Lara
GOLF CLUB



MEMBERS HANDBOOK

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Welcome to Lara Golf Club

We're delighted to have you as part of our community. Lara Golf Club, originally Elcho Park Golf Club, was formed in 1963. Our Club is built on respect, enjoyment, and a shared love of the game. This handbook will help you understand how the club works, what you can expect as a member, and how you can make the most of your time here.

The Lara Golf Club Handbook provides information for all Members. This handbook and other useful resources are available to download at www.laraglfclub.com.au. It is strongly recommended this information is read by all members and referred to regularly.

1. About Our Club

Lara Golf Club is a community-driven club with a proud history of volunteerism, sportsmanship, and local engagement. Our mission is to foster the game of golf at all levels, with quality facilities that are accessible and affordable for the Community.

Our Values

- Respect
- Friendly
- Welcoming
- Inclusive
- Community Minded

2. Member Benefits

As a member you will receive discounts at the following areas:

- Driving Range
- Drinks at the Bar
- Function Room Hire
- Cart Hire

3. Member Rights & Responsibilities

The Golf Course - Keep the golf course and practice areas in as good or better shape than you found them; course quality is maintained by repairing divots & pitch marks; raking bunkers and keeping your cart/buggies within the designated areas. Spirit of Game - Golf requires competitors to be responsible for knowing and applying the rules so take time to learn them, understand the etiquette of the game; play in a manner always demonstrating courtesy and sportsmanship.

Your Rights

As a member, you are entitled to:

- Access the course and facilities according to your membership category

- Participate in competitions and club events
- Receive communications and updates
- Vote at general meetings (where eligible)
- Enjoy a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment

Your Responsibilities

Members are expected to:

- Treat others with respect and courtesy
- Follow club rules, policies, and competition guidelines
- Care for the course and facilities
- Represent the club positively
- Keep contact details up to date
- Pay fees by the due date

4. Course Etiquette & Care

Treat all members, visitors and staff with respect and be ready to play 15 minutes prior to your time; be familiar with our dress code; maintain a good pace of play by playing ready golf; remember course staff have right of way on the course.

On the Course

- Repair pitch marks
- Replace or fill divots
- Always carry a sand bucket
- Rake bunkers after use
- Keep pace with the group ahead
- Allow faster groups to play through
- Follow all signage and staff instructions

Safety

- Be aware of other players before hitting
- Yell "FORE" if a ball may strike someone
- Avoid entering restricted areas
- Report hazards or incidents immediately

Respect for the Course

Our greens staff work hard — please help protect their efforts by avoiding:

- Driving carts in prohibited areas
- Damaging tee markers or ropes
- Practising on greens

5. Clubhouse Etiquette

The clubhouse is a shared space for members, guests, and staff.
Please:

- Dress neatly and appropriately adhering to the Lara Golf Club Dress Code
- Treat staff and volunteers with courtesy
- Keep noise to a reasonable level

- Supervise children
- Follow bar and kitchen rules
- Respect club property

6. Competitions & Handicaps

Competitions

Members can participate in weekly competitions, special events, and championships. Competition rules are set by the Match & Play Committee and must be followed at all times.

Tuesday – Women's competition & Men's White Tee competition
Wednesday – Men's competition
Saturday – Men's & Women's competition

The Golf Syllabus is updated regularly and is available on our website.

Handicaps

Golf Australia handicaps are managed through MiScore /OneGolf Members are responsible for:

- Submitting valid scores
- Playing by the Rules of Golf
- Maintaining integrity in scoring

7. Communication

We keep members informed through:

- Email newsletters – circulated monthly
- Social media updates -via facebook and instagram
- Noticeboard announcements – clubhouse foyer area
- Website posts
- SMS messages for urgent or important updates or information

If you're unsure about anything, just ask — communication keeps our club strong.

8. Volunteers & Working Bees

Volunteers are essential to the club's success. Members are encouraged to participate in:

- Working bees
- Course improvement projects
- Event support
- Committee roles

You don't need special skills — just a willingness to help.

9. Committees & Governance

Lara Golf Club is governed by a volunteer Board and supported by various committees, including:

- Match & Play Committee
- Projects Committee
- Grounds Committee
- House Committee
- Sponsorship & Marketing

Members may nominate for Board positions at the Annual General Meeting or provide feedback at any time. Current Board and Committee members can be found on our website.

10. Behaviour & Conduct

Members must uphold the club's standards of behaviour. This includes:

- Respecting staff, volunteers, and fellow members
- Avoiding abusive, aggressive, or discriminatory behaviour
- Avoid using language that is inappropriate or offensive to others
- Following the Rules of Golf and club policies
- Maintaining confidentiality when required

Breaches may result in warnings, suspension, or disciplinary action under the club's Constitution.

11. Guests

Members may invite guests to play or use the clubhouse. Guests must:

- Be signed in
- Pay applicable green fees
- Follow all club rules and etiquette
- Members inviting guests should inform their guest that they can only play a maximum or 5 competition games per year as a guest/visitor
- Members of future golf and other community golf clubs must meet the Lara guest eligibility criteria to be eligible for competition prizes

Members are responsible for the behaviour of their guests.

12. Alcohol, Smoking & Responsible Service

- Alcohol may only be consumed in licensed areas
- Staff may refuse service in line with RSA requirements
- Smoking and vaping are prohibited in the clubhouse and near entrances
- Please dispose of cigarette butts responsibly

13. Catering and Social Events

Throughout the year the Club runs various social events. Members and their guests are encouraged to attend.

The Clubhouse is also available for Members' functions such as Wedding Receptions, Anniversaries, Birthday Parties, and Wakes. For details, please contact a Board Member.

14. Privacy & Member Information

The club collects member information for operational purposes only. Personal details are stored securely and used in accordance with privacy legislation.

15. Feedback & Complaints

We welcome constructive feedback.
Formal complaints (requiring a response) should be submitted in writing. Forms are available at the kiosk.

16. Contact Information

For enquiries, assistance, or feedback please use the Club email:
admin@laragolfclub.com.au

Phone: 03 5282 2955
Email: admin@laragolfclub.com.au
Address: 125 Elcho Road Lara Vic 3212.

Thank you for being part of Lara Golf Club. Your involvement — whether playing, volunteering, or simply enjoying the community — helps keep our club strong, welcoming, and proud.
We look forward to seeing you on the course