



Course Closures

This notice is to confirm to members the process regarding course closure due to weather conditions and the impact on tee times.

A decision to close the courses will be made by David Laffar (Director of Golf) and Stewart Rogers (Head Greenkeeper) or the duty greenkeeper in his absence. Decisions will be made as early in the day as practical and will be notified to members using the Intelligent Golf system, email, the website and social media platforms.

Course closures or delays may be necessary at certain times due to the state of the course; prevailing weather conditions; or other special circumstances. This action is taken either to prevent damage to the Course or to ensure the safety of golfers and other persons on the Course. The priority will be to keep the course open as often as possible.

1. Conditions for Course Closure

Action to close the Course may be taken for the following reasons:

(a) Flooding or Waterlogging of the Course

Flooding or waterlogging of areas of the Course, in particular the greens, during or following heavy periods of precipitation may make the Course unplayable and to allow golfers onto the Course in such conditions may cause damage to the turf and playing surfaces.

(b) Lying Snow

Play is not possible when snow is lying on the Course and should not be permitted until all playing areas are clear.

(c) Electrical Storms

Lightning strikes can present a major danger to golfers in the open on the Course. When thunderstorms are present or imminent, positive action needs to be taken to ensure that golfers are aware of the danger, take shelter or leave the Course and that play is suspended promptly. Before, during and after an electrical storm golfers are responsible for their own safety at Crondon Park. Although play is suspended in regards to tee times and golfers starting their round during an electrical storm the course is deemed as "closed", those that are on the course may continue their round once the course is deemed open.

(d) Fog and Mist

When fog reduces visibility to less than 200 yards closure of the Course will be necessary in the interests of the safety of players, Course Staff and persons using the public rights of way.

Note: If the fairway bunker on the right side of the 1st fairway can be seen from the white tee marker play may be considered safe. Visibility can, however, vary considerably on different parts of the Course. A full Course inspection may be necessary in some circumstances to confirm the need to close or re-open the Course.

(e) Special Circumstances

Certain special circumstances may necessitate the total or partial (i.e. specific holes) closure of the Course, for example maintenance and major project works, accidents, emergencies and/or police activity.

2. Course Closure - Procedure

Course Closure - Review timeline

(a) Flooding or Waterlogging of the Course

On a two hourly basis from 7.00 am to 4.00 pm.

(b) Lying Snow or Heavy Frost

At 7.00 am, 11.00 am and 2.00 pm daily.

(c) Electrical Storms

On a half-hourly basis from commencement of the storm to conclusion of the storm.

(d) Fog and Mist

On an hourly or ad hoc basis, whichever is deemed most appropriate.

(e) Special Circumstances

On an ad hoc basis, depending on circumstances.

3. Course Closure - Action to be taken

(a) Once the decision to Close the Course has been made, the official responsible for the decision is to ensure that:

- (i) The "Course Closed" notice will go out on Intelligent Golf course status (email to every member.)
- (ii) The tee sheet will be updated with "Course Closed" in the top notes tab.
- (iii) Social media platforms will be updated.
- (iv) Members website will be updated

(b) Whenever a major tournament or competition is about to begin or is in progress, the official responsible for the decision is to inform the event organiser at the earliest opportunity.

(c) If the reason for closure implies a threat or danger to golfers already on the Course, the official responsible for the decision is to take immediate action by sounding the klaxon, located in the professional shop.

(d) When the Course is re-opened the official responsible for the decision is to ensure that the actions referred to in (a), (b) and (c) above are reversed.

Any decisions on Course closure will be taken early in the day. The priority will be to keep the courses open as often as possible.

If the Course is closed or if play is suspended, then tee times may be delayed up to a maximum on 30 minutes, after this period tee times will automatically be cancelled and members will need to re-book for later in the day, subject to availability. Play will only begin off the 1st tee and at professional team and green keepers discretion can play commence from the 10th.

Regards,

David Laffar
Director of Golf

