

RIVERBEND GOLF CLUB RULES

The Riverbend Golf Club, a Florida Corporation is the administrator of its affairs, development, and enforcement. The Golf Board of Directors are responsible for the operating rules and the fiscal condition of the Golf Club. Your board welcomes suggestions and constructive criticism in writing to better serve the needs and wishes of our entire membership.

SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.1 Club property shall not be removed from the premises without permission of the Board of Directors. Costs of repairs to Club property, including golf carts, damaged by members, lessees or guests will be charged to those responsible.
- 1.2 In case of a conflict between these rules and the By-Laws, the By-Laws shall govern.
- 1.3 All members of the Riverbend Golf Club shall abide by these rules and all rules of the Riverbend Condominium Association which pertain. Members shall be responsible for the actions of their families, guests and lessees. Violations of these rules may result in a fine or suspension of play or as otherwise stated in the Riverbend Golf Club Bylaws.
- 1.4 With written permission from the Club member, members of the immediate family (children, grandchildren, parents, spouses) will be permitted to use the golf facilities and sign for all charges to the member's account.
- 1.5 There are five (5) membership classes:
 - Riverbend Membership
 - Current North Passage Membership
 - Full Golf Membership
 - Associate Membership (non-voting)
 - Summer Membership (non-voting)
- 1.6 The Pro Shop is located in a segment of the Riverbend Condominium Assn Clubhouse. This, along with the locker room/washroom facilities of the Clubhouse, is available to all Club members, their immediate family, lessees and guests. Availability of the remainder of the Clubhouse is as defined in the Condominium Association Rules.
- 1.7 The lessee(s) of a member's residence, under a written lease agreement for three months or more, shall be entitled to the use of the golf facilities and pay member rates if the lessee applies for such use and pays the "renter/member" fees established by the Board of Directors. The Board shall publish this fee by April 15 for the "Golf Year" October 1 through September 30.
 - a) Prior to leasing, the member must submit to the Board of Directors, an Intent to Lease, a copy of the lease and a membership application for the prospective lessee at least 20 days prior to occupancy. The Lessee will be charged \$100.00 to cover administrative and processing expenses.
 - b) Use of the Golf facilities by lessees is limited to two people. All others shall be considered guests.
 - c) During the term of the lease of a condominium or residence the owner shall be entitled to use the Golf Facilities.
- 1.8 Golf bag storage is available at the cart barn for a nominal fee for the convenience of the member. A bag storage liability release form must be signed. The Club cannot be responsible for damage or loss.
- 1.9 Walking, being driven or biking to the pro shop is encouraged due to minimal parking availability.
- 1.10 North Passage members may transfer and assign their membership in the Club to the owner of a residence in North Passage. Any transfer and assignment by a member of his membership in the Club shall be by a written assignment agreement signed by both parties on a form provided by the Club. The assignment by a member of the Club of his membership shall be recorded in the Public Records of Martin County, Florida and a copy of the assignment shall be delivered to the Club forthwith after recording.
- 1.11 A member of the Club who fails to pay the periodic assessments or any charges within thirty (30) days after the due date shall be considered delinquent. In addition to any other rights and remedies available to it under the By-Laws, the Club may deny the delinquent member, and/or his lessees and guests, the use of the golf facilities until such time as the delinquent assessments and charges are paid in full.

- 1.12 Members are encouraged to sponsor new Full Golf Members. As an incentive, one 3-month maintenance fee will be credited to the referring members' account provided the new Golf Member completes 1 full year of Golf Membership. There is no maximum number of credits a member can receive. Any potential new members may play one round of golf with you at no charge.

SECTION 2 - GUEST PRIVILEGES

- 2.1 Guest privileges to the same guest may be extended a period of 2 times in a 30-day period, regardless of multiple sponsorship. This restriction does not apply to house guests. A "house guest" is a guest who is temporarily (not to exceed 30 days) staying in the residence of a regular member. A "guest" who is not a "house guest" is a person invited by a member to play golf.
- 2.2 In all cases, guest(s) and house guest(s) must be accompanied in the same golf group by a member. If this is not feasible, prior approval must be obtained through the pro shop which approval may be withheld in very busy times.
- 2.3 Guest privileges in times other than the busy season specified above will be as defined by the Board of Directors, which approval may be withheld in busy times.
- 2.4 All guests will be charged the guest rate for golfing using an electric cart, or the walking fee, as appropriate. Children, grandchildren, parents (including their spouses) of equity members do not pay guest fees.
- 2.5 If a Regular member who is not married does not designate an Annual Guest, as permitted in the Bylaws (Article VIII, Section 6b), prior to the beginning of the "Golf Year", October 1, the Board may, on application, provide that member with up to 10 eighteen-hole guest passes.
If a spouse of a member does not play golf, the Board may, on application, provide that Member with up to 10 eighteen-hole guest passes. In the case of two non-playing members the Board may, on application, provide those members with up to 10 eighteen-hole guest passes, not 10 for each non playing member. If the guest is not to be accompanied by the member, clearance must be obtained as described in section 2.2. Walking passes as described in section 4.3 are available to all lessees who apply as provided in section 1.8. **GUEST PASSES DO NOT INCLUDE CART FEES.**

SECTION 3 - OPERATIONAL RULES

We operate in conjunction with and adhere to **The Game, Player Conduct and the Rules of Golf** as designated by the USGA and the R&A. This defines the Game of Golf, Standards of Players Conduct and Playing by the Rules. <https://www.usga.org>

- 3.1 Every golfer must register in the pro shop prior to play. All play must commence from the 1st tee, with no cutting in except as authorized by the pro shop (exception under walking rules).
- 3.2 All players are required to use Riverbend Golf Club electric carts. Personally owned golf carts outside of Riverbend will be required to pay a trail fee and show proof of insurance. (Exception under "Section 4 – Walking Privileges"). A maximum of 2 people and 2 golf bags are allowed per cart.
- 3.3 Members and guests are responsible for safe operation of golf carts. Park all four wheels of the golf cart on cart paths where provided. Carts must be kept off tees, approaches, and slopes of greens as well as a safe distance from sand and penalty areas (water & other hazard areas). Carts are not to be operated other than the person sitting in the driver seat.
- 3.4 The 90-degree Rule is always in effect at Riverbend. In addition, all carts must stay on the cart path on par 3's. Exception is provided for Disabled Golfers.
- 3.5 Disabled Golfers: A handicapped flag on a golf cart signifies that the driver of said cart has a disability that makes walking to their ball a hardship. To qualify for a Handicap Flag the individual must possess a state approved permanent or temporary disabled parking placard/license plate and be approved by the Director of Golf Operations. Ask the pro shop for the application. All golfers with a disability who use a Handicap Flag must be registered with the pro shop. The following procedures are in effect when using a Handicap Flag:
 - A Handicap Flag only applies to the individual(s) with the disability.
 - An able-bodied golfer riding with a disabled golfer may not take advantage of the Handicap Flag policy and must walk to his or her golf ball.
 - If more than one disabled person is in the group, they must ride together.
 - Golfers with Handicap Flags will be permitted to drive within 20 feet from the greens or tee boxes.
 - The 90-degree rule applies to all golfers.
 - Roped off and ground-under-repair areas are forbidden to ride in.

- Carts must remain on path within 20 feet of tee boxes and greens.
 - Parking carts on slopes/surrounds of any green or tee box is prohibited. Please park the cart on the flattest area possible to avoid injury.
 - Misuse of a Handicap Flag or failure to follow the policy is an infraction. Infractions are outlined under our enforcement of penalties.
 - Please understand that golf cart traffic adversely affects turf and playability. We appreciate your cooperation and exercising good judgement.
 - These rules apply to privately owned golf carts as well.
- 3.6 Unsafe operation of golf carts may result in being removed from the course. Please follow the instructions of the Rangers. Violations will be reported to the Director of Golf Operations and the Golf Board and may result in loss of playing privileges. Any damages to a golf cart and needed repairs will be the responsibility of the golfer.
- 3.7 Carts cannot cross white lines placed for protection of fairway turf. Golf carts are restricted to golf course play and not to be used to transport players and equipment to and from residences. Carts are not permitted on residents' property or the Halfway House.
- 3.8 Push or Pull Carts are only allowed during those times designated for walkers. Carts must carry their own sand for filling divots.
- 3.9 Please repair ball marks on the greens. Timely repair facilitates healing. Fill divots smoothly with sand as provided on each golf cart. Fill divots on tees except when instructed not to (during overseed season). Players entering bunkers shall smooth out and rake all depressions after completing play and before leaving the area. Walkers are required to carry their own sand.
- 3.10 Only two players and two golf bags are permitted on each electric cart. Each player is required to have a set of his or her own clubs. Carts are restricted to golfers for the purpose of playing golf or driving to the golf practice range. Adult non-golfers are not permitted to use a golf cart unless specifically authorized by the pro shop in advance (such as to view tournament play). Children under the age of 16 are not permitted to operate a golf cart, this includes personal carts on the Riverbend Golf Course and must always be accompanied by an adult member.
- 3.11 Dress Code – All members, all guests and all children are required to follow Riverbend golf dress code. It is also expected that members advise their family members and guests of dress code requirements. Gentlemen – golf shorts and pants cannot have external pockets (i.e., cargo pants/shorts). Collared or mock neck shirts are required and must be tucked in. Banded shirts are okay. Hats may not be worn backwards. Ladies – slacks, skirts, skorts and shorts are permissible. Shirts must be traditional women's golf shirts. Inappropriate attire on the golf course and practice facility includes jeans, tee shirts, tank tops, cargo shorts, spandex/gym wear, tennis bottoms and flip flops. The pro shop has the sole authority to enforce the dress code. **NO METAL SPIKE SHOES ALLOWED.**
- 3.12 Children under 16 must receive a "Riverbend Junior Member" card from the pro shop to use the golf course and must have their own set of clubs. The "Riverbend Junior Member" card is issued by the Riverbend Pro Shop upon successfully passing a player ability golf test that demonstrates sufficient skills and knowledge of the rules of golf and etiquette. Children under the age of 6 require Board approval prior to the issuance of the "Riverbend Junior Member" card and will require one adult per child under the age of 6 while playing on the course.
- All standard golf fees are applicable to children including cart and walking passes.
 - Children under 16 require a walking pass to walk after hours and must have an adult member supervising their play.
 - Children under 16 are not allowed on the golf course before 1:00 pm, unless expressly approved by the Pro Shop.
 - Children under 10 are not allowed on the golf course during league play hours and scheduled tournaments.
 - Children in arms or strollers are not allowed at any time on the golf course or driving range.
 - Adults will be held responsible for any damage caused by a child in their care.
 - Children creating a disruption, not behaving appropriately, or causing damage, will be asked to leave the course.

- 3.13 Empty bottles, cans, cigarette butts and other litter are to be placed in receptacles as provided.
- 3.14 Tee time reservations may be made as much as two weeks in advance for equity members and one week in advance for non-equity members with the online Riverbend Tee Time Reservation system available on the Riverbend Website, "www.riverbendfl.com". You can also call the pro shop to reserve a tee time. Electric carts must be returned to the cart barn attendants before 6PM except on designated late play days.
- 3.15 Play in foursomes is always encouraged. If you have a twosome or threesome, allow the pro shop to assist you in creating a foursome.
- 3.16 Foursomes have priority on the course. Consideration should be given to allowing faster players to play through when there is an open hole ahead. Twosomes and threesomes must retain their position on the course unless invited to play through.
- 3.17 The objective for a foursome is to play "Ready Golf". Please complete play in 3 hours and 45 minutes or less. Slow play is the biggest detriment to people not taking up and quitting the game. Socialize afterwards, everyone will appreciate it.
- 3.18 Due to insurance restrictions and golf club contracts for the retrieval of balls from all ponds, balls hit into the water, during play, may be retrieved only at that time. **Entering into the ponds at any other time is not allowed for any reason.**
- 3.19 Domesticated animals are not permitted on Riverbend Golf Club property. This includes any domesticated animal considered to be an Emotional Support Animal unless specifically approved by the Riverbend Golf Club.

SECTION 4 - WALKING PRIVILEGES

- 4.1 The Riverbend Golf Club extends to its members, lessees and their guests the unique privilege of walking the course when golfing. WALKING ON THE COURSE FOR ANY OTHER REASON IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED to ALL RESIDENTS, MEMBERS and VISITORS.
- 4.2 The course is available for walking, weather permitting, 365 days of the year after 4:00 P.M. or check for the posted times in the Pro Shop. In addition, the course is available for walking when the Pro Shop is closed during the off season.
- 4.3 Each member or lessee desirous of walking privileges will be issued a new "Walking Pass" or a validated pass updated annually for a fee. These passes will be issued by the Pro Shop and are not transferable. If a member has passed their 80th birthday when making application for the Walking Pass, there will be no fee.
- 4.4 If a member is desirous of having a guest use walking privileges the guest must be accompanied by the member. There will be a daily charge for the guest. This walking guest fee can be paid for in three ways - 1. at the Pro Shop before beginning, 2. call the Pro Shop and charge it to your account, or 3. sign a charge slip presented by Ranger personnel on the course. **No cash can be accepted.** A two-part color-coded, dated ticket will be issued to validate the charge. This ticket must be in the possession of the guest walker.
- 4.5 Every walker must be prepared to present the proper credentials to Ranger personnel upon request. Those walkers without the proper credentials will be asked to leave the course or the daily walking charge will be assessed if the guest is eligible to have walking privileges.
- 4.6 Walking privileges do not apply to the practice range. See Golf Practice Range Rules for clarification.
- 4.7 WALKERS MUST ALLOW THE IMMEDIATE RIGHT OF WAY TO PLAYERS DRIVING ELECTRIC CARTS.

SECTION 5 - GOLF PRACTICE RANGE RULES

- 5.1 The range, which includes the chipping green, is open to members, lessees with golf privileges, and guests accompanied by members of Riverbend Golf Club. Children under 16 do not need the "Riverbend Junior Member" card when practicing but must always be accompanied by an adult member.
- 5.2 There are no fees to utilize the range other than the rental of a small or large bucket of range balls. Golf carts will be assigned, if available, free of fee, to access and exit the range. No carts used for this purpose can be used to play any holes on the golf course without first signing up in the pro shop for a round of golf.
- 5.3 The Practice Range is for use of rented balls only and opens at 8AM. Balls must be purchased online or from the pro shop. Range balls and carts are not issued after 3:30PM. The range will be closed at 4PM to allow the retrieval of range balls by Riverbend staff.

5.4 After 5:00 P.M., the range, similar to Walking Privileges, is open to members using their **own** golf balls and accessing the range on foot. Such users must retrieve their golf balls and police the area before leaving.

5.5 Range balls are property of the Golf Club and are not to be removed from the practice range. **Use of range balls on the golf course is strictly forbidden and violators are subject to suspension of golf privileges by the Golf Board.**

5.6 The Club Professional and students have exclusive use of the range during the group clinic sessions (schedule and registration in the pro shop).

NOTE: All practice shots are to be made from the teeing area at the west end of the range toward the east end except for practice prior to 8:30 A.M. shotgun starts and any lessons being given by the Club Professional.

5.7 All range users are to pause and allow golfers who are in the range area while actually playing either the 8th or 11th holes on the golf course to play through. This is in the area of both courtesy and safety.

5.8 Approach the range from the pro shop with caution! Golfers on hole #11 or on the range itself may not see you coming.

5.9 Range users are required to replace their divots with sand and return baskets and unused balls to the cart barn.

SECTION 6 - LIGHTNING POLICY AND PROCEDURES

6.1 Lightning causes many deaths and injuries on golf courses every year. Florida has the highest incidence of lightning in the United States.

6.2 To help avoid exposure to this danger, the following will occur: Riverbend Golf Club will utilize an M10/P10 Optical Lightning Detector or other state of the art means to determine if lightning is in the area. When lightning is detected, a prolonged note on our warning devices will be sounded!

6.3 When the alarm is heard, it is mandatory to discontinue play immediately and seek shelter. **THE COURSE IS CLOSED!** The best procedure is to return to the clubhouse. Avoid isolated trees, elevated tees or other high places and anything metal. The halfway house is not a lightning shelter. Clearance to resume play will consist of 3 blasts on the warning devices.

6.4 The presence of a flashing white light indicates alarm mode is active.

SECTION 7 – MEMORIALS

A member who wishes to honor a deceased Riverbend Golf Club member with a memorial should contact the Golf Board of Directors to discuss the memorial proposal.

SECTION 8 - ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES

Enforcement procedures are as stated in the Riverbend Golf Club Bylaws. Any reference in the bylaws or other statements of the Golf Club to the Rules and/or Regulations shall be to these Rules. Each member is invited to report to the Board, in writing, incidents that are contrary to these Rules.

Enforcement of Penalties:

Any penalty associated with a rules violation will be at the discretion of the Golf Board.

1. A first offense will result in a letter of understanding and or warning being issued to the Golf Member.
2. A second offense could result in a loss of all golf privileges for up to 30 days.
3. Subsequent offenses could result in longer suspensions and loss of playing privileges. Also, at the discretion of the Golf Board, repeat offender's names can be posted in the Golf Board Minutes.

Examples of rules infractions:

- Driving or hitting into other players, swearing at employees and volunteer rangers, etc.
- Not adhering to Disabled Golfer Cart Policy.
- Using range balls on the golf course (balls stay on range only).
- Operating a golf cart in an unsafe manner or damaging a golf cart.
- Damaging any area of the course, i.e., not filling divots. SLOW PLAY will be addressed directly by the Director of Golf Operations as well as the league president(s).

If a member wishes to appeal a penalty, they can send a letter to the Golf Board Secretary requesting a face to face or virtual meeting.

ALL PERSONS USING THE GOLF COURSE AND DRIVING RANGE DO SO AT THEIR OWN RISK.

NO LIABILITY IS ASSUMED BY THE RIVERBEND GOLF CLUB, INC.