



GUIDANCE FOR HESWALL GOLF CLUB

• (Effective from 17th May 2021) •

PLAYING GOLF SAFELY



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

It includes a number of amendments to, and therefore supersedes, our previous guidance (last issued on 12th April 2021) following changes to government requirements and England Golf recommendations.

The guidance is being issued so that we can continue our golf in a safe, responsible and organised way, whilst ensuring that all members have fair and equitable access to the course.

It may be further amended or re-issued as government measures and/or England Golf advice are updated in the coming weeks. The next review is expected to be around 21st June 2021.

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1. General

- Please continue to avoid sharing a car to come to the club, unless it's with a member of your own household.
- The clubhouse is open from 7am daily for access to the locker rooms (including toilets and hand-washing facilities), and to the trolley/club storerooms.
- Bar and catering services will usually be available from 10am daily but note that times of opening and service may vary. Special clubhouse procedures, including indoor and outdoor seating arrangements, must be followed as well as social distancing guidelines. Table service only is permitted.
- Face coverings should continue to be worn in all indoor areas of the clubhouse - this includes the Spike Bar and Lounge, the Golf Reception/atrium, trolley/club storerooms, and toilet/locker room areas, as well as the Pro Shop. Coverings may be removed in the Spike Bar and Lounge when eating or drinking.
- The club office remains closed to personal callers. Contact should be made via telephone (0151 342 1237) or email (admin@heswallgolfclub.com)
- The Pro Shop is open daily from 8am daily (earlier on competition days) for player registration, competition entry, and a full retail service. Please note that there is a limit on the number of people that are allowed in the Pro Shop at the same time. Remember that face coverings must be worn at all times when in the Pro Shop.
- Please continue to observe the social distancing guidelines before, during and after your round, around the clubhouse and in the car park.
- Please also help to reduce congestion on access routes around the clubhouse and use the one-way systems 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.
- *Any member who feels unwell, or at risk of the virus, should avoid coming to the club at all.*
- *Any member who tests positive for coronavirus or displays known symptoms of coronavirus should strictly follow government guidelines and NHS advice, and inform the club's General Manager as soon as possible so that the club's 'track and trace' procedures can be initiated. Please ensure you are familiar with the club's 'Policy for confirmed or suspected coronavirus cases', issued to members on 18th August 2020.*



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2. Booking tee times

**BRS
GOLF**

- Advance booking on BRS is compulsory for all golfers in order to play a round of golf - whatever time of day you play. This applies even if you are not playing a full round.
- **Roll-ups will not be permitted under any circumstances.**
- Government requirements allow up to 4 golfers in a group tee time. If you book as a single golfer or as a 2-ball, please expect other members to book and join you.
- Booking is available as usual 6 days in advance for all members, including competitions, though note some competitions may have longer booking periods.
- To ensure maximum tee time availability for members, members' guests and visitors may only book for play on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays, but may book 6 days in advance.
- BRS bookings may be made on-line or by 'phoning the Pro Shop (0151 342 7431) in advance.
- Tee times are available from 7am daily. If you have booked the first tee time, please do NOT tee off until your allocated tee time as this interferes with course preparation by the Green Staff.
- **No golf should be started before the first bookable tee time, nor after the last bookable tee time, under any circumstances.**
- All play is to commence from the 1st tee and follow the traditional course routing (Holes 1-18).
- If after booking at any time you are unable to play, please cancel the booking on BRS as soon as possible to release the slot for another member.



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3. Before your round

- Access to the clubhouse from the car park continues to be via the path between the 18th green and the clubhouse, even if you are parked in the top car park.
- The locker rooms (including the showers) may be used. However, please do try not to congregate in these areas, and ensure you minimise your time there. Please remember to wear a face covering at all times when indoors.
- For 'track and trace' purposes and to reduce unnecessary tee wastage, all tee bookings will be monitored by the Pro Shop and 'no shows' identified. Therefore, all members must report to the Pro Shop and register before starting to play. Alternatively, one of the players in your group may report to the Pro Shop on the group's behalf and register.
- Do not proceed to the 1st tee until your allocated tee time, and then please observe social distancing guidelines between players.
- Please help to reduce congestion on access routes around the clubhouse by using the one-way systems in place around the clubhouse and use the exit via the ramp in the 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.
- Continue to avoid the customary pre- and post-round shaking of hands and other close-contact greetings, such as hugging/kissing.
- Continue also to avoid all close contact with your playing partners, and other members around the clubhouse whilst waiting to tee off. Remember, close contact of any sort increases the risk of spreading COVID-19.
- All current important notices continue to be displayed on the noticeboard in the atrium for the time being.



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4. 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.
- Coloured stakes defining areas of the course (such as penalty areas) may be treated as immovable obstructions. Note the Local Rule in place.
- The ball washers remain 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 using your hand, even if wearing a glove. A liner has been inserted into all holes so that the ball is easily retrievable without touching the flagstick or the hole. Remember you may centre the flagstick in a safe manner, such as by using a putter, while another player putts.
- If using a divot bag or one of the divot boxes on the tees, please bring your own trowel or similar tool. Follow the instructions on the divot boxes.
- The water fountain near the 13th tee, and the shoe cleaning air lines remain out of use.
- When playing, pick only your own ball up.
- Do not share equipment such as rangefinders or sky-caddies.
- The on-course toilets near the 7th and 12th tees will remain locked but may be used by members. The toilets will be cleaned daily and sanitiser gel should be available, but members should take their own protective gloves or anti-bacterial wipes for opening and closing the doors. Please ensure you securely lock the doors after use. Members without a key for the 7th tee toilet may purchase one by telephoning the club office during office hours, and then collecting them from the Pro Shop. Please note that the 12th tee toilets are now secured by combination locks.
- 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... continue to 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 guidelines.
- Note all the Temporary Local Rules now in place to help maintain safe play and address course conditions.



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5. After your round

- Avoid congregating around the atrium / Pro Shop area after your round and, if not using the bar and catering facilities, leave the club as soon as possible after the completion of your round.
- Wherever possible, please return to the car park direct from the 18th green and, unless using the club/trolley storerooms, leave your clubs and trolley in your car.
- Please remember also that face coverings must be worn in all indoor areas of the clubhouse - this includes the Spike Bar and Lounge, the Golf Reception/atrium and toilet/locker room areas, as well as the Pro Shop.

6. If participating in a competition

- Payment of competition entry fees - by exact change or contactless card - must be made in the Pro Shop before play. Allow enough time to do this and to register your entry.
- Players should enter their own scores on a scorecard and verify another player's scores in the 'marker' column. The scores of all players should be agreed verbally at the end of the round. Sign your own card, but do not swap cards.
- The Spike Bar computer is being brought back into use from 17th May. Before leaving the club each player must enter their scores electronically, using either;
 - (a) the Spike Bar computer in the normal way; or
 - (b) the 'Remote Scoring' facility on the members page of the club's website via their smartphone.

It is each players' personal responsibility to ensure their scores are entered and submitted using one of the above methods, and before you leave the club.

- ALL scorecards should be deposited in the competition box in the atrium/golf reception before you leave the club.
- For 4BBB and other team competitions, the 'Remote Scoring' facility will not be available and, therefore, your scores should be entered into the Spike Bar computer by one member of your team. Your scorecard should be deposited in the competition box before you leave the club.
- Note that you should sanitise your hands immediately before and after using the Spike Bar computer.

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7. 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 are open. Pre-booking is not necessary.
- Outdoor and indoor coaching by the Professional and Assistant Professional is available. Please contact the Pro Shop direct for further details.



8. Clubhouse procedures

- Wherever possible, at the end of your round please return to the car park direct from the 18th green and, unless using the club/trolley storerooms, leave your clubs and trolley in your car before returning to the clubhouse.
- When using the locker rooms, please try to minimise your time there and avoid congregating in these areas.
- Please remember that face coverings must be worn in all indoor areas of the clubhouse - this includes the Spike Bar and Lounge, the club/trolley storerooms, the Golf Reception/atrium and toilet/locker room areas, as well as the Pro Shop. Coverings may be removed in the Spike Bar and Lounge when eating or drinking.
- If using the bar and catering facilities, please wait outside the Spike Bar door for a member of staff to allocate you (and your group) a table. Please sanitise your hands on arrival and provide your contact details for 'track and trace' purposes.
- Table service only is permitted, and there should be no queueing at the bar.
- Tables on the terrace and inside the clubhouse are spaced according to current government guidelines and are strictly limited to a maximum of 6 people outside, and to a maximum of 4 people inside the clubhouse (maximum 6 people in each of the 2 soft-seating areas in the Lounge). Please do not move or rearrange tables or chairs without the permission of the Bar and Catering Manager. Please also do not move between tables.
- Should the seating areas both inside and outside become full, please be considerate to other members and move on after a reasonable time. On certain competition and other busy days (for example Thursdays and Saturdays) priority for tables may be given to members with booked tee times.
- When returning to the car park please exit the clubhouse via the terrace at the far end nearest the car park. If returning to the car park from the Pro Shop/atrium area, please exit using the ramp in the atrium via the top car park.
- Please note that pre-arranged prize presentations or other similar gatherings of more than 6 people are currently not allowed in the Spike Bar or Lounge areas.

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