



Adverse Weather Policy

Chilwell Manor Golf Club

1. Policy Statement

Chilwell Manor Golf Club is committed to providing a safe environment for all members, guests, and employees. This policy is written in accordance with the **R&A Rules of Golf (Rule 5.7 – Suspension of Play)** and **R&A Committee Procedures – Guidance on Adverse Weather and Dangerous Situations**.

Golf is played at the player's own risk. However, the Club has a duty of care to suspend or close the course when conditions are deemed unsafe.

2. General Principles

- Adverse weather conditions may present a serious hazard to players and others on the course.
 - The absence of an official course closure does not guarantee that conditions are safe for play.
 - Players have a personal responsibility under the Rules of Golf not to play when conditions are unsafe.
 - The Committee has authority under **Rule 5.7b** to suspend or close the course at any time.
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3. Definition of Adverse Weather

Adverse weather includes (but is not limited to):

- Fog or reduced visibility
 - Thunder and lightning
 - Heavy or persistent rain
 - High winds or storm conditions
 - Any combination of the above resulting in unsafe playing conditions
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4. Suspension or Closure of the Course

When conditions present an unacceptable risk, play will be suspended or the course closed.

This decision may be taken by:

- The Professional Team
- The Head Greenkeeper
- The Competition/Match Committee
- The General Manager (or designated authorised official)

Where possible, closure or suspension of play will be clearly communicated to players in accordance with Section 5. Notwithstanding this, players retain an overriding responsibility for their own safety at all times. In circumstances where a player considers conditions to be dangerous, they must discontinue play immediately under Rule 5.7a of the Rules of Golf, irrespective of whether a formal suspension signal has been issued.

5. Suspension of Play Signals

In accordance with Committee Procedures:

- **Immediate suspension (dangerous situation):** One prolonged blast on the klaxon/air horn
- **Normal suspension:** Three consecutive blasts on the klaxon/air horn
- **Resumption of play:** Two short blasts on the klaxon/air horn

Players must discontinue play immediately upon hearing a suspension signal (Rule 5.7b).

6. Thunder and Lightning (Dangerous Situation Guidance)

The Club adopts recognised R&A and Met Office guidance:

- Lightning may strike several miles from the storm centre.
- If thunder is heard, lightning is close enough to present a danger.
- Play must be suspended immediately when a dangerous situation is identified.

30/30 Guidance

- If the time between lightning and thunder is **30 seconds or less**, players should seek appropriate shelter immediately.
- Play must not resume until **at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or lightning is observed**.

Safe Shelter

- The safest shelter is the **clubhouse, or a substantial enclosed building, or a fully enclosed vehicle**.
 - Players must avoid:
 - Open ground
 - Exposed high areas
 - Isolated trees
 - Metal structures or equipment
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7. Fog and Reduced Visibility

- Fog is considered hazardous when visibility prevents safe identification of targets or landing areas.
- Play must not commence or must be suspended when conditions are unsafe.

Player Responsibility

- Players must not make a stroke if they cannot clearly identify their intended target or landing area.
 - If conditions become unsafe, players must discontinue play immediately and, where appropriate, withdraw under **Rule 5.7a**.
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8. Rain, Wind and Other Conditions

- Heavy rain, flooding, or high winds may render the course unsafe.
 - The same suspension or closure procedures apply as outlined in Section 4.
 - Safety considerations include:
 - Falling branches or tree movement
 - Waterlogging and surface conditions
 - Ball stability on greens
 - Overall course playability and safety risk
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9. Resumption of Play

Play will only resume when authorised by the relevant official. Signals for resumption will be communicated via klaxon in accordance with Section 5.

10. R&A Compliance Statement

This policy is consistent with:

- **The Rules of Golf (Rule 5.7 – Suspension of Play)**
- **The R&A Committee Procedures – Guidance on Adverse Weather and Dangerous Situations**