



Fairway Friends™: Mentor Checklist

The checklist items listed below include golf topics that will help a new golfer feel more comfortable on and around the golf course.

When you see **FFH** below, refer to the **Fairway Friends™ Handout** for more information about basic rules of golf, etiquette and tips. Also, you may have some of your own tips, and you are encouraged to share these tips with your Mentee. Remember to make this experience with your Mentee an educating, fun and exciting experience!

When arranging your first meeting with your Mentee, let her know:

- Where are you playing?
 - o Name of the golf course; will she need directions?
- Where to meet at the golf course?
 - o At the bag drop area or cart staging area is preferred
- What time to arrive at the golf course?
 - o Allow plenty of time to tour the clubhouse, warm up at the practice area, check in at the Golf Shop, and arrive at the tee a few minutes early – 30 to 45 min recommended
- What to bring with you to the golf course?
 - o See Fairway Friends™ Handout for a list of items to bring with you to the golf course
- What to expect during your first meeting?
 - o Let your Mentee know what she can expect during the first meeting; are you only going to play a few holes, or will you be playing 9 or 18 holes?
- What format will you be playing? - **FFH**
 - o Are just the two of you playing, or are you playing in a league event? Refer to the Fairway Friends™ Handout for different formats of play that are recommended for the first meeting.
- Get to know your Mentee, and let your Mentee know about you and your golf background

On Course Conversation:

On the Tee

- Teeing ground vs. tee markers- **FFH**
 - o Show your Mentee where to tee her ball, and how to tee her ball on the teeing ground
 - When hitting a driver, fairway wood or hybrid off the tee, half of the golf ball should show above the golf club's head when addressing the ball

- Why you should mark your golf ball?
 - o Mark your golf ball with a Sharpie marker in a creative way so you are able to identify it on the golf course, and prevent you from hitting the wrong golf ball
- Which tee markers should you play?
 - o Your skill level will determine which tees you should play
- Safety and courtesy on the tee
 - o Show your Mentee where to stand when others are hitting their tee shots
- Watch your fellow competitor's ball
 - o To help with pace of play, watch where the others in your group hit their golf balls so you may help look for the ball
- When to yell "FORE"
 - o Anytime a golf ball, in the air, is heading toward another person, and you feel they may be in danger, yell "FORE" so they can take cover as soon as possible

Through the Green - **FFH**

- Explain pace of play, and ways to keep or improve your pace - **FFH**
 - o Remember to keep up with the group in front of you
 - o Take an extra club with you when walking to your golf ball, and help others look for their golf ball to stay on pace
 - o If you get behind, encourage your group to play "ready golf"
- Safety – where to park the cart or stand when others are hitting
 - o Be courteous of other players, and watch your shadows or movements so they are not distracting other players
 - o Be sure the golf cart is not in the way of fellow competitors
- What is the order of play through the green?
 - o The person farthest from the green should hit her shot first, and continue this routine until the ball is holed
 - o If someone is searching for her golf ball or if you get behind on pace of play, offer to your fellow competitors that you can hit your golf ball if they are not ready to go
- Where should you drive and park the golf cart? - **FFH**
 - o Review Fairway Friends™ Handout for golf cart etiquette – 90 degree rule, cart path only
- How to use the yardage markers?
 - o 100 yd, 150 yd and 200 yd markers through the green
 - o Explain that yardage markers are measured to the center of the green
- How to replace divots?
 - o If provided, use the sand in the golf cart to fill in any divots you make to help repair the fairway

- Bunker Etiquette: How to enter the bunker? How to rake the bunker? Where to leave the rake?
 - o Enter the bunker from the lowest side
 - o When raking the bunker, be sure to smooth any of your footprints and divots for others on the golf course
 - o When finished with the rake, leave it face down off to the side of the bunker or in the bunker on the low side
- Review Fairway Friends™ Handout for basic rules of golf - **FFH**

- Where to place your extra clubs while putting?
 - o Place your golf clubs on the path you will take to get back to the golf cart, near or on the flagstick, or out of your fellow competitor's way
- What is the order of play on the putting green?
 - o The person farthest from the hole should putt first
 - o If your fellow competitor, who is farthest from the hole, is raking the bunker or walking to her ball, offer to go ahead and putt, if you are ready

On & Around the Putting Green

- How to repair a ball mark?
 - o Demonstrate for your Mentee how to repair a ball mark
 - o By repairing your ball mark, and maybe one more ball mark, you are helping the golf course remain in great condition
- How to mark your golf ball on the putting green?
 - o Before lifting your golf ball, mark it with a ball mark – a coin, a tee or something similar
 - o When you are ready to place your golf ball, be sure to place it in the same spot from which it was lifted then lift your marker and proceed to putt
- Cleaning your golf ball
 - o After marking and lifting your golf ball on the putting green, you may clean it
- Where to walk on the putting green?
 - o Do not walk in your fellow competitor's line of putt, which is the invisible line that connects your fellow competitor's golf ball to the hole
- Where to stand while others are putting?
 - o Be sure to watch your shadow and position while others are putting – keep away from your fellow competitors' line of putt and an extension of that line beyond the hole
- Flagstick Etiquette: Who should attend the flagstick? How to attend the flagstick? When to remove it? Where to place it?
 - o The person whose ball is closest to the hole should tend the flagstick
 - o Once everyone is on the green, ask your fellow competitors if they would like you to remove the flagstick
 - If they say "no", and ask you to tend the flagstick, stand on the side of the hole, and hold the flagstick. Once your fellow competitor hits her putt, remove the flagstick, and walk away from the hole
 - If they say "yes", remove the flagstick, and lay it on the fringe or green so that it is away from your fellow competitors line of putt

After the Hole Is Complete

- Return to your golf cart and drive to the next hole
 - o To help with pace of play, hold on to your clubs until the next tee. Then place them in your bag, and take out your next club
- When to mark the scorecard?
 - o At the next tee, ask your fellow competitor what she scored on the previous hole – this method will help pace of play
- How to mark the scorecard?
 - o Keep track of your fellow competitor's score, as well as your own score, so you can check each other's scores at the end of the round

When you are finished golfing, show your Mentee:

- Where to take the golf cart?
 - o Once you finish the last hole, return your golf cart to the golf cart staging area
 - o The outside staff will clean and assist you with your clubs
- Who and how much should you tip?
 - o It is courteous to tip the outside staff who assists with your golf clubs - \$2-\$5 is suggested
- Invite your Mentee inside for lunch and/or a beverage at the bar & grill to go over any questions the Mentee might have following your first meeting
- Highlight any upcoming EWGA events, and ask your Mentee if they plan to sign up
- If your Mentee is not quite ready, go ahead and schedule a second meeting