



Easingwold Golf Club

Handicaps and Competitions Winter 2017 Newsletter

Dear Members

Having had a wonderful summer of golf with excellent competitions and knockout finals at the beginning of October we are now well into our more challenging winter golf. We as your handicaps and competition committee have come up with some extra guidance for the winter months to help you enjoy your golf and also speed up the rate of play. Therefore in addition to the normal winter rules the following guidance can be used.

Winter Golf Recommendations (Casual Golf)

On 17th hole - There are large white lined areas of GUR on the left and right hand sides of the fairway on the approach to the green from which play is prohibited. Players can either take relief at the nearest point of relief within one club length, no nearer the hole or play from the Drop Zones on the approaches to the GUR. Relief is taken without penalty. Also, between the GUR on the left and the green, there are areas of flattened ground caused by machinery – please take normal relief without penalty from those areas.

Relief from Damaged Ground (Not marked as GUR) - If a ball lies in an area, which without doubt has been damaged then relief may be taken without penalty. This includes any area on the course that has damage resulting from animals, birds or winter maintenance work including wheel marks.

On 8th hole - In the area defined by the two parallel white lines on the 8th fairway between the fairway bunker and the green, normal clean and place rules apply.

Definition of fairway and semi-rough - When it is not clear where the edge of the fairway is then please seek agreement from fellow golfers to determine the ball position and take the appropriate action. This is either play the ball as it lies in the semi-rough or clean and place on the fairway.

Ball lost in leaves - When playing social golf, if a ball is agreed to have been lost in leaves, then a replacement ball may be dropped in the vicinity of the leaves without penalty.

On the Greens - When playing social golf, please do not attend the flag when putting. Either leave the Flag in or take it out as this will help reduce the amount of footmarks around the hole.

On the Fairways - When playing social golf, please use a mat if you have one. This will help protect the fairways during the winter months.

We have decided to promote "Ready Golf" at the Club in order to speed up play around the course.

Ready Golf Philosophy

1. Play your shot when safe to do so if a player farther away from the hole faces a challenging shot and is taking time to assess their options or is searching for a ball.
2. Prepare for your shot whilst others are playing theirs.
3. Shorter hitters could play first from the tee or fairway if longer hitters have to wait.
4. Take your tee shot if the person with the honour is delayed in being ready to play.
5. Play your shot first before helping someone to look for a lost ball.



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6. On the green, putt out even if it means standing close to someone else's line.
7. Play on if a person who has just played from a bunker is still farthest from the hole but is delayed due to raking the bunker.
8. When a player's ball has gone over the back of a green, any player who will be playing from the front of the green should play while the other player is having to walk to their ball and assess their shot.
9. Mark your scores upon immediate arrival at the next tee.

We hope you will adapt to the "Ready Golf" philosophy so we can improve the pace of play on the course.

You will recall a few years ago we introduced the use of voluntary mats which we used on the fairways to offer protection to the course over the winter months. These were purchased through the Pro shop and again we would like to reintroduce this for this year on a strictly voluntary basis for casual golf and non-qualifying competitions. We have also obtained a set of Astroturf mats which we will place in a bin at the side of the first tee which you can collect and use on the course both on the fairway and semi rough areas. PLEASE NOTE THIS IS NOT COMPULSORY AND IS ONLY VOLUNTARY.

For the new playing season of 2018 there are new CONGU handicap changes and we will be reviewing these and how they affect the club in our next handicap and comps committee meeting in February and will let you know in due course.

We have also received some communication with regards to the new slope system which is a new handicap system for the golf course itself. We understand that this is to be implemented over the next 5 years for all the courses across the country.

Wishing you all a happy Christmas and a prosperous golfing new year!

Dominic Rawcliffe
Chairman of Handicap and Comps Committee