

Cumberwell Park

Course Risk Assessment – SUMMARY Prepared by Matthew James (Course Manager) 12/1/17

- This risk assessment covers the main hazards associated with the golf course for all users
- In an emergency, call the golf club 01225 863322 or Course Manager 07967 727104.
- A list of certified first aiders can be found in the clubhouse reception area.

All golfers, members & visitors alike, should read the following information before playing the golf courses.

Inclement Weather – Safety on the course can change dramatically with the onset of inclement weather. Policy documents are displayed in reception and starters hut which cover the following dangerous weather conditions:

- 1). Thunder & Lightning – All play will be suspended should lightning be in the area. A continuous blast on an air horn will sound to represent this. Players should not seek protection under trees. Leave the course or crouch down as low as possible do not use mobile phones and do not open an umbrella.
- 2) Fog – Players must not start their round if the 150 yard marker on the 1st fairway cannot be seen. If fog descends during a round, players should suspend their game if they are unable to ascertain if players are within range.

Holes in close proximity - 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 golfers, you must shout “FORE” in a loud voice to alert players of the possible danger. If “FORE” is heard, please take appropriate evasive action.

Bridges - There are a number of bridges that cross ditches and culverts, both on the play of a hole and from green to the next tee. Please take care when crossing these, especially in wet or frosty conditions.

Water hazards - Special care must be taken to avoid trips, slips and falls when standing on, or walking near, banks/slopes especially adjacent to lakes, ponds and ditches as these are considered to be some of the most hazardous areas of the course, particularly during or immediately after adverse weather conditions. Please take care when approaching these, or attempting to retrieve your golf balls.

Public access - Footpaths and bridleways are present on parts of the course. Signs have been erected, warning walkers, cyclists and horse riders of the danger from golf balls and from work equipment and activities. Golfers must give walkers priority and not play if anyone is in range. Golfers must shout “fore” in any likelihood of the ball hitting someone.

Adjacent houses - A house with walled garden is located at the top of the driving range – it is forbidden to aim golf balls in this direction.

Road crossings - The golfers route to the par 3 course runs adjacent to and crosses the main driveway. This route is frequently used by cars, delivery vehicles, course service vehicles and lorries using the construction site. Please keep to the clearly defined crossing areas.

Buggy use - A 'Golf Buggy Safety Policy' has been devised and is issued to, read by and signed by all prospective users, before a buggy is hired and taken onto the course. Users of golf buggies are made aware of particular hazards around the golf course as part of buggy induction. Private buggies must have their own Public Liability Insurance.

Slopes & banks - Due to the very nature of the course, various holes have slopes, banks and inclines, which have to be negotiated. Please be aware of loose or slippery conditions, especially in wet or frosty weather.

Steps – These may become slippery when wet. Please take care when using the steps.

Paths, car park & patio areas - During freezing conditions, these areas may become slippery as a result of frost or ice. Large stones may also migrate onto paths which may pose a trip hazard.

Bunkers - Care must be taken when getting into or out of the bunker. Always enter the bunker from the flattest direction to avoid slipping on a slope.

Vehicles – Beware of equipment and vehicles being driven around the course by green keepers. Please keep your distance from them.

Hazardous substances - Temporary notices are erected, informing golfers that treatments have been recently applied on the course. Please do not touch the ball with your mouth or tongue to clean your ball, use the golf ball cleaners that are strategically placed around the course. Golfers should keep clear of the sprayer when operating.

Driving Range & Short Game Area - Persons using the driving range are expected to be aware at all times of danger to others and to themselves. Play should only take place from the designated mats or roped area. A full list of rules and regulations is found at the driving range and short game area.

Animal scrapes & holes - Holes, dug by mammals such as rabbits, can become obscured on grass tracks and elsewhere on the course and pose the risk of tripping or falling.

Golfers in range but out of sight - Do not play until you are sure that the group in front have left the green or fairway. Holes that may be hidden from view include: 11th, 15th, 19th, 22nd, 23rd, 25th. Holes with "blind shots" are equipped with an all-clear bell.

Shared fairway - The 33rd & 34th holes use a shared fairway. Golfers must be aware of other golfers occupying the adjacent fairway before hitting.

Mature trees - You are advised to approach all mature trees and wooded areas with caution, particularly during windy or other adverse weather conditions.

Pop-up sprinklers – Golfers are advised to be aware of “pop-up” style sprinklers which are mainly situated around the edge of the greens and tees. They may become obscured by grass and leaves and therefore pose a trip hazard.

Wildlife - The golf course contains a diverse natural habitat for species such as: snakes, bees, wasps, ants, ticks and flies. Please keep your distance from any species that have the potential to bite.