Running a Golf Clash Clan Successfully

This guide helps those who run a Golf Clash clan as a President of part of a management team. It assumes you are in a clan and are familiar with the Golf Clash (GC) clan environment. Any clan member can read this document.

Define Your Clan's Goals

Define clear goals for your clan early and communicate them. Players looking for a clan want to know what is expected from them. With an existing clan, discuss clan goals with a few of your trusted Captains. What do you want your clan to accomplish? Do you want a clan whose players are:

• Casual or Ambitious (or some of both):

Ambitious players want to get promoted often. For a serious players' clan, you can require a certain level of clan points per season. In contrast, a casual player clan may have members who play less often, and might require a small number of clan points per season or none.

• Tournaments and/or grinding:

Be clear if you require that all players play in tournaments. Other clans consist of mostly "grinders" who play in 1vs1 tour matches most days and may not play in tournaments. You might instead choose to not force clan mates to choose tour vs. tournaments by simply requiring a level of clan points per season. It should not matter how your players achieve that threshold. Stay away from "forcing" them into playing tournaments if they don't like them.

• Level of activity:

Many clans have a mixture of daily and weekly players because of work and family requirements. You should prefer active players who play daily who engage in clan chat. An active clan helps develop team spirit as people get to know each other.

• Players from around the world or a certain geography.

GC is an international game. You can attract players from all corners of the earth. If you have players from different time zones, this minimizes low clan points during parts of the day and dead time in clan chat. Ideally, most players understand English. You can choose all countries (international), a specific continent, or a specific country in clan settings. In some cases, the language chosen in clan chat can be a non-English language or several languages.

Real life comes first! As a leader, you also need to be flexible when life events occur. For example, a clan mate has to travel for work or family reasons, will be on vacation, or recover from a medical condition. Encourage them to let your management team know if they will be unavailable in advance.

You should communicate critical clan expectations in the clan <u>description</u>, so potential and new members are aware of the expectations.

Build a Clan Management Team

Even if you are a very capable person and are convinced you have the best ideas, running a one-manshow (or woman) is not a smart move! It is highly recommended you identify a few trusted Captains and form a **clan management team**. Having several Captains participate in your management team ensures that decisions are balanced and usually long-lasting. It can also provide better coverage at certain hours, depending on time zones. For efficient communication, you should limit the number of players on your management to 4-5, including the President.

Your trusted Captains might include:

- Daily players who are active in chat and show good people skills.
- Those who are trustworthy, loyal, and well mannered. Over time you will find out who meets those requirements.
- Certain Captains have strengths in certain areas. It makes sense you entrust them with tasks according to their best skill. One might be great at recruiting, another might help with technical questions, and another is great at sorting and escalating issues in clan chat.

Building a clan management team can help you prepare for life's challenges if you need to delegate activities. As President, you should be available to answer any questions from your clan management team.

Code of Conduct for Clan Members

Here are some suggestions for an adult clan and how you as a clan member hould behave:

- Show respect for your clan mates at all times.
- Stay away from talking about politics, religion, race, and gender.
- Although there is a system profanity filter in place, please respect the clan management rules on use of bad language.
- Don't kick (remove) members yourself. Only the clan President or Captains who are part of the management team should demote or kick clan members.
- Should you decide to leave the clan, please wait until the season has ended. If you leave before the season ends, the clan will lose clan points (pro-rated per time in season). If you can't wait unti season ends, please contact someone of the management team. And it's always nice to leave a friendly goodbye note in clan chat.
- Let the clan management team know in advance if you won't be able to you play at your normal levels. It helps the management team to plan accordingly.

It is recommended that the management team periodically remind the clan members about the rules of conduct.

Clan Communication: Using Clan Chat and Other Tools

Each clan has its own private chat area. Any clan member (of any rank) can send chat messages, show shots from the Social Hub MyHub area., and post certain Social Hub announcements. As a clan leader, be aware that fostering clan communication is **essential to your clan**.

Active chat can be fun. However, too much chat can be a distraction to some clan mates. In some cases, sending a private message/email to 1-2 clan mates can limit extra clan chat noise. The clan chat will only show the last 99 unread messages and clan invites. In addition to clan chat and clan Inbox, your management team (and most Captains) should have a way to contact the President outside the GC game. For example, by using email and/or social media messages.

Only the President and Captains can send messages in the clan Inbox. Some important information should be shared using Clan Inbox. This includes:

- Any important announcement.
- Send a congrat's to clan mates on their promotions, those who received top tournament banners, or other achievements.
- Send a summary of clan achievements, such as results from a tournament or the 4-week clan season.
- Remind mates of clan conduct rules occassionally, such as minmum clan points to stay in the clan.
- Remind mates how to contact you and provide a list of the clan managers.

Some messages of a private nature are best done individually. However, GC does not support individual 1-to-1 clan chat. To send a private message, there are many options: email, Reddit private messages, FaceBook private messages, Discord, and other social media options, including messenger apps like Telegram and Signal. Of course, both you and the recipient need to have accounts for that software. Such private messages and groups help bond the team together and let your team efficiently communicate (share pictures, links, etc.). You can also create subgroups for management or similar private activities.

Before you send any information, think if it is ok to do so in clan chat/Inbox or should be done in private to respect privacy and not to hurt anyone's feelings.

Clan chat has a profanity filter and certain words are replaced by asterisks (****). This is another reason to use private messages, email, or social media.

Some clans organize informal short tournaments where clan members play each other or other clans in Facebook-based tournaments. One clan plays 3 holes where points are awarded for birdies, eagles, shootout wins, and a shootout hole-in-one.

Recruiting New Members

It is a challenge to bring 50 active members together in one single clan! It can be very frustrating to send out tons of invites and only get a handful (if at all) to eventually join. Do not lose hope and stay at it. Recruiting new players to join your clan is important and **essential to your clan's growth**.

You will always have players who take a break, abandon the game, or move out to other clans for various reasons. So recruiting is not a one-time action but a continuous process.

Any clan mate with the rank of Vice Captain or higher can invite other players to join your clan. Here is where you can find new players in-game:

- During a 1vs1 match, tournament play or practice, tap the opponent's profile to view the Invite button at the bottom.
- In your clan League bracket, you can access other clans and their member profiles. Tap a player's clan name to view their clan.
- In your weekly league you can also access other player profiles and their clans (and their player profiles).
- In the global ranking you can also access player profiles and their respective clans.

You might be able to get in touch with players using public (and private) media channels (FB Groups, Reddit r/golfclashclans, etc.). Only members of the management team should make public recruiting posts.

Be aware that an in-game clan invite expires after 3 days. After that it automatically vanishes from the inbox of the player you have invited. Each in-game clan invite counts as a clan message.

Be smart about who you invite. For example:

- You will have limited success inviting players from higher ranked clans to your lower-ranked clan. You should only invite those not in a clan and those in a lower-level clan.
- Presidents will rarely give up their clans. So do not invite them.
- Recruiting mid-season is not as effective as the end/beginning of a new season.

Player Promotions and Demotions

You should be familiar with the <u>four levels of GC clan</u> membership. Considering your clan goals, your clan management team needs to decide criteria for promotion from the rank of:

- Member to Vice Captain
- Vice-Captain to Captain
- Captain to President (existing President becomes a Captain)

Some teams use simple promotion policies, such as clan points in a season and/or tournament achievements. But you should consider other factors. Here is a suggested checklist:

- *nnn* clan points in a season.
- Specific tournament finishes.
- Being active, helpful, funny, and resourceful in clan chat (or elsewhere).
- Reward loyalty, even if they may not technically meet the clan point requirements.
- If a former Vice Captain (VC) or Captain joins or re-joins your clan, consider promoting them from Member to Vice Captain or maybe re-instating their former rank (if they had left in good standing).

The members of the management team should decide jointly who and when to promote, demote, or kick clan members. You should handle it swiftly. For example, if a player reaches the promotion threshold, they should quickly be rewarded. We strongly suggest that *only* members of the management team make promotions, demotions, and kicking.

The Golf Clash rules state:

- A Captain can promote, demote, and kick Vice Captains and Members.
- A President can promote Members to Vice Captains, or Vice Captains to Captains.
- Only a President can demote and kick Captains (and Vice Captains and Members).
- Only a President can promote a Captain to President. That is, a President can transfer the President role to a Captain, but afterwards the former President is demoted to Captain.

Be very careful who you promote to Captain. Any Captain who does not follow the management team decisions could potentially cause some damage to the clan by unauthorized kicking or

demoting. Therefore, some clans keep all players at the same level (all Members, VCs, or Captains) to avoid any unwanted demotions or kicking. When you have a solid management team, discuss this with them.

Demotions are a delicate matter. Try to get in touch with the respective player outside the game before you execute a demotion. In all cases of demotion or kicking, provide the reason for the demotion or kicking, such as in clan chat.

Avoid frequent demotions (and re-promotions). For example: A player who has contributed well for a couple of seasons and was awarded Captain status, should not be demoted only because they play a slow season.

Select Your Clan's Settings

You can access your clan description and settings by:

- 1. Tap your clan icon in the lower-right.
- 2. Tap the gear icon in the upper-right.
- 3. View and select these settings:
 - Clan name and Icon type: Do not change the clan's name unless approved by your clan management team. To change the clan's name, you must pay gems and contact GC Support.
 - **Location**: Select the geography for your clan. Be aware that the location will not limit who can join your clan.
 - Description: You might provide a short motto, membership criteria, links to web pages or social media groups. Use abbreviations when possible because you only have 80 characters.
 - **Type:** Membership can be **open**, **invite-only**, or **closed**. An **open** type means anyone can join your clan who meets the minimum requirements when you have less than 50 players in your clan. If your clan has chosen **invite-only**, players can send a join request that pops up in the clan Inbox and can be approved by the President, a Captain, or a Vice Captain.
 - Minimum Player level: This is the minimum weekly level (Rookie, Pro, ...) a player must have to be able to join your clan. Invites however supersede this restriction. Be aware that the level will limit who can join your clan. Consider your <u>team goals</u> before your management team chooses this level. Invites sent by your clan mates (Vice Captain and above) should follow your clan's minimum weekly level, because these levels are not enforced by Golf Clash for invites. Be aware that a player who mostly plays and succeeds at tournaments may have a lower weekly level than their season clan point total indicates.
- 4. When acceptable, **Save** the settings.

Daily Issues and Strange Stuff

If a clan mate acts inappropriately, the clan management team needs to communicate outside the GC app using private communication. If possible, contact the member privately about their inappropriate behavour. If you cannot discuss this privately, a measured response in clan chat or clan inbox is warranted.

If a clan mate acts out or threatens to demote or kick someone without management team approval, that person should be demoted immediately to Member before they can damage your clan.

In rare cases, your clan President becomes missing in action from the GC game. After 21 days of inactivity, the game will move the presidency role to the highest captain (highest clan points). In other special situations a Captain should get in touch with GC support.

Merging Clans

It is often difficult to maintain a roster of 50 golfers in a clan. Some smaller clans have successfully merged to form a larger clan. However, up-front discussion about who will be President, who will be clan managers, and choosing the clan's name is required. Often if a smaller clan joins a larger clan, the larger clan's name might be used.

Be aware that whoever is President is the only one who can demote or kick Captains, so discussion within the new management team is encouraged. Some mergers resemble train wrecks if there is little planning.

Is it Worth Going to the Champions 100 Level?

The highest level for clans is the Champions 100 (C100). Other clan levels (such as Expert and Master) have multiple brackets, but there is only a single C100 bracket.

Playing in the C100 league is extremely competitive and requires clan strategies for advancing and staying in the C100 level. This may include moving golfers from one clan to another based on clan needs to avoid regulation (demotion) or gain promotion. Some C100 clan families have rest seasons and promotion seasons planned before a season starts. Many clan families must devote many hours near the end of a clan season helping their Master 3 and/or C100 clan.

Before attempting a promotion, an important question to ask is **whether your clan can stay in C100 once promoted**? Does your clan have the firepower to stay in C100 for multiple seasons? When a C100 clan gets demoted to Master 3, some members will depart that clan. In fact, a few clans have disintegrated because of a C100 promotion and later demotion.

Many clans are content to remain at the Master level and enjoy golfing as a game.

Viewing Your Clan's Season History

- Tap the clan icon in the lower-right on your home page.
- Tap the clan icon in the upper left.
- Scroll through the clan banners and tap the one you want to view.
- View the result for your clan for that season.
- Repeat scrolling and tapping as needed to view more banner data.

Viewing a Player's Best Clan Result

- Tap a player's name to show that golfer's profile.
- If needed, tap the **Player** tab.
- View the data for **Best Clan Result**.
- Tap the icon to the right of the displayed number. This icon shows different colors to indicate the clan level. For example, blue indicates a Pro level clan.

• View the clan's name, season number, clan level, and position reached for the Best Clan Result.

Credits and Additional Resources

The co-authors who wrote this are:

- @GCBicki is Moderator for Reddit r/GolfClash and long-time Management member for the GA Golden Shark\$ family of clans.
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Credits to the @GCCommunityTeam who answered multiple technical questions, the two authors listed above, and these members of clan management teams who provided feedback and review comments.

Links to Additional Information

- GC Help topic for clans: <u>https://playdemic.helpshift.com/a/golf-clash/?s=clans&l=en</u>
- <u>Guide to Guides</u> on Reddit

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