



# RHGC Code of Conduct Awareness and Acknowledgement

## **Purpose**

The purpose of this RHGC Code of Conduct Awareness and Acknowledgement is for members to acknowledge they have received and understand the [RHGC Code of Conduct](#). In this Acknowledgement are summaries of key areas from this document, please read.

The Acknowledgement must be signed and completed, otherwise you are not abiding by the RHGC Code of Conduct and will not be able to play in Tournaments or use the ForeTees booking system.

## **1. Player Responsibility**

Golf etiquette is just as important as the game itself. It's important to remember you are sharing the golf course with everyone else, and there are rules and etiquette to be followed. Here's a good reference on Player Conduct & Integrity.

Please note the following from the Code of Conduct:

### **Background**

Under the Rules of Golf: Standards of Player Conduct: All players are expected to play in the spirit of the game, which include:

- 1) Acting with integrity, for example, by following the Rules, applying all penalties and being honest in all aspects of play;
- 2) Showing consideration to others, for example, by playing at a prompt pace, looking out for the safety of others, and not distracting the play of another player;
- 3) Taking good care of the course, for example, by repairing ball-marks on greens, filling in divots with sand, smoothing bunkers, and not causing unnecessary damage to the course e.g., taking a cart between a green side bunker and the putting green or driving a cart onto a green or tee box.

Penalties other than disqualification may only be imposed for player misconduct if those penalties are adopted as part of an established Code of Conduct, as per 1.2b (Rules of Golf).

### **Code of Conduct**

Rolling Hills Golf Club established this Code of Conduct in February 2022, which was recently updated June 1, 2022. The RHGC Code of Conduct applies to all members/golfers during Competitions, Tournaments, and General Play, or whenever the Course is being used. Members, players and visitors may be counselled, warned, penalized, disqualified, or sanctioned, as deemed fit, for breaching this Code of Conduct. A high standard of behavior is expected at all times when members, their guests and/or visitors are at the Course.

## **2. On the Course – Course and driving range etiquette**

The Board has included articles in each monthly newsletter through April, informing members about the Code of Conduct and seeking cooperation from all members about raking bunkers and other golf etiquette, including the “3 R’s”: 1) RAKE Bunkers, 2) REFILL divots and 3) REPAIR ball marks.

It is evident from playing the course, and the increasing number of complaints made from members, a number of players are continuously failing to comply with the Code of Conduct. These breaches include:

- A failure to rake bunkers
- Walking through bunkers and failing to rake Driving cart between bunker and the green;

- Driving cart onto the Tee Box;
- Failing to repair the pitch marks on the green;
- Failing to sand divots;
- Failing to use practice mats when directed;
- Failing to stay within practice areas;
- Chipping on the practice green.

Please note the following from the Code of Conduct:

**All Golfers must:**

- Be knowledgeable of generally accepted golf course etiquette, ground repair methods for the Course. Anyone unfamiliar with either subject should talk with the golf professional, course marshals or designated representatives of the Board.
- Observe the recognized rules (USGA/R&A), RHGC local rules, and etiquette of golf at all times, including, but not limited to:
  - Repairing ball marks on greens, filling in divots on course, raking bunkers, not taking a cart (push or powered) between green side bunkers and the green, or powered carts onto a green/tee box.
  - Showing the necessary respect to fellow golfers at all times, for example: no shouting on the course, no misuse of equipment (i.e., throwing clubs in frustration etc.), no aggressive behavior.
- If a player is deemed to have failed, in whole or in part, to rake a bunker, the entire playing group shall be held responsible; therefore, all players will face warning and/or sanction by the RHGC Disciplinary Committee and/or the RHGC Tournament Committee.

The following short videos are informative, even for the avid golfer:

- [How to Rake a Bunker](#)
- [How to Repair Ball Marks](#)
- [Putting Green Etiquette Tips All Golfers Should Know](#)

### 3. **Tee Times & Checking In**

Please note the following from the Code of Conduct:

**Tee Times & Checking in**

All players must book a tee time using ForeTees booking system. Players must not start before the first tee time or after the last tee time in ForeTees. If the time booking on ForeTees cannot be used because of change in availability, the booking should be amended or cancelled at the earliest opportunity to make it available to other members. “No-Shows” are considered a serious breach of etiquette.

### 4. **Sanctions**

Golf is rare in the world of sport, as it is expected that player will take personal responsibility, and demonstrate ethical leadership by self-penalizing themselves, should they infringe the rules, code of conduct, and/or course etiquette. There is an additional expectation of playing partners to call out players for breaches i.e., golf should be self-regulating. We also encourage all players to try and work issues out with fellow players in a professional manner and not all issues need to be reported to a Committee if they are handled on the course properly. Together, we can all teach and improve etiquette.

Please note the following from the Code of Conduct:

**Reporting Process**

A report of a breach of this Code of Conduct can be made by a Marshall, Caddy, Guest, RHGC Member in good standing, or RHGC Board Member:

- General Play: Email a report of the breach of the code of conduct to rhgcdisciplinarycommittee@gmail.com at the conclusion of the round.
- Tournament Play: Report a breach of a rule or code of conduct to the Tournament Committee during the tournament following the conditions of play. The Tournament Committee will consider the incident, and decide upon a warning, penalty and/or disqualification, but only for the event the infraction occurred, and notify the player. The penalties available to the Tournament Committee are limited to: 1) Two Stroke Penalty; 2) Loss of hole (Matchplay only); 3) Disqualification.

### **Tracking Process**

A tracking mechanism has been created to capture and record all incidents, disqualifications, warnings, penalties and other sanctions in Tournament or General Play.

Information regarding the RHGC Disciplinary Committee and the process can be found within the Code of Conduct document on the RHGC website.

### **Acknowledgement**

I acknowledge that I have received, read and understand the RHGC Code of Conduct and agree to abide by their provisions. I understand during General Play or Tournament Play if I fail to adhere to requirements of this Code of Conduct, which include basic golf etiquette including 1) acting with integrity; 2) showing considerations for others and 3) taking good care of the course, that a warning, penalty, disqualification or other sanction up to and including loss of playing privileges in Tournament or General Play, may apply as stated in this Code of Conduct.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Badge No. \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_