

MOND VALLEY GOLF CLUB



Members & Visitors on Course Health & Safety Information & Risk Assessment

Policy This includes a hole-by-hole risk assessment, however the hazards identified are not exhaustive and all members and visitors must be aware of their responsibility for their own safety as well as the safety of others on the course, including grounds maintenance staff.

Accident / Emergency Procedures

In the event of an accident that requires the emergency services, playing partners should contact the emergency services on their mobile phone(s) if they have one; if not, they should inform the club house by whatever means is available to them, for staff to contact emergency services.

In the event of an accident, first aid boxes are located in: The Clubhouse Kitchen and the Greenkeepers Shed adjacent to the 11th Tee. A Defibrillator is also located

First Aid Assistance

in the hallway of the Clubhouse, and all staff have attended a defibrillator course. Although the defibrillator will give you instructions when it is open for use.

Trolley Shed

Members who leave their possessions in the new trolley shed at their own risk. Mond Valley do not accept any responsibility for loss, damage or theft. Members who rent lockers will have a dedicated number the same as their locker number and are to store their equipment in a safe and tidy manner to provide ease of access.

Care should be exercised when entering or leaving the car park. The speed limit of 5 MPH must be observed. Members, visitors and members of the public using the Club

On the Course

car park are to be made aware of stray golf balls. The club does not accept responsibility for any damage to member's cars and or property.

Footwear:

All players are expected to wear golf shoes when playing. Trainers are not allowed. The type of golf shoe is up to the individual; however, it is advisable to take into account the conditions under foot when considering what type of shoe to wear. For guidance, players are advised to wear soft spikes in the winter or during prolonged periods of wet conditions and soft spikes or dimpled shoes in the summer.

Being Struck by a Golf Ball:

All players are expected to observe correct golfing etiquette in order to minimise the risk of being struck by another player's ball, this includes:

- Not standing any further forward than the Tee Markers in play, when players are teeing off.
- Player furthest away plays first and playing partners should not encroach in front of the player until he/she has played their shot.
- Do not play a shot if the players in front are in range.
- **ALWAYS** shout **FORE!** if your ball is headed in the direction of other players in range on adjacent holes.

Slips, Trips and Falls:

As with most golf courses, Mond Valley Golf Course is not perfectly flat, there are undulations, slopes and trip hazards throughout the course, including holes made by burrowing animals. All players must take care while walking the course, be aware of these hazards and look where you are walking. (See individual Hole risk assessments for specific hazards).

There are various hazards on the golf course such as ponds, ditches etc, it is club rule that no person must enter the ponds or ditches to retrieve balls due to the dangers of falling and possibly drowning.

Lightning & Thunder or Extreme Weather:

In the event of any of the above the course must be vacated as soon as possible, **One** long continuous blast of a klaxon will be used to instruct everyone to leave the golf course. This is a mandatory instruction and on hearing this warning all players **MUST** mark your ball or finish the hole and take whatever action you consider most appropriate to ensure your safety or leave the course by the shortest, safest route.

Note: *Players should however be aware that it is a players own responsibility to discontinue play when in their opinion there is danger from lightning and not wait for the horn to sound.* Where there is insufficient time to evacuate the course (due to the suddenness of the lightning threat) the following safety precautions are to be observed:

- Seek a large permanent enclosed building.
- Do not shelter under trees or go to high ground.

- Leave your golf equipment where it is and stand away from it.
- DO NOT put an umbrella up in any circumstances.
- Keep as low as possible; ideally crouch down in the nearest bunker/hollow. •
- Do not use a mobile phone – make sure it is turned off.

If and when it is deemed safe to resume play, **two** long blasts will be sounded on the klaxon.

If the golf course is to be closed **three** long blasts on the klaxon will be sounded.

Fog:

Whether to commence or continue play in a stipulated round when fog is present is a difficult decision. Fog, by its very nature, is not easy to forecast, and it is challenging to predict when it will set in or lift.

From a playability standpoint, it is the R&A's and Club policy to commence or continue play in a stipulated round if the landing zone for all shots to be played are visible to the players, which is as a general rule no play will take place unless 200 yards visibility is obvious.

In this regard, tee shots requiring the use of drivers may present the most difficult challenge since such shots cover the most distance.

Things such as fairway lines, hazards, trees, etc. in the drive zone must be visible to a large extent. However, the fact that visibility is partially obscured by fog such that the entire flight of the ball is not possible does not generally require a decision to delay or suspend play.

Extreme Cold Conditions:

When the course is in play during extreme cold conditions, players must take extreme care due to the increased likelihood of slipping on surfaces due to egress of rain, frost, sleet or snow.

If the conditions are too high a risk, then the course will be closed by either the Course Manager or a member of the Management Board. In the absence of all of the aforementioned, the player is to accept certain responsibility for their own actions in such adverse conditions.

It is directed that players are to be accompanied by another player, so that, in the situation where a player possibly slips and falls, the other player is able to either assist extraction of the injured player from the course, call for assistance or return to the Club to request assistance.

Buggies:

Mond Valley Golf Club has a duty of care to all users of the golf course, including pedestrians using any public right of way that may run along or across it. The topography of certain areas of the course is such that caution, and prudence must be shown by all users of ride-on buggies. To ensure the safety of all golf course users, buggy drivers and passengers are required to comply with the following conditions set out in the Buggy Policy which will be displayed in the club house.

The policy follows the National Golf Clubs Advisory Association (NGCAA) and Golf Development Wales (GDW), guidelines.

Policy for Non-playing Children in Golf Buggies:

When children accompany a parent in a golf buggy but are not actively golfing, it's crucial to prioritize their safety and well-being. This falls under general safeguarding responsibilities, ensuring children are protected from harm in any golf club environment. Clubs should have clear policies and procedures in place to address this situation, focusing on supervision, awareness of potential risks, and appropriate conduct by all adults.

Here's a more detailed breakdown:

1. General Safeguarding Principles:

- a. *Duty of Care:* Golf clubs have a duty of care to children on their premises, even if they are not directly participating in golf activities.
- b. *Supervision:* Children should be adequately supervised, especially if they are young (under 10). If the child is not actively golfing, they should be under the direct supervision of the parent or another designated adult.
- c. *Awareness of Risks:* Adults should be aware of potential hazards on the golf course, such as moving golf buggies, golf balls, and uneven terrain. They should also be mindful of the potential risks associated with unsupervised children in these environments.
- d. *Appropriate Conduct:* All adults should maintain appropriate and respectful behavior around children, recognizing that age-related differences exist.

2. Specific Considerations for Golf Buggies:

- a. *Parental Responsibility:* The primary responsibility for supervising the child in the buggy often rests with the parent or designated adult.
 - b. *Buggy Safety:* Ensure the child is safely seated and secured in the buggy (if applicable). Be mindful of the buggy's speed and terrain.
- Designated Areas:** If possible, designate specific areas where buggies can travel or park to minimize risks to children.

- c. *Communication*: Clearly communicate with the child about staying safe and following instructions.

3. Club Policies and Procedures:

- a. *Designated Safeguarding Officer*: Clubs should have a designated Club Welfare Officer (CWO) or Safeguarding Officer who can address any concerns or issues.
- b. *Reporting Concerns*: If any concerns arise about a child's safety or the behaviour of an adult, these should be reported to the CWO or the appropriate authorities.
- c. *Training and Awareness*: Ensure that all staff and volunteers are aware of the club's safeguarding policies and procedures. Incident Reporting: Have clear procedures for reporting any incidents or concerns, including the use of incident report forms.

Policy for Non-Playing Adults:

Non-playing adults accompanying golfers or walking the course or riding a buggy.

By following specific rules and safety guidelines all non-playing adults accompanying golfers on the course can do so safely by being aware of the following.

Their surroundings:

- Pay attention to where golfers are hitting from and where their balls may land. Stay out of line of play
- Never stand in front of a golfer when they are about to swing and keep a safe distance behind the golfer.
- Listen for "Fore" : If you hear someone shout fore take cover or crouch down to protect your head.
- Be mindful of hazards like slopes, bunkers and water features

Watch for Green Keepers:

- Be aware of green keepers working on the course and give them priority.

Buggy and Paths:

- If using a buggy be aware of the club's buggy policy and follow the paths.

Footwear/Clothing:

- Wear appropriate footwear and clothing for walking the course.

Communicate with the golfers:

- If you need to cross the fairway or are unsure of where to stand or park the buggy, communicate with the golfers to ensure your safety.

Fertilizers, Insecticides & Other Chemical Treatments

An announcement will be put up on the noticeboard outside the club shop and will advise of days that chemicals have been used to treat the course. Players are reminded to heed the warnings and protect themselves by not licking either their fingers or their golf balls.

Note: All course users MUST wash their hand on leaving the course before entering the bar or catering area.

Course Irrigation System:

The course irrigation system and surrounding area is not to be entered for whatever reason. Any player seeing someone in the close proximity of the irrigation system or surrounding area is to report the matter to the Course Manager or a member of the Management Board or bar immediately.

The water system is deep and dangerous and has no access, and egress points.

Green Keeping Staff:

Green Keeping staff have priority on the course to carry out routine daily maintenance.

Please respect this priority and do not attempt to play through. Occasionally work on a hole may mean the temporary closure of the hole, a notice to this effect will be posted if the case arises.

All staff working on the course can be identified by green industrial clothing, please take necessary caution.

Insurance:

Mond Valley Golf Club has Public Liability Insurance; however, all golfers should ensure they have adequate personal insurance to cover any eventuality which may result in litigation.

Putting Green:

Players are to be aware of other players, visitors and members of the public within the confines of the practice area. No chipping is allowed on the practice putting green.

MOND VALLEY GOLF CLUB

Hole-by Hole Risk Assessment



Important note: The hazards identified in this assessment are not exhaustive. All golfers should be aware of their surroundings and take any precautions necessary to ensure their own safety and the safety of others.

General Hazards (apply to all holes)

A) Slopes around tee boxes

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Numerous slopes across the course present a slip hazard, particularly when wet. Many are around tee-boxes. Players should take extra care when accessing tees and use steps where provided.

B) Mishit shots

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: If a shot is mishit, all players should shout **"FORE"** to alert others on the course.

Hole 1 - Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Be aware of players in the area of play on the **2nd** and **18th** fairways.

Hole 2 - Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Be aware of players approaching the **1st green** and golfers crossing the **2nd fairway** to access the **6th green**.

Hole 3 - Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Players teeing off on the **3rd tee** must wait for the **sound of the bell** from the group in front before playing.

Hole 4- Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Ensure all golfers in front of you are clear of the **dogleg** before teeing off from the **4th tee**.

Hole 5 - Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Do not play the approach to the **5th green** until you hear the **bell** (blind drive).

Hole 6- Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Do not tee off from the **6th tee** until the **green is clear**. Be aware of golfers approaching the **2nd green** from your **left** side

Hole 7- Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: *Ensure golfers in front are clear of the dogleg before teeing off the 7th tee.* Do not play the approach shot until the **green is cleared**. Do not enter the green whilst golfers are teeing off the **18th tee**. Be aware of golfers accessing the **8th tee**.

Hole 8- Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Ensure the **green is clear** before teeing off from the **8th tee**. Do not approach the green whilst golfers are teeing off the **9th tee**

Hole 9- Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Ensure the **8th green is clear** before teeing off from the **9th tee**. Be aware of the golfers teeing off the **8th tee**.

Hole 10- Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Be aware of **greenkeeping staff** using the access road to the greenskeepers facility. Be aware of **anglers/members of the public** emerging from the **riverbank** on the right-hand side.. Ensure those in front are clear of the **dogleg** before teeing off from the **10th tee**.

Hole 11- Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Be aware of golfers on the **16th fairway** when teeing off from the **11th tee**. Be aware of **anglers/members of the public** emerging from the **riverbank** on the right-hand side. Be aware of golfers teeing off from the **16th tee** whilst putting on the **11th green**.

Hole 12- Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Ensure you have sight of those in front, and it is safe to tee off from the

12th tee. Be aware of golfers teeing off from the **13th tee**. Be aware of anglers emerging from the riverbank on the right-hand side.

Hole 13- Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Ensure the **13th green is clear** before teeing off from the **13th tee**. Also be aware of golfers on the **14th tee (White boxes)**.

Hole 14- Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Do not tee off from the **14th tee** until the **dogleg is clear**. Protective netting is in play but be mindful of the **canal towpath / members of the public**. Be aware of golfers on the **15th tee** when playing your approach shot. Do not tee off directly from the **14th tee to the 14th green**.

Hole 15- Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Do not tee off from the **15th tee** until the **green is clear**. If the **16th tee** is occupied, tee off alternately with those on the **16th tee**, being mindful of golfers occupying that tee.

Hole 16- Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: When the **15th tee** is occupied, teeing off from the **16th tee** should alternate with those teeing off from the **15th tee**. Be aware of golfers on the **15th tee** and those on the **11th and 17th greens** when teeing off from the **16th tee**.

Hole 17- Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Be aware of golfers on the **16th fairway** and **18th tee** when teeing off from the **17th tee**.

Hole 18- Hazard: Being struck by a golf ball.

Who might be harmed: Members, visitors, employees.

Controls: Do not tee off from the **18th tee** whilst the **7th green** is occupied by other golfers.

Course note: Where steps are provided they must be used when gaining access and egress to and from tees.

Review:*This risk assessment should be reviewed at least annually or following an accident or a procedure/rules change affecting playing members and visitors.*

By Order of the Management Board

This Risk Assessment is subject to review at least annually or in the event of an accident or procedure/rules change that affects playing members and visitors.

- Reviewed by Huw Williams – January 2021
- Reviewed by Iain McTaggart – February 2026