



# Course Closure Policy

## 1. Purpose

To ensure the health and safety of players and the long-term viability of the golf course.

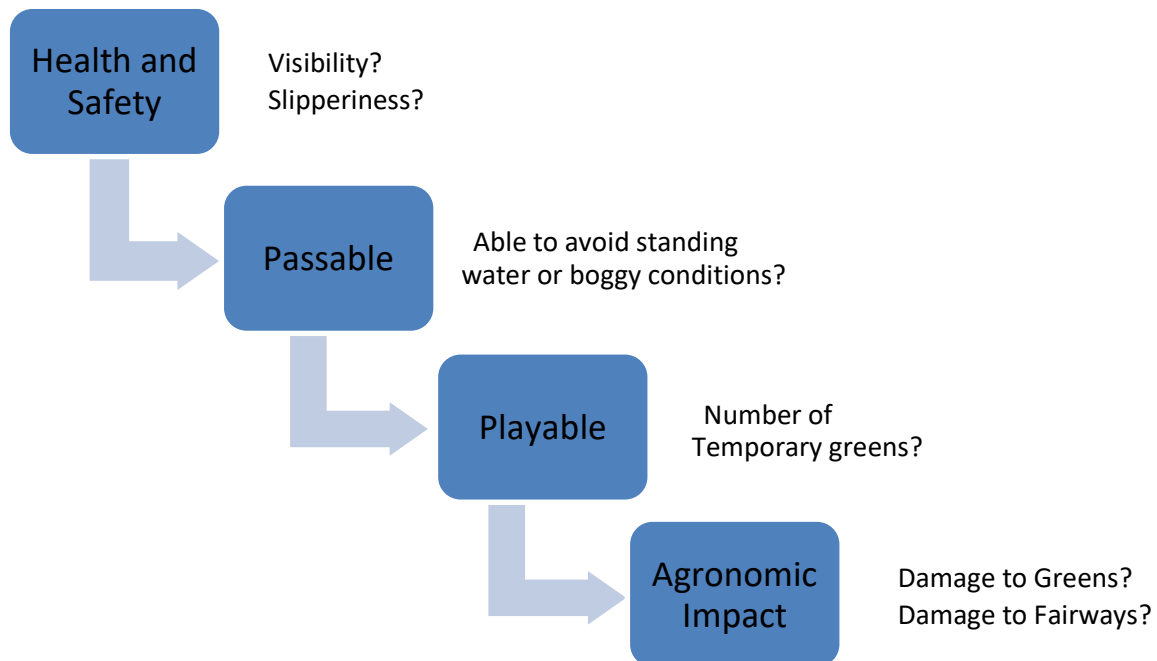
## 2. Scope

This policy applies to all persons who participate in determining whether the golf course should be closed.

## 3. Policy Statement

Closure of the Course, or portions of it, may be necessary at certain times due to the condition of the Course; the prevailing weather conditions; or other special circumstances. In general, the action to close the Course, or portions of it, is taken either to ensure the safety of golfers and other persons on the Course or to prevent damage to the Course.

We apply a series of considerations to determine whether the golf course should be closed. In a hierarchical manner, these decisions include:



Policy Number:	PL2019-006	Policy Name:	Course Closure Policy
Last Modified By:	G. Oliver - Course Chairman	Last Modified On:	29 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
Policy Owner:	Club Council	Effective Date:	29 <sup>th</sup> April 2024



## Course Closure Policy

The following elaborates upon the considerations undertaken before a decision to close is reached.

- Health and Safety

The Club has and will exercise its duty of care to Members, Visitors, Guests, Employees and the public using the right of way across the course.

1. If the conditions of fog, ice, snow, or other conditions represent a significant risk, then the course or the portion of it affected by the hazard(s) identified shall be closed.
2. If portions of the course can be safely kept open to allow the use of buggies by persons who are disabled within the meaning of the Equality Legislation, then those portions of the course shall remain open and closed portions shall be clearly marked.

- Flooding or water Logging of the Course

Flooding or water logging of areas of the Course, in particular the greens, during or following heavy periods of precipitation may make the Course unplayable and to allow golfers onto the Course in such conditions may cause damage to the turf and playing surfaces.

- Lying Snow or Heavy Frost

Play is permissible only if conditions are not excessively slippery and if fairway mats and temporary greens are in use.

**NOTE:** Turf on the Course, especially on the greens, is particularly susceptible to damage when frozen subsoil is thawing, therefore play on permanent greens is not allowed at these times.

- Electrical Storms

Lightning strikes can present a major danger to golfers. When thunderstorms are present or imminent a claxon is sounded to make golfers aware of the danger. Golfers must promptly suspend play and either take shelter or leave the Course.

**NOTE:** Thunderstorms can be heard from some distance and, on occasion, can be in the vicinity but not affect the Course. The person responsible for Course Closure must carefully observe the prevailing weather conditions (wind speed and direction, etc.) before taking action.

- Fog and Mist

Golfers MUST take due care when deciding whether to play the course as it may not always be closed when fog rolls in. Additionally, fog can be of variable density at different times and parts of the course and it is therefore difficult to legislate for all circumstances, but in general no play should begin if players cannot clearly see the

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150-yard markers from the tee box. If the 150-yard markers are not clearly visible, players should NOT tee off and should wait for the fog to lift or clear. If play has begun and a claxon has not been sounded, players must use their own judgement on whether to continue to play based on the distances outlined above.

**NOTE:** Anyone deciding to play the course when fog is present does so at their own risk and will NOT be covered by our insurers should an accident occur.

- **Special Circumstances**  
Certain special circumstances may necessitate the total or partial (i.e. specific holes) closure of the Course, for example maintenance and major project works, accidents, emergencies or police activity.

#### 4. **Related Policies**

[PL2020-001 Buggy Use Policy](#)

#### 5. **Implementing Procedure**

[PR-2019-031 Closing the Golf Course](#)

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