



Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

Adverse Weather Policy

ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS - Lightning, Fog, Ice and Snow

A decision to carry on playing during adverse weather conditions is left to the discretion of the player, who **MUST** accept full responsibility for their safety. In the event of lightning on the course, golfers out on the course are advised to cease playing.

If Westgate and Birchington Golf Club considers there is a risk due to adverse weather conditions, it will endeavour to make the following audible warning:

THREE LONG CONTINUOUS BLASTS OF THE KLAXON

On hearing this warning it is mandatory that you leave the course. You must cease play immediately, mark your ball and take whatever action you consider most appropriate to ensure your safety

The klaxon will be sounded by the Club Manager, Head Green Keeper, Club Professional/Staff or a Director of the Club.

If the Klaxon is not sounded and a player believes there is a real danger by proceeding, he/she is entitled to discontinue play under Rule 6-8 (A) (ii).

Where there is not sufficient time to evacuate the course and there is a threat of lightning, you are advised to comply with following procedure:

- ▶ Keep as low down as possible, and ideally crouch down in the nearest bunker/hollow
- ▶ Leave your golf equipment and stand away from it
- ▶ Do not use a mobile phone – make sure it is switched off
- ▶ Do not put an umbrella up in any circumstance or brandish clubs as they may act as a lightning conductor
- ▶ Do not shelter under trees or go to high ground

FOG / MIST POLICY

The Club Manager or Club Professional/Staff will assess the course condition and close the course if necessary.

THE CLUB'S RULE IS THAT PLAY CANNOT COMMENCE UNTIL THE FIRST GREEN IS VISIBLE FROM THE FIRST TEE.

Whilst on the course players must use their own judgement and accept full responsibility for their safety and the safety of others, as a general rule no play should continue on the course if a distance of **200 YARDS** cannot be seen.

If three long continuous blasts of the klaxon are heard it is mandatory that you leave the course.

RE-OPENING the COURSE

When conditions improve and safe play can be re-started the Club Manager, Head Green Keeper, Club Professional/Staff or a Director of the Club will re-open the course. Play should not resume for at least 30 minutes, after the final clap of thunder.

THREE SHORT BLASTS OF THE KLAXON WILL BE SOUNDED TO ADVISE THE COURSE IS RE-OPENED.