

COURSE INSPECTION AND ADVERSE CONDITIONS PROTOCOL

COURSE INSPECTION AND SET UP

COURSE INSPECTION AND SET UP – ON NON-CLUB COMPETITION DAYS

Decisions on course availability and configuration on non-club competition days are the responsibility of the Head Green-keeper or his nominated representative.

COURSE INSPECTION AND SET UP – ON CLUB COMPETITION DAYS

On club competition days the Chair of Green or Captain have the discretion to influence and ultimately decide whether or not the course is available to play, and in what configuration. In coming to their decision they must fully weigh and balance the following:

1. Green keepers expert advice
2. Will play put players at unreasonable risk?
3. Is probable damage to the course financially and aesthetically acceptable?
4. The financial and reputational consequences of cancellation?

To be involved in this process Chair of Green and Captain or their nominated representatives must attend the early morning course inspection. In the absence of the Chair of Green or Captain or their nominated representative, the green keeper's decision is final.

ADVERSE CONDITIONS

COURSE CLOSURE OR PLAY SUSPENSION ON NON-CLUB COMPETITION DAYS

Course closure or play suspension decisions necessary as a result of adverse course conditions due to fog, lightning, rain, snow, ice, flooding etc on non-club competition days will rest with the following in order of precedence:

1. Green-keeper
2. Club Manager
3. Professional
4. Green Committee Representative or Officer of the Club

COURSE CLOSURE OR PLAY SUSPENSION ON CLUB COMPETITION DAYS

Course closure or play suspension decisions necessary as a result of adverse course conditions due to fog, lightning, rain, snow, ice, flooding etc on club competition days will rest with the following in order of precedence:

1. Green Committee Representative or Officer of the Club
2. Green-keeper
3. Club manager
4. Professional

ABANDONMENT OF PLAY ON CLUB COMPETITION DAYS

Club competitions will be abandoned in the following circumstances:

1. If play has not started 60 minutes after the first start time was due.
2. If the total time lost as a result of delayed starts or subsequent intermittent stops and starts total more than 60 minutes.
3. If a Green Committee Representative or Officer of the Club decide based on current and predicted weather, together with evolving course conditions that it would be foolhardy and dangerous to start or continue

DELAYED PLAY ON NON-CLUB COMPETITION DAYS

Delayed play necessary as a result of adverse course conditions due to fog, lightning, rain, snow, ice, flooding etc on non-club competition days will work as follows:

1. Roll-ups: If play has not re-started, then each tee-time that passes during the “Delayed Play” will be cancelled.
2. Members: If play has not re-started by your allotted time, then your tee-time will be cancelled.

DELAYED PLAY ON CLUB MATCHES & SOCIETIES

Delayed play necessary as a result of adverse course conditions due to fog, lightning, rain, snow, ice, flooding etc on Club Matches or Societies will work as follows:

1. Club Matches and/or Societies will be abandoned in the following circumstances:
 - a. If play has not started 60 minutes after the first start time was due.
 - b. If the total time lost as a result of delayed starts or subsequent intermittent stops and starts total more than 60 minutes.
 - c. If the Club Manager, Green Committee Representative or Officer of the Club decides based on current and predicted weather, together with evolving course conditions that it would be foolhardy and dangerous to start or continue.

NOTIFICATION OF COURSE CONDITION AND STATUS

Inspections are to take place at 7.00am and 10.30am daily; Green staff and where appropriate Green Committee Representative are responsible for ensuring that course condition and playing status is communicated to the club office and Professional at the earliest possible opportunity.

The Professional is then responsible for immediately updating the club website accordingly. In the absence of the Professional this task will fall to the Club Manager or his assistant.



BUFFER TEETIMES

NO buffer tee-times will be assigned post Competitions or Inter Club Matches. The only exception will be Club Matches, where two tee-times will be added before each Club Match.

ALERTS

When delays occur due to adverse weather conditions an alert will be added to the website under “Course Status” showing the current delay on the tee.

BRS

The following statement will be included on the BRS system booking page: “Please note: tee-times can be subject to delay or cancellation in the event of adverse weather conditions”

Notes:

1. Visibility – A minimum safe distance of 250 yards is required for the course to be open during periods of poor visibility. To satisfy this requirement the copse of trees on the right hand side of the 1st fairway must be fully visible from the manager’s office. If this is not the case the Captain, Green Committee member, Manager, Head Greenkeeper or professional must sound the fog horn and close the course.
2. The manager is responsible for ensuring that persons wishing to book tee times within 60 minutes of the expected end of the club competition are advised that their bookings are only provisional and subject to club competition requirements.