BROUGH
Golf Club

WINTER ON THE COURSE

2026 MEMBER NEWSLETTER | COURSE CARE • PLAYING ARRANGEMENTS • SAFETY



As winter approaches, here is an update on the work taking place across the course, the plans for the months ahead and the arrangements that will help members continue to enjoy their golf safely.

01 Overseeding: getting the timing right

Gareth and the greenkeeping team have been monitoring conditions before overseeding fairways and bare areas. The ground remains unusually firm and compacted, making it difficult for seed to penetrate and establish. Sowing too early risks wasting significant investment in seed; waiting too long risks soil temperatures falling below those needed for germination.

The team intends to disc-seed selected areas shortly, balancing the risks against the opportunity to achieve worthwhile growth before winter.

02 Robotic mowers: planning for the future

Following trials of several robotic mowing systems, the Club is nearing a decision on an order. The proposed machines would work on fairways and semi-rough, helping maintain more consistent presentation, freeing greenkeeping time for specialist work and potentially reducing fuel use and disruption during mowing. Any introduction will be carefully managed alongside the team's wider course-maintenance programme.



PLAYING THROUGH WINTER

03 Winter rules: a conditions-led approach

Our usual winter arrangements—including winter tees, the winter course and fairway mats—will return when conditions require them. Given the recent dry weather, the first review is planned for Monday 9 November. If conditions remain suitable, we will review the position weekly rather than introduce restrictions unnecessarily.

For now, members may continue to play from the red and yellow tees. The white tees have been removed.

04 A measured winter course for the first time

This winter we intend to retain a measured course, allowing qualifying scores to be submitted for handicap purposes from the red tees. Once winter arrangements begin, the yellow tees will be withdrawn and the red tees will be the only tees in play.

Members will be able to submit both general-play and competition scores for handicap purposes. Important: when submitting a qualifying score, mats may only be used on the fairway.

05 Buggies, trolleys and winter equipment

We have reviewed last winter's buggy and trolley policy and made minor adjustments intended to help those who rely on these aids continue playing where course conditions permit. Please refer to the separate policy for full details and any applicable restrictions.

Winter wheels and fairway mats are available to purchase from the Pro Shop.



SAFETY COMES FIRST

06 Fog, poor visibility and fading light

Every golfer has a responsibility to decide whether it is safe to play. In fog, mist or darkness, never strike a shot unless you can clearly see the full distance of your intended shot and be confident that the area is clear.

IF YOU CANNOT SEE THE MARKER POST ON THE FIRST FAIRWAY, DO NOT START YOUR ROUND.

A visibility marker has been installed on the first fairway to help members make this decision. The same principle applies anywhere on the course: if you cannot see the clear distance of your intended shot, do not play.

You may wait for visibility to improve. If conditions do not improve sufficiently, you must abandon your round and withdraw from any competition, citing unsafe playing conditions.

Thank you for your support

Our aim is to protect the course while keeping golf available whenever conditions allow. Thank you for following the winter arrangements and supporting Gareth and the greenkeeping team as they care for the course throughout the colder months.

PLEASE CHECK CLUB COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE LATEST COURSE STATUS AND RESTRICTIONS