

# The Club at Ironwood

## Club Etiquette and Procedures

The Club at Ironwood is committed to providing a welcoming, inclusive and equitable environment for all members and guests. The following considerations regarding etiquette and procedures are intended to help promote such an environment by setting forth the expectations and responsibilities of members and guests as well as management and staff at the Club at Ironwood.

### General

The Club Management, Head Golf Professional, and his professional assistant will work to lay the foundation for the expectations regarding etiquette and procedures at The Club at Ironwood. These rules are applicable to all members and guests. They are meant to insure that all members and guests achieve the maximum enjoyment from the use of the club facilities. Violations of these rules will subject the member or guest to disciplinary action as determined to be appropriate by the Executive Committee or Club Management.

1. The course will be closed to all play or the use of carts restricted at any time the weather conditions are, in the opinion of the general manager, course superintendent, or head golf professional, such that continuing play would damage the course or compromise the safety of members.

### Procedures

1. Registration

All golfers must check in at the Golf Shop prior to beginning play or using the driving range.

2. Beginning Play

A starting time is required and should be observed to insure beginning play at a desired time. Members may make tee times in advance. Start play on hole #1, unless circumstances make it necessary to start play on another hole. You must have permission from the Golf Professional or Assistant if you do not start on hole #1. Players on the golf course have right-of-way over any other group beginning play at any hole other than #1.

3. Number of Players

Players are most often grouped in foursomes; however, threesomes, twosomes, and singles are allowed on the course. Foursomes are encouraged and have right-of-play over any other group. The play of twosomes or singles is discouraged between 8:30 am and 12:00 noon on weekends and holidays during the golf season (April 1st through September 30<sup>th</sup>) but may be allowed at the discretion of the Golf Professional or Assistant.

4. Members are allowed the privilege of booking tee times more than 48 hours in advance. Public golfers are limited to booking times within 2 days before play.

### Golf Carts

1. Rental

To rent a golf cart, you must be age 16 or older. All golf cart rentals are handled from the Golf Shop. The person assigned the golf cart is responsible for all damages and defacement.

2. Use

Obey all cart rules posted at the Golf Shop or conveyed by the golf staff upon checking in. Please maintain at least 30 feet from all tees and greens and take care to observe cart signs and ropes on the course. Please keep the carts on the path for all Par 3 holes. If golfers wish to play extra holes, they should check with the Golf Shop to see that a tee time is available and pay the proper charges. Any abuse to the golf cart may result in suspension of golf cart privileges. At no time will a golf cart be allowed off Club premises.

## Golf Course Rules

United States Golf Association rules govern all play except where modified by local rules.

- Each player must register with the Golf Shop before playing
- Each player must have his/her own set of clubs
- Golf carts must be kept at least 30 feet from green and tees unless on the cart path.
- Per Virginia ABC laws all alcoholic beverages must be purchased at the golf course.
- Maximum playing time for 18 holes is 4 hours and 15 minutes. Play will be monitored by the Golf staff.
- Attire: no tank tops, tee shirts, or halter tops. No cut-off shorts, gym shorts, blue jeans or sweat pants allowed on the course. Dress shorts are permitted. Shirts that may not have a collar but are designed to be golf attire are permitted.

## Etiquette

Golf etiquette is not a hard and fast set of rules. It is general behavior that makes the game of golf an enjoyable experience for all involved. Below are some traditional concerns associated with golf etiquette.

### 1. Slow Play

Slow play continues to plague golf courses across the country. By being aware of other golfers on the course we can help to improve the pace of the round.

- A. Be particularly aware of your own pace and always be in preparation for your shot while others in your group are playing. Please do your best to maintain your place on the course with the group in front of you.
- B. Ask faster groups to play through (incidentally, a group passing through should show good taste by making every effort to pass through in good speed).
- C. Report rules violations, such as slow play, to the Manager or Head Golf Professional

### Tips on Picking Up the Pace

- Be ready to play: plan your shot before it's your turn.
- Have a pre-shot routine. Taking one practice swing before each shot (rather than multiple) will shave considerable time off your game.
- Choose the correct set of tees from which to play.
- High handicappers can play with low handicappers, as long as they keep up!
- Put your conversation on hold when it's your turn to hit the ball.
- Try to keep an eye on everyone's drives, so as not to lose sight of balls.
- Don't be too strict about order of play, let the short-hitter hit first off the tee if the group ahead hasn't cleared the green yet.
- **New Rule:** Under Rule 18.2, the time for a ball search (before the ball becomes lost) has been reduced from 5 minutes to 3 minutes. **Reasons for Change:** Limiting the search period to 3 minutes is more consistent with the underlying principle that golf is to be played in a prompt and continuous way, without long pauses in play.
- When chipping near the green, carry your putter with you so you don't have to return to your bag.
- Mark your score after reaching the next tee, not while lingering on the green

### 2. Divots, Ball Marks, and Traps

All golfers should work very hard to protect their course. Ball marks on the greens are the single most destructive thing we do and should be repaired each time. Please see the Golf Professional or Course Superintendent if you are unsure of the best way to repair such a mark. All divots taken out of the fairways should be replaced immediately and all traps should be raked after use. Our goal is to leave the course in better condition than you found it.

### 3. Respect for other Golfers

We all know how noise and movement by others are distracting to a golfer, and we should make every effort not to be such a distraction. Loud profanity, throwing of clubs and music played loud enough to be heard by golfers that are in other groups are further examples of unacceptable behavior.

**WE WISH YOU THE BEST AT THE CLUB AT IRONWOOD!**