



## HESKETH GOLF CLUB ON COURSE SAFETY POLICY

As part of our ongoing commitment to Health and Safety and protecting both staff and members, I would urge all golfing members to follow the advice detailed below:

*Please be aware that on the course Green staff have priority at all times.*

*You MUST NOT PLAY until a greenkeeper has acknowledged you, stepped aside and waved you through.*

*Please DO NOT assume that a member of the green team will be able to hear and respond to shouts of "FORE!" whilst they work. They may not be able to hear due to machinery noise, their use of ear defenders and the fact that they are concentrating on the job they are doing.*

*This priority rule is in place to protect staff against the risk of being hit by golf balls while they work, as one of several safety measures, including: -*

*Green staff ensure they are visible to other persons on the course*

*Traffic routes around the course have been planned to minimise operator exposure to golf balls.*

*Greenkeeping work is planned, where possible, to avoid it taking place when holes are in play. This includes green staff starting work at dawn, to try to get as much work as possible done before golfers begin.*

*Record of "near misses" are maintained and reported on a regular basis.*

*Wherever possible, green staff will move to one side, to allow golfers to play through.*

*However, there will be times when this will not be the case: -*

*Green staff may not notice you, as they are concentrating on the task in hand.*

*Certain jobs cannot be interrupted. For example, when spraying greens, the job must be continuous to ensure constant and complete coverage.*

*The job maybe nearly finished or by holding you up once, the green staff will pull away from you and not disturb you again.*

*Finally, please shout "FORE!" even if a greenkeeper has waved you through, if you hit a ball in their direction. Please do not assume that they have seen your ball and are aware it is flying towards them.*

**Martin Edge** | Club Secretary Manager