



ORFORD GOLF CLUB

ABNORMAL WEATHER CONDITIONS (AWC) POLICY

1. Background

AWC are weather conditions which cause a competition to be halted and play potentially cancelled for the day. This may be as a result of a range of conditions (including but not limited to) lightning, wind, rain, fire, flood, extreme heat/cold, frost or snow.

2. Precautions to be taken

If abnormal weather conditions are forecast on **non-competition days**, a sign will be displayed near the clubrooms advising that either the course is closed and/or reminding players to be aware of conditions and take responsible action (including abandonment of their round) if conditions deteriorate to a dangerous level.

If abnormal weather conditions are forecast on **competition days**, the Captain on the day or Club representative will:

- advise players at the outset of the potential for play to be postponed/abandoned if conditions require and remind them of procedures;
- monitor the BOM site and have a mobile phone app that will issue emergency warnings in the area, with alerts switched on
- carry with them the portable hooter as a back up to the fixed hooter near the clubhouse; and
- if high winds are forecast, carry with them the portable wind gauge as a back up to the gauge in the clubhouse.

3. Postponement, Suspension or Cancellation of Play

Play will be postponed, suspended or cancelled if:

- Wind gusts hit 50kmh three times in the space of 30 minutes OR
- Emergency warnings are issued that indicate imminent extreme wind, rain and or lightning in the area OR
- Lightning/thunder is observed close by OR
- Snow or extreme frost OR
- Floods or excessive surface water makes the course unplayable OR
- Emergency services advise that play should be halted (eg in the event of fire).

If the start of play is **postponed**, the Captain and Match Committee (at their discretion) will, as appropriate:

- reschedule tee times to later in the day, if conditions permit, OR
- reschedule the competition until another day, OR
- cancel the competition completely.

If play needs to be **suspended** due to Abnormal Weather Conditions, the Captain or Club representative will notify the field. This process will involve sounding the hooters. If a cart is available, a Club representative will also drive around the course to ensure all players are aware of the suspension of play.

Players must immediately mark their ball and walk off the course to the vicinity of the Club House once notified.

Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES are players to complete their next shot, finish the hole or complete the round until the suspension of play is lifted by the Captain on the day or Club representative.

Suspension of play will be for a maximum of 90 minutes in the daylight saving period or 30 minutes in the non-daylight period.

If play cannot recommence within those time periods, the remainder of play will be **cancelled**.

4. Impact of AWC on Competitions

If the day's play is cancelled once the competition has commenced, the following will apply:

- a) If insufficient players have completed their rounds to make a valid competition¹, the competition will either be cancelled entirely or rescheduled until another day, at the discretion of the Captain and Match Committee.
- b) Where sufficient players have completed their round to form a competition¹, the following shall apply:

Stroke Competition

Those players that have completed their round and registered their score will be eligible for the day's Competition and their results recognised. Where AWC prevent a player from finishing, then those players will be eligible for a credit of their entry fee².

Stroke Medal Competition

No Medal shall be awarded, and the Medal event will be rescheduled.

As per a regular Stroke Competition, those players that have completed their round and registered their score will be eligible for the day's Competition and their results recognised. Where AWC prevent a player from finishing, then those players who do not finish will be eligible for a credit of their entry fee².

Approved by Committee on 14 October 2022

¹ A competition is valid with a minimum of five entrants.

² For a player to be eligible for a credit, the player must consult with the captain and or the Match Committee as to why their round was not completed. A DNF, No Score submitted for a personal reason will not be valid for a money credit.