



# **HERTFORDSHIRE GOLF UNION**

## **BOYS CODE OF PRACTICE**

In accepting selection for any Hertfordshire Boys' Team, or having entered any County Boys' Competition, players are expected to conform to the following code of practice. Failure to do so may jeopardise their chances of selection for the County, or risk having entry to County Competitions rejected.

### **1 Priorities**

When a conflict of priorities arises it should be resolved in the following order:

**Country first, then County, then Club, and lastly Self.**

### **2 General Behaviour**

- a) Ensure the appropriate authority is told as soon as possible if you are unable to participate in any event you have previously entered, or which you have been invited to attend.
- b) Do not swear audibly or abuse clubs, ball, equipment, course or course furniture in temper.
- c) Smoking is forbidden on the course and in the clubhouse at all junior events.
- d) Playing of fruit machines and the consumption of alcoholic beverages is forbidden at all junior events.
- e) Win or lose, after your round is over come out on the course and support your fellow team members still playing.

### **3 Dress**

- a) At each event find out and obey the dress rules of the Club, both on the course and in the clubhouse.
- b) Always bring jacket and tie to County events unless you have been told they are not needed.
- c) If you have been given County uniform it should be kept clean and in good order and only worn when requested for County matches.
- d) The wearing of jeans, T-shirts, shorts, reversed hats, earrings and suchlike is not allowed on the course or in the clubhouse.
- e) Particularly in hot weather, you should change out of your playing clothes before entering the lounge or dining area of a club

### **4 Courtesy on the Course**

- a) Before making a stroke or practice swing ensure that nobody is in a position to be hit by club, ball or any stones, twigs or the like, which may be moved in making the stroke or practice swing.
- b) Watch where your playing partner's ball lands and help him find it if necessary.
- c) If a putt is conceded hand the ball to your opponent, do not knock it away with your putter or throw it to him.
- d) Always thank the starter before leaving the first tee, and your fellow competitors or opponents after your game is over, and take off your hat when you do so.

### **5 Care of the Course**

- a) Look for and obey any notices governing conduct on the golf course.
- b) In taking practice swings avoid causing damage to the course, particularly the tees, by removing divots.
- c) Do not take trolleys onto greens or tees, or between green side bunkers and greens.
- d) Replace any divots taken immediately and press them down. Make sure you use sand & seed boxes, where provided, to fill your divots on the tees.
- e) Rake over holes and footprints made in bunkers and replace the rake in a position similar to that in which you found it, and where it will be least likely to affect play.
- f) Repair pitch marks on the green by levelling with a pitch mark repairer, or tee peg, and tapping down with a putter.
- g) Ensure that neither you nor your caddie causes any damage to the green, or hole, by standing close to it in handling the flag stick, or in removing the ball from the hole.
- h) After the completion of the hole, repair any spike mark damage as a courtesy to those coming behind.

### **6 Speed of Play**

- a) Play without delay. Slow play is one of the game's most undesirable aspects and you may be penalised if you do not keep pace with the game in front of you.
- b) Walk quickly between shots and be ready to play when it is your turn.
- c) Play a provisional ball if there is any chance that your ball may be lost or out of bounds but not in a water hazard.
- d) Be ready to call the following game through as soon as it is apparent that your ball is not going to be found easily.
- e) Leave your bag on the side of the green in the direction of the next tee.
- f) Do not mark your card on the green after the hole is finished, or when it is your turn to drive.
- g) In stroke play try to hole out short putts, unless you will be standing on another player's line.