

## **LIGHTNING**

AS THERE HAVE BEEN MANY DEATHS AND INJURIES FROM LIGHTNING ON GOLF COURSES, ALL CLUBS ARE URGED TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF PERSONS AGAINST LIGHTNING (RULES OF GOLF 2008 -2011 PAGE 144 REFERS).

### **POLICY FOR NELSON GOLF CLUB**

IN THE INTERESTS OF SAFETY WHEN LIGHTNING OR THE THREAT OF LIGHTNING IS APPARENT, THE DECISION TO DISCONTINUE AND RESUME PLAY SHALL BE WITH AN AUTHORISED PERSON. MEMBERS AND VISITORS MUST ACCEPT THE DECISION MADE BY THAT AUTHORISED PERSON. WHERE NO AUTHORISED PERSON IS PRESENT, IT IS THE PLAYERS OWN RESPONSIBILITY TO DISCONTINUE PLAY WHEN HE/SHE IS OF THE OPINION LIGHTNING EXISTS:

#### **AUTHORISED PERSONS**

- THE BUSINESS MANAGER
- A MEMBER OF THE COMPETITIONS AND HANDICAPS COMMITTEE
- THE PROFESSIONAL OR ASSISTANT PROFESSIONAL
- THE COURSE MANAGER OR HIS DEPUTY
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Whenever possible, the person who discontinues / suspends play should be responsible for deciding when to resume or commence play.

#### **PROCEDURE**

1. ***THE SIGNAL FOR DISCONTINUING PLAY IMMEDIATELY DUE TO LIGHTNING WILL BE A PROLONGED NOTE OF THE SIREN. EVEN IF THE SIREN IS NOT SOUNDED AND A PLAYER BELIEVES THERE IS A REAL RISK OF DANGER FROM LIGHTNING, THEN HE/SHE IS ENTITLED TO PROCEED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF RULE 6-8 (BELOW) AND DISCONTINUE PLAY. WHEN THE AUTHORISED PERSON SOUNDS THE SIREN A PLAYER MUST DISCONTINUE PLAY. A PLAYER MUST MARK THE POSITION OF HIS/HER BALL AND LIFT.***
2. ***WHEN PLAY IS DISCONTINUED BY THE AUTHORISED PERSON, IF THE PLAYERS IN A MATCH OR GROUP ARE BETWEEN THE PLAY OF TWO HOLES, THEY MUST NOT RESUME PLAY UNTIL THE AUTHORISED PERSON HAS ORDERED A RESUMPTION OF PLAY. IF THEY ARE IN THE PROCESS OF PLAYING A HOLE, THEY MUST DISCONTINUE PLAY IMMEDIATELY AND NOT RESUME PLAY UNTIL THE AUTHORISED PERSON HAS ORDERED A RESUMPTION OF PLAY. IF A PLAYER FAILS TO DISCONTINUE PLAY IMMEDIATELY, HE/SHE IS DISQUALIFIED, UNLESS CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANT WAIVING THE PENALTY AS PROVIDED IN RULE 33-7.***
3. ***THE SIGNAL TO RESUME PLAY WILL BE TWO SHORT NOTES OF THE SIREN, REPEATED***

## **FOG**

IF A GOLFER HITS A SHOT "BLIND" INTO FOG AND HITS ANOTHER PLAYER / MEMBER OF STAFF OR MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC HE/SHE COULD BE FOUND NEGLIGENT AND HELD PERSONALLY LIABLE FOR THE INJURIES INFLICTED. IF THE CLUB HAD KNOWINGLY PERMITTED PLAY IN HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS IT COULD ALSO BE FOUND NEGLIGENT AND SUED.

## **POLICY FOR NELSON GOLF CLUB**

**GENERAL DEFINITION OF POOR VISIBILITY** – WHEN THE YELLOW TRIANGULAR SIGN ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> HOLE (POSITIONED 190 YARDS FROM THE YELLOW MARKERS) IS NOT CLEARLY VISIBLE OR WHERE VISIBILITY ON ANY OTHER PART OF THE COURSE IS LESS THAN 190 YARDS.

IN THE INTERESTS OF SAFETY WHEN FOG IS APPARENT, THE DECISION TO DISCONTINUE AND RESUME PLAY SHALL BE WITH AN AUTHORISED PERSON. MEMBERS AND VISITORS MUST ACCEPT THE DECISION MADE BY THAT AUTHORISED PERSON. WHERE NO AUTHORISED PERSON IS PRESENT, IT IS THE PLAYERS OWN RESPONSIBILITY TO DISCONTINUE PLAY WHEN HE/SHE IS OF THE OPINION THEY CANNOT SEE WHERE THEIR NEXT SHOT IS LIKELY TO END:

### **AUTHORISED PERSONS**

- THE BUSINESS MANAGER
- A MEMBER OF THE COMPETITIONS AND HANDICAPS COMMITTEE
- THE PROFESSIONAL OR ASSISTANT PROFESSIONAL
- THE COURSE MANAGER OR HIS DEPUTY

### **PROCEDURE**

1. **THE SIGNAL FOR DISCONTINUING PLAY IMMEDIATELY DUE TO FOG WILL BE A PROLONGED NOTE OF THE SIREN. WHEN THE AUTHORISED PERSON SOUNDS THE SIREN A PLAYER MUST DISCONTINUE PLAY. A PLAYER MUST MARK THE POSITION OF HIS/HER BALL AND LIFT.**
2. **WHEN PLAY IS DISCONTINUED BY THE AUTHORISED PERSON, IF THE PLAYERS IN A MATCH OR GROUP ARE BETWEEN THE PLAY OF TWO HOLES, THEY MUST NOT RESUME PLAY UNTIL THE AUTHORISED PERSON HAS ORDERED A RESUMPTION OF PLAY. IF THEY ARE IN THE PROCESS OF PLAYING A HOLE, THEY MUST DISCONTINUE PLAY IMMEDIATELY AND NOT RESUME PLAY UNTIL THE AUTHORISED PERSON HAS ORDERED A RESUMPTION OF PLAY. IF A PLAYER FAILS TO DISCONTINUE PLAY IMMEDIATELY, HE/SHE IS DISQUALIFIED, UNLESS CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANT WAIVING THE PENALTY AS PROVIDED IN RULE 33-7.**
3. **THE SIGNAL TO RESUME PLAY WILL BE TWO SHORT NOTES OF THE SIREN, REPEATED**

Whenever possible, the person who discontinues / suspends play should be responsible for deciding when to resume or commence play.

## **ICE**

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE GREENS COMMITTEE TO IDENTIFY AREAS OF THE COURSE THAT ARE POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS BECAUSE OF ICE. THEREFORE, IT IS A PLAYERS OWN RESPONSIBILITY IF HE/SHE CHOOSES TO PLAY.

IF WINTER TEE MATS ARE IN USE AND THESE ARE SLIPPERY DUE TO FROST/ICE, PLAYERS HAVE AUTHORITY TO PLAY FROM THE NEAREST POINT TO IT ON THE TEE BED INSTEAD.

## **POLICY FOR NELSON GOLF CLUB**

THE FACT THAT THE COURSE HAS NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY CLOSED DOES NOT WARRANT THAT IT IS FIT FOR PLAY. PLAYERS HAVE A DUTY OF CARE NOT TO BEHAVE IN SUCH A WAY THAT OTHERS MAY BE INJURED BY THEIR ACTIONS.

THEY ALSO HAVE A DUTY TO TAKE CARE NOT TO INJURE THEMSELVES.

IF CONDITIONS ARE SUCH THAT YOU ARE UNABLE TO JUDGE WHERE THE BALL IS LIKELY TO LAND, THEN DO NOT PLAY.

**PLAYING IN SUCH CONDITIONS IS DANGEROUS – PLAYERS DO  
SO AT THEIR OWN RISK**

Richard M Lees

Business Manager

November 2014