



Findings regarding the running of Footgolf at Jamberoo Golf Club

Rationale

In October 2019, a risk assessment was undertaken, after a footgolfer was hit by a golf ball on the ninth hole. The footgolf course was judged to be safe provided certain precautions were put into place. A sign was erected on the first tee reminding both golfers and footgolfers that this was a shared facility. Footgolfers were to be instructed before kick-off on the dangers present on a golf course and of golfing etiquette.

The sport has grown in popularity since its inception with many more rounds being played, however, the instructional part is not being delivered as well as originally intended. Bookings are frequently being taken outside of their allowed times. Family groups are now commonplace with birthday parties occurring regularly. Children have been witnessed participating in the dangerous activity of unsupervised running games on and near the first tee, fourth green and the carpark.

Jamberoo Golf Club is primarily a golf course but golfers and footgolfers must be made more aware of the fact that this is a shared facility and that both sports are played and enjoyed by patrons and members.

Clearly the overlap between the sports is beginning to occur and improved operating rules need to be put into place for the protection of footgolfers, golfers and of the club.

Here are our recommendations

Footgolf Bookings

1. **BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL.** Footgolf has priority of tee times between **2 pm and 3 pm**, 7 days per week. Starters to use their discretion as to where golfers hit off to avoid overlaps with footgolfers.
2. Footgolf bookings are generally not to be made by Starters, Footgolf co-ordinators or any other person with the ability to do so, before 1 pm on any day unless special circumstances apply. The Footgolf Co-ordinator has sole discretion in determining these circumstances.
3. Footgolf bookings can also be taken at other times subject to course availability ie. a minimum of half an hour after last competition or group golf booking.
4. Footgolf tournaments or bookings for special needs groups must be approved by the Footgolf co-ordinator well in advance. Tee times from mid-morning will be allowed in such circumstances but not generally during golf competition times. Golfers are to be informed via 'Daily Cow' where possible.
5. Golf has priority of bookings in morning competition times and periods outside the footgolf booking window of 2pm – 3 pm. All golfers need to be informed of the presence of footgolfers on the course before they hit-off.



6. All Starters and office staff must ensure they have asked whether the booking is a bucks/hens party and advise of the conditions that apply---particularly arriving intoxicated by bus. Sometimes this is difficult because more and more bucks/hens parties don't drink due to their religion-- but do dress up.

Safety Precautions

1. The starters must be more proactive in the supervision of bookings so that overlaps are avoided. Starters should avoid letting golfers hit off the 1st after footgolfers have started. It is always best to let golfers go and hold back footgolfers.
2. It is mandatory for starters to highlight the possible dangers that can occur if footgolfers leave their own fairway. This is especially the case with family groups.
3. Right of way on fairways – you have right of way only on the fairway on which you are playing. If your ball travels onto another fairway you must wait until that fairway is clear of golfers or footgolfers and it is safe to then approach and kick your ball. You must wait at the side of the fairway out of sight of those who have right of way until they have passed through.
4. Golfing and Footgolfing Etiquette must be explained to each group before they kick-off.
 - a) 4 players per tee time is the general rule. Slightly larger groups will be tolerated provided no hold up of play is experienced or if bookings are light
 - b) children to be closely supervised while on the course
 - c) the riding of scooters, bicycles or segways on the course is not allowed
 - d) follow the footgolf course (no playing holes out of sequence)
 - e) the consumption of alcohol on the course is not encouraged. Any alcohol must be purchased from the club for RSA reasons. There is no byo alcohol allowed
 - f) groups that arrive to play intoxicated, will be refused entry to the golf/footgolf course

Cart Use

1. Maximum of 2 people per cart. This a safety precaution. If carts are available slightly cheaper rates may be provided to help alleviate the cost. Small children may sit between two responsible adults.
2. No riding on the back of the cart as this is a very dangerous practice. Children are not to drive carts nor ride on the lap of the cart driver.

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Jamberoo Golf Club
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