



BRAMSHAW GOLF CLUB  
HAMPSHIRE'S OLDEST COURSE

## Course Etiquette

On behalf of the Committee, the Club would like to reiterate elements of course etiquette that we all need to consider when we are playing. This will help to make sure everyone enjoys their game.

### **Slow Play**

Slow play should be avoided by all players, at all times where possible. In the rules of golf, under the etiquette section, it states that players should play without delay. This means that each player in a group should be ready to play their shot. The rules also state that:

“It is the players’ responsibility to keep up with the group in front. If the group loses a clear hole and is obviously delaying the group behind, it should invite the group behind to play through, irrespective of the number of players in that group. Where a group has not lost a hole, but it is apparent that the group behind can play faster, it should invite the faster moving group to play through”.

### **Repairing pitch marks, replacing divots and raking bunkers**

It is each player’s responsibility to ensure that they repair their pitch mark on a green, to replace their divot after a shot and to rake a bunker if they have played from it. In the spirit of looking after our courses, please also repair any other pitch-marks that you may find.

### **Consideration for other players**

Players should always show consideration for other players on the course and should not disturb their play by moving, talking or making unnecessary noise.

This element of the Rules of Golf is particularly evident when players are on the 1<sup>st</sup> tee, 11<sup>th</sup> green, 12<sup>th</sup> tee on the Manor Course and the practice area. Those waiting, or making their way to the 1<sup>st</sup> tee should stand quietly or stop walking and wait for players on the respective tees/green to play their shots.

### **Safety**

Player’s should ensure no one is standing close by or in a position to be hit by a club, the ball or any stones, pebbles, twigs or the like when they make a stroke or practice swing. Golfers should wait until the players in front are out of range. You must always alert green-staff nearby (or ahead) when they are about to make a stroke that might endanger them.

If your ball is heading in a direction where there is a danger of it hitting someone, or your ball’s landing point is obscured from clear view, shout a warning immediately. The traditional word of warning is “**Fore!**”

The R&A has published a full guide to golf course etiquette online and can be found at

<https://www.randa.org/RulesEquipment/Etiquette/Behaviour-on-the-Course>

### **First Tee Protocol**

1. A player or players can join groups waiting in the queue or a group that has booked tee time providing that it **does not** increase the number of matches that are to play.
2. Those players arriving late to join their colleagues, should, out of courtesy, ask those queuing if it is okay for them to join their colleagues but as long as the above applies, it should be accepted. This works the same way for booked tee times; if a player in your group is late you may ask the group/s behind to swap tee times with you to accommodate the latecomer.
3. If the joining players **do** increase the number of matches then, the entire group should move to the back of the queuing line or the additional match(s) move to the back of the queue. If during tee booking times, an additional tee time must be booked with the Pro-Shop unless an subsequent tee time is available.
4. If during roll-up times, the ideal way to self-manage this is to assemble your respective playing group at the Pro Shop or in the clubhouse and then move to the 1<sup>st</sup> tee as a group.

### **Groups Larger than a Fourball**

1. No playing group larger than a fourball is permitted to play on the courses. Therefore, fiveballs, sixballs, etc are **not acceptable** on the course in any circumstances.

### *Additional Notes*

#### **Trolleys/Buggies on Paths**

As you will know, from time to time, particularly during extremely wet or frosty weather, a sign is put up to advise that trolleys and buggies should remain on paths.

The request is there to protect the course and helps us present it in its best possible condition for the most important times of the year, the full playing season. During frosty weather, trolleys “burn” the grass and effectively kill it and thus increasing the recovery time in the spring. During wet weather, trolleys on the fairways and rough create a seal in the surface layer/top soil and again cause issues with the grass recovery and the times it takes for surface water to dissipate.

If this request is consistently disregarded, the Club will have no choice but to remove the option of taking trolleys onto the course during extremely wet or frosty weather and this would unfortunately penalise those members and visitors that do respect the request.

On behalf of the Club and the Committee, thank you in advance for your help!

Andrew Rideout  
General Manager