

County Card Scheme

General Information:

The Dorset County Card Scheme has been put together to enable Members of Affiliated Clubs to play at other courses – both within Dorset and adjoining Counties – at reduced green fee rates. The scheme mirrors those which have been adopted in most County Unions and provides benefits to Club Members, Clubs and the County Union. Unlike Commercial 2 for 1 schemes all the income collected by the County Union goes straight back into the game at grass roots level. Within England there is a 'consortium' of County Unions which enables County Card Members to play at any of the host courses within any of those County Unions. Dorset is now firmly established in that 'consortium' and has in fact been instrumental in expanding the Scheme to over 20 Counties and currently, those County Unions have over 1000 clubs hosting County Card Members. All of these courses – together with those Dorset Clubs who have joined up – will be available to Dorset County Card Members. In summary, the Dorset County Card Scheme includes the following:

County Card Members:

- Members of Affiliated Clubs may join the scheme.
- County Card Members may play at least once at any of the Host Clubs on the list (some Host Clubs may allow more than one visit).
- Bookings must be made at least 72 hours in advance with the Host Club. Restrictions on time and day of the week may apply. In general, bookings will not be accepted for weekends or Bank Holidays unless the club wishes to allow bookings at these times.
- County Card Members must have current handicaps and must agree to be bound by the rules of the Club being visited.
- The County Card may only be used for groups of up to 4 players and may not be used in connection with larger groups or societies.
- Card Members will be issued with a 'County Card' annually, which will contain details of all Clubs within the scheme. This list will be updated, from time to time, via the Dorset website.

Host Clubs:

- The minimum commitment required is to accept a booking of one four-ball group per week on a day or time determined by the Club.
- The green fee to be charged is entirely at the discretion of the host Club. As a general rule the fee should be the cheapest discounted golf available over all the possible schemes the club may be running or signed up to. Remember these visitors are full members of affiliated golf clubs and are not "Nomads". Typically, the green fee will be 50% of the visitor rate, or the same as the 'guest' green fee.
- The Club has the right to refuse visiting players if the course is unavailable and is fully entitled to set certain tee times for card users to suit the clubs down time and not conflict with its own member's time.
- Players are not expected to just turn up to play and the club is fully supported to refuse play on the card scheme in these instances.
- Clubs may sign-up to this scheme for a minimum period of one year, which will be renewed automatically unless the Club decides to opt out of the scheme