



# CUSHENDALL GOLF CLUB

## HEALTH & SAFETY ON THE COURSE

### INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS AND VISITORS

---

#### *INTRODUCTION*

Cushendall Golf Club's Health and Safety Policy aims to help protect our members, staff, visitors and other users of the golf course. It is the responsibility of all members and golfers to ensure they read and follow the policy document for the use of the course. This policy has been designed, not to spoil the enjoyment of your round, but to enhance it by keeping all golfers and walkers as safe as possible. Please help us to help you!

This information identifies the main hazards that members and visitors to Cushendall Golf Club may encounter while playing, practising or walking the course. It does not contain a definite list of hazards, as by the very nature of the game of golf, it is impossible to eliminate risk entirely.

Cushendall Gold Club boasts beautiful scenery and a winding river that runs through the course. Persons playing or walking on the course do so **AT THEIR OWN RISK** and must not do anything to jeopardise the safety of themselves or others.

All players are expected to adopt golfing etiquette by not playing a golf shot if there is the remotest chance of injuring someone, or by walking in front of fellow competitor or partner prior to him/her playing a shot.

#### *ACCIDENT & EMERGENCY PROCEDURES*

First Aid Assistance: - In the event of an accident, first aid boxes are located behind the bar. A Defibrillator is available in the porch of the clubhouse.

*Emergency services: 999 (our postcode BT44 0NG)*

*Clubhouse: 028 2177 1318*

**ALL accidents and incidents MUST be reported to the Secretary's office so that appropriate documentation may be completed.**

#### *ARRIVING AND LEAVING THE CLUB*

Please be careful as you enter and leave the Club as the road leading to the club is narrow and pedestrians cross the road to access the beach. The 7<sup>th</sup> hole runs along the entrance avenue so please ensure that you do not proceed if competitors are driving from the 7<sup>th</sup> tee. There is a speed limit of 5 mph. Drivers should show courtesy to players putting on the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> greens by stopping until the players have putted.



## *COURSE RISK ASSESSMENT and CARE ON THE COURSE*

The Golf Course Risk Assessment has been carried out on a hole-by-hole basis. To help minimise the risks from the hazards that have been identified, it is your responsibility as a golfer on the course to ensure that you adhere strictly to the following.

If the course has not been officially closed, this does not mean that it is necessarily fit to play and golfers must determine for themselves whether they consider it is safe to do so.

Golfers should not strike a golf ball when there is a risk of endangering other people whether that is other golfers, greenkeeping personnel or any other member of the public. If a golf ball is stuck and is heading in the direction of other people, you must shout FORE to alert them of the impending danger. When you hear the shout of FORE, please take evasive action and crouch down and cover your head.

You are advised to exercise caution at all times on the course in respect of identifying area 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 clearly visible from the tee and areas where parallel fairways are played in opposing directions. Particular care should be taken on 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> holes. Players finishing the 7<sup>th</sup> hole must give way to other players teeing off at 8<sup>th</sup>.

Special care must be taken to avoid trips, slips and falls when standing on, walking near banks/slopes, as these are considered to be some of the most hazardous areas of the course, particularly during or immediately after adverse weather conditions.

### *Steep Banks, Slopes & Paths*

By the very nature of the course it has steep banks slopes and paths. At all times players should take care when walking up or down these, particularly when using golf buggies or trolleys. Correct footwear must be worn on the course. Particular care should be taken on slopes particularly 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> holes.

### *Water Hazards*

As the river runs through the course there are water hazards at various locations throughout the course and care is required around all of these hazards to avoid the risk of drowning. Players must not enter the river to retrieve golf balls. Care must be taken at all times near water.

Particular care should be taken at bridges over the river at 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

### *Steps & Mats*

There are various types of steps and paths with rubber mats, artificial grass or rock dust throughout the course. You are advised to use all steps and paths on the course with caution, particularly in wet or icy conditions.



### *Wildlife*

Players should be aware that there is a potential threat from wildlife such as wasps, bees and other biting insects on the course, especially during the summer months. Cushendall Golf Club endeavours to fill in holes created by animals. However it is inevitable that there will be animal holes which could lead to injuries. Please take extra care.

### *Footwear*

Cushendall Golf Club requires golf shoes to be worn on the course as they help with avoiding slips and they also help your golf!!

### *Buggies*

Cushendall Golf Club does not hire buggies. The use of personal motorised ride-on buggies is permitted by members only by prior application to the Secretary. All buggies must be operated in accordance with our Golf Buggy Safety Policy (available on request).

### *Insurance*

Cushendall Golf Club provides liability insurance to their members. This is also extended to green fee paying visitors. However all golfers must ensure that they are adequately insured in respect of the risks involved with playing of golf.

### *Out of Bounds*

No attempts should be made to retrieve golf balls which have come to rest out of bounds.

### *Fertilisers & Insecticides*

A notice at the first tee will advise of days when chemicals have been used. Players are advised to take heed of warnings and protect themselves. Do not put hands near mouth after lifting your golf ball from a sprayed area.

### *Practising*

This is strictly limited to the practice area of the course to the left of the 3<sup>rd</sup> tee box and the practice putting area at the first tee. Under no circumstance is there to be any practicing on the Course itself.

### *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. Players have a duty of care to behave in such a way that others may not be injured by their actions. They also 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. If the Green Convenor deems the course unplayable you must obey this notice.

### *Lightening*

Where there is insufficient time to evacuate the course and there is threat of lightning you are advised to comply with the following procedure.

1. Keep as low down as possible. Crouch down in the nearest bunker/hollow.
2. Leave your golf equipment where it is and stand away from it.
3. Do not use a mobile phone (turn it off).
4. Do not put an umbrella up in any circumstance.
5. Do not shelter under trees.

**To help with the review process of our safety procedures all Members, Guests and Visitors are kindly requested to bring to the attention of the Secretary any incidents that happen on the golf course, or hazards they feel have not been addressed.**