

ANGLESEY GOLF CLUB

A BRIEF GUIDANCE FOR PLAYERS TO HEALTH AND SAFETY

ON THE GOLF COURSE

INTRODUCTION

The following provides an overview assessment of the risks identified for players when using the golf course at The Anglesey Golf Club.

There is a more comprehensive Risk Assessment for the 18 hole golf course provided which includes a hole by hole Risk Assessment which can be found on the notice boards in the club's main lounge, gentleman's changing room, ladies changing room and in the professional shop.

It is the responsibility of all players to ensure that they are adequately insured to cover for any accident and incident that may arise.

The use of mobile phones is not permitted on the course except to summon help in the case of an emergency. The professional shop 01407 811127, the emergency services on 999 (the post code of The Anglesey Golf Club is LL64 5QX)

All players are expected to be aware at all times of danger to others and to themselves. All accidents MUST be reported to the Pro/Manager and entered in the accident book. Care must be taken at all times to avoid accidents and have due care to oneself, other players, casual workers, officials and green keepers. First aid boxes are located in the club manager's office, Pro shop, Bar, Kitchen and green keeper's sheds.

THE COURSE

The golf course risk assessment has been carried out on a hole-by-hole basis. As a general rule, players should not strike a golf ball when there is a risk of endangering another player, member of the green's staff or public. If a mishit shot is heading towards other people you must shout 'FORE' to alert them to the potential danger. On hearing a shout of 'FORE' players should take evasive action, take cover or crouch down and protect their head with their arms.

Players should ensure that they are wearing appropriate footwear and clothing. Golf shoes with well - maintained cleats help to avoid slips. Players should be particularly careful on banks and slopes in wet or cold conditions. We recommend that all players have new cleats or spikes fitted to their shoes before the winter season commences.

Our golf course covers many acres of common land and gorse on which there are a number of slipping and tripping hazards but in all cases if care is taken these risks are completely avoidable.

Our golf course is home to various forms of wildlife, the vast majority of which are harmless. However, players should be aware that snakes (adders) have been found on the course and we have an active rabbit population and care should be taken not to trip over scrapes and holes.

Sheep roam the golf course and it is imperative that all players do not place their fingers in their mouths due to the bacteria passed through sheep, and not to lick their golf balls.

RIVER AND DITCHES

There are water drain ditches around the golf course and are generally in the rough area, extreme care should be taken when near unstable and undulating ground. Ditches cross the route to the 10th tee and from the 13th tee, cross these ditches by the footways provided. Be more careful crossing bridges in wet weather. There is a main bridge from the clubhouse to the 1st tee which is also access to the 18th fairway. Walk carefully when the bridge is wet.

BUGGIES AND GOLF TROLLEYS

Extra care should be taken when crossing the main bridge and some ditch wooden plank covers which are just wide enough for the golf buggies. Do not attempt to cross ditches on any other pathways.

Golf buggies must not be taken within 2 metres of greens, bunkers, ditches and steep sand dune slopes on the 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th and 8th holes.

ADJACENT FAIRWAYS

Any golf course can be a dangerous place with fairways generally running parallel to each other.

Any player who hits a golf ball off target and towards another player must shout FORE and on hearing the warning all players who hear the warning should crouch and protect their head with their arms. Care should be taken on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 8th, 9th, 11th, 12th, and 18th holes.

The links course, particularly, on the second nine holes, is surrounded by gorse and players may be in the gorse looking for their ball.

Always ensure that the forward players are clear before playing your shots.

STEPS

There are wooden sleeper steps to the tees on the following holes, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 15th, 16th and 17th, which may be dangerous when wet or in icy conditions.

BLIND TEE AND PITCH SHOTS

There are 3 holes on the course which have blind tee or pitch shots and extreme care should be taken to ensure that the players in front have cleared before a shot is taken.

The tee shot on the second hole is to a blind fairway and players should ensure that they can clearly see the players playing in front have cleared towards the second green.

The pitch shot over the sand dune towards the third green is also a blind shot and players should wait until the forward players have cleared the green and sounded the bell adjacent to the green.

The tee shot from the white competition tee on the fifth hole can be blind for the 'big hitters' who will cut the corner over the green sheds. Always ensure that the forward players have cleared and that enough time is given for the players to clear.

SLOPES AND STEEP BANKS

Generally the golf course is very user friendly as it is the only links golf course on the Isle of Anglesey and does not have any trees growing. However, the course has typical dune undulations and there are some higher dunes to treat carefully particularly in wet weather.

There are small rises to the tee boxes, the 2nd hole over the first dune, the 3rd hole midway on the fairway and the dune in front of the green.

The dunes around the 5th, 6th and 8th greens.

RIVERS AND DITCHES

A tidal river is a feature of The Anglesey Golf Club and only comes into play on the 18th hole. A player who plays from the white competition tee will cross the river with his ball three times before he reaches the green. A ball in the river is out of bounds from the tee and is in a water hazard prior to the green.

Do not attempt to retrieve balls from the river and do not go within 1 metre of the bank of the river due to unstable banks.

PUBLIC ACCESS

The Anglesey Golf Course was 100 years old in 2014 and is located on Towyn Trewan common land.

Although there is a public footpath across the golf course pedestrians may be seen anywhere over the course and no player should hit a golf ball towards a pedestrian walking on the course.

THE GREEN KEEPERS COMPOUND

This is situated to the side of the 5th fairway and there is a storage container in the visitors overspill car park.

This is a working area and players are not permitted to enter the maintenance sheds under any circumstances and extra care and vigilance should be taken in this location because of machinery being moved.

THE PRACTICE AREA

The practice area is located by walking over the fairway in front of the 18th green. Extreme care should be taken when crossing this fairway and priority should be given to oncoming players.

Due care and attention should be taken when pitching and hitting balls on the practice area. Do not hit balls towards another player.

OTHER HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS :

Fertiliser and Insecticides etc. on the ground: Do not lick golf balls or fingers. A notice at the clubhouse will advise when spraying is taking place. Players are advised to take heed of the warnings and protect themselves

Animal Holes: These should be reported to the Club Manager or Professional who will, in turn advise the Head Green Keeper.

Green Keeping Staff: Green Keeping staff have priority at all times. Players should ensure that they are aware of your presence before you play your shot. The Green Keeping staff are instructed to signal to players when it is safe to play.

LIGHTNING AND INCLEMENT WEATHER

Players must protect themselves in Health and Safety matters especially should there be a danger from lightning when play must stop immediately. Rule 6-8 of the Rules of Golf makes it quite clear that a player is entitled to discontinue play if the player believes that there is a danger from lightning.

All players should make themselves familiar with the Club's policy in this regard. During casual play, players have to proceed under Rule 6-8. This makes it the player's own responsibility to discontinue play when, in his/her opinion, a danger from lightning exists. It is unreasonable to expect the Club to monitor the course each and every day.

Where there is not sufficient time to evacuate the course the players should comply with the following procedure:-

MARK THE POSITION OF YOUR GOLF BALL.

KEEP AS LOW AS POSSIBLE AND IDEALLY CROUCH DOWN IN THE NEAREST BUNKER. LEAVE YOUR GOLF EQUIPMENT WHERE IT IS AND STAND AWAY FROM IT.

DO NOT:

Shelter near clubs or trollies.

Stand under any overhead power lines.

Seek cover in the wooden sheds on the course, they are not fully earthed and will not protect you.

Do not use your mobile phone – switch it off.

Do not put up an umbrella under any circumstances.

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

USE OF BUGGIES

Motorised ride-on buggies are available for hire from the Pro Shop. All buggies must be operated in accordance with our Golf Buggy Safety Policy (available on request). Access to the course is gained by the main entrance off Station Rd and access is available at all times.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS;

Ambulance: 999

Police: 999

Pro Shop: 01407811127

Club Manager's Office: 01407811127

Clubhouse: 01407811127

Reviewed

10th February 2015