

Course Etiquette

a) *Courtesy on the Course*

- No one should move, talk or stand close to or directly behind the ball or the hole when a player is addressing the ball or making a stroke.
- No player should play until the players in front are out of range.
- Players searching for a ball should allow other players coming up to pass them; they should signal to the players following them to pass, and should not continue their play until those players have passed and are out of range.
- Before leaving a bunker, a player should carefully fill up by raking all holes made therein.
- Players should ensure that all divots are replaced. To assist with this, all players must carry and use a bucket of sand for the repair of the course. Please first cut in your divots from both sides and sprinkle sand on the repaired area.
- Players are to ensure that pitch marks on greens are repaired in the prescribed manner, in order that the playing surface returns to good order in the shortest timeframe. Incorrectly repaired pitch marks can have an adverse effect on this process and may lead to an overall deterioration of the green surface.
- Players should ensure that, in dropping the flagstick, no damage is done to the putting green and that neither they nor their caddies damage the hole by standing close to the hole or in handling the flagstick. The flagstick should be properly replaced in the hole before the players leave the putting green.
- Players should not damage the putting surface by leaning on their putters or by removing the ball from the hole with their putter. Please remove the ball with your hand (or appropriate attachment on the end of your putter if fitted).
- When the result of a hole has been determined, players should immediately leave the putting green.
- All players are expected to know and observe the etiquette and rules of the game of golf. It is the responsibility of the lowest handicapped player in any match to see they are carried out.
- Where signs are displayed to call up, please call up to speed up play.

b) *Slow Play*

The regularly recurring problem of slow play is discussed consistently amongst members and is a regular topic of discussion at Board meetings. Almost every player/member of the club has at some time expressed concern about the effects of slow play on their enjoyment of the game. Slow play has many contributing factors including course and weather conditions. Nevertheless, the primary factor is poor course management by individuals and it is usually a small minority that offends to the detriment of the majority.

In the interest of all, players should play without delay. To this end:

- a) Ready Golf – 6.4b – If a player is ready and able to play before another player whose turn it is to play under the normal order of play, so long as in playing out of turn you do not endanger, distract or interfere with any other player

The Board expects that all players get into the habit of playing in this manner.

SOME POINTS WHICH MAY HELP US TO CURB SLOW PLAY

- Keep up with the group in front, not in front of the group behind. If after a reasonable period it is apparent that your group is holding up play, call the next group through.
- Call up on Par 3's unless the next tee is vacant.
- Keep practice swings to a minimum. Make just one, as you would like to hit your next shot...it may just help your golf!
- Be ready when it is your turn to hit.
- Mark the card while waiting for your turn to hit at the next tee.
- Leave buggies around the green on the side adjacent to the next teeing ground.
- On reaching the green and your ball, study the line of your putt immediately. When it is your turn to putt, wherever possible putt right out. Marking the ball is sometimes necessary, but not always, and should be avoided where possible.
- When the result of a hole has been determined, players should immediately leave the putting green.
- On the tee, groups should allow the shorter hitters to tee off before longer hitters where this is beneficial in maintaining pace of play.

- Players are obliged to pick up their ball after they have failed to score in Stableford and Par events.
- When driving a cart, wherever possible drop your companion at their ball then continue on to yours.

c) *Priority on the Course*

Golf Course Manager and staff have PRIORITY on the course at ALL times.

Competitors in club events have the right of the course.

Club match play events have priority on the course over other competitions.

If a group fails to keep its place on the course and loses more than one clear hole on the players in front, it should allow the match following to pass. Members are reminded of the Penalty incurred under Rule 5.6a for unreasonable delay

d) *Care on the Course*

On the completion of bunker play the sand should be raked and the rake should be replaced in the direction of the fairway.

Players are asked to repair at least two ball marks on every green and to observe the Hole of the Day – where players are required to empty their sand bucket by filling divots.