

Newbury & Crookham Golf Club

Volunteer Ball Spotters

Safe Practice Note and Responsibilities

At N&C Golf Club there are certain events / competitions, eg. Pro Am day, Open competitions, inter club matches etc... where members may volunteer for certain activities to help with the smooth running of the day. One of these activities is ball spotting and typically we may like to have ball spotters on some holes, eg. the 2nd, 4th, 7th, 10th etc....

The purpose of having ball spotters is to try and track errant tee shots. This in turn helps with the pace of play.

Ball spotters will each be given a Stop/Go paddle board (red on one side and green on the other, obtainable from the office). When players arrive on the tee ball spotters should indicate to the players if it is safe, ie. clear, to play their tee shots – green for Yes and red for No. After a green signal is given ball spotters should stand to the side of the fairway but in a position where they can see the players and the players can see them.

The tee shots should be tracked through the air as far as possible. If a tee shot is hit towards a ball spotter the player should shout 'fore' and the ball spotters should take evasive action. eg, crouch, turn their back towards the tee and place their hands on their head.

If the tee shot finishes on the fairway or can be seen and is in play ball spotters should give the green signal. If not, show the red signal giving the player the option to play a second ball, eg. provisional.

When we ask for ball spotter volunteers there is invariably a starter on the first tee. The starter will be informed as to which holes there are ball spotters and he / she will include this as part of the briefing given to each group of players before they tee off.

The golf club is very appreciative of all the help members offer and provide on days such as these. However, the golf club accepts no responsibility or liability for any accidents.

Any enquiries about ball spotting from event or competition organisers should be made to the office who will make the necessary arrangements and liaise accordingly with the course marshals.

Any incidents should be reported immediately to the office or event / competition organiser.

Phil Allen
N&C Golf Club Health and Safety

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