

Advice to Players

The author of "The Golfer's Rain Jacket" is evidently a golfer. There is much feeling embodied in his set of "Don't's." We pass along his advice.

"Don't move, talk, whistle, cough, sneeze, groan, grunt or even think loud—while a stroke is being played.

"Don't stand close to, in front of, behind or cast shadows across the player's line—while he is addressing a 'putt.' If the ball 'rims' the cup it then becomes your duty to restrain the player from any acts of violence.

"Don't play from a tee until the party in front have all played their second strokes, replaced their divots, relighted their pipes, concluded their golf stories, collected their caddies, selected their next clubs—and are well out of range.

"Don't play up to a putting green until the party in front have all holed out, practiced their missed putts, replaced the flag, fixed up the score cards, exchanged the putters for drivers—and all players and caddies are off the green.

"Don't be vexed if the players in front can't find their lost ball. Should they, eventually, signal you to 'play through' (and then play along with you), show your appreciation by giving each of them a cigar. The 'Flor de Killdead' is made for this purpose, and is sold by all fireworks stores.

"Don't fail to fill up and to smooth over neatly all footprints in the bunker sand. If you carry in your bag a small garden rake, a bricklayer's trowel and a wire broom, the operation will require only about half an hour.

"Don't neglect immediately and properly to replace the turf. A small sprinkling can, a canteen of water, an ordinary rolling pin, a package of grass seeds and one pound of dehydrated ostrich manure, added to your equipment, will reduce this obligation to a mere pleasure!"

Principles in Golf Architecture

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Golf is a sport, not a game; and this distinction is fundamental if one is to attain a correct perspective of it, for both are endowed with principles of a different character. A game is enclosed in principles, strictly speaking, because everything about it is man-made. He levels the ground according to a predetermined scheme, marks it off, and superimposes a logical idea upon it. He is in every way master of the situation, and, to him, the surface of the earth is merely one of the exact tools of the pastime he creates.

But are we in a like situation when we deal with golf? Even if the last thing we would think of doing would be to level the ground, are we not, by setting up positive principles as to the manner in which it should be employed, applying a mental level which must tend to inhibit the imagination and accustom the golfer to expect certain things that must eventually establish themselves as prejudices?

Prejudices are like diseases; they creep upon us unknown, and, once established, few are able to be rid of them. And set principles upon golf architecture must finally turn into prejudices. This is exemplified today by the divergence of opinion over the Alps and Redan types of holes. To the golfers of the past, who knew only links-land golf, who were unsophisticated to any definite ideas upon golf architecture, these holes were