****

**Covid-19 General Conditions (May 2021)**

1. **Wales Golf Championships & Rights**
   1. Wales Golf reserve the right to amend or cancel any Championships under its auspices in light of Covid-19 restrictions. This includes, and is not limited to, format of play, length of Championship and maximum entry numbers up to 14 days prior to the commencement of the Championship
   2. In all instances of changes to the terms of competition, players will have the option to withdraw and receive a full refund on their entry
   3. Wales Golf reserve the right to amend or cancel any Championship under its auspices in light of Covid-19 within 14 days of the Championship where Welsh Government guidance and/or law is altered which has a direct impact on the running of the Championship. This includes, and is not limited to, travel restrictions & local lockdown procedures.
   4. Wales Golf reserve the right to amend or cancel any Championship under its auspices in light of Covid-19 within 14 days of the Championship where some and/or all Wales Golf Officials at the Championship are taken ill and required to self-isolate in keeping with the guidance at the relevant time.
   5. In all instances of changes to the Championship as a result, players will have the option to withdraw and receive a full refund on their entry
2. **Entries**
   1. Players who entered a Championship which has subsequently been postponed will be able to re-enter the Championship.
   2. If insufficient entries are achieved for a specific Championship, Wales Golf hold the right to cancel the Championship up to 14 days prior to the start of the event
3. **Withdrawals**
   1. Players have the right to opt-out of the Championship **48 hours or more** ahead of the commencement of the Championship, and receive a full refund.
   2. In line with Welsh & UK government protocols, players **must** withdraw should protocols and restrictions require them to do so. This can be done up to 24 hours prior to the commencement of the Championship. Any player who is found to have violated these measures will be withdrawn immediately.
   3. Players who withdraw after this time but prior to their official tee time and are required to withdraw in accordance with (4) below will receive a full refund.
   4. Withdrawals after this time will not be eligible for a refund unless for exceptional circumstances
4. **Player Health, and Trace & Trace**
   1. Players who show any of the following symptoms **must** refrain from attending the Championship
      1. High Temperature (38.0C or above)
      2. A new, consistent cough
      3. A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste
   2. Players will be required to complete a self-diagnosis of themselves during online registration and confirm they are not exhibiting any of these symptoms to compete.
   3. Working alongside the host venue and the official NHS app, names and contact numbers of all players will be used as part of the Test Trace Protect policy in Wales. Any player who wishes to not have their details used for these purposes will be withdrawn from the Championship and refused entry to the host venue.
5. **Social Distancing**
   1. All players must adhere to the Welsh Government Guidelines regarding Social Distancing at all times.
   2. Players are to maintain social distancing practices at all times, this includes:
      1. Not shaking hands with playing partners before, during and after play
      2. No other contact with fellow competitors at any time and for any reason
      3. Not congregating at the venue before and after your round
      4. Adhering at all times to signage at the host venue relating to Social Distancing
      5. Any other social distancing rules bought in by the host club and/or Wales Golf
   3. The Wales Golf code of conduct has been amended to include Social Distancing measures. Players who are seen to break the rules on Social Distancing will be penalised under this code
6. **Competitors Under 18 Years of Age**
   1. All competitors under the age of 18 on the 1st day of the Championship must be accompanied by a completed parental consent form. These will be emailed out at the close of entries to appropriate players. Parents may accompany their children on the golf course.
   2. Parents will be required to adhere to all relevant social distancing rules in the same manner as players
7. **Championship Scoring & Information**
   1. Championships will be played until further notice utilizing technology to reduce cross-contamination factors. Therefore the following information and procedures will be available via smart mobile devices
      1. Electronic scoring
   2. Official scoring, and the printing of official Championship paperwork, will take place in a COVID-19 safe environment
8. **Counting Scores for Handicap Purposes**
   1. Wales Golf Championships will be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf & Rules of Handicapping, and scores will be counting for handicap purposes unless deemed unfair by the Competition Committee
9. **Caddies & Spectators**
   1. Caddies will be permitted at Wales Golf Championships
   2. No spectators, other than for the provisions of (6), will be permitted at Wales Golf Championships
10. **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** 
    1. Wales Golf staff will wear face masks when inside the Championship Office. Players will be required to wear face coverings when inside the Championship Office, and can do if they wish at any other time at the host venue.
    2. Hand Sanitiser stations will be available, and players will be expected to sanitise their hands whenever they are required to enter or leave the Championship Office
    3. It is recommend that all players bring their own hand sanitizer with them for use on the golf course where appropriate
11. **On Course Protocols**
    1. Players will not be permitted at Championships to use or touch the following items
       1. Rakes
       2. Ball Washers
       3. Benches
    2. **Flagsticks –** flagstick can be removed from the hole if a player wishes to do so. The flagstick **must** be placed on the flagstick holder adjacent to each green and that player **must** sanitise their hands using the sanitiser available on the flagstick holder when removing and replacing the flagstick
    3. On some occasions volunteers may be on hand to act as flag attendees or bunker-rakers. Players will be notified if this is the case.
    4. In the event of no official starter, players will be expected to arrive at their starting tee no more than 5 minutes prior to their tee time. All players will be notified if there is no official starter at the Championship
    5. A number of Covid-19 related local rules may in place for the Championship. These will be detailed in the local rules sent to each player as described in (7)
12. **Practice Facilities**
    1. Players will be entitles to practice prior to the commencement of their round, however players **must** adhere to any restrictions on maximum numbers and/or maximum time to use these facilities. Individual details for each Championship will be published in advance.
    2. Players are not to arrive at the venue more than **60 minutes** prior to their tee time.
13. **Club Facilities**
    1. Some host venues may have limited or restricted facilities available to players. This information will be published to players in advance however it is recommended that players are as self-sufficient as possible at this time.
    2. Clubhouse toilet facilities will be available in the clubhouse
    3. Players **must** adhere to any and all restrictions in place at the host venue at all times.
14. **Inclement Weather**
    1. In the event of bad weather causing a delay or suspension of play, evacuation procedures have been adapted. Where-ever possible players must wait in their own vehicles to avoid over capacity in the clubhouse. All on course shelters will be closed. Updates will then be issued to all players periodically via email and Wales Golf Social Media channels.
    2. In the event of a resumption of play, players will be given time to leave their vehicles and reach the relevant point on the course.
    3. Where mobile data may be unavailable, Wales Golf Staff will make verbal announcements from the car park over loud speaker when conditions are safe to do so
15. **Presentations & Prizes**
    1. There will be no official prize presentations at Championships.
    2. Where possible, the winner of the Championship will have the opportunity to be photographed with the trophy but all other trophies will not be awarded.
    3. Where mementos have been won, these will be sent out via Royal Mail at the conclusion of the Championship. Players who have won a prize will be emailed asking for a postal address.
16. **Welsh Government Law & Guidelines**
    1. Restrictions regarding Covid-19 vary from country to country. Whenever attending a Wales Golf Championship, all personnel are required to conduct themselves in accordance with Welsh Law & Guidelines set in place. These can be viewed at <https://gov.wales/coronavirus>. Anyone who is acting in a manner contrary to these guidelines may be declined access to the host venue and Championship.