

Jockey Club RED & BLUE course "No-member" Policy

The Jockey Club has two courses the RED (or Championship) and the BLUE.

Both of them have been constructed by Mr. Allister Mackenzie in the 1920s, and they are one beside the other. One of the clear differences is that in the main land, where is located the old Tudor style club house, are laid out the 18 holes of the RED course and 13 of the BLUE course. The other 5 holes of the BLUE (from #3 to #7) are located in the other piece of land, beside the horse race tracks across the street. These five holes are very good also, in fact are the only holes out of the 36 playing with water hazards, making both par 3 (the #5 and #7) some of the best –one shot- of both courses.

Apart from this, the RED has irrigation all along the course (BLUE only has it on tees and greens), and due to its design, the RED is the emblematic one. Considered by Golf Digest one of the TOP 100 Best World Courses, and also the one that hosted the big tournaments.

On December 2007 the main board of the club decided to close the courses for non-members, being the following the only exceptions, or "the only permitted way non-members can play in this club":

- 1- Renting the course on a Monday: Like 99% of the courses in Buenos Aires, the Jockey Club is closed on Mondays. However, the RED course is available to be rented at a cost of 22.000- pesos + TAX (equivalent to 7.000 usd tax included). This is a flat cost, so once you pay this amount you have full and private use of the course. For example if we think of a group of 20 people, then the individual cost of the green fee would be 350 usd p/person.
- 2- If another company opens the course on a Monday, you may be able to enter. As it is already opened, you can be able to play as long as there are tee times available. In this case the club will charge you 135 usd per RED green fee. This normally happens a couple of Mondays per month from October to December, the only way to know it is calling once a week to the club asking the last update of the "RED Mondays".
- 3- Playing invited by and with the member: In both courses you can play invited by and with the member in the same foursome, only from Tuesday to Thursday. The problem is that as the member needs to be playing with you, there are only three places available per foursome. In this case the "invited" no-member will pay 135 usd for the RED, and 80 usd for the BLUE.
- 4- "The BLUE Open": Every THURSDAYS (during the whole year, except closed for maintenance), non-members are allowed to play only in the BLUE course. There is no need to be invited by or play with a member. So you can have all the foursomes you want, as long as you can book them. The cost is 80 usd per green fee, and normally there is no problem to get tee times.
- 5- IMPOSSIBLE to play from Friday to Sundays: As the Jockey Club has more than 8.000 members, and hold around 2.000 handicaps, the club works "members only" from Friday to Saturday, during the whole year. Even with 36 holes, there is not enough place to all the member golfers.
- 6- Maintenance Schedule: As January and February are the dates in which most of the local people go out for vacation, the club takes advantage of making the annual maintenance of the courses for 15 days periods, first the RED then the BLUE. The 1st of January the RED close until Jan 15th, being only playable the BLUE. From 15th to 31st, the BLUE is closed, and the RED playable (however is not in excellent shape). Same thing happens during February. First two weeks the RED closed, and third and fourth weeks the BLUE closed. According to this schedule, the RED is totally recovered and in great shape from the 1st of March on (15 days after it was re-opened) and the BLUE from the March 15th on. Of course this is adjusted every year according to days of the dates, as normally the

maintenance schedule starts on a Monday. Most of the works consist of green reseeded, bunkering and fairway airing.

Our Company relationship with the club:

Three of the owners of our company belong to member families of the Jockey Club for decades. In fact Sebastian Prado was the "Medal Champion" in 2007, and Agustin Hope was "Club Champion 2008" (he also belongs to the Interclub team). Some of our specialized guides (single digit golfers) are also members of this Club. Due to this relationship, we are very respectful of the club policies and try to get our guests in the club according to these rules.

We normally offer this course according to the point 4 ("The BLUE Open"), and if the RED course is a MUST for the guests, then we are capable of making it possible according to point 3 (playing invited by a member). If the group is big enough we can use the course according to point 1 (renting it) and as we are totally aware of the "RED Mondays" we can offer it when we know the course is going to be opened by another company on a Monday.

Unluckily, as in many other aspects, Argentina is not a very serious country regarding rules, and some local people love to do forbidden things, or behaving on the opposite way of what it is supposed to be. We know that some of our competitors are wrongly informing the people, or also promising to get non-members in every day to any of the courses. In some cases they also will not specify which of the two courses the guests are going to play. Even some of these companies "nobody knows how"..... got a complete foursome of non-members playing on day different from Monday in the past..... (technically impossible).

This apart from being unethical is also dangerous, as normally the club is full of members and any one can notice that a non-member foursome is playing against what it is permitted. In the past these practices had overcome in very stressing and embarrassing situations that transformed the great experience of visiting the Jockey Club into a disgusting memory.

We do not share this type of attitude or behavior, our professional relationship with the club deserves respect from both sides. Therefore we do not take golfers into the club in any different way from the official permitted listed above.

Nicolas Iorio
Director
Discover Golf

Sebastián Prado
Golf
Discover Golf