RISK ASSESSMENT BRIDGE OF ALLAN GOLF CLUB 9 HOLE GOLF COURSE



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1. Introduction

This assessment addresses issues applying to Bridge of Allan Golf Course only and does not consider any risks which may be present in or around the Clubhouse, Practice Facility and Greenkeeper's compound. Risks associated with Greenkeeper work duties are not considered within this assessment.

2. General Course Topography

The course is owned by the members of Bridge of Allan Golf Club and is mainly bounded by farm and woodland. The course is accessed via Pendreich Road that also bounds the right hand side and back of the 9th hole. Public footpaths are present in the Mine Woods to the left of the 4th, 6th, 7th and 8th holes and also to the left and back of the 5th hole. The public footpaths within Mine Woods are frequently used by members of the public, dog walkers and cyclists however they rarely stray on to the course.

A feature of the course is the dry-stone dykes that form the boundary between the course and Mine Woods. Dry-stone dykes also cross the 1st 3rd, 4th and 7th holes.

Apart from the 3rd and 4th holes which are flat the 9th hole course is built generally on sloping ground which falls from the top of Mine Woods towards the clubhouse accessed via Pendreich Road.

3. Public Access

There are no public footpaths on the course however members of the general public or dogs may occasionally stray on to the course from the Mine Woods.

4. Greenkeeper / Volunteers Working on the Course

At all times the Greenkeeper and Club volunteers working on the course have priority & no golf shots to be played if they are within shot range.

5. Use of trolleys & electric trolleys

Bridge of Allan Golf Club Course allows the use of trolleys and electric trolleys but not motorised buggies. 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 the follow appropriate pathways.

6. Reduced Visibility Weather Conditions

When foggy conditions prevail, the Greenkeeper, his Deputy or member of the Greens Committee will stand on the 1st White Tee and if the dry-stone dyke below the 1st Green is not in view he will place a sign advising the membership that the course is closed. This will be reviewed over the next couple of hours by the Greenkeeper, his Deputy or member of the Greens Committee. When the fog clears to an acceptable distance, as previously stated, the course closed signs will be removed and the course will be open for play.

7. Inclement Weather - Lightening

In event of lightening or threat of lightening the course will be closed by Club Official or Greenkeeper.

A sweep of the course will take place and all players will be told that they must immediately vacate the course; it is not an option to continue at your own risk.

A sign will be placed at the entrance to the course stating that the "Course is Closed".

Course may be re-opened by Club Official or Greenkeeping Staff once the risk of lightening has passed. The closure sign will be removed.

8. Paths

Where paths are available on the course all golfers whether walking, using a trolley or electric trolley must use them.

9. Painted White Lines

These are temporary white painted lines placed at various locations on the course. They are appropriately placed to ensure the safety of all golfers and to assist the Greenkeeper to maintain vulnerable parts of the course. Under no circumstances must golfers whether carrying their bags, using trolleys or electric trolleys cross these lines.

10. Footwear

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

11. Safety Notices

Public Footpaths.

Signs will be placed at access points to the course from Mine Woods advising members of the public, dog walkers and cyclists that they do not have right-of-way access to the course.

Farmland.

Signs will be placed at access points to farmland to the left of the 2nd and 3rd holes and above the 8th Green to notify players that they access the farmland to retrieve golf balls at their own risk.

Generic.

The following message will be published on the club's website and displayed within the clubhouse and on information noticeboards:

Health and Safety Notice

Playing golf on uneven terrain and changeable conditions carries inevitable risks.

You play this golf course having been made aware that a full risk assessment has been conducted, is available to be read on the club website, is displayed within both locker room areas and that you have taken the time to familiarise yourself with its content.

Additionally, for your safety and for the protection of the course, please ensure trolleys and electric trolleys are always kept outside white lined areas.

Whilst we want you to enjoy your round, the Club accepts no liability for any accident or damage caused by not following the safety notices and guidelines whilst playing on the course.

12. Responsibilities

The Club Secretary and Greens Convenor are jointly responsible for maintaining this risk assessment.

13. Overview of Risk Assessment Definitions

The risk assessment will address the following:

- Generic risks whilst playing golf.
- Risks whilst carrying clubs and using electric and pull trolleys in dry and wet conditions

14. Risk Assessment

The Risk Assessment is presented in three categories:

- Generic Risks
- Risks on a hole by hole basis for the 9 hole course

For each hole the type of risk will be graded as detailed below:

- L= Low or Little Risk
- M= Medium Risk
- H = High Risk

Where there is a Medium or High a possible solution /recommendation to eradicate or reduce the risk will be suggested.

When defining the location of a risk by reference to a particular hole this is ascertained by looking from the Tee towards the Green.**15.** Generic Risks

15. Generic Risks		
Risk Description	Grade of Risk	Solution / Recommendation
Being struck by a golf ball hit offline by a golfer playing on another part of the golf course.	High	 All players must remain alert at all times to the behaviour of nearby players. Players who have played an offline shot must immediately shout "FORE" to alert all surrounding players that the shot has been struck.
Being struck by a golf ball hit by a playing partner.	High	 Non playing partner(s) must not advance in front of the shot being played. Players who have played a shot towards a playing partner(s) must immediately shout "FORE" to alert all surrounding players that the shot has been struck.
Being struck by a golf ball played by a golfer in the following group.	Medium	Following golfers must ensure that those in front have advanced further than they can hit their best shot.
Being struck by the swinging club of a playing partner.	Medium	Players must stand at least 2 metres away from the arc of the swinging club.
Tripping on uneven, sloping, or slippery ground.	Medium	 Obvious tripping hazards should be removed by fellow golfers & Greenkeeping Staff. Extra care should be taken by all golfers.
Tripping over fellow golfer's playing equipment, trolleys or electric trolleys.	Low	Care should be taken by all golfers on the course.
Some of the bunkers on the course are surrounded by steeply sloping sides. These slopes when wet can become particularly slippery.	High	When entering and exiting bunkers to play or after playing a shot, entry and exit should be from the shallowest edge of the bunker.
Many of the teeing areas are surrounded by steep or medium sloping ground.	Medium / High	Trolleys and electric trolleys are not to be taken on to those slopes in dry or wet conditions.
Throughout the course there are steep and medium slopes which must be treated with care particularly during wet conditions. Specific slopes are dealt with as part of the hole by hole assessment	Medium / High	All golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are adequate and suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the day of play.
Wildlife on Course.	Medium	Occasionally, wildlife such as deer may stray on to the course. Players should cease play until the wildlife has left the

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course.	

16. Hole by Hole Risk Assessment

Risk Description	Risk Grade	Recommendation / Solution
Players using practice putting green.	High	Players teeing off should be aware of other players using the
		practice putting green. Players who have played a shot towards
		a player(s) using the practice putting green must immediately
		shout "FORE" to alert all surrounding players that the shot has
		been struck.
Steep slope between 1 st Tee and 1 st Green.	Medium	All golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are
	/	adequate and suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the
	High	day of play. Players using trolleys or electric trolleys should
		use the path provided through the dry-stone dyke.
Players playing 8 th Hole.	High	Players walking from the 1 st Tee to 1 st Green should be aware
		of other players teeing off or playing the 8 th Hole.
Dry-stone dyke below 1 st Green	High	Players playing over the dry-stone dyke should be aware that
		there is a risk that balls struck may rebound back towards the
		location from where they were struck. Players should refrain
		from hitting shots from areas too close to the dry-stone dyke.
Steep slope to front of Green.	Medium	No trolleys or electric trolleys to be taken on to this area and
		players should access the Green from the left- or right-hand
		side and not via the slope at the front
Steps to right side of Front Tee.	Medium	Steps constructed from railway sleepers can be very slippery
	/	when wet. Always walk carefully up and down any steps using
	High	the matted "astro-turf" areas if provided.

2nd Hole

Risk Description	Risk Grade	Recommendation / Solution
Steep slope to right and back of Tee.	Medium	No trolleys or electric trolleys to be taken on to this area and
		players should access the tee using the steps on the right side
		of the tee.
Blind Tee Shot	High	Players teeing off must ensure that those in front have
		advanced further than they can hit their best shot.
Steps to right side of Tee.	Medium	Steps constructed from railway sleepers can be very slippery
	/	when wet. Always walk carefully up and down any steps using
	High	the matted "astro-turf" areas if provided.
Steep slope between 2 nd Tee and Directional Marker.	Medium	All golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are
	/	adequate and suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the
	High	day of play.
Directional Marker on 2 nd fairway.	Medium	Players playing shots from the vicinity of the Directional
		Marker should be aware that there is a risk that balls struck
		may rebound back towards the location from where they were
		struck.
Fairy Knowe to left of 2 nd Green.	High	Players retrieving balls struck into the Fairy Knowe should be
		aware that this area has steep slopes and burrowing animals
		that can make ground conditions unstable. Due care and
		attention should be made when entering this area and all
		golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are adequate
		and suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the day of
		play.
Bunker to left front of Green.	High	When entering and exiting this bunker to play or after playing
		a shot, entry and exit should be from the shallowest edge of
		the bunker.
Players playing from 3 rd Tee.	High	Players playing up to the 2 nd Green should be aware of other
		players playing from the 3 rd tee. Players who have played a
		shot towards a player(s) using the 3^{rd} tee must immediately
		shout "FORE" to alert all surrounding players that the shot has
		been struck.

3rd Hole

Risk Description	Risk Grade	Recommendation / Solution
Steep slope to right and back of Tee.	Medium	No trolleys or electric trolleys to be taken on to this area and players should access the Tee using the steps on the right side of the tee.
Dry-stone dyke approximately 50 metres in front of 3 rd Tee.	High	Players playing over the dry-stone dyke should be aware that there is a risk that balls struck may rebound back towards the location from where they were struck. Players should refrain from hitting shots from areas too close to the dry-stone dyke.
Accessing Farmland to left of Fairway	High	Players accessing the fields to the left of the fairway to retrieve golf balls should use the styles provided.
Other players playing down the 4 th Fairway.	High	Players playing up to the 3 rd Green should be aware of other players playing the 4 th hole. Players who have played a shot towards a player(s) playing the 4 th hole must immediately shout "FORE" to alert all surrounding players that the shot has been struck.
Other players teeing off at 4 th Tee.	High	Players playing up to the 3 rd Green should be aware of other players playing from the 4 th tee. Players who have played a shot towards a player(s) playing from the 4 th tee must immediately shout "FORE" to alert all surrounding players that the shot has been struck.
Bunker to left front of Green.	High	When entering and exiting this bunker to play or after playing a shot, entry and exit should be from the shallowest edge of the bunker.
Ball struck beyond the 3 rd Green.	High	Players retrieving balls struck beyond the 3 rd Green should be aware that this area has steep slopes, burrowing animals and is used to store Greenkeepers workings that can make ground conditions unstable. Due care and attention should be made when entering this area and all golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are adequate and suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the day of play.

Risk Description	Risk Grade	Recommendation / Solution
Steep slope to right and back of Tee.	Medium	No trolleys or electric trolleys to be taken on to this area and players should access the tee using the steps on the right side of the tee.
Steps to right side of Tee.	Medium / High	Steps constructed from railway sleepers can be very slippery when wet. Always walk carefully up and down any steps using the matted "astro-turf" areas if provided.
Blind Tee Shot.	High	Players teeing off must ensure that those in front have advanced further than they can hit their best shot. Players should also ensure they ring the bell provided at the gap in the dry-stone dyke to inform players teeing off that the landing area is clear.
Dry-stone dyke in front of 4 th Green.	High	Players playing over the dry-stone dyke should be aware that there is a risk that balls struck may rebound back towards the location from where they were struck. Players should refrain from hitting shots from areas too close to the dry-stone dyke.
Accessing Mine Woods to left of Fairway.	High	Players accessing the Mine Woods to the left of the Fairway to retrieve golf balls should pay due care and attentions and do so at their own risk.
Other players playing up the 3 rd Fairway.	High	Players playing down the 4 th hole should be aware of other players playing up the 3 rd hole. Players who have played a shot towards a player(s) playing the 3 rd hole must immediately shout "FORE" to alert all surrounding players that the shot has been struck.
Steep Banking to left of Fairway	High	All golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are adequate and suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the day of play.
Bunker at Back of Green.	Medium	When entering and exiting this bunker to play or after playing a shot, entry and exit should be from the shallowest edge of the bunker.

Risk Description	Risk Grade	Recommendation / Solution
Steep slope to front of Tee.	Medium	No trolleys or electric trolleys to be taken on to this area and
		players should access and leave the tee using the path going around the rear of the medal tee.
Pathways to Rear of Tee during cold weather conditions.	Medium	All golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are
Pathways to Real of Tee during cold weather conditions.	wieulum	adequate and suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the
		day of play.
Tarmacadam Pathway leading from back of Tee to bottom	High	All golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are
of hill at start of fairway.		adequate and suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the
		day of play. Players should also make use the railing provided
		to the right of the pathway.
Accessing Mine Woods to left of Fairway and beyond the	High	Players accessing the Mine Woods to the left of the fairway to
green.		retrieve golf balls should pay due care and attentions and do so
		at their own risk.
Other players teeing off at 6 th Hole.	High	Players teeing off should be aware of other players standing on
		the 6^{th} tee. Players who have played a shot towards a player(s)
		standing on the 6 th tee must immediately shout "FORE" to
		alert all surrounding players that the shot has been struck.
Steep bank to Left of Green.	High	All golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are
		adequate and suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the
		day of play.
Bunker to Left of Green.	Medium	When entering and exiting this bunker to play or after playing
		a shot, entry and exit should be from the shallowest edge of
		the bunker.

Risk Description	Risk Grade	Recommendation / Solution
Other players teeing off at 5 th Hole.	High	Before commencing play on the 6^{th} Hole, players should allow other players to tee off at the 5^{th} Hole.
Blind Tee Shot.	High	Players teeing off must ensure that those in front have advanced further than they can hit their best shot.
Steps at Front and Medal Tees.	Medium / High	Steps constructed from railway sleepers can be very slippery when wet. Always walk carefully up and down any steps using the matted "astro-turf" areas if provided.
Steep bank to Right and Front of Tee.	High	All golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are adequate and suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the day of play.
Accessing Mine Woods to left of Fairway.	High	Players accessing the Mine Woods to the left of the fairway to retrieve golf balls should pay due care and attentions and do so at their own risk.
Other players coming down towards the 5 th Green.	High	Players teeing off at the 6 th Hole should be aware of other players coming down towards the 5 th Green. Players who have played a shot towards a player(s) playing the 5 th hole must immediately shout "FORE" to alert all surrounding players that the shot has been struck.
Blind Shot to Green	High	Before playing a shot to the Green players should wait until they hear the bell being rung. Players leaving the 6^{th} Green should ensure they ring the bell at the back of the Green to inform other players behind that it is safe to play.
Steep Slopes between Tee and Green.	High	All golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are adequate and suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the day of play.
Bunker at Left of Green.	Medium	When entering and exiting this bunker to play or after playing a shot, entry and exit should be from the shallowest edge of the bunker.

Risk Description	Risk Grade	Recommendation / Solution
Blind Tee Shot.	High	Players teeing off must ensure that those in front have
		advanced further than they can hit their best shot.
Other players teeing off at 8 th Hole.	Medium	Players teeing off should be aware of other players teeing off
	/	at the 8 th hole. Players who have played a shot towards a
	High	player(s) teeing off at the 8 th hole must immediately shout
		"FORE" to alert all surrounding players that the shot has been
		struck.
Steep Slopes between Tee and Green.	High	All golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are
		adequate and suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the
		day of play.
Accessing Mine Woods to left of Fairway.	High	Players accessing the Mine Woods to the left of the fairway to
		retrieve golf balls should pay due care and attentions and do so
		at their own risk.
Fairway Bunkers and Bunkers to Left and Right of Green.	Medium	When entering and exiting bunkers to play or after playing a
		shot, entry and exit should be from the shallowest edge of the
		bunker.

Risk Description	Risk Grade	Recommendation / Solution
Blind Tee Shot.	High	Players teeing off must ensure that those in front have
		advanced further than they can hit their best shot.
Players using the Practice Area and Practice Putting	Medium	Players teeing off should be aware of other players using the
Green.	/	Practice Area or Practice Putting Green. Players who have
	High	played a shot towards a player(s) using these areas must
		immediately shout "FORE" to alert all surrounding players
		that the shot has been struck.
Steep Slopes between Tee and Green.	High	All golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are
		adequate and suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the
		day of play.
Other players playing the 1 st Hole.	Medium	Players playing the 8 th Hole should be aware of other players
	/	playing the 1 st hole. Players who have played a shot towards a
	High	player(s) playing the 1 st hole must immediately shout "FORE"
		to alert all surrounding players that the shot has been struck.
Blind Shot to Green.	High	Before playing a shot to the Green players should wait until
		they hear the bell being rung. Players leaving the 8 th Green
		should ensure they ring the bell at the back of the Green to
		inform other players behind that it is safe to play.
Steep bank to Right of Green.	High	All golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are
		adequate and suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the
		day of play.
Bunker to Left of Green.	Medium	When entering and exiting bunkers to play or after playing a
		shot, entry and exit should be from the shallowest edge of the
		bunker.

Risk Description	Risk Grade	Recommendation / Solution
Blind Tee Shot.	High	Players teeing off must ensure that those in front have
		completed the hole and left the Green.
Steps at Front of Tees and to the Left of the 8 th Green.	Medium	Steps constructed from railway sleepers can be very slippery
	/	when wet. Always walk carefully up and down any steps using
	High	the matted "astro-turf" areas if provided.
Other Players on 8 th Green.	Medium	Players teeing off should be aware of other players standing on
	/	the 8 th Green. Players who have played a shot towards a
	High	player(s) standing on the 8 th Green must immediately shout
		"FORE" to alert all surrounding players that the shot has been
		struck.
Steep Slopes between Tee and Green.	High	All golfers should ensure they have golf shoes which are
		adequate and suitable for the ground/weather conditions on the
		day of play.
Bunkers to Right and Back of Green.	Medium	When entering and exiting bunkers to play or after playing a
		shot, entry and exit should be from the shallowest edge of the
		bunker.