

# Baltinglass Golf Club – Basic Golf Etiquette

## Basic Golf Etiquette

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, demonstrate courtesy and sportsmanship at all times, and take necessary steps to care for the course being played on. The word etiquette refers to guidelines on the manner in which the game of golf should be played.

### Safety for other players:

You have a responsibility to ensure other golfers on the course have the opportunity to enjoy their round by practicing the following:

- Players should not stand close to or directly behind the ball, or directly behind the hole, when a player is about to play.
- Do not hit until you are certain that the Greens Staff or group ahead of you is out of range.
- On the putting green, players should not stand on or walk on another player's line of putt or when making a stroke, cast a shadow over his/ her line of putt.
- Shout "FORE!" when you hit a shot in the direction of other golfers.
- Be quiet while others are hitting their shots.

### Pace of Play:

Golf is all about enjoyment of the game whether it's social or competitive

- Players should be ready to play as soon as it is their turn to play. Limit practice swings to 2.
- Lowest score on the previous hole tees off first.
- Player furthest from the hole goes first, including on the green.
- Mark your ball when on the green while others are about to putt
- It is a group's responsibility to keep up with the group in front of them.
- It's extremely rude to not let a group play through that is waiting on your group. The one exception is if you're also waiting because of the group in front of you is slow. If this is the case, you should make this known to the group behind you.
- Lost Ball. The group behind should be called through without delay.
- It is very common to play "ready golf" to help speed up play.

### Care of the Course:

- Take a sand bag for your round from the 1<sup>st</sup> tee, for replacing or filling your divots.
- Repair plug / ball marks on the green. Replace divots properly, please heal them in.
- Before leaving a bunker, players should rake holes and footprints made by them and any others nearby and leave the rake in the middle of the bunker.
- In order to avoid damaging the hole on the putting green, players should not stand too close to or on the edge of the hole. Under no circumstances should the head of a club be used to remove a ball from the hole.
- Trolleys and buggies are not permitted on tee boxes, greens or aprons of greens. Always park the trolleys and buggies at the exit point of green towards the next tee box
- Confine practice to putting green or practice area, it is not permitted on any part of the course.
- Notices regulating the movement of buggies or trolleys must be strictly observed.

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- Please take your litter away with you, especially after hiring a buggy.

### **Consideration of fellow Members and Visitors**

- Members are requested to show courtesy and respect to fellow members and visitors at all times.
- Vulgar, abusive or offensive language and wrong behaviour will not be tolerated in the club.
- Use of mobile phones on the course is not encouraged and ensure the use of electronic devices on the course do not distract other players.
- Members must sign in their guests and ensure the appropriate sticker is displayed on their bags.
- Cars must be parked in designated areas and are not permitted to be parked below the gates at the practice nets or in reserved spaces.

### **Miscellaneous**

- Dress Appropriately
- A golfer should always know which brand / number of ball they are using to avoid confusion during play. It is also recommended to place an additional identifying mark on your ball.
- At the end of a round, shake hands with your fellow players.
- As a player, it is your responsibility to learn and understand the rules of golf.
- Presentation of prizes are indicated on the fixtures list. Winners must attend or be represented on the presentation nights to receive their prizes. Where a winner is unable to attend, prior arrangements must be made with the Competition Secretary in advance, otherwise prize maybe forfeited.