

Kingsknowe Golf Club

COURSE UPDATE November 2017

We moved onto Winter Rules on Monday 30th October and that means the use of winter mats on the golf course. If you have a mat, please look it out, otherwise you can buy a new one from the Pro Shop – you don't want to be caught playing from a fairway without a mat! You should also make sure you are familiar with the winter rules (especially if playing in the winter league!).

The course is looking amazing for this time of year and has stood up well to the Autumn weather. This has resulted in many positive comments from members regarding the general good condition of the course. Leaves on the course will remain a problem for a few more weeks but we will do our best to clear the worst of them where we can.

Work continues on the construction of the path from the 2nd around to the 5th Tee; the 6th Tee re-modelling & levelling; and the revised front of the 11th tee. Weather permitting we hope to have all 3 projects fully completed by the end of the November. For the 6th & 11 tees this will allow time for the turf to bed in before next spring. In the meantime, please take extra care in these areas and be aware of the green staff working.

The winter greens on each hole are now deemed as a 'wrong greens' as per the R&A Rules of Golf. This means that relief will be taken as rule 25-3 allowing members to take relief within one club length not nearer the hole, but the player's stance can be on the winter green. If you decide on this option (as opposed to taking the ball into the rough) make sure you use your mat.

As per last winter, trollies and buggies are not permitted beyond the roped off areas around the course and we would ask members to respect the Winter "routes" we have in place. We are putting these routes and diversions in place to spread wear and tear around the worst affected areas over the winter and to provide us with the best conditions possible in the spring.

Access to the 1st Tee coming down the course side is now closed and both gates onto the course are locked. Please use the paths down either side of the Pro Shop and then go to the 1st and 10th tees via the path. This is due to general wear and tear behind the 18th Green, between the 9th and the practice net, and down to the Pro Shop. We are replacing the turf and mats at the gates and we need to minimise traffic at these areas and allow time for grass to recover and new turf to knit.

Both winter tees at the 1st will be in use this winter and you may expect to walk behind and around the winter tees to the 1st fairway. Again this is designed to minimise damage in front of the path and to spread the wear in this cramped area. We will also adopt this practice at the rear and left hand side of the 2nd winter tee.

The route from the 2nd Green to the 3rd Tee will be towards the left of the roped off area towards the trees and then onto the path. Do not go under or around the rope with your trolley as access to the 3rd Tee at the rear of the green is blocked off.

The Club recognises that some members require the use of ride-on buggies in order to play golf and will accommodate them on the course without special dispensation as long as users observe the Club rules. However, when the course, or areas of the course, are deemed unsafe for use by club buggies, due to disruption, works, weather etc, then closures will apply to all ride-on buggies. This

decision is made under the direction of Health & Safety legislation and extensive advice from our insurers.

Now that damp conditions are more prevalent, can we all ensure we have a pitch mark repair tool with us when we are out playing and more importantly we remember to use it. Your cooperation in looking after your course is appreciated. If we all repair our own plus one there will never be a pitch mark again!!

We would also ask all members who can carry a small golf bag to give it a try over the winter months? If members cannot carry would they consider purchasing winter wheels from the pro shop? Just a couple of simple things to help protect your course and make it easier to prepare in the Spring.

Lastly, if you are on Twitter, please check the KGC Twitter account for daily snippets of what's happening on the course.