



**WINTER REMINDERS**

- ◆ Ball marks will be prevalent—please remember to repair yours and one other!
- ◆ Practice Good Golf by staying on the golf car paths as much as possible...this will assist the turf and provide the best possible playing conditions for you
- ◆ Fill those divots with sand provided!
- ◆ Help everyone have a great experience by playing within Time Par!
- ◆ When using the 90 degree rule to access the golf course and your golf ball please avoid worn areas to allow the turf time for recovery.

We hope that everyone had a Happy and Safe Holiday season and we are looking forward to a wonderful 2017 in the world of Golf!

If you are just returning you may have noticed that we did not overseed our fairways. It was a very dry summer and fall season and we are dryer than normal going into winter. Due to below average rainfall, and maintaining our stewardship of our water resources, we are able to use pigments to manage the health of the turf through the cooler months. You may notice an enhanced color in the fairway's as a result.

During this time of year, traffic control takes on an even greater importance and even more so this year! If we can all do our part to minimize the amount of time our golf cars are on turf, by truly practicing the 90 degree rule, we will all benefit! It's also very beneficial to avoid area's of weak or stressed turf.

As you may be aware of by now, for the 2nd straight year, there were more than 3 million rounds of golf played in 2016! This is the time of year that we all have to work together to protect the Bermuda turf in order to create the best possible golf experience through the winter season. Please help make the experience the best it can be by doing your part in practicing Good Golf!

**Frost Delays**

Even in Florida it's inevitable that we will encounter several frost delay's. When this occurs it's imperative to allow the frost to dissipate before allowing golf car or foot traffic on the course. Depending on conditions, frost can form in pocket area's when the temperatures reach approximately 38 degrees and become more widespread as they reach 32 and below. We do our best to release the information on Frost Delay's by 7:15am on affected morning's. Stay tuned to WVLG and check [www.GolfTheVillages.com](http://www.GolfTheVillages.com) to find information on if your tee time may be affected. If your tee time is affected, and you still wish to play, please call the golf shop or Executive Starter Building, and we will do our best to accommodate you. If you would like to know more about frost and the damage caused by frost please visit [USGA.org](http://USGA.org) or [gcsaa.com](http://gcsaa.com), where you can find more information!

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**SUMMER**



**WINTER**



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# **“READY GOLF”**

What does “Ready golf mean?

Why is it important?

Ready Golf is a method of play suggested, unless in competition, for speeding up play on a course.

The following suggestions will help you maintain your position on the golf course:

1. When you arrive at the player’s ball that is “away”, all of the other players should take 2 or 3 clubs that probably will be used and go to their ball (being sure to not distract the other players) then everyone will be ready to play as soon as it is his or her turn.
2. It is not necessary to tee off based on “honors”. Whoever is ready first should go ahead and hit while everyone else should get their club and be ready to hit next.
3. “Continuous putting” is another way of speeding up the pace of play (when you leave a 2 or 3 foot putt, go up and finish it instead of marking it).
4. “Pick it Up” When you are out of the hole in a team or point quota event and your score is irrelevant then pick it up and mark down the score that you most likely would have had. (By the way this is an official USGA recommendation and is acceptable for handicap purpose)
5. Write scores down at the next tee box. The scorer should hit first and write scores while others are hitting.
6. Park carts behind the green (or as far past the green as possible) that way you are getting out of the way of the group behind you much sooner.
7. If one in your group has a ball that is difficult to find it is faster for 4 people to look than just one.
8. If a shot appears to be lost or out of bounds you should hit a “provisional” ball. That way you won’t have to go all the way back to hit again (Provisional ball cannot be played for a ball that is hit in a hazard).
9. If you have extra clubs on the green while putting...lay them on the green in such a way that you will trip over them on the way to your cart! This will avoid having to go back a hole later to retrieve them.

Have Fun! Tee It Forward....play from the tees suited to your game, where you can carry the full distance to reach the green in regulation.

Education on the proper protocol of golf is the most important responsibility of a golfer.