

# GOLF NSW LIMITED

## Benefits of Affiliation

1. Individual sporting clubs cannot operate effectively in an open market without the support, guidance and governance opportunities which are all provided by affiliation with a higher authority. Similarly, the immediate higher authorities to clubs such as the DGA (regional) and or Golf NSW (state) cannot operate with total effectiveness without membership or affiliation with Golf Australia (national sporting organisation or entity), as the R & A will only recognise national organisations such as Golf Australia insofar as the control and implementation of the Rules of Golf and Amateur Status is concerned, one can see the relevance of the connections between each level of governance. One can always debate the values and virtues of all levels of Government, as with politics generally, but that can be a very complex and subjectively based argument;

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2. Golf NSW's management, guidance, education and communication of Rules and associated matters include:
- Management and distribution of the Rules of Golf books. (48 pallets or 300,000 books received on a four year cycle);
  - Management and distribution of the Rules of Amateur Status;
  - Management and distribution of the Decision on the Rules of Golf books every 2 years;
  - Management distribution of the Illustrated Rules of Golf book and DVDs every second year; and
  - Distribution of the Rules of Golf DVD produced by the R & A

*Plus, Golf NSW:*

- Conducts in excess of 15 club level rules seminars and follow up exams across the state each year;
- Conducts state level accredited seminars and exams;
- Manages and rosters accredited rules officials at all 50+ Golf NSW conducted events each year, including the men's and women's NSW Opens and the Australian Open;
- Supports clubs and DGAs with guidance on Conditions of Play and reviews and construction of Local Rules where requested;
- Delivers numerous club level rules presentations and education sessions each year;
- Responds to rules queries from clubs, DGAs and individuals on a daily basis;
- Significantly contributes to and participates in the ongoing development of the national rules accreditation program;

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3. Golf NSW is the state custodian of the Australian Handicapping and Course Rating System which incurs the responsibility to:
- Respond to constant queries from clubs, DGAs and individuals regarding both aspects;
  - Contribute to assessment of the systems when requested to by Golf Australia which has been frequent and ongoing in recent few years;
  - Provide guidance and support regarding Section 8 issues, where clubs require direction when they need to consider unusual handicap increases or decreased;
  - Maintain a database of educated course raters who act on behalf of DGAs and Golf NSW when courses require rating services;
  - Re-educate the course rating population to enable GolfNSW to rate all courses within the state with the new USGA system;

- Subsequently, educate our staff and volunteer network re the Slope style handicapping system as it nears introduction;
  - Manage GolfLink queries as and when required; and
  - Provide an entry level software handicapping tool (One Golf) which was developed for smaller clubs which is highly subsidised by Golf NSW.
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4. Golf NSW manages the affiliation process for new clubs including legal compliance and assessment.

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5. Golf NSW stages upward of 50 events and tournaments across the state promoting the game and playing and socialising opportunities for all levels, but particularly for the club golfer:

- [Click here](#) to view full calendar of events;
  - Manage a High Performance program for the developing players both men and women including state teams representation; and
  - Golf NSW owns and conducts the NSW Open and Women's NSW Open each year to both promote the game of golf generally as well as provide pathway opportunities for our better amateur players.
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6. Golf NSW provides general guidance and support to clubs across all aspects of their operations, if asked:

- Act as a sounding board re legal issues and matters of concern to clubs. No legal advice is offered by frequently legal advice is sought if the matter has relevance to many clubs as opposed to an individual or local issue only;
  - Provide a very comprehensive management tool and on-line reference guide (Golf Club Management Manual) which contains over 250 pages of information;
  - Produce a Club Directory contacts publication each year;
  - Provide, manage and maintain the GolfNSW website as both a promotional vehicle as well as a communication link to all including secure information related to clubs and DGAs;
  - Deliver a bulk mail to clubs on a regular basis to share, highlight and promote the activities and events of Golf NSW to all stakeholders groups who form part of our industry; and
  - Provide template constitutions and the like for clubs and DGAs.
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7. Golf NSW represents the golf industry's interest on the ClubsNSW Council.

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8. Golf NSW successfully manages a commercial arm of the business to drive sponsorship and other non-affiliation fee revenue that assists to underpin business operations.

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9. Golf NSW manages the NSW Golf Foundation in conjunction with a Board of Governors who regularly provides grants to clubs across the state who has a desperate need for financial support.

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10. Golf NSW provides significant financial and VIK support to Jack Newton Junior Golf who hold the major responsibility for the promotion of the game to young people across the state operating a wide range of programs aimed at junior golfers. Membership of the JNIG for juniors is provided free of charge (FOC).

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