



Funded by Foundation Scotland from the EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund

Title: An assessment of the Risk of Injury from playing golf at Tillicoultry Golf Club, ‘the Club’

Purpose:

This assessment has been carried out to identify areas of particular concern which might contribute to an injury incident while playing golf on the course. It makes recommendation to reduce the likelihood of an incident. It defines the responsibilities of the Club and the players involved in the game.

Scope:

Applies to all golfers (members, visitors) playing on the course at all times

Summary:

The incidence of injuries in golf is low and head injuries, fatalities or life changing injury incidents are even rarer across the game. The national statistics in relation to such injuries has been assessed and the probability of serious injury at the Club has been derived from them. The likelihood of significant injury at the Club is considered to be extremely low. This risk assessment has evaluated many aspect of the game as played at the Club, and in particular the risk of injury from ball strikes to the head. The assessment has resulted in recommendations for safety notices to be placed on the course but the outcome of the assessment is not to be construed as producing a ‘zero-risk’ environment. The responsibilities of players and Club officials has been clearly defined.

The Club wishes to stress the importance of local knowledge being used when available, and that all players – members, guests and visitors – exercise common sense and err on the side of caution.

Definitions:

On the intended line : The direction taken by the ball from the point of origin of the golf shot to the point at which the shot finishes on the fairway or green of the hole in play.

Errant shot : The direction taken by the ball from the point of origin and which does not finish on the fairway or green of the hole in play.

General Risk: A risk commonly associated with the game and / or applicable to all holes on the course.

Specific Considerations: Risks associated with the course layout at the Club.

History of changes:

Current Version	Previous Version	Changes from Previous
August 2017	None.	First issue of document.
May 2024	August 2017	Minor amendments; removal of Appendix 5.3 as a separate Adverse Weather Policy has been drawn up. Removal of reference to Putting Green.

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1. Introduction.

Golf, as with other sporting activities, is not risk free. Participation in golf at the Club is undertaken by Club members of varying experience /skill but who have knowledge of the course and by visitors of whom the Club has limited knowledge regarding their experience /skill and who might have very little knowledge of the course layout. Whilst the Club considers that those participating in the game accept that there are injury risks associated with the game, this document will assess potential risks which are general to the game (General Risks), and those reasonably foreseeable risks particular to the course layout (Specific Considerations).

This assessment is not intended to produce a 'zero risk' outcome and it should not be interpreted as such but it is the aspirational goal of the assessment to provide sufficient information to players to increase awareness of the risks and to minimise the likelihood of incidents leading to serious personal injuries, particularly those related to head injuries. The outcome of the assessment will be manifested by the provision of safety warning notices appropriate to the course.

2. Responsibilities.

2.1 The Club

The Club will exercise its duty of care to all those using the course by carrying out and maintaining an up to date full risk assessment for play on the course and will record the assessment in its Document Control system. This document will be the primary document for administrative purposes and will be provided on request to any interested party. The Club will provide an abridged version of the full assessment which will be more directly pertinent to the routine needs of players. The Club will take all reasonable steps to inform players of this abridged risk assessment by placing a copy of it on the Club's website and in the Club Office. Visitors should observe all safety notices around the course, derived from this assessment. These safety signs will be displayed prominently at tees or other areas where they apply.

The Club, however, cannot monitor all player activities at all times and ultimately the player must bear the responsibility for his/her actions and compliance with warnings and safety instructions. Where non-compliance is observed the Club will address the issues with the person(s) concerned. While it may not be possible to inform visitors directly of this assessment, they are nevertheless expected to comply with all safety notices.

2.2 Club Council.

The Club Council is accountable for the pertinence of this Risk Assessment and must ensure that it is recorded, published, updated and re-issued following any relevant changes in the laws of the game, changes to the layout of the course, **or following review. It is also** responsible for any disciplinary matters which may arise from any non-compliance.

2.3 The Players

All players, as they would in any other location, owe a duty of care to themselves and to others who might be affected by their actions. All playing members, playing visitors admitted by the club or playing visitors introduced by members are subject to the outcome of this assessment and are expected to comply with all course safety signs.

Visitors admitted to the course via the office and issued with a ticket, or who have booked and paid via Club V1 will be covered by the Club's Insurance Policy but those golfers playing without a ticket must ensure that they have adequate personal insurance cover before commencing a round.

3. Management of Risk

3.1 Assessment of Injury Risk across the game and at the Club.

There are many types of injury which can result from playing golf¹; these are mostly minor, but some are more severe. The all-injury rate in golf has been reported to be very low compared with other sports¹. At the Club this equates to the statistical probability of between thirteen (13) and twenty-six (26) all injury incidents annually - dependent on the number of rounds played - although these figures have never been experienced in practice.

The most frequent cause of injury in amateur golfers is repetitive strain through, for instance, prolonged practice, and / or poor swing biomechanics. Adequate warm up, and attention to physical conditioning reduces the risk of injury. Minor injuries may occur from being hit by the ball anywhere on the lower body after around 250 yards from the tee (or point of origin of the shot) - these may be painful but usually do not result in long term effects. Ball strikes at closer distances will incur an increasingly greater risk of significant injury and by far the most serious are those associated with injuries to the head.³ Impact injuries from ball strikes and strikes from clubs are potentially very serious but fortunately not common²; data from these sources indicate that, for the Club, the incidence of life threatening or life changing injuries is calculated to be 1 per 30 - 61 years, dependent on the number of rounds played annually. [See Appendix 5.4].

Such serious injuries typically result from impact to the head (forehead, temple, back of head/neck and eye orbit) from a golf ball travelling at high velocity, most likely from drives at tees. Consideration of these risks will be the subject of the hole-by-hole risk assessment presented later. The outcome of these impacts is influenced by the distance from the point of origin of the shot to the impact point.³ Even apparently minor impacts can have latent effects which may not appear until hours or days later and it is advisable that medical advice is sought as soon as possible following an incident. All injury incidents and particularly head injuries, or near misses, on the course must be reported to the Club. It should be recognized that, whilst there is no quantitative data to report, it is generally accepted that consumption of alcohol impairs judgement and leads to over-confidence. This can lead to poor decision making, which may result in an increased incident risk on the course. In addition, to the suffering involved as a consequence of an injury, comes the possibility of litigation with financial consequences for both players and clubs, and which require clubs to take action appropriate to risks.^{4,5}

Overall the probability of fatalities or life changing incidents across the game is extremely low and within the Club no such events have been recorded in its long history and no radical changes to the operation of the course is envisaged as a consequence of this assessment. Nevertheless, the recommendations arrived at by the courts, in relation to the Niddry case⁵ and in response to a memo from Scottish Golf⁴, will be fundamental to this assessment and where applicable will be implemented.

3.2 Basic Safety considerations

There are two basic safety rules published in the R&A Rules of Golf viz.:

- a) Prior to playing a stroke or making a practice swing, the player should ensure that no one is standing close by or in a position to be hit by a club, the ball or any stones, pebbles, twigs or the like which may be moved by the stroke or swing. [Club Note: Generally, 2m behind the player making the shot is considered a safe zone.]
- b) Wait until the players in front are out of range. Players should always alert green-staff nearby or ahead when they are about to make a stroke that might endanger them. If your ball is heading in a direction where there is a danger of it hitting someone, shout a warning immediately. The traditional word of warning is “fore!”. [Club Note: the shouting of ‘fore’ may not abrogate the player’s responsibility for an injury to others, if a reckless shot has been played.]

These two basic safety considerations have been cited in every case that has come to court and underline the duty of care which one golfer has to another golfer or anyone else who might be affected by his / her actions. It is the responsibility of the player playing a shot to implement these basic safety rules and follow the recommendations, derived from the General Risks Assessment and Special Considerations (Section 3.3)

In addition, the player must take into account the likelihood of an errant shot based on a realistic assessment of his/her golfing skill as it relates to the typical range and shape of shot normally played.⁵ In general the higher handicap players have a greater chance of playing an errant shot, although the ball velocity is likely to be lower and the travel distance less than the lower handicap player. Lower handicap players, whilst less likely to play an errant shot, must take into account that their shots have a higher ball velocity and travel a further distance. The most common errant shot is the slice, and the layout of the course (see 3.4 Course Topography) gives rise to an increased risk associated with this. Equally other golfers must be aware of the possibility of an errant shot and observe carefully any shot being played in their direction and take action appropriate to the situation.

The chance of a ball striking a player at any given time increases with player density. Out-with competitions, the player footfall on the course is very low and does not significantly increase the risk factor. In competitions, the player density is potentially much higher and gives rise to a greater risk but starting times are adjusted by the Club to allow for adequate separation of players. However, subsequent to the start, it is the responsibility of the players to maintain this separation. (See also 3.12 Spectators)

All persons on a golf course are encouraged to wear some form of head protection e.g. a baseball hat, with stiff brim and some form of padded insert, or even just a double skinned woolly hat will give some protection.

It is essential that people know that in the event of hearing ‘fore’ the person must turn away from the direction of shout, crouch down and cover their head with their arms for a period of at least 8 seconds (average flight times of golf ball). In a mixed group, the men should always play before the Ladies. As the ladies’ tee can be forward of the men’s tee, this avoids Ladies standing in front of the men’s tee while a shot is played.

3.3 Risk Assessments

The Club can anticipate the likely directions of the tee-shot from its fixed point of origin but, as a subsequent shot is taken from where the ball lands, the Club cannot anticipate from where that shot will be taken or the conditions under which it will be played. It is therefore not possible to provide a comprehensive risk assessment for all

possible circumstances that could be encountered on the course or for the variety of golf shots that may be played. This responsibility for shots subsequent to the tee must primarily lie with the golfer, bearing in mind the General Risks identified by the Club.

The General Risk Assessment and Special Considerations are detailed in **Appendices 5.1 and 5.2**.

An Adverse Weather Policy has been drawn up and is available on the Club Website and in the Club Office.

3.4 Course Topography

Course topography and layout are described in **Appendix 5.3**

The course layout is also to be found on the course score card where the juxtaposition of tees, fairways and greens is presented visually. The compact layout of the course means that most of the holes run parallel but opposite in their direction of play. This layout results in most of the holes being subject to an errant slice shot from right handed players, who form the majority of members.

3.5 Paths

3.5a Within the course

Where prepared paths are available on the course, all golfers whether carrying clubs, walking, using a trolley or electric trolley should use them. Paths are there to aid mobility but must not be considered to be safe zones.

3.5b Public paths out-with course

The Alva Road [A91] runs along the left side of the 4th / 13th hole. There is a public footpath adjacent to the road just outside the six-foot boundary fence. A line of trees backs onto the course-side of this boundary fence and an area of rough lies between the trees and the 4th fairway.

There is a private road ['Golf View'] which is part made up and runs along the east side of the 3rd hole up to the northern boundary of the course.

3.5c Public crossing course

The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 gives the public the right to cross the course, subject to adherence to the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. Several access points for course vehicles are present along the east/north boundaries. These access points are not intended for the use of the public but members of the public might still be found choosing to enter the course at these areas. Members of the public on the course have priority at all times. Signs warning the public about the risks of walking across the course will be put in place at these access points.

3.6 Ground Under Repair

Ground under repair is delineated with temporary white painted lines. They are appropriately placed to ensure the safety of all golfers and to assist the Greenkeeper to maintain vulnerable parts of the course. Players must not carry their bags, use trolleys or electric trolleys in these areas.

3.7 Footwear

All golfers (members & visitors) must ensure they wear shoes which are adequate and suitable for the ground / weather conditions on the day of play. Golf shoes are recommended.

3.8 Staff Working on the Course

At all times staff working on the course have priority and no golf shots are to be played if the staff are within shot range. Note that greenkeeper wearing ear protectors may not hear shouts of 'fore'.

3.9 Use of Trolleys & Electric Trolleys

The Club allows the use of trolleys, electric trolleys and motorised carts. The responsibility for their safe use will be that of the player and due attention should be made to course conditions and weather. When using trolleys and electric trolleys, players should ensure they follow appropriate pathways, where provided. There are steep slopes dividing the upper and lower course and motorised carts should follow the shallowest gradient available when negotiating these areas.

3.10 Safety Notices

General Safety Rules will be found at the start of the course behind 1st tee. Other safety notices will be at individual tees or at other points on the course. Safety Policies are available on the Club Website and in the Club Office.

3.11 Insurance Cover

Members, competitors and visitors who have paid a green fee are covered by the Club's insurance.

3.12 Spectators

The Club does not organise nor invite spectators at any event. Spectator density is therefore low and does not give rise to a significant risk. Non-members or non fee-paying visitors following any players during a round are not covered by the Club's insurance policy. Where possible, this will be advised to the individuals concerned.

4 References

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www.dshearer.co.uk/RA_golf_tee.pdf
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5. The Golf Business; Tania Longmire February 3, 2012 13:07
The Niddry case and Insurance implications

5 Appendices

5.1 General Assessment

5.2 Hole by hole assessments

5.3 Course Topography

5.4 Calculation



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General Assessment		
Risk Activity	Comment	Safety Signs to reduce risk of occurrence. Located at start of course.
Non compliance with safety notices	Notices are there to aid players' safety.	Comply with all safety signs at tees or on the course. Rule 2
No personal insurance	Club Insurance covers members & fee paying visitors.	Visitors playing without paying green fees are NOT covered by Club Insurance. Rule 1
Struck by ball / club	To players: Standing too close By / to partners: Tee shot - all holes on the course. Approach shots – all holes on the course	Stand at least 2m to the side / behind player striking ball. Ball / club strikes to head can be serious – see medical advice. Rule 10 & 11
<i>Struck by ball</i>	To Players within range At all points on the course To Public within range On 'Right of Way' On other parts of course	Do not play if players, public, greens-staff are within the likely range / shape of your shot. Take into account your skill level as a golfer. Shout 'FORE' if your ball is moving close to anyone. On hearing FORE turn away from shout, crouch down, cover head & neck with hands & arms, wait 6-8 seconds.. Be aware, Greens-staff, wearing ear protectors may not hear 'Fore'. Rules 12-16.
<i>Struck by ball</i>	Attention to location / activities of other groups will reduce likelihood of incidents	Be aware of activities of other golfers. Rule 3
<i>Struck by ball</i>	By errant shot(s) from fairway(s) running parallel but opposite in direction of play.	Beware of errant shots from parallel fairways. Rule 4
<i>Struck by ball</i>	To Player from ricochet From shot played within or close to tree plantations or shots played close to walls / buildings.	Tree Plantations / buildings - beware of ricochets. Rule 9
Struck by equipment	Ride-on carts – overturning	Ride-on carts – use shallowest gradients at all points. Rule 6
Adverse weather	By low visibility and thunderstorms	Check at Club Office for Policy on Adverse Weather and visibility. Rule 8
Slips, trips, falls	On uneven, sloping, or slippery ground.	Use paths / wear appropriate footwear – golf shoes are advised. Rule 5
Consumption of alcohol on course.	Alcohol impairs judgement and generates over confidence.	Consumption of alcohol on the course is not advised. Rule 7

Appendix 5.2

Hole 1		
Risk Activity	Comment	Safety Signs to reduce risk of occurrence.
Ball from tee striking players on the full at 3 rd green adjacent to 1 st tee.	Within reach by all players. Results from errant shot. Close proximity to green. High ball velocity; High risk potential. Special consideration needed.	At tee: Before driving, Players must have moved from 3 rd green area to behind 1 st tee box.
Ball from tee striking players on the full approaching on 3 rd fairway.	Within reach by all players. Results from errant shot. 1 st /3 rd fairway run parallel but opposite direction of play. Players on 3 rd hole visible. Medium – low risk potential - depends on distance form tee. Adherence to general safety rules cover risk.	At start of course: General Safety Rule 12-16 applies.
Ball from tee striking players on the full at 2 nd green adjacent 1 st fairway.	Within reach by most players but at range limit. Results from errant shot. Trees partly hide green but players visible at points. Low – medium risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules cover risk.	At start of course: General Safety Rule 12-16 applies.
Ball from tee striking players on the full, at 3 rd tee complex above 2 nd green.	Within reach by Cat 1 / 2 players, at range limit. Results from errant shot. Players on 3 rd tee visible. Low – medium risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules cover risk.	At start of course: General Safety Rule 12-16 applies.
Ball from tee striking players on the full on 2 nd fairway	Within reach by Cat 1 / 2 players only, at range limit. Results from over-hit / errant shot. Players on 2 nd fairway visible. Low risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules cover risk.	At start of course: General Safety Rule 12-16 applies.
Ball from tee striking players at dog leg of 1 st fairway.	Within reach by Cat 1 / 2 players only. At range limit. Blind shot – players ahead unaware. Medium to high risk potential. Special consideration needed.	At tee: Before driving, check area clear behind dog-leg on 1 st fairway.
Ball striking public on the full at right of way below slope on 1 st fairway	Within reach by all players. Results from miss-hit shot, but on intended line . Ball velocity high. Public crossing may be unaware but visible from 1 st tee.. Medium risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules cover risk..	At start of course: General Safety Rule 12-16 applies.
Ball striking players on 9 th / 18 th green adjacent to 1 st / 10 th tee	Within reach by all players. Results from errant shot. Close proximity to green. High ball velocity. High risk potential. Special consideration needed	At tee: Players on 9 th / 18 th green to give way to players teeing off at 1 st / 10 th
Ball strikes on 1 st / 5 th shared green.	Within reach by all players. Results for errant shot from 2 nd tee, approach shots to 5 th (shared green). Medium to high risk potential. Special consideration needed.	On course at shared green;: Be aware of tee shots from 2 nd tee / approach shots to 5 th green.
Ball strikes from 3 rd tee/approach shots landing on 1 st fairway	Within reach by all players. Results from errant shot. Players on 1 st fairway may be unaware. Medium – high potential risk. Special consideration needed.	At tee: Before leaving 1 st tee, be aware of tee /approach shots from 3 rd hole. On 3 rd tee, be aware of potential for players to be on 1 st fairway

Hole 2		
Risk Activity	Comment	Safety Notice to reduce risk of occurrence
<i>Ball from tee striking players on the full at 1st / 5th .shared green..</i>	<i>Within reach by all players. Results from errant shot. Players visible from casual tees but hidden from medal tee. Players on green may be unaware. Medium – high injury risk potential. Special consideration needed.</i>	At tee: Before driving, consider if players at 1 st /5 th shared green are in your shot range / shape. If in any doubt, shout “Fore” .
<i>Ball from tee striking players on the full approaching on 1st fairway.</i>	<i>Within reach by all players Results from errant shot. 1st/2nd fairway run parallel but opposite direction of play. Players visible. Low-medium risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules covers risk..</i>	At start of course: General Safety Rule 12-16 applies. At tee: Before driving, consider if players on 1 st fairway are in your shot range / shape. If in any doubt, shout “Fore”
<i>Ball from tee striking players on path from 1st green to 2nd tee .</i>	<i>Within reach by all players. Results from shot errant shot.. Players visible. High ball velocity, potential high injury risk. Special consideration needed.</i>	At tee: Before driving, footpath from 1 st green to 2 nd tee must be clear
<i>Ball from approach shots striking layers on the full at 3rd tee complex</i>	<i>Within reach by all players. Players on 3rd tee complex visible from fairway and left rough from dogleg onwards but likely to be obscured if playing from short of dogleg or from 1st fairway. Medium to low risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules covers risk.</i>	At start of course: General Safety Rule 12-16 applies
<i>Ball strikes from approach shots on 1st fairway to 1st green landing on 2nd fairway</i>	<i>Within reach by all players. Results for errant shot. 1st/2nd fairway parallel but opposite direction of play. Players likely to be visible but risk of being obscured by trees separating 1st and 2nd fairways, or if shot being struck from the bottom of the hill on 1st. Low –medium risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules covers risk.</i>	At start of course: General Safety Rule 3,4, 12-16 applies

Hole 3 Risk Activity	Comment	Safety Notice to reduce risk of occurrence
<i>Ball from tee striking players on the full at 2nd green to right of 3rd tee.</i>	Within reach by all players. Results from errant shot. Close proximity of green. High ball velocity, high risk potential. Special consideration needed.	At tee: Before driving, 2 nd green area must be clear and players behind 3 rd tee.
<i>Ball from tee striking players on the full approaching on 1st fairway.</i>	<i>Within reach by all players. Results from errant shot. Most likely at area opposite 3rd green. 1st/3rd fairway run parallel but opposite direction of play. Players usually visible but may be obscured by trees. Low –medium risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules covers risk.</i>	At start of course: General Safety Rule 3,4 & 12-16 applies.
<i>Ball from tee striking players / public on the full at 'Right of Way'</i>	<i>Within reach by all players. Results from miss-hit shot, on intended line. People on right of way may not be visible from tee. Medium to high risk potential. Special consideration needed.</i>	At tee: Before driving, right of way at bottom of hill must be clear.
<i>Ball from tee striking public on the full at footway outside course – left of 3rd fairway</i>	<i>Within reach by all players. Results from errant shot.. Line of trees helps to protect area. Low footfall on path. Medium to high risk potential. Special consideration needed.</i>	At tee: Be aware, public on footpath adjacent to 3 rd green may be in your shot range / shape.

Hole 4		
Risk Activity	Comment	Safety Notice to reduce risk of occurrence
Ball from tee striking players on the full at practice area to right and parallel with 4 th fairway.	Within reach by all players. Results from errant shot. Trees help protect practice area. <i>Players usually visible but may be obscured by trees. Low – medium risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules covers risk.</i>	At start of course: General Safety Rule 3,4, 12-16 applies
Ball from tee <i>and approach shots</i> striking players on the full at 5 th tee adjacent to 4 th green .	Within reach by Cat 1 & 2 players, also risk of being struck by approach shot from distance. Results from errant shot. Players on 5 th tee hidden by trees but trees give some protection.. Players on 5 th tee may be unaware. Medium - high injury risk. Special consideration needed.	At tee: Be aware, consider if players at 5 th tee are in your shot range /shape.
Ball from tee <i>and approach shots</i> striking players on the full leaving 5 th tee and crossing at 4 th green to 5 th fairway	Within reach by Cat 1 & 2 players, also risk of being struck by approach shot from distance. Results from shot online. Players visible. Medium risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules covers risk.	At start of course: General Safety Rule 3,12-16 applies .
Public on pathway outside course.	Within reach by all players. Results from errant shot, Runs along full length of hole. Direction of fairway from tee runs away from path. Rough, trees and fence protect pathway. Public visible. Low footfall on path. Medium risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules covers risk..	At start of course: General Safety Rule 12-16 applies .

Hole 5		
Risk Activity	Comment	Safety Notice to reduce risk of occurrence
Ball from tee striking players on the full at practice area to right and parallel with 5 th fairway.	Within reach by all players. Results from errant. Line of trees help protect practice ground, players usually visible but may be obscured by trees. Low – medium risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules covers risk..	At start of course: General Safety Rule 12-16 applies.
Ball from tee striking players on the full crossing 5 th fairway from ladies tee.	Within reach by all players. Shot on intended line. Players visible. Low to medium risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules covers risk.	At start of course: General Safety Rule 12-16 applies.
Ball from tee <i>or shot from fairway or rough</i> striking players on the full crossing 5 th fairway from 9 th tee.	Within reach by Cat 1 & 2 players. At limit of range. Players visible. Low risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules covers risk.	At start of course: General Safety Rule 12-16 applies.
Ball from tee striking public on the full at right of way	Within reach from tee by Cat 1 & 2 players, at limit of range. Risk from shots hit from fairway or rough. Public visible. Low risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules covers risk..	At start of course: General Safety Rule 12-16 applies.
Ball from approach shots striking layers on the full at 5 th /1 st shared green	Within reach of most players. Blind shot from below hill. Medium – high injury risk potential. Special consideration needed.	On course, below hill on 5th fairway: Wait for bell before playing approach. Shout 'FORE' before playing approach.

Hole 6		
Risk Activity	Comment	Safety Notice to reduce risk of occurrence
Ball from tee striking players on the full at 1 st green	Within reach by all players. Results from errant shot. Line of trees at tee help protect green area. Players will be visible. Low – medium Adherence to general safety rules cover risk.	At start of course: General Safety Rule 3, 12-16 applies
Ball from tee striking players on the full at 9 th tee.	Within reach by all players Results from errant shot. Players may be visible but likely to be obscured by trees. Low to Medium risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules cover risk	At start of course: General Safety Rule 3,12-16 applies.
Ball from approach shots from 5 th , striking players at 6 th tee	Blind approach shots from 5 th . Controlled by bell at 6 th . Bell to be rung once 6 th tee area is clear. Medium – high risk potential. Special consideration needed.	On course at 6th tee; Ring bell when 6 th tee clear.

Hole 7		
Risk Activity	Comment	Safety Notice to reduce risk of occurrence
Ball from tee striking players on the full approaching along at 8 th fairway	Within reach by all players. Results from errant shot. 8 th / 7 th fairway parallel and opposite in direction of play. Players usually visible but risk of being obscured by trees from gents medal tee. Low to medium risk potential. Adherence to general safety rues cover risk.	At start of course: General Safety Rule 3,4 & 12-16 applies
Ball from medal tee striking players at end of path from 6 th hole.	Within reach of all players. Results from errant shot. End of path not visible from medal tee. Close proximity, high ball velocity. Medium – high risk potential. Special consideration needed.	At tee: Do not drive if golfers on 6 th path; players to be behind medal tee. On course at end of 6th path: Be aware of players at medal tee.

Hole 8		
Risk Activity	Comment	Safety Notice to reduce risk of occurrence
Ball from tee striking players on the full approaching along at 7th fairway	Within reach by all players. Results from errant shot. Low to Medium injury risk potential. 8 th /7 th fairway parallel and opposite in direction of play. Players visible. Adherence to general safety rules cover risk.	At start of course: General Safety Rule 3,4,12-16 applies
Ball from approach shots striking players on the full at 9 th tee	Within reach by all players. Results from over-hit shot. Tee above 8th green. Players visible. Low to medium risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules cover risk.	At start of course: General Safety Rule 3,12-16 applies

Hole 9		
Risk Activity	Comment	Safety Notice to reduce risk of occurrence
Ball from tee striking players on the full approaching along at 5th fairway	Within reach by all players. 9 th fairway crosses 5 th fairway. Players visible at all points. High ball velocity, proximity of 5 th fairway, high risk potential. Special consideration needed.	At tee: Before driving, 5 th fairway must be clear
Ball from tee or approach shot striking players on the full at practice area directly ahead.	Within reach by Cat 1 / 2 players only from tee. Results from an over-hit shot. Players usually visible but may be obscured by trees. Line of trees protect area. Low risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules, cover risk.	At start of course: General Safety Rule 3, 12-16 applies
Ball from approach shots striking layers on the full at 1 st tee.	Within reach by all players. Results from over-hit shot. Players visible. Low to Medium risk potential. Adherence to general safety rules, cover risk.	At start of course: General Safety Rule 3, 12-16 applies.

Practice Area

<i>Practice Area</i>		
<i>Risk Activity</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i>Safety Notice to reduce risk of occurrence</i>
Ball from 4 th tee striking players on the full at practice ground.	Within reach by all players. Results from errant shot. Players on practice ground visible. Players at practice ground may not be aware of shots from 4 th tee. Medium to high risk potential. Special consideration needed.	At practice tee: Be aware of players on 4 th tee
Ball from 9 th tee and approach shots from 9 th fairway striking players on the full at practice area.	Within reach by all players. Results from errant shot. Players usually visible from 9 th tee and fairway but may be obscured by trees. Players at practice ground may be unaware. Medium – high risk potential. Special consideration needed.	At practice area: Be aware of approach shots from 9 th fairway.
Ball from practice tee striking players on practice ground	Within reach by all players. Results from shot from practice tee being hit while others are on practice fairway/green. Players on practice fairway playing shots in direction of practice tee. High risk potential. Special consideration needed..	At practice area: Play shot when fairway clear. Play shot from tee to green only



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Appendix 5.3

Course Topography / Layout.

The nine holes are contiguous but a steep grassy slope connects the upper level and lower level areas of the course.. The slope intersects the 5th, 1st and 3rd fairways. Astroturf paths are provided at the 1st, 3rd and 5th slopes.

The lower level is essentially flat and the upper level has some moderate slopes up to the 2nd and 7th tee complexes and along the 7th and 8th holes. An astroturf path is provided to the 2nd and 7th tee complexes and from the 9th tee to the intersection with the 5th fairway.

The 6th, 7th and 8th greens on the upper course have steep slopes on their southern flanks. The 2nd and 9th tee complexes have steep sides on their east flank and south flank respectively.

Adjacent fairways run parallel but in opposite directions between 1st / 2nd & 7th / 8th holes

The 5th and 1st holes share a double green.

Some tees have greens in close proximity as shown under

1 st tee	-	[3 rd and 9 th greens]
3 rd tee	-	[2 nd green]
5 th tee	-	[4 th green]
6 th tee	-	[5 th and 1 st - double green]
9 th tee (gents)	-	[8 th green]

Practice area is situated between 9th and 4th fairways and is tree lined at both sides.

Intersecting fairways: 6th hole crosses 5th fairway and 9th hole crosses 5th fairway.

A small stream runs down the course from the north boundary past the front side of the 6th & 8th greens and down to the bottom of the course at the 4th green. There are small bridges at several points for pedestrian and golf vehicle access.

Appendix 5.4

. Ref 1 Calculations

All injury rate reported at 0.44/1000 hours of golf.

= 0.44/ 250 rounds (assumes 4 hours per round]

= 1 injury (all types) / 568 rounds

At TGC :

150 playing members [Assuming average 2 rounds per week for 50 weeks]

= 15,000 rounds total

150 playing members [Assuming Average 1 round per week for 50 weeks]

= 7500 rounds total

= 13 injuries (all types) / year [1*7500/568]

= 26 injuries (all types) / year [1*15000/568]

Average: 150 players at 1.5 rounds per 50 week year = 11250

Ref 2 Calculations

All head injuries 84,000 [1974]

Of which 9240 , were head injuries due to all sports

Of which 2310 were head injuries admitted to hospital

Of which 14 were head injuries due to golf – none fatal, no long term disabilities

14 out of 2310 = 1 / 165 = 0.6%

Ref 3 Calculations

Statistics compiled by Golfplan Insurance in UK.

12,000 golfing accidents occur annually, 3,500 involve head injury.

Golf courses in UK = 4,000

Average rounds per club p.a. = 40,000 [equivalent to 2 rounds per member per week]

Number of rounds across UK total is 4000*40000 = [160,000,000 rounds]

Head Injuries per round = 160,000,000 / 3500 = 1 / 45,714 rounds.

Allow 10% incidence of fatalities / life changing event gives = 1 / 457,140 rounds

At the Club with around 7,500 - 15,000 rounds annually

Frequency of fatalities / life changing event = 1 per [457,140/15,000] = 31 years

Or = 1 per [457,140 /7500] =61years

Average = 1 per [457,140/11250] = 41 years