

The purpose of this note is to clarify the rules governing winter golf at MGC. Mats are required at MGC for winter golf. There are two categories of winter golf at MGC:

Casual Golf: including bounce games and Winter League ties. These may be played over unmeasured courses e.g. when there are more than two winter greens. The following guidelines apply:

The use of mats is compulsory on all fairways and in semi-rough within five paces of fairway. The mat should be placed as near as possible to where the ball lies but not nearer the hole on fairways and tees. Players are encouraged to also use mats in the rest of the semi-rough to protect the course.

Only in Winter League Matches, any of the players in a tie can require that the tie is played without using mats in the semi rough. In these circumstances the five pace rule still applies. For clarity, in a tie using mats any player may play from the semi rough without a mat for any or all shots, however the five pace rule still applies.

All bunkers are out of play (GUR) and relief taken.

See **Use of Mat** and **Bunker** paragraphs below.

General Play rounds: Stroke play rounds, with the score submitted for handicap purposes, can only be played according to the Scottish Golf Winter Play guidelines, which include not more than two winter greens in use.

MGC Winter Stablefords are played under these conditions, unless there are more than two winter greens in play, in which case the Stablefords are not counters and are played according to the casual golf rules above.

Our Blue and Green courses have both been rated for General Play rounds. Both may be used anytime to submit General Play Scores, subject to the SG guidance available online.

https://static.clubhouse.scottishgolf.org/clubs/1000/uploads/files_and_docs/club_business/winter%20golf%20guidance_compressed.pdf

The information in this guidance is summarised below.

The player must sign-in for the round before teeing off.

The player must play with at least one other person.

There must be no more than 2 temporary greens in use.

Mats may only be used only on the closely mown areas (fairways). In all other cases the ball must be played as it lies.

Scores must be recorded before leaving the Club. Failure to record your score on the day, may result in a penalty score being applied to your Handicap Index record.

See **Use of Mat** and **Bunker** paragraphs below.

Use of the mat:

A mat is not required when using a putter from off the green.

The mat must be placed as near as possible to where the ball originally lay.

The ball may be cleaned when lifted.

If the player accidentally causes the ball on the mat to move before a stroke is made, there is no penalty, and the ball must be placed again on the mat.

If a tee is used to secure the mat into the ground, the ball must not be placed on the tee

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Bunkers

Bunkers are no play areas and are to be treated as GUR. Relief must be taken in accordance with Rule 16.1b by dropping a ball in the relief area:

Reference Point: The nearest point of complete relief on the course and outside the bunker.

Size of Relief Area measured from Reference Point: One club-length but must not be nearer the hole than the reference point

There must be complete relief from all interference by the GUR.

By order of the Committee

Milngavie Golf Club

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