



# Wareham Golf Club

## COVID-19 Golf course re-opening guide

This guide outlines the robust measures Wareham Golf Club is taking to help safeguard our staff and Members as we re-open. For golfers, the measures cover each step of the journey from home to 1st tee and back home again.

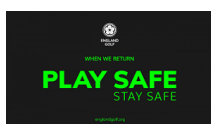
The guide will be kept under constant review and updated as advice from government, health authorities and governing/professional bodies evolves in line with the gradual lifting of COVID-19 restrictions; and in the light of experience.

**We urge all Members to follow strictly the elements of this guide.** Golfers across England will be under close scrutiny by the press and public in the next few weeks; we can be sure that any non-compliance will be seized upon, including on social media. Many people will not understand why golfers can fill Club car parks and seemingly en-mass walk around for 3.5 hours with someone who might be a relative stranger to them, when they are not allowed to socialise in their own garden with a close family member who does not live with them. Indeed we may not fully understand the inconsistency ourselves. We all must also remember that many of us will have vulnerable friends and family and/or have key workers in our family. - our new freedoms must not put them and others at any greater risk. At least at Wareham let's not provide any ammunition for a backlash – follow the guidance, respect the physical distancing rules and **PLAY SAFE & STAY SAFE**

1. Course Access
2. Booking & Arrival
3. Check-in & Pro Shop Protocol
4. Clubhouse Facilities
5. To the First Tee
6. On the Course
7. Getting Home Safely

### 1. Course Access

The course will re-open at 08:00 on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May. In the immediate period after re-opening advance booking of Tee Times was limited to Club Members and staff



Stay 2 metres from other people  
Only use own equipment  
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# Wareham Golf Club

## COVID-19 Golf course re-opening guide

who could book up to 3 days in advance; however, as from Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May the booking rule are amended as follows:

- Members can book up to 7 days in advance.
- Members can book a guest up to 6 days in advance
- Visitors can book (by phone) up to 5 days in advance if tee slots are free and not before 09:30 weekdays and 11:30 weekends. In practice, visitors will generally only get afternoon tee times

To allow greenkeepers to keep ahead of play, the course will open from 08:00, Monday to Friday and 07:30 on Saturdays, Sundays and the May Bank Holiday. The front gate will be locked at dusk (precise time posted each day at the Club), so make sure you have left the course in good time to allow departure. Your car will be locked in overnight if you have not left before the gate is locked.

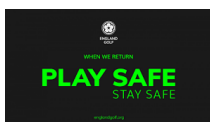
To comply with Government rules, in the immediate period after re-opening playing groups will be limited to two; however, we will allow a three-ball group if all Members live in the same household.

To access the course, a player must:

- Be an active member
- Be a visitor or member's guest with an approved tee booking
- Not be displaying COVID-19 symptoms
- Have a pre-booked tee time. Please do NOT turn up without a booking - you will not be permitted to play

## **2. Booking & Arrival**

- Tee times will be 10 minutes apart, starting at 08:00 Monday to Friday and 07:30 Saturday & Sunday, with the last booking at 18:50.



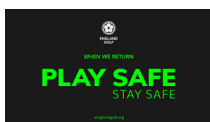
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# Wareham Golf Club

## C0ID-19 Golf course re-opening guide

- Booking a tee time in advance is compulsory – preferably on-line via BRS website <https://members.brsgolf.com/wareham/login> or BRS App; or, only if that is not possible, book by phoning 01929 554157 between 09:00 am and 16:00 pm
- Only members who are registered with the BRS website can use the on-line booking system – guidance on registration was issued on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May by Newsletter. E-mail [secretary@warehamgolfclub.com](mailto:secretary@warehamgolfclub.com) or phone the Pro Shop in the event of difficulty.
- Tee times for advance booking will be released daily according to the following pattern:
  - Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May – at 18:00 on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May
  - Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May – at 18:00 on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May
  - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June – at 18:00 on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May
  - etc, etc
- Members can only make one booking per day; and Members are respectfully asked to limit the number of times they play to 4 times per week so as to give all members an opportunity to play. We will be try to be flexible with the 4-times a week limit; if you already have played/booked 4 times in a week but free slots are available on any one day you will be permitted to take a slot if you phone the Pro Shop on 01929 554157, after 08:30.
- **Please do not turn-up at any time without a tee booking.** If your booking includes a guest and is outside Pro Shop opening times, please phone 01929 554157 between 09:00 and 16:00 to pre-pay for your guest.
- Golf equipment should ideally be washed before a player leaves home
- Golfers should travel to the club alone, or with a member of the same household



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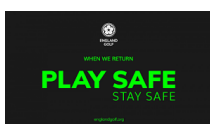
# Wareham Golf Club

## COVID-19 Golf course re-opening guide

- Two-metre physical distancing must be observed in the car park and at all times – please resist the temptation to mingle, particularly at the 1<sup>st</sup> tee and after finishing your round
- Please arrive at the course no sooner than is necessary to get to the first tee within 5 minutes before your booked tee time; a little sooner if you want to use the practice putting green or net.
- Tee off times strictly observed to ensure minimum 10-minute group spacing. **If you are late you will lose your tee time slot.**
- Locker rooms are closed for changing. Arrange golf attire and change footwear at the car. Anyone who needs to access their clubs from a locker should book their first tee time between 08:00 and 16:00, collect their clubs for that round and then take them home. Honour physical distancing when collecting your
- The Pro Shop and limited clubhouse facilities will be open at 08:00 am Monday to Friday and 07:30 on Saturday & Sunday and close at 17:00 pm, but may close earlier during inclement weather. Tee times must still be pre-booked after these times and, other than reporting to the Pro Shop, the above rules followed.

### 3. Check-in and Pro Shop Protocol

- Mandatory check in at the Pro Shop for all golfers
- Single entry point through the outside door to the Pro Shop
- Only one person at a time permitted inside the Pro-Shop
- A two-metre exclusion zone at the service desk
- The Pro Shop is open for business; card payment only, no cash accepted at the till



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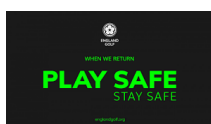
## COVID-19 Golf course re-opening guide

### 4. Clubhouse Facilities

- Access is limited to: the Pro Shop; the disabled toilet in the corridor (for men); the ladies' toilets in their locker room; and for one-time access to a locker (see section 2 above) to collect clubs. Ladies must use the locker room **only** for access to the toilets.
- Hand dryers are disabled, with disposable paper towels provided
- Restaurant and bar are closed until further notice
- Sanitised trolleys and buggies are available for hire, single person use only
- Players must provide their own golf clubs, hire sets will not be available
- Players to arrive in golf attire and change shoes at the car

### 5. To the First Tee

- Social golf only. There will be no competitive golf
- The practise net is available, but you must use your own balls and make sure you collect all balls when you have finished
- The practise putting green is open, limited to 2 players, with flags removed;
- Players practising must observe physical distancing
- Playing groups restricted to 2-balls at 10-minute intervals, equating to a maximum of 12 golfers per hour. Three-ball groups from the same household will be permitted.
- Arrive at the 1st tee no more than 5 minutes prior to the reserved tee time and keep to the 2 metre distance markings unless you are playing with someone from your own household
- Social spacing signage identifies the 1st tee waiting areas
- Any player(s) not following directions will be asked to leave the course



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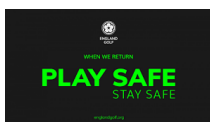


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### 6. On the Course

- Always start at hole one – please do not start from 3, 6, or 9.
- You may play fewer than 18 holes, but only play consecutive holes e.g. do not 'jump' across from 7 to 17 to play 9 holes; or from 9 to 14. Do not miss out any holes either. Unfortunately, in order to preserve the 10-minute spacing we must ask 9-hole members to limit play to holes 1-7 or 1-8.
- Physical distancing observed throughout, particularly on tees and greens. To facilitate this the white tee markers will be placed alongside or close to yellow markers on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>
- To avoid contact with the public, do not use the public footpath between holes 8 and 9 – cross the path and walk to the 9<sup>th</sup> tee on the course side of the fence. The white tees on hole 9 will not be in use.
- Divot boxes have all been removed
- Ball washers removed or covered over
- Bunker rakes removed, players to smooth sand with feet prior to shot
- To avoid touching the bells on the course use your golf club to sound them
- Flagsticks to remain in the hole and must not be touched - putt with the flagstick in the hole
- Hole cups inverted for simple, contact-free ball retrieval
- Do not leave tee-pegs discarded on tee boxes – take them home for disposal
- Once a hole is completed, the group in front must have exited the tee box before players can progress to the next hole
- Do not double back to play again if a ball is lost, unplayable, or in a penalty area
- Equipment, food, and drink must not be exchanged between players
- Players must not pick up another player's equipment or golf ball



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## COVID-19 Golf course re-opening guide

- Players must refrain from handshakes and high fives – keep the 2-metre distance at all times.
- All golfers must walk in from the course prior to sunset, allowing sufficient time to exit the car park before the front gate is locked. These times will be published daily.
- Do not sit on course benches or use the 'shed' at the 10<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> tee
- Avoid slow play so as to maintain the 10 minute gap.
- Further guidance about playing the course will be issued
- Do not approach or seek to engage with Greens staff.

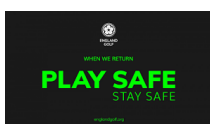
### 7. Getting Home Safely

- Post-round, players must return straight to their cars – do not linger or mingle around the Clubhouse or on the decking
- Lockers cannot be accessed to store belongings - take your clubs home
- Hands may be washed and sanitised in the toilets
- Ensure clubs and equipment are cleaned thoroughly after use

### Ensuring the Safety of our Staff

#### Pro Shop Team

- One staff member present in the Pro Shop at any one time
- Face masks and gloves provided for Pro Shop staff
- Staff comprehensively trained in importance of hand hygiene and cough etiquette
- Hand sanitiser and cleaning solutions provided at the service desk
- Staff to always remain at least two metres from customers
- All work areas and contact points are cleaned and sanitised regularly



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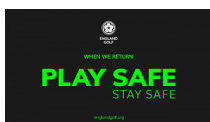
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### Maintenance Team

Green Keepers are isolated on the course for much of the time, with steps taken to minimise the risk of cross-contamination during their shift.

- Staggered start and break times to avoid social gathering
- Ensure team meetings, if possible, are held in outside or in a large open space while observing social distancing rules.
- Utilise online communication systems such as e-mail or mobile phones for team communications or briefings.
- Ensure staff members work separately, instead of in pairs/groups where possible
- Hand sanitisers provided for regular use
- Disposable protective gloves are always worn
- Face masks used as required, particularly during course set up
- Utility vehicles limited to single person use
- Allocate individual machinery to one staff member where possible
- Staff to avoid gathering in the machinery compound and canteen
- Machinery fully washed after use, including disinfecting of controls



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