

Binny Golf Club

COVID-19

Level 4 Risk Assessment

Playing the golf course

General Facts about 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 Equipment; 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, hire trolleys, coffee machine, fridge, toilets, tables, chairs
- **Other Persons;** Other golfers; greenstaff; Clubhouse staff; visitors and deliveries, members of the public.

Evaluation of Risk and Controls

Risk Matrix

nevitable	Probable	Possible	Unlikely	Negligible
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High		Medium		Tolerable
Risk		Risk		Risk

General Controls

Players have been informed of the need for good hand hygiene and to follow good social distancing measures at all times and not to enter the golf club property if suffering any of the symptoms of COVID-19. Hygiene regimes have been implemented and non-essential points of contact have been removed from the golf course.

Regular Communication

The committee/directors have been and will continue to be in regular timely contact with the members via BRS email to advise of any changes to guidance given by Scottish Golf and what that means locally for our club. These guidelines are then policed by our starters and any committee members/directors present. Our starters and Covid Officer (Mike Newlands) have all completed the online covid training provided here https://rise.articulate.com/share/LIEWUj-o23H_4gC1AF002jdxdrCucQC0#/

Evaluation of Risk from Specific Hazards

Golfers equipment

Source of	Nature of the Risk	Exposed	Controls	Residual
Contamination		Risk		Risk
Golf Clubs	Used or picked up by a golfer other than the owner.	Possible	Players have been instructed not to share equipment and only touch their own equipment.	Negligible
Golf Bags / Trolleys	Picked up or moved by golfer other than the owner.	Possible	Players have been instructed not to share equipment and only touch their own equipment.	Negligible
Players Balls	Picked up by a player other than the owner.	Possible	Players have been instructed not to share equipment and only touch their own equipment. Players have been instructed 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	Instructions have been provided to handle only their own scorecard and verbally confirm the score with their partner. Instructions have been given not sign another person's scorecard. One person has been allocated to input all scorecards using appropriate sanitisation before and after input.	Negligible
Umbrellas	Handled by players other than the owner, shared to protect from elements.	Probable	Players have been instructed not to share equipment and only touch their own equipment. Reminders have been issued to observe social distancing 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

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 the flags from the hole cups, to putt out with the flag in place at all times	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.	Unlikely
Ball washers/Air hose	Common contact point for all players when cleaning a golf ball or shoes/trolley	Inevitable	All ball washers are out of use and have been covered. Air hose has been removed	N/A

Bunker Rakes	Common contact point for all players when raking a bunker after having played out.	Inevitable	Removed from the golf course.	N/A
Divot Boxes	Common contact point for all players to repair divots on tees	Inevitable	Removed from the golf course.	N/A
Benches and Seats	Common contact point for all players if resting or waiting between playing holes.	Inevitable	Removed from the golf course/ taped up to show out of use.	N/A
Buckets and tee cups	Common point of contact for filling or emptying	Inevitable	Removed from the golf course.	N/A

Clubhouse and Public Areas

Source of Contamination	Nature of the Risk	Exposed Risk	Controls	Residual Risk
Doors and handles	Common point of contact.	Inevitable	Handles disinfected on a regular basis.	Unlikely
Other Clubhouse Doors	Common point of contact when moving through the clubhouse.	Inevitable	During level 4 The clubhouse and all general public areas will remain closed until further notice except for emergency toileting and starter function. This will only be for payment of guests/visitors. Instructions issued on use of mask and hand sanitisations as soon as you enter. No takeaways during this phase. Toilets are disinfected on a regular basis.	Unlikely
Hire Trolleys	Point of contact when hired	Inevitable	Handles will be sanitised on giving out and receiving back.	Unlikely
Starter General Area	Common point of contact	Inevitable	Starter counter remains open for very limited transactions. The number of people are restricted to one at a time to enable social distancing measures to be maintained. Mask must be worn	Unlikely
Starter Counter	Common point of contact	Inevitable	A plastic screen has been provided. Contactless payment is preferred with minimal handling of cash. Starters to regularly sanitise their hands, card machine, counter, coffee machine buttons, fridge doors and computer. Staff will wear masks at all times when serving customers. Separate instructions issued direct to golfers for contactless competition entry fees deposited in the tin outside. Staff will sanitise hands before and after counting the entries once all have entered	Unlikely
Tables/Seating inside and outside of clubhouse	Common point of contact	Inevitable	Instructions are given in writing at each table for the number of people permitted to sit at each table. Seats are marked with covid tape to show where you can and cant sit to maintain a social distance. In level 4 all seating areas are closed. When opened they are regularly sanitised.	Unlikely

Contact details of those	Being able to pass on contact details to contact tracers	Inevitable	All rounds must be pre-booked so we have a record online of	Unlikely
playing, sitting in	for those in close contact to a covid case.		days/times played and who played. We hold members contact	
indoor seating areas			details. Visitors contact details come through with the online	
and delivery drivers			booking. Visitors phone bookings - contact number is added to the	
			booking. There is a daily track and trace sheet at the indoor tables	
			and the starter ensures that this is completed with anyone sitting	
			down or any delivery drivers.	
Level 4 – Only golfers from West Lothian Council Area allowed to play (or other council areas such as Edinburgh and Falkirk where the border is 5 miles or less from our course)			Golfers have been instructed not to appear at the course if they are from a council area other than West Lothian, Falkirk or Edinburgh for risk of cross contamination between counties. Members address records will be checked and visitors/guests must produce ID showing that they live in West Lothian, Falkirk or Edinburgh council areas or they will not be permitted to play and asked to leave the property.	Unlikely

Other Persons

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. Being in close proximity where one player can contaminate another with exhalation of pathogen bearing droplets. 	Inevitable	All players Have been issued with strict guidelines on revised golf course etiquette and social behaviour. Such as only pre booked rounds, not to turn up more than 15 minutes before tee time, no crowds to gather outside the clubhouse, no hanging around after your round, no handshakes, maintain social distance at all times. Wear a mask at all times if you enter the clubhouse	Unlikely
Greenstaff	Players coming into close contact with greenstaff.	Probable		Negligible
Clubhouse Staff	Players coming into close contact with other members of staff.	Inevitable		Negligible
Starters	Players coming into close contact with Pro Starters.	Inevitable		Unlikely
Visitors and Deliveries	Players coming into close contact with clubhouse visitors or delivery staff.	Possible	Greenstaff will observe good social distancing at all times.	Negligible
Members of the Public	Players coming into close contact with members of the public on the golf course.	Possible	Greenstan win observe good social distancing at an times.	Negligible

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.



Playing golf is a great way to exercise and to have some limited social interaction at a time of restriction. However, to keep golf courses open golfers must exhibit best social practice before arriving at the golf club to play, at the golf club and on the golf course.

For Your Health and Wellbeing

The following guidelines will substantially reduce the likelihood that you will contract the virus becoming a carrier.

- Stay at home and self-isolate even if you only have minor symptoms such as cough; headache; mild fever; if you need to leave the house, wear a face mask and avoid contact with others.
- If you have a cough; fever or breathing difficulties, and feel you cannot cope at home, use the NHS 111 helpline.
- Regularly and thoroughly wash your hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub to kill any viruses that may be on your hands.
- Maintain a distance of at least 2 metres from other persons (social distancing) in case they, or you cough or sneeze spreading the virus through droplets.
- Avoid crowding or crowded places where social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth, and nose; these are transfer points for the virus from your hands into the body.
- Cover your mouth and nose if you sneeze, disposing of the tissue immediately, then clean your hands as above.

At the golf club and on the golf course

The above guidelines apply at all times when at the golf club and on the golf course, remember if you want to keep playing strict adherence is essential, additionally and until further notice how we play the game and prepare golf courses must change, this means as a player you must;

- If you can, carry with you an alcohol-based hand sanitiser.
- Arrive ready to play, do not attend the Clubhouse other than for emergency toileting or paying for a guest. If you have a query, make it online or by phone through the usual channels.
- If you have a tee time, please arrive in an appropriate time no more than 15 minutes beforehand, if you have to wait, use the waiting zone and ensure good social distancing at all times, or ideally stay in your car for longer.

- Follow any instructions and safety signs that are in place; they are there to ensure the best possible practice.
- On the putting green, remove your ball without contacting the flagstick or hole cup.
- When attending the clubhouse follow the instructions on the door notice, do not enter the clubhouse if social distancing cannot be practised. BE PATIENT!
- Do not touch products in the clubhouse unless you are buying them. (in level 4 there will be no sales of anything)
- Do not shake hands or make physical contact before, during or after your round.
- Do not crowd around tees, if as you approach a tee; it is occupied, stay well back maintaining a suitable distance from the tee while keeping a distance of 2 metres from your paying partners.
- On the tee, maintain good social distancing from your playing partners at all times.
- Do not share; pencils; tees; scope finders; umbrellas; phones or any other golf paraphernalia with other players.
- Avoid contact with the flagstick or hole cup; we will set the hole cups shallower so you can retrieve your ball without touching it.
- Do not pick up another players golf club or, contact their golf bag or golf trolley.
- Do not pick up any golf ball other than your own, even if you find what you are certain is a lost ball.
- Accept the bunkers as you find them. Rakes have been removed for your safety; the greenstaff will rake the bunkers when they can.
- Do not use the litter bins; please take your own litter home.
- Do not use the ball washers; they are out of commission until further notice.
- If you meet walkers or members of the public on the course stand aside at a safe distance and allow them to pass whilst practicing good social distancing comfortably.
- At the end of your round, do not swap scorecards or sign someone elses scorecard.
- After your round go straight to your car practising good social distancing at all times.

Any player observed not following the above code of conduct will be asked to leave the golf course immediately by staff.

Remember to practice good golf etiquette at all times, a reckless shot could place an unnecessary demand on already stretched emergency services.

Note if you are showing any of the symptoms of COVID-19 such as such as cough; headache; mild fever, for your safety and for the safety of you friends and their families, please stay at home