

SDOS Birding Walks Risk Assessment Form: A composite risk assessment for Hollingbury Wild Park LNR area, including the golf course, woodlands, and adjacent downland.

Assessor: Tony Benton : Date of Assessment 21 June 2022 and discussed with Peter Whitcomb.

Location: Hollingbury Wild Park LNR; Hollingbury Park Golf Course, Hollingbury Camp and associated Burstead woodlands. This also includes the downland edge of the golf course, the focus for butterfly and botanical walks, in which case park at TQ324084.

Brief Description: A **downland walk** at the edge of the golf course. Additional walks are possible across the golf course, sometimes combined with short stretches of woodland. Some inclines and slopes, mostly on good paths.

For an advertised golf course walks, you must adhere to the parking restrictions, which means that you might have to park on Ditchling road or nearby roads such as Woodbourne Avenue and Cuckmere Way. There is space for five cars as you turn off Ditchling Road into the approach road to the club house.

Suggested clothing: This walk is most likely a spring and early summer outing, so suitable clothing for the prevailing conditions is required. Good walking shoes or boots, especially after heavy rain. Long trousers probably better than shorts.

Hazard	Who might be harmed	Evaluation of Risk	Risk mitigation measures	Comments
Bad weather	All participants	Low / Medium	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Lightning storms	All participants	Medium	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Snow and ice	All participants	Low / Medium	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Darkness, cloud, fog	All participants	Low	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Hot weather	All participants	Low/medium	Participants should bring a drink and wear suitable clothing and consider the need for sunscreen	Monitor weather forecast
Uneven walking surfaces	All participants	Low	Suitable walking shoes or boots are recommended	Participants to ensure that suitable footwear is available to them

Muddy conditions	All participants	Low	Walking boots or wellington boots	Monitor weather forecast
Standing water and flooding	All participants	Low	Adjust route	Monitor weather forecast
Slippery surfaces	All participants	Low	Adjust route	
Steep slopes	All participants	Low	participants to judge their own capabilities	
Trip hazards	All participants	Low	participants to judge their own capabilities and take care	
Stiles and gates	N/a			
Barbed wire, electric fences	N/a			
Obstructive vegetation	N/a			
Stinging or thorny plants	All participants	Low	Take care if the walk goes through woodland, some paths could be slightly over-grown.	
Falling trees or branches	N/a			
Biting insects	All participants	Low	If wearing shorts or similar, be aware of very low possibility of ticks	Consult a GP if a tick bite is suspected
Golf balls	All participants	Low/medium	It is necessary to be aware of flying golf balls. Be particularly careful when crossing fairways.	Everyone needs to pay attention - cross fairways as a group.
Dogs not on leads	All participants	Low / Medium	Be careful around dogs - sometimes professional dog walkers are with large groups of dogs, not always under control.	Instruct dog owners to get dogs under control.