

OPENING OF GOLF – 2020

Please note that these guidelines are for the safety of you and your Staff. Failure to follow these rules may end up with negative consequences including closure of the Golf Course. All members will play at their own risk and are responsible for their personal health.

Members with any symptoms of COVID-19 must stay away from the Golf Club.

Upavon Golf Club has carefully considered how to ensure the safe management of our return to Golf now that the Government COVID-19 restrictions have eased slightly. These guidelines are in line with the support provided by all key stakeholders in the Golf industry, with a view to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of Golfers and members of Staff alike. As time moves on and Government guidelines and advice change, we will adapt these guidelines accordingly.

The guidance in this document is split into several areas:

- Booking a tee time
- Golf Course preparation
- Upon arrival to the Club
- Safe golf
- After play
- PGA Professional services
- Rules of golf related matters

TEE BOOKING SYSTEM

- The Tee Booking System will operate from 08:00 – 18:00 daily.
- The first tee will remain closed outside of these hours
- To book a time you must PHONE 01980 630281 OPTION 1 and speak to a member of the Proshop Team in person or book on line using Intelligent Golf.
- Until further notice members will only be able to book tee times up to 10 days in advance
- Tee time intervals have been set at 8 minutes
- Members may book a tee time for themselves and up to three others
- All players must be named on the tee booking system if they wish to play
- Please play at the time you booked and with those named on the tee booking system
- All current 2020/21 membership fees must be up to date and paid in order to play
- If you are unable to play, please cancel your booking as soon as possible
- Please do not tee off earlier than your allotted time, even if it is clear ahead

GOLF COURSE PREPARATION

On-course Furniture:

- All rakes have been removed
- Ball washers have been put out of action
- Benches, bins, compressed air shoe cleaners and any other course furniture that would otherwise be touched has been removed, covered or sign posted in such a way that players do not touch them
- On course huts/shelters are all taped off and out of use
- On course toilet has been put out of action
- All other removable items have been removed except stakes defining areas which can be treated as immovable obstructions and full relief may be taken
- Do not touch tee markers or hole yardage signs

Hole and Flagstick:

- Flagsticks must not be touched or removed and will be disinfected daily
- Hole inserts are being used to ensure the ball does not fall far below the surface of the putting green and can be easily retrieved by handling the ball only

Practice Area:

- Near Practice Range is closed
- Practice Nets are closed
- Lower Chipping Green is closed
- Putting green and far Practice Area are open but with no holes or flagsticks

Buggy Hire:

- Will be offered based on one person only hire with strict sanitization which will be carried out by the Staff in between hires. These must be pre booked.

ARRIVAL TO THE CLUB

- Aim to arrive at the Club no more than 15 minutes prior to your booked tee reservation
- The Car Park is closed until 7.45 am.
- If you do arrive earlier, please remain in your car until 15 minutes before your tee time
- Park your car in a space ensuring good social distancing from other people
- Golfers must change their shoes / waterproofs in the car park
- Members must check in with Proshop before commencing play either one person per group or on the phone to avoid contact
- First tee has designated zones and Golfers must use these prior to commencing play

- Changing rooms will be open for toilets only and air hand dryers are out of use
- Opening hours;
 - Professional Shop 08:00 – 18:00
 - Toilets 08:00 – 21:00
 - Office 09:30 – 14:30
 - Bar & Restaurant are all closed until after 4th July 2020
- Golfers to observe, follow and adhere to, all signage and floor markings to allow for safe social distancing

SAFE PLAY

- Hand sanitiser stations located around the Clubhouse area so as all players have access to clean their hands prior to teeing off
- The Changing room door will remain open where possible
- Be punctual for your tee time, do not tee off early or late
- Do not touch any other players equipment
- Golfers to keep 2 metres apart at teeing areas due the normal proximity of golfers to one another when tee shots are being played
- Golfers to stay more than 2 metres apart when walking to the ball, searching for a ball, and playing shots
- Do not touch stray golf balls
- With no rakes allowed on the course golfers to make their absolute best efforts to smooth the sand using their club and/or their feet
- Golfers to keep 2 metres apart on the putting greens and must not touch the flagstick
- All litter must be taken home – no bins
- Professional Staff to monitor the 1st tee activity
- Please be patient during your round, ensure good group spacing, keep up with the game in front. The normal rules apply regarding letting a following group play through If you are holding them up. Social distancing by both groups must be maintained whilst doing this.

AFTER PLAY

- Do not shake hands and keep to the recommended social distancing of 2 metres
- All players to clean their hands after the round
- Once you have changed your shoes golfers must leave the Club as soon as possible so that there are no gatherings around the Clubhouse area

PGA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Golfers must observe and adhere to, all clear signage to ensure safe social distancing
- A maximum of 4 golfers will be allowed in the shop at any one time
- Hand sanitiser will be positioned at the entrance to the Shop
- The Shop door will remain open where possible
- Follow arrows on the floor which will direct customers to the till area and then back out of the Shop
- All transactions if possible, by customer account or contactless card payment
- Push rental trolleys will be available and will be sanitised between each use
- Coaching and Club Fittings will remain available in a controlled environment and by appointment

RULES OF GOLF RELATED MATTERS

Forms of Play and Scoring:

- Social golf only
- No competitive stroke play matches or competitions within groups to be played
- A method of scoring needs to be used that does not require exchanging of scorecards

Hole and Holed:

- A ball is considered holed if any part of it is below the surface of the putting green
- To minimise any contact with the hole and the need to lift the ball from the hole, the ball will be considered holed if the next stroke is within 12 inches of the hole (which is just over the length of a standard putter grip)

BREACH OF GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

- Please remember that we must all play our part to stop the spread of Coronavirus. Any serious breach of these guidelines may be dealt with using the Golf Club's disciplinary procedure. Please abide by the guidance so as we can all enjoy Golf again for the rest of the year.

THANKS

These organisations have come together to help golf in the UK during the COVID-19 crisis and, through the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Golf, to work with Government to promote safe golf:

The Belfry; the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association; the British Golf Industry Association; England Golf; the Golf Club Managers' Association; Golf Ireland; the Golfing Union of Ireland; the Irish Ladies' Golf Union; IMG; The Professional Golfers' Association; PING; The R&A; Scottish Golf; Syngenta; the UK Golf Federation; Wales Golf.