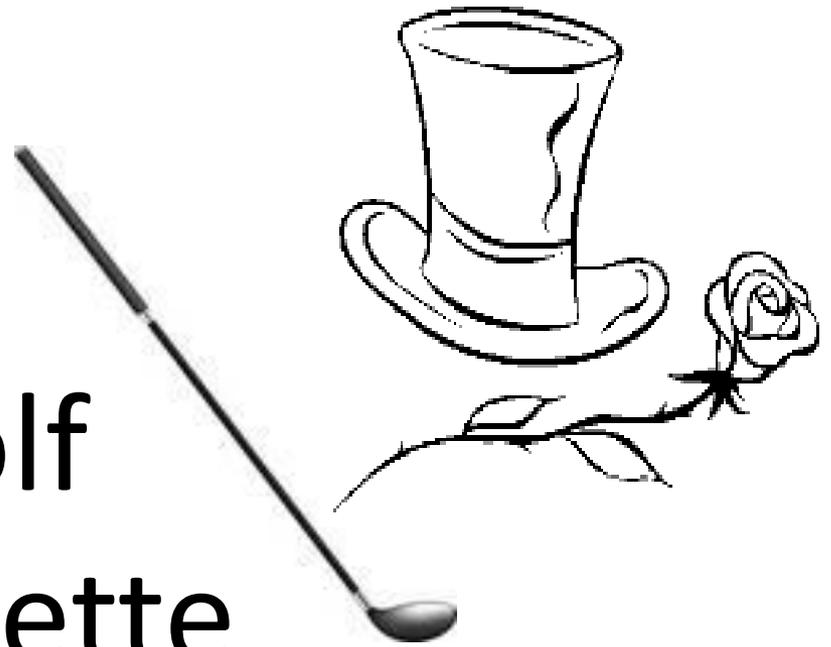


Golf Etiquette

Pam Bank
April 2020



References

- Golf Etiquette – Flexagon Guides
 - It has often been said that your actions on a golf course are a representation of your true character
- Golf for Dummies
 - How to Play the Right Way
- USGA Rules of Golf - Golf Etiquette 101
 - This is the spirit of the game of golf

Introduction

- To enjoy the game of golf, we should know and abide by the rules of the game.
- However, there are also “rules” for the behavior expected of us before, during and after our round of golf.
- These are the “Unwritten Rules of Golf”
- In case of a serious breach of Etiquette, a player may be disqualified under Rule 33-7

Dress Code Ocean Ridge

- No Denim jeans – blue, black, etc.
- No cut offs
- Men – must wear shirt with a collar
- Women – proper attire
 - No Tank Tops
 - No Halter Tops
 - No tee shirts
- Golf Shoes must have soft spikes



General Etiquette

- Learn the rules of golf and play by them
- Be courteous to the other golfers and the staff
- Ensure that any electronic devices do not distract other players
- Play only one ball and leave experimentation for the practice facility
- Put an identifying mark on your ball



General Etiquette (2)

- Always stand very still and be quite when another player is ready to hit.

- Control your temper!
- Do not throw golf clubs!
- Foul language is prohibited



Before Tee Time

- Arrive at the course at least 20 minutes before scheduled tee time.
- Understand the game of the day
- Decide who will drive and who will keep score – usually the driver keeps score
- Promptly get your stuff (balls, tees..) together

Before Tee Time

- Pay attention to instructions given by the starter
 - Pin position (flag)
 - Cart path rule



90 Degree Rule

- Observe cart path rule of the day
 - Cart Path Only (CPO)
 - Ride the rough
 - 90 Degree
- The 90 degree rule means
 - Drive on the cart path until parallel with your ball
 - Enter the fairway and stay on the fairway
 - Exit fairway before reaching the “cart exit” sign



Golf Carts

Every year numerous golfers are seriously injured, paralyzed or even killed because of carelessness while on the golf carts.

- Become familiar with the warning and instruction labels on the carts
- Wait for passenger to be fully seated to back of seat
- Keep your feet inside the cart



Golf Carts (2)

- Never drive a cart on or near a putting green
- Use extreme caution and proceed slowly on severe hills and turns
- Avoid driving in wet areas
- When driving on the cart path stay on the path. Don't go around holes and puddles causing additional damage to the course.
- Always set the parking brake when leaving the cart

Ranger/Marshals

Remember, marshals are there to assure your round of golf is played safely and in a timely manner

- Respect their decisions
- Don't argue with them
- Register any complaints about other groups
 - With the marshals,
 - Or call the Pro Shop
 - Not with other players





The Course

The game of golf includes enjoying the outdoors and the serenity offered by your surroundings. You can assist in maintaining a favorable environment.

- Leave the course as you found it or even better
- Be nice to the foliage and kind to animals
- Don't feed the animals it makes them aggressive
- Please do not litter. And pick up the litter others may have left behind.



How to Fit in on the Course

- Never offer instructions or tips unless they are specifically asked for
- Play your own game
- Find your own ball
- Never moan
- Never analyze your own swing out loud



Preparing for Your Shot

- Try to visualize your next shot and how you are going to play it before you get to your ball
- Do not spend an unreasonable amount of time determining your yardage. Much of this can be done while others are playing their ball
- If CPO, determine reasonable distance from cart path and then take three clubs
 - the one,
 - one up and
 - one down

Pace of Play

- Slow play affects everyone playing behind you as well as your own foursome.
- A focused effort to play in a timely manner will make golf more enjoyable for everyone.
- Playing “ready golf” will greatly increase the speed of play and will not interfere with your fellow golfers.
- Always carry an extra ball in your pocket

Pace of Play (2)

- Pace of play will be improved when
 - The scores are recorded at the next tee box and
 - The passengers tee off first
- Proceed to your ball
as soon as
it is safe to do so



Pace of Play (3)

- Minimize your practice swings
- Take your practice swings in advance of your turn to hit the ball
- Hit “out of turn” if it is safe to do so (unless match play)
- Be ready to hit when it is your turn

Pace of Play (4)

- Keep up with the group in front of you. If there is a hole open in front of you, you may be playing too slow
- Don't let Chit-Chat slow down your golf game



The Honor

- The first shot on a given tee goes to the player with the lowest score on the previous hole
- You have the honor until you lose it.
- At Ocean Ridge we
 - Play “Ready Golf” – unless playing match play
 - “Don’t step on a Birdie”
 - when someone gets a Birdie
 - they should tee off first at the next tee box

Playing in Turn

- After the tee shots, the player whose ball lies farthest from the hole plays first.
- Always stand a safe distance from the person playing their ball and face the player.
- Park the golf cart a safe distance from the player and out of their line of site.
- Watch other players hit their ball, take note of where the ball has landed.

Fairways, Roughs & Fringes

- Minimize the damage you do to the course with your practice swing.
- Repair any divots you have made using the sand provided on your cart.



- Allow any golfers who may have hit into your fairway to take their next shot before you do

Bunkers

- Do not jump into bunkers
 - enter from the low side
- Take only one club into the bunker and rake your footsteps upon leaving
- Leave the rake in the bunker at Ocean Ridge
- Rakes belong inside the bunker on the side or back but not in front



Out Of Bounds

- At Ocean Ridge each home site is encumbered with a golf course easement permitting golfers to come upon property at reasonable times and in a reasonable manner to retrieve (but not hit) an errant golf balls.



- Report any damage that you may have caused to the property of others



Lost Ball



- If you think that a shot you hit may result in the ball being hard to find or out of bounds,
 - Announce that you are hitting a provisional
 - Hit a provisional ball
 - Then advance and commence your search for the first ball
- The Rules of Golf allow 3 minutes to search for a lost ball
 - If the first ball cannot be found
 - Go hit the provisional ball



On the Putting Green

- The flag stick may be left in the hole while putting or taken out. It is the player's choice. Pace of play is improved when the flag stick is left in the hole.
- If left in, The player whose ball is closest to the pin (flag) should tend it while others putt
- While tending the flag,
 - don't cast your shadow over the hole
- The player whose ball is furthest from the pin plays first regardless if the ball is on the green or not

On the Putting Green (2)

- Fix your ball mark....and one more
- Do not drag your feet – soft spike marks may cause damage to the greens
- If taken out, place the flag stick out of the way
- Never place the flag stick below the line of anyone's putt to the cup.
- Place clubs and equipment on the fringe.

On the Putting Green (3)

- Do not walk on the line of other players putts.
- Attempt to align your putt while others are aligning theirs, insofar as it does not interfere with other players.
- Remain still and quiet while other players are putting



On the Putting Green (4)

- Players should remain on or close to the putting green until all other players in the group have holed out.
- Avoid damaging the hole – be careful with hook-em
- Replace the flagstick securely in the hole before leaving the green
- Leave the green upon holing out and mark your score on the next tee

Repair Ball Marks

Ball marks on the green that are repaired quickly and properly will assure the damage that they cause will be kept to a minimum

- Wrong Way !! – do not pull up the green with the tool. This will bring sand to the surface



Repair Ball Marks (2)

- Right Way –
 - Return any loose turf to center of mark
 - Insert tool around edges
 - Push to center of the ball mark
 - The tap down with putter or foot



Safety

- Assure that others are out of range before hitting the ball
- Yell 'fore' if there is the slightest chance your shot will hit someone





Lightning & Thunder



There are two very important facts to know about lightning and thunderstorms

1. Only fools believe lightning cannot strike them.
2. The Rules of Golf give you the right to stop play and seek shelter **AT ANY TIME** you think lightning threatens you.

If you can hear thunder – you can be struck by lightning.

Review

- Knowledge of the Rules of Golf and
- Understand the Game of the Day
- Dress Properly and Arrive 20 minutes early
- Allow time for check-in, greeting friends, warm-up and getting your stuff together
- Be Courteous and Respectful
- Safety for yourself and others
- Pace of Play – be ready when it is your turn
- Leave the Course as you found it or better

The Spirit Of The Game

Unlike many sports, golf is played, for the most part, without the supervision of a referee or umpire. The game relies on the integrity of the individual to show consideration for other players and to abide by the Rules. All players should conduct themselves in a disciplined manner, demonstrating courtesy and sportsmanship at all times, irrespective of how competitive they may be.



**On your honor
trust that others
are honest too**