

PLAY CHANGES COVID-19 UPDATES PLAYING GOLF SAFELY

The following guidelines have been created to keep you, your fellow golfers, and our staff as safe as possible whilst people get back to playing golf. Please note all games must be registered on our BRS online booking system.

As restrictions are being lifted, we are now able to play golf on a golf course again, but it is a different game to that which we played before. Rules have changed, etiquette in some ways must change and as a result our mindsets must also change to meet the social distancing rules currently in place. As these changes occur so will some of the current playing practices and we will keep you updated as things change.

EQUIPMENT

Clubs

Please do not share clubs in any way or touch any other person's equipment. At present due to social distancing measures and the layout of our locker rooms, lockers are NOT in use. Players will be notified if this changes. Although our locker room doors are now open this is to provide access to our toilet facilities. Please therefore, change your shoes on the car park.

Trolleys

Rental trolleys and buggies are available and disinfected after each use. Buggies are available for single use only unless you are from the same household/bubble. Please help us to prioritise buggy use for those who are disabled or struggle to walk a long distance.

Balls

Please only touch and use your own golf balls. Do not collect up any stray balls that you find whilst playing. If you cannot identify your ball without touching it, regard it as not yours and leave it where it lies, even if this means taking a penalty.

PLAYING

Your Round

If you intend to use the practice putting green prior to teeing off please arrive no more than 20 minutes before your allotted time, otherwise a maximum of 10 minutes before. Please use the designated route to the 1st or 10th tees, following all the social distancing guidelines. For track and trace players must sign in with the starter. Once you have teed off please make sure that members of your group keep at least 2 metres apart through the course of your round.

Practice Putting Green

This area is for those next on the tee to have a quick putt before starting their round. Please follow all social distancing guidelines, with a maximum of 4 players on the practice green at any given time.

Practice Chipping area and nets

The chipping area is again for those next on the tee. Only 1 player is allowed on this area at any given time. For both practice areas please leave golf bags/trolleys beyond the marked yellow line. Both our practice nets are open, only one person in each bay at any time, to comply with social distancing. NOTE: For all practice areas players need to use their own balls.

Course practice area

This area can be booked via the pro shop. Numbers are restricted to 3 people who must stand in the painted designated areas (at the bottom of the practice ground). Players must provide and collect their own clearly marked balls. If you are unsure if a ball is yours please leave it where it lies. Those in this area may use the chipping/putting green, one at a time, abiding by the rules of the existing signage. Bookings are for a maximum of an hour.

The First Tee

If you are slightly early, please wait at your car until 10 minutes (20 if using the practice putting green) before your allotted tee time. The 10-minute tee-off intervals are to maintain social distancing and an attempt to reduce 'backlogging' further along the course. At the weekend 8-minute tee intervals are currently in place. Please be prompt on the tee. If early, this may be an opportune time to use the toilet facilities as our course toilet remains locked.

Tees in General

Please ensure that there is only one golfer on the tee at any time. Maintain social distancing as each player comes on/off the tee and whilst waiting at the side.

Bunkers

All rakes have been removed but you may use your own portable golf rake if you have one. Please do not share your rake with anyone else. We are operating the 6-inch preferred lies rule as agreed by Congu. Players may pick up and place within 6" but are not allowed to smooth the area before playing. In the absence of a personal rake, when you have taken your shot please use your feet or club to smooth the area.

Flagsticks and Putting

Flagsticks must not be touched or removed. Our hole cups are raised for easy removal. In competitions your ball is considered holed if **any** part of the ball is below the surface of the putting green, even if not lodged against the flag stick. In matchplay you can still "give" putts in the usual manner.

Letting Groups Through

Patience may be required during your round, as we now not only have the golf etiquette of letting quicker players through but also how play affects social distancing. 'Backlogging' can pose problems in regard to maintaining the social distancing guidelines. Please endeavour to let quicker players through. However, in some instances it may be safer for players to keep back.

Scoring

Please DO NOT exchange score cards or place them in any of the competition boxes. For competitions the R & A have agreed that during this time, electronic scores are acceptable and paper records/signatures are not required. The marker must verbally agree with the player that the score is correct. For competitions, sign in and score entry can be done preferably on the Howdidido mobile App or website, or alternatively on the PSI computer screens in the locker rooms. The foyer screen will be locked.

POST ROUND

Our club house is now open. If you wish to avail yourself of this facility please deposit your equipment in your car and kindly change your shoes on the car park. Players are not allowed to wear golf shoes in the club house. Please follow the queuing, ordering and social distancing guidelines displayed. Please respect and follow any time restrictions and seating arrangements in place in relation to your stay in the club house. Payment is by card only.

For those not using the club house facilities kindly leave the Club promptly.

We look forward to seeing you again.

Thank you for adhering to these rules. Play safe, Keep safe and social distance!