



**CONSTITUTION**

**OF**

**Morrinsville Golf Club Incorporated**

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Version 3.2

# Contents

1.	Definitions and Interpretation.....	3
2.	Club Details .....	5
3.	Purpose and Powers .....	5
4.	Members .....	6
5.	General Meetings .....	10
6.	Committee .....	12
7.	Committee Meetings .....	17
8.	Officers' Duties .....	17
9.	Interests .....	18
10.	Patrons .....	19
11.	Finances .....	19
12.	Indemnity and Insurance .....	19
13.	Amendments .....	20
14.	Bylaws and Integrity .....	20
15.	Dispute Resolution .....	21
16.	Liquidation and Removal .....	25
17.	Transition .....	25

# 1. Definitions and interpretation

## 1.1 Definitions:

In this Constitution, unless the context requires otherwise, the following words and phrases have the following meanings:

**Act** means the Incorporated Societies Act 2022, including any amendments, and any regulations made under that Act.

**AGM** or **Annual General Meeting** means a meeting of the Members held once a year convened under this Constitution.

**Bylaws** means any bylaws, policies, regulations and codes of the Club made under clause 15.1.

**Casual Vacancy** is a vacancy which arises when a Committee Member does not serve their full term of office.

**Chair** means the Committee Member appointed as chair of the Club under this Constitution.

**Club day** means any day nominated by the Committee as a specific day as a club day appropriate to requirements of various playing groups.

**Committee** means the Club's governing body.

**Committee Member** means a member of the Committee.

**Constitution** means this Constitution, including any amendments and any schedules to this Constitution.

**Contact Details** means a physical or an electronic address and a telephone number.

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion** means ensuring fair and equitable opportunities are available to everyone to participate in sport and recreation irrespective of age, ability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, beliefs, or socio-economic status.

**Financial Member** means any member who, at the time of a general meeting:

- Has, for the subscription year current at the time of the meeting
- Paid the annual subscription or as the case may be, is up to date with the payment of the annual subscription where the payment is part of an instalment arrangement.

**General Meeting** means an AGM or SGM of the Club.

**Golf** consists of playing a ball with a club from the teeing ground into the hole by a stroke or successive strokes as further defined in the Rules of Golf.

**Golf NZ** means Golf New Zealand Korowha Aotearoa Incorporated trading as Golf NZ.

**Golf Playing Member** includes a financial member of the membership class described in paragraph 4.3. (i),(ii), (iii) and (vii).

**Interested** has the meaning given in section 62 of the Act.

**Matter** has the meaning given in section 62(4) of the Act.

**Member** means each person who for the time being is a member of the Club and includes all classes of members described in clause 4.3.

**Officer** means a Committee Member and any natural person occupying a position in the Club that allows the person to exercise significant influence over the management or administration of the Club.

**Ordinary Resolution** means a resolution passed by a majority of votes cast.

**SGM or Special General Meeting** means a meeting of the Members, other than an AGM, called for a specific purpose or purposes.

**Special Resolution** means a resolution passed by a 75% majority of votes cast.

**Subscription year** means the period 1 February to the succeeding 31 January

**Working Day** has the meaning given to that term under the Legislation Act 2019 and includes the day observed as the anniversary in Waikato.

**Interpretation:**

(a) Unless the context otherwise requires:

(b) Words referring to the singular include the plural and vice versa.

(c) Clause headings are for reference only.

(d) Expressions referring to writing include references to words visibly represented, copied, or reproduced, including by email.

(e) Reference to a person includes any other entity or association recognized by law and vice versa and any reference to a particular entity includes a reference to that entity's successors.

(f) A reference to any legislation includes any secondary legislation, statutory regulations, rules, orders or instruments made or issued pursuant to that legislation and any amendment to, re-enactment of, or replacement of, that legislation.

(g) All periods of time or notice exclude the days on which they are given.

**1.2 Notices:** Subject to any other notice requirements in this Constitution, any notice or other communication given under this Constitution must be in writing and will be given to:

- (a) **a Member** if delivered by hand to the Member or sent by post or electronic means to the address set out in their Contact Details;
- (b) **the Club** if sent to office@morrinsvillegolf.co.nz. or by post to the Club's registered office set out on the Register of Incorporated Societies.

**1.3 Receipt of notices:** A notice is deemed to have been received:

- (a) if delivered by hand, at the time of delivery;
- (b) if given by post, when left at the address of that party or seven Working Days after being put in the post; or
- (c) if given by email, upon production of a physical copy of the email detailing the time and the date the email was sent (provided that the sender does not receive any "out of office" auto-reply or other indication of non-receipt), provided that any notice or communication received or deemed received after 5pm on a Working Day, or on a day which is not a Working Day, will be deemed not to have been received until the next Working Day.

## **2. Club details**

**2.1 Name:** The name of the society is Morrinsville Golf Club Incorporated

**2.2 Registered office:** The registered office of the Club is at the place the Committee decides.

**2.3 Contact person:** At its first Committee meeting following an AGM, the Committee must appoint or reappoint at least one, and a maximum of three, persons to be the contact person, subject to those persons meeting the eligibility criteria set out in the Act. The Committee must advise the Registrar of Incorporated Societies of any change in the contact person or their Contact Details.

## **3. Purpose and powers**

**3.1 Purposes of the club are to;**

- (a) Be a member of Waikato Golf Association Incorporated trading as Golf Waikato and Golf NZ;
- (b) Promote, develop, foster and administer golf, and any other athletic sport which may conveniently be carried on in conjunction therewith, mainly as an amateur sport

for the well-being, benefit and recreation of the general public in New Zealand / Aotearoa;

- (c) Provide and manage a golf course and other facilities to enable, assist and enhance participation, enjoyment, health and well-being for the benefit of Members and the wider community by making the facilities available to visitors and the general public having regard to the requirements and needs of Members;
- (d) Lead, promote and enable Diversity, Equity and Inclusion across the whole Club including governance of the Club and participation in golf;
- (e) Promote, develop and co-ordinate golf competitions;
- (f) Protect the integrity of golf and the Club by developing and enforcing standards of conduct, ethical behaviour and implementing good governance;
- (g) Support the development of Members, including the relevant training, education and development of the Members, including officials, coaches, team managers and volunteers.

**3.2 Capacity and powers:** The Club has, both within and outside New Zealand, full capacity, rights, powers and privileges to carry on or undertake any activity, do any act, or enter into any transaction, subject to this Constitution, the Act, any other legislation, and the general law.

## 4. Members

**4.1 Application:** An application to become a Member must be in the form required by the Committee. All Applications are decided by the Committee, which may accept or decline an Application in its absolute discretion. A person becomes a Member when their Application has been accepted and they have paid the required membership fees and satisfied any other preconditions. Every person who wishes to become and remain a Member must consent to become and remain a member of the Golf Waikato and Golf NZ, unless not required to do so by Golf NZ.

**4.2 Member consent:** A person consents to become a Member by submitting an Application to the Club, unless otherwise specified in this Constitution.

**4.3 Members:** The Members of the Club are:

- (i) **Full Playing Members** – shall be entitled to full privileges of the Club.
- (ii) **Nine-hole Playing Members**– a nine-hole player is a member who chooses **not** to play 18 holes on a regular basis. Nine-hole players may compete only in designated nine-hole events and competitions. Participation on the course to be limited to nine holes on that day, except when the conditions of a club competition or event permit otherwise.
- (iii) **Junior Members** – Any person under the age of 21 on the 1st of February each year may be a junior member, however, any person who is a full-time tertiary student

and is under the age of 25 years on the 1st of February in each year may also be regarded as a junior member.

Junior members shall be entitled to attend Club functions and to use of the Clubhouse and the course, subject to such conditions as the Committee may from time to time impose.

(iv) **Student Members** – Any person under the age of 18 years on the 1st of February each year and is attending any school (including home school) may be a student member. Their use of the Club house and course shall be limited to such conditions and restrictions the Committee from time to time impose.

Student members under the age of twelve years learning to play golf must be always accompanied on the course by an adult member or responsible person. Play will be permitted when the course is not otherwise in use and during hours which will be posted at the Club house.

(v) **Associate Members** – Any person who is a full playing member or a nine-hole member of any other affiliated golf club may become an Associate Full-playing member or as the case may be an Associate nine-hole playing member.

An Associate Full Playing member shall be entitled to the same privileges as a Full Playing member described in paragraph (i) above and an Associate Nine Hole player shall be entitled to the same privileges as Nine-hole player described in paragraph (ii) above subject to –

neither class of Associate member shall be entitled to enter the club championship or club trophies/cup competitions.

(vi) **Summer Members** - A Summer Member shall be entitled to the playing rights determined by the committee during the summer months between dates and a subscription determined from time to time by the Committee.

(vii) **Life Members** – On the recommendation of the Committee any member described in paragraph (i) or paragraph (ii) may be elected a Life Member at any general meeting of the club and shall thereafter during their lifetime be entitled to all the privileges of a full playing membership without payment of subscriptions or green fees.

On the recommendation of the Committee any member other than a full playing member or other than a nine-hole member may be elected a life member at any general meeting of the club and shall thereafter during their lifetime be entitled to all the privileges of a member described in paragraph (i) without payment of annual subscription or green fees.

(viii) **Corporate Members** – A corporate Member shall be any company, partnership or sole trader which has been admitted to the Club as a Corporate Member on such terms and conditions as the Committee shall from time to time determine and may include voting rights.

(ix) **Social Members.** The Committee shall have power to elect any number of Social Members who shall be entitled to the full use of the Clubhouse, to be present at all Club functions and to play on any three club days of the club year and opening and closing days but shall not be entitled to any other privileges of membership.

(x) **Any other categories** of member as the Committee determines.

(xi) Any member of whatever class for forty years or more shall be recognised as an Emeritus Member and as such, shall be entitled to have their name on an Honours Board displayed in the club premises.

**4.4 Life Members:** Life Membership may be granted in recognition and appreciation of outstanding service by an individual to the Club. Any Member may nominate an individual to become a Life Member by giving notice to the Committee setting out the grounds for the nomination. The Committee must then determine whether the nomination should be forwarded to a General Meeting for determination by the Members. A person may only be elected as a Life Member by a Special Resolution at a General Meeting. A person consents to becoming a Life Member on acceptance of their life membership.

**4.5 Member Rights and Obligations:** Members acknowledge and agree that:

(a) they are bound by, and will comply with, this Constitution and the Bylaws, and to the extent they apply, the rules, procedures or policies of Golf Waikato and Golf NZ.

(b) they are entitled to all rights and entitlements granted by this Constitution or as determined by the Committee.

(c) to receive, or continue to receive or exercise member rights, they must meet all the member requirements set out in this Constitution and the Bylaws or as otherwise set by the Committee, including where required to become and remain a member of Golf Waikato and Golf NZ, and payment of any membership or other fees within the required time period.

(d) if they fail to comply with sub-clause (c) the Committee may terminate their membership, but the Member continues to be bound by this Constitution.

(e) they do not have any rights of ownership of, or the automatic right to use, the Club's property; and

(f) they will promote the interests and purposes of the Club and must not do anything to bring the Club into disrepute.

**4.6 Suspension of Member:** If a Member is, or may be, in breach under clause 4.5, and the Committee believes it is in the best interests of the Club to do so, the Committee may



suspend the Member until final determination of the matter under the dispute resolution process applicable to the matter. Before imposing any suspension, the Member must be given notice of the suspension.

**4.7 Suspension of Member rights:** Unless otherwise determined by the Committee, while a Member is suspended, the Member is not entitled to attend, speak or vote at a General Meeting or to any other rights or entitlements as a Member and is not entitled to continue to hold office in any position within the Club, until such time as the alleged breach is resolved or determined.

**4.8 Ceasing to be Member:** A Member ceases to be a Member:

- (a) on death.
- (b) by giving notice to the Committee of their resignation.
- (c) if their membership is terminated under clause 4.5 which to avoid doubt includes termination if a Member is required to be but ceases to be a member of Golf Waikato and Golf NZ.
- (d) if their membership is terminated following a dispute resolution process or such other process set out or referred to in this Constitution.

**4.9 Consequences of ceasing to be a Member:** A Member who ceases to be a Member:

- (a) remains responsible to pay all their outstanding membership and other fees to the Club.
- (b) must return all the Club's property if required;
- (c) ceases to be entitled to any rights of a Member.

**4.10 Membership fees:** The Committee will recommend to members present at a General Meeting the membership fees payable by members for the next subscription year and the due date for those fees. The Committee may recommend fees for each class of membership for Golf Playing Members and other fees for other class or classes of Members.

Provided that any person accepted as a new member part way through the club's financial year shall pay a fee calculated pro-rata (with a minimum of four months to meet governing

bodies annual fees) of the applicable annual membership fee. The Committee may impose a part year fee.

Notwithstanding the clauses of membership set in clauses 4.3 and the provisions of this clause in respect of subscriptions, the Committee shall be empowered to offer promotional membership and subscription packages with the objective of achieving increased membership in the long term.

**4.11 Member register:** The Committee will keep an up-to-date Member register, which includes each Member's name, Contact Details and the date they became a Member. A Member must provide notice to the Club of any change to their Contact Details. The Member register will be updated as soon as practicable after the Committee becomes aware of changes of the information recorded in the Member register. The Committee will keep a record of those who have ceased to be a Club member within the previous 7 years and the date on which they ceased to be a member.

## **5. General Meetings**

**5.1 AGM:** An AGM must be held once a year at the time, date and place as the Committee decides, as soon as practicable after the balance date but no later than second week of December in each year.

**5.2 Notice of AGM:** The Members must be given at least thirty days notice of the AGM. Notice to Members of an AGM, and to avoid doubt any other notice relating to a General Meeting may be given by posting on the Club's website and/or by e-mail and/or other methods approved by the Committee.

**5.3 Business of AGM:** The following business will be discussed at the AGM:

- (a) confirmation of the minutes of the previous AGM.
- (b) the Committee's presentation of the following information during the most recently completed accounting period.
- (c) the annual reports.
- (d) the annual financial statements.
- (e) the auditor's or reviewer's report, if any, to members on the financial statements audited by a qualified auditor or the review report of the financial statements.
- (f) notice of any disclosures of conflicts of interest made by Officers (including a brief summary of the Matters, or types of Matters, to which those disclosures relate).
- (g) the election of the President, Vice President, and other Committee Members.

(h) consideration of and vote on the recommendations of the committee for the annual subscriptions for the next subscription year.

(i) consideration of any motions proposing to amend this Constitution that have been properly submitted for consideration at the AGM.

(j) consideration of any other items of business that have been properly submitted for consideration at the AGM.

**5.4 Notice of proposed motions:** Members must give notice of any proposed motions and other items of business to the Club at least fifteen days before the date of the AGM.

**5.5 Notice of agenda:** Notice of the agenda containing the business to be discussed at the AGM must be sent to all persons entitled to attend the AGM at least seven days before the date of the AGM.

**5.6 Calling of SGM:** The Committee must call a SGM if it receives a written request stating the purpose of the SGM from the Committee itself or by 5 % of Members.

**5.7 Notice of SGM:** Members must be given at least 30 days notice of the SGM, unless the Committee, in its discretion, decides that the nature of the SGM business is of such urgency that a shorter period of notice is to be given to Members. A SGM may only consider and deal with the business specified in the request for the SGM.

**5.8 Method of holding meeting:** A General Meeting may be held by a quorum of people being assembled at the time and place appointed for the meeting.

**5.9 Quorum:** No business may occur at any General Meeting unless a quorum of 25 members or 5% of members eligible to vote, whichever is the lower, is present at the meeting's start time. The quorum must always be present during the General Meeting.

**5.10 No quorum at AGM:** If a quorum is not met within 30 minutes of the AGM's scheduled start time, the AGM is adjourned to a day, time and place set by the chair of the AGM. If no quorum is met at the further AGM, the Members present, 15 minutes after the further AGM's scheduled start time are deemed to constitute a valid quorum.

**5.11 No quorum at SGM:** If a quorum is not met within 30 minutes of the scheduled start time of the SGM, the SGM is cancelled.

**5.12 Control of General Meetings:** The President chairs General Meetings. If that person is unavailable, the Vice President will preside. In the absence of both of those persons, the Members present will elect a person to chair the General Meeting.

**5.13 Omissions and irregularities:** The General Meeting and its business will not be invalidated if one or more Members do not receive notice of the meeting. The General Meeting and its business will not be invalidated by an irregularity, error or omission in

notices, agendas and papers of the meeting or notice within the required time frame or the omission to give notice to all Members and any other error in the organisation of the meeting if:

- (a) the Chair of the meeting in their discretion determines that it is still appropriate for the meeting to proceed despite the irregularity, error, or omission; and
- (b) a motion to proceed is put to the meeting and a majority, of two-thirds of votes cast, is obtained in favour of the motion to proceed.

**5.14 Attendance:** Members and any other persons invited by the Committee are eligible to attend and speak at General Meetings.

**5.15 Voting:** A Financial Member is entitled to exercise one vote on any motion at a General Meeting in person subject to:

- Neither class of associate member described in paragraph 4.3.(v) shall be entitled to vote at any club meeting
- Junior members, aged 18 years or over, at the date of an AGM or SGM, shall be entitled to the same voting rights as full playing members

**5.16 Conduct of voting:** Voting is conducted by the methods appropriate to the manner in which the meeting is being held. This may be voices or a show of hands, unless a secret ballot is called for and approved by the chair or five Members or as otherwise required under this Constitution.

**5.17 Minutes:** Minutes must be kept of all General Meetings.

**5.18 Resolution:** An Ordinary Resolution of Members at a General Meeting is sufficient to pass a resolution, except as specified in the Act or this Constitution.

## **6. Committee**

### **6.1 Functions and Powers:**

(a) Subject to any modifications, exceptions, or limitations contained in the Act or in this Constitution the Committee must manage, direct or supervise the operation and affairs of the Club and has all the powers necessary for managing, and for directing and supervising the management of, the operation and affairs of the Club.

(b) Provided that the committee may not sell, lease or dispose in any manner any real property, or offer as security or mortgage or agree to any lien on any real property unless 75% of the Golf Playing Members, attending an AGM or SGM approve a resolution to so sell, lease or dispose any real property or so offer as security or mortgage or offer a lien on any real property.

(c ) Provided also that, any expenditure in excess of \$50,000 for any purchase must have approval by 75% of members of the committee, with voting rights, attending the meeting in which the expenditure is discussed.

**6.2 Composition:** The Management Committee (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) shall consist of the following:

President

Vice President

Men’s Club Captain

Women’s Club Captain

Up to six additional members elected by the financial members present at the AGM of the Club, for their experience of golf club management and/or general business acumen.

Provided that if the Men’s Club Captain or the Women’s Club captain are unable to attend any meeting of the Committee, they may nominate their respective vice captain or some other member of the Men’s or Women’s sub-committee to attend in their place.

**6.3 Role of President:** The President will engage in activities agreed with the Committee which may include activities to promote the Club, good relations and communications between Members and the reputation and best interests of the Club, and to preside at Club events.

**6.4 Role of Secretary:** The Secretary will:

(a) attend to all correspondence and keep minutes of General Meetings and Committee meetings and ensure that any subcommittee keeps minutes; and

(b) keep all records and generally perform all the secretarial work of the Club. With the written approval of the Committee these tasks may be varied or delegated but the Secretary remains responsible to the Committee for their performance.

**6.5 Role of Treasurer:** The Treasurer will:

(a) Monitor receipt of funds by the Club and pay all accounts approved by the Committee. The Committee may delegate levels of payment to the Treasurer by written authority:

(b) invest all funds of the Club in the manner directed by the Committee; and

(c) keep the Club’s financial accounts, submit appropriate financial statements at the AGM and undertake other tasks required by the Committee.

**6.6 Election of Committee Members:**

(a) The President and Vice President shall be elected by the financial members present at the Annual General Meeting of the Club.

b) The Men's Club Captain shall be elected by the men financial members present at the annual general meeting of the Club.

(c) The Women's Club Captain shall be elected by the women financial members present at the annual general meeting of the Club.

(d) The Secretary and/or the Treasurer and Auditor/Reviewer if any shall be appointed by the Committee.

**6.7 Committee Members are elected as follows:**

(a) the Committee must call for nominations for any Committee Member positions that are to be vacated at an AGM at least 30 days before the AGM.

(b) nominations are made in the form decided by the Committee and must be received by the date set by the Committee and if no date is set, at least 10 days before the AGM.

(c) the Committee must give notice of the nominations to all Members at least 7 days before the AGM.

(d) at the AGM, if there are more nominees than number of positions available, the election is by secret ballot, unless otherwise decided by the Chair of the General Meeting and approved by a Special Resolution of Members. If a secret ballot is held, two scrutineers must be appointed at the General Meeting to count the votes.

(e) those nominees who have the highest number of votes in their favour to fit the number of vacant positions are declared elected.

(f) if the number of votes for one or more nominees is equal to another nominee, a further vote will be held between the tied nominees.

(g) if there is only one nominee for a vacant position, that person is declared to be elected without the need for a vote.

**6.8 Qualification:** Every Committee Member must, in writing:

(a) consent to be a Committee Member; and

(b) certify that they are not disqualified from being elected or holding office as a Committee Member by this Constitution or under section 47 of the Act.

**6.9 Disqualification:** The following persons are disqualified from being elected or holding office as a Committee Member:

(a) A person who is disqualified from being elected or holding office as a Committee Member under Section 47 of the Act.

(b) A person who has been removed as a Committee Member following a process under this Constitution or any Bylaw.

If any of the circumstances listed in (a) above occur to an existing Committee Member, they are deemed to have vacated their office upon the relevant authority making an order or finding against them of any of those circumstances.

**6.10 Term of office:** The term of office for all Committee Members is one year, expiring at the end of the relevant AGM. A Committee Member may be re-elected to the Committee for a maximum of six consecutive terms of office. The term of any period served to fill a Casual Vacancy is disregarded for the purposes of calculating the total term served.

**6.11 Casual Vacancy:** If a Casual Vacancy arises, the remaining Committee Members may:

(a) appoint a person of their choice to fill the Casual Vacancy until the expiry of the term of the person they replace; or

(b) appoint a person of their choice to fill the Casual Vacancy only until the next AGM, at which a person is elected to fill the remainder of the term of the Casual Vacancy; or

(c) may leave the Casual Vacancy unfilled until the next AGM, at which a person is elected to fill the remainder of the term of the Casual Vacancy.

**6.12 Suspension of Committee Member:** If any Committee Member is or may be the subject of an allegation, notice or charge or any circumstances arise in relation to a Committee Member which are or may be of concern to the Committee, the remaining Committee Members may by Special Resolution suspend the Committee Member from the Committee and set conditions as it requires pending the final determination of the allegation, notice, charge or circumstances. Before imposing any suspension, the Committee Member must be given notice of the suspension.

**6.13 Removal of Committee Member:**

(a) The Committee may, by Special Resolution, remove any Committee Member from the Committee before the expiry of their term of office if the Committee considers the Committee Member concerned:

(i) has seriously breached duties under this Constitution or the Act; or

(ii) is no longer a suitable person to be a Committee Member.

(b) The Committee Member who is the subject of the motion is counted for the purpose of reaching a quorum but will not participate in the vote on the motion.

(c) Before considering a motion for removal, the Committee Member who is the subject of the motion must be given:

- (i) notice that a Committee meeting is to be held to discuss the motion to remove the Committee Member; and
- (ii) adequate time to prepare a response; and
- (iii) the opportunity prior to the Committee meeting to make written submissions; and
- (iv) The opportunity to be heard at the Committee meeting.

**6.14 Committee Member ceasing to hold office:** A person ceases to be a Committee Member if:

- (a) their term expires.
- (b) the person resigns by delivering a signed notice of resignation to the Committee.
- (c) the person is removed from office under this Constitution.
- (d) the person becomes disqualified from being an officer under section 47(3) of the Act
- (e) the person dies.

**6.15 Subcommittees:**

(a) In exercise of its powers, the Committee shall maintain standing subcommittees for the following sections: Men's, Women's, Veterans', and Juniors', each of which may conduct their own meetings and make recommendations to the Committee. The Committee shall recognize and support the continued existence and function of these sections.

(b) The Committee may determine, in writing, conditions for the operation of a subcommittee including the duration of its appointments and its powers.

(c) Any determination in relation to operational conditions shall have effect until rescinded by the Committee and is not to be affected by reason only of a change in the composition of the Committee or the subcommittee.

(d) Subcommittees have no power to delegate the powers delegated to it by the Committee.



## 7. Committee Meetings

**7.1 Calling meetings:** Committee meetings may be called at any time by the Chair or by 5 Committee Members, but generally the Committee meets Monthly

**7.2 Meeting procedure:** Except to the extent specified in the Act or this Constitution, the Committee may regulate its own procedure.

**7.3 Quorum:** The quorum for a committee meeting is 5 Committee Members.

**7.4 Chair:** The President will chair the meetings. If the President is unavailable, the vice President will undertake the Chair's role during the period of unavailability.

**7.5 Voting:** Each Committee Member has one vote. Voting is by voices or on request of any Committee Member by a show of hands or by a ballot. Proxy and postal votes are not permitted.

**7.6 Resolution in writing:** A resolution in writing signed by a majority of Committee Members is valid as if it had been passed at a committee meeting. Any resolution may consist of several documents in the same form each signed by one or more Committee Members.

## 8. Officers' Duties

**8.1 The officers of the club** shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Men's Club Captain, and Women's Club Captain.

**8.2 An officer:**

(a) when exercising powers or performing duties as an Officer, must act in good faith and in what the Officer believes to be the best interests of the Club.

(b) must exercise a power as an Officer for a proper purpose.

(c) must not act, or agree to the Club acting, in a manner that contravenes the Act or this Constitution.

(d) when exercising powers or performing duties as an Officer, must exercise the care and diligence that a reasonable person with the same responsibilities would exercise in the same circumstances, taking into account, but without limitation, the nature of the Club, the nature of the decision and the position of the Officer and the nature of the responsibilities undertaken by them.

(e) must not agree to the activities of the Club being carried on in a manner likely to create a substantial risk of serious loss to the Club's creditors or cause or allow the activities of the Club to be carried on in a manner likely to create a substantial risk of serious loss to the Club's creditors.

(f) must not agree to the Club incurring an obligation unless the Officer believes at that time on reasonable grounds that the Club will be able to perform the obligation when it is required to do so; and

(g) when exercising powers or performing duties as an Officer, may rely on reports, statements, and financial data and other information prepared or supplied, and on professional or expert advice given, by any of the following persons:

(i) an employee whom the Officer believes on reasonable grounds to be reliable and competent in relation to the matters concerned.

(ii) a professional adviser or expert in relation to matters that the Officer believes on reasonable grounds to be within the person's professional or expert competence;  
or

(iii) any other Officer or subcommittee of Officers on which the Officer did not serve in relation to matters within the Officer's or subcommittee's designated authority, if the Officer, acts in good faith, makes proper inquiry where the need for inquiry is indicated by the circumstances, and has no knowledge that the reliance is unwarranted.

## 9. Interests

**9.1 Register of interests:** The Committee must keep a register of interest disclosures made by Officers.

**9.2 Duty to disclose interest:** An Officer who is Interested in a Matter relating to the Club must disclose details of the nature and extent of the interest (including any monetary value of the interest if it can be quantified) to the Committee, as soon as practicable after the officer becomes aware that they are interested in the Matter and include it in the register of interests.

**9.3 Consequences of being Interested:** A Committee Member who is Interested in a Matter:

(a) must not vote or take part in a decision of the Committee relating to the Matter, unless all non-interested Committee Members consent.

(b) must not sign any document relating to the entry into a transaction or the initiation of the Matter, unless all non-interested Committee Members consent.

(c) must not take part in any Committee discussion relating to the Matter or be present at the time of the Committee decision, unless all non-interested Committee Members consent.

(d) may be counted for the purpose of determining whether there is a quorum at any meeting at which the Matter is considered.

**9.4 Calling of SGM:** If 50% or more Committee Members are Interested in a Matter, an SGM must be called by the Committee to consider and determine the Matter.

**9.5 Notice of failure to comply:** The Committee must notify Members of a failure to comply with section 63 or 64 of the Act, and of any transactions affected, as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the failure.

## 10. Patrons

A person may be invited by the Committee to be a Patron to show their support for the Club and to help establish or maintain public credibility of the Club. A Patron is entitled to attend and speak at General Meetings but has no right to vote unless they are a financial member.

## 11. Finances

**11.1 Control and management of finances:** The funds and property of the Club are controlled, invested and disposed of by the Committee, subject to this Constitution and devoted solely to the promotion of the purposes of the Club set out in clause 3.1.

**11.2 Balance date:** The Club's balance date is 30 September or the date the Committee decides.

**11.3 Audit or Review of financial statements:** If required by law or by the Committee the Club's financial statements must be audited or reviewed each year and the audited or reviewed financial statements must be submitted to the AGM.

**11.4 No personal benefit:** The Officers and Members may not receive any distributions of profit or income from the Club. This does not prevent Officers or Members:

(a) receiving reimbursement of actual and reasonable expenses incurred, or

(b) entering into any transactions with the Club for goods or services supplied to or from them, which are at arms' length, relative to what would occur between unrelated parties,

(c) Provided that, no Officer or Member is allowed to influence any such decision made by the Club in respect of payments or transactions between it and them, their direct family or any associated entity.

## 12. Indemnity and insurance

**12.1 Indemnity:** The Club indemnifies its current and former Officers, Members and employees as permitted by section 96 of the Act.

**12.2 Insurance:** With the prior approval of its Committee, the Committee may effect insurance for its current and former Officers, Members and employees as permitted by section 97 of the Act.

**12.3 Indemnity for Officers:** The Club is authorised to indemnify an Officer under section 96 of the Act or effect insurance for an Officer under section 97 of the Act for the following matters:

(a) Liability (other than criminal liability) for a failure to comply with a duty under sections 54 to 61 of the Act or any other duty imposed on the Officer in their capacity as an Officer; and

(b) costs incurred by the Officer for any claim or proceeding relating to that liability.

## 13. Amendments

**13.1 Amendments:** Subject to clauses 13.2 and 13.3, this Constitution may only be amended or replaced by Special Resolution of Members at a General Meeting.

**13.2 Minor amendments:** If an amendment to this constitution would have no more than a minor effect or is to correct errors or makes similar technical alteration, then the Committee may give notice of the amendment to every member stating the text of the amendment and the right of members to object to the amendment. If the Committee do not receive any objections from members within 20 days after the date on which the notice was sent, or any longer period the Committee decides, then the Committee may make the amendment. If it does receive an objection, then the Committee may not make the amendment. Nothing in this clause will prevent the Committee from proposing the same amendment to a future AGM.

**13.3 No amendment:** No addition to, deletion from or alteration of this Constitution may be made which would allow personal pecuniary profits to any individuals.

## 14. Bylaws and Integrity

**14.1 Bylaws:** The Committee may make and amend Bylaws for the conduct and control of the Club's activities and codes of conduct applicable to Members. Any Bylaw must be consistent with this Constitution, the Club's purposes set out in clause 3.1, the Act and any

other laws. All Bylaws are binding on the Club and the Members. The making, amendment, revocation, or replacement of a Bylaw is not an amendment of this Constitution.

**14.2 Definition:** For the purposes of clauses 14.3 and 14.4 Integrity Code means an integrity code issued by the Integrity Sport and Recreation Commission under section 19 of the Integrity Sport and Recreation Act 2023.

**14.3 Integrity Code binding:** If Golf NZ adopts an Integrity Code, the Club is bound by it.

**14.4 Application to Members:** If Golf NZ adopts an Integrity Code, all Members of the Club agree to the application of the Integrity Code to them and agree to be bound by it.

## 15. Dispute resolution

**15.1 The dispute resolution process** is predicated on the basis of and consistent with, the rules of natural justice.

**15.2 Definitions:** In this clause Dispute means a disagreement or conflict between and among any one or more Members, any one or more Officers and the Club, that relates to an allegation that-

- (i) a Member or an Officer has engaged in misconduct; or
- (ii) a Member or an Officer has breached, or is likely to breach, a duty under this Constitution or the Act; or
- (iii) the Club has breached, or is likely to breach, a duty under this Constitution or the Act; or
- (iv) a Member's rights or interests as a member have been damaged or Members' rights or interests generally have been damaged.

**15.3 Disputes Procedure** means the procedure for resolving a Dispute set out in clauses 15.9 to 15.17.

**15.4 a Member** is a reference to a Member acting in their capacity as a Member;

**15.5 an Officer** is a reference to an Officer acting in their capacity as an Officer.

**15.6 Application of other legislation to a Dispute:** The Disputes Procedure will not apply to a Dispute to the extent that other legislation requires the Dispute to be dealt with in a different way. The Disputes Procedure will have no effect to the extent that it contravenes, or is inconsistent with, that legislation.

**15.7 Application of other procedures** under this Constitution or in a Bylaw:

- (a) If the Dispute is dealt with by a separate procedure under this Constitution or in a Bylaw (Other Procedure), that Other Procedure applies to the exclusion of the Disputes Procedure. If any part of the Other Procedure is inconsistent with the rules of natural justice, that part will not apply, but the remainder of the Other Procedure will continue to apply together with adjustments as determined by the Committee in its discretion so that the Other Procedure is consistent with the rules of natural justice.
- (b) If the conduct, incident, event or issue does not meet the definition of a Dispute and is managed by any Other Procedure, that Other Procedure applies to the exclusion of the Disputes Procedure.

**15.8 Application of the Disputes Procedure:** If the Dispute is not required by other legislation to be dealt with in a different way and it is not dealt with by any Other Procedure, the Disputes Procedure applies to the Dispute.

**Disputes Procedure**

**15.9 Raising a complaint:**

- (a) A Member or an Officer may start the Disputes Procedure (a Complaint) by giving written notice to the Committee setting out:
  - (b) the allegation to which the dispute relates and who the allegation is against;  
and
  - (c) any other information reasonably required by the Club.
- (d) The Club may make a Complaint involving an allegation against a Member or an Officer by giving notice to the person concerned setting out the allegation to which the Dispute relates.
- (e) the information given must be enough to ensure a person against whom the Complaint is made is fairly advised of the allegation concerning them, with sufficient details given to enable them to prepare a response.

**15.10 Investigating and determining Disputes:** Unless otherwise provided, the Club must as soon as is reasonably practicable after receiving or becoming aware of a Complaint, ensure the Dispute is investigated and determined. Disputes must be dealt with in a fair, efficient, and effective manner.

**15.11 Decision to not proceed with a matter:** Despite the contents of the Disputes Procedure, the Club may decide not to proceed with a matter if:

- (a) the Complaint is trivial; or
- (b) the Complaint does not appear to disclose or involve any allegation of the following kind:
  - (i) any material misconduct; or
  - (ii) any material breach or likelihood of material breach of a duty under this Constitution or the Act; or
  - (iii) any material damage to a Member's rights or interests or Members' rights or interests generally; or
- (c) the Complaint appears to be without foundation or there is no apparent evidence to support it; or
- (d) the person who makes the Complaint has an insignificant interest in the matter; or
- (e) the conduct, incident, event, or issue giving rise to the Complaint has already been investigated and dealt with under this Constitution; or
- (f) there has been an undue delay in making the Complaint.

**15.12 Complaint may be referred:** The Club may refer a Complaint to

- (a) a hearing body or person authorised, delegated or appointed by the Committee to hear and resolve Disputes, and includes an arbitral tribunal (Hearing Body); or
- (b) a subcommittee or an external person to investigate and report; or
- (c) any type of consensual dispute resolution with the consent of all parties to the Complaint.

**15.13 Hearing Body:** The Committee may determine the composition, jurisdiction, functions and procedures of, and any sanctions which can be imposed by, any Hearing Body. Each Hearing Body has delegated authority by the Committee to resolve, or assist to resolve, Complaints.

**15.14 Bias:** An individual may not be part of a Hearing Body in relation to a Complaint if two or more members of the Committee or of the Hearing Body consider there are reasonable grounds to believe that the individual may not be:

- (a) impartial; or
- (b) able to consider the matter without a predetermined view.

#### **15.15 Complainant's right to be heard:**

- (a) The Member or Officer has a right to be heard before the Complaint is resolved or any outcome is determined. If the Club makes a Complaint, the Club has a right to be heard before the Complaint is resolved or any outcome is determined, and a Committee Member may exercise that right on behalf of the Club.
- (b) A Member or Officer or the Club must be taken to have been given the right if:
  - (i) the Member or Officer or the Club has a reasonable opportunity to be heard in writing or at an oral hearing, if one is held; and
  - (ii) an oral hearing is held if the Hearing Body considers that an oral hearing is needed to ensure an adequate hearing; and
  - (iii) an oral hearing, if any, is held before the Hearing Body; and
  - (iv) the Member's or Officer's or the Club's written statement or submission, if any, are considered by the Hearing Body.

**15.16 Respondent's right to be heard:** The Member or Officer who, or the Club which, is the subject of the Complaint (Respondent) has a right to be heard before the Complaint is resolved or any outcome is determined. If the Respondent is the Club, a Committee Member may exercise the right on behalf of the Club. A Respondent must be taken to have been given the right if:

- (a) the Respondent is fairly advised of all allegations concerning the Respondent, with sufficient details and time given to enable the Respondent to prepare a response; and
- (b) the Respondent has a reasonable opportunity to be heard in writing or at an oral hearing, if one is to be held; and
- (c) an oral hearing is held if the Hearing Body considers that an oral hearing is needed to ensure an adequate hearing; and
- (d) an oral hearing, if any, is held before the Hearing Body; and
- (e) the Respondent's written statement or submissions, if any, are considered by the Hearing Body.

**15.17 Appeals:** There is no right of appeal or right of review of a decision unless specified. Members have the right to appeal decisions of the Club to Golf NZ but only if a right of appeal is permitted under the constitution and regulations of Golf NZ.



## 16. Liquidation and removal

**16.1 Notice:** The Committee must give notice to all Members at least 20 Working Days of a proposed motion:

- (a) to appoint a liquidator.
- (b) to remove the Club from the Register of Incorporated Societies; or
- (c) for the distribution of the Club's surplus assets.

The notice must comply with section 228 of the Act and include details of the General Meeting at which the proposed motion is to be considered.

**16.2 Special Resolution:** Any resolution for a motion set out in clauses 16.1 (a) to (c) must be passed by a Special Resolution of Members.

**16.3 Surplus assets:** The surplus assets of the Club, after the payment of all costs, debts and liabilities, must be disposed of, to organisations within the precincts and environs of the township of Morrinsville -

- (a) a society incorporated under the Act;
- (b) a charitable entity (defined in section 4(1), Charities Act 2005);
- (c) any other society, institution, association, organisation or trust that is not carried on for the private benefit of an individual and whose funds are applied entirely or mainly for benevolent, philanthropic, cultural, charitable, sporting or public purposes in NZ and whose rules require that on winding up, any surplus assets must be given to other not-for-profits within the meaning of section 5(3) of the Act.

**16.4 Matters not provided for** If any matter arises that, in the opinion of the Committee, is not provided for in this Constitution or any Bylaws, or if any dispute arises out of the interpretation of this Constitution or the Bylaws, the matter or dispute will be determined by the Committee.

## 17. Transition

**17.1 Transition:** This clause applies to facilitate transition of the Club from the previous rules to this Constitution. If this clause is inconsistent with any other clause in this Constitution, this clause applies to the extent of the inconsistency and the other clause will not.

**17.2 Power of Committee** during transition period: Subject to the Act, the Committee may amend any requirement for and/or the date by which this Constitution requires anything to

be done. This clause applies for one year and is solely to enable flexibility in the transition of the Club from the previous rules to this Constitution and to correct any unintended consequences occurring through different wording being used.

### **17.3 Transition of Committee Members**

(a) At the time when this constitution has effect, the officers and elected committee members of the Morrinsville Golf Club Inc shall continue under this constitution until the next AGM.

(b) The number of consecutive terms served by any member of the Committee under the Rules of the Morrinsville Golf Club Inc, at the time when this Constitution has effect, shall count toward the number of consecutive terms for the purposes of clause 6.10 of this constitution.

