## Playing the golf course

**General Facts Covid-19** 

**Means of contamination** - Respiratory droplets or direct contact with symptomatic individuals, Contact with contaminated surfaces or objects. **Means of entry to the body** - Inhalation or physical contact with eyes, nose, or mouth.

Frequency of exposure - Constant

**Numbers exposed** - All Persons

Likelihood of contamination if coming into contact with the virus - Inevitable Likely sources of contamination on the golf course

- Golfers Paraphernalia; Golf clubs; trolleys; bags; balls; tees; pencils; umbrellas; range finders (scopes) Mobile phones and others
- Golf Course Furniture; flagsticks; hole cups; ball washers; bunker rakes; divot boxes; waste bins; gates; benches and seats; handrails
- Club House Area; Keypads and security, Clubhouse Doors, Pro Shop doors; hire buggies; hire trolleys, Pro shop general areas; pro shop counter service
- Other Persons; Other golfers; greenstaff; Clubhouse staff; Pro shop staff, visitors and deliveries, members of the public.

### **Evaluation of Risk and Controls**

#### **Risk Matrix**



### **General Controls**

Players have been informed of the need for good hand hygiene, to wear if available biologically resistant gloves, for good social distancing practices at all times; not to enter the golf club grounds if suffering any of the symptoms of Covid-19. Hygiene regimes will be implemented for all golf course furniture, non-essential points of contact have been removed from the golf course

# **Evaluation of Risk from Specific Hazards**

## **Golfers Paraphernalia**

Source of Contamination	Nature of the Risk	Exposed Risk	Controls	Residual Risk
Golf Clubs	Used or picked up by a golfer other than the owner.	Possible	Players have been instructed; to clean their clubs; only to remove a single club from their bag at a time, keep unused clubs in their golf bags at all times; not to share clubs and not to pick up golf clubs that do not belong to them.	Negligible
Golf Bags / Trolleys	Picked up or moved by golfer other than the owner.	Possible	Players have been instructed not to move another players bag or trolley even if it is in their way, but to ask the owner to move it.	Negligible
Players Balls	Picked up by a player other than the owner.	Possible	Players have been instructed not to pick up or move another players golf ball; players are to move, mark and remove their own ball from the hole cup at all times.	Negligible
Scorecards, Pencils	Handled by a player other than the owner.	Possible	Scorecard rules have been amended so that players can self-sign their scorecards. Players have been instructed not to swap scorecards at the beginning or end of a round.	Negligible
Umbrellas	Handled by players other than the owner, shared to protect from elements.	Probable	Players have been instructed not to share umbrellas and reminded that social distancing must be observed at all times.	Negligible
Range Finders (scopes)	Handled by a player other than the owner.	Unlikely	Players have been instructed not to share any golfing equipment	Negligible
Mobile Phones	Handled by a player other than the owner.	Unlikely	Players have been instructed not to share mobile phones.	Negligible

## **Golf Course Furniture**

Source of Contamination	Nature of the Risk	Exposed Risk	Controls	Residual Risk
Flagsticks	Common contact point for all players when putting out or retrieving a ball from hole cup.	Inevitable	Golfers have been instructed not to remove or touch the flags from the hole cups, to putt out with the flag in place at all times Flag sticks are decontaminated by staff on a regular basis.	Unlikely
Hole Cups	Common contact point for all players when retrieving a ball from hole cup.	Inevitable	The depth of the hole cup has been shallowed so that golf balls can be retrieved without physical contact of the hole cup. Hole cups are removed and decontaminated by staff on a regular basis.	Unlikely
Ball washers	Common contact point for all players when cleaning a golf ball.	Inevitable	Removed from the golf course till further notice.	N/A
Bunker Rakes	Common contact point for all players when raking a bunker after having played out.	Inevitable	Removed from the golf course till further notice.	N/A
<b>Divot Boxes</b>	Common contact point for all players to repair divots on tees	Inevitable	Removed from the golf course till further notice.	N/A
Gates	Common contact point for all players when opening and closing	Inevitable	Gates will where possible be left open during working hours. Gates will be decontaminated by staff on a regular basis.	Unlikely
Benches and Seats	Common contact point for all players if resting or waiting between playing holes.	Inevitable	Removed from the golf course or tikka taped to prevent use till further notice.	N/A
Handrails	Common contact point for all players when walking up elevated tee stairs or crossing bridges	Inevitable	Where alternative tees exist, they will be used in preference to tees with handrails until further notice.  Where this cannot be achieved signs will be put in place advising golfers not to use the handrail if possible.  Handrails will be decontaminated by staff on a regular basis.	Unlikely

Bell on 9 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> hole	Common contact point for all players when playing the 10 <sup>th</sup> hole	Inevitable	Players have been instructed to sound the bell by banging it with the head of a golf club.	Unlikely
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## Clubhouse and Public Areas

Source of Contamination	Nature of the Risk	Exposed Risk	Controls	Residual Risk
Keypads and Security	Common point of contact when entering the clubhouse and locker room.	Inevitable	Where swipe pads cannot be used, essential doors will be left open if members of staff are in attendance.	Unlikely
			Where this cannot be achieved essential security doors will be cleaned with disinfectant on a regular basis.	
Other Clubhouse Doors	Common point of contact when moving through the clubhouse.	Inevitable	The clubhouse and all general public areas will remain closed until further notice.	Unlikely
			Door handles and contact points will be decontaminated on a regular basis.	
Hire Buggies	Point of contact when hired	Inevitable	Single use only, cleaned regularly, sprayed with anti-bacterial spray after every use.	Unlikely
			Buggies will also be sprayed weekly with Zoona detergent spray	
Hire Trolleys	Point of contact when hired	Inevitable	Cleaned regularly, sprayed with anti-bacterial spray after every use.	Unlikely
			Trolleys will also be sprayed weekly with Zoona detergent spray.	

Source of Contamination	Nature of the Risk	Exposed Risk	Controls	Residual Risk
Other Golfers	Players making contact shaking hands, embracing, standing next to each other.	Inevitable	All players Have been issued with strict guidelines on revised golf course etiquette and social behaviour	Unlikely
	Being in close proximity where one player can contaminate another with exhalation of pathogen bearing droplets.			
Greenstaff	Players coming into close contact with greenstaff.	Probable	Greenstaff will plan work to avoid contact and observe good social distancing at all times.	Unlikely
Clubhouse Staff	Players coming into close contact with other members of staff.	N/A		N/A
Pro Shop Staff	Players coming into close contact with Pro shop staff.	Inevitable		Unlikely

Visitors and Deliveries	Players coming into close contact with clubhouse visitors or delivery staff.	Possible	Unlikely
Members of the Public	Players coming into close contact with members of the public on the golf course.	Possible	Unlikely

## **Emergency Procedures**

Any player who shows signs of the virus on the golf course will be instructed to leave and return home immediately.

In the eventuality of any player or other person being overcome to the extent that they cannot take themselves home, staff or other players will call 111 and take advice from the helpline. If an ambulance has to attend the golf course, it will be met at the gates and taken to the necessary location by a member of staff.