

## Rules of Tees:

To The Committee:

It has long been my opinion that a critical element of our Golf Equipment has not been satisfactorily addressed in the Rules governing Golf\*, and has not received the attention to which it is due.

Some golfers may use these playing devices in excess of 20 times in the course of a round. I myself, had cause to use one on no less than 22 occasions in a recent round.

I refer of course to the oft neglected, but critically important Golf Tee – it is truly The Golfers Friend.

I attach my proposals to control the use (and potential abuse) of the Golf Tee in Kinsale Golf Club. I suggest (for the most part) that these rules should apply both to the ladies and the men's clubs. I am happy to propose and second these rules myself for use throughout the Club, and I heartily support their adoption by the Committee.

Would it not be a feather in the club's hat, to be the first Golf Club in Ireland to enact such rulings.

Note: For info, see further below for relevant extract from the R&A Rule Book

### **Local Rules - Proposals**

#### **Protocols for the Correct Use of Golf Tees in Kinsale Golf Club.**

##### **Section 1 – Physical Characteristics of Tees:**

1. All tees should be narrower at one end than the other. Local rules (subject to Bye-law) may be applied by The Committee in certain adverse weather circumstances.
2. Plastic or wooden tees may be used through the course.
3. The use of electronic "easy-find" tees is not allowed through the course.
4. The diameter and depth of the cup on the tee must be less than that of a conforming golf-ball.
5. Standard or 'Level Cupped' tees only are permitted for use on Kinsale Golf Course, i.e. The use of specially designed tees for up-hill or down-hill lies on teeing grounds are strictly forbidden.
6. There is no Colour Code for Tees in use in Kinsale Golf Club. The use of Green coloured tees is encouraged on St. Patrick's Day, but is not mandatory. The Club may not be held responsible for the loss of such tees, nor for the loss of white tees used during times of snow.
7. No Golf tee may carry affixed "Instructions for Use" as this is considered contrary to the Spirit of the Rules of Golf.
8. As an environmentally aware club, one which positively supports sustainability, the use of repaired, refurbished or reconditioned tees is strongly encouraged through the course.
9. If in doubt as to the correct choice of tee to be used, the golfer is directed to the club professional, Mr. Ger Broderick, who will provide any advice required on this matter.

## Section 2 – Correct Use of Tees

10. There is no limit to the number of tees one may use through the course. However, as a courtesy, one may wish to notify one's playing partner(s) if changing the make, colour or size of Tee.
11. Although colour-coordination of tees is not a pre-requisite, members are requested to refrain from use of tees which clash with colours worn oneself, and if possible, by one's partners
12. The narrow end of the tee must always be placed in the ground. However, a golf tee may not carry any such instruction when in use through the course.
13. Ensure tees are properly sharpened before the first teeing - off. It is not permissible to use knives, sharpeners or other utensils on the course for sharpening tees.
14. Golf-tees may be recovered from water hazards, but not by swimming, wading or other means likely to cause offence in a multi-gender club.
15. Golf-balls must always be placed on the broader (or cup face) of the Tee only – it is not permissible to balance the golf ball on the narrow or pointy end before striking.
16. The golf ball should be placed on the tee in such a manner, so that as the tee becomes sited in the teeing ground, it will lie, so far as is practicable, under the centre of the golf ball when the said golf ball is placed thereon.
17. Tees which are found on the course and **which are owner identified** must be handed into the Clubhouse after each round. It is not permissible to offer or collect reward for doing so as this is contrary to the Laws of Amateur Play, however donations may be made to the Club Finance Committee in lieu.
18. In the Interest of Timely Play: Members are again reminded of the 10-minute rule applying to lost tees. Tees which have not been located after this period must be declared lost or the next group must be called through. There are no exceptions
19. In the interests of general hygiene: Proper etiquette with use of tees must always be obeyed on the Golf Course – the use of tees as tooth picks, ear-buds, etc. are forbidden through the course.  
Tees may of course be used for these (or similar) purposes outside the course, but said tees must not subsequently be brought onto the course for use through the course.
20. In the interest of Health & Safety: If one picks up one's partner's tee, one must hand back the tee broad end first, i.e. the sharp end should always be facing oneself.
21. In the interest of Health & Safety: No attempt should be made to recover one's partners tee, until after one's partner has made his or her strike on the golf ball.
22. Contrary to general opinion, the tee is not often the cause of hooks or slices. Should one believe the tee to be responsible for one's hook or fade, simply rotate the tee by 180 degrees and one's problem should be cured. Otherwise contact one's local Golf Professional for advice.
23. On striking, should one's tee travel further than one's golf ball, there is no Penalty. However, any such occurrence should be reported to the Committee for review and for later dissemination to the general membership. Failure to do so may be punishable under penalty
24. Finally, tees should be removed from one's trouser slack pockets before one sits down.

Penalty for Breach of the above rules:

2 shots in strokeplay, loss of hole in matchplay, severe discomfort in the clubhouse.

**“From R&A Rules of Golf**

**Tees (Rule [11](#))**

**Appendix IV – 1 Devices and Other Equipment**

A tee is a device designed to raise the ball off the ground. A tee must not:

- be longer than 4 inches (101.6 mm);
- be designed or manufactured in such a way that it could indicate [Line Of Play](#);
- unduly influence the movement of the ball; or
- otherwise assist the player in making a [Stroke](#) or in his play.