first subscription to the Honorary Treasurer. No person shall enjoy any of the benefits or privileges of the Club until such payment shall have been made; and if such payment be not made within 28 days from the date of the Honorary Secretary's notice the election shall be absolutely void, unless such person shall show sufficient cause for such delay to the satisfaction of the Council.
12. **Categories of Membership**
 - (a) Full Members shall be 22 years of age or over.
 - (b) Restricted members shall be 22 years of age and over.
 - (c) Junior Members shall be between 18 and 22 years old.
 - (d) Juvenile Members shall be under 18 years old..
 - (e) Honorary Members as per Rule 15.
 - (f) House Members (to maintain their association with the Club) do not have playing or voting rights.
 - (g) Life and Lady Associate memberships are closed but those currently within these categories shall retain their status.
 - (h) Members reaching the age of 65 years shall be classed as 'retired members' providing they have been members for a period of 20 years.
 - (i) Overseas members shall be 22 years and over and who are normally resident outside the island of Ireland.
13. **Subscriptions:** The Annual Subscription and Entrance Fee shall be as approved at the Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting. Any person elected after 1st day of November in any year shall not, after having paid their Entrance Fee and first annual subscription be required to pay the subscription for the following year.
14. **Payment of Subscriptions:** All Annual Subscriptions as set by the Annual General Meeting, or as amended by Rule 12, shall be payable in advance on the 1st day of January. No member whose subscription is in arrears can compete for any Club prize, or vote at any meeting. Any member whose subscription is unpaid on the last day of February shall cease to exercise the privileges of membership. They shall cease to be a member of the Club but may be reinstated by Council on receipt of an acceptable explanation, the availability of a suitable vacancy and the payment of all arrears.
15. **Honorary Members:** On the recommendation of the Council prominent golfers or persons who shall have rendered service to the club or to the game of golf, or are distinguished in public life, may be elected honorary members at any general meeting of the Club over and above the complement of ordinary members. The number of Honorary Members shall from time to time be at the discretion of Council.
16. **Resignation:** A member may at any time, by giving notice in writing to the Honorary Secretary on or before the 31st December of each year, resign their membership of the Club, but shall continue to be liable for any Annual Subscription due and unpaid at the date of their resignation. Any such member having discharged all their liabilities to the Club and wishing to rejoin may be proposed and balloted for in accordance with Rule 11, and the Council may, at their discretion, excuse them from any entrance fee.
17. **Complaints:** All complaints shall be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary, who, if unable to deal with them, shall submit such complaint to the Council, whose decision shall be final. In no instance shall a servant of the Club be reprimanded directly except by an officer of the Club.
18. **Expulsion:** If it is brought to the notice of Council that a member is persistently breaking any of the rules or bye-laws of the Club, or conducting themselves in a manner that is likely to endanger the welfare or good order of the Club, the Council will appoint a sub-committee of five Council members, to investigate the matter and act on behalf of the Club. The investigating committee shall comprise the Club Captain plus four members of Council whose names will be drawn at random by the Captain. If the Captain is unable to perform this role then the Vice-Captain can do so in place of the Captain.
The Honorary Secretary shall communicate with the member informing them that a special meeting of the investigating committee will be held to consider the complaint and notify them that they may attend there to explain their conduct. If a four-fifths majority of the committee consider it expedient that the member should resign, they shall be given the option of so doing within 14 days. Should they fail to do so within that time the member shall be suspended or expelled from the club at the discretion of the committee.

19. **Appeal.** Any club member disciplined by the club under Rule 18 has the right within 14 days of being notified of the decision of Council to appeal that decision. The Club member must notify the Honorary Secretary in writing of their intention to appeal and the grounds for doing so. In the event of an appeal being received by the Honorary Secretary, Council will convene an appeal panel comprising three members of Council none of whom were involved in the initial investigating committee. The President should, as far as possible, chair the Appeal panel along with two other Council members whose names shall be drawn at random by the President. If the President is not able to perform this function then the Captain will draw three names at random to sit as an appeal panel.

The Appeal panel shall hear the Club member's appeal and will adjudicate the appeal based upon a two-thirds simple majority. The decision of the appeal panel will be communicated to the Club member within seven days of decision and will be the final decision of the Club.

Should Council feel that the complaint is of such a serious nature that in their opinion action must be taken immediately to protect the interests of the Club, the Council can (by a two-thirds majority of the meeting, at which not less than ten members of the Council shall be present), suspend the member with immediate effect pending a special meeting of the appointed investigating-committee within 14 days.

20. **Club Property:** Any member expelled or otherwise ceasing to be a member of the Club, shall forfeit all such rights to, or claim upon the club or its property or funds as they otherwise would have had by reason of membership.
21. **Visitors:** A member may introduce three visitors to the privileges of the course on payment of the appropriate green fee. The name and address of the visitor and the name of their introducer shall be entered in the visitors' book and payment made prior to play. Visitors must be accompanied on the course by the introducing member. The visitors' temporary green fees are the legal property of MIGC Ltd and liability for loss of such lies with that company.
22. **Any member of the public** may play the course at appropriate times not defined as "exclusive" by the licensing agreement with MIGC Ltd on payment of green fees as fixed by MIGC Ltd.
23. **Payment of Expenses:** Members are required to pay all expenses they incur on their own behalf or for visitors in the Clubhouse or on the course before they leave the premises.
24. **Annual General Meeting:** The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held not later than the last day of December each year, on such day and at such hour and place as the Council shall decide, for the purpose of receiving the Council's Annual Report, the Honorary Treasurer's Financial Statement, the election of Officers, Auditors and Council, revising rules and transacting any other business that may arise. Any member wishing to bring any business before the meeting must hand a copy of the resolution they wish to propose to the Honorary Secretary in writing at least 14 days prior to the date of the meeting. A quorum shall consist of ten members. Should there not be a quorum assembled within 30 minutes of the time appointed, the meeting shall set a new date and stand adjourned and so on in like manner until a quorum be present.

25. **Extraordinary General Meeting:** The Council may call an Extraordinary General Meeting should any question of urgent importance arise, and must do so on receiving a requisition signed by twelve full members of the club, stating the business to be considered at the meeting.
26. **Mode of Voting:** Voting shall be by a show of hands, or by ballot when demanded by any member. No proxies shall be allowed.
27. **Notice of Meeting:** At least 14 days' notice of any General Meeting, specifying the business to be transacted and the day, place and hour of the meeting shall be sent to every full member.
28. **Chairperson:** At all meetings the Chair shall be taken by the Club Captain, or in their absence by a member of Council elected by those present. The Chairperson shall have a casting vote at all meetings, in addition to their original vote.
29. **Alteration of Rules:** No Rule of the Club shall be repealed or altered, and no new Rules shall be made save by a two-thirds majority of the members present at a General Meeting, save as provided for by Rule 26 in case of Local Rules. Fourteen days notice of the intention to propose any new rule or alteration shall be given to the Honorary Secretary, in writing, who shall post details on the club notice board at least seven days before a general meeting.
30. **Bye-laws:** The Council is empowered to make, repeal, or amend such rules or bye-laws as they may from time to time consider necessary, and amendments shall have effect until set aside by the Council or General Meeting.
31. **Trustees:** The property of the Club shall be vested in four trustees who shall be appointed at a General Meeting of the Club. A General Meeting shall have power to remove any of the trustees and to fill any vacancy caused by removal, resignation, or death. The Trustees shall have power to invest money and adopt such measures as may appear to them expedient for the interests of the Club, subject to the approval of the Council.
32. **No member** shall take away from the Clubhouse under any pretence whatever, without the permission of the Honorary Secretary any newspaper, pamphlet, book or other article, the property of the Club, any member injuring or destroying such property shall make the same good to the satisfaction of the Council.
33. **Notices:** No paper, notice or placard, written or printed, shall be put up in the Clubhouse or course, unless authorised by Council.
34. **Addresses of Members:** Every member shall from time to time communicate to the Honorary Secretary their address or that of their banker or agent. Such address shall be inserted in the register of members, and all notices shall be deemed to have been duly delivered on the day following the date of posting.
35. **Recovery of debt due to the Club:** The Honorary Treasurer shall be authorised to sue on behalf of the Club when directed by the Council so to do, the minutes of the meeting at which such direction shall be given shall, when confirmed, be evidence of such authority.

MAHEE ISLAND GOLF CLUB



Club Rules *October 2015*

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KILLINCHY

COUNTY DOWN

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