



## Course Rules and Availability

The overall success of Fircrest Golf Club is dependent on members realizing value and enjoying the camaraderie, aesthetics, and golfing experience. The game of golf is steeped not only in tradition, but in honor and integrity. As such, golf is played according to established rules as outlined in the Rules of Golf, published by the United States Golf Association. In addition, the Club has established rules which have been endorsed by the various committees of Fircrest Golf Club and adopted by your Board of Directors. Each member is encouraged to read and comply with these rules. While this document cannot cover every question or situation that may arise; your Professional Golf staff is available to assist you with any questions you may have. Please stop in the Pro shop or call (253)564.5792 or email our Head Professional, Greg Talley [greg@fircrestgolf.com](mailto:greg@fircrestgolf.com) with questions.

### **COURTESY ON THE COURSE**

Golf is most enjoyable when the courtesies of the game are observed by all, and when play progresses without delay. **The rules of golf etiquette, as shown in the Rules of Golf published by the United States Golf Association, shall be observed.** Each member is encouraged to study and strictly comply with the established rules and etiquette of the game. **PLEASE PLAY READY GOLF!**

### **PACE OF PLAY: PLAY AT A GOOD PACE AND KEEP UP**

The Golf Committee has established pace of play guideline below that all players **must** follow.

- It is a group's responsibility to keep up with the group in front of them.
- If a group falls behind and is delaying the group(s) behind, the slower group must invite the group(s) behind to play through and/or speed up, irrespective of the number of players in the group(s).
- When a group has less than a clear hole ahead of them, but it is apparent that the group behind can play faster, they should, out of courtesy, invite the faster moving group(s) to play through.
- Players shall be ready to play as soon as it is their turn to play or when it is safe to do so when it is not their turn and the other player(s) are not ready.
- When playing on or near the putting green, they should leave their bags or carts in such a position as will enable quick movement off the green and towards the next tee.
- When the play of a hole has been completed by a player, they shall immediately leave the putting green and proceed to the next tee box. Let the last player(s) replace the flagstick.

### **FAST PLAY TIPS**

- Be ready to play as soon as you can, even if you are not furthest from the hole. You may play first if you are ready to do so and the person furthest away is not. Only play first if it is safe to do so.
- Record scores on the tee box or at a safe area away from the green. Do not score on the green.
- The person putting should finish putting once started unless it interferes with other players "lines". Marking and waiting takes extra time.

- If you are first to “putt out” go to the next tee box and tee off if it is safe to do so. Do so even if you are not the lowest score of the hole prior. The last person(s) to putt shall replace the flag.
- Talk and tell stories as you are walking or driving in between shots. Do not tell stories or jokes on the greens or tee boxes.
- Players may move ahead of the furthest player by traveling safely to the sides. Players may do this and still be courteous to the player whose turn it is.

Pace of Play may vary from day to day depending upon the number of players and their ability on the course. Play fast when you can and pace yourself when the course is full! A four (4) hour round is only a measurement of time and all players shall play at a good pace, Ready Golf.

**DRESS CODE (Removing due to a standardized “Club” policy document)**

- Appropriate golf attire is required at all times for members and their guests on the golf course including practice areas.
- The following attire is **not** acceptable: Jeans, t-shirts, athletic shorts, cut-offs, swimsuits, halter-tops, tank tops, tank top styles w/collars or bare midriff garments. Athletic attire such as sweat suits commonly used for exercise.
- Inappropriate footwear will not be allowed on the golf course.
- Men’s Shorts must be no shorter than mid-thigh.
- Women’s shorts, skirts and “skorts” must be no shorter than mid-thigh.
- Shirts for men must have a collar (polo type) or at least a 1” collar if of the mock style.
- It is the member’s responsibility to inform the guest of the dress code requirements prior to arrival.

*The Pro Shop Staff has been directed to inform any member or guest when their attire is not appropriate.*

**COURSE RULES**

- All players/Groups **must** register with the Golf Shop before playing golf.
- All groups, regardless of size, must keep up with the pace of play. Those not keeping pace will be asked to break up or “pick up” and fill the gap.
- All play will start on #1 unless otherwise directed by the Pro Shop.
- Groups asking to start on #10 and given permission by the Pro Shop will not have priority on #1 when crossing over.

**Junior Golfers under 12 years old**, must be accompanied by an adult, age 21 or older, while on the golf course or practice areas.

**COURSE OPENING TIMES**

	<b><u>Tue-Thurs</u></b>	<b><u>Fri,</u></b>	<b><u>Sat &amp;Sun</u></b>
March 1 – March 31	8:00 am	8:00 am	8:00am
April 1 – April 30	8:00 am	8:00 am	7:30am
May 1 – Labor Day Weekend	8:00 am	7:30 am	7:00am
Labor Day Weekend – Sept 30	8:00 am	8:00 am	7:30am
October 1 - February 28	8:00 am	8:00 am	8:00am

**\*Mondays: Open at 11:00am year-round (except):**

The Junior Program has the course until approximately 3:00pm from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in June to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in August, unless there is a conflict with Holiday Golf (4<sup>th</sup> of July). Open Play thereafter.

**The course closes at dark year-round.**

## **PRACTICE AREA RULES**

- **All practice areas are open for use by all golfing members and their paid guests during range hours.**
- The practice areas may be used by non-golfing members and guests, provided, they are accompanied by a golfing member and pay a \$15.00 fee each time. The practice fee is included with the guest fee.
- During all Scheduled Tournaments, the practice areas shall be closed to everyone except tournament participants from one hour before the start of the tournament until after the last participant has teed-off, unless otherwise posted.
- The lower practice range areas are for irons only. All golfers must fill their divots with the sand and seed provided. Also, please keep your divots as close together as possible so the next golfer has more usable space.
- Woods are only permitted at the Names Family Driving Range Center area and the "Johnson Deck".
- All players must pay close attention to the length of their shots to ensure balls do not go over the fence. **Failure to do so will result in loss of driving range privileges.**
- The upper practice green by the clubhouse is designated for putting and "bump and runs" only. Pitching from 10 yards or less is allowed on the lower practice green.
- Out of courtesy, please clear the chipping green when done chipping/pitching.
- **Smoking** is prohibited at the Names Family Driving Range Center (Covered Range).

## **DRIVING RANGE OPENING TIMES:**

The driving range will open approximately ½ hour prior to the course opening times.

## **DRIVING RANGE CLOSING TIMES:**

- March Mon-Sat :30 prior to Sunset, Sunday 5:30 pm
- April Mon-Sat :30 prior to Sunset, Sunday 6:00 pm
- May – July Mon-Sat :30 prior to Sunset, Sunday 7:00 pm
- August Mon-Sat :30 prior to Sunset, Sunday 6:30pm
- September Mon-Sat :30 prior to Sunset, Sunday 5:30 pm
- October Mon-Sat :30 prior to Sunset, Sunday 4:30pm
- Nov – February Mon-Sun Sunset  
Sundays may close at 3:00 pm for a total pick/Monday maintenance
- Due to circumstances out of our control, inclement weather conditions or mechanical failure, the Driving Range may close early without notice on any day.

## **COURSE HOURS**

### **SUMMER COURSE AVAILABILITY: MARCH – OCTOBER**

*(All Players or groups **must** register with the ProShop or Starter before playing)*

- Mondays:** Open play 11:00am  
**Except** the Junior Program has the course until approximately 3:00pm from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in June to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in August. Open Play after 3:00pm on those days.
- Tuesdays:** The 18 Hole Women's Club & Women Golf Members over age 21 has tee times until 11:20am. Open Play 11:30am.
- Wednesdays:** Open Play 8:00am -10:20am. Men's Club & Men Golf Members, age 21 and older only after 10:30am.
- Thursdays:** The 9 Hole Women's Club & Women Golf Members over age 21 has tee times 8:00am – 11:20am on one side for 9 Holes with the opposite side opening @ 10:00am for Open Play.
- Fridays:** Open Play all day. (\*Refer to course opening times above for Friday, Saturday and Sunday)
- Saturdays:** Prime Time Players only until 9:50am, Open Play 10:00am.
- Sundays:** Prime Time Players only until 8:50am, Open Play 9:00am.

**Exceptions:** Shotgun starts: Open Play will start as soon as the course is available.

## **WINTER COURSE AVAILABILITY: NOVEMBER – FEBRUARY**

**Mondays:** 11:00am Open Play

**Tuesdays:** 18 Hole Women's Club & Women Golf Members over age 21 8:00am - 10:50am the first few weeks of November. Open Play 11:00am.  
8:00am Open Play after last day of 18 Hole Women's Club (& Women Club Members over age 21); Women priority 9:00am – 10:00am

**Wednesdays:** Open Play 8:00am – 10:50am  
Men's Club & Men Golf Members age 21 and older only 11:00am -1:50pm  
Open Play after 2:00pm.

**Thursdays:** Open Play 8:00am. Women priority 9:00am – 10:00am

**Fridays:** Open Play all day starting at 8:00am.

**Saturdays/Sundays:** Prime Time Players only 8:00am - 9:50am, Open Play 10:00am

If a frost delay prediction is past 10:00am on Saturday or Sunday, the day will be Open Play all day.

## **HOLIDAY GOLF TIMES RECOGNIZED BY THE CLUB**

- New Year's Day All facilities closed
- MLK Day Open play starting at 11:00 am #1/#10
- President's Day Open play starting at 11:00 am #1/#10
- Memorial Day\* Double Tee Start AM/PM
- Fourth of July\* Double Tee Start AM/PM
- Labor Day\* Double Tee Start AM/PM
- Thanksgiving Day All facilities closed
- Christmas Day All facilities closed

\*Memorial Day, July 4<sup>th</sup>, and Labor Day: Junior members under age 18 may participate only in the pm times. Guests may play in the PM Times only, and up to 3 guests per member as per the guest policies unless otherwise stated.

## **USGA/WHS and CLUB HANDICAP RULES**

### **Score Posting**

- Players must post all scores played on the day of play during the "active season" (March 1 through November 15) or if they play in a location that is in "active season" in accordance with the USGA/WHS rules.
- A player must be in the company of at least one other person, who may also act as a marker. (USGA).

### **18 Hole Score Posting**

- Players must post a 18 Hole Score when they play at least 14 holes. On un-played holes, record par plus any handicap strokes that the player is entitled to receive.

### **9 Hole Score Posting**

- Players must post a 9 Hole Score when they play at least 7 to 13 Holes. On un-played holes, record par plus any handicap strokes that the player is entitled to receive.

### **Maximum Hole Score for Handicap Purposes (Net Double Bogey)**

- The maximum hole score for each player will be limited to a Net Double Bogey.
- Calculated as follows: Double Bogey + handicap strokes a player receives (or gives if a plus handicap golfer) based on their Course Handicap.

**The handicap committee may, in accordance with the USGA/WHS, adjust a person's handicap if deemed necessary and warranted.**

## **CARE OF THE COURSE**

- No practicing will be permitted on the golf course except on the practice area. Hitting more than two balls from the same spot on the course is deemed to be practicing.
- All players must replace the divots and/or use sand and seed to fill divots.
- All ball marks must be carefully repaired.
- All players must carefully smooth out bunkers after hitting from the sand. **Rakes shall be left outside all bunkers and on the side away from the green.**
- **Please exit the greenside bunkers on the side away from the green.**
- Players shall not dig the ball out of the cup with the putter.
- All players must observe direction signs when driving carts around the course, particularly around tees and greens. **Driving carts between the greens and greenside bunkers is prohibited.**
- Carts must remain on paths or designated areas around greens and tees and all 4 tires must be on the path when provided. Under no circumstances must carts be closer than 40 feet from greens or tees. Unless designated to "paths only" carts should be driven in the fairways.

### **GUEST POLICIES**

All members must register their guests in the Pro Shop before playing or practicing. Members may only sponsor up to 3 guests at any one time. Any request for more than 3 guests must be approved by the Head Golf Professional.

- Only one (1) guest per member is permitted on the following days & times:
  - Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
    - Before 1:00pm Memorial Day Weekend -Labor Day Weekend
    - Before 10:00am after Labor Day Weekend until Memorial Day Weekend
    - Wednesdays between 11:00 am-3:00 pm.
- No guest may be invited to play more than a total of six (6) rounds of golf in any calendar year by any one member or combination of members, including family.
- Guests may only play in the afternoon times on "Holiday Golf" Days.

### **GUEST FEES – (Rate + Tax)**

- Member Sponsored: Summer (March - September)      \$100 (18)      \$75 (9)
  - Member Sponsored: Winter (Aerification - February)      \$75 (18)      \$50 (9)
  - "Limited" Reciprocal Private Club      \$175 (18)      N/A
  - Family Rate: Summer (March - September)      \$50 (18)      \$37.50 (9)
  - Family Rate: Winter (Aerification - February)      \$37.5 (18)      \$25 (9)
- Includes
- Parent, Stepparent, Grandparent
  - Son, Stepson, Son in Law
  - Daughter, Stepdaughter, Daughter in Law
  - Brother and/or Sister and Spouse/ Partner
    - Does not include nieces or nephews of the member
  - Grandchildren age 12 and older (under age 12 free)
  - Practice Facilities (Range and Putting Only)      \$15

### **CART FEES- TAX INCLUDED**

*\*GOLF CARTS MUST BE OPERATED BY PERSONS AGE 16 AND OLDER WITH A VALID DRIVERS LICENSE.*

- 9-Holes:      \$10 per rider
- 18-Holes:      \$16 per rider
- Outside Tournaments      \$50 per cart

***\*\*Effective January 1<sup>st</sup> 2022, Fircrest Golf Club will prohibit the use of any personally owned riding golf vehicles on the golf club property except those owned by members and approved prior to October 28, 2021. \*\****

### **"FULL" RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT CLUBS AND PROCEDURES**

We encourage you to contact any of the below clubs in advance to see if the date(s)/Time(s) you are wanting to play are available prior to making arrangements. All reciprocal club rules, policies and guest fees apply.

- **Royal Oaks GC**: Vancouver, WA **360.256.1350**
  - 2-day advance tee times, member (you) may call for arrangements
  - Times are restricted to after 12:00pm on Saturdays/Sundays.
  
- **Columbia Edgewater C.C.**: Portland, OR **503.285.8354**
  - 7-day advance tee times must be arranged by the Head Golf Professional.
  - Times are restricted to after 12:00pm Saturdays and Sundays
  
- **Manito GC**: Spokane, WA **509.448.5829**
  - 7-day advance tee times must be arranged through the Pro Shop.
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- **Walla Walla CC**: Walla Walla, WA, **509.525.1562**
  - 4 days in advance, must be arranged through Pro Shop
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- **Royal Colwood GC**, Victoria, BC **250.478.9591**
  - 3 days in advance
  - Must be arranged through the Pro Shop
  - Member sponsored guest fees apply.

### **"LIMITED" RECIPROCAL CLUBS AND PROCEDURES**

If you are traveling and would like to play a private club that is in the area you are visiting, you may contact them, introduce yourself, and ask if they allow "outside reciprocal" play from other private clubs. Many of the clubs may even set up the day and time for you and then we will follow up to confirm the arrangement. Remember to ask the play rate because many unaccompanied rates are very steep and may deter you. *In all cases, reciprocals are a privilege not a right, and we must be extra courteous for the opportunities to play. Please introduce yourself as a Fircrest Member at the start of a phone call and/or upon arrival and always visit the ProShop after play to thank them.*