



# Scottish Blind Golf Society

The driving force behind blind golf in Scotland since 1982

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## SBGS – The Society

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The Scottish Blind Golf Society has been going now for over 30 years, providing help for blind and partially sighted people around Scotland. The main aim is to encourage a sporting activity for people who have encountered sight loss, with all the benefits that this brings.

Membership of the Society provides a structured programme of golf events and a network of friendship around the country. It works equally for existing players wanting to maintain their interest in golf or to provide a fresh sporting opportunity for people with visual impairment. Whether it be social or competitive, we are pleased to welcome them all.

## Members and Activities

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We have members of all ages and varying golfing abilities. Our handicap system extends way out to 54 to support inclusion for all. We have social events, serious competitions and even an annual Ryder Cup style battle with the Auld Enemy as we put together a 12 man Scotland team. We organise many types of events with fun days and player/guide competitions. Our Society is a registered Scottish charity, recognised and supported by the R & A.

## Playing with SBGS

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The only real stipulation for membership is that you have to be registered blind or partially sighted with your local authority or Society for the Blind. The rest takes care of itself. A real bonus, however, is if you have a friend or family member who can come along and act as your 'guide' and help you round the course.

We play the game strictly to the Rules of Golf with some minor modifications authorised by the Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews. For example, we may ground our club in a hazard. We have been very fortunate to be granted courtesy of the course at dozens of quality venues and the support we have been given by the clubs over the years has been simply magnificent. Come and meet us and even have a go. You are warmly invited to come along to an event and meet the members. At some of the events we are offering a chance for you to "have a go" with the help of a qualified professional. Please let us know if you are coming along, so that we can be organised to welcome you.

Having a sight problem doesn't make golf out of bounds!

If you would like to find out more about SBGS, become a member or volunteer your sighted help, you can get in touch with us via the contact information below. Check out the SBGS website: <http://www.scottishblindgolf.com> to get a flavour of the range of events and activities of the society. There is also information in the "Join Us" section about becoming a member.

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