

BELLSHILL GOLF CLUB

Risk Assessment – August 2017

Health and Safety Document – Course Risk Assessment Statement

Members, Guests and visitors are hereby advised that comprehensive Risk Assessments are regularly carried out on the Course in accordance with the Club's Health & Safety Policy.

It is your responsibility, as a golfer, caddie or spectator on the course, to ensure that you consider safety and to assist in this please adhere strictly to the following to help reduce the risks inherent to the game of golf in an outdoor environment

- You are advised to take particular care when moving around the course in wet or cold weather, when underfoot conditions may require extra caution. Steps on the course should be used with great care, particularly in wet conditions.**
- Footwear: Ensure that you are wearing suitable footwear – you have a responsibility to yourself to avoid slipping on slopes and other awkward places.**
- Darkness, rain, fog, ice and high winds: During inclement weather, the fact that the course has not been officially closed does not warrant that it is fit for play. Therefore, members and visitors should themselves determine whether they consider it safe to play.**
- If snow and ice is present there is a high risk of trip/fall: play at own risk even if course is open.**
- You are advised to adopt caution, and be aware of your surroundings, when close to any trees on the course, particularly during windy or other adverse weather conditions. While branches considered to be dangerous are removed whenever possible, the Club cannot be held responsible for natural conditions prevailing at any particular time.**
- You are advised to use caution when going down or up any steep incline on the course, particularly when using golf buggies or trolleys. Adherence to the instructions detailed on any directional signage for buggies and/or trolleys is also essential in order to minimize risk in this respect. Please pay particular attention at the 16th and 17th holes when operating a ride on buggy.**
- The use of privately owned single seat ride-on buggies are permitted only by prior application to the Council, and can only be used when trolleys are permitted on the course. Buggies can be dangerous if driven without due care. Please always drive buggies with due consideration to your own safety as well as that of other passengers/people on the golf course.**

- **You are advised to avoid oral contact with anything that comes into contact with the golf course (including trees, sand, soil and grass) particularly when caution signs indicate that chemicals have recently been sprayed on the course. Do not lick golf balls or fingers. A notice on the 1st Tee will advise when spraying is in progress or has recently occurred. Players are advised to take heed of these warnings.**
- **In the event that you come across any dead/living wildlife on the course, you are expressly prohibited from any contact with it and requested to advise a member of the Council or head green keeper, who will deal with it accordingly.**
- **You are advised, when playing, to take every precaution to avoid hitting anyone on the course with your golf ball. Particular care should be taken at holes where the landing area is not clearly visible from the tee (especially the 7th, 9th, 11th and 18th holes where teeing off should only commence after the bell has been sounded by the players in front), and wherever parallel fairways are played in opposing directions. If you do not hear the bell you should always check that the hole is clear before continuing play.**
- **Players should not tee off at the 13th if there is any chance of them driving the green and the same would apply at the 6th hole.**
- **Players on the 15th green must be aware of stray tee shots from the 1st and 18th tees.**
- **Players should be aware of other players on the 1st and 15th greens and surrounding areas. Players should be careful whilst retrieving balls from the pond. Players should be careful whilst crossing the bridge at the 9th and 15th holes.**
- **Caution must be taken when descending down the path at the 17th. Beware of the wooden sleepers especially in wet conditions. Please stay on the proper path and avoid standing on the wooden sleepers.**
- **Never play a shot unless the players ahead are well out of range. If a miss-hit shot is heading in the direction of other people on the golf course, you must shout “FORE” in a loud voice to alert them of possible danger. If “FORE” is heard when playing, please take evasive action if possible.**
- **Golfers must always stand well back behind the player who is playing his shot, both on the tee and on all other areas of the Course. A swinging golf club can be dangerous and can cause damage.**
- **Players have a duty of care to behave in such a way that others may not be injured by their actions. They also have a duty of care to ensure that they do not injure themselves.**
- **All players play at their own risk and should do nothing to jeopardise the safety of themselves or others, please take care when playing near trees where roots are showing.**

- **All golfers must ensure that they are adequately insured in respect of the risks involved with the playing of golf. It is recommended that golfers should be insured against the unlikely event of them being injured or causing injury as a result of an errant shot.**
- **Green Keeping Staff: Green Keeping Staff have priority at all times. Always make sure that they are aware of your presence before you play your shot. The Green Keeping Staff are instructed to signal to you when it is safe to play.**
- **Persons using the practice area are expected to be aware at all times of the danger to others and to themselves. Care must be taken at all times to avoid accidents or injuries to themselves or others who may be present on the practice area. Please make sure that the practice area is clear with due allowance for the possibility of an errant shot.**
- **Players must protect themselves in Health and Safety matters especially should there be a danger from lightning when play must be stopped immediately.**
- **Rule 6 – 8 of the Rules of Golf makes it quite clear that a player is entitled to discontinue play if the player believes that there is a danger from lightening. Mark your ball position if in competition.**
- **All players must adhere to the following Suspension of Play procedure:**
- **A suspension of play for a dangerous situation (e.g. lightening) will be signaled by a prolonged single blast on the klaxon operated from a member of the Council and/or their representative.**
- **During a Competition, the Competition Organiser is responsible for sounding the Klaxon. However, even if the Klaxon is not sounded and the players believe that there is a real risk of, or danger from lightening then the player is entitled to proceed under the provision of Rule 6–8 and discontinue play. During casual play, players have to proceed under Rule 6–8. This makes it the player’s own responsibility to discontinue play when, in his/her opinion, a danger from lightening exists. It is unreasonable to expect the Club to monitor the course each and every day.**
- **If your golf ball causes any damage to surrounding houses or vehicles during your round, please report it when you return to the Clubhouse.**
- **Do not attempt to play golf on the courses when the course closed sign is displayed.**
- **Bellshill Golf Club accepts no liability for any personal injury, loss or damage caused to members, guests or other visitors, or to their personal property whilst on its premises, including vehicles in the car park and personal property inside the vehicles and personal property in lockers and caddie shed.**

