

RESTARTING GOLF - Q&A (correct as at Friday 19th June)

Bookings

Q: Will the course be open all day every day?

A: Yes. You must book a tee time to play but tee times are available every day, all day, except for some blocks that are under the control of Club sections (such as some times on Tuesdays for Ladies, on Fridays for the EGGs and Saturday mornings for the Juniors).

Q: I'm playing with the EGGs on Friday but I can't book a tee time online because it is blocked off.

A: Bookings for these blocks (e.g. the draw) will be managed by the EGGs; they will inform members of their tee time and complete the tee-booking sheet.

Q: Can I play whenever I want?

A: You must book a tee time but, from the tee times shown on the Club website, you can choose any available slot. Remember to complete the tee booking process or the tee will not be booked for you and someone else may book it instead.

Q: Can I play with an arranged group?

A: We are now allowed a maximum of 3-Balls, unless it is a 4-Ball made up from players from no more than 3 households. The person making the booking can select the number playing (1-3) and select the appropriate names. If you have a 4th player the person booking must list the name of the additional player in the "Please add: name of 4th player if applicable and requests for buggies" box e.g. they can enter "fourth player Joe Bloggs".

Q: Why can't I just play if there is a gap on the tee? We've always managed with rolling draws in the past.

A: We need a complete and accurate record of who has played when and with whom. This is to link in to the "Test, Trace, Isolate and Support" strategy for Scotland that you may have heard about. This is an essential part of easing lockdown restrictions and if we do not comply properly it will both cause problems in limiting any outbreak of coronavirus and, ultimately, could lead to the Club being required to close again.

Q: Can I go out and just practice over a few holes/9 holes?

A: You must have a booked tee time. Please play holes in the correct order i.e. if you want to play just 4 holes for practice, play 1-4 and then walk in. For 9 holes, play 1-9 and then walk in. With the course fuller than usual and strict distancing in force, cutting across holes is not permitted.

Q: Can I use a buggy?

A: Buggy use is discouraged but buggies can be made available for essential use. Buggies must be booked in advance and it is a good idea to check with the Office that they have seen the buggy booking. Only one player per buggy and buggies will be thoroughly sanitised before/after use.

Q: Can I play more than once a day?

A: Yes. The limit of one booking per day has been lifted.

Q: How far in advance can I book tee times?

A: You can book up to 7 days in advance. You should only book tee times if you are sure you are playing; no-shows will prevent other members from playing and will waste tee times.

Q: I booked in good faith but now I can't play, what should I do?

A: If you book and then have to cancel you can do this from the Member Booking page by clicking on the "Cancel an Existing Booking" link, at the top of the list of days. You can amend a booking by first cancelling it and then immediately rebooking the same tee time with the amended details.

Q: I've forgotten my tee time/my playing partner booked the time but hasn't told me. How do I find it?

A: You can check on the tee booking system. When you have logged on and clicked on the appropriate day you can select "view the bookings received", the link above the tee time buttons. This lists all bookings made for that day. If you have a problem then call or email the Office.

At the Course/Around the Clubhouse

Q: Do I need to check in with the Office or a starter before playing?

A: No. We think we can self-police start times if members are sensible and keep to the tee booking and playing requirements. This will be kept under review.

Q: Can I practice before play?

A: You can use the practice nets in the car park but only one person at a time; please ensure you do not touch the framework or mat/rubber tee. You can also use the practice putting area but you **must** observe correct social distancing (minimum 2m separation). The maximum number on the practice putting area at one time is 3; if you are waiting you must keep clear and wait for someone to finish and leave. If you are practicing and someone is waiting their turn please limit your practice to allow them to take their turn.

Q: Can I use the Locker Room and toilets?

A: No, the Clubhouse is not in use and you should not enter unless it is urgent or an emergency.

Q: How early can I arrive for my round?

A: You should avoid arriving more than 10-15 minutes before your tee time. You should change shoes etc in the car park and not move to the course side of the Clubhouse until 5 minutes before your tee time (i.e. **after** the previous group has moved up to the first tee). Do **not** go up to the first tee until the group in front has left the tee and moved down the fairway.

Q: If I arrive and I am missing something essential (golf balls, tees etc) can I buy them from the Office?

A: Yes, if it is essential and if the Office is manned at that time.

On the Course

Q: What about scorecards?

A: A supply of scorecards will be left at the front of the Clubhouse, near the front entrance (under cover by the tables). As far as possible please avoid handling scorecards except the one you are taking. Don't pick up cards to hand to other players.

Q: Do we exchange scorecards like usual?

A: No. If you are recording scores, you should complete the card for your playing partner, including entering their name, handicap and all their scores. At the end of the round you should confirm their scores with them by reading them out hole by hole and, once agreed (and corrected if necessary), you should sign as marker and write "Agreed" in the player's signature space. Your playing partner does not need to touch their own scorecard at all, at any stage, and you must keep at least 2m apart throughout.

Q: Can I use the benches or water fountain during my round?

A: No. All items of course furniture (benches, bins, rakes) have been removed. Please take your rubbish home with you to dispose of. The water fountain on the 9th tee is not in use.

Q: What should we do if we catch up the group in front?

A: Please follow normal course etiquette as far as possible. Do not play a shot if you might reach the group in front. Players can (and should) allow a following group through if they are slow (fall more than a hole behind the group in front) or are searching for a ball or are otherwise delayed. Please do not pass within 2m of players as you play through. If you reach a tee that is still occupied by the group ahead you must stand well clear of that tee and remain at least 2m apart in your own group.

Q: Does my 2-Ball/3-Ball/4-Ball have priority over a single player ahead?

A: Under these unusual circumstances with strict playing constraints, all playing groups of any size have equal standing, including single players.

Q: Must I leave the flag in the hole for my putt?

A: Yes. Flagpoles must not be touched by any player at any time and must remain in the hole. You should use your putter on the ball lifter to collect your ball from the hole. Putts within 12 inches of the hole should be automatically conceded.

Q: What about bunkers?

A: Bunkers are now back in play, but with preferred lies (place within 6 inches, still in the bunker).

After the Round

Q: Can I use the compressed air shoe cleaner?

A: No. The compressed air shoe cleaner remains out of use, as does the shoe cleaning area. Please take your golf shoes home to clean (a plastic bag may be handy, especially in wet conditions!)

Q: Can we get a drink or food when we finish?

A: No, Clubhouse catering is not available, even outside, and the Lounge (like the rest of the Clubhouse) remains closed. Thai Kitchen is still open for takeaways but they have been very busy so you need to book well in advance.

Q: I played on the course earlier in the week and I now feel ill. What should I do?

A: Follow the normal NHS guidance for checking, including calling NHS 111 or your GP. If you are told that you may have Covid-19 you will be advised what to do but please also inform the Club Office. The Club will be cooperating with the Test, Trace, Isolate and Support strategy.

IF IN DOUBT CONTACT THE OFFICE
(01557) 330314 office@kirkcudbrightgolf.co.uk