

# South Winchester Golf Club

## Course Risk Assessment



SOUTH WINCHESTER

# SWGC Golf Club Risk Assessment – The Golf Course

	<b>Hazard</b>	<b>Who Might Be Harmed?</b>		<b>How Is The Risk Controlled?</b>	<b>Risk Factor</b>
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<b>General Overview of Course Risks</b>					
1.	<b>Typical hazards encountered on a Golf Course.</b>	<i>Golfers, Greens Staff and spectators.</i>	<i>Strict adherence to the Rules and Etiquette of Golf, observe all signs and be aware of rules concerning cessation of play in dangerous weather or conditions.</i>		<i>Low</i>
2.	<b>Teeing Off</b>  <b>Miss hit Tee shot to right or left</b>	<i>Other Golfers on adjacent greens, fairways, or paths</i>	<i>Don't tee off until you are sure that the group in front are out of range. Don't tee off if any of your playing partners are standing forward of you. Don't tee off if anyone is walking toward the tee from any adjacent holes. Don't stand forward of a player teeing off. Don't walk towards a tee when someone is preparing to drive  Pay attention when playing shot and shout fore if ball drifts to left or right and there is any likelihood of hitting someone.</i>		<i>Medium</i>
3.	<b>Rights of way</b>	<i>Members of public and dog walkers on paths or fairways</i>	<i>Pay attention when playing shot and shout fore if ball drifts to left or right and there is any likelihood of hitting someone.</i>		<i>Medium</i>
4.	<b>Fairway to Green</b>	<i>Other Golfers</i>	<i>Don't take a shot until you are sure that the group in front are out of range. Don't take a shot if your playing partners are forward of you and in range. Stand in a safe position when a playing partner is taking a shot</i>		<i>Medium</i>
5.	<b>Miss hit approach shot to green</b>	<i>Players on adjacent holes</i>	<i>Be aware of players in this area and shout fore if hitting to left or right past green and there is any likelihood of hitting someone.</i>		<i>Medium</i>
6.	<b>Streams, Riverbeds, Ponds Lakes</b>	<i>All Golfers</i>	<i>Be aware of the dangers of streams, riverbeds (wet or dry, muddy areas), lakes, ponds including slipping down banks, deep water and slippery bridges. Don't step onto frozen water. Use ball retrievers whenever possible. Appropriate holes 6,7,9<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup></i>		<i>Medium</i>
7.	<b>Hidden Greens</b>	<i>Other Golfers, Greens Staff</i>	<i>Don't play to Greens until you are sure that the group in front have left. Greens that may be hidden from view for approach shot are holes 9<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup></i>		<i>Low</i>

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8.	<b>Trees and other fixed hazards</b>	<i>Golfers and Playing partners</i>	<i>When playing near trees beware of balls ricocheting.</i>	<i>Low</i>
9.	<b>Undulating ground, hollows, hills</b>	<i>All Golfers</i>	<i>Take care when walking over undulating ground especially when wet or icy. Appropriate to holes: All holes have undulating mounds bordering fairways.</i>	<i>Medium</i>
10.	<b>Driving Buggies</b>	<i>All Golfers</i>	<i>Take care on hills, hollows, and undulations. Take special care driving over bridges or near to brooks and on inclines. Keep speed to minimum.</i>	<i>Medium</i>



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## Specific Risks Hole by Hole

	<b>Hole #</b>			
<b>EXAMPLE</b>	<i>Miss-hit tee shot to right from White Tee</i>	<i>People on Putting Green Players in Buggies coming down from 18th</i>	<i>Check for players in these areas before taking shot. Shout fore if your ball is likely to go near to them.</i>	<i>Medium</i>
	<i>Balls coming from Driving range over net</i>	<i>You</i>	<i>Take care when walking along fairway and listen out for Fore Range being shouted</i>	<i>Medium</i>
	<i>Tee shot from White tee if behind trees</i>	<i>You</i>	<i>Take care when walking along fairway and listen out for Fore being shouted Trees to be regularly trimmed by greens staff</i>	<i>Low</i>
	<i>Green Approach shot drifts left</i>	<i>Players walking to 2<sup>nd</sup> Tee</i>	<i>Pay attention when playing shot and shout fore if ball drifts to left and there is any likelihood of hitting someone.</i>	<i>Low</i>
	<i>Over hit approach to Green</i>	<i>Vehicles or people going down road</i>	<i>Pay attention when playing shot especially of vehicles are known to be coming down road.</i>	<i>Low</i>
	<b>Hole 1</b> Walkers on the left	<i>Pedestrians</i>	<i>Do not hit until the left side of the hole is clear from walkers.</i>	<i>Low</i>
	Balls going onto the 5 <sup>th</sup> tee on the right.	<i>Players on 5<sup>th</sup> tee</i>	<i>Shout 'Fore' if ball is heading to the right of the fairway bunker towards the 5<sup>th</sup> tee.</i>	<i>Low</i>
	<b>Hole 2</b> Balls onto the 3 <sup>rd</sup> tee	<i>Golfers on 3<sup>rd</sup> tee</i>	<i>Give priority to players on the 3<sup>rd</sup> blue tee, before teeing off.</i>	<i>Low</i>
	Dips before the greenside bunker	<i>Golfers</i>	<i>Take care of uneven dips before the bunkers. Take flat route where possible to the green.</i>	<i>Low</i>
	<b>Hole 3</b> Houses left	<i>Homeowners</i>	<i>Make start line far enough right to avoid possibility of hitting houses.</i>	<i>Low</i>
	Balls going right onto the 4 <sup>th</sup> hole	<i>Players on 4<sup>th</sup> hole</i>	<i>Loud shout of 'fore' for any ball heading right onto the 4<sup>th</sup> hole.</i>	<i>Medium</i>



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<b>Hole 4</b> Dips on hole in front of tee	<i>Golfers</i>	<i>Stick to the footpath from the tee to the beginning of the fairway</i>	<i>Low</i>
Balls heading right onto the 3rd	<i>Players on 3<sup>rd</sup> hole</i>	<i>Loud shout of 'fore' any ball heading right onto the 3<sup>rd</sup> hole.</i>	<i>Medium</i>
<b>Hole 5</b> Dip/uneven ground	<i>Golfers</i>	<i>Take care and avoid the dip if possible. Take the flat route to player's ball.</i>	<i>Low</i>
Public Footpath behind green.	<i>Public</i>	<i>Pay attention to walkers on footpath behind the green. Wait if possible or shout 'fore' if walkers are in danger.</i>	<i>Medium</i>
<b>Hole 6</b> Water Hazard	<i>Players</i>	<i>Do not try and retrieve balls from penalty area.</i>	<i>Low</i>
Public footpath Hill to 7 <sup>th</sup> Tee	<i>Public Players</i>	<i>Pay attention to walkers down the left of the hole. Shout 'fore' if they are in danger. Make way to the 7<sup>th</sup> tee via flatter ground where possible. Extra care in slippery conditions.</i>	<i>Medium Low</i>
<b>Hole 7</b> Houses Left	<i>Residents</i>	<i>Make start line far enough right to avoid possibility of hitting houses to the left. Area near houses made into a penalty areas clearly visible.</i>	<i>Medium</i>
<b>Hole 8</b> Dips/uneven ground	<i>Golfers</i>	<i>Take care of uneven ground both sides of the fairway. Stick to flatter ground down the fairway where possible.</i>	<i>Low</i>
<b>Hole 9</b> Uneven Ground	<i>Players</i>	<i>Take care on slopes when wet can be slippery.</i>	<i>Low</i>
Water hazard  Public footpath	<i>Players  Public</i>	<i>Take care when crossing bridges wood can be slippery when wet. Do not try and retrieve balls from the lake.  Beware of public footpath up the right of the hole. Wait to hit until its safe to do so.</i>	<i>Low  Low</i>
<b>Hole 10</b> Stray diving range balls	<i>Players</i>	<i>Listen carefully for shouts of 'fore' coming from the driving range.</i>	<i>Medium</i>

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Balls going onto the 11th	<i>Players on the 11<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Loud shout of 'fore' if tee shot is heading to the right of the long grass towards the 11<sup>th</sup> hole.</i>	<i>Low</i>
<b>Hole 11</b> Uneven ground	<i>Players</i>	<i>Stick to the path to get from the tee to the green.</i>	<i>Low</i>
Balls from 10 <sup>th</sup> tee.	<i>Players</i>	<i>Listen for shouts of 'fore' from 10<sup>th</sup> tee.</i>	<i>Low</i>
<b>Hole 12</b> Missing left onto the 13th	<i>Players on the 13<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Shout 'fore' if any shots miss left onto the 13<sup>th</sup>. (left of fairway bunker/trees)</i>	<i>Low</i>
Balls from the 13th	<i>Players</i>	<i>Listen carefully for shouts of 'fore' coming from the 13<sup>th</sup>.</i>	<i>Low</i>
<b>Hole 13</b> Missing left onto the 12 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Players on the 12<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Shout 'fore' for any shot heading left onto the 12<sup>th</sup> hole.</i>	<i>Low</i>
Balls from the 12th	<i>Players</i>	<i>Listen carefully for shouts of 'fore' coming from the 12<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Low</i>
<b>Hole 14</b> Slopes up the hole.	<i>Players</i>	<i>Take care when travelling over slopes stay on the flat ground where possible.</i>	<i>Low</i>
<b>Hole 15</b> Dips/ uneven ground	<i>Players</i>	<i>Take care when on uneven ground both up the left-hand side of the fairway and over the back of the green.</i>	<i>Low</i>
Water hazard	<i>Players</i>	<i>Don't attempt to retrieve balls that are hit into the water hazard.</i>	<i>Low</i>
<b>Hole 16</b> Balls hit from 17 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Players</i>	<i>Listen carefully for shouts of 'fore' and balls coming from the 17<sup>th</sup> tee.</i>	<i>Low</i>

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Ball hit onto the 17 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Players on 17<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Shout 'fore' any tee shot heading left onto the 17<sup>th</sup> to warn golfers ahead.</i>	<i>Low</i>
<b>Hole 17</b> Balls hit onto the 16 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Players on 16<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Shout 'fore' for any shot hit left onto the 16<sup>th</sup> to warn players behind.</i>	<i>Low</i>
Balls hit from 16 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Players</i>	<i>Listen carefully to shouts of 'fore' from the 16<sup>th</sup>.</i>	<i>Low</i>
<b>Hole 18</b> Stray range balls	<i>Players</i>	<i>Listen for shouts of 'fore' from the driving range. Notice in the driving range stopping players hitting it too far over the back or to the left onto 18<sup>th</sup> fairway.</i>	<i>Medium</i>
Blind tee shot	<i>Players ahead</i>	<i>Don't tee off before the ball is rung by the group in front.</i>	<i>Medium</i>
Water hazard	<i>Players</i>	<i>Do not try and retrieve balls hit into the water hazard.</i>	<i>Low</i>

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Hazard No.	List What Further Action Is Necessary To Control The Risk	Person Responsible	Completion Date
	Include on a notice in locker rooms or pro shop	General manager	
	Buggy policy	General Manager	

**Assessment compiled by:**

**Date of assessment:**

**Signature:**

**Date to review further actions:**

**Position:**

**Assessment review date:**

*Review If necessary due to course changes or incidents. Otherwise 1 Sept 2021*



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The Course may be closed when extreme or adverse weather conditions mean it is dangerous to play or damage to the course would result if play were permitted. Such conditions could cause greens to become waterlogged, the course flooded, covered in snow or poor visibility due to fog. The decision to close the course is made by the **Course Manager** in consultation with the **General Manager** and/or the **Professional Shop**

The procedure for closing the course will be as follows: The **Course Manager** will ring the **General Manager** and/or **Professional Shop** and inform them. The **Course Manager** will put up ‘**Course Closed**’ signs and the **Professional Shop** will update the web site **Course Status**.

### FOG AND LOW CLOUD POLICY

The Tree on the Driving range is clearly visible during normal conditions. In conditions of low cloud or fog when the tree is not visible the **Management** may close the course. No players should attempt to play in those conditions. If there is a need to stop play due to low cloud or fog the **Professional Shop** will sound a long blast of the Klaxon. Players should return safely to the Clubhouse. Resumption of play will be signalled by two short blasts on the klaxon.

### LIGHTNING POLICY

In the event of a lightning strike being seen within the vicinity of the Golf Club the **General Manager** or the **Professional Shop** will close the course by sounding a long blast on the Klaxon. When a lightning storm has been seen in the course vicinity, no play is to commence until a period of 15 minutes from the last lightning strike/clap of thunder. Play will resume after two short blasts of the Klaxon. Three long blasts indicate complete abandonment of play.

If the **General Manager** or the **Professional Shop** is unavailable it is incumbent upon each **Player** to assess the risks and ensure that they take appropriate measures to ensure safe passage from the course in the event of Fog or Lightning.

### COMPETITIONS

During a Club competition the **Competition Organiser** in conjunction with the **General Manager** or the **Professional Shop** may close the course if it is considered the course has become unsuitable for play. In the event that the **Competition Organiser, General Manager** or **Professional Shop** is unavailable it is incumbent upon each **Player** to assess the risk and ensure that they take appropriate measures to ensure safe passage from the course.

Players should make themselves fully conversant with the rules of the competition in which they are playing. E.g. in some competitions a cessation of play may also mean the abandonment of that particular competition. In other competitions such as Opens or Invitation Days, the competition may be recommenced if and when conditions allow. In such circumstances players must mark the position of their ball in the correct manner, otherwise a penalty or disqualification will result.

***The cease play signal is a long blast, and players should mark their ball and find somewhere safe to shelter. The all-clear signal is two short blasts, and if it sounds then play can resume. If this has not been sounded within ½ hour then play must be abandoned. Three long blasts indicate complete abandonment.***