

PROTOCOL FOR THE RE-INTRODUCTION OF GOLF AT GALGORM CASTLE

VISITING GOLFERS V2 OCTOBER 2020

- It is imperative that anyone with any symptoms of COVID-19 stay away from the golf course and get tested then follow instructions following results.
- If you are a close contact of someone who has tested positive you must self-isolate as instructed.
- Anyone who has been out of the UK & Ireland must adhere to government quarantine regulations before revisiting the golf course.
- Physical distancing rules must be observed by all golfers at all times in the car parks, clubhouse and on the golf course.
- Hand sanitiser is available throughout the facilities, please sanitise your hands on arrival and after play.

COURSE ACCESS & BOOKING

- All tee times must be booked via the BRS system either online or by ringing the Pro Shop.
- The only golfers permitted on the course will be those on the timesheet. **Absolutely no 'cutting in' is allowed.** This is to assist with contact tracing if required and also to allow the greenkeeping team to work ahead of members. **Any player on the golf course whose name is not on the timesheet will be asked to leave the estate.**

ARRIVING AT THE GOLF COURSE

- **Pre-booking your tee time in advance is compulsory.**
- We recommend golf equipment and hands are sanitised before leaving home, while we also encourage you to use the toilet before leaving home.
- We encourage you to bring your own hand sanitiser to the course and use it regularly during your round.
- Golfers should travel to the golf course alone, or with a member of the same household only.
- Please park in a manner so as to facilitate physical distancing and ensure physical distancing throughout your time on the estate.
- Change shoes in the car park (please note the water hose behind the 18th green and air hose in the top car park will both be out of use).
- **All golfers must check in via the Pro Shop prior to play. This is to ensure compliance with the timesheet for contact tracing purposes.**
- If you require golf balls, accessories, equipment etc. these will be available to purchase in the Pro Shop. Do not exchange equipment with others.

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- Holes have been adjusted on the practice putting green and short game area.
- No more than three persons on the practice putting green at any one time, do not use the putting green until **10 minutes** prior to your tee time.
- No more than three persons on the short game area at any one time, do not use the short game area until **15 minutes** prior to your tee time. Mats in-situ must be used.
- The Driving Range is open with measures in place to ensure social distancing and safety for users and staff.

CLUBHOUSE AND PRO SHOP

- It is compulsory for public to wear face coverings in shops and other enclosed public spaces in Northern Ireland.
- It is now (as of 8th October) also mandatory for staff in retail shops to wear face coverings.
- The bottom floor of the clubhouse is open.
- The Pro Shop is open for check-in and for all your needs. The Pro Shop door is the only door in use to access the bottom floor of the clubhouse.
- **Please ensure physical distancing at all times in the clubhouse.**
- **Absolutely no loitering in the Clubhouse, Pro Shop or car parks.**
- Our staff will continue routine cleaning, sanitisation and disinfection of all locations, especially all common and high traffic areas, and frequently touched surfaces. Doors will be wedged open.
- Hand sanitiser is located at the Pro Shop entrances and outside the toilets.
- Entry to the Pro Shop is restricted in line with government guidance.
- **Card or account payments are the preferred method of payment.**
- Protective screening is in-situ in the Pro Shop and PPE is available to staff.

TO THE TEE

- Do not enter the teeing ground until all members of the group in front have played their tee-shots and exited the teeing ground.
- Do not tee off until your allocated time - clocks will be placed on the 1st and 10th tees to facilitate this.
- **Hand sanitiser units** are located at the 1st and 10th teeing areas.
- Observe **physical distancing** at all times on the golf course.

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COURSE RANGERS

- Course Rangers are on hand to monitor adherence with physical distancing protocols and the protocols set out in this document. Course Rangers will also ensure only members and visitors whose names are on the timesheet are on the golf course and have the authority to suspend members and visitors from the facility should they not adhere to the protocols set out in this document.

ON THE COURSE

- Holes must be played in order starting from the 1st tee (or 10th for 9-holes only)
- **Do not touch the flag or flagstick.**
- Ball washing stations will be out of use.
- There are a reduced number of bins in place on the golf course, these bins have a circular hole in the lids so do not require opening. However, we would prefer it if you keep your litter in your golf bag and dispose of your litter at home.
- **All rakes have been removed from the course and a local rule will be in place that permits placing your golf ball in any bunker on the course:**

**“When a player’s ball lies in a bunker, the player may prefer the lie within six inches”
(Local Rule E-3)**

Please note that smoothing the sand before placing the ball is not allowed.

- After play, please smooth the sand using your feet or a club out of courtesy to your fellow members and greenkeepers.
- **All hazard stakes are deemed immovable obstructions** and should not be touched.
- Golf buggies are only available to golfers who require a buggy for an underlying medical issue. Where a golf buggy must be used, it must only be used by one person (excluding two persons from the same household). Buggy surfaces are wiped down by staff prior to and following use.
- Hire trolleys are available and will be sanitised before and after every use.
- Caddies are not permitted except where the group of golfers and the caddies are from the same household.
- During casual play, if your ball is lost, unplayable, or in a penalty area, don’t take an option under the rules that involves doubling back on your position on the course. Instead, use an option that allows you to keep your position on the course.
- Keep your place on the golf course, you should not catch up with the group in front nor be caught by the group behind.
- On the course we may have groups of one, two, three or four players at any one time. Therefore, please adopt a common sense approach and should you be playing in a fourball

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and the group behind is made up of one, two or three players, please call the group behind through at an appropriate time and place should it be clear that they are playing at a faster pace. However, if you are playing in a group of less than four persons please do not rush around the golf course as we must remain conscious of social distancing and ensure groups do not gather on the golf course.

- If you feel the group in front of you is holding your group up, please remain patient and wait to be called through. **DO NOT** hit shots that risk the safety of your fellow golfers, this is simply not acceptable.
- The toilet at the 10th tee is available for golfers to use. Our staff will continue routine cleaning but please make use of the anti-bacterial wipes in place to clean the toilet area before and after use. Soap will be available in the toilet while a hand sanitiser unit will be in place on the wall of McQuillans halfway hut.
- **Observe physical distancing at all times on the course.** Do not enter the next teeing ground until all members of the group in front have played their tee-shots and exited the teeing ground.
- Do not exchange or share equipment, food or drink with other players during your round. Do not pick up another player's equipment or golf ball.

COURSE ETIQUETTE

- Please repair your pitch marks and replace divots.
- Play is strictly from tee markers in place.
- Play is strictly with one ball only.
- Do not touch any roping, hooping or hazard stakes. These are immovable obstructions and relief must be taken.
- **Greenkeepers will have right of way but will be wary as to not disrupt pace of play.** Please follow guidance from greenkeepers should they be working on the hole you are playing. **Wait for the greenkeeper to move to the side and only play when instructed to by the greenkeeper.**
- **It is of paramount importance that members do not approach our greenkeeping team on the golf course for your safety and theirs.**

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CASTLE KITCHEN + BAR

- The Castle Kitchen + Bar is open with necessary safety measures in place.
- Customers should abide by government regulations on social distancing and guests per table. EG. No more than six persons (not including children under 12) at any one table (unless those seated comprise a single household) from no more than two households.
- <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/coronavirus-covid-19>
- It is compulsory for public to wear face coverings in shops and other enclosed public spaces in Northern Ireland.
- Every member, staff member & other guests will be temperature checked at entrance.
- Staff must record your details for test, trace and protect purposes.
- Zoono™ Z-71 Hand Sanitiser available for all guests and staff to use.
- Enhanced daily hygiene & cleaning measures prior to opening & during service.
- Periodic Ozone™ Air Purifier & Everbrite™ Ultra Disinfectant will be used.
- PPE used where necessary.
- Table service only.
- Please follow staff guidance.

HEADING HOME

- Visitors must call the Pro Shop (02825646161) or email golf@galgormcastle.com with any post-round health issues (symptoms) or Covid-19 related queries.

Please enjoy your golf and stay safe.

Kind regards
Gary

Gary Henry
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Galgorm Castle