



ROYAL DORNOCH

Junior Handbook

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Introduction

All Juniors are Members of Royal Dornoch. This Junior Handbook will provide the information to juniors that will enable an understanding of golf etiquette and the role of being a Junior Member of Royal Dornoch, to help us all achieve the clubs' aspirations for the future of the Junior Section at Royal Dornoch.

Royal Dornoch's aim is to offer golf as an activity to all children in the Dornoch Community. We have equipment available for beginners and offer advice on how to become involved in the game.

For the experienced golfer, some of this will be already known, or will be a useful guide to refresh you of what it should feel to be a Junior Member of Royal Dornoch and to participate within the Junior Section of your golf club. Should you have any questions, or ideas that you wish to put forward, please contact your respective Junior Section Co-ordinator or the Head PGA Teaching Professional, we are all here to learn from each other and to help us all fulfil both your own and the golf club's potential.

The programme of support given by Royal Dornoch, to our Club Professionals and the Junior Committee is to enable the Junior Section to grow through regular winter coaching, Junior Competitions and events, Inter-Club Competitions, National Competitions and away trips all with the aim to encourage all Junior Members at Royal Dornoch to participate fully and to be involved in a Junior Section they are proud to represent.

We will ask that you keep up to date with Junior events by monitoring the Junior Members page on the Royal Dornoch website and at the Clubhouse on the Junior noticeboard.

A Member of the Junior Section at Royal Dornoch is a valued Member of the golf club. Our aim is to fulfil your potential and aspirations as well as to encourage you to participate through regular attendance of Junior events during the calendar year. In return the rewards and benefits of being a member of the Junior Section will be achievable to all those dedicated Juniors.

Junior Season Outline

Our Junior Golf Programme takes place every week between the School Easter Holidays and October Holidays. Timings vary between each stage (details below).

The social development of our Juniors is very important and Thursday and Friday evenings in the clubhouse following from B/B+ and A section are very sociable for the Juniors.

Minis	Coaching on Thursday afternoon 15:00
Advanced Minis	Coaching on Tuesday evening 16:00
Wildcats	Coaching on Thursday evening at 16:00
B Section	Played on Thursday evening at 16:00
B+ Section	Played on Thursday evening at 16:00
A Section	Played on Friday afternoon at 14:30

Benefits of being a Royal Dornoch Junior Member

The benefits of being a Royal Dornoch Golf Club Junior Member are:

- Unlimited play on the Struie Course, subject to availability on the course.
- Access to the Championship Course in line with handicaps stated in this document.
- Full access to the Clubhouse with exceptions laid out in the Clubhouse rules.
- Full access to the club's practice facilities.
- A club loyalty card which entitles the junior to 10% off food and drinks.

Benefits of being a Royal Dornoch Junior Squad Member

In addition to the benefits of being a Royal Dornoch Junior Member a Squad Member also has the following benefits:

- The opportunity to be involved in team events.
- The opportunity to compete on the Caddies Cup Day.
- The opportunity to be involved in away trips.
- The opportunity to attend Junior Events at away clubs funded by the Junior Section.

Junior Winter Programme

The winter coaching programme runs from November to March.

Fixture List

Each Junior Section will have a fixture list and coaching plan with dates and times detailed.

Junior Subcommittee for Council of Management

The purpose of the Junior subcommittee is to make decisions about the Junior Section.

- Junior Convenor: Colin mackay
- Club Captain: Willie MacKay
- General Manager: Neil Hampton
- Child Protection Officer: Claire Riddell
- Head PGA Teaching Professional: Gary Dingwall (PGA Professional)
- Morcott Challenge Co-ordinator: Jim Campbell

Junior Organising Subcommittee

The purpose of the Junior Organising subcommittee is to deliver the Junior Section programme.

- Junior Convenor: Colin Mackay
- Club Captain: Willie Mackay
- Head PGA Teaching Professional: Gary Dingwall (PGA Professional)
- Junior A Section Co-ordinator: Mark McFall
- Junior B/B+ Section Co-ordinator: David Diracles
- Morcott Challenge Co-ordinator: Jim Campbell
- Junior Captain: Angus McFall

Royal Dornoch wish all Juniors to enjoy the game of golf and will deliver this through:

- Promoting a safe and enjoyable environment for all juniors to attend.
- Helping to develop individual juniors to reach their full potential.
- Help juniors develop a team environment, to look out for one another.
- Encourage all juniors to participate in Junior Club and Inter-Club events.
- Promote the Rules and Etiquette of Golf.
- Integrate juniors fully with club activities through active involvement with other sections of the club.
- Support juniors to gain a handicap and continue to improve and reduce their handicap.

Any junior or parent with a coaching or playing query should in the first instance, discuss it with their respective Junior Co-ordinator who will then discuss that with the Head PGA Teaching Professional to seek a resolution and where necessary will then refer their query to the Junior Convenor.

All welfare of safeguarding concerns can be reported confidentially to Claire Riddell (M:07754 876267) or Neil Hampton (M: 07801 510688)

Dress Code Guide

This dress code should be adhered by all Junior Members. This applies to all coaching sessions and playing at the golf club as well as playing away at other golf clubs.

If an away club has a stricter dress code that would take precedence.

Be proud to be a Junior Member. We are proud you represent Royal Dornoch.

On the Course:

- Smart golf shirts must be worn.
- Shirts must be tucked in when designed to do so.
- Golf Hoodies are permitted.
- All shorts must be tailored.
- Skorts with a full skirt are permitted.
- Sensible footwear must be worn.
- All players must come prepared with clothing for potential changes in weather e.g. suitable waterproofs.
- No gym wear (joggers etc.).
- No sports team kits.
- No jeans.

In the Clubhouse:

- As above with the exception of:
- No hats to be worn upstairs.
- Jeans are permitted but ripped jeans are not.
- Soft spike golf shoes (if clean) are permitted. Metal spiked golf shoes are not permitted upstairs.

Club Guide and Etiquette

Clubhouse Rules

When in the clubhouse all Juniors must abide by the dress code in the Junior Handbook.

They must also abide by the following rules:

- Under 12's must be accompanied by an adult in the Clubhouse, at all times.
- B Section and B+ Section are permitted in the Clubhouse on their section night, under the guidance of the Junior Co-ordinator or Coaches and are encouraged to use the Junior room – currently the back dining room.
- A Section are encouraged in the Clubhouse on their section night.
- Catering facilities are offered for the Juniors on both of these nights. The Juniors are encouraged to use their loyalty cards.
- 12 years and over are permitted to use the Clubhouse independently.
- No one aged under 18 is permitted in the bar area. Over 18's are not permitted in the bar area during their Junior nights.

Mobile Phones

Out of respect to fellow Juniors and our Coaches and Co-ordinators the use of mobile phones may only be used on the course for the golf clubs scoring app. At all other times on the course and during coaching sessions, without permission from a Coach or Co-ordinator, the use of mobile phones is strictly forbidden, unless in the event of an emergency.

Child Protection Statement & Safeguarding Officer

The safety and wellbeing of our Juniors is our main priority and we are fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children in our care. We recognise our responsibility to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation. Staff and volunteers are all PVG certified through Scottish Golf and will work together, embracing difference and diversity in respecting the rights of children and young people.

Please note that Coaches, Co-ordinators and golf club staff cannot be responsible for Juniors outside the times specified for the commencement and completion of their coaching. This includes time spent in the clubhouse post-coaching. A parent or an appointed carer must be in attendance at these times as detailed previously.

- If a parent requests their child be absent from school for a reasonable purpose, the school can choose to support such requests, especially if the request lends itself to the wider achievement of the child.
- The responsibility for the child during the period of absence requested has to lie with the parent making the request.
- The school is not in a position to assume responsibility for the child in the example outlined above.

Royal Dornoch is affiliated to Scottish Golf and recognises the policies of our governing body, as set out in its “Children’s Wellbeing Guidelines” **Club Contact is Claire Riddell on 07754 876267**

The full policy is available on the club website or from the club office.

Junior Code of Conduct

As a Junior Member of Royal Dornoch you are expected to abide by the following Code of Conduct.

You should:

- Listen to your Coach.
- Arrive on time.
- Inform the Junior Co-ordinator if you are going to miss a Junior Session.
- Help create and maintain an environment free of fear and harassment.
- Demonstrate fair play and apply golf's standards both on and off the course.
- Treat others as you would wish to be treated yourself.
- Respect physical, cultural and racial difference.
- Tell someone in authority if you are leaving a venue or competition.
- Show respect to Coaches, Organisers and golf club members.
- Keep an accurate score for every hole, dishonest scoring will be treated seriously.
- Play to the rules as you learn them, if you are not sure then ask.

You should not take part in any irresponsible, abusive, inappropriate or illegal behaviour which includes:

- Consuming alcohol or illegal or performance-enhancing drugs or stimulants.
- Smoking.
- Using foul language.
- Publicly using critical or disrespectful descriptions of others or our golf club.

While we hope that no one would breach these rules:

Violations of the Code of Conduct will be dealt with by the Junior Sub Committee.

Severe breach of the Code of Conduct will result in disciplinary action.

Parents Code of Conduct

As a parent/carer of a Junior Member of Royal Dornoch you are expected to abide by the following Code of Conduct.

You should:

- Encourage your child to learn the rules and play with or accompany them.
- Discourage unfair play and arguing at all times.
- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.
- Encourage but never force your child to take part in golf.
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding good performances of all.
- Never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes. Always look for the positive.
- Accept officials' judgements.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their golf.
- Use correct and proper language at all times.
- Never use threatening or abusive behaviour towards other children, Officials, Coaches and Organisers or other parents.
- Always notify the Coach/Junior Co-ordinator (as applicable) if the player will not be attending or is going to be late for a coaching session/competition. This will most often be by emailing the Junior Co-ordinator for A/B+/B sections.

While we hope that no one would breach these rules:

Violations of the Code of Conduct will be dealt with by the Junior Sub Committee.

Severe breach of the Code of Conduct will result in disciplinary action.

What's your role?

Expectation Matrix

Expects from....	Junior ↓	Parent ↓	Coach ↓	Club ↓
Junior	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Competition 2. Friendship 3. Commitment 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fun 2. Friends 3. Wellbeing 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engage 2. Punctual 3. Enjoy 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Listen to Coach 2. Participation 3. Represent Club
Parent	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support 2. Not Pushy 3. Equal opportunity 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support 2. Encouragement 3. Mediator 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supportive 2. Don't Interfere 3. Financial Help 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend/Join 2. Support Club 3. Provide Income
Coach	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Feedback 2. Engage 3. Chance to Play 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Positive 2. Committed 3. Knowledgeable 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communication 2. High Standards 3. Motivated 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Represent Club 2. Provide Coaching 3. Professionalism
Club	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Belonging 2. Kit 3. Organised 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Friendly 2. Secure 3. Organised 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Respect 2. Support 3. Communication 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safe & Secure 2. Equal opportunities 3. Sound Policies

Example:

The Coach expects from the parent as circled above.

Junior Competitions

Competition Priority

Junior Members and Junior Squad Members are all encouraged to participate in all Junior Competitions, we aim to encourage a team environment. The game of golf can be enjoyed by all when in a competitive environment through respect for others. This applies to club competitions in your section and playing in club team events.

There is an Order of Priority of Tournament Competition events for ALL Junior Squad Members of Royal Dornoch.

Junior Squad Members must consult and adhere to the following Tournament Competition, event Order of Priority playing schedule, as follows:

Royal Dornoch will always support our Juniors that are selected for District / County / National Squads. Some away Junior Opens are used to select District / County teams. What we ask is that when there is a clash of dates that the Co-ordinator and Coach is informed so that we know why a Junior will miss a coaching session or Royal Dornoch Junior Competition. We regard this as fundamental to complying with the Code of Conduct.

Order of Priority

1. Royal Dornoch Junior Section events.
2. Royal Dornoch Junior Club Competitions and events.
3. Royal Dornoch Senior Club Competitions and events.
4. County Junior / Senior events.
5. National Junior / Senior events.
6. International Junior / Senior events.
7. Junior / Senior Open events (Away competitions).

To be clear:

All Junior Members are encouraged to play Junior Club Competitions as a priority should they clash with Senior Club Competitions, Junior Members must not withdraw from a Junior Club Competition to play in a Senior Club Competition without the prior consent from the Junior Sub Committee.

Juniors are encouraged to participate in Junior Opens at other clubs but it is expected that Royal Dornoch events are given priority – unless otherwise discussed and approved by the Head Teaching Professional or Junior Co-ordinator. Juniors are reminded that although most golf clubs will return scores via the World Handicap System (WHS) to their home club it is still the responsibility of all golfers to be knowledgeable about their handicap index status and make us aware of any scores that may be missing from their handicap record.

To enter a Tournament Competition or event out-with the Order of Priority above without having consulted with the Head Teaching Professional or Junior Co-ordinator result in the Junior Member being withdrawn from that Tournament Competition or event to maintain the integrity of the Royal Dornoch Junior Section.

Requirements to be a Junior Squad Member

Royal Dornoch is keen for all young golfers to enjoy the facilities that it offers.

However, there are benefits of being a **Squad Member**: such as competing the *Caddies Cup Day and representing the Club in matches.

A **Squad Member** is acknowledged by having the minimum of the following attendances: -

75% of A, B+ or B Section Thursday/Friday nights (as applicable).

Must participate in the A/B Skinner Trophy.

Must participate in the Hans Burkhard (A Section).

And must participate in both the Rainbow/Thomson and Burnett Cup.

All our Junior Members are encouraged to participate in our two Junior Open events, namely the Junior Open in April and the Donald Ross in October. Participation in these events in addition to the above list will act favorably in the Juniors position when there is a selection process for *special events or trips.

We understand that not all Junior Members will be able to commit to this level of attendance but they are still welcome to join us when they can. It does mean that they will not be eligible to compete in any of the events listed above with an * or to be a Junior Squad Member.

For those joining the Junior Section in the middle of a season – each case will be considered on an individual basis.

Funding Opportunities

Royal Dornoch juniors have the opportunity, in particular participating A Section members, to represent the club at a number of regional and national competitions. The club is keen to increase participation in these events and to support those juniors and families who make the significant commitment to prepare for and travel to these events.

The club has a limited amount of funding available to contribute towards costs related to these events including registration fees and where applicable travel and accommodation. Families wishing to apply to the club for such funding are invited to contact Claire Riddell for an application form and further details. For avoidance of doubt, grants of funding are at the discretion of the Junior Committee and are typical for a portion of costs.

Junior Competition Formats

Dates of Competitions are available on the Club website and in the Junior fixture list.

Caddies Cup Day – trophies competed for on the day

<u>Trophy</u>	<u>Presented in year and By</u>	<u>Presented to</u>
Caddies Cup	G. Spurling in 1921	Presented to the lowest scratch score over 18 holes on the Championship Course by an A Section Boy.
Girls Championship	1965	Presented to the lowest scratch score over 18 holes on the Championship Course by an A Section Girl.
Ken Natusaka Cup	In Memory of Ken Natusaka - 2000	Presented to the lowest nett score over 18 holes on the Championship Course by an A Section Member.
A Reeves Memorial	Arthur, Ali, John, Hamish, JB, Fergie and Jimmy (his regular golf buddies) - 1995	Presented to the lowest nett score over 9 holes on the Struie Course by a B+ Section Member.
R McCulloch Shield	R . McCulloch - 1976	Presented to the lowest nett score over 9 holes on the Struie Course by a B Section Member.

Trophies competed for during the season (cumulative)

<u>Trophy</u>	<u>Presented in year and By</u>	<u>Presented to</u>
Katie Sutherland	In memory of Katie Sutherland - 1993	Presented to the best A Section Member Eclectic. Eclectic starts from the 1 st A Section night of the season until the week leading up to the Caddies Cup Day.
Beverley Hanson	In memory of Beverly Hanson - 1994	Presented to the Winner of the Scratch Order of Merit by an A Section member. *Points accrued from the 1 st A Section night of the season until the week leading up to the Caddies Cup Day.
Roddy Dingwall	In memory of Roderick Hay Dingwall - 2017	Presented to the Winner of the Nett Order of Merit by an A Section member. *Points accrued from the 1 st A Section night of the season until the week leading up to the Caddies Cup.
John Gordon Medal	John Gordon - 1984	Most improved Handicap within A Section, from the start of the golf season until week leading up to the Caddies Cup.
John MacGregor Shield	John MacGregor - 1977	Best Nett Aggregate in A Section.
Captains Prize	By the Current Captain	Prizes for both Boy and Girl, recognition for outstanding achievement/endeavour.

<p>Alex Lagowitz Trophy</p>	<p>Ian Lagowitz in memory of Alex Lagowitz - 2019</p>	<p>This prize recognises commitment to the Junior Section. Factors and qualities to be considered include; etiquette, representing Royal Dornoch Juniors and being a credit to our golf club; having good attitude on the golf course and during social interactions after play; being helpful and courteous; also displaying behaviours that we wish our younger Juniors to follow.</p>
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*Points accrued, 1st = 10, 2nd 8, 3rd = 6, 4th = 4 and 5th = 2

Trophies competed for during the season (stand-alone events)

<u>Trophy</u>	<u>Presented in year and By</u>	<u>Presented to</u>
A/B Skinner Trophy	Andrew Skinner - 2001	Winning Foursomes Pair, Best Nett (one A Section, one B Section) pick your own partner.
Hans Burkhard	In memory of Hans Burkhard - 2002	Individual Scratch event, 36 holes on the Championship Course for A Section.
Rainbow Trophy	Mrs Maggie Holmes - 1984	Winning Foursomes Pair incl male Junior, Best Nett (Adult/Junior pairs, same gender) Open to all sections.
Thompson Trophy	Mrs M E Thompson - 1989	Winning Foursomes Pair incl female Junior, Best Nett (Adult/Junior pairs, same gender) Open to all sections.
Burnett Cup	Mrs Alison Burnett - 2006	Winning Foursomes Pair, Best Nett (Adult/Junior pairs, opposite gender) Open to all sections.
Robert Murray	Mrs Margaret Murray in memory of Robert Murray	Winning Greensomes Pair, B+ Section or A Section playing with an adult on Championship Course.
Murray Quaich	Rob D Murray Captain (2018 -2020)	A Section – Best Eclectic over 9 holes between Caddies Cup and end of October.

Junior Progression

All Juniors must join as Members of Royal Dornoch Golf Club.

MINIS and ADVANCED MINIS

The following guidelines are in place for juniors to use as a target for progressing to other sections.

Mini Golfers: Age 4 – 6 years

The Minis play on the Academy holes and can progress to Advanced Minis when deemed mature enough by their Coach.

Advanced Mini Golfers: Age 5 – 7/8 years

The Advanced Minis play on the Academy holes and can progress to the Wildcats when deemed mature enough by their Coach.

Wildcat Junior Member: Age 6 – Primary School Age

Wildcat girls and boys play 6 holes from green tees on the Academy holes. They will be considered for progressing to B Section when they reach the gold category and the Coach confirms they display the appropriate ability, maturity, understanding of basic rules, safety and behaviour.

Guideline scores: Bronze category: 58 - 46 Silver category: 45 - 36 Gold category: 35 and under

JUNIOR STRUIE MEMBER

B Section: Age 8 – 14 years

Girls and Boys playing from the black tees on Struie Course progressing to B+ Section:

Both girls and boys play 9 holes 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 15, 16, 17, 18.

Guideline scores: Bronze category: 60 - 53 Silver category: 52 - 46 Gold category: 45 and under

Juniors will be considered for progression to B+ section when they reach the Gold category and the Coach & Section Co-ordinator confirms they display the appropriate ability, maturity, understanding of basic rules, safety and behaviour.

B+ Section: 10 – 16 Years

Girls and Boys both play from the red tees to begin with and boys progress to play from the yellow tees.

Both girls and boys play 9 holes, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 15, 16, 17, 18.

Girls need to score 55 from the red tees to be considered for progression to A Section.

Boys need to score 55 from the yellow tees to be considered for progression to A Section.

Juniors will be considered for progression to A section when they achieve consistent scoring but also when the Coach confirms they display the appropriate ability, maturity, understanding of basic rules, pace of play, safety and behaviour.

A Section: 12 – 18 years

A Section play on the Struie Course with organised access to playing on the Championship Course, particularly during winter coaching.

Eligible for coaching and tournaments with age under 18 on the 1st January.

When A *Section* Juniors reduce their handicap to the limits detailed below they have the opportunity to enter a development programme which gives them more access to the Championship Course as a Junior Struie Member with Championship Course Playing Rights.

Junior Struie Member with Championship Course Playing Rights

Girls Handicap Index – 24.5	Boys Handicap Index- 22
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Junior Championship Course Member

When Juniors reach the handicap levels below their overall golfing maturity is considered and a request for upgrade to Junior Championship Course Member is made to the Council of Management by the Junior Convenor.

Girls Handicap Index – 19	Boys Handicap Index- 16
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Royal Dornoch’s Vision includes, “encompassing all ages and abilities”.

From time to time the progress of a Junior may not be in line with their age. Juniors that show potential, are sufficiently mature and their play, etiquette and knowledge of rules is deemed appropriate can, if wished, progress into a section with older juniors subject to approval by the Head Teaching Professional, Junior Coordinator & Junior Sub Committee. Any progression which may not be in line with their age will be on a temporary basis during periods out with the school term until the relevant section age has been reached.

When a junior has not reached the playing level we use as guidance for progressing to the next age group the Junior Convenor will consider the feedback from the Coach and discuss options with the parent/s. Should further input be required, then following a period where the junior’s commitment and parents support can be reviewed the situation may come to the Junior Subcommittee.

Useful Contact Details

- Junior Convenor
Colin Mackay
Juniorconvenor@royaldornoch.com
- Head PGA Teaching Professional:
Gary Dingwall (PGA Professional)
Gary@royaldornoch.com
- Junior A Section Co-ordinator:
Mark McFall
m.mcfall@sky.com
- Junior B/B+ Section Co-ordinator:
David Diracles
david.diracles@verusenergy.co.uk
- Safeguarding Officer:
Claire Riddell
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Facebook Group – Royal Dornoch Junior Section
Facebook Page – Links Academy at Royal Dornoch
- Scottish Golf
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