

New Golfers ABC – Your Quick Guide to Golf at Tbilisi Hills

Welcome to Tbilisi Hills Golf! Whether you're swinging your first club or already falling in love with the game, this guide will help you enjoy your rounds while respecting the traditions and spirit of golf.

1. Awareness & Attitude

- Respect the Course & Others – Golf is as much about manners as it is about swings. Be mindful of fellow players and staff, and treat the course like your own garden.
- Rental Equipment – Take good care of the rental equipment and wash the clubs before returning.
- Stay Safe – Always check before you swing. Yell *"Fore!"* loudly if your ball is heading toward another group. If you hear *"Fore!"*, squat down, cover your head, and take shelter behind equipment. On the driving range, always stay behind the yellow safety line when moving around.
- Silence, Please – Stay quiet while others are preparing or playing their shot.
- Golf Balls – Range balls are for practice only. On the course, please use proper golf balls.
- Group Size – A maximum of 4 players is allowed per group. Buggies may carry no more than 2 players and 2 sets of clubs.

2. Basics You Should Know

Golf Etiquette

- Repair pitch marks on greens and replace or fill divots with the sand & seed mix provided.
- Rake bunkers after use and leave rakes fully inside bunkers.
- Keep buggies off greens, tees, and away from trees.
- Do not step on another player's putting line.
- Return empty baskets to the ball machine after practicing on the driving range.
- If you practice in the short game areas, collect and return balls to the driving range.

Clothing Etiquette

- Collared shirts, golf trousers/shorts, or skirts are the standard.
- No jeans, tracksuits, or sleeveless shirts.

Basic Rules

- Tee Time – Arrive at the tee at least 5 minutes before your start time, and be ready to play on time.
- Lost Ball – If you can't find your ball within 3 minutes, it is lost. Play another ball from the previous spot with a one-stroke penalty, or apply the local rule: drop the ball on the fairway within two club lengths from where it was lost, at a 90-degree angle (not closer to the hole), with a two-stroke penalty.
- Penalty Areas – Marked by red stakes with green tops. Entry is not allowed. Take a one-stroke penalty and drop the ball within two club lengths outside the area.
- Unplayable Ball – If you can't play your ball, you may:

- Drop within two club lengths of the original spot (not closer to the hole) with a one-stroke penalty; or
- Return to the spot of your previous shot; or
- Keep the flag and your ball in line, retreat as far back as you wish, and drop with a one-stroke penalty.
- Bunkers – When playing from a bunker, you may not touch the sand with your club before your swing. Always rake the bunker after use.

3. Course Flow

Registration

- Book your tee time in advance via reception, phone, or online.
- Check in at the clubhouse at least **30 minutes before** your tee-off to prepare your equipment, warm up, and make your way to the course.

Pace of Play on the Course

- Be ready to play when it's your turn.
- Keep up with the group in front, not just ahead of the group behind.
- Spend no more than 3 minutes searching for a lost ball.
- Play "ready golf" when safe – whoever is ready, plays.
- A 9-hole round should take about 2 hours 15 minutes (15 minutes per hole).
- Allow faster groups to play through. Step aside, signal with a wave, and let them pass. While they play through, you may prepare your next shot when it is safe.

4. Don't Forget

- Keep mobile phones on silent.
- Respect marshals and staff instructions.
- Most importantly – smile! Golf is meant to be fun (even when it's frustrating)

For more details, visit the official Rules of Golf on the R&A website: www.randa.org/en/rog/the-rules-of-golf