



**ENGLAND
GOLF**

Resumption of play

30 November 2020

The confirmation from UK government that all golf courses in England may reopen again for fourball play on Wednesday 2 December has come as welcome news for us all.

It is now important that golf continues to show itself in a positive light with clubs and members adhering to the guidelines and government laws which have allowed the game to return in fourball format across the whole country.

Ahead of the resumption of play on Wednesday morning, please take time to look through the following resources and distribute to your members where appropriate.

- [Revised 'Play Safe, Stay Safe' protocol for clubs and golfers](#)
- [Updated FAQs on golf during the Coronavirus restrictions](#)
- [Infographic for sharing on social media about golf in the three-tier alert system](#)

It is important to understand that although presented as a protocol, the 'Play Safe, Stay Safe' framework for playing the game was communicated with government ahead of golf's return.

For that reason, the precautionary measures that were adopted in May after the first national lockdown ended and which remain in place, should be observed.

These include:

- Pre-booking of all tee-times (online where possible)
- Social distancing among golfers at all times
- Flagsticks to remain untouched and in place
- Only personal rakes to be used in bunkers

Golf can continue to be enjoyed with these minor changes in play.

Thanks to the adoption of temporary rulings from CONGU and The R&A to take into account bunker play, static flagsticks and scoring, competitive golf and submitting scores for handicap purposes may once again take place.

The pleasure the game continues to give to millions of people enjoying golf's physical and mental health benefits should not be taken for granted.

We would like to thank all clubs, counties and golfers for the continued support you have shown to us throughout this most troubled of years.

Please enjoy the resumption of play again from Wednesday and encourage golfers to continue to enhance our game's reputation by taking responsibility for their actions and looking after the health of family, friends and golf club staff.