



Golf Course How-To-Guide

Description – Playing golf should be fun. We are here to help you navigate the process of setting up a tee time, knowing the golf course options, and knowing the golf course etiquette. If you have any questions please contact us at reg@ftsv.org or call 408-508-4880 or reach out to your instructor.

You can also watch our ["everything to know about playing golf" video](#)

1. Making a Tee Time:

- A tee time is a reservation that is needed to play on the golf course.
- Golfers are expected to make/reserve a tee time in advance (1-7 days before playing).
- To reserve a tee time, please call the proshop (proshop number is listed on the golf course website) and ask "I would like to make a tee time at (time of day) on (what day) for (number of players)." They will confirm the tee time and the payment will be expected when you check in before the round at the proshop.
- You can also book a tee time online by visiting the golf course websites.
- If you are playing without a family member or friend, the golf course may pair you up with a member of the public.
- The max amount of people per group is 4.
- When showing up to your tee time, please arrive a minimum of 15 minutes before your scheduled tee time.

2. Discounted Course Fees

- Golf courses have many different rates –
 - Regular adult rates
 - Weekday vs weekend rates. Weekend rates are higher.
 - Twilight rates - tee times set in afternoon = cheaper for adults)
 - Junior rates - each course has a different rate & set time when they allow juniors to play. Please call the proshop for specifics.
 - All rates are posted on each course's website under "rates."
- FTSV discount card rates –

- provides a discount card for participants to play Los Lagos GC, Rancho del Pueblo GC, and Gavilan GC for \$5, and Baylands Golf Links for \$10.
- The participant must have the actual active card and present it at the proshop for the discount to be applied.
- NCGA Youth on Course rates -
 - Provides discounted course fees (\$5 or less) at over 1,200 golf courses.
 - Provides a database for tracking scores and developing a handicap index. Handicap index allows golfers to play a fair match against another golfer in a tournament, and is a requirement to participate in select tournaments.
 - Membership through TFTSV - \$15
 - Visit tftsv.org, click "Register", log in to your account
 - Select participant & then "TFTSV SO Annual Opportunities
 - Select "NCGA – Youth On Course Membership
- Golf courses charge a fee if the tee time is cancelled within 24 hours.

3. Chaperones:

- Players can play by themselves and do not need to be accompanied by their parent/guardian.
- Each golf course has their own chaperone rules. Please call the proshop to inquire and learn about their respective rules.
- If you are allowed to chaperone, please keep a safe distance.

4. Golf Course Play:

- Necessary items for a golf course include
 - multiple golf balls
 - tees
 - clubs (minimum 2 clubs maximum 14)
 - golf bags
 - ball marker
 - ball mark repair tool
 - scorecard (free and optional)
 - a pencil (free and optional).
 - The pro shop sells all of those items if you need them.

- Other optional items include a golf glove and golf shoes.
- Each hole should take 8-12 minutes to complete.
- Most rounds at RDP takes around 1.5 to 2 hours to complete 9 holes.
- Longer courses should take between 2 and 2.5 hours to play 9 holes.
- Follow order of play - person furthest away from the golf hole plays first until all golfers have holed out.
- Place your golf bag off of the putting green and towards the next tee so you don't have to walk back across the green and potentially hold up the group behind you.
- If you hit it in the water, drop the ball in the adjacent grass and add 1 stroke to your score.

5. Golf Course Play for Beginners:

*Recommended tips for novice golfers playing for fun & to gain experience.

- Bump ball – If your ball is buried in its own ball mark you can drop your ball on the grass (from knee height).
- Place & putt (unofficial rule) – You may pick up and place your ball two big steps (2 yards) away from the hole if you are not on the putting green after double par. For example, on a par 3 if you are not on the putting green in 6 shots you get to “place & putt.” This is not allowed if your round is counting towards a tournament, but for fun it makes sense to keep the pace of the round moving.
- If the player is having a really difficult hole, please pick up your ball after 10 shots and move on to the next tee to keep pace of play.
- Most importantly, have fun!

6. Keeping Score

HOLE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT	10	11	12	13	14L	15	16	17	18	IN	TOT	HCP	NET			
BLACK 72.4/129	496	389	524	184	368	429	335	233	554	3512	440	411	153	510	392	143	377	231	511	3168	6680					
BLUE 70.1/118 75.5/132	464	364	500	140	304	399	297	193	531	3192	380	394	126	489	368	118	354	200	489	2918	6110					
WHITE 67.0/114 72.0/124	412	321	452	105	279	350	273	159	511	2862	336	373	103	463	336	96	325	172	431	2635	5497					
HANDICAP	17	3	5	15	9	1	13	11	7		2	4	16	10	8	18	6	14	12							
Name	Score for each hole									Total Score																
PAR	5	4	5	3	4	4	4	3	5	37	4	4	3	5	4	3	4	3	5	35	72					
WHT/GRN (M) 65.8/112 (W) 70.5/121	412	321	406	105	279	350	273	136	469	2751	336	329	103	421	336	96	325	130	431	2507	5258					
GREEN Tee Color	83	280	406	83	235	314	230	136	469	2536	Total Yardage for "Green" Tee Color										130	395	2285	4821		
HANDICAP	5	13	3	17	1	9	11	15	7		10	6	14	4	8	18	12	16	2				08/18			
SCORER _____												ATTEST _____						DATE _____								

- Keeping score is optional
 - Each golf course has their own scorecard with the different starting points, where you can put in your score for each hole
 - Do not count your score after each hole while standing on the putting surface as it slows up play for the group behind you. Count the scores on the next tee.
- What is Par?
 - Par is what you should get on a hole if you are an expert golfer.
 - Over par refers to how many shots over the par it took you to complete the hole.

7. Recommended Courses

Each course has different tee colors, the starting point on each hole, to accommodate players of different skill levels. All FTSV golfers are expected to play fast, safe, and courteous.

2nd – 4th Grade - Recommended Courses

- San Jose - Rancho Del Pueblo GC
- Sunnyvale - Sunken Gardens GC
- Cupertino – Deep Cliff GC
- Santa Clara – Pruneridge GC
- Gilroy – Gavilan College GC

5th – 6th grade – Recommended Courses

- San Jose - Rancho Del Pueblo GC, San Jose Municipal GC, Los Lagos GC
- Mountain View – Moffett Field Golf Club
- Santa Clara – Pruneridge GC
- Gilroy - Gavilan College GC

7th – 8th grade – Recommended Courses

- San Jose - Rancho del Pueblo GC, San Jose Municipal GC, Los Lagos GC
- Sunnyvale - Sunnyvale Municipal GC
- Palo Alto - Baylands Golf Links
- Mountain View - Moffett Field GC, Shoreline GC
- Gilroy - Gilroy GC, Eagle Ridge GC

9th – 12th grade – Recommended Courses

- San Jose - Rancho del Pueblo GC, San Jose Municipal GC, Los Lagos GC
- Sunnyvale - Sunnyvale Municipal GC
- Palo Alto - Baylands Golf Links
- Mountain View - Moffett Field GC, Shoreline GC
- Gilroy - Gilroy GC, Eagle Ridge GC