

RULES OF SHANGHAI GOLF IN BRIEF

Throughout this document the word 'act' is referring to the current Prohibited Weapons Act. or prohibited weapon regulation in your state or territory where applicable.

INTRODUCTION

Shanghai Golf is a game in which a ball is launched with a purpose build Shanghai from a prepared area, known as the "teeing ground", onto the fairway then onto the "putting green".

The object of the game is to complete what is known as a hole by playing a ball from the teeing ground into the hole on the putting green in the fewest possible number of shots / strokes. A "round of golf" consists of playing 18 holes.

There are basically two forms of play, one which is decided by holes won and lost (match play) and the other which is decided by the total number of strokes taken to complete the round (stroke play).

There are three important principles to remember when playing Shanghai Golf:

1. Play the course as you find it.
2. Play the Ball from the area it lies and no closer to the hole.
3. If you can't do either, do what's fair.

To do what's fair you need to know the Rules. The following is a summary of the Rules simplified where possible.

ETIQUETTE

Etiquette covers both Courtesy and Priority on the Course as well as Care of the Course.

Whilst the following points are not rules as such, they are an important part of the game.

1. Don't move, talk or stand close to a player making a shot and never be in front that player.
2. Don't play until the group in front is out of the way and out of range.
3. Always play without delay.
4. Leave the putting green as soon as all players in your group have holed out, then leave the green in the direction of the next teeing area.
5. Invite faster groups to play through.
6. Smooth foot prints in bunkers.
7. Don't step on the line of another player's putt.
8. Don't drop clubs on the putting green and above all repair all lob marks.
9. Replace the flagstick carefully and do not stand too close to the edge of the hole.

DEFINITIONS

The Definitions section of these Rules contains over forty Definitions which form the foundation around which the rules of play are written. A good knowledge of the defined terms will help in the correct application of the Rules. These include:

Teeing Ground - the starting place for the hole, defined by coloured tee-markers.

Through the Green - the whole area of the golf course except the teeing ground and putting green of the hole being played and all hazards.

Hazards - any bunker or water hazard.

Putting Green - an area specially prepared for putting and containing a 4 1/2 inch diameter hole.

Out of Bounds - ground on which play is prohibited i.e. not part of the course. A ball is out of bounds when all of it lies out of bounds.

Loose Impediments - natural objects such as stones, leaves and twigs provided they are not fixed or growing, are not solidly embedded and are not sticking to the ball.

Obstructions - any manmade object, except:

- (1) objects defining out of bounds
- (2) any part of an immovable man-made object which is out of bounds; and
- (3) any construction declared by the Committee in the Local Rules to be an integral part of the course.

Casual Water - any temporary accumulation of water on the course which is visible before or after the player takes his stance (dew and frost are not casual water).

Ground Under Repair (GUR)- any portion of the course so marked by the Committee.

This also includes material piled for removal and a hole made by a green keeper, even if not so marked.

THE RULES OF PLAY

GENERAL POINTS

Before commencing your round:

- (1) Read the Local Rules on the local rules boards and the back of the score card.
- (2) Put an identification mark on your ball. Many golfers play the same brand of ball and if you can't identify your ball, it's lost.
- (3) Check your equipment, you can only have one Shanghai and one Putter

During the round, don't ask for "advice" from anyone except your partner or caddie. Don't give advice to anyone except your partner. During a hole you may not play a practice stroke.

TEeing OFF

You can tee off up to 2 paces behind the front line of the tee markers. Play ready golf when appropriate. Make sure other players are not in front of you when you play your shot.

Teeing off outside this area - in match play there is no penalty but your opponent may ask you to replay your stroke; in stroke play you incur a two-stroke penalty and must then play from within the proper area.

PLAYING THE BALL

Play the ball from the spot you found it and no nearer the hole. Don't improve the position of your shot, the area of your intended shot or your line of play by moving, bending or breaking anything fixed or growing except in fairly taking your stance or making your shot. Don't press anything down or build a stance.

If your ball lies in a bunker or a water hazard retrieve your ball with either a ball retrieval stick or by going into the Hazard, should the Hazard be a Bunker the Bunker must be raked out to remove all marks made by the ball or foot prints. All relief from Hazards incurs one penalty shot to be added to your score for that hole.

Playing a wrong ball (except in a hazard) - in match play you lose the hole; in stroke play you incur a two-stroke penalty and you must then play the correct ball.

ON THE PUTTING GREEN

You may repair ball marks and old hole plugs on the line of your putt but not any other damage, including spike marks.

You may mark, lift and clean your ball on the putting green. Always replace it on the exact spot. Marking is to be behind the ball not in front or to the side.

Don't test the putting surface by scraping it or rolling a ball over it.

Ball played from putting green strikes flagstick - in match play you lose the hole; in stroke play you incur a two-stroke penalty.

BALL AT REST MOVED

If your ball is at rest and it is moved by you, your partner or your caddie, except as permitted by the Rules, or if it moves after you have addressed it, add a penalty stroke and replace your ball.

If your ball is at rest and is moved by someone else or another ball, replace it without penalty to you.

BALL IN MOTION DEFLECTED OR STOPPED

Ball struck by you is deflected or stopped by you, your partner or your caddie - in match play you lose the hole; in stroke play you incur a two-stroke penalty and the ball is played from the spot where it lies.

Ball struck by you is deflected or stopped by someone else - play your ball from the spot where it lies without penalty, except (a) in match play, if an opponent or his caddie deflects the ball you have an option to replay the stroke or (b) in stroke play, if the ball is deflected after a stroke from on the putting green, you must replay it.

Ball struck by you is deflected or stopped by another ball at rest - in matchplay, no penalty and the ball is played from where it lies except. In stroke play you incur a two-stroke penalty if your ball and the other ball were on the putting green before you played.

LIFTING, DROPPING AND PLACING THE BALL

If a lifted ball is to be replaced, it's position must be marked. If a ball is to be dropped or placed in any other position (eg. taking relief from GUR –*ground under repair*, etc.) it is recommended that the ball's original position be marked. When dropping, stand erect, hold the ball at shoulder height and arm's length and drop it. If a dropped ball strikes you or your partner, caddie, equipment or rolls closer to the hole it must be re-dropped without penalty.

BALL INTERFERING WITH OR ASSISTING PLAY

You may lift your ball if it might assist any other player.

You may have any ball lifted if it might interfere with your play or assist any other player.

LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS

You may move loose impediments on the green and fairway.

OBSTRUCTIONS

Check the Local Rules on the score card for guidance on immovable obstructions (e.g. surfaced roads and paths etc)

Movable obstructions (eg. rakes, tin cans etc.) anywhere on the course may be moved.

If an immovable obstruction (eg. a water fountain) interferes with your stance or shot, you may drop the ball within one club-length of the nearest point of relief not nearer the hole and play from that spot.

There is no relief for intervention on your line of play unless your ball and the obstruction are on the putting green.

CASUAL WATER, GROUND UNDER REPAIR etc.

If your ball is in casual water, ground under repair (GUR) or a hole or cast made by a burrowing animal eg. a rabbit, you may drop without penalty within one club-length of the nearest point of relief not nearer the hole.

WATER HAZARDS

Check the Local Rules on the score card to establish whether the sea, lake, river etc. is a 'water hazard' or a 'lateral water hazard'.

Ball in water hazard – must be removed and played no nearer the hole, under penalty of one stroke,

(a) drop any distance behind the water hazard keeping a straight line between the hole, the point where the ball crossed the margin of the water hazard and spot on which the ball is dropped, or

(b) play again from where you hit the ball into the hazard.

Ball in lateral water hazard - in addition to the options for a ball in a water hazard (see above), under penalty of one stroke, you must play your shot within two club-lengths of:

(a) the point where the ball crossed the margin of the hazard or

(b) a point on the opposite side of the hazard equidistant from the hole.

BALL LOST OR OUT OF BOUNDS

Check the Local Rules on the score card to identify the boundaries of the course. If your ball is lost outside a water hazard or out of bounds you must play another ball from the spot where the last shot was played under penalty of one stroke i.e. stroke and distance. You are allowed 5 minutes to search for a ball, after which if it is not found or identified it is lost. If, after playing a shot, you think your ball may be lost outside a water hazard or out of bounds you may play a 'provisional ball'. You must state that it is a provisional ball and play it before you go forward to search for the original ball. If the original ball is lost or out of bounds you must continue with the provisional ball under penalty of one stroke. If the original ball is not lost or out of bounds, you must continue play of the hole with it and the provisional ball must be abandoned.

BALL UNPLAYABLE

If you believe your ball is unplayable outside a water hazard (and you are the sole judge), you may under penalty of one stroke,

(a) drop within two club-lengths of where the ball lies not nearer the hole,

(b) drop any distance behind the point where the ball lay keeping a straight line between the hole, the point where the ball lay and the spot on which the ball is dropped, or

(c) replay the shot from where you last played

CONCLUSION

A good score may be spoiled, or a match lost, due to a penalty incurred through ignorance or confusion concerning the rules. A sound knowledge of the above summary should aid the player in tackling a "rules problem".

SHANGHAI GOLF ADDITIONAL RULES

There will be no playing from within any hazard which includes bunkers. Should your ball come to rest within a hazard the ball will be lifted and played no nearer the hole and the player will incur a one shot penalty, which is to be added to the score for that hole.

Should the ball be prematurely launched forward in the process of retracting the rubbers you will be deemed to have made a shot and this will be added to your score for the hole, your next shot will be played from where the first shot finished.

Should a rubber break during a shot the shot is counted and the next shot will be played from where the original shot finished.

Teeing areas will be nominated on the score card for each course.

All course local rules must be complied with.

Golf / Shanghai Golf Etiquette

Golf etiquette is an extremely important part of the game of golf. The etiquette golfer's show to one another out on the course is one of the things that distinguishes golf from all other sports. But what is etiquette? And this will be the case with Shanghai Golf.

Etiquette has to do with manners. Whether you are talking about etiquette at the dinner table, in school, in your family or out at the movies with your friends, etiquette is important. It is through the courtesy we show to other people that we communicate our respect for them.

Golf and Shanghai Golf is a game that requires a lot of concentration. If you are trying to make a putt, or play your tee shot into a narrow Fairway, it will be much more difficult if someone is laughing, rattling their clubs, or running around the tee or green.

There are a few rules of etiquette that apply in all situations on the golf course and the practice area and there are other rules of etiquette that are particular to certain circumstances, especially on the green. Here, we will review the general applications of Golf / Shanghai Golf Etiquette.

SAFETY

The first and foremost rule of etiquette is safety. This rule applies to young and old alike. Without some good common sense and a notion of how hard golf balls and equipment are, a golf course can be a very dangerous place. So here are some safety rules to always follow on the golf course:

Don't take practice swings or shots toward another person as it's rude

Don't swing your clubs / equipment when someone is walking around - and don't walk around when someone is swinging or making a shot.

PACE OF PLAY

As much as people enjoy playing golf and Shanghai Golf, they don't want their round to take all day. If golfers have to wait too long in between shots they get impatient and they lose their momentum. So here are some things you can do to maintain a good pace of play:

Plan your shot before it's your turn and play without delay (don't wait until your turn to start thinking about how you will play the shot, or whether to go over the water or lay up to it - be ready in advance).

As you approach the green determine in which direction the next tee is located and leave your equipment (or park your cart) on that side of the green.

When playing from a motorised cart, if one player is on one side of the fairway and the other player on the opposite side, drop one player off at his or her ball then drive to the next player's ball and meet farther down the fairway, after both have hit their shots.

Keep up with the group ahead of you. As they leave the green you should be ready to hit up to the green. Don't worry about how far ahead you are of the group behind you, focus on staying a reasonable distance from the group ahead.

QUIET

Quiet is required on the golf course. Golf and Shanghai Golf requires lots of concentration, and even if the people in your immediate group don't seem to be bothered, there are other groups all around you. So keep your voice down. Walk, don't run. Running around is annoying, distracting and causes damage to the course. Walk quickly, but lightly.

HITTING INTO THE GROUP AHEAD OF YOU

Minding your "Pace of Play" will help you stay with the group ahead and you will be sure not to delay any groups playing behind you. At the same time you are being careful to stay with the group ahead, you must also be careful not to be so close that you play your ball into that group. If your ball was to be played and hit one of the players in that group it could be very tragic and become a legal issue, so be careful that all golfers are out of range before you make a shot. Sometimes there are golfers who get very impatient if a group is playing slowly ahead of them; that is understandable. However, it is never acceptable to try to speedup that group by playing a ball at them to send them a message that you are getting tired of waiting. If you are tired of waiting, walk ahead to their group and ask them to speed up play, but never hit into them.

"PLAYING THROUGH"

Playing Through another group is one of the most difficult and contentious parts of golf. It is difficult because, often, there is an implication that the group who is "being played through" is guilty of slow play and they typically resent that implication -- even if it's true. So if you are going to ask another group to allow you to play through them, do so in a courteous manner and at a convenient time in the round.

Here are some tips regarding Playing Through:

Be sure there is room for you to properly play through before you ask permission. (If there is another group immediately ahead of the group you are asking, they will naturally decline to let you through and they will be annoyed that you bothered them.)

Be courteous and quick as you play your shots in playing through if you hit bad shots (which often happens because there is extra pressure when you are playing through). If you are playing slowly (more than a hole between you and the group ahead of you) and you think the group behind might want to play through, invite them to do so. It might be convenient when you are on a green. Wave them up, stand aside and let them hit up to the green. As they are walking up to the green you can putt out. Then allow them to tee off before you on the next tee.

PLAY READY GOLF WHENEVER IT'S APPROPRIATE

If you are not playing golf in an actual tournament, or other sanctioned event, it is okay to play "ready golf". Ready golf means the golfer who is ready to play a shot can do so even though he or she may not be farthest away from the hole but make sure other players are in front of when you play your shot. Just agree ahead with the others in your group that you will play ready golf when it makes sense. That way they won't think you are just unaware of the rules. It is good courtesy to acknowledge that you are playing ready golf to move things along.

Ready golf can really help to speed things along, but before you play be sure that everyone in your group knows that you are going to play a shot and that you are aware of where everyone in your group is. You certainly do not want to hit someone who is not paying attention, nor do you want several people hitting at one time.

GOLF CARTS

You don't need a driver's license to drive a golf cart on the course, but you do need some common sense and a great deal of respect for the course and the players around you. If you are driving a motorised cart, drive at a moderate speed and keep your eyes open for other golfers. Depending on weather conditions and other variables courses will post different rules relating to the use of carts. Be sure to obey the course rules regarding the use of carts.

Always, under all circumstances, keep all carts, motorised or pull-carts away from the greens and off the teeing ground. Often the course will post signs giving directions as to where they want you to park your cart; follow the directions.

LOCAL GOLF COURSE RULES

Local rules are normally placed on a notice board next to the first teeing area or in a location near where you will pay your fees. These rules are made by the golf club committee to allow for unusual situations that may occur on a golf course due to adverse conditions which will allow the game to be played without unfair disadvantage to the players. These rules may be changed or altered as the committee see fit so it is important that every player make them selves aware of the local rules prior to playing each game. This is applicable to all golf courses.

CARE AND WARNINGS OF SHANGHAI GOLF EQUIPMENT

WARNING:

This equipment is solely for the purpose of playing Shanghai Golf on approved Golf Courses and Practice Ranges and no other use or locations

To be used with only approved Golf Balls

Eye Protection must be worn at all times whilst using this equipment

Shanghai Golf is only intended to be used and played out doors on approved Golf Courses or Driving Ranges

Balls may travel in unanticipated directions. High speed balls can cause severe injury. Never aim balls directly at people, pets, animals or property.

All players must obtain a Prohibited Weapons Permit- Sporting prior to purchase of this equipment, proof of permit is mandatory

Never leave Shanghai Golf Equipment unattended at any time

CARE INSTRUCTIONS:

Always inspect rubbers for excessive wear and for secure attachment before and during each use.

Do not use if rubbers are worn, damaged or not secure

When rubbers show signs of wear, replace immediately with new Certified Shanghai Golf Rubbers

Eye Protection MUST be worn at all times when using this equipment

Never leave this equipment in direct sunlight as this will damage the rubbers

Never point or aim this equipment at another person animal or property

REPLACEMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Take off the old or damage rubbers by sliding off the top of the fork and replace with a new set of rubbers.
2. Make certain the rubber is pushed down into the recess that has been manufactured for the rubbers to fit in to.
3. Stretch the rubbers to make sure they are secure before attempting to launch a ball

Note: All replacement parts are to be purchased from Shanghai Golf Australia or their authorised resellers

SAFETY AND SAFE STORAGE OF THE EQUIPMENT

Section 26 Weapons Prohibition Act 1998

A person who possesses a prohibited weapon must take all reasonable precautions to ensure:

- (a) its safe keeping, and
- (b) that it is not stolen or lost, and
- (c) that it does not come into the possession of a person who is not authorized to possess the weapon

HOW SHANGHAI GOLF IS PLAYED

There are 4 pieces of equipment required to play Shanghai Golf, the Shanghai Ball Launcher, a Golf Putter, Safety Glasses and a Golf Ball. The game is played on a golf course from the nominated teeing areas, all the rules of golf apply with the inclusion of additional Shanghai Golf Rules supplied. All competitions are the same as in golf and scored the same. There may be an alternative golf course card to the normal course card for all courses that you can play on.

To start it is very important that all players stay behind the player making their shot. The Shanghai is held in your favoured hand with the forearm brace on your arm and your arm straight, the golf ball is centered in the sling the ball is gripped with your other hand. Now with your favoured arm straight point the Shanghai at the ground, now retract the ball and rubbers with your other hand as far as you need then whilst holding that hand in this position now raise the Shanghai until it is pointing at the desired height and direction making sure the ball is aimed between the forks (this action further increases the stretch of the rubbers) now release your retracting hand off of the ball and watch the ball being launched forward. Multiple shots are launched until the ball is on the putting green where you then use the conventional putter to get the ball into the hole. All shots and strokes are added together to give you a score for the hole. It is important that the ball is centered into the sling and aimed through the forks to prevent the ball skewing and hitting the forks when released.

Putting is an essential skill needed to be learnt, (which can be learnt in the comfort of your home) basically putting is making a smooth stroke with a putter at the ball (without hitting the putting surface) which make the ball roll towards the intended line of play. Putter come in many shapes and sizes which you can purchase to suit yourself. There are several recommended putting grips – Over Lap, Reverse Over Lap, Split Grip, Back Hand and Ten Finger Grip. All of these grips have been demonstrated and explained during the training course. There is one preferred putting action which is the pendulum method again which has been demonstrated and explained. There are many variations of both the grip and stroke but the preferred ones have only been mentioned.

All activities must be undertaken under the supervision of the authorized supervisor, unless participants are holders of individual permits authorising possession and use of the Shanghai for the purpose of the sport.

You should always carry spare rubbers golf balls and lob mark repairer in the case that a rubber fails or you lose a golf ball or you need to repair a lob mark whether it has been made by you or someone else.

Only certified Shanghai Golf card holders will be allowed to play on approved golf courses provided they have a Prohibited Weapons Permit for this sport. A nominal annual fee is required to maintain certification and registration with Shanghai Golf Australia. Equipment can only be purchase through Shanghai Golf Australia or one of their authorised resellers.

DRESS REGULATIONS

The following dress is not considered suitable and not permitted on the golf course or in the club house:

- Ripple soled shoes
- Rubber thongs
- Abbreviated shorts
- Singlet tops
- Board shorts
- Football shirts, shorts or socks
- Tee shirts or shirts with excessive logos

It should be left to the good taste of players to always dress suitably to play the game, such as suitable collard golf shirt, slacks or shorts with approved sports socks predominately white.

In the club house sandals and soft spiked shoes are acceptable.

Players need to remove hats or caps before entering the club house

CODE OF CONDUCT

It is a requirement that all persons participating in Shanghai Golf must abide by this code of conduct and etiquette and must comply with all instructions and directions of the supervisor or nominated course officials.

At no time is this equipment to be left anywhere unsecured when not being in use or carried.

If the equipment used is the property of the supervisor, it must be returned directly to the supervisor at the completion of the session, who will secure it in accordance with the act. If the equipment is the property of the person using it they are required to secure it themselves in accordance with the act.

The safe keeping of this equipment is a major concern and failure to keep the items secure as set out in the act will result in the permit being revoked whether it is a supervisor or an individual.

The game must be played with due diligence and care, as intended by the Shanghai Golf Australia

All players must pay the appropriate fees prior to any play

All players must show proof of identity & current permit when paying fees

All players must remain behind the player while he / she is making a shot

All players must be in possession of a current valid ID card

Golf course Etiquette and Dress rules must be adhered to at all times

The slingshot equipment should never be aimed or launched at or within reasonable vicinity of another person, animal or property

The golf ball should never be launched unless the players ahead are out of range

All bunkers must be raked if entered to retrieve a ball

Any lob mark or indentation made on the green by the ball or other means must be repaired

Local rules must be read before play and adhered to

Players must play without undue delay

All mobile phones *if allowed onto the golf course* should be turned off or set to vibrate

Noise must be kept to a minimum for the benefit of all players

If using a cart allocated tracks or paths must be used

Slow players must let faster players play through

All equipment must be left at the nearest point closest to the next tee whilst putting out

All cards are to be marked on the next tee

Greens staff have the right of way at all times on the course and should not be hit up on

Note: Failure to comply with this code of conduct may lead to a player being ejected from the Golf Course and being refused future access to play Shanghai Golf. As the slingshot equipment is a Prohibited Weapon all players will need to obtain a Prohibited Weapons – Sporting Permit or be under direct supervision by an authorized instructor.

Any misuse of a prohibited weapon by any player will be reported to the Police for relevant criminal or civil proceedings. Use of a prohibited weapon other than in connection with the purpose authorized by the permit, or in breach of the conditions of the permit are offences punishable by up to 14 years imprisonment.