

Dear Members

The UK Government has today provided clarification on outdoor recreation and rules on social distancing in England. These will affect how golf can be played from Wednesday, 13 May 2020 and, in particular, the configuration of groupings on a golf course.

We will be re-opening our course under strict limitations from 07:45hrs Wednesday 13 May 2020 in compliance with government and golf's governing bodies and the following measures and rules will be introduced:

Under new government rules released today (11 May 2020), the following groupings will be permitted upon resumption of play:

- Individuals playing golf on their own.
- Two-balls comprising of individuals from different households
- All members must use the BRS system to book a tee time. Bookings are available no more than 2 days in advance. Under no circumstances are members able to just turn up.
- The Pro Shop will be open but with strict limited access. 1 person in the shop at any time.
- Play is restricted to No More than 2 ball play at each tee off (Members only, no visitors until further notice)
- Tee off times will be spaced at 10 minute intervals and will be available to both Gents and Ladies for any time and day the course is open.
- Please arrive 10 minutes before your tee off time and do not congregate in groups
- Limited practice facilities will be available. One practice net adjacent to the Pro Shop and one practice net adjacent to the chipping area will be available. The remaining nets will be closed off. The chipping area will be limited to three people at any one time. This is to be used for a maximum of 1 hour per day. The practice putting green should only be used by the next 2 ball waiting to go out.
- All flag sticks will be removed for the foreseeable future. Hole inserts will be positioned to allow easy retrieval of balls. Bunkers will be GUR until further notice by the Pro.
- The Ladies Toilet facilities on the ground floor will be available for use by all members. No catering or refreshments will be available.

We will continue to monitor the situation and be guided by government and golf's governing bodies. It cannot be stressed enough that Social Distancing rules must still be strictly adhered to at all times. Please Play Safe, Stay Safe!

The following guidelines are for all members to adhere to so we as a club can re-open in a responsible and safe way.

The Board of Directors have a duty of care to its members, so we would appreciate full co-operation from all our members to adhere to these new rules and regulations that have been put into place for your wellbeing, safety and enjoyment.

The following have been compiled from guidelines set out by England Golf, The Lancashire Golf Union and BIGGA.

MANDATORY BOOKING

Any member wishing to play golf will have to book their tee time through BRS.

Booking has been set up to allow play during Pro shop opening hours which have been discussed with our Professional Karen Heywood these will be:-

Monday – Friday 8.00 a.m. – 18.00 p.m.

Saturday – Sunday 7.00 a.m. – 17.00 p.m.

Initially to promote fair usage, bookings will only be allowed 2 days in advance with members only being allowed to book one 2 ball per day. When this changes you will be informed.

All members playing must report to the Pro – shop on arrival to book in, the same as we do on a Competition day so you can be checked in by the Professional, only 1 person will be allowed in the Pro- shop at any one time.

Members are requested to arrive no earlier than 10 minutes before their Tee Time.

Members are encouraged to play with the same person to avoid less contact with other members.

Booking for tee times for the 1st day of opening will be available from 10.00 p.m. 11th May 2020.

STATE OF THE COURSE

Due to the reduced maintenance and Furloughed staff it will take some time for the course to return to 'normal' conditions, we understand member expectations of returning to a 'perfect' course, however this may not be the case and the condition you will experience is a direct result of limitations imposed by the pandemic essential maintenance safety measures and not through neglect.

From a maintenance point of view the course at this present time is closely compliant with BIGGA guidance on re-opening.

The fairways, semi rough and greens have all been mown and are playable. The tees have also been cut but are a bit longer than normal, as are the greens, the greens could be a bit slower than normal due to the increased height. All this will change in time.

The bunkers have been weeded and raked by a work party of Brookdale members who have done an excellent job.

The course will be inspected prior to opening and any conditions of play will be agreed and passed on to members at the appropriate time.

PLAYING ON THE GOLF COURSE

The following will be put in place for Competitions and Casual Golf from when we re-open until further notice.

- Play will be managed by the Professional and the Competitions Committee.
- A maximum of 2 Golfers will be allowed in the shop at any one time.
- Screening will be in place in the Pro shop.
- Social distance markings will be in place in the Pro shop and outside.
- All tee time booking will be done online through BRS.
- Tee times will be in 10-minute intervals and played initially in 2 balls.
- If members are unable to make a booked Tee time, they must endeavour to cancel it giving 24hrs notice.
- All Competition payments will be contactless, if a member does not have this facility then they will be required to pay their entrance fee in a sealed envelope with the appropriate information written on the front this should be done prior to arrival in the Pro shop.
- Rental Carts and Pull Trolleys will be Available to hire and will be sanitised before and after use by the Professional.

- Ride on Buggies will also be available for single person hire and will be sanitised before and after use by the Professional. No shared Buggies.
- Golfers must arrive no earlier than 20 minutes before their booked Tee time.
- Golfers must leave the course immediately on completion of their round.
- At the end of play Members must not shake hands.
- Golfers must keep 2 metres apart on the practice putting green.
- Golfers should ensure they are aware of social distancing 2 metres apart when making their way to the 1st tee.
- Golfers are reminded to stay more than 2 metres apart when walking to their ball, searching for a ball and playing shots.
- Do not touch stray balls or your playing partners ball.
- Do not touch any of your playing partners equipment
- If there is a flagstick in the hole it is not to be touched and remember to keep 2 metres apart on the putting green.
- Members are requested to carry their own sanitizer in their car and golf bag and use it regularly during the time they are at the Golf course.
- In casual golf it is recommended that to minimise the need to retrieve your ball from the hole 'Gimmies are given' the recommended distance being the length of a putter grip approximately 12 inches. This will not be allowed in Competition golf.
- Self-marking of Scorecards will be in operation with one card being issued per 2 ball

Keep safe and take care

Regards

Brookdale Board of Directors