**Course Risk assessment**

The Golf Course Risk Assessment has been carried out on a hole-by-hole basis. To help minimise the risks from the hazards that have been identified it is your responsibility as a golfer, caddie or spectator on the course to ensure that you adhere strictly to the risk assessment.

Players should not strike a golf ball when there is a risk of endangering other players, members of green staff and all other users of the golf course and its surroundings.

If a golf shot is heading in the direction of other users of the course you must shout ‘FORE’ in a loud voice to alert them of a possible danger. If ‘FORE’ is heard when playing, then please take evasive action if possible.

**Insurance**

All golfers must ensure that they are adequately insured in respect of the risks involved with the playing of golf.

**Footpaths**

Ormonde Fields Golf Club has several public footpaths crossing the land. Please remember that USERS OF THE PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY HAVE PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES. If people are in range of your shot, take a minute and enjoy the stunning scenery until they are out of range. Footpaths are identified by pink marker posts. If walkers become lost on the course golfers should politely direct them to the nearest suitable route to re-access the designated footpaths  so as to reduce the likelihood of injury.

Particular care should be taken on holes which are associated with the footpaths at the following locations: -

A footpath passes below the second tee at the back of the 17th green joining the fairway by the ladies tee and then runs along the fairway edge at the tree line. It then turns left at the front of the large horse chestnut tree at the bottom of the bank. Here it joins the footpath from the 17th fairway (see below) which runs across the bottom of the bank.

The footpath then continues across the entrance road around the side of the 3rd green continuing over the 4th fairway in front of the tee to cross the 9th fairway, finally crossing the 10th fairway in front of the pond to exit the course in the corner.

A footpath goes from Castle Lane corner adjacent to the 10th green where entry is made using a stile to a footpath that runs run alongside the fairway. At the corner of the trees it crosses the 10th fairway running behind the trees of the 11th until it reaches the 7th fairway. It then crosses the 7th fairway directly in front of the tees, crosses the 6th fairway near the front of the pond and finally exiting the course near to the electricity pylon adjacent to the 14th tees.

At this point another footpath begins, it runs diagonally across the 14th fairway into the trees to emerge and cross the 15th fairway. It runs past the pond running alongside the boundary hedge of the course alongside the 16th fairway tree line before exiting the course corner onto Nottingham Road.

At the point where the weir is situated by the 17th lake a footpath crosses onto the course via a small footbridge. This continues across the 17th fairway at right angles running across the front of the wood and bank of the 2nd hole to join up with the path alongside the 2nd.

 A duty of care is also required with golf shots towards or over the roads passing along the side of and across the 4th fairway then across the 10th fairway joining with Castle Drive. Whilst along with the club car parks, they are not a right of way they are often misused and as such pedestrians may be encountered, therefore appropriate due care is still required.

The main entrance road to the club runs adjacent to a number of holes the 4th 3rd and 18th. Remember to take care with your golf shots from the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th, 10th, 15th and 17th tees and your approach shots to the 10th green.

Particular care should be taken at the following locations:

2nd Blind shot to the green

3rd Road crossing

4th Entrance road

6th Blind shot approaching hole

7th Blind tee shot

8th Golfers crossing from 4th/5th emerging from woods in front of tee

15th Blind shot to the green if teeing off with that intention

17th Blind tee shot – spotter required. Balls from the 2nd tee hit onto fairway.

18th Golfers passing from the 1st/2nd

**Animal Holes**

Ormonde Fields Golf Club endeavours to fill in holes created by animals; however, it is inevitable that there will be some holes made by rabbits badgers etc, which could lead to injury. Please be observant of where you are walking at all times.

**Buggies**

Ormonde Fields Golf Club has buggies available for hire. Personal ride-on buggies will be permitted with prior consent of the golf shop or manager. All golf buggies must be operated in accordance with our Golf Buggy Safety Policy.

You should be aware of the risk of hazards from such buggies even if being used in the correct manner.

**Steep Banks, Slopes and Paths**

Ormonde Fields Golf Club has many steep banks, slopes and paths to list individually. At all times players should take care when walking up or down any slope or gradient, particularly when using golf buggies or trolleys.

**Steps**

There are wooden sleeper steps to the tees of the 1st,2nd, 4th, 5th, 7th, 8th, 10th, 11th,12th, 16th, 17th and 18th holes. Please be careful on these during wet and icy weather. Most tees and greens have slopes associated with them.

**Water Hazards**

There are several lakes/ponds on the course. These are all shown on the hole layout diagram at the start of each hole and have red or yellow designating stakes around them. It is the players responsibility to check and be wary of them. Please do not enter the ponds at all as they can have steep sides and may be deep. There could also be a risk of infection from stagnant water.

**Power Lines**

There are several main power lines and pylons on the course. These are not regarded as a golfing hazard.

**Blind holes**

Where blind spots to hidden greens occur (2nd and 15th) a bell is provided to alert players that the green is clear

**Machinery & Green Staff**

Priority must be given to green staff working on the course at all times. Ensure that shots are not likely to place green staff at risk before playing. You should wait and receive acknowledgement that they are aware of your presence before playing. Take care to keep clear of machinery operating on the course and areas of work that may place you at risk.

**Chemicals**

On occasion it is necessary to treat areas of the course with chemicals. Use will be indicated by a notice displayed adjacent to the Club shop. If you come into contact with chemicals, you should ensure that proper hygiene procedures are followed. Further information and safety data is available from the greens staff or course manager (COSHH policy).

**Aircraft**

Care should be taken particularly on the 9th and 10th fairways for the possibility of local aircraft movement. On occasion light aircraft may use the fairways for take-off and landing including movement to hangar locations. If this is observed you should move from the fairway, remembering to take all buggies and equipment to allow a safe passage of the aircraft.

**Inclement Weather**

**Darkness, rain, fog, ice**: During inclement weather, the fact that the course has not been officially closed does not warrant that it is fit to play. Therefore, members and visitors should determine themselves whether they consider it safe to play. 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.

**Lightning**: It is the players own responsibility to discontinue play when, in his or her own opinion, a danger from lightning exists. In the event that a player is out on the golf course when lightning is occurring then the following safety considerations are advised:

Keep as low as possible and ideally crouch down in the nearest bunker/hollow.

Leave your golf equipment where it is and stand away from it.

Do not use a mobile phone – make sure it is switched off.

Do not put up an umbrella in any circumstances.

**To help with the review process of our safety procedures all Members, Guests and Visitors are kindly requested to bring to the attention of the Secretary or Course manager any incidents that happen on the golf course, or hazards they feel may not have been addressed.**