

Pyecombe Golf Club

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



WHY NOT COME AND JOIN PYECOMBE?

You will receive a friendly welcome at one of the most picturesque courses in the area. The club is steeped in tradition and was formally opened back in 1894.

THE COURSE

The course measures 6304 yards and was redesigned in its infancy by the iconic golf architect James Braid. It is not long by modern standards but don't let that fool you. The layout provides a challenging test for golfers of all abilities. Accuracy is paramount with inventive shot making required to negotiate the 18 holes.

The club is situated in the South Downs National Park and offers stunning views across the Sussex Weald. Natural flora is encouraged to grow around the course which adds to the enjoyment of your round.

PLAYABILITY

The course is maintained to the highest standards by our club's Head greenkeeper Simon Wells. In summer the layout is superbly presented with smooth

running greens. In winter bad weather rarely closes the course, due to the superb drainage. There is also no need to ban trolleys in winter, something few courses can boast.

Simon notes that "the fact the course benefits from a chalk base, enables golfers to play virtually 365 days a year. Golfers can relax knowing that their game will not be cancelled due to bad weather"

RECENT AWARDS

The club is proud to have been finalists in the prestigious National Golf Environmental Awards. It was commended for the work it does within the South Downs National Park, encouraging natural habitation and wildlife, embracing natural fauna with many natural wild flowers around the course. In fact one of the judging panel

remarked "I can't tell you how much I enjoyed my visit to Pyecombe. Not only was the course and attention to the environment first rate, the views across the Downs were stunning. A hidden gem."

A further accolade for the club was winning 'The Southern Counties Golf Club of the Year 2013'. The award recognises businesses and individuals who have made an outstanding contribution. The panel were particularly impressed with "the fantastic condition of the greens and with the fairways cut to perfection". They also noted "it was the most picturesque course in the area and provides an excellent venue for society days" Judges were also really impressed with the warm, friendly and welcoming attitude of the Pyecombe team inside the clubhouse.



PYECOMBE GOLF CLUB

10th Hole Green



In 2011, Ewen Murray, Sky Sports Commentator, visited the club reviewing the progress made in course development. He commented: 'I enjoyed my amble around your lovely old Downland course that unquestionably has an enviable charm'. He also reported that the club had a clean bill of health remarking how impressed he was by the enthusiasm and the love of the club demonstrated by the staff and members.

PYECOMBE GOLF CLUB CLUB SECTIONS

Pyecombe prides itself on being a very friendly and hospitable club. It has a wide range of competitions for all ages and standards.

MEN

A wide range of competitions take place at the club throughout the year including monthly, weekend and weekday medals, stablefords, trophy and knockout competitions.

On a Saturday morning, there is a members 'roll up' meeting in the clubhouse at 8.00am when partners are drawn, teeing off at 8.30 am. This is a great way to meet members of the club.

The Men's Section has a good record in the Sussex Scratch Knockout competition which is run by the Sussex Golf Union.

To provide good competition for low handicappers, another scratch competition called the Pyecombe Pitcher takes place through the summer months against other Sussex clubs and concludes with a prestigious final at the end of the season.

The Mid Sussex League (MSL) is made up by Worthing, Ifield, Haywards Heath, Copthorne and Pyecombe. Clubs play against

each other twice a year (summer and winter league) with matches being played home and away on the same day followed by a good lunch!! As well as these matches the League also holds Summer and Winter finals days (individual and team event) and the Friendship Bowl which is a mixed event. Each club takes it in turn to host these events.

There are also several inter-club matches.

BUCKS

This is the name given to a section of the men who have a handicap of 16 or more. A competition called the Colts Tankard is held at the club and throughout the summer months. Several matches take place against other Sussex clubs home and away with an Inter-club Finals day being held at the end of the season for those who have taken part.

SENIORS

The Seniors is a section of the club for men aged 55 and above.

The hold a seniors club championship and play fixtures against other downland courses. They also compete in the Sussex County club competitions

VETS(VETERANS)

The Vets have their own section within the club which is open to all male members aged 60 and over There is a nominal joining fee for the year. Several competitions are held at the club throughout the year and many club matches are played with other Sussex clubs

LADIES

The Ladies have a full range of competitions held throughout the year. The Tee is reserved on Tuesday for competitions which are also played at weekends. There is a dedicated tee reservation for ladies on a Sunday morning.

MIXED

The Club has many mixed events and matches with other local Clubs which are very well supported.



PYECOMBE GOLF CLUB SIGNATURE HOLES

HOLE 3



SWITCHBACK

Possibly the best 3rd hole in Sussex. An elevated tee shot gives a panoramic view of the hole. The approach shot will be long and to a narrow green. A challenge in any conditions, but a joy to play. A par is a great score on this hole.

HOLE 10



POND

Following the same valley, an accurate and well struck drive is required to avoid or clear a copse of trees in the middle of the fairway. The approach to the green requires accuracy to avoid out of bounds to the back of the green, and to the left what was originally a cock fighting pit, then a green, and now a pond!

HOLE 16



JACK AND JILL

Crossing the South Downs Way, The 16th provides long hitters the opportunity to boom a drive over the dew pond, which is strategically placed for shorter sliced drives. Out of bounds right and a challenging green awaits second shots. Views of the windmills may temper your frustration.

PYECOMBE GOLF CLUB—A potted History

The Club was formally opened on the 6th October 1894, using much of the same terrain as we see today. The layout was 2500 yards shorter than today's course and the longest hole was only 330 yards.

Soon after the opening of the Club, work began on building the Clubhouse and although not completely finished, was opened without ceremony on Saturday 19th January 1895.

DURING THE WARS

The mainstay of the Club during most of the inter-war years (1919-1939) was Walter Wooller, a man of Pyecombe. 'Wally', as he was known, acted as Club Professional, Steward and

Greenkeeper – in fact constituted the entire greenstaff. The fairways were maintained by grazing sheep and the greens cut with a hand mower. There was no bar and Wally would take the stock home each evening and return it to the Club the next morning, as at that time there was no running water or drainage available. He also made Golf Clubs, with a selection now on show in the Clubhouse.

NEW HOLES ADDED

In 1982, the golf course was extended with 3 new holes built on the north side of the South Downs Way. The Old 18th, which led to the clubhouse is now used as a practise hole or for tuition purposes.

HENRY LONGHURST

The course is flanked by the Clayton Windmills, known as Jack & Jill. These landmarks are closely associated to the Club and visible from many parts of the Course. The late Henry Longhurst, golfer, writer and BBC Sports Commentator, who was a member for 24 years, as well as

being President of the Club from 1975 to 1978, used to live in the house between the two mills.

RECENT IMPROVEMENTS

The most recent years has seen the Club consolidate its position as a leading downland golf course with improvements both on the course and in the Clubhouse. The poorly draining 18th green was rebuilt in 2003 and significant other drainage improvements made to the 9th, 15th and 17th greens. In 2004 Donald Steele, a respected golf course architect, recommended improvements to the layout and course features. He recommended to re-design bunkers at the 5th & 8th holes and new tees at

the 6th, 8th & 10th holes thereby extending the course to nearly 6300 yards. In 2009/10, major project works were undertaken covering the rebuilding and extension of the professional shop and the replacement of the Clubs energy systems. The energy project to replace the clubs inefficient boiler saw a new Ground Source Heat Pump energy system involving the drilling of several bore holes in the adjoining car park field. The project provided payback benefits, with insurance against future energy cost increases and a reduced carbon footprint and this should sustain the business aspects surrounding the club for years to come.



Membership categories and prices



***All year round golf with stunning views over the
Sussex Downs.***



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