

Shotts Golf Club COVID-19 Risk Assessment

Playing the Golf Course

November 2020



Playing the golf course

General Facts about COVID-19

Means of contamination - Respiratory droplets or direct contact with symptomatic individuals; contact with contaminated surfaces or objects.

Means of entry to the body – Inhalation, or physical contact with eyes, nose, or mouth.

Frequency of exposure – Constant

Numbers exposed – All Persons

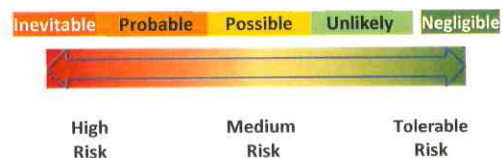
Likelihood of contamination if coming into contact with the virus - Inevitable

Likely sources of contamination on the golf course

- **Golfers Paraphernalia**; Golf clubs; trolleys; bags; balls; tees; pencils; umbrellas; range finders (scopes) Mobile phones and others
- **Golf Course Furniture**; flagsticks; hole cups; ball washers; bunker rakes; divot boxes; waste bins; gates; benches and seats; handrails
- **Club House Area**; Keypads and security, Clubhouse Doors, Pro Shop doors; hire buggies; hire trolleys, Pro shop general areas; pro shop counter service
- **Other Persons**; Other golfers; greenstaff; Clubhouse staff; Pro shop staff, visitors and deliveries, members of the public.

Evaluation of Risk and Controls

Risk Matrix



General Controls

Players have been informed of the need for good hand hygiene and to follow good social distancing measures at all times and not to enter the golf club grounds if suffering any of the symptoms of COVID-19. Hygiene regimes will be implemented for all golf course furniture, non-essential points of contact have been removed from the golf course.

Evaluation of Risk from Specific Hazards

Golfers Paraphernalia

Source of Contamination	Nature of the Risk	Exposed Risk	Controls	Residual Risk
Golf Clubs	Used or picked up by a golfer other than the owner.	Possible	Players have been instructed not to share clubs and only touch their own equipment.	Negligible
Golf Bags / Trolleys	Picked up or moved by golfer other than the owner.	Possible	Players have been instructed not to move another players bag or trolley even if it is in their way, but to ask the owner to move it.	Negligible
Players Balls	Picked up by a player other than the owner.	Possible	Players have been instructed not to pick up or move another payers golf ball; players are to move, mark and remove their own ball from the hole cup at all times.	Negligible
Scorecards, Pencils	Handled by a player other than the owner.	Possible	Scorecard have been removed and are not being given out. Players have been asked to play matchplay only.	Negligible
Umbrellas	Handled by players other than the owner, shared to protect from elements.	Probable	Players have been instructed not to share umbrellas and reminded that social distancing must be observed at all times	Negligible
Range Finders (scopes)	Handled by a player other than the owner.	Unlikely	Players have been instructed not to share any golfing equipment	Negligible

Golf Course Furniture

Source of Contamination	Nature of the Risk	Exposed Risk	Controls	Residual Risk
Flagsticks	Common contact point for all players when putting out or retrieving a ball from hole cup.	Inevitable	Golfers have been instructed not to remove the flags from the hole cups, to putt out with the flag in place at all times	Unlikely
Hole Cups	Common contact point for all players when retrieving a ball from hole cup.	Inevitable	The depth of the hole cup has been shallowed so that golf balls can be retrieved without physical contact of the hole cup.	Unlikely
Ball washers	Common contact point for all players when cleaning a golf ball.	Inevitable	All ball washers covered/ taken out of use.	N/A

Bunker Rakes	Common contact point for all players when raking a bunker after having played out.	Inevitable	Removed from the golf course.	N/A
Divot Boxes	Common contact point for all players to repair divots on tees	Inevitable	Removed from the golf course.	N/A
Benches and Seats	Common contact point for all players if resting or waiting between playing holes.	Inevitable	Removed from the golf course/ taken out of use.	N/A

Clubhouse and Pubic Areas

Source of Contamination	Nature of the Risk	Exposed Risk	Controls	Residual Risk
Doors and handles	Common point of contact.	Inevitable	Handles disinfected on a regular basis.	Unlikely
Other Clubhouse Doors	Common point of contact when moving through the clubhouse.	Inevitable	The clubhouse and all general public areas will remain closed until further notice	Unlikely
Pro Shop	Common point of contact.	Inevitable	The Pro Shop will remain closed until further notice.	Unlikely
Hire Buggies	Point of contact when hired	Inevitable	Only available to those with a medical certificate and sanitised before and after use. Players advised to wear gloves and sit on a towel.	N/A
Hire Trolleys	Point of contact when hired	Inevitable	Removed from service until further notice.	N/A
Pro Shop General Areas	Common point of contact	Inevitable	Pro Shop remains closed. If this opens, the number of people will be restricted, to enable social distancing measures.	Unlikely

Pro Shop Counter	Common point of contact	Inevitable	<p>If the Pro Shop opens, contactless payment only will be used with no handling of cash.</p> <p>Staff will have access to hand sanitiser at all times or will wear gloves and masks.</p>	Unlikely
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Other Persons

Source of Contamination	Nature of the Risk	Exposed Risk	Controls	Residual Risk
Other Golfers	<p>Players making contact shaking hands, embracing, standing next to each other.</p> <p>Being in close proximity where one player can contaminate another with exhalation of pathogen bearing droplets.</p>	Inevitable	All players Have been issued with strict guidelines on revised golf course etiquette and social behaviour	Unlikely
Greenstaff	Players coming into close contact with greenstaff.	Probable		Negligible
Clubhouse Staff	Players coming into close contact with other members of staff.	Inevitable		Negligible
Pro Shop Staff	Players coming into close contact with Pro shop staff.	Inevitable	Greenstaff will plan work to avoid contact and observe good social distancing at all times.	Unlikely
Visitors and Deliveries	Players coming into close contact with clubhouse visitors or delivery staff.	Possible		Negligible
Members of the Public	Players coming into close contact with members of the public on the golf course.	Possible		Negligible

Emergency Procedures

Any player who shows signs of the virus on the golf course will be instructed to leave and return home immediately.

In the eventuality of any layer or other person being overcome to the extent that they cannot take themselves home, staff or other players will call 111 and take advice from the helpline. If an ambulance has to attend the golf course, it will be met at the gates and taken to the necessary location by a member of staff.

Code of Conduct for Playing Golf During COVID-19 Pandemic



Playing golf is a great way to exercise and to have some limited social interaction at a time of restriction. However, to keep golf courses open golfers must exhibit best social practice before arriving at the golf club to play, at the golf club and on the golf course.

For Your Health and Wellbeing

The following guidelines will substantially reduce the likelihood that you will contract the virus becoming a carrier.

- Stay at home and self-isolate even if you only have minor symptoms such as; such as cough; headache; mild fever; if you need to leave the house, wear a face mask and avoid contact with others.
- If you have a cough; fever or breathing difficulties, and feel you cannot cope at home, use the NHS 111 helpline.
- Regularly and thoroughly wash your hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub to kill any viruses that may be on your hands.
- Maintain a distance of at least 2 metres from other persons (social distancing) in case they, or you cough or sneeze spreading the virus through droplets.
- Avoid crowding or crowded places where social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth, and nose; these are transfer points for the virus from your hands into the body.
- Cover your mouth and nose if you sneeze, disposing of the tissue immediately, then clean your hands as above.

At the golf club and on the golf course

The above guidelines apply at all times when at the golf club and on the golf course, remember if you want to keep playing strict adherence is essential, additionally and until further notice how we play the game and prepare golf courses must change, this means as a player you must;

- **If you can, carry with you an alcohol-based hand sanitiser.**
- **Arrive ready to play, do not attend the Clubhouse for any reason, if you have a query, make it online or by phone through the usual channels.**
- **If you have a tee time, please arrive in an appropriate time, if you have to wait, ensure good social distancing at all times, or ideally in your car.**

- Follow any instructions and safety signs that are in place; they are there to ensure the best possible practice.
- On the putting green, remove your balls without contacting the flagstick or hole cup.
- When attending the Pro Shop, follow the instructions on the door notice, do not enter the pro shop if social distancing cannot be practised. BE PATIENT!
- Do not touch products in the Pro Shop unless you are buying it.
- Do not shake hands or make physical contact before, during or after your round.
- Do not crowd around tees, if as you approach a tee; it is occupied, stay well back maintaining a suitable distance from the tee while keeping a distance of 2 metres from your paying partner.
- On the tee, maintain good social distancing from your playing partners at all times.
- Do not share; pencils; tees; scope finders; umbrellas; phones or any other golf paraphernalia with other players.
- Avoid contact with the flagstick or hole cup; we will clean the flagsticks and hole cups on a regular basis and set the hole cups shallower so you can retrieve your ball without touching it.
- Do not pick up another players golf club or, contact their golf bag or golf trolley.
- Do not pick up any golf ball other than your own, even if you find what you are certain is a lost ball.
- Accept the bunkers as you find them. Rakes have been removed for your safety; the greenstaff will rake the bunkers when they can.
- Do not use the litter bins; please take your own litter home.
- Do not use the ball washers; they are going to be taken out of commission until further notice.
- If you meet walkers or members of the public on a public footpath, stand aside at a safe distance and allow them to pass whilst practicing good social distancing comfortably.
- At the end of your round, do not swap scorecards.
- After your round go straight to your car practising good social distancing at all times.

Any player observed not following the above code of conduct will be asked to leave the golf course immediately by staff.

Remember to practice good golf etiquette at all times, a reckless shot could place an unnecessary demand on already stretched emergency services.

Note if you are showing any of the symptoms of COVID-19 such as cough; headache; mild fever, for your safety and for the safety of you friends and their families, please stay at home

Shotts Golf Club / Covid -19 Safety procedures required to safeguard Members and Staff
REVISED LEVEL 4 / Dated 20/11/2020

If you are showing signs of the Covid-19 Virus i.e. temperature sore throat etc. we would ask that you stay away from the course and isolate for the appropriate time before coming back to play and observe the legislation in regards travelling at this time

For your own safety in which common sense plays an important role the following are recommendations which must be followed to allow us to play golf in a safe and secure environment and protect fellow members.

Golf will be until further notice and instruction be played in a **Two, Three or Four balls format** with normal intervals between games and social golf only adhering to **the social distancing required of at least 2m** which will apply throughout the round when on the tee, putting green, or looking for a wayward golf shot.

Booking a Tee Time will only be available through either the BRS system or Phoning the Professional Shop **no walk on times will be available**. Tee off times will be as per time sheet Monday to Sunday. Unfortunately to allow members full use of the Course no visitors will be permitted on the Course until further notice.

If you are unable to make your tee time, we ask that you cancel it asap to allow others the chance to play. Tee times will be available five days in advance until further notice

We would ask you to arrive at the Club ten to fifteen minutes before your booked tee time to allow you to prepare for your round and change in the car park. We would ask that you have your own hand sanitizer to be used before during and after your round.

The entire clubhouse will remain closed which includes the locker rooms and toilets.
Access to remove clubs can be made through the Professional Shop.

When waiting to go onto the first Tee, allow the game in front to exit the Tee before approaching the Professional Shop/ Starter to book in and no more than four people would be allowed in the shop at any one time. Access to the Putting Green prior to teeing off will be allowed but again **the 2m social distancing rule will apply**.
All play will commence at the first Tee and no other part of the course. No cutting in skipping holes etc will be allowed and played strictly in order 1 -18 although departure from the course will be allowed at the usual points of the 8th / 13th / and 15th if a full round is not being played

In general play precautions have been taken for your safety **the pin will always be kept in and must not be touched/removed**. Bunker rakes will be removed, with preferred lies in the bunker within one club length. Ball retrievers from ditches will be removed, Ball Washers and Benches will not be in use.

The **Practice Area** will be restricted to **two members** at any one time, but access will have to be confirmed through the Professional Shop which will give the Professional control of the area and allow him to give lessons.

With proper sanitation carried out by the Professional Shop Buggies, Hand and Power Trolleys will be in use.
Note Buggy use is at the discretion of the Head Green Keeper and determined by the ground conditions

Once the round is completed you are asked to make your way carefully back to the car park by the designated route and leave the Club as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your patience in these extreme times and keep safe

Management Committee
Shotts Golf Club
20/11/2020