# GOLF ETIQUETTE

Rules of golf etiquette, although unofficial, should govern your conduct on the course, whether you are playing competitive golf or not. These simple rules serve three purposes:

1. To reduce the probability of personal injury on the course;
2. To speed up play (remember slow play results from bad habits and poor course etiquette, it wastes time and affects course pace); and
3. To sustain the enjoyment of the game.

## At the Tee

Players should*:*

1. Be at the tee ten (10) minutes prior to reservation, prepared to play. *(Green fees receipt in hand. Clubs and bag ready to go. Your swing warmed up)*.
2. Always maintain silence and prepare yourself while others are preparing to hit.
3. Be ready to hit when it’s your turn and limit yourself to one (1) practise swing.
4. Sit or stand quietly when anyone is hitting. *(A player must not allow partner to stand on or as close to an extension of the “line of play” behind the ball while he/she is making a stroke anywhere on the course).*
5. After hitting, each player should return to his/her clubs and be ready to proceed to his/her ball.
6. Never swing a club when someone is hitting.
7. Try to anticipate which club will be used before approaching the ball. *(Plan your shot and select your club).*
8. Refrain from hitting until those ahead have either played their second shots or are well out of range.
9. Tee off as quickly as possible if others are waiting.
10. Play a provisional ball immediately to avoid any delay if your ball appears likely to be out of bounds or lost. *(Carry a spare ball, tees and ball marker in your pocket).*
11. Not offer unsolicited advice unless requested on the golf course. *(Give instructions on the driving range, not the course).*

## On the Fairway

Players should:

1. Plan your shot and select your club while waiting for others to play. Limit yourself to one (1) practice swing.
2. Take three or four clubs to the ball when cart path only rule is in effect.
3. Do not spend more than two (2) minutes per group per hole looking for lost balls.
4. Always replace divots.
5. Call “fore” loudly if there is any danger of hitting another player.
6. Never stand between a player and the green.
7. Move your cart up each shot to avoid wasting time walking back and forth.
8. Never approach a green until the players ahead have left it.
9. Pick up your ball once you have scored “double par” on the hole.

## In the Sand Bunker or Water Hazard

Players should:

1. Leave golf bags at the edge of the sand bunker.
2. Take the most direct route to your ball. This will avoid unnecessary footprints in the sand.
3. Always smooth out the sand when leaving the sand bunker*. (Place the rake outside the bunker lying flat on the ground, and pointed in the direction of play).*
4. Not spend time fishing for balls in the water hazard unless it’s your own ball. *(This only delays the game).*

## On the Green

Players should*:*

1. Place their clubs by the side of the green closest to the next tee, and keep carts on paths and 30 feet from greens and tees. *(Never on, or in front of the green).*
2. Leave flagstick in for putts longer than 10 feet.
3. The player whose ball is closest to the cup is responsible for removing the flag, and the first player to putt out for replacing it. This will speed up play.
4. Study the line of putt while others are preparing to putt. Be prepared to complete your putt within 40 seconds of your turn.
5. Mark their ball with a manufactured marker, dime, etc., and place it directly behind the ball before lifting it. Study the line of putt while others are preparing to putt.
6. Never walk across a partner’s line when putting nor stand on or as close to an extension of the “line of putt” behind, while he/she is making a stroke.
7. Leave the green as quickly as possible to avoid delaying the players waiting to approach. (*Compute your score and mark the score sheet on the next tee, not on the green you have just played.)*
8. Avoid stepping closely around the hole or marring the green in any way. Damage caused by the ball hit directly on the green should be repaired before leaving the green. *(Please repair your ball mark and one other)*.
9. When removing your ball from the cup with the flagstick in, do not use a ball retriever until the flagstick has been gently removed to avoid damaging the edges of the cup.

# CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS

Members are expected to adhere to the following:

1. Respect confidentiality of information received in the course of meetings and activities.
2. Not harass, bully or discriminate against colleagues.
3. Adhere to the Ontario Human Rights Code as amended.
4. Respect the confidentiality and privacy of all information as it pertains to individuals.
5. Encourage feedback from the membership creating a welcome environment.
6. Give recognition to others who contribute to the success of the group and its activities.
7. Not speak on behalf of the group unless designated by the President or the Board of Directors.
8. Act ethically, with honesty and integrity, in the best interests of the Club at all times.
9. Not make improper use of their position as board members to gain advantage for themselves or for any other person.
10. Not disclose official information or documents acquired through membership of the Board, other than as required by law or were agreed by decision of the board.
11. Not make any unauthorised public statements regarding the business of [the group]
12. Support the formal decisions of the board made in its meetings.
13. Know that if there are any questions regarding the Code the President should be consulted.
14. Understand that breaches of this Code may result in disciplinary action, up to and including suspension of membership.