



Federation of Kerry Golf Clubs



Constitution of the Federation of Kerry Golf Clubs (As of AGM 3/3/2020)

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Constitution of the Federation of Kerry Golf Clubs

1. Aims and Objectives

Main Objective

The title of the Federation shall be “The Federation of Kerry Golf Clubs”.

The main objective for which the Federation is established, is to act as a focus and catalyst for Kerry golf clubs, on behalf of the community of affiliated golf clubs, with a view to sustainably improve the social and golfing wellbeing of the members and to provide a range of tournaments to meet the needs of Kerry golf club members in accordance with the vision of John B. O’Shea and other visionaries.

These tournaments will include for the time being:

1. The Dr. Billy O’Sullivan Shield and Plate.
2. The Nines of Kerry Shield.
3. J.B. O’Shea Trophy.
4. The Senior Kingdom Challenge Shield.
5. The Intermediate Kingdom Challenge Shield.
6. The Kerry Shield.
7. Kerry Club Captains’ Invitational Day.
8. Kerry Past and Present Captains’ Day.
9. Junior golfers’ League, Shields and Plates.

Subsidiary Objective(s)

In furtherance of the foregoing main objective, the Federation shall have the following subsidiary objectives:

- To carry out improvements where possible for the betterment of participating members of the Federation.
- To promote the Federation by the use of any appropriate communications media and through organised events.
- To make representation to Kerry golf clubs on issues that affect the golfing community.
- To promote and safeguard our golfing heritage and culture and protect our environment for future generations.

2. Powers

To the extent that the same are essential or ancillary to the promotion of the main objective of the Federation as heretofore set out the Federation may exercise the following powers:

- (a) Raise funds to fulfill the main objective.
- (b) Accept any charitable donation which may be used for the attainment of the above objectives.

- (c) Seek the support and co-operation of Kerry golf clubs when needed to run competitions to achieve the aims and objectives of the Federation.
- (d) Raise funds by (1) annual subscription from participating clubs, (2) competition entry fees and (3) donations from clubs or golfers.
- (e) Appoint sub-committees to run ancillary functions, e.g. junior/youth activities.

3. Administration

Membership of the Federation

Membership of the Federation shall be open to any Kerry golf club which is affiliated to the **Golf Ireland** and which supports the aims and objectives of the Federation.

Each golf club will, on a yearly rotational basis, assume the role of administering the affairs of the Federation through an elected committee and will for that year be termed the "Host Club". The present hosting order is: Ballybunion-2018, Kenmare-2019, Ceann Sibéal-2020, Waterville-2021, Ballyheigue-2022, Dooks-2023, Maine Valley Members Golf Club-2024, Beaufort-N/A, Tralee-2025, Ring of Kerry-2026, Castlegregory-2027, Killarney-2038, Parknasilla-2029, Castlerosse-2030, Ballybunion 2031, Kenmare 2032, Ross 2033.

Any Club which is not in a position to assume the role of Host Club, when it is its turn to do so, must inform the Federation Secretary at least two years in advance.

The Host Club shall:

- Nominate the officers of the Federation and make its golf facilities available for Federation events.
- Ensure that the Federation flag is flown prominently during the year of hosting the Federation.
- Promote the best interests of the Federation.

Committee Membership

The Committee shall consist of the officers of the Federation, i.e. Captain, Secretary and Treasurer. They shall serve as officers until the next Annual General Meeting. Should a vacancy arise among the officers, the Captain of the Host Club will nominate a member to fill that vacancy.

The officers shall be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Federation and shall give an account of their stewardship to the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting or as otherwise may be required.

The officers shall meet as often as the business of the Federation requires.

Roles of Committee Members

The Captain shall:

- Chair Federation meetings and co-ordinate the day-to-day running of the Federation, in co-operation with the Secretary and the Treasurer.
- Attend presentations and present cups, shields, medals, plates and other prizes.

The Secretary shall:

- (Incoming) shall record the minutes of the Annual General Meeting.
- Be responsible for the minutes of all Federation meetings.
- Collect and retain contact details of Captains and Honorary Secretaries of Federation clubs and communicate all relevant information to them in a timely and efficient manner.
- Keep the Federation web designer and local journalists informed of Federation events.
- Arrange dates, tee times and completion dates for Federation competitions and deal with all correspondence relating to same.
- Ensure that cups, shields, pennants, medals and other prizes are available for presentation to winners or runners up of the various competitions.

The Treasurer shall:

- Organise account signatories and retain a cheque book in the name of the Federation. Any cheque issued shall bear the signatures of two officers.
- Settle in a timely manner all liabilities incurred in running the affairs of the Federation.
- Keep proper accounts regarding the income and expenditure of the Federation and shall produce a detailed statement of same at the Annual General Meeting or when called upon to do so.
- Collect the annual subscription from participating golf clubs.

Participating clubs, through their Honorary Secretary shall:

- Provide the Federation Secretary with contact details of their Captain, Secretary and team managers.
- Inform the Federation Secretary of competitions which they intend to enter and arrange for the payment of the relevant annual subscription.
- Inform the Federation Secretary of results of competitions in a timely manner.
- Ensure that the Federation's rules are adhered to and that completion dates for competitions are complied with.
- Make proposals or amendments to the rules or in regard to matters relevant to Federation activities for consideration at the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting.
- Ensure that cups, shields and plates, won by their club during the previous year, are updated and returned to the Federation Secretary prior to the finals of the relevant competitions in the subsequent year.

The Trustees shall:

- Be elected at the Annual General Meeting and serve for one three-year term only.
- (Ideally there should be one new trustee elected every year, replacing the trustee who has served for the previous three years.)
- Attend Annual General Meetings or Extraordinary General Meetings.
- Act in an oversight capacity protecting the traditions, principles and philosophy of the Federation.
- Be available to the officers and offer advice and guidance when requested to do so.

Competition Rules

The Rules of Golf as laid down by The Royal and Ancient (R &A) shall be applied to all competitions. Local bye-laws must always be respected during competitions and practice rounds.

The use of a golf buggy in any Kerry Federation Competition to be in accordance with the Transportation Policy as outlined in the Golf Ireland Tournament Conditions of that year.

Handicap limits, Federation rules/bye-laws and conditions for the running of the various Federation competitions shall be observed. See appendices for full details. (Appendices do not form part of the constitution.)

General Meetings

- The Annual General Meeting must be held no later than the first week of March of each year. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to receive, consider and adopt the accounts and the reports of the officers, to amend the rules/bye-laws and constitution of the Federation, to elect the officers of the Federation and to elect members as Trustee/s in place of those retiring.
- The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting shall be read and subject to any corrections of fact shall be approved and adopted as a true record of that meeting.
- At least twenty-eight days' notice of when the Annual General Meeting is to be held along with a draft agenda shall be circulated to the affiliated Clubs and separately to the Federation trustees. Notice of the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting will be posted on the Federation website and sent by email to the Captains and Honorary Secretaries of affiliated clubs as well as to the Federation trustees and to other relevant parties.
- Notice of motion to change the Constitution or to amend competition rules/bye-laws or seek items for discussion, to be included on the final agenda, must be submitted, in writing, to the Federation Secretary at least 14 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

- The accidental omission to give notice to any club, or the non-receipt by any club of such notice, shall not invalidate the proceedings at the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting.
- The officers may appoint individuals for specific tasks and they shall retire on completion of the task or at the Annual General Meeting, whichever comes first.
- Each affiliated club will have two delegate votes at an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting. Each officer of the Federation and each trustee will have one vote. The junior officers of the Federation will have two votes.
- All motions or questions will be decided by either consensus, show of hands, or by secret ballot. In the event of a tie, the Federation Captain will have a casting vote.

Extraordinary General Meetings

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called for the following reasons:

- If the officers plus one trustee deem it necessary.
- If one third, plus one, of the affiliate clubs requests such a meeting in writing to the officers, stating its purpose.
- To wind up the Federation.

4. Income and Property

The income and property of the Federation shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its main objective as set forth in this Constitution. No portion of the Federation’s income or property shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit, to the members of the Federation. No officer shall be appointed to any office of the Federation paid by salary or fees, or receive any remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth from the Federation. However, nothing shall prevent any payment in good faith by the Federation of:

- a) Reasonable and proper remuneration to any member of the Federation (not being an officer) for any services rendered to the Federation.
- b) Interest at a rate not exceeding 5% per annum on money lent by officers or other members of the Federation to the Federation.
- c) Reasonable and proper out-of-pocket vouched expenses incurred by any officer in connection with their attendance to any matter affecting the Federation.

5. Winding Up

The Federation may be wound up by resolution of an Extraordinary General Meeting of members called specifically for the purpose. The net assets of the Federation, after payment of all outstanding debts, shall be applied to the support of an approved organisation or activity having similar aims and objectives to those of the Federation.

6. Additions, alterations or amendments

No addition, alteration or amendment shall be made to or in the provisions of this Constitution for the time being in force, unless the same shall have been approved by at least two thirds of the members present and entitled to vote at an Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting. Any such proposed addition, alteration or amendment will require a notice of motion, in writing. Amendments agreed at such meetings shall take immediate effect and shall remain in place unless subsequently amended at such future meetings.

Any Changes to the main rules of the competitions will require a simple majority- a notice of motion in writing having been submitted under the rules.

Signed:Signed:
 Captain Secretary

Signed:Date
 Treasurer

Appendix A

Federation of Kerry Golf Clubs Senior & Intermediate Kingdom Challenge Shields

Main Rules of the Competitions

1. Players must be members of Kerry golf clubs.
 2. Teams to consist of 6 players playing fourball better ball Matchplay over 18 holes, with the match results aggregated. If both teams have the same aggregate score after the 3 pairs have each played 18 holes, then the 3rd pairing on the entry sheet will continue on sudden death basis.
 3. Senior team players handicap index limit is up to 10.4. There is no lower limit, (Maximum handicap allowance to any player is 4 shots.)
 4. Intermediate team players handicap index 10.5 to 16.0, (Maximum handicap allowance to any Player is 4 shots.)
 5. Players play off their handicap on match day (i.e. WHS Handicap index of that day)
 6. There are no restrictions in regard to age or use of caddies.
 7. Finals will be over 2 legs, with 3 matches at home and 3 matches away. The venue for the first leg will be decided by the tossing of a coin. All other matches will be one leg only. **The top team in Round 1 of the draw will have home advantage, a draw will be made to determine home advantage for all subsequent rounds.**
 8. The Senior Kingdom Challenge Shield is to be played from the Blue Medal Tee Boxes.
 9. The Intermediate Kingdom Challenge Shield is to be played from the White Medal Tee Boxes.
 10. Home clubs shall provide match referees.
 11. Away teams will be entitled to have one practice round, where possible.
 12. In the event of matches not having been played by the **relevant** round 'play by' date, for whatever reason, the committee reserves the right to fix the date, time and venue of the unplayed match(s).
 13. All decisions taken by the committee are final.
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Appendix B

Federation of Kerry Golf Clubs Dr. Billy O'Sullivan Shield and Plate

Main Rules of the Competition

1. Teams to consist of five pairings, playing scotch foursomes matchplay.
 2. Players must be members of Kerry golf clubs.
 3. Playing handicap limit – A player must have a handicap index of 17.0 or higher, on 1st January of the competition year, and is entitled to play off his 1st January handicap for the duration of the competition, except where Rule 4 applies.
 4. A player whose handicap index has been reduced to less than 15.4 during the current year is ineligible to play for the remainder of the competition.
 5. Players must be 40 years of age or over on 1st January of the competition year.
 6. Pairings must have a combined handicap index of not less than 38.0.
 7. There is no restriction on caddies.
 8. Away teams will be entitled to have one practice round, where possible.
 9. **The top team in Round 1 of the draw shall have home advantage, a draw will be made to determine home advantage for all subsequent rounds. On reaching the semi final and final, both matches will be played at the Host Club.**
 10. In the event of matches not having been played by the **relevant** round 'play by' date, for whatever reason, the committee reserves the right to fix the date, time and venue of the unplayed match(s).
 11. All decisions taken by the committee are final.
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Appendix C

Federation of Kerry Golf Clubs

Nines of Kerry Shield.

Main Rules of the Competition

1. Players must be members of Kerry golf clubs.
 2. The following is the format for each match:

Two mixed scotch foursomes – men to tee off first on each hole. Play off 3/8 of the difference in combined handicap index. Men's indices to be used.

One men's fourball - the lowest handicap index goes to scratch and the other three players play off 90% of the difference

One ladies fourball - the lowest handicap index goes to scratch and the other three players play off 90% of the difference.

One Mixed Fourball – the lowest handicap index goes to scratch and the other 3 players play off 90% of the difference. Men's indices to be used
 3. Home clubs shall provide match referees.
 4. Away teams will be entitled to have one practice round, where possible.
 5. There is no restriction on use of caddies.
 6. **The top team in Round 1 the draw shall have home advantage, a draw will be made to determine home advantage for all subsequent rounds. The final will be played at the Host Club.**
 7. In the event of matches not been played by the **relevant** round 'play by' date, for whatever reason, the committee reserves the right to fix the date, time and venue of the unplayed match/matches.
 8. All decisions taken by the committee are final.
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Appendix D

Federation of Kerry Golf Clubs

J B O'Shea Trophy

Main Competition Rules:

Teams must include:

1. One player, whose handicap index is less than 11.5 on match day
2. One player whose handicap index is greater than 11.5 but less than 18.5 on match day
3. One player, who is a member of the club's Billy O'Sullivan panel
4. One player, who is a member of the Kerry Seniors' Tour or is over 60 years of age on 1st January preceding the competition date

Each team will consist of two pairs of any combination.

The scoring format will be aggregate fourball stableford where each player will receive 90% of his full handicap index.

Countback (of the score recorded by the second pair) will apply in the event of a tie.

Appendix E

Federation of Kerry Golf Clubs

Kerry Shield

Main Rules of the Competition

1. Teams will consist of 6 players playing singles stableford.
 2. The winners of the shield will be the team with the best 5 aggregate scores.
 3. In the event of a tie the sixth card will be counted.(18,9,6,3,1)
 4. Full handicap will apply and the competition will be a counting competition.
 5. Medallions will be presented to the winning team, runner up team and for 2 individual scores - Best Gross and Best Nett.
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Appendix F

Federation of Kerry Golf Clubs

Kerry Junior League, Shields and Plate

Main Rules of the Competitions

1. The League comprises at least 11 outings.
2. Competition at each venue is 18 holes stableford. Entry Fee is €2.00. A special prize for best U12 and U14 player each day.
3. Team players must be U18 on January 1st in year of competition..
4. Team of 7 with the best 5 cards to count. NB Substitutes, U12 and U14 players may play.
5. Handicap limit 18 (Golf net cards required for entry.)
6. Prizes; 1st, 2nd, 3rd gross scores and 1st, 2nd, 3rd net scores. U12 and U14 prizes.
Total value of prizes will not exceed €280.00
7. Each club arranges its own food. (The person in charge pays the bill on the day.)
8. Local junior officer should alert local caterers and also arrange helpers on the day -Starter on 1st tee; help at computer etc.
9. Teams must arrive at stipulated time, (The Host Club and the 3 nearest clubs are given the first tee times, i.e. the first hour). Team sheets to be handed in 20 minutes before tee off.
10. Code of Conduct and dress code to be adhered to, (Club colours, where possible, to be worn by team members).Each player is responsible for his own golfing gear.
11. Players will play for the following shields: U14 – JB O’ Shea, U15 – Joe Quinlan, U16 – John Molyneaux, U17 – John Molyneaux.
12. The competition format for the shields will be stroke play.
13. The Plate will comprise of four events and each team will consist of three players.
