

EMGA EXPECTATIONS

Per our Constitution, the EMGA is a social golf organization established to enhance our members' golf experience and promote proper course care, golf etiquette and good sportsmanship while enjoying increased competition and greater camaraderie. The purpose of this document is a friendly reminder to both new and current members of the expectations of EMGA members in promoting these values.

1. Have integrity in being your own referee.
 - a. We do not realistically expect a member to know every rule, sub-rule, and clarification – even the experts carry books with them. Downloading the Rules of Golf app to your mobile phone is an excellent tool to use whenever you are in doubt.
 - b. Also feel free to ask another member of your group what are the rules and/or your options. Asking what the rule says does not constitute asking for advice. Asking which option they recommend though is asking for advice; and a two-stroke penalty.
 - c. Similarly, if you see a member about to make, or made, a rule infraction, let him know. Some violations must be corrected before going on to the next hole and the last thing any EMGA event committee wants to do is DQ a member.
 - d. Additionally, as most of our EMGA events are stroke play, our mission is to protect the field. You could get a penalty under USGA Rule 1.3c(3) if you see someone else making a rule breach and do not take action.
 - e. Finally, always feel free to reach out to our Rules Committee Chair, Tom McKernan, thomasmckernan3460@msn.com. Plus his winter rules refreshers are also excellent sources for learning.
2. Help your pairing keep up their Pace of Play to match our goal of under 4.5 hours per round. There is an EGC Local Rule governing Pace of Play which can result in penalty stroke(s) to every member of the group if a pairing is playing too slow.

Here are some tips to help maintain Pace of Play:

- a. Number 1 - Communicate with your group if you are falling behind on the need to speed up play.
- b. All EMGA events (except Match Play) should be played as Ready Golf to include a focus minimizing your group's time on the tee.
- c. Play a provisional anytime your ball goes into the woods or a deep native area that is not a penalty area.
- d. Once you are off the tee, think ahead and plan your shot before you get to the ball.
- e. Determine your yardage and make your club selection before it is your turn to play.
- f. If you take your glove off between shots, have it back on before it is your turn to play.
- g. Be ready to hit when it is your turn and keep your pre-shot routine short – notionally under 40 seconds from club selection to pre-shot routine to execution.
- h. Start moving toward your next shot promptly.

- i. When sharing a cart, do not wait in the cart while your cart mate hits and then drive to your ball. Get out and walk to your ball with a few clubs. Be ready to play when it is your turn and then let your cart mate pick you up. Or drive to your ball after you drop your cart mate off and then pick him up after you hit.
 - j. Follow the flight of all tee shots, not just your own, and help others look for their ball if you already know the location of yours.
 - k. Volunteer to fill in a divot or rake a bunker for another player if needed.
 - l. Be efficient on the putting green. Mark your ball and lift and clean it when you arrive on the green.
 - m. Line up your putt while others are putting if it will not disturb them.
 - n. Leave your clubs on the side of the putting green closest to the next tee.
 - o. Wait until the next tee to record your score.
3. Maintain your self-control. None of us are that good to get that mad.
 - a. If you must cuss, do it silently. We encourage members to play with as many different other members as possible during a season, be aware not everyone appreciates foul language or taking the Lord's name in vain.
 - b. Do not throw your club, even if you take care to aim away from everyone else. If your shot can go that bad, so could your club.
4. Show respect for other individuals on the course, not just in your grouping or in the EMGA.
 - a. Within your group, avoid disturbing play by moving, talking, or making unnecessary noise once another member addresses his ball.
 - b. Refrain from standing close to or directly behind the ball or directly behind the hole when a golfer is about to play.
 - c. Be careful not to step on or press your putter down on someone's line of putt, especially when marking or pulling your ball out of the hole
 - d. Do not stand on or cast a shadow over another player's line of putt.
 - e. Ensure any electronic device taken onto the course does not distract other players. This includes other groups on the course: e.g., on the green adjacent to your tee box or vice versa; and on an adjacent fairway.
 - f. Watch out that no other members are standing close by or in a position to be hit by the club, the ball, or any stones, pebbles, twigs, or the like when making a stroke or practice swing.
 - g. Yell "FORE" if your ball goes in a direction where there is a danger of hitting someone.
 - h. Wait until the players in front are out of range.
5. Also respect both the Eisenhower Golf Club staff and EMGA officers/committee members.
 - a. Do not debate or berate a Marshall if asked to speed up play.
 - b. Use the appropriate sign-up system, by the appropriate deadlines, so that the EMGA committee running the event knows you are playing.
 - c. If you need to cancel, make sure someone on the event committee knows ASAP. Even if it is calling the morning of.

- d. For Home and Aways, pay your entry fee at least one week out from the first event.
 - e. For Tournaments, check in with the Tournament Committee by the designated show time.
 - f. For OPCs, report to the tee box at least 10 minutes early.
 - g. Be courteous to the starters when tee times are running behind.
 - h. Turn in your scorecard before taking your clubs to your car.
 - i. Realize money is not posted to your account for at least 5 days to ensure all payouts are correct.
6. Leave the course in as good of shape, if not better, then you found it.
- a. Repair your divots. If someone in your group has a sand bottle, replace the grass first and then pour sand over it.
 - b. Rake your bunker or ask another member to do so if it is still your turn.
 - c. Repair your ball mark on the green.
 - d. For all three above – repair one more divot or ball mark and/or rake one more set of prints in a bunker.
 - e. Do not lean on your club on the green, especially when removing a ball from the hole.
 - f. Keep all 4 tires of your cart on the cart paths, especially by the tee boxes and greens.
 - g. Pair up in carts whenever possible. There should not be more than two carts per foursome.
 - h. Unless handicapped, please keep all carts at least 20 yards from the green, even if the hole does not have cart signs.
7. Finally, post all your valid scores; not just the ones on the Academy; and not just the ones in the Colorado, especially if in a southern state during the winter. Again, golf is a game of integrity and none of our purse monies are large enough to compromise yours.

Your Executive Committee