

GOLF COURSE HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY



MALDEN GOLF CLUB MEMBERS LTD

JANUARY 2026

Overview

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

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 a fellow competitor or partner prior to them playing a shot.

ACCIDENT/ EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

ALL accidents and incidents MUST be reported to the General Manager's Office, so that the appropriate documentation may be completed.

FIRST-AID ASSISTANCE

In the event of an accident, first aid boxes are located in: The Office, Club House Bar, Kitchen and the Head Greenkeepers Office. **A Defibrillator is also located on the wall adjacent to the OFFICE IN THE CLUBHOUSE and IN THE CADDY MASTER BUILDING.**

Emergency services: 999

Clubhouse: 0208 942 0654

Pro Shop: 0208 942 6009

Local Police: 101

Policy Detail

ARRIVING AND LEAVING THE CLUB

Please be careful as you enter and leave the Club. Cars must only be parked in designated spaces and excessive speed is to be avoided at all times.

WILDLIFE

MGC boasts lovely scenery and wildlife that has no respect for health and safety and like many other golf courses there are always dangers associated with animal burrows etc. Players should also be aware that there is a potential threat from wasps, bees and other biting insects.

ANIMAL HOLES

MGC endeavours to fill in holes created by animals. However, it is inevitable that there will be rabbit holes etc. that can lead to sprained ankles or worse. Persons playing or walking on the course do so **AT THEIR OWN RISK** and must not do anything to jeopardize the safety of themselves or others.

ADVERSE WEATHER

Fog -As a general rule no play will take place on the course if the first left hand bunker on the 1st hole cannot be seen from the clubhouse patio doors (approx. 200 yards).

Lightning – In the event of severe lightning in the area, every effort will be made to warn players to vacate the course (sounding of air klaxon). There is only one shelter on the course at the roundhouse (if open). However, all players must exercise due diligence and take the appropriate action under such conditions.

One long Klaxon blast, it is mandatory that you leave the course.

Members are reminded that under Rule 6-8(ii) a player may discontinue play when he or she believes there is danger from lightning. Where there is not sufficient time to evacuate the course and there is a threat of lightning, you are advised to comply with the following procedure:

- Do not shelter under trees or go to high ground
- Keep as low as possible and ideally crouch down in the nearest bunker/hollow.
- Leave your golf equipment where it is and stand away from it.
- Do not use a mobile phone -make sure it is switched off.
- Do not put an umbrella up in any circumstances.

If the course has not been officially closed, this does not mean that it is necessarily safe to continue play and golfers must determine for themselves, whether they consider it is safe to do so. In such conditions frequent inspections will be made until play is deemed to be safe.

Should the hazardous conditions persist for a prolonged period the competition may be cancelled or later tee times revoked due to sunset/lighting conditions reasonably denying completion of the round/s.

When no lightning has been detected for 15 minutes or other weather conditions have cleared the klaxon will be sounded twice, indicating that play can be resumed.

COURSE RISK ASSESSMENT - STATEMENT

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

You are advised to exercise caution at all times on the course in respect of identifying 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 clearly visible from the tee. Particular care should be taken on holes where the landing area of your shot is not clearly visible e.g. when teeing off on the dog leg 13th hole. Also, when leaving the 12th green be aware of golfers on the 13th tee. When driving from the 17th tee care should be taken if players have not yet finished the hole. MGC has a public foot path (Cambridge Avenue) that splits the golf course. Please take care of passing cyclists and so on when crossing between 2nd and 3rd holes and the 8th and 9th.

If there are people in range of your shot, please wait until they are out of range. If a miss hit shot is heading in the direction of other people, you must shout "FORE!" in a loud voice to alert them of possible danger. If "FORE!" is heard when playing, evasive action must be taken if possible; Players should not strike a golf ball when there is the risk of endangering other players, members of the Green Staff and all other users of the golf course & its surroundings.

FERTILISER AND INSECTICIDES ETC

A notice on the 1st Tee will advise of days that chemicals have been used. Players are advised to take heed of the warnings and protect themselves. Do not lick golf balls or fingers.

FOOTWEAR

MGC require golf shoes to be worn on the golf course as they help to avoid slips and protect the course.

GREENKEEPERS

The Greenkeeping staff are regularly working on the course when golf is in progress. Please be careful and courteous to them and ensure that they are aware of you and have acknowledged your presence prior to playing in their proximity.

INSURANCE

MGC provides liability insurance to its members. This insurance is also extended to green fee-paying visitors & guests. However, all golfers should ensure that they are adequately insured in respect of the risks involved with playing golf.

PRACTISING

This is strictly limited to the designated practice areas within the Club

which are the putting green, 16th hole designated area, the practice bunker area, the right hand side of the 8th hole adjacent to the green and Practice Nets. Under no circumstances is there to be any practising on the Course itself unless receiving a lesson from the Professional.

STEEP BANKS AND SLOPES

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

PONDS AND DITCHES

Players should be aware that some of the ponds and ditches have deep water and in places where muddy banks look dry they can be treacherous and one can easily slip or get stuck. Players should take great care when retrieving balls from these areas.

USE OF BUGGIES

MGC has buggies available for hire from the Professional. Apart from these, the use of personalised motorised ride-on buggies is permitted only by prior application to the General Manager. All hire buggies must be operated in accordance with our Wheeled Equipment Policy (provided by the Professional).

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 General Manager any incidents that happen on the golf course, or hazards they feel have not been addressed.

COURSE RISK ASSESSMENT – SPECIFIC HOLE BY HOLE CONSIDERATION

1st Hole: Be aware of players on the 9th hole together with persons in the car park and on the Wanderer's Cricket Ground. Do not enter boundary ditch looking for golf balls.

2nd Hole: Do not enter the water hazard. The water is deeper than it may seem. Be aware of players on the 9th tee together with cyclists and pedestrians when walking from the 2nd green to the 3rd tee.

3rd Hole: Be aware of players on the 8th particularly when teeing off. They may not be in view behind trees. Always shout fore. Do not enter the ditch looking for golf balls as the banks can be dangerous and be careful crossing the ditch in a buggy

4th Hole: Take care crossing the bridge in a buggy.

5th Hole: Be aware of players driving from the 7th tee.

6th Hole: Be aware, when driving, of the allotments and possible damage to property.

7th Hole: Be aware of members of the public on the cycle path and players on the 5th tee. Take care crossing the bridge in a buggy.

8th Hole: Be aware of players on the 3rd hole and shout fore if a ball is hit off line. Take care crossing the bridge in a buggy and do not enter the ditch in search of golf balls as the banks are dangerous. Any shots entering neighbouring properties **MUST** be reported. Be aware of cyclists and pedestrians when walking from the 8th green to the 9th tee.

9th Hole: Be aware of players on the 2nd tee, 11th green and 12th tee when driving. When hitting the 2nd shot be aware of players on the 1st fairway and on the 10th tee or walking from the Round House to the 10th tee. Take care crossing the bridge in a buggy.

10th Hole: On the tee be aware of players on the 15th and the 9th. Then on the green be aware of players teeing off from the 14th.

11th Hole: Be aware of players driving from the 9th and 14th tees.

12th Hole: Be aware of players driving from the 9th tee and those playing from the 13th back tees behind the green.

13th Hole: Be aware of the houses along the boundary line and you MUST ensure that the professional or club manager are advised if any balls enter the gardens or hit any property.

14th Hole: Be aware of players on the 10th green and 11th tees, and you must report any shots hit offline and reaching adjacent properties.

15th Hole: Do not enter the pond and be aware of balls coming from the 10th or 16th holes.

16th Hole: Be aware of players on the 15th and shout Fore to warn any approaching players.

17th Hole: You MUST advise the Pro shop or the General Manager if any balls cross the boundary and enter gardens to the right of the hole. Be aware of players on the 16th and shout Fore if necessary.

18th Hole: You MUST inform the Pro shop or the General Manager if any balls cross the boundary and reach adjacent properties. Be aware of players on the 16th and shout Fore if necessary.

At all times green staff working on the course have priority and no golf shots should be played if staff are in range. All players must remain alert at all times. Players who have played an offline shot must shout FORE to alert partners and all surrounding players. Take extra care when walking on slippery ground and when entering and exiting bunkers.

Authorised By	
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