

**Golf Rules and Regulations**  
**2017**



REVISED 2017

## **GOLF RULES**

### **MANDATORY CERTIFICATION:**

ALL NEW GOLF MEMBERS, regardless of USGA handicap status or prior golf experience, are required to attend an orientation seminar. During this seminar, the Golf Professional will review procedures concerning local rules, course etiquette and Club policies. Members who do not attend the seminar will be unable to play the course.

Any nine holers wishing to start on the back nine must get approval from the Golf Professional Staff. We suggest Wednesday Through Friday between 8:30-9:30 am and on the Weekends between 8:00-9:00am. (Subject to approval.)

Please check with the Golf Shop (944-7840) to book or confirm a Tee Time. These times are subject to change mainly because of weather conditions.

## **BAG ROOM**

The Bag Room will be open at least 15 minutes before the first scheduled Tee Time. The Bag Room stays open until dusk. (Weather Permitting)

## **DRIVING RANGE**

The Driving Range will open 15 minutes before the first scheduled Tee Time and Close one half hour before dark. Pro Shop will update the hours for closing time.

## **GENERAL RULES:**

1. All members shall conduct themselves in such a manner so as not to interfere with the playing enjoyment of others. These rules are for the benefit of all members.
2. Each player (walking or riding) must register at the Pro Shop before commencing play.
3. The Director of Golf and his/her staff have the full authority for the administration and enforcement of the golf rules, golf course regulations and rules of etiquette as adopted by the Village Club of Sands Point.
4. Members are to treat other members and staff with respect and in no instance shall Club members berate any staff members. Any complaint about the staff should be submitted in writing to the Head Pro or General Manager as appropriate.
5. Players may not tee off prior to the opening of the Pro Shop unless otherwise posted.

6. The hours of operation of the golf course, pro shop, bag room and driving range vary seasonally, as set by the Golf Pro, the Golf Committee and the Village Club Commission. The hours of operation will be posted on the Website, at the Pro Shop and in the newsletter.

7. The dress code, as outlined below, is mandatory for all players and is intended to maintain the standards desired by the membership of the Club. Proper attire is required on the golf course, driving range and practice areas.

For Men: Shirts with collars and sleeves or turtlenecks and mock turtlenecks are allowed. The shirts should be tucked. The slacks or shorts worn should be tailored. Walking shorts are also acceptable. Hats must be worn with the visor pointing forward.

For Women: Dresses, skirts, slacks, golf shorts, mid length shorts. Sleeveless shirts should have collars.

Not Permitted: Tank tops, T- shirts, mesh tops, halter-tops, bathing suits, jams, sweat pants, tennis attire, athletic shorts, cut offs, blue jeans or denim of any kind.

8. All players must wear soft spikes.

9. Non-golf members, including children of members, are not permitted on the golf course, in a golf cart, on the driving range or practice areas unless they are registered guests or under the direct supervision of one of the golf professional staff.

10. Spectators and non-players are not allowed on the golf course except for the Club Championship finals.

11. Foursomes have priority. Single players have no standing at any time.

12. No group shall be composed of more than four players.

13. If "Discontinued Play" is called by staff, Credit-fewer than three holes, full credit for that nine.

14. The full cart fee will be charged to the members' account for a "NO SHOW" on reserved tee times if members fail to notify Pro Shop at least 24 hours in advance. If a member has signed up another member, he will be charged the "no show" fee if the other member doesn't show up. In addition, the Golf Pro reserves the right to refuse advance reservations to repeat "no shows".

15. Failure to cancel lessons 24 hours in advance may result in the member being charged for the lesson.

16. The club has the right to amend the rules and regulations as may be required.

## **TEE TIME REGULATIONS**

### Weekend Tee Time Reservation Format

Following is the format which will be used for tee times for Members wishing to play before 12:00 on the weekends. Members wishing to book tee times after 12:00 on the weekends or anytime Tuesday-Friday may call seven days in advance to book a tee time.

If you wish to play on a weekend before 12:00, you must fill out a chit the previous weekend with the names of the people you wish to play with and the desired time you would like to play. If you are unavailable to come in person to fill out a chit you may E-mail the information to [Golf@villageclub.org](mailto:Golf@villageclub.org). This must be done by Tuesday @9:00am for the following weekend tee times. No phone in sign-ups will be accepted!!

We urge you to sign up as a foursome.

The first name on the chit is responsible for the group. Any "No Show" will be charged to that person if the tee time has not been cancelled 24 hours in advance.

Priority will be given to faster players for earlier tee times.

Tee times will be E-mailed out by Thursday morning at the latest.

Any open tee times before 12:00 may be filled by any golf member after the tee times have been E-mailed out. Please call the shop at 944-7840 to make a tee time at this point.

When necessary we will be utilizing the 10th tee to start play between 7:30 and 8:30 to accommodate everyone with their desired tee time. Your cooperation with being on time will help to make this system successful.

Guidelines for pace of play and signing up for your desired AM tee time:

If your group generally plays in:

3:45 or less sign up between 7:00-7:30 or later

3:55 or less 7:30-8:00 or later

4:00 or less 8:00-9:00 or later

4:05 or less any time after 9:00am

If your group plays at a pace that exceeds 4:05 on more than one occasion you may be asked to play after 12:00 on the weekends.

This system helps, tremendously with the pace of play and the flow of the golf course. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

## **GUEST POLICIES**

**NO GUEST PLAY DURING PRIME TIME UNLESS APPROVED BY THE HEAD GOLF PROFESSIONAL.**

Members may invite guests at the published fees and under the following circumstances:

1. Members may reserve a tee time for their guests on weekends after 12:00pm
2. No person may play as a guest more than twice in any one calendar month, or more than four times per year regardless of the fact that different members invited him or her. Immediate family members are allowed 6 times as a guest per year.
3. Members must play golf with their guests.
4. Members may have up to 3 guests per day.
5. A member is at all times responsible for the conduct, actions, dress of his or her guest. It is suggested that guests be restricted to those who are qualified golfers.
6. Members must write their guests names on the register book to help track guest names. Please include their email address when possible.
7. Please be considerate of pace of play when bringing guests (preapproved) during prime time. If you are sighted for slow play with guests, the club has the right to restrict you from bringing guests during prime time.

## **GOLF COURSE REGULATIONS**

1. The course, or any part of it, may be closed to play at any time upon the authority of the Golf Course Superintendent, the Head Golf Professional, the General Manager or the Village Club Commission.
2. All non-golf activities on the golf course and cart paths are prohibited, including but not limited to jogging, bicycling, skating, rollerblading, walking and walking of dogs (except geese patrol and seeing-eye dogs). The cost of repairing any damage to the golf course resulting from such prohibited activity shall be charged to the responsible member, including any repairs needed for damage caused by a guest.
3. When dangerous weather is in the area, it is strongly recommended that all golfers cease play and seek safety. As a courtesy, the golf staff will blow a horn to warn players of such a situation. If a golfer chooses to remain on the course, he is doing so at this own risk. Shelter Areas include: The Golf Shop, The VC Grille, The Pool (located down by the Harbor), The

Maintenance Barn (Next to the guard booth), The Old Pro Shop (located on the front nine), a rain shelter (behind the old 8th green).

4. From time to time, the Golf Course Superintendent may post signs and/or other instructions, as required, to prevent damage to all or part of the golf course. Members and guests are to comply with instructions.
5. Tournament competition will have priority over normal play. Attempts will be made to accommodate non-participants.
6. Use of range balls and/or removing range balls from range area will result in a \$150 fine and suspension of golf rights for one week.
7. Practicing on the golf course at any time is prohibited except when being given a playing lesson by one of our professional golf staff.
8. Threesomes, twosomes and single players may be paired with other players by the Starter and must comply with the pairing set by the Starter and may play only at the Starter's discretion.
10. On days when walking is allowed, please remember that walkers fall under the same pace of play guidelines as people on carts. If you cannot maintain the proper pace when walking you may be asked to take a golf cart. The Head Golf Professional has the right to revoke walking as he sees fit.

### **STARTING TIME RULES**

1. All golfers must start play on the first tee or the tenth tee only, except at the discretion of the Starter.
2. All players must report to the Starter at least ten minutes before their scheduled tee time.
3. If your group stops for lunch between nines, it must inform the Starter. The group loses its spot on the golf course and may only resume play after obtaining permission from the Starter.

### **GOLF COURSE RULES AND ETIQUETTE**

Except where modified by local rules, all play will be governed by the current regulations of the U.S.G.A.

1. Under normal circumstances, an 18-hole round of golf should not exceed four hours. Programs may be introduced to promote and maintain this standard.

2. Any players repeatedly cited for slow play will risk losing tee time reservation privileges and may risk suspension.
3. It is the obligation of each foursome to keep up with the group in front of them. Any group playing behind a team that is not playing at an appropriate speed (i.e. keeping up with the group in front) MAY ask the group in front for permission to play through. The team in front MUST grant permission to play through. Slow groups may also be asked by the Ranger to pick up the ball and move to the next hole.
4. In the spirit of fast play, make an attempt to play "ready golf" by allowing whoever is ready to tee off first. Prepare before it is your turn to play, by figuring out your yardage, selecting your club, taking practice swings, and reading putts. Leave the green immediately, put your clubs in your bag and mark your scores at the next tee. Park carts behind greens, in the path to the next tee, not in front.
5. Take no longer than two-minutes to search for lost balls.
6. Leave the course as you would like to find it: divots replaced, ball marks repaired, and sand traps raked. Do not step within six inches of a hole. Flagsticks are to be removed, replaced and handled without damaging the hole or green.
7. Players are not to play until the players in front are completely out of range. Be sure that no one is in the potential line of fire before you play your shots. If you do hit in someone's direction, yell "fore." If you hit onto someone else's hole, they have the right of way.
8. Respect other players' games by being quiet and still when they are playing their shots.
9. At no time is any player permitted to skip around from hole to hole.
10. The Ranger has full authority on the course to enforce rules and regulations. All players must comply with his instructions.
11. A Club is known by the etiquette of its members on the course. Always respect the right of others. We are all members of the same Club. Every golfer should obtain a copy of the USGA rules book, available in the Pro Shop, in order to have knowledge of the rules.
12. The club has the authority to time your round of golf. Please note your starting time and notice the time grid on your scorecard. You should be on or ahead of schedule at all times. If you cannot play 18 holes in 4:05 or less you may be restricted with what time you are allowed to play.
13. The use of cell phones is not allowed on the golf course or practice areas.

## **GOLF CARTS**

Golf carts are required on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays before 5:00 P.M. They are also required on Tuesday Mornings during Ladies league which run from Mid-May through Mid-September.

### **GOLF CART USE**

#### **Dos:**

Stay on paths where available  
Use parking brake when stopped  
Observe all direction signs, stakes and roped off areas  
Use common sense  
Park to the side and back of putting green

#### **Don'ts:**

Cross ropes  
Drive across steep hills  
Have feet outside of carts  
Park closer than 30' from green  
Park in front of the putting green

1. Carts must be driven at all times with extreme caution and at the risk of the operator. Violation of this rule will be treated very seriously.
2. Operators of a golf cart must be at least 16 years old and have a valid driver's license or learner's permit. If under the age of 18, the operator must submit a signed parental release form.
3. No more than two persons may ride a cart.
4. Carts will be assigned by the Golf Staff in the order in which they are requested by players, as they are due to tee off and must be signed for in advance of use.
5. A member is responsible for damage caused by negligent operation of a cart by either himself or his guest.
6. Use of carts may from time to time be restricted to certain areas such as the rough only. It is the responsibility of each member using a cart to ascertain if restrictions of any kind are in force and to observe such restrictions carefully. Carts are not to be used off Club property.

## **GOLF HANDICAPS**

1. Handicaps will be computed under the supervision of the Head Golf Professional and his/her staff in accordance with the current USGA handicap system.
2. Only members with an approved USGA handicap may participate in Club-sanctioned tournaments.

3. Failure to post scores may result in arbitrary posting of a par score by the handicap committee.

4. Players shall contact golf staff to establish a handicap.

### **JUNIOR RESTRICTIONS**

Ages 4 and under are not allowed on the golf course.

Ages 5-8 years old may play at the discretion of the professional staff with adult supervision only.

Ages 9-12 Same restrictions with the exception that: if they establish a nine hole handicap of 25 or less, they may play with adult supervision after 1:00pm so long as they abide by the pace of play regulations.

Ages 13-15 As long as they establish a handicap of 36 or less they may play unaccompanied during the week, and may play with adult supervision on the weekends after 11:00am, so long as they adhere to the etiquette rules and pace of play regulations.

Ages 16 and up No restrictions so long as they establish a handicap of 30 or less and can abide by all the etiquette and pace of play rules.

All juniors must attend one of the orientation classes.

### **GOLF RULES INFRACTIONS**

In the case of violations of the Rules and Regulations of the Club, the following procedure will be followed by the golf staff: A verbal warning will be given to any member observed breaking a rule. If the member disregards the warning or repeats the offense, a written warning will be sent to the member and filed with the General Manager. For a third offense, the grievance committee will be notified, whereby the member risks having his/her golfing privileges suspended or revoked. In the case of a very serious offense, the warning procedure will be bypassed and the grievance committee will be immediately notified.

### **COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES**

All complaints and grievances must be submitted in writing, to the General Manager. Members are not permitted to reprimand any Club employee nor to permit any club employee to air any grievance to the member. Complaints with respect to any employee should be directed to the committee supervising the employee's activity or to the Club General Manager.