



December 2020

Hey Golf Gals!

The CVWGC Board will be meeting next week and will be starting to work on our 2021 season! We have some new chairs I'd like to introduce to you:

- Jan Reconzone will chair both the Home N' Home and Birdie Board
- Patti Parker will be our Rules Chair
- Suze Ericson joins Debbie Knapp with the combined Publicity/Membership Chair positions
- Donna Sugden is the new Tournament Chair
- DD Woodruff is our new 50/50 Raffle Chair



We still have a few Chair positions opening looking for a few good women! These Chair positions are:

- Handicap Chair This person will be responsible for activating the handicap every year. You will work with Beau and the Northern Nevada Golf Association (NNGA) and will need to be software/computer savvy. This is a Board position.
- Bylaws/House Rules Chair Maintain/update any revisions or changes.
- Scholarship Chair Works with the Treasurer to donate funds to High School Girl Golfers (possibly through Junior Connection)
- Sunshine Chair Sends an eCard to members on their birthdays. CVWGC will pay any fees associated with signing up with a digital eCard company.

Please let Kelly King know if you are interested in serving our women's golf community on one of these chair positions.

I saw this article from *The Woman Golfer* and thought it could be helpful for on the links etiquette.

9 Rules of Golf Etiquette You Are Probably Breaking

1. Showing Up Less Than 15 Minutes Before Your Tee Time

This was Joel's #1 and mine too. It's a biggie. All of us have either done this and/or even know people who do this on a regular basis. Not only is this probably terrible for your game and body (you should warm up), it stresses your playing partners out no matter how regularly you do it. It potentially puts the rest of the tee sheet at risk of delay (do you really want to be responsible for causing a half-hole or more delay for everyone else playing behind you?). SOP is that you show up to the course at least 30 minutes prior to your tee time.

2. All You Do Is Talk, Talk

This wasn't even on Joel's list. But it is near the top of mine (years ago my husband nicknamed me "rabbit ears"). Definitely a no-no which we all get caught doing at one time



or another. We think we are whispering but really, we should just be quiet when someone else is hitting. You've experienced it. You're over your putt and others are whispering or even blatantly chatting away. You think you can hit through it and tell yourself to be strong and just focus on your shot. But NOPE! I have had the honor of playing with former pros and state amateur champions and let me tell you, better players do not talk once another player begins their preshot routine, much less during a shot.

3. Driving Your Cart Where It Shouldn't Be

Now that most carts have GPS and clubs can set up geo-fencing, this isn't as much of an issue. But there are courses where you can definitely put your cart in undesirable areas — much too close to the green, tee box or other marked areas. Unless you have a handicap flag, you should make sure you put the cart in a proper area. Think about it, have you ever hit your ball to an area that was damaged by carts, only to get a crappy lie because of it? Keep your cart 25 yards from the putting green and other areas.

This can also be true for push carts and walkers as well. It's bad juju to pull your pushcart across a green. Don't even think about leaving your bag on the green. All should be off to the side of the green.

4. Standing Behind Someone While They Are Hitting

You may think you're out of the way and that you aren't a distraction, but that's not the case. I used to be involved in the Evans Scholars program and my role was to teach teens how to caddy. We always told them they should stand off your frontside or backside (butt or boobs, as I say). In other words, if you can see a player's eyes from where you are standing, you are not out of their sight—



MOVE. This also applies to parking the cart directly behind someone while they are hitting in the fairway. Have you ever started your practice swing and all you can see behind you is their cart?

Same goes for putting. As one British blogger wrote: "... though it might feel wrong, there is nothing in the Rules to stop a fellow competitor, or opponent, standing wherever they like – even if that means they're behind you tracking the exact line of your putt. Rule 10.2b (4), which covers the restrictions on a caddie standing behind a player, only extends to partners, team players and their bag carriers under Rules 22, 23 and 24. Rule 1.2a, which looks at standards of player conduct, expects all players to "play in the spirit of the game" and one of the examples given is not distracting the play of another player."

5. Not Marking Your Ball

This is a bad, bad habit and I see so many people do this. If you're not putting, your ball should be marked. No ifs ands or buts. Putt it or mark it. If your ball is down on the green, other players think you are putting pursuant to "ready golf". If you putt up to the hole and intend to mark, say: "I'll mark it".

6. Walking Thru Someone's Line

I seem to have the hardest time seeing other people's ball markers on the green and I occasionally step in someone's line. I try to be conscientious about it, but it never fails. I don't see their mark. We all need to pay attention more to where all our playing partners are marked on the green. If you can't see everyone's ball or mark, ask. Shoes can make a slight indention on the green, possibly causing a putt to go off line and especially when greens are soft. Your best bet is to walk all the way around your partner's ball instead of walking through and on her line. If you absolutely must cross the ball's path, take a wide stride over it and get your partner's permission before doing so. Even a simple nod will do.

7. Checking Your Phone Too Much

This has become a big point of contention over the years, especially with increased use of cell phones and yardage apps. It's one thing to have your phone available for an emergency, waiting for a text from a loved one, or checking a scoring app between holes. But continually taking calls or texting throughout the round only emphasizes to your playing partners that you're bored or have more important things to do. As Joel says, being "continually attached to your phone goes against the spirit of being with friends or one with nature."



8. Gimmes

This one can go in either direction. There are people you play with who are not charitable at all during a casual round and make you putt tap-ins. Then you play with those are too charitable and give 5' (or more) putts!

9. Not Fixing Ball Marks

Yeah, you're saying to yourself right now: "I always fix my mark and at least one other on every green." If that's true why are there so many ugly scars out there on the greens? I think it's because players who hit the green with a shot from a short distance, say, 20-40 yards, don't realize they have made a small mark. Also, players who hit low shots that skid across or over greens don't realize those balls cut into the putting surface. Always look at where your ball initially struck the green. You'll be surprised at what you discover. Unrepaired ball marks take weeks to heal. Repaired marks take half the time. The grass begins to die almost immediately if left unrepaired.

You can find this article here: <u>https://www.thewomangolfer.com/9-rules-of-golf-etiquette-you-are-probably-breaking/</u> Tracey Blake, Oct 7th, 2020