

## **UPDATED: Foursomes & Greensomes Competitions during Covid-19**

With three and four ball golf returning on the 24<sup>th</sup> April 2021, Wales Golf have clarified the guidance on competition formats involving the sharing of a golf ball. The latest scientific advice and academic study shows the risk of transfer of the virus from golf ball to another person to be very low.

Therefore guidance on running Foursomes and Greensomes formats has been updated:

“Wales Golf understands that Foursomes and Greensomes are popular formats for Golf, and in recognition of updated scientific information club committees are no longer advised against the running of events in these formats provided risk mitigation steps are taken.”

This risk mitigation steps suggest the following protocols are in place:

- Players should carry sanitiser with them and apply to their hands each time they touch a ball which has been previously touched by their playing partner
- To minimise this requirement, each player should use his or her own ball when teeing off, and that player should be the only one to handle the ball during play of that hole (e.g. marking on the green, retrieving the ball from the hole)
- Try to avoid any local rules put in place which encourages the handling of the ball (e.g. preferred lies)

All players in the competition should be made aware of these protocols to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all.

Government Guidelines, including social distancing guidelines and industry guidelines must be adhered to before, during and after the round. When deciding to use these methods of play, the process should be added to your COVID risk assessment.