

RISK ASSESSMENT
BEDFORDSHIRE GOLF CLUB
9 HOLE GOLF COURSES
Full Edition

Summer 2013

03/09/2013

Final: Version

Contents

General Information.....	3
Introduction.	3
General Course Topography.	3
Public Access.....	3
Staff Working on the Course.	3
Use of Trolleys, Electric Trolleys and Motorised Buggies.	3
Reduced Visibility Weather Conditions.	4
Lightning Policy.....	4
Footwear.....	4
Players Insurance.....	4
Responsibilities.....	5
Overview of Risk Assessment Definitions/Abbreviations.....	5
Risk Assessment.	5
Copyright	5
Generic Risks.....	6
9 Course: Hole by Hole Risk Assessment.....	7
1 st Hole.....	7
2 nd Hole	7
3 rd Hole.....	7
4 th Hole.....	8
5th Hole	8
6th Hole	8
7 th Hole	8
8th Hole	8
9th Hole	9
USE OF MOTORISED BUGGIES ON THE 9 HOLE COURSE	9

General Information.

Introduction.

This assessment addresses issues appertaining to the nine hole golf courses only and does not consider any risks which may be present in or around the Clubhouse, Driving Range and Green's Keepers compound. Risks associated with Green's Keepers work duties are not considered within this assessment.

General Course Topography.

The 155 acre site containing the two golf courses is leased by Bedfordshire Golf Club, and is bounded to the west by the A428 trunk road and on all other boundaries by farm and woodland.

The nine hole course sits between the A428 road & the main 18 hole course

A stream runs through the courses in a south to north direction and acts as a boundary between the 2 courses on some of the holes. The depth of water in this stream at normal levels varies approximately from 300mm to 500mm deep. This can rise at flood levels to between 1.5m to 3m deep.

There are no ponds & bunkers on the course, it is mainly flat but contains several short steep slopes.

Public Access

There are no public footpaths on the course.

Staff Working on the Course.

At all times staff working on the course have priority & no golf shots to be played if the staff are within shot range.

Use of Trolleys, Electric Trolleys and Motorised Buggies.

Bedfordshire Golf Club Course Maintenance Policy Document states "Use of Trolleys, Electric Trolleys and motorised Buggies –This will be the responsibility of the Course Manager or his representative, who will daily check course condition and a sign will be displayed outside the Professional shop and on the clubhouse notice board advising the membership of any restrictions imposed." The Course Manager, or in his absence, his Deputy are aware of this obligation.

Each buggy driver should be asked to read a list of buggy use instructions and be given a copy of these instructions before being allowed to drive on the course. The driver will sign a record book indicating they have read and understood **the** instructions. Any member or visitor who intends to use their personally owned buggy must be required to go through a similar procedure.

Buggies owned & operated by members must provide a copy of an insurance certificate providing 3rd party public liability each year when renewing their membership. This copy will be retained in the administration office.

Any visitor bringing their own buggy must provide a copy of an insurance certificate providing 3rd party public liability before use of the buggy on the course is allowed. This copy will be retained in the administration office.

All buggy drivers must be over the age of 17 years.

Reduced Visibility Weather Conditions.

When foggy conditions prevail, the Course Manager or his Duty Deputy will stand on the 1st tee and if the large tree behind the 1st green is not visible he will place a sign advising players that the course is closed. He will also tell the Professional shop that no tickets are to be sold to visitors until further notice. When fog clears the course closed notice will be removed and the Professional shop advised accordingly

Lightning Policy

In event of lightening or threat of lightening the course will be closed by Club Official or Professional Staff.

The air raid siren will be taken by buggy and sounded at 8th tee to ensure all golfers can hear. For closure of the course it will be sounded once.

A sweep of the course will take place and all players will be told that they must immediately vacate the course; it is not an option to continue at your own risk.

Course may be re-opened by Club Official or Professional Staff by the sounding of the air raid siren 3 times, once the risk of lightening has passed. The closure signs will be removed.

Footwear.

All golfers (members & visitors) must ensure they have golf shoes which are adequate & suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the day of play.

Players Insurance.

All golfers (Members & Visitors) must ensure they have adequate 3rd party insurance to provide cover for liability at law for damages payable in respect of:

- Death or bodily injury.
- Loss of damage to material property.

Responsibilities.

- The General Manager is responsible for maintaining this risk assessment.

Overview of Risk Assessment Definitions/Abbreviations.

The risk assessment will address the following:

- Generic risks whilst playing golf.
- Risks whilst carrying Clubs and using motorised and pull trolleys in dry and wet conditions
- Risks whilst driving motorised buggies in dry conditions.
- Risks whilst driving motorised buggies in wet conditions.

Risk Assessment.

The Risk Assessment is presented in three categories:

- Generic Risks
- Risks on a hole by hole basis for the 9 hole course (generally known as the Academy Course)

For each hole the type of risk will be graded as detailed below:

- L= Low or Little Risk
- M= Medium Risk
- H = High Risk

Where there is a Medium or High a possible risk, a solution /recommendation to eradicate or reduce the risk will be suggested.

When defining the location of a risk by reference to a particular hole this is ascertained by looking from the Tee towards the Green.

Copyright

This document is owned by the Bedfordshire Golf Club and should not be copied without the permission of the General Committee.

Generic Risks

Risk Description	Grade of Risk	Solution/Recommendation
Being struck by a golf ball hit offline by a golfer playing on another part of the golf course	High	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> All players must remain alert at all times to the behaviour of nearby players. Players who have played an offline shot must immediately shout "FORE" to alert all surrounding players that the shot has been struck.
Being struck by a golf ball hit by a playing partner	High	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Non playing partner (s) must not advance in front of the shot being played. Players who have played a shot towards a playing partner (s) must immediately shout "FORE" to alert all surrounding players that the shot has been struck.
Being struck by a golf ball played by a golfer in the following group	Medium	Following golfers must ensure that those in front have advanced further than they can hit their best shot.
Being struck by the swinging club of a playing partner.	Medium	Players must stand at least 2 metres away from the arc of the swinging club
Tripping on uneven, sloping, or slippery ground.	Medium	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Obvious tripping hazards should be removed by fellow golfers & Greenkeeping staff. Sloping areas which become wet and are lacking in thick grass cover should roped off by Green's staff to prevent entry by players. Extra care should be taken by all golfers.
Tripping over a fellow golfer's playing equipment, trolley, or motorised buggy.	Low	Care should be taken by all golfers on the course.
Many of the teeing areas are surrounded by steep or medium sloping ground.	Medium High	Trolleys & motorised buggies are not to be taken on to these slopes in dry or wet conditions.
Throughout the courses there are steep and medium slopes which must be treated with care particularly during wet conditions. Specific slopes are dealt with as part of the hole by hole assessment.	Medium High	All golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are adequate & suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the day of play.

9 Course: Hole by Hole Risk Assessment

1st Hole

Type of Trolley or Buggy	Risk Description	Risk Grade	Recommendation/Solution
Carrying Clubs and using motorised & pull trolleys in dry& wet conditions.	Immediately behind the 1 st green a steep D slope at the start of the route to the 2 nd tee."	High.	Notice to be placed on the tee board stating "THERE SOME STEEP SLOPE ON THE CORSE - TAKE EXTRA CARE @ " DO NOT PLAY A SHOT IF OTHER PLAYERS ARE WITHIN RANGE"

2nd Hole

Carrying Clubs and using motorised & pull trolleys in dry& wet conditions.	No Risk Identified		
--	--------------------	--	--

3rd Hole

Carrying Clubs and using motorised & pull trolleys in dry& wet conditions.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There are a number of steep slopes on the route between the 2nd green and 3rd tee. 2. To the left of the 3rd green a steep D slope leads to a bridge leading across a stream to the 4th tee. 3. Players on the tee awaiting to play this hole must not do so until they are sure that no one is proceeding along the path to the right of the 3rd green which leads to the 7th green. 4. A stream runs the full length of this hole which has been designated as being "out of bounds" to golfers playing the 3th hole. When in flood the water in this stream is deep and fast flowing. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. High 2. High 3. High 4. Medium 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notice on 1st tee board highlights this risk. 2. Notice on 1st tee board highlights this risk. 3. A notice to be placed on the 3rd tee stating "SHOTS MUST NOT BE PLAYED TOWARDS THE 3RD GREEN UNLESS THE PATH LEADING TO THE 7TH GREEN AND ACROSS THE BRIDGE HAS BEEN VACATED BY ALL PERSONS 4. DANGER DEEP WATER DO NOT ATTEMPT TO RETREIVE ANY GOLF BALLS UNSTABLE BANK" 2 signs to be placed ON BRIDGE & in prominent positions along the banks of the stream.
--	---	--	---

4th Hole

Type of Trolley or Buggy	Risk Description	Risk Grade	Recommendation/Solution
Carrying Clubs and using motorised & pull trolleys in dry& wet conditions.	The route from the 4 th green to the 5 th tee passes close to the 6 th green. The route must be between the R side of the 6 th green and the boundary hedge.	High	On the Tee sign "NO SHOTS MUST BE PLAYED TOWARDS THE 4 th GREEN IF PLAYERS ARE WALKING ALONG PATH TO 7 TH GREEN.

5th Hole

Carrying Clubs and using motorised & pull trolleys in dry& wet conditions.	A stream runs the full length of this hole which has been designated as being "out of bounds" to golfers playing the 5 th hole. When in flood the water in this stream is deep and fast flowing.	High	1. Notices to be placed along the embankment of this stream at 20metre intervals "DANGEROUS UNSTABLE EMBANKMENTS AND RISK OF DEEP WATER- KEEP AWAY- DO NOT ATTEMPT TO RETREIVE GOLF BALLS FROM THE STREAM OR EMBANKMENT" (3 signs).
--	---	------	---

6th Hole

Carrying Clubs and using motorised & pull trolleys in dry& wet conditions.	The route from the 6 th green to the 7 th tee passes the 4 th green. Players may be hit by balls played from 4 th tee.	Medium	Notice to be placed on Tee sign. BEWARE OF GOLFERS PLAYING TO 4 TH GREEN. DO NOT PROCEED TO 7 TH TEE UNTIL PLAYERS HAVE COMPLETED TEE SHOTS FROM 4 TH TEE.
--	--	--------	---

7th Hole

Type of Trolley or Buggy	Risk Description	Risk Grade	Recommendation/Solution
Carrying Clubs and using motorised & pull trolleys in dry& wet conditions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Steep upslope from concrete road to tee area and fairway. 2. The route from the 7th green to the 8th hole tee passes close to the 3rd green. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. High 2. Medium 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notice on 1st tee board highlights this risk. 2. Notice on bridge support "LOOK RIGHT ON CROSSING BRIDGE BEWARE OF GOLFERS PLAYING TO 3RD GREEN LOOK

8th Hole

Carrying Clubs and using motorised & pull trolleys in dry&	Steep D slope at the R side of the 8 th green.	Medium	Route direction sign stating "ROUTE TO 9 TH TEE- THIS WAY ONLY" to be placed in front of green.
--	---	--------	--

wet conditions			
----------------	--	--	--

9th Hole

Carrying Clubs and using motorised & pull trolleys in dry& wet conditions	Tee is adjacent to 18 th hole of the main course and to the out of bounds marker posts.	High	Players on the 9 th hole must not cross on to the main course beyond the out of bounds posts Notice to be placed on the 9 th tee stating "CAUTION - DO NOT RETRIEEVE STRAY GOLF BALLS FROM THE 18 HOLE COURSE BEYOND THE WHITE POSTS."
---	--	------	--

USE OF MOTORISED BUGGIES ON THE 9 HOLE COURSE

Motorised buggies will only be allowed on the course when there is a GREEN condition on the 18 hole course.

When there are RED or BLUE conditions on 18th hole course, no buggies to be allowed on 9 hole course.