

Introduction

Searles Resort Golf club 'Play Safe' procedure based on guidance from the Golf industry governing bodies.

From 29 March 2021, the first phase of coming out of lockdown, will apply across England. An overview of all restrictions is provided on the Government website.

This procedure will include all aspects of the golfing experience, from arrival in the car park shortly before the round to departure straight away on completion of 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 Please see the following details aimed at reducing the contact points where players could potentially transfer the virus.
- 1.1.2 All bunker rakes have been removed, Players may bring their own personal rakes and retrievers, which should only be handled by that player and taken away at the end of their round, please try to smooth out your marks as best you can. Our golf course staff will be monitoring bunkers during the day.
- 1.1.3 Ball washers are out of use, please do not touch them.
- 1.1.4 Benches are out of use, bins can be used but please don't touch them.
- 1.1.5 Hole signage is on the course, but all players are reminded not to touch these.

1.1.6 There are hole liners inserted in the holes, which means all the ball does not fall below the surface of the putting green and can be easily retrieved by handling the ball only.

1.1.7 The stakes defining areas of the course can be treated as immovable obstructions.

1.2 Driving Range and Practice Areas

1.2.1 The driving range will be open in phase one but it is essential to book, this can be done through the golf shop 01485 536023. Social distancing should be observed at all times.

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

2.0 Reserving Tee Times

2.1 Bookings

2.1.1 All visitors must book a tee time online in advance through the Searles website before traveling to the course.

2.1.2 As the bar/restaurant/clubhouse is not allowed to open in this phase and to safeguard our staff and members by reducing contact points, the member of golf staff on duty at the hotel will not be able to deal with any payment transactions. All bookings must be made and paid for in advance.

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 The visitors booking the tee time will have to specify who they are playing with by name.

2.1.5 Players to arrive 15 minutes before their tee off time and leave 10 mins after they have finished. Players will need to access the course through the resort through the main entrance, security will check on your booking to ensure you have pre-booked before access can be granted.

2.1.6 Tee Times have been arranged for 8-minute intervals. Visitors will be allowed to book 1 tee time per day. Bookings can be booked 5 days in advance. Players are permitted to play as a 4 ball, at a social distance.

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. Please arrive no earlier than 15 mins before your tee time. Please change shoes in the car park.

3.2 Clubhouse

- 3.2.1 In phase one the clubhouse and locker room facilities will be closed. Toilets will be available for use, please adhere to social distancing rules, and always wear a mask indoors. The 10th tee toilet on Heacham Manor is open between 9.30 and 6pm. Please adhere to the policy on use on the door and remember to maintain a social distance.

3.3 Buggies

- 3.3.1 If the course conditions allow, buggies will be available **only** if they have been booked and paid for prior to arrival, please call the golf reception on 01485 536023. The member of golf staff on duty shall ensure that the buggies are prepared for use. The member of golf staff will have the buggy waiting next to the golf check in area, 10 mins before play. You must **not** share a buggy if you are from different households.

3.4 Practice putting green.

- 3.4.1 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 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, players may bring their own personal rakes and retrievers, which should only be handled by that player and taken away at the end of their round, otherwise 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 Flagsticks

- 4.5.1 Golfers are required to always leave the flagstick in the hole and not to touch it.
- 4.5.2 There are hole liners inserted in the holes, which means all of the ball does not fall below the surface of the putting green and can be easily retrieved by handling the ball only.

4.6 Putting Green.

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

5.0 After the Round

5.1 Leaving the Course.

- 5.1.1 Golfers to be aware that social distancing is as important after a round as it is during the round, so when the round is over, they must leave the course immediately so that there are no gatherings around the clubhouse area.

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.

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 golfer at Searles Resort golf club.

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