

# Re-opening Golf Courses Following Covid-19 Lockdown

## Establishing normal course conditions.

For the last few weeks, Golf Courses across the country have been following government guidelines and performing only what is deemed **essential** maintenance operations on course. Many normal, routine daily jobs have had to be put on hold during this period, to keep staff and customers alike safe.

**During the lockdown period, the guidelines have allowed for;**

- Greens to be mown a maximum of 3 times per week.
- Tee's, fairways and approaches mown a maximum once per week.
- Roughs and Paths to be mown once every 2 weeks.
- Bare minimum irrigation and nutrition to keep the grass alive.
- Limited spraying for weed, pests and diseases only.

Operations such as maintaining bunkers, penalty areas and wider practice facilities, aerating, top dressing and spraying on a routine basis were **not considered essential** at this time.

The above list excludes or limits many operations that are normally fulfilled in order to create the high quality playing conditions golfers are used to. The 'attention to detail' elements offered by so many professional Course Managers and their staff **will** return, but it may take time, so please be patient.

Turfgrass is a natural, living system and as such, will need time to adapt once again. Greenstaff will need your full support and understanding whilst they work towards regaining the high standards golfers deserve.

So please, enjoy the golf, fresh air and the walk – and most importantly, stay healthy!



**A Message on behalf of Golf Greenkeepers everywhere.**