

HAWKHURST GOLF CLUB

HEALTH & SAFETY ON THE COURSE

Introduction

Hawkhurst Golf Club operates a health and safety policy for the protection of our members, staff and visitors whilst on the golf course. It is the responsibility of all golfers to read and follow this document to ensure the safe use of our course. This document has been designed not to spoil the enjoyment of your round, but to ensure all golfers are kept as safe as possible.

Players have a duty of care to behave in such a way that others will not be injured by their actions. They also have a duty of care to ensure that they do not injure themselves.

Accidents and Emergencies

In the event of an accident, first aid boxes are located in the bar, pro shop, kitchen and in the greenkeeping workshop. Mobile phones must be switched off on the course and their use is only permitted in the case of an accident/emergency. Call the clubhouse on 01580 752396 or call the Emergency Services on 999. The postcode of the course is TN18 4JS. All accidents and emergencies must be reported as soon as possible to the Club Manager or the office for entry into the Accident Book.

Greenkeepers

Please be careful and courteous to our staff. Please ensure that they are aware of your presence prior to playing in their proximity.

Blind Tee Shots/Adjacent Fairways

Players should exercise caution at all times on the course to avoid hitting other players or green staff. You should also be aware of areas where you may be at potential risk of being hit by another golfer's ball, especially on those holes where the landing area is not visible from the tee and areas of the course where parallel fairways are played in opposite directions.

Blind tee shots – 1st/10th (dogleg left), 5th/14th (downhill), 9th (dogleg right), 12th (uphill), 15th (downhill) and 18th (uphill)

Please obey the call up notice on 3rd/12th hole and listen out for the bells on the 5th/14th and 9th/18th holes prior to teeing off.

If a miss hit shot heads in the direction of other players/staff, you must shout "FORE" in a loud voice to alert them to the danger. If "FORE" is heard when playing, please take evasive action.

Steep Banks, Slopes & Paths

The course has numerous steep banks, slopes and paths and players should take care when walking up or down these, particularly when using golf buggies and trollies. There are wooden sleeper steps onto the 1st/10th and 3rd/12th tees which may be dangerous when wet, or in icy conditions. The bridge surfacing on the 5th/14th can also be slippery when wet.

Ditches & Water Hazards

Some of the hazards are very deep – in particular the streams crossing the 5th/14th and 6th/15th, and the ditches to the left of the 2nd/11th and to the left of the 7th/16th.

The pond on the 3rd/12th is deep and players must not under any circumstances attempt to retrieve balls from the pond.

Out of Bounds

Golf shots that are hit onto or beyond the Cranbrook Road on the 6th/15th holes should be reported to the Club Management as soon as possible. You should not attempt to retrieve balls that are hit over the boundary fences on the 2nd/11th and 4th/13th holes.

Buggies

Buggies can be dangerous if driven without due care. Buggies should follow the marked routes and should not be taken into rough areas. All buggy drivers should possess a valid driving licence. Buggies should not be used on the course when a trolley ban is in force.

Animal Holes & Wildlife

Be aware that there are holes on the course made by badgers, foxes and rabbits. These holes could lead to injury.

Players should be aware that there is a potential threat from wildlife such as wasps, bees and other stinging insects on the course.

Fertilisers and Insecticides

Do not lick golf balls or fingers. A notice on the 1st tee will advise when chemicals are being used. Players are advised to take heed of warnings and protect themselves.

Footwear

Ensure you are wearing suitable footwear. Players have a responsibility to avoid slipping on slopes and other areas.

Insurance

Hawkhurst Golf Club provides liability insurance to its members and green fee paying visitors. All golfers must ensure that they are adequately insured in respect of the risks involved in playing golf.

Inclement Weather

Darkness, rain, fog and ice: During inclement weather, 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.

Lightning: It is the player's own responsibility to discontinue play when, in his/her opinion, a danger from lightning exists. In the event that a player is on the course when lightning is about, then the following safety considerations are advised:

1. Keep as low as possible – crouch down in the nearest bunker/hollow
2. Leave your golf equipment and stand away from it
3. Do not use a mobile phone and make sure it is switched off
4. Do not put an umbrella up in any circumstances