**Gatehouse Golf Club – Playing conditions 8/7/2021 – These conditions must be followed at Gatehouse GC, regardless of the playing conditions at other courses.**

Gatehouse GC will always comply with the instructions of the Scottish Government and the guidance from the SGL.

Play is allowed by both members and visitors but with strict adherence to the following playing conditions. Failure to comply with any of the below may mean that you are asked to leave the course.

Social distancing is to be maintained at all times before, during and after play. Where possible, change in the car park and leave the course as soon as possible after completing your round. Players are advised to carry their own hand sanitiser, not to share it, and use it often during their round.

**Travel –**

It is not possible for Gatehouse GC to enforce any Government travel restrictions in place, and all users of the course are expected to comply with the current rules as per the latest guidance from SGL.

**Gatehouse Golf Club accepts no responsibility for any Police, or local authority, actions incurred by failure to comply.**

**Player numbers –**

From 12th March 2021, play is permitted in up to 4balls regardless of the number of households represented.

Players are reminded that **slow play is to be avoided at all times**. The proper pace of play is just behind the group in front and not just ahead of the group behind. If you are holding players up, then please invite them to play through. It is not for the group behind to ask.

Players are asked to park considerately in the car park to allow the maximum number of vehicles to be parked safely and remember that the tennis court users are also entitled to use the car park.

**Tee-time booking –**

SGL conditions of play are such that all golf clubs must maintain an accurate record for 6 weeks of all golfers using the facility. This may be used to assist in contact tracing.

It is therefore a compulsory condition of play @ Gatehouse GC that a tee-time is booked via the link on the club website [www.gatehousegolfclub.com](http://www.gatehousegolfclub.com) or Facebook prior to general play outside the hours listed below. The link can be found on the Home page, the Visitors’ tab and on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Gatehouse%20-of-Fleet-Golf-Club-39109754106274/> . Enter the names of **all** in the group when making the booking so that we can maintain a record of who is on the course, when and with whom. Where possible, do not enter the grounds until the previous tee-time has passed, unless called on by a starter or club official.

**Competition entries –**

The default format for club Gents’ singles competitionswill be 3balls, as entry numbers permit.

Competition entries will be managed outside the booking system by the appropriate Match Secretaries for both Gents’ and Ladies’ competitions. Wherever possible, the start list will be updated on the website, and linked to Facebook, to allow for late changes as normal. The Match Secretary may rearrange groups to fit the overall requirement of the competition on the day.

If unable to make a booking on-line for any reason, contact Pete Haslam (07738865158) prior to play. Tee-times are set up at 15 minute intervals, which is ample time to get from the car park to the 1st tee, to allow social distancing to be maintained at all times on the course.

**Clubhouse access –**

The clubhouse is open for use almost as normal - sanitise hands on entry. Please keep access, and number of people in the clubhouse, to a minimum and do not leave clothes in the clubhouse unless essential. Clothes and equipment should not be left in the clubhouse overnight without the permission of the Captain or Greenkeeper.

Use your own pen to sign up for competitions on the sheets provided.

**Competition play –**

Competition tee-times will be arranged by the Match Secretaries in the timeslots set aside for competition on a Friday and Sunday morning and communicated to the players as necessary. If playing a competition round in a group of more than one, then do not swap cards. Mark your own score as the player, confirm verbally the score at each hole with your playing partner and record their score as the marker. Note on your card who your “marker” was. After the round, sign it and deposit it in the wooden box in the clubhouse.

**General play – (Gatehouse GC conditions as stated in this document are in play regardless of playing conditions at other clubs)**

All rakes have been removed from the bunkers and players are asked to smooth the surface as best they can after playing from them using feet and/or a club. Under guidance from SGL, preferred lies are in play in the bunkers. Players may play the ball as it lies or place the ball within six inches, no nearer the hole. If unable to do so, relief may be taken, under penalty, according to Rule19.3:

RELIEF OPTIONS FOR BALL UNPLAYABLE IN BUNKER

A player decides that his or her ball in a bunker is unplayable. The player has four options: (1) For one penalty stroke, the player may take stroke-and-distance relief. (2) For one penalty stroke, the player may take back-on-the-line relief in the bunker. (3) For one penalty stroke, the player may take lateral relief in the bunker. (4) For a total of two penalty strokes, the player may take back-on-the-line relief outside the bunker based on a reference line going straight back from the hole through the spot of the original ball.

Flags are always to be left in the hole. There is material in all the holes to prevent the ball falling to the bottom of the cup. In Competition play, a ball coming to rest with any part of it below the level of the green is deemed to have been holed. in bounce games or Matchplay, putts may be conceded as normal. In Strokeplay and Stableford competition play putts must be holed (or lifted if no score is possible at a hole).

If there is any doubt about a ball being in play after a shot, a player should hit a provisional ball to avoid having to return to the original striking position and increase the risk of coming into contact with other players.

Players should look for a lost ball on their own and leave *in situ* any ball found that is not theirs. The period allowed for searching is temporarily extended to 5 minutes and the player/group behind should be called through whilst looking. Players should not cross course boundaries to retrieve a ball hit off the course.

Scores recorded under these playing conditions will be acceptable for handicap.

**Visitors –**

**In order to minimise contact between users of the course, it is a condition of play that a tee-time is booked through the website prior to play, as it is for members outside of competitions.**

Gatehouse GC is unable to take electronic payments at the club or on-line directly so, please pay by bank transfer **before** play:

Bank of Scotland, Castle Douglas. Sort Code 80-06-11 Account No 00404550

Payee - Gatehouse Golf Club. Your name and booking number from the website as a reference.

If unable to carry out a transfer, then cash, or a cheque (payable to “Gatehouse Golf Club), for your fee can be put into an envelope (with the green Visitors’ tag attached) from the box by the scorecards just inside the door of the clubhouse, with your name on it and dated. Use your own pen to sign the Visitors’ sheet.

Please do not be offended if you are challenged by a club official, we are trying to keep everybody safe. Just give them the booking reference that was provided by the booking system and this can be verified with the Website Convenor. Any problems, or, if you cannot book on the website, contact the Club Captain as below.

You are reminded that dogs are not permitted anywhere on the course, even if on a lead, and that only players are permitted access to the course unless previously authorised by the Club Captain. Always give way to green-keeping staff.

If there are any questions about any of the above, please feel free to contact:

Douglas McDavid. 2021 Club Captain. 07708038285

Or Pete Haslam – Gatehouse GC Covid Officer 07738865158 - email [info@gatehousegolfclub.com](mailto:info@gatehousegolfclub.com)