

# Golf Course Rules

## I. General

- 1) The golf courses are available only to the residents and their guests and employees as provided in GRF Policy 303.1. Additionally, the Golden Rain Foundation reserves the right to allow outside tournaments and guest programs at its sole discretion.
- 2) The courses and the golf shop are open every day except Monday. On GRF recognized holidays that fall on Mondays, the golf courses and the golf shop will be open. The golf shop and driving range open at 7 a.m. Closing hours for both are adjusted according to the season.
- 3) Each player must have a set of clubs and golf bag.
- 4) If players cause any damage to the golf courses or other GRF property or surrounding homes it is their responsibility to notify the Director of Golf or his/her designee and arrange for payment to repair the damage.
- 5) Players should respect the tranquility and the privacy of occupants or nearby manors when playing and especially when searching for golf balls that may be lost out of bounds near homes.
- 6) Non-golfers may ride in a golf car with a golfer, but must stay in the golf car during play.
- 7) Threesomes and foursome play is the accepted playing format and will have the right-of-way over all other groups. Twosomes and single players have no right-of-way at any time. They may, however, pass foursomes and threesomes only when a foursome or threesome consents. Fivesomes are not allowed.
- 8) Male players have exclusive use of both courses until 1:00 pm each Wednesday. Men's Club tournaments shall have priority for starting times on Wednesday. The Director of Golf shall have authority to make exceptions to the above to maximize course utilization and convenience for residents.
- 9) Female players have exclusive use of both courses until 1:00 p.m. each Thursday. Women's 18-Hole and 9-Hole Clubs shall have priority for starting times on Thursday. The Director of Golf shall have authority to make exceptions to the above to maximize course utilization and convenience for residents.
- 10) Membership in the Rossmoor Women's or Men's Golf organizations is not a requirement for using the courses.
- 11) Participation in any golf tournament is subject to the rules of the organization sponsoring the tournament.
- 12) For their own protection, pedestrians and cyclists are not permitted on the golf courses during days/times the courses are open for play.
- 13) Dogs may accompany pedestrians when the golf courses are not open for play as long as the dog is on a leash and the owner cleans up after his/her dog.
- 14) Dogs and other domestic animals are not permitted on the courses during days/times the courses are open for play, except as noted below.
  - A) "Working" dogs engaged in activities sanctioned by the Director of Golf, e.g. herding wild geese, are permitted on the golf courses at any time at the sole discretion of the Director of Golf or his/her designee.
  - B) Dogs may accompany players in privately owned golf cars. The dogs may not leave the cars.
- 15) Many wild animals can be found on or near the golf courses. Golfers are advised to admire them from a safe distance and to not feed them.
- 16) Alcoholic beverages purchased at the Creekside Clubhouse may not be taken onto the golf courses.

## **II. Guests**

- 1) Guests must be accompanied by a resident before 12:00 pm. Guests may play after 12:00 pm unaccompanied.
- 2) Residents are responsible for registering their guests (by calling the golf shop or accompanying them) and may be asked to present their resident identification cards at the time of guest registration.

## **III. Junior Golfers**

- 1) A Junior golfer is by definition a guest between the ages of 8 and 18.
- 2) Junior golfers will be permitted to use the practice facilities (driving range and putting green) and golf courses. However, junior golfers between the ages of 8 and 13 must have an adult with them at all times.
- 3) Children under the age of 8, supervised by an adult, who have their own equipment, may use the practice facilities.
- 4) Junior golfers are encouraged to play during the "late rate" hours after 1 pm (November through March) and after 2 pm (April through October) at which time they may play at the resident rate.

## **IV. Golf Course Dress Code**

There is a dress code for golf courses. All golfers must be appropriately attired at all times on the courses and practice areas. Men must wear shirts with a collar and sleeves. Women must wear blouses with at least short sleeves or collar. Tank tops and halters are prohibited. Short-shorts or bathing suits or trunks are prohibited. Shorts must be no more than 4 inches above the knee. Blue jeans are not permitted. We are a soft-spike facility, except when the "carts must stay on paths" policy (indicating wet/soft course condition) is being enforced. Only then may metal spikes be worn.

## **V. Making a Tee Time**

- 1) Only residents are allowed to make tee times except: outside tournaments and eligible employees.
- 2) Tee times may be made up to one week in advance.
- 3) Tee times may be made beginning at 7:30 a.m. either by telephone or in person. The golf shop staff will assign tee times alternately to persons registering in person and to those registering by telephone.
- 4) Tee times for Monday holidays will be taken beginning on the Sunday of the prior week (8 days before the Monday holiday).
- 5) Two tee times will be reserved during each prime time hours, i.e., 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. specified at 15 and 38 minutes of each hour for walk-in players registering in person.
- 6) Players with reserved tee times have preference over those who do not, e.g., walk in players.

- 7) A resident may arrange a starting time for one foursome and/or one group of four or fewer unaccompanied guests for a given day.

## **VI. Registering to Play**

All players are required to register with the golf shop staff at the golf shop before playing on either course. Rule R103.0 5 2) The golf shop staff will verify all golfers' identification and collect the appropriate green fees. Resident players and their guests starting before the golf shop is open or after it has closed must register on the sheet provided for that purpose outside the golf shop before starting to play. Players are then required to pay any fees that are due as soon as possible (immediately after play for early morning players and the next day for late evening players).

## **VII. Start of Play**

Players are prohibited from starting play anywhere except from the first tee or as designated by the golf shop staff. Players playing 18 holes on the Creekside Course (two 9-hole rounds) must check with the golf shop staff before starting the second 9-hole round.

## **VIII. Use of Golf Cars**

- 1) These golf car rules apply to both rental and privately owned cars.
- 2) Golf cart paths have been installed to preserve the fairways. The Director of Golf and/or Superintendent are authorized to restrict golf cars to the paths due to weather conditions or playability. Otherwise, the 90-degree rule should be used.
- 3) Golf cars should be kept at least 30 feet from all tees and greens.
- 4) Golf cars must be kept on the paths on the following holes at all times: hole #7 of the Creekside course, and holes #4, #10, #14 of the Dollar Ranch course.
- 5) Directional signs for golf cars have been installed at various locations on the course. Golf car drivers must observe these instructions.
- 6) Special "disabled golfer access" signs have been installed near the putting greens where disabled players may park to access the putting surface. Individuals must have permission to use these designated areas and display an identifying blue flag obtained from the golf shop.
- 7) Signs and notices may be posted at any time to warn of hazards. Golf car drivers must follow posted instructions.
- 8) Golf cars may only be operated by those individuals who are over 16 years of age and have a valid driver's license.
- 9) If a golf car breaks down on the golf course the golf shop should be notified immediately. The golf shop staff will attempt to assist the players and help remove the disabled car from "the line of play".
- 10) Any damage done to a rental golf car will be the responsibility of the player(s) who rented the car.
- 11) Rental golf car users must sign a golf car "use agreement" before they begin play.
- 12) Golf Course Marshals have the authority to drive off the paths at any time, regardless of posting to the contrary.

## **IX. Golf Course Marshals**

- 1) Appointed Golf Course Marshals will enforce all rules on the golf course. They are under the direct supervision of the golf shop staff.
- 2) All golfers are encouraged to remind their fellow players of the golf course rules. Golfers are asked to report violations to the Marshal or the golf shop staff.

## **X. Practicing**

- 1) The driving range, the practice putting greens, and the practice areas are intended for the use of persons defined in Section I-1 above. However, unaccompanied guests may warm up by using the driving range or the practice putting greens before their tee time.
- 2) Rules regarding the use of the driving range and the practice areas will be posted.
- 3) To maintain "speed of play" normal play precludes an individual golfer from playing more than one ball.
- 4) Practicing on the golf course is prohibited.
- 5) Driving range balls are the property of the Golden Rain Foundation and must be used on the driving range and practice areas only.

## **XI. Refund Policy for Inclement Weather**

- 1) When inclement weather occurs while playing the golf courses, this refund policy will be invoked.
- 2) Full refunds will be available on both courses when golfers have not teed off the fifth hole.
- 3) On the Dollar Ranch 18-hole course, a player who has completed between five and nine holes when inclement weather begins will be charged the nine-hole rate, if they must quit because of the weather.
- 4) No refunds will be given if a player has completed 10 or more holes of the 18-hole course or completed 5 or more holes of the 9-hole course.
- 5) If a player decides to play on a day during which it is already raining, no refund will be given.

## **XII. Playing "Ready" Golf**

When there is an open hole ahead of your group and there are players waiting behind, the first group must invite the waiting group through. This also applies when looking for a lost ball (five minutes is the maximum time that is allowed in searching for a lost ball). Players in the group who can play their balls should do so before helping the player searching for his ball.

- Always leave carts and clubs in the direction of the next tee, never in front of the green. Pull-carts should be kept 10 feet from tees and greens.
- Decide what club to use while others are playing their shots.
- When you hit a ball out of the fairway, line it up with some object in the area where it left the fairway.
- Carry a second ball in your pocket.
- Do not distract and delay others by idle chatter.
- Do not give others lessons during play.
- Do not take more than one practice swing.
- Whenever possible, figure out the line of your putt while others are putting.
- Do not retry putts.
- Do not do your scorekeeping on or near the putting green. Do this on the next tee.

## **XIII. Playing Etiquette**

Golf is a game in which good manners and consideration of others are essential. Considerate golfers follow the cardinal rules listed below:

- Delay hitting until those ahead are well out of range.
- Don't move, talk, make noise or do anything that might disturb a player about a play.
- Don't stand close to or in line with the ball or behind a player about to play.
- Replace divots. Repair ball marks.
- Rake sand bunkers. Replace rakes IN the sand bunkers.
- Do not cut in.
- Don't drop your bag, pull a hand cart or drive a power cart near tees or greens.
- Don't drop the flagstick.
- Don't step on the line of another player's putt.
- Leave the green immediately after completing the hole.

#### **XIV. Violation of Rules**

- 1) Players may be notified either in person or by letter when they are found to have violated a rule.
- 2) The Golf Advisory Committee will be informed when anyone persists in violating this Rule R103.0, the local rules, or Golf Advisory Committee/Director of Golf rules.
- 3) Players who persist in violating rules may be denied the use of the golf courses.