

Golf's Return to Play Protocols

As I'm sure you are all aware the UK Government has set out a roadmap to reopen following the latest lockdown. They and England Golf have put forward a timescale which all Clubs must adhere to, please take the time to read and understand this document which outlines the processes specific to Royal Birkdale.

Please note that everything set out below is driven by rules defined by the Government and the guidelines delivered by England Golf, and therefore are subject to change.

Stage 1 – 29th March 2021 - 12th April

- Golf to resume, up to fourball play with pre-booked tee times
- Please book online if you are 8 players or less
- All practice facilities to open
- Locker Rooms are not permitted to open, please change shoes in the car park
- Professional Shop not permitted to open, however they will operate from the champions walkway (masks must be worn)
- Halfway Hut will open from 9 am – 5pm – Takeaway drinks and food
- Clubhouse remains closed; however, toilets will open (masks must be worn)
- No rakes, ball washers, water fountains or shoe cleaners to be used
- Please don't shake hands before or after golf



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Stage 2 – 12th April (in addition to stage 1)

- Professional Shop to re-open (masks must be worn)
- Outdoor patio to reopen. Members are able to take refreshments (rule of 6 applies), a limited food menu will be in operation
- Locker rooms and changing facilities to reopen
- Indoor coaching permitted on a 1-1 basis

Stage 3 – 18th May (in addition to stages 1 & 2)

- Clubhouse to reopen (rule of 6 applies)
- Indoor coaching facilities permissible with no restrictions



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Stage 4– 21st June (in addition to stages 1, 2 and 3)

- All facilities fully open
- Review the use of rakes, water fountains, shoe cleaners & ball washers
- Review on removal of the flagstick
- Review handling of scorecards
- No limits of social distancing



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