

8 October 2018

New Zealand Golf Adopts Women and Girls in Golf Charter

New Zealand Golf has unveiled a new Women and Girls in Golf Charter as part of the organisation's drive to increase the number of women and girls engaged in golf.

The Women and Girls in Golf Charter aims to inspire an industry-wide commitment to developing a more inclusive culture within golf to enable more women and girls to flourish and maximise their potential at all levels of the sport.

The adoption of the new charter builds on current initiatives but critically demonstrates an enhanced commitment to develop new projects that will focus on encouraging more women and girls to play golf and stay within the sport as members of clubs, while also empowering women to enjoy successful careers working within the golf industry.

By adopting the Women and Girls in Golf Charter, New Zealand Golf is specifically committing to:

- Playing a leadership role that sets the example and standards by which golf sport is led;
- Strongly promoting and advocating for more women and girls playing, working and volunteering in golf;
- Advocating for increased opportunities for women in governance at all levels of golf;
- Developing programmes and initiatives that are focused on achieving the goal set out in this charter;
- Enhancing perceptions of golf as a healthy, accessible and inclusive sport for women and girls;
- Encouraging clubs, facilities and the wider golfing sector in New Zealand to be more welcoming, inclusive and accessible for women and girls; and
- Reporting on progress annually.

Dean Murphy, Chief Executive of New Zealand Golf, is proud to see the adoption of the charter commenting "We recognise the real importance of increasing the number of women and girls engaged in golf so this charter is a demonstration of our commitment to this area.

"The need for increased gender diversity in golf is a societal responsibility but it's also the right thing to do. There is a clear need for change and it's important for us to take measures designed to achieve positive change for women, girls and families.

"We call on everyone involved in golf to play their part in developing a culture that values women's involvement in every aspect of the sport, from participating to pursuing a career."

The Women and Girls in Golf Charter is part of a wider piece of work for New Zealand Golf that aims to increase the diversity and inclusion in the sport under a newly adopted Inclusion Charter. New Zealand Golf believes that by actively fostering diversity and inclusion, the inherent value of the game is enhanced for everyone involved.

New Zealand Golf is therefore committed to proactively encouraging the inclusion of under-represented populations and people within our game including women and girls, players with cognitive and physical disabilities, players of all ages, all cultures and players from the rainbow community.

A full copy of the Women and Girls in Golf Charter can be viewed at www.golf.co.nz/playgolf/womenandgirls.

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About New Zealand Golf

New Zealand Golf is a non-for profit charitable trust established in 1910 as the governing body for golf in New Zealand responsible for leading, growing and supporting the game. Golf is the most played sport in New Zealand with over half a million kiwis playing golf each year at one of the 390 clubs throughout the country.

As a sector, golf employs over 2,000 people and contributes more than a billion dollars to the national economy each year. As a sport, golf makes a significant contribution to the health and wellbeing of its participants, increases the social connectivity of communities and improves provides important education and life values outcomes for young people.

New Zealand Golf provides a wide range of services for the game including overseeing the rules of the game, running of the national handicapping system, managing the New Zealand Golf representative team programme (including the Olympic programme) and the management of over 20 elite golf tournaments including the New Zealand Men's and Women's Open Championships.

New Zealand Golf also has a strong focus on the growth of the game at grass roots level with a number of key support programmes in place. For more information, visit www.golf.co.nz.