BDLGA ADVISORY NOTICE

IMPACT OF ADVERSE WEATHER ON COURSE PLAYING CONDITIONS

The weather in 2022 varied from extreme heat in the summer to extreme cold in the winter, and from drought to flood. Invariably this impacted on playing conditions and weather pundits have warned that we should expect more, rather than less, extremes in the future. In some instances, long term damage has been caused to the playing surfaces of courses and some Clubs have had to instigate medium to long term measures to protect the playing surfaces that may have some impact on the way in which play can continue. Such measures may include, inter alia, the use of temporary greens and/or tees, grassed areas from which play is prohibited (lift and place and/or the compulsory use of fairway mats), the use of temporary tees, and more Ground Under Repair.

Rearranging Matches in Extreme Conditions

If an extreme heat warning is in force, or the course is deemed unplayable for any reason, team Captains may agree to rearrange the match. Please notify the Results Co-ordinator of the revised date so that she can update the app.

The BDLGA Committee discussed this at their recent February Committee and have agreed that in order to ensure a timely completion of all League matches, away teams should be prepared to accommodate local rules at Clubs that have had to institute playing restrictions such as those mentioned above, PROVIDING that the Club concerned is still holding Qualifying Competitions that allow such restrictions and continues to provide an acceptable course for handicap purposes.

In these circumstances, Home team Captains should ensure that they communicate playing restrictions to their Away Captain colleagues once it is certain that restrictive conditions will apply to a forthcoming match, and ideally no later than 24 hours before the match is played. If it seems likely that such restrictions will be activated at less than 24 hours' notice, Home and Away Captains should seek an agreed course of action. Alliance Rules (paragraphs 5 & 6) already exist to offer guidance on measures to be taken if bad weather on the day of a planned match threatens the playability of the course, and/or the safety of the players (e.g. the threat of lightning).

Stephanie Moorfoot
BDLGA Chair

15-07-26