



The Open Championship Briefing October 2013

In 2006, Wirral hosted the most successful Open Championship in England when 230,000 spectators enjoyed a superb week of Championship golf and soaring temperatures in Hoylake. In July 2014 Wirral will once again play host to the best golfers in the world and plans are underway to ensure the smooth running of The Championship for residents and visitors alike.

Traffic information for The Open Championship 2014

A dedicated Transport Strategy group has been established to help visitors get to and from The Open Championship at Royal Liverpool Golf Club on 13-20th July 2014.

This group meets every month and includes representatives from Wirral Council, The R&A, Merseyside Police, Merseytravel and other outside specialists in car park management and signing.

Visitors to The Open Championship will be advised to travel by public transport wherever possible, however, for those choosing to travel by car, park and ride facilities will be provided. The R&A have finalised the locations of the key park and ride sites for The Championship, these are detailed in this briefing.

Travelling by train:

This is a preferred means for visitors to arrive at The Championship. Merseyrail provides a convenient and easy way to travel to the event at Hoylake.

Passengers travelling via Lime Street Station, Liverpool, will change on to the Merseyrail Wirral Line for trains to Hoylake. The golf course is a short walk away from Hoylake Station.

During The Championship the normal 15 minute train service will be increased to a 10 minute service during peak morning and afternoon sessions. Trains will also have an increased number of carriages to meet demand.

A temporary foot-bridge will be constructed over the track at Hoylake to allow access to the car park.

Additional information:

Rail services between Hoylake and West Kirby will be suspended for approximately 14 days. Rail replacement buses will operate, replicating the suspended rail service. The closure of this line will allow access for players and

spectators alike to The Championship's Practice Ground, which will be located on Hoylake Municipal Golf Course.

More information on public transport in Merseyside is available by logging on to www.merseytravel.gov.uk or people can call Traveline on 0871 200 2233.

Travelling by road / car:

The Police are urging all motorists to use the designated traffic routes, which will be clearly signed by the AA. Visitors and spectators are advised to turn off their satellite navigation systems and follow the appropriate signage.

Traffic will be advised to take the following routes:

Travelling from the North

Exit the M6 at junction 20A and join the M56 signed for Chester. Leave the M56 at junction 15 and join the M53 heading towards Birkenhead.

Travelling from the East

Exit the M62 at junction 10 and join the M6 Southbound. Thereafter, exit the M6 at junction 20a and join the M56 signed for Chester. Leave the M56 at junction 15 and join the M53 heading towards Birkenhead.

Travelling from the South

Exit the M6 at junction 20a and join the M56 signed for Chester. Leave the M56 at junction 10 and join the M53 heading towards Birkenhead.

Travelling from North Wales

From the A55 join the M53 at junction 12 heading in the Ellesmere Port direction.

Please follow AA signage from the M53 to the Park and Ride, Reserved Label car parks and Coach Parking.

Those ignoring the identified routes are likely to experience lengthy delays.

Additional information

On leaving the motorway, motorists will be directed to Park and Ride schemes. There are no public car parks adjacent to the course and those arriving by car must use these schemes.

The R&A has organised two official public park and ride sites. These are:

Heron Road car park

Traffic will be directed to this park and ride site via the M53 Junction 2, Moreton Spur, Upton Bypass, Saughall Massie Road, and Saughall Massie Bypass.

A bus service will then shuttle spectators to Royal Liverpool Golf Course heading via Birkenhead Road and Market Street to a drop off point by the course.

Pump Lane car park

Traffic will be directed to this park and ride site via M53 Junction 2, Moreton Spur, Upton Bypass, Saughall Massie Road, and Saughall Massie Bypass.

The bus service will operate along Saughall Massie Road, Black Horse Hill and Grange Road, stopping at a drop off point on Meols Drive. These buses will return along Frankby Road.

Two different sites and routes have been chosen to distribute traffic evenly and serve the different public entrances to The Championship.

Sections of the route from the M53 to the park and ride sites will be controlled by Merseyside Police and accredited persons to ensure the smooth movement of traffic.

Similarly, in the interest of safety and to reduce congestion, parking along park and ride routes to and from the golf course will be restricted.

The R&A will appoint a specialist parking management service to run the operation on their behalf during The Championship.

Parking for the Disabled Pre-Paid ticket holders who require access to the Disabled Parking Area, are asked to call in advance The R&A Ticket Office (01334 460000) and they will be sent a Disabled car park pass.

Disabled visitors with mobility impairments who intend to buy tickets on the day of play are advised to telephone The R&A Ticket Office (01334 460000) for further details on access and car parking arrangements.

The park & ride sites will have temporary access points created to allow for parking. Cars will be driven onto temporary track way to protect the ground and will be parked on the fields.

These sites are for The Open traffic to park and ride. Buses servicing the park and ride sites will only be available to Championship spectators.

Key routes serving park and ride and park and walk sites, will need to be kept free from parked vehicles to allow for the free flow of traffic and to maintain accessibility for the emergency services. Detailed arrangements are being drawn up and will be subject to discussion and agreement with Merseyside Police. Once agreed, arrangements will be published in future Open Championship Briefings.

A number of key locations and junctions will be staffed by accredited personnel and there will be traffic / parking restrictions on the main routes to and from the course and on a number of roads in the immediate area surrounding Royal Liverpool Golf Club. **Meols Drive will remain open.**

The Transport Strategy Group is working on the details of these traffic restrictions so as to ensure road safety and minimise disruption to day-to-day operations and services for residents and local businesses. Any restrictions will be aimed at ensuring main routes are not congested, maintaining road safety and protecting the interests of residents and businesses.

Wirral Council is working with local medical providers and the emergency services to ensure that services are delivered to vulnerable people in Wirral throughout The Championship.

Arrangements have already been made for local schools to break up before the start of The Championship. This will reduce traffic on local roads associated with the school run.

Grants available if you “Love Wirral”

Would you like to improve your local environment? Grants from £20 to £500 are available for projects that will IMPROVE your local environment.

Wirral’s hosting of The Open Championship 2014 is an exciting opportunity to show the world what Wirral has to offer. With your grant you could:

- tidy up a play area
- plant trees & baskets
- renovate a pond
- set up an Incredible Edible project
- prune trees and hedges
- paint fences
- arrange a litter pick.

The list is endless and up to your imagination! Apply now at www.wirral.gov.uk/lovewirral