15/05/20

Dear RGC member

Firstly can we say that we greatly appreciate your patience and co-operation as we endeavour to get the course up and running again. The course is in remarkable condition given the situation and it is great to see people using it for golf !!

Having reviewed the processes involved in ensuring a fair chance to play for all, we are now in a position to extend opportunities for play.  We will amend the guidelines from Mon 18th May as follows:

- Tee times will be extended until 6.35pm to accommodate those who work later

- Members can book in advance,  3 tee times per week. Advance bookings can be made via the office (8am-12 noon) Mon-Sat and confirmed immediately. Bookings can also be requested  via the website but  will be provisional until confirmed. Any requests made before 5pm will be confirmed the same day. Later than this will be confirmed the following day.

- Tee times not booked in advance can be booked on the day. These can be booked by any member in addition to any advanced bookings that you may already have made. You can book through the office (8am-12noon) or through the club mobile (**07748887889**) during the day until 6pm

- If you wish to play 18 holes (first 9 twice as 15th tee and 16th green are not ready) ask the marshall as you arrive and if there is availability then he will book you in. Advance bookings are for 9 holes only and are limited to one per day.

All guidelines are being reviewed on a daily basis and we welcome your thoughts.

Regards

The Directors

12/05/20

1. Introduction

Firstly, we wish to express our appreciation to you, as a member of Ryde Golf Club for the patience and understanding that you’ve shown during the period that the Club has been closed.

The course will be open to members from Weds 13th May on a booking only basis. This policy has been prepared to advise you of the Club’s approach now the COVID-19 ‘lock-down’ is lifted for a return to golf. The policy has been approved by the Executive committee.

We should say from the outset that as with the easing of lock-down restrictions, our return to golf will be on a staged basis, taking small steps – hopefully steadily – in the right direction. Our policy will therefore be reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

The policy draws on guidance provided by the following national bodies:

● -  England Golf  ●   Uk Govt ● -  R&A  ● -  PGA

We are also aware of the approaches of some of the other clubs on the Island which look very similar.

A word of warning before you read on. Golf will look very different to what was considered ‘normal’ in the past. All golf will be booked online. The various measures / restrictions that we have put in place seek to ensure that members are as safe as possible.

2. Play Safe Stay Safe

The overriding objective when returning to golf is that the game is played safely. England Golf recently coined the phrase ‘​Play Safe Stay Safe ​ ’ which you’ll probably hear a lot.  Our policy applies to your entire golfing experience, from arrival at the Club through to departure. In other words, it is not limited to conduct on the golf course.

Throughout your time at the Club, please comply with the usual social distancing measures that we’re now all very familiar with.

3. Clubhouse Facilities

We are only able to open the Clubhouse facilities on a limited basis. This results from a number of factors, including the way in which the government is likely to phase its removal of lock-down provisions, continuing social distancing measures and contamination risk.

Outside Locker rooms Are open but only 1 person at a time. Once you enter please keep the door open , anyone waiting should stand by the marker until the room is empty.

Changing rooms Are open but only 1 person at one time just for toilet and hand washing facilities. Once you enter please keep the door open , anyone waiting should stand by the marker until the room is empty

Bar & catering - Remain closed until further notice.

Pro Cabinet - Remains closed until further notice.

Booking a round Office open for a limited number of days and hours. Either book online or phone the office / mobile number.  Booking is only available to current members. Please ensure your membership is up to date before attempting to book.

Access to office Only if essential this is via the side entrance, please respect social distancing measures.

Marshalls/markings The course will be marshalled to ensure procedures are followed. Please respect social distance guidelines and follow any instructions from the marshalls. Please follow any markings.

4. Course Set Up

Various measures have been taken to encourage social distancing and / or reduce contamination risk. We realise that such measures will impact upon course presentation and the standards that you’re used to.

Ball washers - Please regard as ‘out of use’ Benches - Please regard as ‘out of use’ Bins - Please regard as ‘out of use’ . Kindly take any litter home with you.

Rakes - Removed from the course. Please use your golf club and / or feet to ‘rake’ bunkers after use. Please leave the bunkers as you would hope to find them. Stakes - Stakes and other objects defining areas of the course remain in place.​.

Shoe cleaner - The machine is out of use. Divot filling boxes - Please regard as out of use , but please repair divots as far as you can. The Greenkeepers will do their best to spread divot filling mix as regularly as possible.

Holes - The cups have been inverted so that you can easily access your golf ball.

Flagsticks        - remain but are not to be touched

5. Practice Facilities

Practice nets - Out of use Putting green - ​ Only available for the next tee time due off. Practice ground -​ ​Out of use 6. Arranging your round

By making a booking you are confirming that you have read and agreed the guidelines contained in this document.

BOOKINGS ARE FOR NINE HOLES ONLY.  Only one tee time on any day.

Online tee booking required​   The plan is that all golf must be booked in advance online. Any tee times left on the day must be booked via telephone through the office (8am-11am).

However at present the online systems are unavailable as they have crashed due to national demand! Therefore please call to book.

Online booking will be accessed via the Ryde Golf Club website. You will need to open an account if you are booking for the first time. This will allow us to maintain an accurate record of those attending the Club which is essential in the current circumstances.

If you are unable to book online, please call the office / mobile between 8am- 11am and they will be happy to make the booking for you.

There will be no roll-up golf until further notice. This includes both formal and informal roll-up arrangements. Usual ‘block bookings’ such as the Saturday morning roll up, seniors day and Ladies reservations will not apply.

Office tel: 614809 Mobile 07922 284567 (office hours only 8am-11am).

 Out of these hours online booking only Tee booking availability ​ ​You can book online up to seven days in advance. Tee times start at 8.05 and intervals are set at ten minutes. The last booking is 5.55pm.  A maximum of two golfers per tee time. Same day bookings by phone only.

Please only arrive if you have a booking.  Members only –​ To start with at the very least it is anticipated that course demand will be very high. This is especially so given the reduced tee times available. It is therefore essential that we prioritise member use of the course. As a temporary measure and whilst course demand is assessed, member guests, green fees and societies will not be permitted at the Club.  Booking etiquette -​  In the interests of fairness to your fellow members, we respectfully invite you to please:

● →  Consider playing outside ‘peak’ times.  ● →  Not play on consecutive days.  ● →  Play a maximum of 2 times per week – ideally on weekdays so that weekends are left for those that are unable to play at other times.  ● →  Not play on both weekend days, if possible.

● If you are feeling unwell or have any Covid 19 symptoms please do not book or turn up.

7. Forms of Play and Scoring  Competitive golf -​ During the initial period of golf being played, there will be no competitions. Once competitive play is permitted, we will review the Club diary and organise a schedule of events that seeks to facilitate competitive golf for all.

8. Before your round

All players should adhere to the following protocol:

Entry to the course is via the car park only Maximum 15 mins before tee time​   ​→ Arrive at Club. Please read RGC Covid-19 guidelines                                                                         Remove equipment from the vehicle.                                                          ​ If you arrive before this time, please remain in your vehicle.

10 mins before tee time              → Proceed to Locker rooms.

5 mins before tee time → Proceed to  practice green area

At your tee time → Please be on the tee,  ready to play.

If you cannot make your tee time, please cancel your booking online / call the office asap so that the tee time can be used by another member.

9. Push / Electric Trolleys & Buggies  All Club trolleys - & Club buggies​ - Buggies are not available unless pre-booked with the office. They are limited to one person only. For example, the passenger seat cannot be used. The buggy cannot be shared between players; one walking and one using the buggy, then switching during the round. The club cannot take responsibility for sanitising buggies.

10. During your round  Social distancing​ - Please follow standard social distancing measures and keep at least two metres apart at all times during the round. This includes, but is not limited to:

● -  Your playing partner, the Greenkeepers and members of the public.  ● -  Teeing areas & putting greens, where space can be limited.  ● -  When walking to the ball.  ● -  When searching for a ball.  ● -  When playing shots.

Indirect infection risks - Before commencing play, mark your ball distinctively to aid identification. Do not touch stray balls or other items that others may have been in contact with.

Bunkers - With no rakes on the course, please smooth the sand using your club and / or feet. Aim to leave the bunker as you’d expect to find it.​. Putting Green - Flagsticks will be removed.

11. After your round

Social distancing - Social distancing is as important after your round. When your round is over and you have finished in the locker room / changing rooms please leave the Club promptly.

Clubhouse - As mentioned above, the clubhouse will remain closed. There will be no bar and catering operation.

Car Parking -Please remain at least one car width apart

Finally, Our Thanks to you All

These are unprecedented times, which have warranted unprecedented measures.

We hope that we  all realise how important and necessary these measures are. We all need to work together so that we can all return to the club we all love in a fair and safe way.

Thanks for your understanding and cooperation. We are really looking forward to your return!

Best wishes – and stay safe!