

Adverse Weather – Golfers’ Guide.

MGC will take all reasonable measures to minimise the risks to golfers from adverse weather conditions and will take the following action:

- Monitor local weather reports
- Monitor local conditions during “storm warnings”
- Make information available.

Adverse Weather includes:

- Thunder & Lightning
- Fog & Mist
- Ice & Snow
- Sun, Heat & Humidity
- Heavy rain/high winds/flooding

The Senior Greenkeeper on duty will monitor the weather outlook and communicate with the Starter and ProShop to assess whether restrictions are necessary, the outlook for the day, and when reviews might be necessary to update the situation. This would be done as early as possible in the day.

Any decision to close the courses would be posted on the MGC web-site as soon as possible. In certain circumstances, the decisions made may vary between the New and Old courses.

If the weather deteriorates during the day, the Senior Greenkeeper on site would determine whether the conditions are such that there is a likelihood of play becoming unsafe, or the courses could suffer severe damage. The Starter, if still on duty, and the ProShop would be informed of the decision to close the courses, so play can be stopped.

The Starter, or the ProShop team, would be responsible for informing players of the closure of the courses, so a round cannot start.

NOTE: Once a round has commenced it is the responsibility of each golfer to decide whether to come in – taking into account their safety and the safety of others.

MGC accepts no liability for any injury to a golfer (member or visitor) who continues to play when:

- there is a risk of lightning
- play is suspended
- the course has been closed due to adverse weather conditions.

Thunder & Lightning: A player should discontinue play when in his/her opinion, lightning is a threat. MGC recommends that if lightning is imminent, all play **MUST** be discontinued.

All golfers on the courses will be expected to leave the course and proceed immediately to the respective Clubhouse.

A golf buggy does NOT provide protection from lightning.

Golfers must **not** seek shelter under trees or an umbrella.

Fog & Mist: In the event of poor visibility, the Course Starter, or ProShop team at the Old Course, have the responsibility to decide if the course can be open for play, or remain open for play if the conditions change (eg. visibility worsens and is deemed unacceptable for

play). If the starter is not on duty, the ProShop team would decide whether the course should be open and/or play can be restarted.

Ice & Snow: Each user of MGC's courses is expected to exercise their personal judgement to stay safe and avoid slips, trips and falls during periods of ice, snow, frost or hail. In particular, there are areas where slopes and/or steps may be very slippery so extra caution should be exercised.

Where Ice, Snow or Frost is evident, the Senior Greenkeeping employee on duty will decide whether to impose the temporary/winter greens. The ProShop will make the decision in the absence of the greenkeeping team.

NOTE: MGC has a clear objective to keep the greens open, when possible, during the winter, but it is important to be aware that significant investment has been made over the last few years to maintain the high quality of the greens. During periods of frost, especially when combined with rain and subsequent thawing, temporary/winter greens will be brought into play, or in extreme conditions the courses may be closed – to protect the grass root systems from unnecessary, excessive damage.

Sun, Heat & Humidity: When it is hot, sunny and/or humid there is an increased risk of individuals becoming dehydrated, particularly if they are out on the courses during the hours of 11.00 and 15.00.

An additional risk, that everyone on the courses should be aware of when the weather is hotter, is that of **snakes**.

Heavy rain/High winds & flooding: Weather conditions can change during the day and heavy rain with high winds can mean that dangerous conditions can result, regarding trees becoming vulnerable, for instance, by losing branches etc.

When heavy rain results in flooding the issues that need to be considered include dangerous conditions for golfers such as slippery ground, but also the potential of serious damage to the golf course by continuing to play.

The Senior Greenkeeper on duty will review the condition of the courses; the Course Starter or ProShop will provide golfers with sufficient weather information for each golfer to make an informed decision as to the safety of all course users (other golfers, members or the Greens Team) in the event of heavy rain and/or high winds, including recommending that play be suspended, or that the start of a round is deferred.

If providing this information results in golfers missing their allotted tee time, every effort will be made to reschedule the booking at the soonest mutually convenient opportunity.

If a visiting golfer's tee time cannot be rescheduled after a weather-related delay, a refund will be offered.

[Full details of the MGC Policy on Adverse Weather are available on the Club's web-site]