



Golf News

FACE MASKS AT THE CLUB



I have been asked by some of your fellow members to remind all of you that face masks are required when in all internal areas of the Club unless you are sat at a table in a food and beverage outlet, taking a shower following your game, or are indeed exempt. This rule includes the changing room areas, unless as stated you are taking a shower, so please do respect other members by adhering to the rules we have in place for everyone's safety by wearing a mask.

Thank you all for your cooperation.

Philip Worthington
Director of Golf

LADIES' TEE - 7TH HOLE CORONATION COURSE



The Ladies' 7th tee on the Coronation Course will be re-turfed later this week due to excessive wear from sharing the tee when the Men's tee was re-turfed in December.

The Ladies' tee will be located on the front of the Men's teeing area for the coming weeks which is compliant with EG guidelines for course repairs. It will add 20 yards to the hole for ladies but will not change the par or the rating of the course.

Iain and his team will endeavour to give the 20 yards back across the rest of the course but, as above, guidelines do allow for an increase or decrease to a hole for required maintenance/repair works.

As soon as the grass has rooted the tee will be relocated back to its usual position.

Thank you for your understanding.

BUGGY MEDICAL CERTIFICATES



We are auditing the doctor note process for buggy use. Please ensure you provide the Club Shop with an up-to-date doctor's note if you wish to be included in the medical priority list in 2022.

LADIES' GROUP LESSONS



We are delighted to confirm that the Ladies' Group Lessons with John Noble are continuing this year. The sign-up sheet is in the Ladies' Locker Room to give the ladies the opportunity to sign-up for the sessions until the end of February.

Each session will cover different aspects of the game and will be restricted to a maximum of six ladies at each session. Please sign-up early to avoid disappointment.

LOOKING AFTER YOUR GREENS



The wet weather has softened the greens which makes this simple procedure so vital. If you repair a pitch mark badly it can actually do more harm than if you left it alone, so it is essential that you know how to do it correctly.

It is not just for the sake of the greens either, there is nothing more infuriating for a golfer than to see a perfect putt knocked off line, especially through no fault of their own.

But it is alarming just how many golfers seemingly neglect to repair a pitch mark, do not know how to repair a pitch mark in the correct way, or perhaps think they are not allowed to because of the Rules of Golf.

As you can see below, the end product of a badly repaired pitch mark is an ugly brown scar left on the green that not only looks awful, but that also affects the roll of yours and other people's putts.

A badly repaired pitch mark:



Successfully repaired pitch marks can heal within twice the time it takes for a half-hearted attempt, and look more like the images below.



How do I repair a pitch mark correctly?

To achieve the ideal look, you need to push the earth inwards as demonstrated above, rather lifting it upwards, which is what causes the unsightly scarring. Once you have circled your pitch mark gently pushing the earth inwards towards the centre of the crater, you can then tap down any excess material to leave the smoothest possible surface.

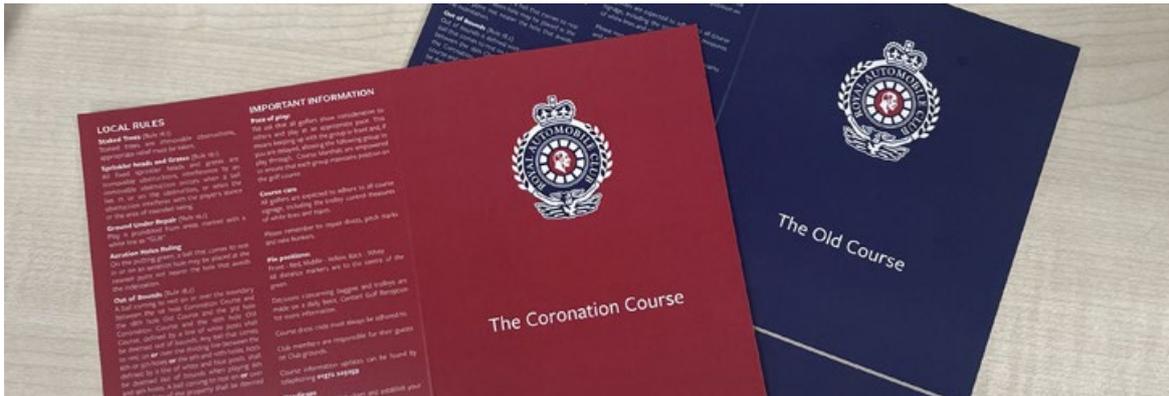
PLEASE REPAIR YOUR PITCH MARKS!

COURSE CONDITION



With the weather closing in and winter around the corner, please be aware that we have a daily updated 'course condition' telephone line. This is updated first thing in the morning, so if the weather has been poor overnight and you are travelling a distance to the Club, please call **01372 229 259** for an update as to the course condition.

SUPPLEMENTARY SCORES OVER THE COMING MONTHS



We wrote to you all explaining what will be happening in terms of course set up and complying with England Golf's rules for supplementary score submission. The full article on that topic can be found by [clicking here](#) but in short the information was the following:

Monday to Friday: all supplementary scores must use the yellow or red tees with white tees just being for general play.

Saturday and Sunday: all supplementary scores must be submitted having used the white or red tees with yellow tees being for general play.

The reason for the above is so we can rest teeing areas as needed during the winter months when the grass is not growing.

Moving on from this update, as many of you will have seen, we received a communication from England Golf yesterday noting what will now happen should you register for a supplementary score but fail to either submit the card to Golf Reception or to submit your score (and have it ratified) via the EG App.

The communication from England Golf can be viewed by [clicking here](#) but below is a brief summary of what this means for you.

The term 'penalty score' that will be added to your playing record should you fail to submit your score is defined in the England Golf rules as 'a score that could either increase or decrease your Handicap Index'. The reason it is to increase, or decrease, is that some players could be deemed wanting to protect their handicap from reducing due to a match in the coming days for example or increasing due to qualification criteria for an event as another example.

What England Golf are now saying, and this is the change, is that their system will automatically assign either a very high or very low 'penalty' score to your record should you not submit your scores in a timely manner following your supplementary round. This penalty score will remain on your record unless you can justify to the Committee as to the reasons why and only at that stage, if they are satisfied, will it be reversed.

In old handicap terms, this is like having an NR assigned to your record due to an incomplete round. Now, although this is a rule change, you may of course have a justified reason for the non-submission. It may be that the card placed in the box gets lost or you have IT issues that you cannot overcome. Similarly, it is possible that your ratifying England Golf member does not actually have the App so is unable to authenticate your score.

If any of these are the case for you, please come into the Golf Office with said scorecard as we are able to update this for you and enter and amend scores manually if presented with the information.

We are all continuing to learn as the WHS evolves, but hopefully the above is of use to try and simplify the process for you all. The important things to note are that you always register your round, either at Golf Reception or via the App, use the correct tees for the correlating days of the week and submit all cards once you have registered.

Follow these three steps and you will have no problems at all.



Following a lesson I gave this morning and the incredibly wet weather we have had to endure over the winter so far, I have decided this week's tip should reflect the challenge of being in a bunker with wet heavy sand.

Generally club golfers get into a bit of a panic in bunkers at the best of times. However, when the sand is wet and solid looking the players negativity can increase quickly. The reality is that from wet sand you will find it easier to be successful if you understand how the club performs through impact.

When sand has been compacted by rain or irrigation you would be right to expect the ball to spin more when leaving the club face. This will cause it to stop very quickly on impact with the green.

Technique is very important as is the choice of club. If you have a sand wedge with a bounce of more than 12 degrees, the firm surface could cause the club head to skip off the sand. Therefore try your gap wedge or even pitching wedge instead as this will allow the front edge of the club to enter the sand rather than deflect from it.

Set up is a copy of a fairway pitch so that your body is nice and square to the target with a wide stance and secure footing. You should attempt to take less sand than you normally would with a shallower angle of attack as too steep in the downswing and the extra weight of the wet sand will resist the club head.

Keep the ball positioned forward of centre of your stance and stand slightly further away from the ball which will help to create a shallower angle of attack. Look at the sand about an inch behind the ball. Try and keep momentum through impact, trying to send that inch of sand out of the bunker. Remember to plan for the ball to fly a little further and stop faster than a normal shot.

There is no substitute for practice. Take the time to make the bunker shot familiar

and your confidence will increase as will your success rate.



Happy golfing.

HEALTHY DISHES



Fountain Brasserie Throughout January

For healthy alternatives following the Christmas indulgence, we have new dishes rich in omega 3, high in protein and low in carbohydrates to help with your new year resolutions.

To book, please contact the Central Reservations Team on **020 7747 3474**.



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