

Stinchcombe Hill Golf Club

Guidelines for Play from 13th May 2020

Update 11th May 18:00

Play safe, stay safe

This is the key message from England Golf. The most important element is maintaining strict social distancing of 2 metres between players, members of staff and the general public at all times.

Please see this as a condition of being allowed to play. Many people are not able to restart their sport or pastime because social distancing is not possible, we are fortunate and need to respect the distancing requirement.

There is a requirement that we “play with members of the same household or with one other person whilst staying 2 metres apart”. So, any 2-ball is allowed but otherwise everyone must be from the same household.

Booking a game

- The course will be open for members only, initially.
- All golf must be pre-booked with the shop on 01453 543878. Please do not just turn up and play, at any time.
- We will be taking bookings from 8am on Tuesday 12th May, the course will open at 8am on Wednesday 13th May.
- You may book up to 7 days ahead, demand may be high initially so please be reasonable in the number of bookings you have outstanding.
- The reserved tee times for seniors, ladies and roll-ups are suspended initially
- If you cannot use your tee time, please rearrange or cancel it so that other members can.

Practice facilities

- Use of the putting green, nets, practice and teaching areas must be booked with the shop so that we can regulate numbers and times. Please do use them otherwise.

Buggy hire

- Buggies will be bookable for those who need them to play, obviously for single riders unless from the same household. We will provide cleaning materials for users to sanitise them before use.

Arriving at the club and access to the clubhouse

- Please arrive no earlier than 20 minutes before your tee time.
- The shop and office are open for tee bookings and subscription matters.
- The clubhouse may be closed from 5 pm (including locker rooms).
- Only one person in the shop or office at a time.
- Only two people in the locker room at any one time
- The bar and restaurant remain closed.

Shop purchases

- At the moment we believe that these would be classed as non-essential and so not allowed.

On the course

- Please remember social distancing, it will be easy to forget when seeing other members after many weeks.
- The yellow and red tees will not be in use, to save work. Everyone should play off the white tees.
- The holes have been modified to prevent the ball dropping into the bottom of the hole, avoid touching the flag.
- Bunker rakes have been removed, after you have played your bunker shot please smooth with your foot/club.
- For now this is social golf, consider agreeing pick and place in bunkers and conceding putts.
- Bins and ball washers have been sealed to prevent use, please take your waste home with you for disposal.
- Be aware of the public, see “Members of the public” below.
- Green staff have priority, our green staff led by Matt have been keeping on top of the course, please allow them to complete their tasks safely.

At the end of your round

Please leave the clubhouse area as soon as possible, do not wait for and congregate with players coming in behind you. We are still not allowed to “gather in a group of more than two (excluding members of your own household)”

Competitions

- The club will not be running competitions.
- Members who wish to organise them informally should not congregate at the Club before or after.

Members of the public

The Trust's website defines right of access as

There is no general right, but one specifically allowing the residents of Cam, Dursley, Stinchcombe and North Nibley to "enjoy the Hill for air and recreation providing that they do not interfere with the playing of golf"

Whilst we have been closed local people have got used to walking on or near the fairways, and provided no damage was done this clearly did not interfere, as no golf was being played. We will be publicising our reopening on social media but must expect that it will take a while for things to return to normal. Please be patient, tolerant and avoid confrontation whilst this happens.