

Dear Member

3-Balls, 18 holes and Guests

Firstly my apologies for not sending out a note sooner regarding the recent announcements from the Government and Scottish Golf but I wanted to check the timings for making any changes before I issued an update.

Following on from the recent updates, the course will now be open for 3-balls (as well as singles and pairs) and to play 9 or 18 holes. In addition, member's guests can now be from another household and, to be clear, a member may now take on two guests as part of his 3-ball and neither guest has to be from his or the same household.

Due to the way the BRS booking system works you will notice that the slots for a third player will be available from Wednesday 24 June as the additional 3rd slot has to be manually opened, and bookings for July will open up on Thursday 25 June to allow time to change the BRS process. From 1 July onwards the system will allow up to 3-balls/players to be booked and the choice of 9 or 18 holes. Please note that for June bookings it will still say 9 holes (ie you do not get the option to express a preference) but you will be able to play 18 holes if you wish. With regard to guests in June we will assume 9 holes are played so as to not overcharge members.

The 10 minute gap between tee-times will not change to allow space for those playing 18 holes. If you are playing 18 holes the process will be the same as before, ie. those teeing off on the 10th will dovetail with those teeing off on the 1st.

With more people on the course it is important that tee-times are adhered to and you do not tee-off before your tee time as this ensures sufficient spacing on the course. Hopefully common sense will prevail with allowing the players on the 10th to dovetail as it is up to all of us as members to manage the process as there is no-one in the clubhouse to police tee off times.

Just a reminder that exiting the course should still be down the side of the 10th fairway, and not the path, being aware of anyone driving off from the 10th tee.

It also important that players show consideration to others on the course and allow faster groups to play through. This does not mean that the group letting a faster group through has to completely stop playing the hole. For example, you could stand aside and waive a group through allowing them to play their tee shots and then you play your second shots to the green. You could then mark your ball on the green and stand aside whilst the approaching group play their second shots. Once they have played their second shots you could then putt out and then let them through as they putt out and tee off on the next tee. This is just example but the point I am trying to make is that the group letting another group through should not lose much time in doing so.

As always please do not hesitate to provide feedback, as I said at the AGM and reiterate, this is your club and the decisions that are made are done so to maximise the enjoyment we all get from playing golf at Gifford.

All the best and stay safe

Mark Pearson
Captain