# **Course Rules and Etiquette**

Our Course rules are in place to help ensure the safety of everyone on the course and our guidelines In conjunction with the R and A's 'Etiquette of Golf ' are provided to remind players of the respect they should show at all times for those on the course, those playing the course after them and the Course itself.

# Course Rules

- 1. Our Course staff have priority on the Course at all times. If they are working in your line of play, please ensure they are aware of your presence and they have indicated it is safe for you to continue.
- 2. Wait until others are out of range before playing your shot. If your ball is heading in a direction where you consider it may hit someone, shout a warning of "FORE" immediately.
- 3. Do not play your shot if others are possibly within reach or in close vicinity where possibly their safety is at risk from a miss hit shot or objects lying close to the ball that may also be hit when playing your shot.
- 4. Golf buggies or golf trolleys must not be taken onto tees or greens or the fringes of greens, and importantly not between any greenside bunkers and green.
- 5. Temporary local rules with regard to the movement of golf buggies or golf trolleys must be strictly adhered to and areas temporarily roped off must also be respected.
- 6. The published Dress code for Golf attire should be strictly adhered to, and no Denim in particular.

# Course Etiquette

# Pace of Play

- Always try and play at a good pace. Please remember it is your responsibility to keep up with the group in front, not just to keep ahead of the group behind.
- It assists the speed of play if you are ready to play as soon as it is your turn, and in the majority of circumstances, 'ready golf' should apply. When on or near the putting green, leave your bag or trolley near to the green on the way to the next hole.
- If you lose a clear hole for any reason, it is expected that you invite the group behind to play through.
   Equally if you have not lost a hole but it is apparent that the group behind can play faster, it would be courteous for you to invite them to play through.
- Once you have completed a hole please leave the green without unnecessary delay and move to the next tee. Leave marking of scorecards until you reach the next hole.
- Please remember after completing your final hole, leave the area surrounding the green before checking and finalising scorecards.
- If you think your ball may be lost or is out of bounds, to save time play a provisional ball. If it is
  apparent the ball may be difficult to find please call the following group through. Do not search for
  your allocated <u>three</u> minutes before doing so.

Course Rules and Etiquette Updated February 2019

#### On the Course

- Avoid taking unnecessary divots with any practice swings. Do not take practice swings on the Tee. Please replace all divots
- Club throwing, hitting your club-head into the ground whether in anger or for any other reason is not acceptable.
- Always show consideration for others on the course, taking care not to disturb other players by your movement, talking or making any unnecessary noise.
- Ensure that any electronic devices taken onto the Course do not distract others. (Please note that the use of mobile phones or other communication devices is not allowed on the course except in the case of an emergency).
- Practicing on the course is not allowed. Single players may play two balls, but the practice of hitting a number of balls onto a green is forbidden.

#### **Bunkers**

 Before leaving a bunker please carefully fill up and smooth over all holes and footprints made and any nearby selfishly ignored by others. Rakes are provided and please remember to rake from the edge towards the centre of the bunker, not always towards the spot where you are going to exit. Please replace rakes in the holders provided.

#### <u>Tees</u>

- Practice swings on the Tee are not allowed.
- Repair any divot taken with the seeded soil mixture provided in bins on the side of the tee.
- Do not stand directly behind or in close proximity to someone taking their tee shot and on sunny days be aware of whether your shadow could be a distraction.

#### <u>Greens</u>

- Please repair any pitch mark made by your ball and any others you may spot whilst on the putting surface.
- Please ensure that no damage is done to the putting surface by the PLACING down of your golf bag or in particular the flag stick!
- Please avoid leaning on your club when on the putting surface or when removing the ball from the hole. Never remove your ball from the hole with the head of a club.
- When attending the flag stick, do not stand too close to the hole and be aware of the putting line of others yet to play. Ensure that before you leave the green the flag stick has been properly replaced.
- On completion of the hole, all players should ensure that any damage caused by golf shoes is repaired.

<u>Players</u>

- The Committee's decision is that a single player has no standing and must give way to a properly constituted match.
- In the absence of special rules two ball matches have priority over three or four ball matches and three ball matches have priority over four ball matches. They are entitled to pass and should be invited through. If necessary, the two or three ball may request to be let through. \*see note below
- Players should not play until the players in front are out of range. Particularly from the Tee, when a
  Player should not play before the group ahead have played their 2<sup>nd</sup> shots, nor play up to the putting
  green until the party in front has holed out and moved away.
- The player who has the honour should be allowed to play before his opponent tees his ball, however 'ready golf 'should prevail if feasible.
- Players who have holed out should not try their putts again when players are following them nor hold discussions on the green.
- Lost Ball. If a player believes it possible that his ball may be lost outside a water hazard or maybe out of bounds, to save time, he should play a provisional ball.
- Players searching for a ball should signal the players in the group behind them to play through as soon as it becomes apparent that the ball will not easily be found. They should not search for **three** minutes before doing so. Having allowed the group behind to play through, they should not continue play until that group has passed and is out of range.
- Any match playing a full round may claim the right to play through a match playing a limited number of holes.

# \*NOTE:

1. Players should note that during busy periods including weekends two ball players should not 'expect' to be 'called through' - only in the event of slow play (e.g. loss of hole on the group in front) or searching for a lost ball. However, it is expected that members act in a sportsmanlike manner at all times to benefit all players on the course during these periods.

# Please enjoy your game and by respecting these guidelines. It will ensure that others will enjoy theirs too.