



WESTERSHAM

Course Closure, Fog & Lightning Policy

In the event of fog while on the golf course, the decision to stop or continue to play lies with the golfers, as it is recognised that conditions can change from minute to minute. Golfers will be advised of the conditions by the golf shop when checking in or by the starter. If golfers decide not to start, reasonable endeavours will be made to reschedule either later that day or on another occasion within one month depending on availability. If golfers decide to play but do not complete 18 holes, refunds will not apply. Players should take the necessary steps to always ensure their own safety and that of others.

If there is a risk of lightning, play **MUST** be discontinued. The Altonwood Group is not responsible for the safety of any golfer on the course, and it is therefore your responsibility to remove yourself from any situation which you deem to be dangerous. We insist that all members adhere to the lightning policy.

If you see lightning or hear the klaxon (three short blasts) the following will apply:

- Proceed immediately to the clubhouse.
- Do not continue to play golf and do not seek shelter under trees. Trees do not protect you from lightning.
- During competitions, if there is a lightning risk, play will be suspended and players must leave the course.
- Where play is automatically suspended on the sound of the klaxon, a player may not override the Policy decision to evacuate the course.
- Players should stop playing and seek shelter any time they believe lightning threatens them, even if the klaxon has not been sounded.

Although the Club will take every precaution to ensure the safety of players during a thunderstorm, it is a player's own responsibility to discontinue play when in his/her opinion lightning is a threat. It is not always possible to monitor conditions on the entire course and players have a duty of care to themselves. They should therefore familiarise themselves with both the Club policy and the R&A Rules of Golf.

It is not the responsibility of staff to retrieve clubs, equipment or trolleys from the course during a lightning storm where play has been suspended, as their safety may be jeopardised. Please note that golf buggies do **NOT** give protection from lightning. We insist that all members adhere to this policy.

Any decision relating to play during any adverse weather conditions as described above is entirely at the players' discretion and no responsibility or liability will apply to the Club.