



## **Burntisland Golf House Club (BGHC) Health and Safety Policy 2025/2026**

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY ON THE COURSE**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

This sheet provides an assessment of the risks identified for players and staff at Burntisland Golf House Club (BGHC) on the golf course.

It is a policy of BGHC that ALL players are insured for 3rd party risk to which end, all members, green fee players and invited guests are automatically insured by BGHC.

In the case of an emergency; Call the Pro Shop on 01592 872116 or the Emergency Services on 999.

**PLAYERS ARE EXPECTED TO BE AWARE AT ALL TIMES OF DANGER TO OTHERS AND TO THEMSELVES; CARE MUST BE TAKEN AT ALL TIMES TO AVOID ACCIDENTS OR INJURIES TO ONESELF AND TO OTHER PLAYERS, OFFICIALS OR STAFF.**

**PLAYERS ARE EXPECTED TO ACT AS IF THERE WAS NO INSURANCE.**

**FIRST AID BOXES WILL BE FOUND IN THE OFFICE, PRO SHOP AND GREEN KEEPERS PORTACABIN**

**ALL ACCIDENTS MUST BE REPORTED ASAP TO THE CLUB (for entry into the accident book)**

#### **THE COURSE:**

As a general rule, players should not strike a golf ball when there is the risk of endangering another player, member of the Green Staff or a member of the public.

Blind Tee Shots: 1<sup>st</sup> (Hidden green), 10<sup>th</sup> (Dogleg left), 12<sup>th</sup> (Dogleg left), 15<sup>th</sup> (Green drivable), 17<sup>th</sup> (Hidden green) and 18<sup>th</sup> (from medal tee).

Adjacent Fairways: A deviant ball can carry to adjacent fairways/tees and greens on virtually ALL holes, please shout **FORE!** Players furthest round the course have priority when teeing off; other golfers should stand aside until it is clear to continue.

Steep Banks: Care is advised negotiating the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

Ponds: Ponds are situated at the 5<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, they are deep and steep sided so recovery of any balls from the ponds is considered dangerous and should not be attempted. A throw line is provided at the 5<sup>th</sup> green.

Steps: There are numerous steps around the course steps which may be slippery when wet, or icy.

Out of Bounds: Players are advised **NOT** to retrieve balls from property bordering the course.

Elevated Tees: Care is advised at the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>

- Be aware of the road on the LHS of the 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> holes.
- Be aware that adults, children and animals may inadvertently enter onto the course, especially from the left hand side of the 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Green Keeper's Compound/Buildings: These are situated on the LHS of the 2<sup>nd</sup> green, between the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> fairway and at LHS of the 16<sup>th</sup> fairway. These are working area and players are advised to take care when retrieving balls or playing from these or adjacent areas.

#### **OTHER HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:**

- Fertiliser and Insecticides etc on the ground: Do not lick golf balls or fingers. A notice on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tee will advise when spraying is in progress.
- Footwear: Ensure that you are wearing suitable footwear – you have a responsibility to yourself to avoid slipping on slopes and other awkward places.
- Green Keeper Staff: Have priority at all times. Always ensure that they are aware of your presence before you play your shot. The Green staffs is instructed to signal to you when it is safe to play
- Wooden Sleepers: Caution is advised when playing out of bunkers at the 6<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. The wooden Sleepers are deemed immovable obstructions under rule 24-2 and relief may be taken.

#### **PRACTICE AREAS:**

There are three designated practice areas within the boundary of the course:

- 1) The practice mat/net adjacent to the 1<sup>st</sup> fairway.
- 2) The short mowed area around the 1<sup>st</sup> winter green and 17<sup>th</sup> winter green including the practice bunker between those greens.
- 3) The practice putting green.

No practice is permitted out with these areas.

#### **For the avoidance of doubt:**

The triangle area between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> fairways is an integral part of the course and practice is not allowed in this area. Chipping is not allowed onto the practice putting green. Practice driving/iron shots from around the clubhouse is not permitted.

The practice area to the south east of the 18<sup>th</sup> fairway is outside the boundary of the course and can be used for practice during daylight hours. People under the age of 13 **MUST NOT** use the practice ground without appropriate adult supervision; this includes crossing to/from the driving area to the golf club/pro shop.

People using the practice area are expected to be aware at all times of danger to others and to themselves. Care must be taken at all times to avoid accidents or injuries to themselves or others who may be present on the practice area. Please make sure that the practice area is clear with due allowance for the possibility of an errant shot. Walking to/from the practice area requires crossing the 18<sup>th</sup> fairway at a point of limited visibility for golfers on the 18<sup>th</sup> tee.

#### **USE OF BUGGIES:**

The use of privately owned single seat ride-on buggies may be permitted only by prior written application to the Club administrator, and in line with any trolley ban or procedures in force. Buggies can be dangerous if driven without due care. Please always drive any buggies with due consideration to your own safety as well as that of other passengers/players. Buggies should drive on the fairway and follow the signs between holes avoiding steep slopes and muddy areas. The Green keeper may decide if the course is to be closed to Buggies as a result of inclement weather/ground conditions.

**SUSPENSION OF PLAY DURING OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS:**

Players must protect themselves in Health and Safety matters especially should there be a danger from lightning or Fog when play must stop immediately.

Rule 6-8 of the Rules of Golf makes it quite clear that a player is entitled to discontinue play if the player believes that there is a danger from fog/lightening.

All players must adhere to the following Suspension of Play procedure.

A suspension of play for a dangerous situation (e.g. lightening/Fog) will be signalled by a prolonged single blast on the AIR HORN operated from the Pro-shop. However, even if the AIR HORN is not sounded and the players believe that there is real risk of, or danger from, lightning/fog then the player is entitled to proceed under the provision of Rule 6-8 and discontinue play.

**RESUMPTION OF PLAY:**

**TWO SHORT BLASTS** on the AIR HORN will notify players when it is safe to resume play. No player shall resume play until the AIRHORN has sounded.

**SUSPENSION DURING CASUAL PLAY:**

Players have to proceed under Rule 6-8. This makes it the player's own responsibility to discontinue play when, in his/her opinion, a danger from lightening or fog exists. It is unreasonable to expect the Club to monitor the course 24/7.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER:**

Darkness, rain, fog, ice and lightning: 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.

**COURSE CLOSURE:**

Course closure will be decided by the Green Keeper or Green Convenor or Committee Member or Professional in that order of precedence depending on availability. As soon as the weather/conditions improves then the decision to open the course will be decided in the same manner as course closure.

**Steve Stevenson**

**Captain**

**December 2025**