



Willesley Park Golf Club

Guidelines to Playing Golf under COVID 19 Constraints.

2nd June 2020

Introduction

We have been working together to play golf safely for nearly 3 weeks and thank you for observing the guidance that England Golf have issued, and we have implemented. We are now moving to a different stage with the relaxation of some rules leading to playing 4 balls. The UK Golf Industry has based its guidance on the current advice from the government.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-phased-return-of-sport-and-recreation>

You are recommended to be familiar with the Government Guidance not only with respect to Sport but also Vulnerable Groups especially those over 70 or with co-existing morbidities.

It is absolutely essential that if you either display any symptoms or If you have been asked to isolate by NHS Test and Trace because you are a contact of a known COVID-19 case, do not exercise outside your own home or garden and do not exercise with others; you can spread the virus to others even if you never get symptoms.

We continue to monitor the guidelines issued by the PGA, and the R&A to keep us updated (see <https://www.pga.info/covid-19-resource-hub/>).

Because the guidance covers many different combinations we have sought to adapt our calendar to allow golf in forms suitable for “up to 4 ball”, “2 ball only” and “1 ball only”. As this will inevitably lead to an increase in the numbers of people attending the course it is essential we follow previous guidance and maintain good discipline with regard to Social Distancing

The following outlines how the Club will be operating until further notice. Please read and follow the guidelines to ensure we can play golf safely. Also please report any concerns you have to pga@willesleypark.com or the board info@willesleypark.com as we take your and our staff's safety very seriously.

Guidelines

Before the Round

All golfers must book a tee time on the BRS golf booking system using both players' correct names. (A.N. Other is not permitted). The start sheet will run from 07:00 am until 7.30pm. (You cannot 'turn up & play' for early evening rounds for just a few holes without booking a time)

Strictly members only until further notice. (No visitors will be allowed initially to allow members full access to available tee times)

The maximum number of golfers in a group per tee time is as per the limit shown on BRS.

There is to be a minimum of 10 minute intervals between tee times.

All golf will start from the 1st tee (Starting from other parts of the course is prohibited)

BRS will be open 2 weeks in advance, and members are allowed a maximum of three live tee bookings in any two-week period. If there are vacant tees on "the current days list" one tee can be booked and it will not count towards your total of 3 tees. Usage will be monitored to ensure all members have access to tee times. Once you have completed your round, then you are free to rebook another time dependant on availability.

Arrival and Waiting to Play

As Brucie would say "Nice 2 metre, 2 metre nice"

The clubhouse will be closed. Access to use the toilets will not be available and the on-course toilets will also be closed.

Please wait in your car and do not get out until 10 minutes before your start time and do not approach the tee until it is clear and your turn to play (unless accessing the practice green or pro-shop).

The Pro Shop staff will be available for advice and coaching. Members are asked to queue at the shop doorway and most queries will be resolved at the door. More guidance on using the pro-shop will be circulated when permission has been given to reopen the facility.

Buggies, trolleys and batteries are available for hire with safe sanitising practices guaranteed.

Course Set Up and Forms of Golf

• On-Course Items

All rakes have been removed.

Ball washers and drinking fountains have been covered up and are out of use.

All bins and benches have been removed

All stakes defining areas of the course can be treated as immovable obstructions.

Shelters and the 10th cabin must not be used.

Bell chimes have been removed, please use your club to sound the bell.

• Holes and Flagsticks

Flagsticks will be in the holes. The flagstick must not be touched.

A method of inserting the hole liner will be used to prevent the whole ball from falling below the surface of the putting green, therefore enabling easy retrieval by handling the ball only. Please use your glove hand if possible.

• Forms of Play and Scoring

It is recommended that non-competition play is used during the initial period of golf being played. Competitions will be introduced when it is deemed safe to do so, and after an initial period of free play.

• Practice Areas

The practice net adjacent to the 1st Tee is closed.

The putting green is open for practice - only 1 user at a time.

The practice ground will be closed except for the use of the Professional Staff.

During the Round

Golfers should keep at least 2 metres apart during the round and not touch any golf equipment other than their own.

- **Teeing Areas**

Golfers to keep at least 2 metres apart at teeing areas.

- **General**

Golfers to stay more than 2 metres apart when walking to the ball, searching for a ball and playing shots.

Do not to touch stray balls.

Pace of play - Please keep up with the game ahead but do not approach others on the course.

- **Bunkers**

With no rakes allowed on the course, golfers should make their very best efforts to smooth the sand using their club and/or their feet.

- **Putting Green**

Golfers are required to leave the flagstick in the hole at all times and not to touch it.

Golfers to keep 2 metres apart on the putting greens.

After the Round

Social distancing is as important after a round as it is during the round, so when the round is over please leave the course and the club/facility so that there are no gatherings around the clubhouse area. We have had instances of players congregating after rounds and this is absolutely not allowed. Please note we know of confirmed instances of the police being called to courses where social distancing requirements have been compromised.

Board of Directors

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