

## Weather Policy

### Lightning

In the event of lightning, you are advised to cease playing immediately and go to the nearest shelter until the lightning has moved away. Play is not to commence until a period of 15 minutes has elapsed since the last lightning strike.

In the case of tournaments or competitions the responsibility lies with the tournament/competition organiser.

In the case of an Open Competition, that responsibility lies with a member of Brampton Park Golf Club staff, more specifically the Pro Shop team, Manager or Greenkeepers depending on time of day and which members of staff are present. If a member's competition is in play, then the responsibility lies with the Competitions Committee, or someone deemed to have a similar responsibility. If play is part of an Open Competition (or any event run by BPGC) the event will be rescheduled.

A 30 second blast of the Klaxon followed by a 10 second rest and another 30 second blast signals that play must cease and all golfers should return to the clubhouse if safe or seek shelter. Two short sharp blasts of the klaxon repeated 3 times will signal that play can resume. These short blasts should not come before a period of 15 minutes since the last lightning strike.

### Fog

Player Responsibility: The decision regarding play when visibility is poor, first and foremost, lies with the individual golfer, as they are putting others at risk. Golfers must recognise that conditions can change from minute to minute. In the event of severe FOG, all play will be suspended until the fairway bunker on the 1<sup>st</sup> hole is visible from the yellow teeing area. If bunker is visible but there is fog on the course, play may still be suspended at the discretion of the greenkeepers & professional shop team. Golfers on the first tee will be advised of the conditions when signing in. At no point will tee times be pushed back. Golfers deciding to start play but not completing the full 18 holes, will not be issued a refund. In an organised event the decision to stop or suspend play lies with the event organiser. If play has commenced as part of an Open Competition, then refunds will be issued in the form of vouchers, and the event will be rescheduled.

### Heavy Rain, High Winds & Flooding

Weather conditions can change during the day and heavy rain with high winds can mean that dangerous conditions can result, regarding trees becoming vulnerable, for instance, by losing branches etc. When heavy rain has caused flooded greens where they become unplayable the course will be temporarily closed and play suspended. When heavy rain results in flooding the issues that need to be considered include dangerous conditions for golfers such as slippery ground, but also the potential of serious damage to the golf course by continuing to play.



The Senior Greenkeeper on duty will review the condition of the courses and monitor the weather outlook and will then communicate with the Pro Shop to assess whether restrictions are necessary, the outlook for the day, and when reviews might be necessary to update the situation during the day.

The Pro Shop will provide golfers with sufficient weather information for each golfer to make an informed decision as to the safety of all course users (other golfers, greens' staff) in the event of heavy rain and/or high winds, including recommending that play be suspended, or that the start of a round is deferred.

A decision to close the course would be posted on club v1 as soon as possible and the course status would be updated on club phone option.

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#### **Frost**

Playing golf in frosty conditions can cause irreparable damage to the playing surfaces. When thaw is evident, play will be delayed or postponed, thereby reducing the possibility of damage to the grass.

Each user of the facilities at BPGC is expected to exercise their personal judgement to stay safe and avoid slips, trips and falls during periods of ice, snow, frost, or hail. There are areas where slopes and/or steps may be very slippery so extra caution should be exercised. At times of very cold weather, when there is a risk of ice on artificial surfaces, BPGC will:

- take reasonable care to maintain the car park and the paths around the club house free from ice
- display slips/trips yellow notices at prominent places to advise users of the risk of slipping/falling due to icy surfaces
- consider suspension of the use of buggies

Where Ice, Snow or Frost is evident, the Senior Greenkeeper will decide whether to impose the use of any temporary greens.

\*Brampton Park Golf Club has a clear objective to keep the greens open, when possible, during the winter, but it is important to be aware that significant investment has been made over the last few years to maintain the high quality of the greens. Therefore, during periods of frost, especially when combined with rain and



subsequent thawing, temporary/winter greens may be brought into play, or in extreme conditions the courses may be closed – to protect the grass root systems from unnecessary, excessive damage.\*

#### **Sun, Heat & Humidity**

When it is hot, sunny and/or humid there is an increased risk of individuals becoming dehydrated, particularly if they are out on the courses during the hours of 11.00 and 15.00.

Players and members of staff with pre-existing medical conditions should consider the implications that dehydration may have on their health and whether any medicines they are taking (either prescribed or “over the counter”) could exacerbate the risk of dehydration and take every reasonable effort to minimise the risk.

Each golfer has a personal responsibility for the following when the weather is sunny, hot and/or humid:

- ensuring they have sufficient non-alcoholic and non-caffeine beverages with them on the course
- ensuring they are adequately protected against the harmful UV rays by wearing long sleeved shirts/blouses, trousers rather than shorts, a hat or other suitable head covering
- applying an appropriate sun block preparation.
- using a buggy (if available) when prolonged exposure to the sun, heat and humidity is unavoidable

BPGC will make available drinking water for golfers through the Clubhouse bar services & Pro Shop. On particularly hot days, additional water or cold drinks may be supplied.