



Hoverflies of Elmwood Golf Course

S.T. Buckland

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This shows images of the species that occur on Elmwood Golf Course that I have so far identified and photographed.

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Baccha elongata

A small and extremely slim species that likes shady locations.



Cheilosia albitarsis / *ranunculi*

Two species that cannot be separated from images. This male is more likely to be *C albitarsis*, which is the more common of the two.





Cheilosia bergenstammi

A fairly common species. This is a male.



Cheilosia illustrata

A common species associated with hogweed. This is a male.





Cheilosia pagana

A relatively common species that can be seen for much of the year. The male above has a bent wing tip. Females below have large orange antennae.





Chrysogaster solstitialis

A small, red-eyed hoverfly that can be quite common.





Dasysyrphus albostriatus

A locally-distributed species. Female above and below left, male below right.





Dasysyrphus pinastri

An uncommon species which seems to have a stronghold in east Fife. Male above and female below. These were on the course in mid-May 2022.





Epistrophe grossulariae

A relatively large hoverfly that can be confused with *Syrphus* hoverflies. It is a fairly common woodland edge species. Female above, male below.





Marmalade fly *Episyrphus balteatus*

A very common species that often migrates in large numbers, and can be seen in gardens for much of the year. Male above, female below.





Eristalis arbustorum

A common small dronefly. This female was near the clubhouse in mid-September 2022.





Eristalis intricaria

A fairly common dronefly that can be numerous in some locations. This female was by the largest pool at the bottom of the course in mid-August 2022.



Eristalis pertinax

A common dronefly that can be seen for much of the year. Female above and bottom right, male right and below.





Eristalis tenax

A common dronefly that can be seen for much of the year. Female above, males below.





Eupeodes corollae

A common species that sometimes arrives from across the North Sea in large numbers. Females above and below right, male below left.





Eupeodes luniger

A common species that can be seen for most of the year. This is a female, bulging with eggs.



Helophilus pendulus

A common species. It is sometimes called the footballer or tiger hoverfly because of the stripes on its thorax. This is a female.





Leucozona laternaria

Not a common species in Fife. This female (above) was alongside the second fairway, and the male (below) was by the 3rd fairway, both in early July 2022.





Leucozona lucorum

A pretty hoverfly that is quite common. Female above, male below.





Melangyna compositarum / labiatarum

These two species are indistinguishable from photos, and there is debate about whether they really are different species. This one is a male and has deeper yellow markings than normal.





Melangyna lasiophthalma

An early-season species that feeds mostly on willow catkins. The female (above and bottom right) was on willow at the edge of the third fairway in mid-April 2022, and the male was nearby on gorse.





Melanostoma mellinum

Very similar to the next species, but appreciably less common. Male above, females below.





Melanostoma scalare

A small species that often occurs in large numbers. It can be seen from early spring to late autumn. Male above, female below.





Myathropa florea

A fairly common hoverfly, sometimes called the batman hoverfly because of the pattern on its thorax.





Neoascia podagrica / obliqua

A tiny hoverfly. These females are probably *Neoascia podagrica*, which is more common than *Neoascia obliqua*. The two species cannot usually be separated from a photo.





Pipiza sp

A small hoverfly. Most species of this genus cannot be identified from photos. None of them are common. This one was on the path near the 16th fairway on 18 May 2022.



Platycheirus albimanus

This is another small species that often occurs in large numbers, and which can be seen from early spring to late autumn. Female above, male below.





Platycheirus granditarsus

A distinctive and relatively large member of the genus, occurring in small numbers in wet habitats. This female was by the largest pool at the bottom of the course in mid-August 2022.





Platycheirus manicatus

A fairly common species. These are males.





Platycheirus scutatus

A fairly common small hoverfly. It is now thought to be a complex of species, which are indistinguishable from photos. This is a female.





Platycheirus tarsalis

Not a common species in Fife. These females (above and below left) and male were on the course in mid-May 2022.





Rhingia campestris

This species can usually be found where there are large patches of white dead nettle or red campion.



Pied hoverfly *Scaeva pyrastris*

A large hoverfly that often arrives off the North Sea as a migrant.





Bog hoverfly *Sericomyia silentis*

A large hoverfly that occurs mostly in boggy habitats. This female was feeding on ivy by the clubhouse in mid-October 2022.





Sphaerophoria sp

The male above is a 'short-bodied' *Sphaerophoria*, possibly *Sphaerophoria interruptus*, but this cannot be determined from a photo. Females (below) cannot be identified to species, even if dissected.





Syrphus ribesii

There are three very similar species of *Syrphus*. These females can only be identified as *ribesii* because the femur of its hind legs is mostly yellow. Contrast this with the next species, where it is mostly black. The males are indistinguishable unless the tiny eye hairs of *torvus* can be seen.





Syrphus torvus

There are three very similar species of *Syrphus*. These females can only be identified as *torvus* because tiny hairs are visible in the images below. (The larger specks on the eyes are just pollen grains.)





Volucella bombylans

A bumblebee mimic, with several colour forms, mimicking different species of bumblebee. This female mimics the white-tailed bumblebee, and was by the largest pool at the bottom of the course in late June 2022.



Volucella pellucens

A large hoverfly whose larvae live in wasp and bee nests. Male above, female below.





Xylota segnis

The most common *Xylota* species. It can often be seen on leaves in a bramble patch.