

**Eastbourne Downs Golf Course**

 **Health & Safety**

The Council and Management Team at the Eastbourne Downs Golf Course sincerely hope that members, visitors and green fee players fully enjoy their golf here at the EDGC, in conditions that are as safe as reasonably possible

By the very nature of the game of golf, we believe that it is not possible to completely eradicate the risk of damage or injury, but every effort has been made to minimise the risks

**Emergency Action**

The Pro Shop staff may need to clear the course in the case of an emergency.  This will be signalled by blasts on a klaxon/air horn, repeated at intervals

* An immediate suspension of play for a dangerous situation will be signalled by one long continuous sounding of the klaxon
* Discontinued play will be signalled by three separate soundings of the klaxon
* In either case, resumption of play will be signalled by two separate soundings of the klaxon

In the event of an accident, first aid boxes are located behind the bar and in the Pro Shop. There is a defibrillator located on the Clubhouse wall, at the top of the path from the car park (access code C159X)

In case of severe illness or injury, where an ambulance is required, please call 999

Clubhouse postcode:  BN20 8ES

What Three Words: field.mime.offers

Telephone:  01325 720827 Option 1 for the office and Option 2 for the Pro Shop

All accidents, incidents or near misses should be reported to Clubhouse staff and be recorded in the “Accident Book” located behind the bar

All members, guests and green fee players are kindly requested to advise the Secretary of any hazards they feel have not been addressed below

**General**

Members, guests and visitors are advised that comprehensive risk assessments are regularly carried out, in accordance with the Council’s Health and Safety Policy

It is your responsibility, when on the course, to ensure that you adhere to the health and safety advice and hole by hole hazard notification and adhere to the following:

1. Players are expected to be aware, at all times, of danger to others and yourselves.  Care must be taken at all times to avoid accidents or injuries to yourself and to other players, officials, public or staff
2. Golfers should not strike a golf ball when there is a risk of endangering other people whether that is other golfers, greenkeeping staff or any member of the public.  Particular care should be taken at holes where the landing area is not clearly visible (especially the 7th, 11th & 16th), and wherever parallel fairways are played in opposing directions. Never play a shot unless the players ahead are well out of range
3. Eastbourne Downs Golf Course has public rights of way, including the South Downs Way, running across the course. Please remember that people using these rights of way have priority and golfers must wait until it is safe to play. This especially applies to the 2nd, 3rd, 7th. 8th, 9th and 18th holes, where public rights of way cross or are adjacent to the course
4. If a golf ball is stuck and is heading in the direction of other people, you must shout FORE to alert them of the impending danger. When you hear the shout of FORE, please take evasive action and crouch down and cover your head
5. When looking for a lost ball, leave a trolley or bag on the fairway to act as a visible marker of your presence
6. 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
7. The green keeping staff are regularly working on the course when golf is in progress.  Please be careful and courteous to them and ensure that they are aware of, and have acknowledged your presence, prior to playing in their proximity
8. 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 Council cannot be held responsible for natural conditions prevailing at any particular time
9. You are advised to use caution when going down or up any steep incline on the course, particularly when using golf buggies or trolleys
10. There are various types of steps and paths with rubber mats and artificial grass throughout the course. You are advised to use all steps and paths on the course with caution, particularly in wet or icy conditions
11. EDGC has Buggies for hire and allows members to operate their own private buggies on the course. All buggies must be operated in accordance with our Buggies Policy
12. EDGC endeavours to fill in holes created by animals. However, it is inevitable that there will be animal holes which could lead to injuries. Please take extra care
13. Out of bounds –No attempts should be made to retrieve golf balls which have come to rest outside of the boundary of the golf course
14. The course is located on natural downland, due to this the ground may be uneven and contain hidden obstructions or holes, especially in the ‘Rough’. Please stick to paths where possible and take care when walking in the Rough. Report any unsafe conditions to the Clubhouse

**Inclement Weather**

Fog, storms, darkness and ice:  Competition play will be cancelled in serious inclement weather conditions.

Play shall not commence or if underway, must stop when visibility is reduced to less than 240 yards. A distinctive red and white marker is situated on the right of the fairway 240 yards from the 1st Tee. If this marker post is not visible no play shall commence. Doing so could invalidate any insurance cover and leave you personally liable for damages in the event of injuring anyone

Members must ensure they check the app which will indicate when the course has either been closed or reopened

All players play at their own risk but should always do nothing to jeopardise the safety of themselves or others. 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, especially in wet conditions.  Ensure that you have appropriate golf shoes with well-maintained spikes

Lightning:  It is the player’s own responsibility to discontinue play when a danger from lightning exists.  In the event that a player is out on the golf course when lighting is about, then the following safety considerations are advised:

1. Keep as low as possible and ideally crouch down in the nearest bunker/hollow
2. Leave your golf equipment where it is and stand away from it
3. Do not use a mobile phone – make sure it is switched off
4. Do not put an umbrella up in any circumstances