



Royal Montrose Mercantile Golf Club

Covid-19(Corona virus) Members Update

Dear Member,

The health and wellbeing of all of our members, staff and visitors is our number one priority. This crisis is unprecedented and as a Board we would like to reassure you that we take this threat extremely seriously and intend to act in the best interests of everyone.

Therefore, following the UK & Scottish Governments' announcement and advice on Monday 16th March 2020, the Board convened a meeting and have agreed the following actions for our Club operations for the foreseeable future. However, this continues to be a fluid situation and Board will religiously monitor and revise where appropriate.

The recent UK Government's announcement is promoting a common sense approach with individuals taking responsibility for their own actions.

This advice includes; -

- Anyone with a fever or persistent cough should stay at home for 7 days if they live alone or 14 days if they live with others. Anyone who lives with someone displaying corona virus symptoms should also stay at home for 14 days. People who have to self isolate should ask others for help.
- Everyone should stop non-essential contact with others. This is particularly important for people over 70, those with underlying health conditions and pregnant women.
- People should work from home where they can.
- People should avoid places like pubs, clubs, restaurants and theatres.
- People should stop all unnecessary travel

As a result, those with most serious health conditions should be largely shielded from social contact for 12 weeks.

See the attached link for further details and advice,

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

Based on this advice, the Board have deemed the following actions as necessary.

- Clubhouse - it is the intention to keep the Clubhouse open at this time pending further guidance from the authorities. Members may still wish to play golf from a fitness perspective and require access to this end. We would, in line with SGU guidance, promote the health benefits of playing golf but we would encourage members to self-regulate contact with others as per the advice above.
- Staff – we have had discussions with our Staff on current situation and they confirmed they are happy to continue to work their normal hours, providing normal bar services. The Board will continue monitor official advice and Club usage and consult with staff any changes or developments.
- Bar – while the Bar remains open for now, given the current advice, it is members' responsibility to self-regulate usage. Going forward there may be a need to limit opening hours or indeed take more severe action.
- Catering – we have met with our Caterer and want to support him and his team as per our own Staff. He has confirmed business as usual. He has also confirmed he is taking advised precautions including suitable spacing of tables. To this end the current Mother's Day Carvery still has sufficient bookings to proceed. This may be subject to change.
- Locker Rooms – members will be able to access lockers rooms as normal but members to self-regulate contact with others as per advice.
- Golf Competitions – as above we are still encouraging the playing of golf but would ask members to heed the general advice on social contact and gatherings and self-manage visits to the Club premises.

Captain v Vice Captain Sat 28th March – Cancelled

Lady Captain v Vice Captain Tues 24th March – Cancelled

Senior Friendly Matches (Home & Away) – Cancelled until further notice

All Interclub Matches (Home & Away) – Cancelled until further notice

Saturday Medals to continue currently as planned

Seniors Medals to continue currently as planned

Ladies Weekly Competition to continue currently as planned

Annual Match Play Competitions to continue currently as planned

- Open Tournaments – the Seniors Open on May 1st is being postponed (future date TBA) other Tournaments planned in April/May are cancelled. These include – Mixed Greensomes 5th April, Charity AM/AM 26th April.
- At this time, we will only accept entries for Open Tournaments from 31st May onwards. Depending on further developments of the current crisis, any updates or changes for those tournaments post 31st May 20, will be advised in due course. Any monies paid by entrants for any cancelled open tournaments will of course be refunded.
- Social/Meeting Events – Effective immediately all Social events and pre-booked meetings, be these in the Bar, Lounge or Meeting Room are cancelled until the end of May at the earliest.
- Finance - The current situation will inevitably have a negative effect of the finances of the club with continued ongoing fixed costs and likely reduction in our income.
- We would like to reassure members that the club is well financed with good cash reserves.
- We have a Business Interruption Clause in our insurance and will be discussing with our Brokers in due course.
- The treasurer and finance committee will continue to monitor finances and take any necessary actions as required.
- It is, however, important that members continue to pay their annual renewal fees. These are due be paid by the end of March 2020. However, given the current crisis and challenges, the Board have agreed to extend to end of April.
- Fees – Dates were set for fee collection; however, we do recognise now that many members may not now wish to travel to the Club to pay. We will still collect fees this Thursday 19th March 6 - 8pm, however fee collection as previously notified, this Sunday 22nd is cancelled with payment over Bar only. To this end members can pay the following ways.
Bar – pay over the Bar to a member of staff in the Club by Cash/Card/Cheque.
Phone – call the Golf Club on 01674 672376 and pay by MasterCard/Visa Debit card (during bar hours see above).
- BACS – pay directly into the Clubs Bank account. Acct Name: Royal Montrose Mercantile GC (RMMGC), Acct No: 70042273 Sort Code 826625. PLEASE ENSURE TO USE SURNAME & INVOICE NUMBER as reference on payment
- Post – send a cheque to RMMGC Ltd, Traill Drive, Montrose, Angus, DD10 8SW

Finally, we appreciate that some of these actions may be disappointing for many members, but the Board believes that it is taking a pragmatic, sensible and responsible position while trying to manoeuvre in these uncharted waters. We will continue to monitor advice and act accordingly, communicating updates regularly, and act in the best interests of all members, staff & guests. In the meantime, please heed the Governments advice and stay safe.

Your Board

17th March 2019