

Houghton Golf Club
August 2009 Newsletter

1. Subscriptions 2010

After extensive debate and feedback from members, the Main Committee finalised the subscription rates for 2010. We apologise for the delay in publishing the schedule but additional time was required to canvas a wider opinion.

The subscriptions are effective from 01 January 2010.

Houghton Golf Club				
Annual Subscriptions, Entrance Fees				
January 2010				
Category	Annual subscriptions			Entrance Fee
	2010		2007	
Golf Playing Membership	Gross New	Net Existing	Gross All	2010
				33.33%
Male				
Full	12,000	10,800	10,560	4,000
Special 34 - 37	9,600	8,640	8,580	3,200
Special 30 - 33	7,200	6,480	5,940	2,400
Special 26 - 29	4,800	4,320	4,620	1,600
Special 18 - 25	3,600	3,240	3,630	1,200
Special - Student	2,400	2,160	1,320	800
Junior	1,200	1,080	790	400
Five Day (no Saturday)				
Weekday	4,800	4,320	4,620	N/a
Country	1,200	1,080	2,400	N/a
Ladies				
Senior Full	4,500	4,050	2,244	1,500
Special 18 - 29	3,000	2,700	N/a	1,000
Weekday	2,400	2,160	N/a	800
Special - Student	1,800	1,620	1,320	600
Junior	900	810	790	300
Weekday	2,400	2,160	N/a	800

The existing membership categories have all been retained except for the 5½ day (no Saturday afternoon) and institutional members, who will be required to select an alternative category that best suits their needs.

Life, Honorary Life and Absentee members do not pay annual subscriptions but are required to pay playing fees.

The subscription for new members is quoted as a gross amount while existing members are quoted net after a 10% discount on the gross amount. The discount will not be a cash discount but an amount that will be credited to the member for use on purchases in the club, either food

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and beverage or golf related. This discount will be continued for the next 2½ years, the period of the closure of the club.

The subscriptions for 2007 are also listed to show members that a determined effort has been made to create an attractive and affordable rate. Younger members have been offered competitive rates in order to encourage them to join and strengthen this section.

The subscription schedule needs to be read in conjunction with the following notes.

1. Subscriptions are quoted in Rand and include value added tax (vat) at the prevailing rate of 14%.
2. Compulsory annual costs such as affiliation fees to the national associations and provincial unions, and the handicap service fee are specifically excluded and will be billed separately.
3. Pricing for certain optional services such as bag room and cart storage, cloakroom lockers are still to be determined but will be market related.
4. Subscriptions are for the financial period 01 January to 31 December 2010 and are payable before the commencement of the year.
5. Five Day and Weekday membership categories are only available for existing members and are not offered to new members.
6. The special age based categories are applied to members on the basis of their age at the beginning of each calendar year.
7. A student is regarded as a person under the age of 25 who is enrolled at a recognised higher education institute and is studying part or full time.
8. A junior is regarded as a person that is under the age of 18 and is attending a recognised primary or secondary education institution.

2. Entrance Fees

No entrance fees are payable by existing members who elect to rejoin Houghton Golf Club. The existing members however are required to make a decision before the end of this year whether they are rejoining as this offer will only remain open for that period. The club will be contacting all members to encourage them to rejoin and to obtain their latest particulars.

Members will be provided with a comprehensive membership pack containing details of the club constitution, club policies and procedures and codes of conduct for which members will be required to sign as acknowledgement of receipt and as a commitment to their adherence.

The entrance fees have been set at an affordable rate of one third of the annual subscription for new members. Club management intends to market the club to new members and will be offering a variety of introductory offers to prospective members and incentives to members to encourage their colleagues to join.

The first offer is no entrance fees for the first 50 male members and 30 lady members. Application forms for membership are available from Eric van der Velde.

3. Playing Fees

The playing fees, which are inclusive of vat, have been structured to encourage members to frequent the club and play as often as they can. Members wishing to reduce their green fee cost

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are able to invest in a playing card, which is available from a minimum of 20 rounds to 80 rounds, which is converted into an unlimited playing card.

Discounts on green fees and playing cards are also offered to selected membership categories, namely Ladies, Students and Juniors, but their playing rights during peak times will be restricted. A discount on the playing card is also offered to weekday players but their playing times are restricted to midweek only.

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Playing Fees			
January 2010			
Single Round Green Fee			
Time Period	Member		
Weekend - Saturday, Sunday morning	175		
Weekend - Sunday afternoon	155		
Weekday - Thursday afternoon	155		
Weekday	130		
Rebate schedule for Green Fee	Discount %		
Special - Student	40		
Junior	50		
Ladies	30		
Volume Round Green Fee			
Playing Card - Number of Rounds	Card	Per Round	Comment
20	2,900	145	
40	5,480	137	
60	7,740	129	
80	9,680	121	Unlimited
Rebate schedule for Playing Cards	Discount %		
Special - Student	40		
Junior	50		
Ladies	30		
Weekday	30		

4. NGN System and Handicap Cards

National Golf Network (NGN) has returned the club's computer system to the temporary office at the Show Apartment complex on Second Avenue Houghton. The management of handicaps of those members using the Houghton Golf Club handicap card has become the responsibility of

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club management and members experiencing any problems with their handicap cards should contact Eric van der Velde at ericl@houghton.co.za.

5. Facilities

The clubhouse and golf course construction is continuing at a steady pace with completion expected by October 2009. The equipment and furnishing will occur during the following months in preparation for the opening in January 2010.

The routing has been changed on the front nine to reduce the walking distance to the 1st tee and from the 9th green. The new routing changes the current 5th hole, located in front of the clubhouse, to the 1st and the closing hole is the current 4th hole, a par 3 reasonably close to the clubhouse, that becomes the 9th.

Club management are naturally hoping for early summer rains to allow the golf course additional time to grow in and improve the conditioning significantly. The enclosed pictures, which reflect a definite winter look, are courtesy of Tony Beart

All members are invited to visit the club to view the superb facilities being constructed for them.

6. Sun City Tour

The Sun City golf tour was successfully held in early August 2009 with the fourball of Adrian Diamond, Frankie Levenberg, Jason Lemmer and Rael Polakow being the deserved winners. On an individual basis the best player on the par 3 holes was Jock Nestadt and on the par 5 holes Danny Rosenzweig.

7. Birthday Greetings

The club extends its warm wishes to a Life member Norman Gordon, who on his 98th birthday was honoured at a function held at the Wanderers Golf Club.

8. Feedback

All feedback is welcome and is preferred in writing so that the complaint or suggestion can be fully understood. Please email club management at ericl@houghton.co.za