

## Golf Rules Etiquette



### Terminology

**Albatross** – finishing a hole 3 under par

**Approach**- the shot being made to the green

**Away**- the player furthest from the hole

**Ball mark**- the mark left on the green when struck by a ball

**Birdie**- finishing a hole 1 under par

**Bogey**- finishing a hole 1 over par

**Bunker**- sand trap

**Divot**- slice of turf displaced by the swing

**Dog-leg**- when a fairway curves

**Double bogey**- finishing a hole 2 over par etc.

**Eagle**- finishing a hole 2 under par

**Fairway**- closely mown area between the tee and green

**Fore**- warning shout to others who may be in danger

**Hazard**- bunker, pond, river or ditch

**Hole in one**- only taking one shot to complete a hole

**Honours**- the person with the lowest score on the previous hole who then shoots first on the next hole

**Hook**- when a ball is struck and curves in the direction of the golfer's back

**Lie**- the point at which the ball comes to rest

**Out of bounds**- usually indicated by white stakes along either side of the fairway, a fence, a road etc. A ball hit out of bounds must be replayed from the original position after counting the original stroke and a penalty stroke

**Par**- standard number of strokes for a hole

**Rough**- off the fairway or green, the area with the longer grass

**Slice**- when a ball is struck and curves in the direction of the golfer's front

**Tee blocks**- two blocks between which you start a hole

### Golf Clubs and Usage

A standard set of clubs consists of 14 clubs, 9 irons and 5 woods. Each club has a specific purpose, but all are not crucial to playing the game. A short set consists of 2 woods (1&3) and 5 irons (3, 5, 7, & 9) and a putter.

#### **Usage-**

**Woods:** These are used off the tee and the fairway when maximum distance is required.

**Irons:** As you move closer to the green, you select a club with a higher number. The loft increases and distance decreases as the numbers get higher.

**Putter:** The putter is used when you wish to roll the ball along the ground without the ball leaving the ground.

## **RULES OF PLAY**

1. Generally you should touch the ball only by striking it with a club. You should play the ball where it lies and count a stroke each time you try and hit it.
2. If your ball lies in casual water, ground water repair or in an animal hole, you may move it without penalty as long as you don't move it closer to the hole.
3. In a bunker you must play the ball without touching your club to the ground except on the actual stroke. You cannot landscape on your practice swing.
4. If you hit your ball out-of-bounds, you must return to the original spot and count a penalty stroke in addition to the strokes you have played.
5. Teeing off: The person with the lowest score on the previous hole has the honour of teeing off first.
6. You may move your ball away from young trees or man-made obstacles which interfere with your swing or may be struck at any time during your swing.
7. Once all players are on the green there is a 2 stroke penalty for hitting either the flag stick or another players ball.

## **GOLF ETIQUETTE**

Dress:           Men should wear shirts and pants or shorts, but not cut-off jeans.  
                      Women should wear golf shirts, skirt or pants.  
                      All players should wear either golf or athletic shoes, but not deck shoes or work boots.

### General Courtesy

1. Don't talk or move while someone is playing a shot
2. Let faster groups play through
3. Watch your shots so you have a better chance of finding your ball.
4. Replace and tap down all divots and repair ball marks.
5. Keep your golf bag and cart off the green. When you finish on the green, leave as quickly as possible. Record scores at the next hole.