

# Kilkea Castle Golf Club – Re-Opening Protocols

## Contents

- Introduction ..... 2
- Golf Bookings ..... 3
- Before Leaving Your House ..... 3
- Upon Arrival At The Resort ..... 3
- Clubhouse/Pro-Shop ..... 3
- To the Tee ..... 4
- On The Course ..... 4
- Home Safe ..... 4
- Finally..... 5

## Introduction

Kilkea Castle Golf Club is delighted to welcome you all back to the golf club from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May. We are fortunate that golf is one of the first sports to return to some degree of normality and we hope that we can continue to enjoy it keeping in mind the protocols and guidelines from the Government and various governing bodies. The Committee would also like to place on record our thanks to Matt Kirwan and the team for continuing to maintain the course and surrounds in exceptionally difficult circumstances.

Foremost in our thoughts now is allowing the members to enjoy the game in a safe environment, whilst also being aware of the safety of the Kilkea Castle staff. This practical guide has been prepared to inform everyone of how golf will operate during **Phase 1** of our re-opening. The measures are, we believe, robust and will be monitored in the coming weeks. The measures and protocols are under constant review and refinement and will be updated as the need arises or in line with government, health authority or governing body updates.

This guide is provided in 'addition' to the protocols set down by the GUI and the ILGU, not instead of, and provides guidance specific to Kilkea Castle Golf Club's return-to-play.

**All Members are reminded of the current Government Health Policy Guidelines which can be found at [www.hse.ie/coronavirus](http://www.hse.ie/coronavirus)**

We ask for your complete co-operation with the measures listed herein as without doubt, golf courses will be under extreme scrutiny in the coming weeks. We hope that through our adherence to these protocols we will work successfully toward the gradual lifting of the current restrictions and a return to as close to normal operations as possible in due course.

Please enjoy your golf and stay safe.

Regards,

The Kilkea Castle Golf Club Committee.

## Golf Bookings

- In the initial phase the Club will be open to Members only and for casual golf only. We hope to allow non-members to visit in due course, initially at the invitation of members – this will only happen in line with further lifting of the current restrictions.
- Bookings will be facilitated through the online/app system and is currently live. The booking must be made in advance of turning up to the Resort.
- Play is limited to maximum 3-balls at 16-minute intervals.
- In line with the protocols, members are asked to play a maximum of 3 times per week. This is to facilitate as many members as possible getting some golf and will be reviewed after two weeks.

## Before Leaving Your House

- Double check your booking, as booking in advance is compulsory in Phase 1.
- We recommend golf equipment be sanitised before leaving home.
- Ensure that you have sufficient numbers of golf balls, markers, tees to avoid having to exchange equipment with others.
- Golfers should travel to the Club alone, or with a member of the same household only.

## Upon Arrival At The Resort

- All gates will be locked, and access can only be made to the Resort via the Clubhouse entrance.
- You are asked to not come to site until at least 15 minutes before your tee time.
- Access will be given by ringing +353 59 9145600 and providing your name and tee time.
- Practice social distancing whilst parking i.e. minimum of every second bay should be used.
- Resist the temptation to mingle prior to tee off (or after golf).
- Change shoes in the car park. If your shoes are in the locker room, retrieve them and change in the car park.
- Flags have been removed from the practice putting green. No more than 5 persons on the practice green at any one time. As is normal, pitching onto this green is **NOT** permitted.

## Clubhouse/Pro-Shop

- The Pro-Shop and Bar/Restaurant will remain closed.
- The ladies and gents' toilets in the locker rooms will be available and please observe physical distancing if using these facilities.

- Club buggies and trolleys are not available for hire.

## To the Tee

- Do not arrive at the first tee more than 5 minutes before your allotted tee time.
- Groups are restricted to 3 balls every 16 minutes in this initial phase.
- Do not enter the teeing ground until the all members of the group in front have played their tee-shots and exited the teeing ground.

## On The Course

- Please adhere to all advice from relevant staff and/or Committee members whilst on the course.
- Holes must be played in order starting from the 1<sup>st</sup> tee
- Ball washing stations, course furniture and bins have been removed. Please bring all food/drinks refuse with you when leaving the course.
- All rakes have been removed; please smooth out bunkers with your shoe.
- Family members should play together, rather than split into mixed groups.
- Observe physical distancing at all times on the course. Do not enter the next teeing ground until the all members of the group in front have played their tee-shots and exited the teeing ground. Do not exchange or share equipment, food or drink with other players during your round. Do not pick up another player's equipment or golf ball.
- If your ball is lost, unplayable, or in a penalty area, don't take an option under the rules that involves doubling back on your position on the course. Instead, use an option that allows you to keep your position on the course.
- Golfers are directed to leave the pin in the cup at all times and to avoid touching same. A piece of equipment has been placed in each hole to stop the ball dropping fully into the hole.
- It is imperative that members adhere to pace of play guidelines to prevent any backups on the course. There may be rangers/Committee members on course to help with the pace of play and to ensure proper social distancing, please follow their instructions.

## Home Safe

- The club/trolley cleaning area will not be operational.
- If using the toilets, hands should washed and sanitised.
- Return directly to your car and leave the club.

- Members must call or email the Committee with any post-round health issues or Covid-19 related queries.

## Finally

It is everyone's wish that the above measures can be relaxed on a regular and on-going basis so that we get back to some semblance of normality, including competitions, prior to season end however this can only happen if members have regard for the above protocols/their fellow members, and comply with what is asked of them.

This document will be updated and forwarded to members as and when changes are made by the Club, the GUI or t/he relevant government bodies.

Thank you and enjoy the Golf Course.