



The latest UK government adjustment of lockdown conditions now permits golf clubs in England to re-introduce the fourball format from Monday 1 June.

As part of a phased return to play, up to four golfers from four separate households may now play together in one single group from the above date.

Please note it is essential that golfers continue to strictly observe social distancing and safety regulations relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

All other industry guidelines pertaining to the playing of the game remain unchanged from those issued ahead golf's phase one return on 13 May.

While COVID-19 remains a live threat in our communities, we would ask everyone involved in the game to act responsibly, show respect and protect the wellbeing of golfers, staff and volunteers.

Dear Member

Competition play at CNPGC has always been significant to our membership and the sport of golf has been given a unique opportunity in being allowed to return to some sort of normality.

It should be at the forefront of our minds however, that we are still in the midst of a pandemic and the 'Stay Safe, Play Safe' guidelines must be strictly observed along with the relevant Government instructions.

We are all keen to return to competition play and we will endeavour to do so, how the remains of our competitive season pans out will largely depend on each and every one of you.

As a 9-hole course with relatively high membership numbers, we face a challenge on a weekly basis of ensuring everybody is able to play. This is further impeded by a change to tee time spacing of 10 minutes, reducing our 'normal' maximum capacity from 120 to 96. We have therefore introduced a third tee time slot from 4pm to increase capacity.

Bookings for competitions can only be made via telephone to the Professional's Shop.



Most importantly is the necessity for us to enable social distancing whilst on the golf course. We expect all golfers to adhere to this stringently, but we must also ensure there are no delays whilst on the course. More than one group waiting on a tee is absolutely out of the question. Slow play must therefore be eradicated immediately.

- One person from each group will be the designated timekeeper and will have the responsibility of ensuring the correct pace of play as detailed on the scorecard.
- Play 'ready golf'. If you are ready to play and it is safe, play your shot.
- Players should play their shot before looking for a lost ball.
- You have a maximum of three minutes to search for a lost ball. The timekeeper will be responsible for timing.
- Putt out.
- When not playing your shot, you should be preparing to play your shot.

In stableford competitions, if you cannot score you must pick up.

In medal play, we will adopt the maximum score format. The maximum score per hole is capped at par +5. Once you reach this score, pick up your ball and record the maximum score for that hole. Providing you carry on playing and marking your score during medal play, there will be no sanctions for a no return recorded on a hole.

Temporary Local Rule changes will be put into place for competition play. These are compliant so competitions will be qualifying for handicap purposes:

- Preferred lies will be allowed in bunkers, maximum of 6 inches, the sand cannot be smoothed before preferring the lie.
- Stakes identifying hazards will be deemed immovable obstructions and relief can be taken in the usual way.
- The Flagstick must not be touched and remain in the hole. The ball is considered 'holed' if any part of it is below the surface.

One person in each group will be the designated marker and will mark the gross scores only of each player in the appropriate column. A verbal confirmation with your playing partners is acceptable and only the marker should sign the card.

Please then take a legible photograph of the scorecard before leaving it in the box near the entrance.

Scorecard photos should then be emailed to cnp.comps@icloud.com or via text / WhatsApp to 07980 893133 before midnight on the day of play.



A starter to reiterate these stipulations and ball spotters will be in place where possible. If you are able to volunteer for these roles, please contact the Club Captain.

We cannot stress how important it is that we all set a good example on how our sport can be played whilst adhering to social distancing. Slow play is key to this and therefore sanctions for slow play or not adhering to social distancing will be implemented without prior warning.

We will put on a stableford competition on Saturday 6th June which will help define how we approach the rest of the season. If we cannot play competition golf speedily, then we will have to revert to 2 or 3 balls reducing capacity further. Ballots to play may then need to be considered.

It is therefore down to all of you personally as to how our competitive season continues.

We will provide a further update on competition play following the weekend.

Best regards,
CNP GC Committee