

Introduction

Heacham Manor Golf club 'Play Safe' procedure based on guidance from the Golf industry governing bodies.

This procedure will include all aspects of the golfing experience, from arrival in the car park before the round to departure after the round. Golfers will be required to comply with the rules on social distancing throughout. Some temporary provisions in relation to the Rules of Golf will also be necessary to ensure safe play (see 6).

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1.0 Course Set Up

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 During the coronavirus crisis the golf governing bodies set an essential maintenance policy which focused on frequency of cutting regimes. Greens for example were only allowed to be cut twice a week, Therefore when play is resumed the green speed may play slightly slower than you are used to for the time of year, but we will build up the pace as a when we are allowed to increase the number of cuts.

On the golf course you will find a number of differences. These are aimed at reducing the contact points where players could potentially transfer the virus.

Therefore, all bunker rakes have been removed, please try to smooth out your marks as best you can. Our golf course staff will be monitoring bunkers during the day. There are a number of bunkers have been made GUR during this time. These are some of the bunkers that are planned to be removed during our ongoing golf course improvement programme design by Golf Architect - Simon Gidman.

- 1.1.2 Ball washers are out of use, please don't touch them.
- 1.1.3 Benches are out of use, bins can be used but please don't touch them.
- 1.1.4 Hole signage is on the course, but all players are reminded not to touch these.
- 1.1.5 On the course the Flagsticks are being retained as the ball retriever system is installed, so that you can still putt out, always leaving the pin in the hole, and lift a lever with your putter and the ball will come out. You must not touch the flagstick at any time.

1.2 Practice Areas

- 1.2.1 The practice area will be open 8am -to dusk. Limited to two players at a time. However please ensure that you retrieve only your own balls

2.0 Reserving Tee Times

2.1 Bookings

- 2.1.1 The golf office will be open from 7.30am – 4pm Monday to Sunday. Please use the existing number. 01485 579825 or book only through the Heacham Manor website.
- 2.1.2 It is requested that all bookings must be made and paid for in advance, this will limit contact points at the avocet bar.
- 2.1.3 Our staff will monitor tee bookings on the BRS system to ensure that players are keeping to the playing conditions as set out in this procedure.
- 2.1.4 Players are requested to book in to play online before travelling to the course.
- 2.1.5 Players may now arrive before play to access the Avocet Bar. Please be aware that due to social distancing rules there may be less chairs available than normal and therefore please enjoy the facility but be considerate of other guests.
- 2.1.6 Tee Times have been arranged for 10 minutes intervals. This will reduce to 8 minute intervals from 1st August, Visitors will be allowed to book 1 tee time per day. Bookings are allowed for 7 days in advance.
- 2.1.7 The visitors booking the tee time will have to specify who they are playing with.

3.0 Arrival and Waiting to Play

3.1 Car Park

- 3.1.1 On arrival at the golf course please drive to the sign posted car park. Where possible please still change shoes in the car park.

3.2 Clubhouse

3.2.1 Accessing the Clubhouse

- 3.2.2 Golfers are invited to use the facilities of the Avocet bar under the social distancing rules as set out in the current guidance. The avocet bar furniture will be laid in accordance with the regulations and members and visitors will be reminded not to move the chairs from their designated tables.
- 3.2.3 Due to the government policy on track and trace, the steward on duty will be required to take all your names and contact details and record them against the table you are sitting at. We are required to keep these details for 21 days.
- 3.2.4 To minimise the risk of contact, one person from your table will order and pay for their purchases at the section of the bar where the screen is in place. Please adhere to the social distance rules at the bar.
- 3.2.5 We recommend that all payments are made via contactless card whenever possible. A remote PDQ machine is available for use and will be wiped down by the Steward on duty.
- 3.2.6 Visitors are requested to utilise vacant tables outside whenever possible.
- 3.2.7 A limited menu will be available at the reintroduction of the food service.

3.3 Toilets and Changing Rooms

- 3.3.1 Visitors are requested to follow government social distancing rules when accessing the toilets. Changing rooms are currently closed.
- 3.3.2 The toilets will be cleaned in line with our Covid secure procedures on facility cleaning.

3.4 Buggies

- 3.4.1 Buggies will be available if they have been booked and paid for prior to arrival, please call the golf office on 01485 579825. The member of golf staff on duty at the hotel shall ensure that the buggies are prepared for use. The MGS will have the buggy waiting next to the Avocet Bar 10 mins before play.
- 3.5 Practice putting green - priority of use to the players in the next group due to tee off. Please ensure the 2 metre distance rule is strictly followed.

4.0 During the Round

4.1 Social Distancing

- 4.1.1 Players need to ensure that they keep at least 2 metres apart during the round.

4.2 Teeing Areas

- 4.2.1 Golfers to keep 2 metres apart at teeing areas due the normal close proximity of golfers to one another when tee shots are being played.

4.3 General

4.3.1 Golfers to stay more than 2 metres apart when walking to the ball, searching for a ball and playing shots.

4.3.2 Golfers not to touch stray balls.

4.4 Bunkers

4.4.1 With no rakes allowed on the course, golfers to make their very best efforts to smooth the sand using their club and/or their feet. The member of golf staff on duty will monitor the bunkers.

4.5 Putting Green

4.5.1 Golfers to keep 2 metres apart on the putting greens and not to touch the flagstick.

5.0 After the Round

5.1 Accessing the Clubhouse

5.1.1 See clauses 3.2, 3.3

6.0 Rules of Golf Related Matters

6.1 Amendments

6.1.1 Until further notice, the following provisions are considered acceptable on a temporary basis.

6.2 Flagsticks

6.2.1 Golfers are required to leave the flagstick in the hole at all times and not to touch it. It is a matter for the Committee to decide whether it establishes this policy by way of a Code of Conduct or Local Rule, and whether it provides a penalty under the Code of Conduct or for a breach of the Local Rule.

6.2.2 As a temporary provision, flagsticks can be used for the purpose of player safety which do not meet the specifications in Part 8 of the Equipment Rules.

6.2.3 The Flagsticks retriever system will allow the ball to be holed out. Always leaving the pin in the hole, and lift a lever with your putter and the ball will come out. You must not touch the flagstick at any time.

These rules will be amended as guidance from the golf governing bodies change. These rules are there to protect the safety of yourselves and fellow golfers at Heacham Manor golf club.

Thank you for your patience and understanding, we hope you enjoy your return to golf.