

SUSPENSION OF PLAY & PLAY FORESHORTENED POLICY

In the event of inclement weather, play of any Wales Golf Championship may be suspended for a period of time. In these scenarios, players will be made aware of the suspension through the sounding of Klaxons or the closing of the golf course prior to play. Wales Golf Officials will be on hand in these circumstances to explain situational circumstances and to assist with the safest and most efficient evacuation procedures, where relevant.

Sounding of the Klaxon

During a Wales Golf Championship, play may be signalled as suspended through the sounding of Klaxons in two ways.

- One long, prolonged blast – this is used to indicate play is suspended for a dangerous situation, and all play **MUST** be ceased immediately. Players will be required to evacuate the golf course and/or find shelter as soon as is practically possible. Any player which makes a stroke after play has been suspended for a dangerous situation will be disqualified for breach of Rule 5.7b. During a suspension of play for a dangerous situation, the course and practice facilities are closed for the duration of the suspension.
- Three shorter blasts – this is used to indicate a suspension of play for a non-dangerous situation. Players may discontinue play immediately or complete the hole in progress before suspending. Players will be advised as to the appropriate evacuation process in these circumstances by Wales Golf Officials.

Dangerous Situations

Wales Golf officials will continually monitor potentially dangerous situations during the Championship, however in unforeseen circumstances players may become aware of a dangerous situation which Wales Golf officials are unaware of. Under the provisions of Rule 5.7, players themselves may discontinue play if they believe there is danger from lightning but **MUST** report to Wales Golf officials as soon as is practical their reasons for discontinuing. Please note players are reminded they should not use their mobile phones if there is a threat of lightning.

Resumption of Play

When the Championship committee deems that play can be resumed, players will be informed of the starting time. Players will be given enough time to reach their positions prior to the resumption of play. To signify the resumption, there will be two bursts sounded on the claxon.

If a suspension is longer than 45 minutes, and there is sufficient time to complete the stipulated round prior to sunset, players will be given time to practice prior to the resumption of play. This is at the sole discretion of the Championship Committee.

Prevention of Suspensions

Where applicable, the Championship Committee may take steps in an attempt to reduce the risk of a need for suspensions at any Wales Golf Championship. This could be through alterations in tee times, group sizes and course set-up for any given round.

In such circumstances, any changes to tee times and significant alterations to the set-up of the golf course will be communicated to all players as soon as it is practical to do so.

Rounds Cancelled or Holes Reduced

All efforts will be made by the Championship Committee to ensure that all stipulated rounds will be completed for each Championship. However, in any instance where it becomes impossible to complete the Championship as laid out in the conditions of play, rounds and/or holes (see comment below) may be cancelled and the Championship will be decided over a reduced number of rounds following the guidelines below:

Single Round Championships – The Championship Committee will explore any and all options which are available, notifying players as soon as it is practical any rearrangement of the Championship which may take place.

Multi Round Championships – Where applicable, the Championship will be decided over a reduced number of rounds following the provisions set out in Decision 33-1/2

Play Foreshortened

In the event of suspensions and/or cancelled rounds, the Championship may be reduced in the number of holes and/or rounds to ensure a result as described above. Any such decision will be made in such a way as to be as equitable as possible to all competitors. If such a decision is taken by the Championship Committee, then all players will be notified of the decision at the earliest possible opportunity.

Decisions to amend such conditions for any Wales Golf Championship will be at the sole discretion of the Championship Committee.

Championship Abandoned

In extreme circumstances, it may be necessary to abandon a Championship when it becomes impossible to enable all competitors to complete a sufficient number of holes.

In such circumstances, the Championship Committee will explore all options in accordance with the Rules of Golf, the host club and officials prior to the official abandoning of the Championship.

In any such circumstance when the Championship is abandoned, players will be notified as soon as it is practical of the decision and also informed of any relevant information regarding the potential rescheduling of the Championship.

Decisions to abandon any Wales Golf Championship will be at the sole discretion of the Championship Committee.

The Championship Committee

The Championship Committee shall consist of the Championship Manager and Head Referee and, if present at the event, the Chairman of the Wales Golf Championships & Rules Committee unless otherwise stated at the event.

