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**MEASSURES FOR RESUMING GOLF DURING COVID-19**

This guide sets out the measures in place to cover the playing of golf at Torrance Park Golf Club following easing of the lockdown restrictions. These measures are in place from dawn to dusk, seven days per week.

Our measures and procedures will be under constant review, updated considering advice from Government, Health Authorities and Governing Bodies, evolving in line with any lifting of social restrictions.

The club has adapted its procedures to ensure compliance with government restrictions. The aspects of the golfer experience have been divided into the following categories:

* Course Access
* Course Setup
* Before the Round
* Check-in
* Clubhouse Facilities to the First Tee on the Course
* Getting Home Safely
* Ensuring the Safety Of our Staff

1. **Course Access**

In the initial period following the reopening, access to the course will be limited to our staff and club members only. Members who have not paid their fees will not be able to book any tee times. In the short-term non-members and members’ guests will not be allowed access to the course in line with government restrictions.

Tee Times will be available from 8.00am — 6.00pm midweek and 7.30am — 6.00pm at weekends and play must only start from the 1st Tee.

**To access the Course, a player must:**

* Be an active member & play within specified booking times only.
* Not be displaying COVID-19 symptoms.
* Have a pre-reserved tee time prior to arrival at the course.

These playing conditions are non-negotiable.

1. **Course Set Up**

For up to date guidance on essential maintenance, please refer to the most current version of the "Essential Maintenance Statement for Golf Courses during COVID 19 outbreak" produced and available from the R&A.

**On-course Items**

* All bunker rakes have been removed, (players to smooth sand after their shot with their feet or their club), all ball washers and bins have been removed.
* Benches should not be used.
* All other removable items have been removed.

**Hole and Flagstick**

* Flag sticks will remain in the hole and must not be touched.
* The hole cups have been adapted so that the ball can be easily retrieved without removing the flagstick.

**Practice Areas**

* Putting Green including practice nets are closed.

1. **Before the Round**

It is anticipated that there will be a rush to book tee times especially on a Saturday, therefore, members are asked to utilise either Saturday or Sunday, but not both. Alternatively, members could play during the week where there will be less demand.

**Bookings**

* All existing BRS bookings have been cancelled. Bookings can **only** be made 3 days in advance. This may revert to 7 days as restrictions ease. Social golf only. There will be no competitive golf.
* Booking a tee time via BRS website in advance is compulsory. This can be done through the members area on the Torrance Park website.
* Those members including Juniors, who cannot access the system can contact the clubhouse between 8.00am and 6.00pm on 01698 735160 to book a tee time.
* The maximum number of golfers in a group per tee time is 2 in accordance with government requirements.
* There is to be a minimum of 10-minute intervals between tee times.
* The BRS system has been updated to restrict tee time to two members only and at 10 min intervals.
* Arrival at the course no more than I5 minutes prior to reserved tee time.
* Golfers should travel to the club alone, or with a member of the same household.
* The clubhouse team will monitor bookings to ensure that all members get fair access to the course.

**Arrival and Waiting to Play**

* Ample car parking spaces are available and tee time restrictions will help ensure social distancing. Please allow a clear space between parked cars.
* Observe social distancing always and resist the temptation to mingle.
* There will be no trolleys for hire at this Stage.
* Personal golf buggies are allowed for single use only. Social distancing measures must be adhered to.
* Locker rooms and toilets remain closed. This is subject to Government guidelines.

1. **Check-in at Club**

**Check-In**

* Mandatory check-in at the club for all golfers please report to the rear door of the clubhouse.
* Only move to back door area once the group in front are on the 1st Tee.
* One person only may be permitted inside the club.
* A two-metre exclusion zone at the service desk.
* Essential golfing items will be available to purchase, soft drinks etc. will be available to purchase.
* Card payment sales only, no cash accepted at the till.

**Clubhouse Facilities**

* All clubhouse facilities will remain closed until further notice. This is in line with Government Guidance and will be reviewed as further updates are released.
* When the Clubhouse does reopen, there will be extra measures in place, for member and staff protection; it is vital that these measures are followed. Social distancing measures will still be in place.

1. **The First Tee**

* Only move to the 1st tee once the group in front are clear of the tee and/or starter allows next group to approach the tee.
* Arrive on the 1st tee no more than 5 minutes prior to the reserved tee time.
* Any member(s) not following directions will be asked to leave the course and be reported to the authorities.
* Members must strictly adhere to tee off times to ensure minimum 10-minute group spacing.

1. **On the Course**

**Teeing Areas**

* Golfers must keep 2 metres apart at teeing areas.

**General**

* Golfers must stay more than 2 metres apart when walking to the ball, searching for a ball and playing shots.
* Once a hole is completed, the group in front must have exited the tee box before players can progress to the next hole.
* Do not double back to play again if a ball is lost, unplayable, or in a penalty area.
* Equipment, food and drink must not be exchanged between players.
* Players must not pick up another player's equipment or golf ball.
* Players must refrain from handshakes and high fives.
* Remind golfers not to touch stray balls.

**Bunkers**

* With no rakes allowed on the course, remind golfers to make their very best efforts to smooth the sand using their club/feet or personal rake.

**Putting**

* Members should not touch another player's golf ball.
* Members should putt out and not mark their balls.
* Members must not touch flag sticks; devices have been installed which allow the removal of golf balls with a putter.

1. **Getting Home Safely**

* Social distancing is as important after a round as it is during the round, so when the round is over members must leave the course and return straight to their cars or if walking, change their shoes and leave the course.
* Clubhouse will remain closed.
* **Players must call or email the golf club with any post-round health issues or COVID-19 related queries, at the earliest possible opportunity.**

1. **ENSURING THE SAFETY OF OUR STAFF**

**Clubhouse Team**

The clubhouse team will initially manage all customer-facing aspects of the Golf Club. Our measures are to ensure their safety, along with club members.

* There will be one staff member present in the clubhouse at any one time.
* Staff provided with PPE to wear on-site.
* Staff are aware of importance of hand hygiene and cough etiquette. Hand sanitiser and cleaning solutions are provided for staff use.
* Staff to always remain at least two metres from customers.
* Service desk protection screens have been installed.
* All work areas and contact points are cleaned and sanitised regularly.

**Green Staff Team**

* Our Green Staff are isolated on the course for much of the time, with steps taken to minimise the risk of cross-contamination during their shift.
* Staggered start and break times to avoid social gathering.
* Sanitisers provided for regular use.
* Method of working has changed to follow recommended guidelines.
* Plant and machinery limited to single person use daily.
* Plant and Machinery fully washed after use, including disinfecting of controls.

**Your Responsibilities**

It is expected that all golfers always adhere to the policies and protocols above as well as the basic COVID-19 Regulations. This includes physical distancing, suitable hand hygiene, safe coughing/sneezing practices. If you are sick or display any COVID-19 symptoms you are required to stay at home.

**If you would like to speak with a member of staff, please make contact in the first instance via email at “enquiries@torranceparkgolf.co.uk”**