Hale Golf Club Competitions
Course Closure and Suspension of Play Policy
Suspension of Play

If the klaxon sounds or the Greenkeepers, Pro or Competition Committee officials come out to suspend play, players must stop play in accordance with the Rules of Golf. Where appropriate, players should mark the position of their ball before leaving the course, as play may subsequently be resumed. A suspension of play does not automatically mean that the competition has been abandoned.

Where the course becomes temporarily unplayable, play will be suspended and conditions reviewed after 30 minutes. If the course is deemed fit for play, the competition may resume. If conditions remain unsuitable, a further and final 30-minute suspension will apply. If the course is still unplayable following the second review, the competition will be abandoned for that day.

Course Closure
If the course is closed and play cannot be resumed, the Competitions Committee will decide whether the competition can fairly be concluded or should be abandoned. Where the Alternative Day and Main Day form part of the same competition, a closure on one day will not automatically result in the whole competition being abandoned.
The Committee will consider the number and proportion of the overall field who had a reasonable opportunity to complete their rounds and the circumstances affecting each competition day.
Where only a small proportion of the field has been able to complete the competition, it would normally be abandoned. However, if only a small number of Alternative Day players are affected and the Main Day can proceed normally, the competition may continue.
Greater flexibility may be exercised where competitions can reasonably be rearranged.

WHS Handicap Scores
The competition result and WHS handicapping will be treated separately.
Any score which meets the requirements of an acceptable score under the Rules of Handicapping will be submitted for handicap purposes, even if the competition is subsequently abandoned.
This may include completed scores and incomplete rounds where a player was prevented from completing the round because play was suspended or the course was closed. Where applicable, an expected score will be applied to holes not played in accordance with the Rules of Handicapping.
Players do not have the option to withdraw an otherwise acceptable score from their handicap record.

Guiding Principle
The Committee's overriding consideration will be to reach a fair and consistent outcome for the field as a whole, while prioritising player safety and taking account of course conditions, available daylight and the practicalities of resuming play.