



Leongatha Golf Club Hole-by-Hole Safety Considerations

Leongatha Golf Course is essentially a tree lined golf course, originally cut out of rainforest some 60 years ago. Today it still retains its original design as drawn by the architect. Many of the fairways are closed into any adjacent fairways, and golfers often feel they are the only ones on the course.

General Considerations:

Bunkers – The majority of holes at Leongatha Golf Club have bunkers, please take care by always choosing the lowest point to enter and exit.

Landing Zone – Before hitting any ball, it is your responsibility to ensure that the Landing Zone is clear – some specific blind spots are pointed out for certain holes below and there are bells on holes 8, 11 and 17.

Falling Branches – when entering the rough or scrub, please consider the potential of falling branches and move quickly away if you hear any creaks. Branches will often fall with little warning during summer, as the wood dries out.

Rough – Please be aware of any hazards, which include sharp twigs that can get caught in your buggy wheels, and snakes.

Slippery Slopes and Ground – Please always wear footwear appropriate to the conditions which may include spikes in your shoes during winter.

Hole 1

The first hole is a relatively straight hole of some 370 metres with a slight upward slope towards the green. A set of bunkers protect the right side of the green. Golfers to be aware of the elevated green when approaching the green from the left.

Hole 2

This hole (320 metres in length) is a dogleg right down the hill, which poses some risk hence a player must stand on top of the hill to alert the following group that it is not clear to hit. Once the player has moved off the following group should then proceed to tee off. The green is elevated. Care should be taken when approaching and exiting the green, the slope can be slippery when wet.

Author OH&S Committee	Version Original Version 1	Release Date: Review Date: 7/12/23
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Hole 3

This hole is a relatively short 295 metre par 4 where the longer hitters can go for the green. The green is not able to be seen from the tee ground. Care must be taken if the player decides to go for the green. To mitigate the risk one player should stand at the 220 metre mark or thereabouts to notify the following group that not all players are on the green. Once all the other players are on the green this player should then move to the green and play on. Care should be taken on wet days when existing this green as it can be very slippery when wet.

Hole 4

A straight uphill 166 metre par 3 with little risk. Only risk is if a player severely hooks a tee shot. In this case the player should shout FORE to warn other players.

Hole 5

A short downhill dogleg left par 4, 305 metres in length, posing a risk to players. One player should stand on the corner of the dogleg to alert the following group that they are still in range. Once all players have played away from the corner then play can proceed from the tee. Big hitters who intend to fly the trees should ensure the green is clear before attempting to hit off.

Hole 6

A long (475 metre) uphill par 5 that should pose no danger from the tee. However the second shot needs to be taken with care as it is a blind shot over the top of the hill. Once the group is ready to play their second shot, one of the group should proceed to the top of the hill to ensure the group in front is well clear, and only proceed when safe to do so.

Hole 7

A long straight par 3 of some 186 metres which is relatively risk free. The one problem could be players slicing the ball towards the eighth tee. Players who slice the ball towards this area should shout FORE to alert the group on the tee of a possible stray shot.

Author OH&S Committee	Version Original Version 1	Release Date: Review Date: 7/12/23
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Hole 8

Another blind tee shot off this short 316 metre par 4 up and over a hill. Care should be taken teeing off. No player is permitted to tee off until they hear the bell that has been positioned at the 220 metre mark on the right hand side of the eighth fairway. When players are hitting their second shot towards the green they must be aware of the preceding group on the ninth tee, if their shot is heading in this direction then a shout of FORE must be made to alert the players of a possible stray shot.

This hole also has a sign alerting the players of the need to ring the bell when safe to do so and that the group on the tee need to wait until they hear the bell.

Hole 9

A long (411 metre) slight dogleg uphill par 4 (men) par 5 (women). From the tee box there are players who may slice towards the practice fairway but relatively low risk is apparent. The fairway is well guarded with a thick tree line eliminating potential risks on adjoining fairways, but it must be stressed that balls can be found on the fairway from the adjoining practice fairway so care needs to be taken.

Hole 10

Another long (386 metre) slightly uphill par 4 which presents little risk from the back tees, as the fairway is heavily tree lined. There is a chain wire fence protecting the forward tee area. Care should be taken when leaving the forward area that there is no one teeing off from the back tees as there is no vision of players until they enter the fairway. Be aware that there is no entry past the sign along the road to the greenkeepers area.

Hole 11

The 11th hole is a downhill (386 metre) slight dogleg right par 4, which has a bell positioned on the right side of the fairway at the 230 metre mark, due to this point being blind from the tee box. Players must not tee off until they hear the bell rung from the preceding group. When exiting the green players should follow the path around to the right hand side of the 12th tee away from play.

This hole also has a sign alerting the players of the need to ring the bell when safe to do so and that the group on the tee need to wait until they hear the bell.

Author OH&S Committee	Version Original Version 1	Release Date: Review Date: 7/12/23
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Hole 12

A dogleg par 4 of approx. 370 metres, which turns around the 200 metre mark. Players need to take note of the preceding group are not looking for lost golf balls on the right side of the fairway in the trees as they are unnoticeable from the tee box. If players lose their ball in the trees one of the group should position their buggy/cart in the middle of the fairway to alert the following group that they are still in range. When exiting the 12th green, players should take the path to the 13th fairway to eliminate the following group posing a risk of hitting them.

Hole 13

A short slight dogleg to the right par 4 of approx. 340 metres which poses little risk. There is a bunker positioned at the 180 metre mark protecting the right hand corner of the fairway. Players should not tee off whilst the preceding group are still in range. A hooked ball from the tee can enter the groundkeeper's area so the player needs to shout FORE if this occurs. There is no entry to the greenkeepers area. Care should be taken on rainy days when exiting the green as it could be slippery when wet.

Hole 14

A short (130 metre) par 3 that poses little risk. If a player hooks a ball towards the toilet or the forward tees of the 15th hole the player should shout FORE to alert players of the danger.

Hole 15

A dogleg right (356 metre) par 4 hole where the player may not be able to see the landing area. The Women's tee may not be visible from the back markers and care should be taken prior to hitting off. The preceding group need to leave their buggy/cart in the middle of the fairway if they are looking for a lost ball on the right hand side of the fairway. When play proceeds the group on the tee should allow time for the preceding players to move out of the area safely.

There is also a risk for the players standing on the 16th tee of being in range of players teeing off, in this case the player must shout FORE if they believe the ball is heading in that direction.

Care should be taken on rainy days when exiting the green as it could be slippery when wet. Players exiting the 15th green must follow the path through the trees to the 16th tee, so as not to be in the line of play.

Author OH&S Committee	Version Original Version 1	Release Date: Review Date: 7/12/23
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Hole 16

A short (146 metre) downhill par 3 that poses no risk from the tee, however there is a severe slope on the left side of the green. Entry to the green should be straight up the front which is the safest access – DO NOT attempt to walk down the steep left hand side of the Green.

Hole 17

A dogleg (341 metre) to the right par 4. The shot from the tee is uphill and the landing area can be blind from the tee. The position of women's tee is also hard to see from the back marks. There is a bell on the Left Hand Side at the 135 metre mark to alert the following group it is safe to tee off. Stray balls from the 15th fairway can occasionally land on this fairway from approach shots to the 15th green.

Hole18

A long (479 metre) par 5 with a dogleg to the right at the end completes the course. The hole is extremely well treed down both sides of the fairway posing little risk to other golfers.

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