



**ASTON HILLS
GOLF CLUB**

at Mount Barker

2023 - 2024

MEMBERS PROGRAMME

2023 - 2024 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President	Trent Blucher	0435 281 878
Captain	Barry Davis	0402 841 887
Treasurer	Shane Teakle	08 8391 1200
Committee Members:		
	Justin Percy	0407 145 976
	Andy McDonald	0407 976 715
	Michael Bennett	0447 005 712
Women's President:		
	Bernadine Gatehouse	0411 655 057

Email: manager@astonhillsgc.com.au

COMMITTEE

The control of the Club is vested in the Management Committee, which is divided into operating committees as follows.

Finance Committee – responsible for over-sight of the financial management of the Club and Clubhouse facilities.

Match Committee – responsible for the supervision and control of all matters pertaining to the arrangements and superintending of all contests, the settlement of disputes & the selection of teams.

Course Committee – responsible for supervising the upkeep and maintenance of the course.

The Club Manager is solely responsible for the supervision of all Club employees and any complaint or suggestion is to be made directly to the Club Manager, not to a club employee.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

The enjoyment of Golf depends a great deal on the co-operation, consideration and courtesy extended by fellow competitors. This enjoyment can be increased greatly for everyone if all members thoroughly read this handbook.

The subjects covered in this handbook will answer a number of questions asked by members of the Club.

The spirit and reputation of a Golf Club is projected by the way fellow members show respect, courtesy, and consideration for one another.

This courtesy and consideration should extend to being appropriately dressed and in the standard of conduct on the course and in the Clubhouse.

The standards of a Golf Club may be judged by the etiquette of its members.

“For when the one great scorer comes to write against your name, it will not be that you won or lost but how you played the game.”

Grantland Rice

INSURANCE

.Members' personal property is not covered for theft or damage, and therefore members should consider having their own insurance arrangement for such items.

If a member who has been identified hits a ball which causes damage to a person, car, house etc. the injured party are covered by Golf Australia through Sportscover.

We ask that all members who hit a ball that causes any damage to report this to the Office & then submit a Sportscover claim.

Green fee players are not insured for personal property damage unless they are a financial member of an affiliated Golf Australia Golf Club.

Golf Australia maintains a Player's Personal Liability Insurance Policy for all members of affiliated golf clubs. Broadly this policy covers the legal liability for members to pay compensation for personal injury or property damage which occurs while playing or practising golf or attending a golf event or venue as a player, guest or spectator.

SLOW PLAY

It is perfectly feasible to play a fourball round in approximately 4 hours. Failure to do so results from either taking too long to vacate the green when the hole is completed, or by not being ready to play your shot when it is your turn. Once it is your turn to play the ball it should be played within 40 seconds.

Note: Groups of more than FOUR are not permitted without permission from the Captain or Professional.

Please ensure you do your share to improve the speed of play.

ETIQUETTE

Consideration for other players – in the interest of all, players should play without delay. No player should play until the players in front are out of range.

Players searching for a ball should signal the players behind them to pass as soon as it becomes apparent that the ball will not easily be found. They should discontinue play until the players following them have passed and are out of range.

Behaviour During Play – no one should move, talk, or stand close to or directly behind the ball or the hole when a player is addressing the ball or making a stroke. The player who has the honour should be allowed to play before his fellow competitor. However, players are encouraged to play

“ready golf” in a safe & responsible way to speed up play in stroke/ stableford/ par rounds.

Priority on the Course – in the absence of special rules, two-ball matches should have precedence over and be entitled to pass any three or four-ball match. If a group fails to keep its place on the course and loses more than one clear hole on the players in front, it should allow the group following to pass.

Mobile phones must be turned off or be placed on silent when on the golf course and only be used in an emergency.

JUNIOR PROGRAM

A Junior Member of the Club is defined as one who is aged less than 18 years. The Club encourages junior participation.

Comprehensive activities enable juniors to be involved in the playing and administration of golf and social events. Where possible, juniors will be exposed to professional coaching, etiquette, and rules, with ongoing events which include specific professional coaching, southern group competition, higher order golf competition, fundraising, and juniors on tour.

Beginner coaching is by arrangement with the Club Professional. One aim of the program is to have an equal number of male and female junior golfers.

CARE OF THE COURSE

Raking of Bunkers

1. Enter and exit from the easiest point at the back of the bunker.
2. Rake flat the bottom part of the bunker with the teeth of the rake, removing all footmarks.
3. Rake in a forward and back motion to prevent sand being dragged to the back of the bunker.
4. As you exit the bunker at the slope, use the reverse flat part of the rake to smooth out the sand. This keeps the face firm and allows the ball to roll to the flat raked part of the bunker.
5. When finished, place the rake in the centre of the bunker parallel to the direction of play.

Restore Divots, Repair Ball Marks and Damage by

Spikes – through the green, a player should ensure that any turf cut or displaced is replaced at once and pressed down, with sand placed over the divot, and that any damage to the putting green made by the ball is carefully repaired. Damage to the putting green caused by golf shoe spikes should be repaired.

Damage to Greens – Flagsticks, Bags, etc. – players should ensure that, when putting down bags or the flagstick, no damage is done to the putting green, and that neither they nor their caddies damage the hole by standing close to it, in handling the flagstick or in removing the ball from the hole.

Putter heads must not be used to remove balls from the hole.

Players should not damage the putting green by leaning on their putters, particularly when removing the ball from the hole.

CONDUCT

Your conduct in the Clubhouse should be beyond reproach with as little noise as possible.

Members, guests, and visitors are responsible for the behavior of their children. Members and visitors must regard the kitchen and behind the bar as “Out of Bounds”.

PRACTICE

The course is not to be used to practice specific shots.

Practice rounds may be played but members should be aware of the following:

- (1) A single player has no right of way whatsoever.
- (2) A single player whilst playing on the course may use up to a maximum of **2 balls** at any time.

PRACTICE RANGE CLOSED

Mon: 4.15pm – 5.30pm
Wed: from 4.00pm
Sat: 2.00pm – 5.00pm

PRACTICE RANGE

The Club provides a **practice** range facility – please note this is **not a driving** range. The following rules apply to the range:

1. **Only Pro Shop range balls** may be used between 9am & 4pm daily.
2. At all times, balls must not be hit beyond the range perimeter mounds.
Players must not hit balls when staff or players from the course are on the range.
3. Practice is to be from artificial turf mats, or the grass area indicated.
4. Balls hit on the range are at your own risk. Please ensure you have your own insurance cover. The Club and the Professional take no responsibility for any claim for injury or equipment you may cause to other players or staff.

DRESS REGULATIONS

Dress Regulations apply on the course and in the Clubhouse and apply to all members, guests, and visitors. Anyone not conforming to dress regulations may be refused admittance and/or service.

It is a minimum expectation that all people attending the Club are wearing casual attire that is always neat and clean.

The following forms of dress are acceptable:

- Collared shirt or a shirt with a derivative collar which is a defined part of the shirt, which includes a “turtleneck”.
- Tailored trousers or shorts
- Socks are to be worn with shorts
- Jeans (neat & clean)
- Golf Shoes or sporting activity shoes which will not damage the course surfaces.

The following forms of dress are **unacceptable**:

- Shirts which are damaged and/or badly worn
- Track suit pants or shorts
- Work wear or work shoes which are dirty, damaged, and/or badly worn
- Singlets/tank tops or shirts with excessively sized or any offensive or controversial slogans
- Beach wear, brief shorts, or lycra style pants / shorts
- Jeans which are dirty or damaged. Styles with damage due to original design will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, however excessive or extensive holes or transparency will be refused.

Members are responsible to ensure that their guests meet the required standards of conduct and the dress code and are responsible to ensure that their guests pay the appropriate Green Fee, if that guest plays on the course.

Note: Sandals are permitted to be worn in the Clubhouse but are banned for use on the course.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Club's Annual General meeting for 2024 is planned to be held at the end of June 2024.

As written in the Club Constitution, any items of Special Business may be brought forward at the time, provided they meet the criteria as set out in the Club Constitution, and are lodged 21 days before the date of the meeting.

PLAYING RIGHTS

The playing rights of the Categories are briefly set out hereunder:

Full Members – every day

Six (6) Day Members – every day except all day on Saturdays.

7 Day Flexi Members as per Full Membership. An applicable green fee is payable with every competition round played or any practice round on any part of the course.

Service Members – as per Full Members.

Restricted A Women's - may play Monday to Friday and Sunday afternoon. This class of membership is closed to new members.

Junior Members – every day.

Members Guests

The playing rights are subject to the limitations placed upon them by trade days and special events and use of the course as approved by the Committee. Notification of such will be posted on the notice board.

On non-competition days, members intending to play a social round are advised to contact the Club to ensure that the course has not been set aside for a Trade Day.

All playing rights are established by regulation of the Committee and may be changed by regulation. Notice of change will be posted on the Club Notice Board.

MOTORISED VEHICLES ON COURSE

Members wishing to use a motorised vehicle for golf on the course as an ongoing use (excluding hiring from Golf Shop), must complete the 'Club Registration Form' & make an annual fee payment renewed each year in September. In addition all golf vehicles must be fully insured before being used on the course.

ABANDONED GOLF BALLS

Balls lost and abandoned on the course are the property of the Club. Members are specifically required not to collect balls other than their own ball, which is lost during a round, and are further asked to specifically discourage trespassers and unauthorised persons collecting balls on the course.

PRO-SHOP & BUGGY STORE HOURS

Daylight Saving Times Winter Times (Non-daylight)

Mon:	7.00am - 5.30pm	Mon:	7.00am - 5.00pm
Tue:	7.00am - 5.30pm	Tue:	7.00am - 5.00pm
Wed:	7.00am - 5.30pm	Wed:	7.00am - 5.00pm
Thu:	7.00am - 5.30pm	Thu:	7.00am - 5.00pm
Fri:	7.00am - 5.30pm	Fri:	7.00am - 5.00pm
Sat:	6.30am - 6.00pm	Sat:	6.30am - 5.00pm
Sun:	6.30am - 6.00pm	Sun:	6.30am - 5.00pm

BAR SERVICE FACILITIES

The Club Bar is open from 10.00am daily

The Kitchen is Open for Lunch –
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturdays,

Kitchen Closed on Mondays, Fridays, and Sundays.

Please note: The Kitchen is closed on Good Friday, Christmas Day, Proclamation Day, and New Year's Day each year. On days when the Clubhouse is closed pies, pasties and sandwiches are available for purchase from Bar or Pro Shop.

Note: All opening and closing hours subject to weather and patronage

CATERING SERVICE

The Club invites members to use this service, and our function facilities for corporate golf days, seminars and conferences, weddings, parties, and celebrations. Contact the administration office for pricing.

EXTREME WEATHER POLICY

CLUB POLICY

EXTREME HEAT

If the maximum temperature for Mount Barker is forecast to be 39 degrees or greater, as announced on the Elders weather site as at 12.00 noon the day prior, no play in competition will be allowed after 9:30am. All players entered on the time sheet will be cancelled and a new time sheet will be open at 12 noon the day prior with earlier tee times available.

<https://www.eldersweather.com.au/sa/mount-lofty-ranges/mount-barker>

LIGHTNING

In the case of lightning becoming a danger, players must adhere to the conditions applicable in the 'Rules of Golf', which relate to the Suspension of Play Due to Dangerous Situation (Rule 5.7).

One prolonged note of the siren will indicate that play must be discontinued immediately. Resumption of play cannot take place until advised by the Pro Shop and is indicated by repeatedly sounding two short notes of the siren.

PLEASE NOTE

Should the forecast for Mount Lofty Ranges be listed as a Catastrophic Fire Danger Day the entire course & Clubhouse will be closed.

COMPETITION PLAY

RULES

The rules of golf as approved by the R & A and the local rules of the Aston Hills Golf Club shall apply.

MATCH SUPERVISION

All competitions are under the control of the Match Committee and its decision shall be final. The Match Committee has the right to:

- (1) Alter the date of any event.
- (2) Alter and adjust the rules pertaining to any event at any time up to the commencement of the event and will notify players of changes by notice on the Club Notice Board.
- (3) Be the final arbiter in any dispute arising from the conduct of an event.

PROGRAM

The competition listed in the Calendar has priority over all other competitions unless otherwise ruled by the Match Committee.

For competitions involving qualifying rounds, qualifiers will be advised of times as soon as possible for future rounds.

GENERAL PLAYING CONDITIONS

COMPETITIONS

Each competitor's name must be registered in the Pro Shop and the competition fee paid before commencing. For competitions, starting times are to be booked by members on the online time sheet at the club web site.

Competitors must report at least 10 minutes prior to hit off time.

GRADES

When competitions are played in grades, the grades shall be:

A Grade: 0 (or better) to 12.

B Grade: 13 to 18.

C Grade: 19 to 36.

SCORES

The onus is on players in all competitions to ensure their scorecard is correctly marked, signed, and countersigned by the marker, with any alterations approved by the marker. Completed cards must be entered as soon as possible after the completion of the round at the computer terminals available.

TIES

Players who tie in major events or in qualifying for the final position in major events, may be required to play off under conditions decided by the Match Committee, unless otherwise decided that the count back system will apply.

HANDICAP MATCHPLAY

For competitors involving handicap match play, the handicap to be used is that which was applicable during the (final) qualifying round.

MAJOR EVENT CONDITIONS – MEN

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Detailed 'Conditions of Play' will be available 4 weeks before the event. The general conditions are that the club championship and other grades shall be played over **TWO** 18-hole stroke rounds, followed by 8 Qualifiers from each of the grades to play match play. Veterans and Juniors to play two rounds of stroke to determine the champion.

In the event of ties count back will apply.

The competitor's handicap applicable during the **first** qualifying round will determine the grade for players in the championship.

The Club champion becomes eligible for the State Champion of Champions and the Southern Group Champion of Champions.

MONTHLY MEDALS – (A, B and C GRADES)

Competition: Lowest gross score of one round of stroke play in each grade.

Ties: A count back to apply.

MEDAL OF MEDALS – (A, B and C GRADES)

Qualifications: Only winners of Monthly Medals eligible. Players will play in the Medal of Medals regardless of what grade they are in on the Medal of Medals round.

Competition: Lowest gross score of one round of stroke play in each grade.

Ties: A count back to apply – number of Monthly Medals won, then count back on Medal of Medals round.

VETERANS' CHAMPIONSHIP

Competition: 36-hole stroke play (gross) played in conjunction with the first two rounds of Club Championships.

Qualifications: Eligible age shall be 55 years or older at date of the event.

CAPTAIN'S TROPHY

Competition: Best aggregate score over two Stableford rounds.

Ties: A count back to apply.

JUNIOR EVENTS

In all Junior events the maximum age is 17 years or under as at the date of the event that is being played.

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Competition: 36 Hole stroke play (gross) played in conjunction with the first 2 rounds of Club Championships. Count backs apply.

WOMEN'S GOLF COMPETITION PLAY

MATCH SUPERVISION:

All competitions are under the control of the Match Committee and its decision shall be final.

The Match Committee has the right to:

- a) Alter the date of any event.
- b) Alter and adjust the rules pertaining to any event at any time up to the commencement of the event and will notify

players of changes by notice on the Club Notice Board.

- c) Be the final arbiter of any dispute arising from the conduct of an event.

PROGRAM:

The competition listed in the Calendar has priority over all other competitions unless otherwise ruled by the Match Committee.

For competitions involving qualifying rounds, players must check with the program and Notice Boards for dates of subsequent rounds and advise availability for future rounds.

COMPETITIONS:

Each competitor's name must be entered on the online time sheet and the fees paid before commencing.

For Tuesday & Thursday competitions, starting times are to be booked by members on the online time sheet provided.

TIES: Ties will be decided on a countback.

WOMENS HEAT POLICY – TUESDAYS ONLY

Refer Club Policy

ECIPROCAL CLUBS

Aston Hills Golf Club members have reciprocal membership rights at various clubs. These rights are limited by the following rules:

1. Your rights are equivalent at the Club you are visiting to your membership category at Aston Hills.
2. Your rights are for one month and any further period must be negotiated subsequently.
3. You cannot transfer your membership at Aston Hills to a reciprocal club.
4. You cannot win a major event at the Club you are visiting.
5. You must produce evidence of your Handicap and financial status at Aston Hills when visiting a reciprocal club through an introductory letter. This can be obtained from the office. Members are encouraged to utilise these reciprocal arrangements and to always be good ambassadors for Aston Hills Golf Club.

A full list of Reciprocal Clubs is available from the Club Website. <https://astonhillsgolfclub.com.au/member-news>

Note: A reduced green fee may apply at some of these Clubs.

South Australia

Barmera Golf Club
Barossa Valley Golf Club
Kadina Golf Club
Keith Golf Club
Links Lady Bay Golf Club
Loxton Golf Club
Lucindale Golf Club
Millicent Golf Club
Mt Gambier Golf Club
Naracoorte Golf Club

Penola Golf Club
Port Lincoln Golf Club
Sandy Creek Golf Club
Thaxted Park Golf Club

Tasmania

Kingston Beach Golf Club

Riverside Golf Club

New South Wales

Berrigan Golf Club
Byron Bay Golf Club
Cabramatta Golf Club
Cobram Barooga Golf Club
Coomealla Golf Club
Corowa Golf Club
Deniliquin Golf Club

Murray Downs Golf Club
Palm Beach Golf Club
Queanbeyan Golf Club
Tocumwal Golf Club
Toukley Golf Club
Wentworth Golf Club

Victoria

Barham Golf & Country Club
Bendigo Golf Club
Buninyong Golf Club, Ballarat
Clifton Springs Golf Club
Horsham Golf Club
Kaniva Golf Club

Phillip Island Golf Club
Portland Golf Club
Riverside Golf Club
Warragul Golf Club
Warrnambool Golf Club

Northern Territory

Darwin Golf Club

Queensland

Ayr Golf Club

Western Australia

Sun City Country Club
Geraldton Golf Club

CLUB HISTORY

A Brief History of the Aston Hills Golf Club

The Mount Barker District Golf Club originated as a definable body in 1879, which makes it one of the oldest, if not the oldest Golf Club in the State and it has been in existence continuously since that time. However, the official records of the SA Golf Union showed it commenced in 1907. Golf at Mt Barker was originally played on the local property now known as the Laurels, and owned by a well-known early settler, Mr. John Dunn. The club used this venue for forty-two years, and during this time it joined forces with the Hahndorf Golf Club from 1907 to 1912.

As Mt Barker grew it became necessary to relocate the Club golf course. This was done with the permission of the Warden family who allowed the Club to use their land for a further 45 years. The actual putter owned by Commander Warden and donated to the Club by his late widow, is displayed in the Club House.

In 1966 the Club decided to establish a facility and to do so, purchased some 288 acres of land near Wistow. A course and clubrooms were duly established by utilising almost all volunteer labour. In the same year it became an incorporated Association on the 6th of April 1966

As land pressures changed and the population of Mt Barker grew, it became apparent that the Wistow course could not be developed into the standard of course required, mainly due to a deficient water supply. However, the land increased in value providing the Club with options.

Therefore, it was decided to subdivide and sell this land and acquire land closer to Mt Barker with the potential of adequate water.

With these objectives in mind the present property was purchased and developed, beginning in 1977. The course was constructed first, with the present workshop used as a clubhouse. The original clubrooms were completed and opened on the 4th of October 1980.

The years 1980 to present have seen a tremendous amount of effort and revenue put into the facility by way of continual upgrading of the course and the machinery to keep resources in the condition that members have come to know, enjoy, and expect.

Along with growth in membership has come a growth in services and facilities, so much so that the Committee, looking to the future of the Club undertook in 1988, a major upgrading of the Club Room facility to provide for even more members' services and to provide a Club Room which matches the course in excellence.

In September 2007, the members of the Club agreed to amalgamate with the Hahndorf Golf Club following the sale of their property. The injection of excess assets from Hahndorf has greatly assisted the new club to have a secure future for years to come.

The Hahndorf Golf Club was one of the three oldest clubs in the State with all established in 1892. Adelaide (later Royal Adelaide) Golf Club was the first metropolitan club while the title of the oldest country club could rest in a photo-finish between Hahndorf and Oakbank.

The course moved several times before settling on the Balhannah Road site. The land was loaned or leased from golfing farmers, and many were the hazards with fields ploughed for potatoes or paddocks used for grazing with greens fenced off to prevent straying dairy herds.

In 1963 the Club moved locations for the last time and leased land for a 9-hole course from one of the members, Mr. Vic Nitschke. The Club expanded to its full 18-hole course in 1981 and purchased the land in 1994. Peak membership of 550 - 600 was achieved from 1992 to 1996.

In May 2000, the Management Committee set up a task force to develop strategies for the Club in the future. The Task Force members were subsequently appointed at the Annual General Meeting in October 2000 as the Management Committee.

In early 2002 discussions were held with a well-known developer who proposed to purchase the property, construct home units adjacent to the clubhouse for sale to the general public and Members, with the course operated by a golf course management group and available to all existing Members. The viability of the development was dependent upon a variation of the encumbrances placed on the property title by the vendor when it was purchased in 1994.

A voluntary variation was not forthcoming therefore the club decided to look at other alternatives.

At a significant and sad Special General Meeting in May 2004 it was decided that the course be closed on Sunday 6th June and the property sold by tender process.

The property was subsequently sold with settlement on the 30th of November 2004 and all outstanding debts were paid.

After consideration of three options by Members, a final decision was made at a Special General Meeting in September 2007 that the Hahndorf Golf Club Incorporated should amalgamate with the Mount Barker District Golf Club Incorporated to form the **Mount Barker-Hahndorf Golf Club Incorporated**.

This action gave both former Clubs the chance to continue their long and illustrious histories together as a significant Hills golf club serving one of the fastest growing residential and commercial areas in South Australia.

In 2017 the club was approached by the nearby Aston Hills housing development to change the trading name to **Aston Hills Golf Club at Mount Barker** in return for a significant annual payment and providing memberships to new home buyers.

Following a Special General Meeting of the members in November 2017 it was agreed to proceed to contract negotiations for the name change to take place, for a period of 5 years.

On Thursday 12th April 2018, the final agreement between the club and Aston Hills was signed, and the club officially changed its trading name.

SPONSOR LISTING 2023 - 2024

Adelaide Image Printing	8351 8181
All Decked Out	0412 571 581
APM Employment Services	0448 677 807
Auto Masters Mt Barker	83916988
Chapman Conveyancing	8398 6388
Comida	8388 1725
Commercial Hotel	8536 2021
Foodland Mount Barker	7123 6140
Frank Walsh Drilling	8391 1433
Godfreys Mount Barker	8391 5880
Hahndorf Fruit and Veg Market	8388 7139
Jarrett Motor Co (Mt Barker)	8339 2409
JF Plumbing	0400 457 977
Lanser Group	8132 1115
Living Choice Mt Barker	
LJ Hooker (Mt Barker)	8398 6388
Magill's Fresh Seafood	8332 3797
MC Electrical	0430 434 260
Mitre 10 (Mt Barker)	8391 0533
Mostly Air Air-Conditioning	0411 135 918
Mt Barker Bottles & Cans	8391 2700
Mt Barker Irrigation & Pump Depot	8391 0744
Qube Logistics	0419 323 823
Raymond Finance	0409 673 989
Salute	8398 2872
Serafino Wines	8323 0157
Shortcut Mowers	8398 3444
Squires Barber	0423 158 436
Stirling Variety Meats	8339 3429
Strata Management SA	7081 0375
Teakle Accounting	8391 1200

The Courier	8391 1388
Websters Insurance	8362 5553
Wicks Estate	8389 9100
Winenut	0478 666 508
Windows R Panes	0475 379 111