



# Westgate and Birchington Golf Club

## Adverse Weather Policy

### LIGHTNING

Lightning- During outbreaks of lightning play must cease immediately and players must follow the advice given and leave the course and only return to play when it is safe to do so, and the storm has passed. Play should not resume for at least 30 minutes, after the final clap of thunder.

Whenever possible you will be warned by **THREE LONG CONTINUOUS BLASTS OF THE KLAXON** or when the gap between the crack of thunder and the flash of lightning is 4 seconds or less, irrespective of whether the klaxon is sounded, it is mandatory that you leave the course in safe manner. You must cease play immediately; mark your ball and take whatever action you consider most appropriate to ensure your safety.

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:

- ▶ Leave your golf equipment and stand away from it
- ▶ 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

Fog/Mist- It is mandatory that all players cease playing when heavy fog or mist envelops the course. This applies to all parts of the course when visibility is less than 200yards. Whenever possible you will be warned by **THREE LONG CONTINUOUS BLASTS OF THE KLAXON**.

Players who continue to play and ignore the warning may be subject to sanction by the club and will be deemed to be endangering their fellow players and indeed themselves. Players must also recognise by continuing to play that if an accident occurred which is reported, personal golf insurance may well be invalidated, and the club could be sanctioned by the HSE (Health and Safety Executive). Play cannot recommence until advised by a club official or visibility is in excess of 300 yards.

### ICE and SNOW

The Club will close the course if snow and ice conditions are deemed to be too severe, however, when the Club have not shut the course, but conditions deteriorate you are reminded that if you continue to play you do so at your own risk and the club accepts no liability if you harm yourself in such conditions

The course will not reopen until a club official deems it safe for play.