



PRESS RELEASE

June 2009

Chartham Park Golf & Country Club receives EGU/EWGA GolfMark Award

Chartham Park Golf & Country Club has been awarded GolfMark accreditation demonstrating their hard work and dedication to both junior and beginners golf.

The English Golf Union (EGU) and English Women's Golf Association (EWGA) developed the GolfMark award to identify and acknowledge golf facilities in England that were junior and beginner friendly

The GolfMark award also integrates Sport England's Clubmark award - a national standard for quality sports clubs recognised across the country. More than twenty other sports, including tennis and rugby are also using the alliance to add value to their accreditation schemes and over 5000 sports clubs have been awarded Clubmark or are working towards achieving accreditation.

There are a number of benefits that golf clubs can gain by achieving GolfMark accreditation, including increased membership, raising the club's profile, further development of coaches and volunteers and greater access to funding.

GolfMark evaluates golf clubs on the following three areas within their junior section:

- Coaching & Playing
- Club Environment, including sports equity and ethics
- Child Protection & Duty of Care

EGU and EWGA Development Officers continually conduct assessment meetings, offering advice and guidance to golf clubs on how to further enhance their junior sections and beginners initiatives as well as develop best practices.

Further information on GolfMark and a list of all GolfMark clubs can be found on the GolfMark website, www.golfmark.org, or by contacting the EGU/EWGA.

The GolfMark award is an initiative jointly provided by the EGU and EWGA via the England Golf Partnership's 'Whole Sport Plan' for golf.

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EDITORS NOTES

The English Golf Union Limited (EGU) has served as the governing body of male amateur golf in England since it was founded in 1924.

Responsible for the training of England's top amateur golfers the EGU organises all the major English amateur championships.

Based at the National Golf Centre in Woodhall Spa, the EGU is one of the largest sports governing bodies in England looking after the interests of over 1,900 golf clubs and 740,000 club members. The EGU also works to increase the continued interest and participation in golf through their golf development initiative 'Get into Golf' and their Associate Membership Programme.

On the 31 December 2007 the English Ladies' Golf Association, an unincorporated body, was dissolved and the property, contracts, assets (including intellectual property rights and goodwill) and liabilities of the Association were transferred to a Company Limited by Guarantee, registration number 6431498, known as the English Women's Golf Association.

The English Women's Golf Association is the governing body for female amateur golf in England.

EWGA represents over 127,000 members in more than 1780 golf clubs, trains the country's elite golfers, runs a full rota of national championships as well as events for handicap golfers, and actively encourages new golfers.

EWGA has formed the England Golf Partnership with the English Golf Union and the Professionals Golfers' Association. Their Whole Sport Plan, supported by Sport England, aims to make England the world's leading golf nation by 2020.

The association also has a charity, The EWGA Trust, which supports schemes to introduce girls to golf and helps promising players.

The EGU is a founding member of The England Golf Partnership (EGP) along with the English Women's Golf Association (EWGA) and the PGA and is supported by the Golf Foundation and Sport England. The Whole Sport Plan for golf identifies how the EGP will achieve its vision of becoming 'The Leading Golf Nation in the World by 2020' from grass roots right through to elite level.

