

**28 April 2020****COVID 19 – LOCKDOWN UPDATE (Week 5)**

Dear Members

I hope you and those around you are in good spirits and keeping safe during these difficult times. Here we are in week 5, still trying to grasp the magnitude of everything happening around us and trying to understand the measures undertaken by our Government. If someone had told us in January what would be happening now, we certainly would not have believed them.

Somehow, I continue to survive my wonderful children, endless episodes of 'Peppa Pig' a day, work, household duties and a dozen or so 'Zoom meetings' (2 months ago I didn't even know what Zoom was), and I wonder if it will become the new 'norm' post lockdown.



The most recent speech from President Ramaphosa, on 23 April, has left us all feeling like Level 4 is a very clever way of keeping us in lockdown without us really knowing. As I am sure you have already worked out, playing golf currently falls into Level 2, which is not great news!

Our hope was that we would be returning to golf on 1 May, which now seems to have been very optimistic. Golf's governing bodies in South Africa have submitted a proposal to Government, promoting the re-opening of all golf courses. The final meeting with the Minister of Sport takes place on Thursday 30 April in the afternoon, to consider allowing golf courses to re-open and on what terms. So, for now we remain in limbo and uncertain when golf will return. What we do know is that when the green light is received, it will be under very strict regulations and it will be GOLF ONLY. We will notify the membership immediately once we receive confirmation for the road ahead.

In this regard, management are near completion of the COVID -19 guidelines for golf at Royal. The blueprint will guide golfers and staff to operate in a 'safe as possible' environment. This document will be shared with the membership prior to the re-opening of the courses and align with Government and WHO prescripts.



We continue to do everything we can to navigate our Club through these difficult times. It is our foremost responsibility to ensure we protect and maintain what we have. We are facing a lot of uncertainty and will continue to adapt with the changes as they unfold. The Club is highly dependent for its revenue on subscriptions, golf days, visitor rounds, functions, conferencing and food and beverage sales and no one can predict when this will return to some form of normality, if ever.

As communicated, this crisis has come at the worst possible time of year for the Club, ahead of the new financial year's subscription collection. This has now been successfully launched, in the hope to stabilise cashflow and avoid special levies later.

Our sincere thanks to those members who have paid a voluntary subscription and to the members who have been able to make an early payment of subscriptions and/or playing cards for the 2020/2021 year. If you are in a position to do so, you have until the 30th April to receive a 5% discount when making an early payment of subs. To request your pro-forma invoice, please email membership@royaljk.co.za

Additionally, the Club will be rewarding all members who purchased a playing card in the 2019/2020 financial year, with a carryover of unused rounds, (to a maximum of 6 rounds per person), that may be used from 1 July 2020. This is the Club's way of thanking you for your support and for the time missed during the lock down period (terms and conditions apply).

It is in times like these, that we must remember what a Club is all about. A Club is more than an association of members sharing a common interest - it is a place that creates special memories, history and friendships that stand the test of time. Members create a Club and it is now the time for members to stand together and ensure the Club survives this storm. Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club has been good to us for many years and we want this to continue for us and future generations. Right now, the best way to help your Club, if you are in a position to do so, is to settle your annual subscription for the new financial year.

We continue to amend our scenario plans, raise capital, minimize financial losses and reduce expenditure and our goal is that employees are hopefully able to retain their jobs and keep the Club offering, stable. The Board & management of the Club remain focused on a range of short-term solutions to protect our balance sheet, capital and the implementation of the rightsized business model post lockdown.

In this regard we are pleased to have received our first COVID-19 relief sum from the UIF. Senior management at the Club, have all taken voluntary pay cuts, thus enabling the 'junior and lower tier' staff to receive a 100% salary for April.



The course team, under the leadership of head superintendent Shaun Brits, continue to achieve more than the minimum maintenance requirements and the golf courses are simply in superb condition and ready for our return.

Our security and maintenance director, Hennie Bredenhann, has undertaken to install all the required safety measures for our return. All counters within the clubhouse have been fitted with 'sneeze screens' to protect golfers and staff, albeit this will most likely only be in use at level 2 or 3.



We now await clarity on the 'relaxations' as announced and the final Government Gazette. As we enter Level 4, as law abiding citizens, we share the moral obligation to work together towards Level 3 and not fall back to Level 5. We should all maintain a forward-thinking and optimistic outlook.

We look forward to seeing all members back on the courses as soon as possible, as we know you are missing your golf. Please do keep safe, healthy and positive.

We thank you for your continued support, trust and loyalty to our wonderful club.

Sincerely,

Christopher Bentley
Chief Executive Officer

Support the Caddy Relief Fund | Top up your Club Card | Make a donation

fm@royaljk.co.za



LET'S PLAY GOLF

"A WELCOME RELIEF FROM THE STRESS SURROUNDING COVID-19!
A SAFE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT, WHILST AVOIDING DIRECT CONTACT"

AVERAGE DISTANCE BETWEEN
YOU AND YOUR
PLAYING
PARTNER? YOU DECIDE,
WE RECOMMEND 2M



GOLF IS EXERCISE &
PLAYED
OUTDOORS,
A PERFECT
IMMUNE BOOSTER

AVERAGE DISTANCE BETWEEN
TEE TIMES?
220M OR 9 MIN.
NATURAL SOCIAL
DISTANCING



CLUB CLOSED EVERY MONDAY FOR FULL SANITISATION - ALL PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES IN PLACE

#LETSPLAYGOLF #HEALTHFORALL

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