

Be Prepared & Be Ready to Play

Carry extra tees, ball markers and an extra ball in your pockets.

On the tee, pay attention to your partners' drives. If someone loses sight of her ball, you can help direct her to it and avoid any searching.

Use the time you spend getting to your ball to think about the next shot - the yardage, the club selection. When you reach your ball you'll need less time to figure out the shot.

If using a cart on a cart-path only day, take more than one club with you when you walk from the cart to your ball.

Try playing ready golf, where order of play is based on who's ready, not on who's away.

Never delay making a stroke because you're having a conversation with a playing partner. Put the conversation on hold, make your stroke, then pick up the conversation again.

When chipping around the green, carry both the club you'll be chipping with plus your putter.

Begin reading the green and lining up putts as soon as you reach the green.

Don't bother marking lag putts - go ahead and putt out if it's short enough.

After putting out, don't stand around the green chatting or take any practice putting strokes.

When using a cart, never park the cart in front of the green. Park it only to the side or behind the green. Don't mark your scorecard while sitting in the cart next to the green (do it at the next tee). These practices open up the green for the group behind.

Use the groups ahead of you and behind you to gauge your pace. If the group that teed off directly in front of you is pulling away - putting a full hole's distance between them and your group - you need to speed up.