GUIDANCE FOR VISITORS TO HESWALL GOLF CLUB

• (Issued 9th July 2020) •

PLAYING GOLF SAFELY

This guidance for all visiting golfers using Heswall Golf Club has been prepared in line with the latest Covid-19 government requirements, as well as advice provided by England Golf.

Please act safely and responsibly at all times, strictly adhere to these guidelines, and follow all requests or instructions from staff and volunteer members whilst at the club.

This guidance may be further amended or re-issued as government measures and/or England Golf advice are updated.

PLAY SAFE

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1. General

- Please avoid sharing a car to come to the club, unless it's with a member of your own household. Try and park in alternate car park spaces if possible, to aid social distancing.
- The clubhouse will be open from 7am daily (from 8am on Sundays) for access to the toilets and hand-washing facilities and to the Pro Shop. However, there will be no access to the locker rooms (except to use the toilets and hand-washing facilities).
- There will be limited bar and catering facilities available – please check with the Club before or during your visit for further, up-to-date details.
- The club office is closed to personal callers. Contact should be made via telephone (0151 342 1237) or email (admin@heswallgolfclub.com)
- The Pro Shop will normally be open daily from 8am – 6pm (from 7am on Thursdays and Saturdays). Please note that a maximum of two people at a time are allowed in the Pro Shop.
- Please remember at all times to observe the social distancing rules before, during and after your round, around the clubhouse and in the car park.
- Please also help to facilitate social distancing by reducing congestion on access routes around the clubhouse and use the one-way system in place in and around the clubhouse.
- Thoroughly wash your hands immediately before you play and, if you do return to the clubhouse, immediately after you have completed your round. During clubhouse opening hours, hand sanitisers will also be available.
- Anyone who feels unwell, or in any way at risk of the virus, should avoid coming to the Club at all.

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2. Before your round

- Please come dressed for golf and change your shoes in the car park.
- Access to the clubhouse and Pro Shop from the car park is via the path between the 18th green and the clubhouse.
- On arrival, one of the players in your group must report to the Pro Shop on the group's behalf and register. Please remember that a maximum of two people at a time are allowed in the Pro Shop.
- All play must be from the 1st tee but do not proceed to the tee area until your allocated tee time, and then please observe the social distancing rules between players.
- Please help to reduce congestion on access routes around the clubhouse by using the one-way system in place around the clubhouse and use the exit via the ramp in the Golf Reception atrium to the top car park if you have to temporarily return to your car.
- The practice putting area near the clubhouse is open for use immediately before your game, but the pins removed, and liners inserted into all holes so that the ball is easily retrievable without touching the hole.
- Avoid the customary pre- and post-round shaking of hands and other close-contact greetings, such as hugging/kissing.
- Avoid all close contact with your playing partners, and others around the clubhouse whilst waiting to tee off, and strictly adhere to the social distancing requirement.
- Please ensure that you tee off promptly at, but not until, your allocated tee time.
- Remember, there is currently no access to the locker rooms (except the toilets and hand-washing facilities).

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3. During your round

- Maintain the appropriate pace of play at all times to ensure there is no 'bunching' on subsequent tees, either in front of you or behind. Remember to Play Ready Golf at all times.
- Rakes have been removed from the bunkers. Please use your shoes or clubs to smooth the sand after playing from a bunker. Note the Local Rule in place for bunker play.
- The ball washers have been taken out of use. Please take a golf towel with you to clean your ball during the round.
- Leave the flag in the hole at all times, and do not touch the flagstick. A liner has been inserted into all holes so that the ball is easily retrievable without touching the flagstick or the hole.
- The divot boxes on the tees are in use but you will need to bring your own trowel or similar tool.

- The water fountain near the 13th tee, and the shoe cleaning air lines have all been taken out of use.
- When playing, pick only your own ball up.
- Do not share equipment such as rangefinders or sky-caddies.
- Open all gates with your feet not hands.
- The on-course toilets near the 7th and 12th tees may be used by visitors, if open. The toilets will be cleaned daily and sanitiser gel should be available, but all visitors should take their own protective gloves or anti-bacterial wipes for opening and closing the doors. Please check with the Pro Shop before your round whether or not the toilets are open.
- 2-seater buggies may be used but only with single occupancy (unless sharing with a member of the same household). Please remember the Local Rule limiting the use of buggies in competitions.
- Please remember...avoid all close contact with other non-household members you may encounter on the course during your round including playing partners. This includes on the teeing areas, walking to your ball, looking for a lost ball, and on the greens – and always strictly adhere to the social distancing rules.

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4. Temporary Local Rules

All Local Rules are summarised on the scorecards. However, two additional Temporary Local Rules now apply until further notice.

- Preferred lies in bunkers

When a player's ball lies in a bunker, the player may take free relief once by placing the original ball in the relief area. The relief area is a spot within 6 inches of where the ball originally came to rest, must be in the bunker, and must not be nearer the hole. The area cannot be smoothed before placing.

- Ball deemed to be holed

The ball is considered to be holed if any part of the ball is below the surface of the putting green, even if not lodged against the flagstick.

Please note that a ball that falls into the hole and then jumps out again due to the shallow depth of the hole is NOT considered to holed.

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5. After your round

- Avoid congregating around the Golf Reception atrium / Pro Shop area after your round.

- Please return your golf clubs and trolleys to the car park direct from the 18th green. If you do then need to return to the clubhouse, please help to reduce congestion on access routes around the clubhouse by returning to the car park at the end of your visit via the ramp in the atrium to the top car park.

6. Practice facilities

- The practice putting area near to the 1st tee should only be used by players immediately before teeing off.

- All other practice areas, including the driving range, are now open but may only be used by prior booking with the Pro Shop.

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7.Clubhouse Procedures

- After your round put your clubs back in your car and walk back along the front of the terrace and enter via the spike bar.
- A member of staff will meet you at the terrace entrance and allocate you and your party a table/tables
- Only one of your party can enter the spike bar and order drinks, maintaining social distancing at all times while queuing to place your order. Visitors wishing to have a coffee before your round space permitting, may do so by following procedures.
- Your drinks and snacks must ordered in the spike bar and collected and paid for in the lounge bar.
- Please pay for drinks with your contactless card there are no standing areas (except when ordering drinks)
- Tables on the terrace will be spaced according to current guidelines as will limited inside tables.
- Visitors sitting inside are permitted only in 2's unless the group of 4 is made up of no more than two households. Terrace outside seating can be in groups of 4 people.
- Visitors must not rearrange or move tables or chairs
- Should the seating area both inside and outside become full please be considerate and move on after a reasonable time (90mins max) exit from the terrace via the end nearest the car park.
- For the time being, prize presentations or similar are not permitted in the clubhouse or on the terrace
- Toilets accessed via golf reception for men and locker room for the ladies.
- If in doubt as to the exact procedures in place refer to Bar & Catering Manager.

8. Catering facilities

- There will be limited catering facilities available – please check with the Club before or during your visit for further, up-to-date details.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Heswall Golf Club.

We sincerely hope you enjoy your golfing experience with us.