

Tocumwal Golf & Bowls Club
Adverse Weather Policy

Adverse Weather Conditions

(Thunderstorms, Lightning, Wind & Extreme Heat)

When it comes to personal safety, organisations can provide education, policies, workplace safety equipment and training, but individuals also contribute to their own safety by taking responsibility for their own welfare.

The following procedure is an information guide and instruction as to what members and visitors should consider when dealing with adverse weather conditions.

Thunder & Lightning

All thunderstorms produce lightning and as such can be dangerous. If thunder can be heard in your vicinity, then the storm is close enough to be classified as a threat to your location. Many lightning casualties occur before the rainstorm moves into the area. This is often due to people not taking early enough action to remove themselves from the danger of the storm.

To anticipate, and then prompt your next movement, it is important to understand how close the storm is and what immediate danger you could possibly be in.

Lightning Facts

- Every thunder cloud has the potential to produce lightning.
- Lightning often strikes outside the areas of heavy rain.

Safety Guide during a Thunder Storm

- Do not stand under a natural lightning rod such as a tall isolated tree.
- Avoid positioning yourself on top of a hill or a rise out in the open.
- Keep away from water.
- Move away from metal structures and machinery.
- Refrain from holding golf clubs and umbrellas with metal support frames.

Extreme Heat

On days where the forecast is expected to reach high temperatures all players are advised to take every precaution to avoid the hottest part of the day and that they have sufficient water to keep hydrated whilst on the course.

Wind

High winds can occur at any time and can be extremely severe during a thunderstorm. High winds can blow objects around such as branches, uproot trees and pose a significant threat to your safety. Players should seek cover from strong winds away from trees and loose objects that may become a missile.

Adverse Weather Warning

A member of the Pro Shop staff will view the weather forecast prior to the first tee time of the day to ascertain adverse weather conditions (Lightning, Thunder, Strong Winds or Extreme Heat) are predicted. If any warnings are in place for our location players will be alerted to the possibility of adverse weather conditions before play commences. A copy of this policy and safety guidelines will be displayed on the Golfer's Notice Board outside the Pro Shop.

Once informed of the warning and having been provided with the predicted weather conditions and safety guidelines, players are able to make an informed decision with respect to playing their round of golf for the day.

A decision to carry on playing during adverse weather conditions is left to the discretion of the individual player, who must accept full responsibility for their safety. In the event of lightning on the course, golfers out on the course are advised to cease playing and take shelter as recommended by the safety guidelines.

If during the round, the weather is deteriorating with the potential of causing harm to player's there will be no warning device sounded. Players are to follow the safety guidelines provided prior to the commencement of the round.

If a player elects to suspend their round due to adverse weather conditions they shall mark their ball and seek shelter in accordance with the safety guidelines. Once 30 minutes has elapsed after the adverse weather has passed players may resume their round.

Reminder to all Players

This Policy is structured to provide information and tools that can be used and deployed to assist members, guests and staff with adverse weather conditions. Should, with all the information available, you decide that the weather deems it unsafe for you to participate on the day simply notify the Pro Shop of your intentions.

This policy is available on our website and at the Pro shop.

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