



Chairman's Note – COVID-19 Update 7pm - 20th March 2020

In view of the current circumstances, the General Committee has approved the formation of our own MGC Cobra committee who will handle the day to day decision making at the club until further notice. This smaller committee will “meet” in person or by conference phone on a weekly or daily basis as necessary.

The members of this committee are:

- Antony Burrows (who has been appointed Deputy Chairman)
- The Captain
- The Treasurer
- The Secretary (who will be responsible for all communications to members)
- Myself (by telephone/email only)

If necessary, the Secretary is able to communicate to all members remotely from his home.

All our actions will be governed by the Directives from both Public Health England (PHE) and the Government and again, in the light of this, we ask that all members, staff and visitors familiarise themselves with these directives some of which, if not all, are very relevant to their own health and safety.

Our priorities in the running of the club for the foreseeable future are:

- 1) The Health, Safety and Wellbeing of all members, visitors and staff.
- 2) The maintenance of the course, which we hope will be able to remain open on a normal basis.
- 3) The preservation of the financial strength of the club. All new capital expenditure has been suspended and we are reducing costs where possible without, hopefully, affecting whatever golf and clubhouse life we can offer. We are carefully reviewing offers of Government help for the leisure industry.

This situation seems to be fluid and will be reviewed on an ongoing basis. Updates to the policy below will be communicated to members.

Keep strong, keep safe and let's hope we can look forward to hosting the Boys competition in August.

Richard Brown
Chairman of the General Committee

Clubhouse

- The Clubhouse, Bar and Catering are all closed with immediate effect. In the short term the Office will remain open.

Pro Shop

- The Pro Shop will be open daily from 8am until 4pm, or until the last competitors finish on a Saturday.

Changing Rooms & Trolley Store

- The Changing rooms and Trolley Store will remain open until 4pm on Sunday 22nd March. The future access to these facilities will be reviewed next week.

Competitions

- The ongoing fixture list will be continually reviewed and redistributed to members.
- At this time medal and stableford competitions that are currently scheduled will continue as scheduled but will be non-qualifiers and will not count towards the aggregate. However, this may be reviewed if the advice provided from the PHE enforces further change.
- All knockout competitions have been suspended until later in the year.
- The Sydney Groves Qualifier due to be played on 4th April has been postponed until later in the year.

Golfing

- Golf is a healthy sport and the benefits to overall well-being should not be ignored. As many leading experts have quoted 'being in a wide-open, outdoor space is the least at-risk scenario'. So, there is no reason to stop playing golf providing that a common-sense approach is taken.
- The green staff have reviewed their operating procedures to continue to deliver the course to the highest standards, without unduly putting any staff members at risk.
- Members should change footwear in the car park.
- Advice on 'safe play' for golfers will be provided separately and shown on the first tee.
- If a member has a guest, then please continue to check them in with the professional.
- We encourage everyone to use the online tee booking system or ring the professional or office to check availability and book times.
- If you have reserved times and you are NOT going to use them then please advise us so that we can staff accordingly and release the times for other members to use.

Safe Golf

Please follow the advice below:

- Bunker Rakes have been removed, bunkers should be foot raked after use and whilst non-qualifying competitions remain in place, we have introduced a 'foot rake and

place rule' in all bunkers. Golfers may lift the ball, smooth the sand and place their ball back in the sand as near as possible to its original location.

- Tee boxes and ball washers have all been removed from the course.
- We have inserted lagging into all holes, so the ball can be removed from the hole without making contact with the cup or flag. Do not remove the flag whilst putting.
- Wash your hands before and after you finish playing
- Do not come to the golf club if you are displaying any symptoms
- Keep a safe distance from your playing partners (about 6 feet is recommended)
- Do not shake hands at the end of the game
- Change golf shoes in the car park.
- The Pro Shop is still open and a full coaching programme is still available
- We are asking that any payments in the pro shop and clubhouse are made using a contactless card (under £30).