



# Learning the Game Focus











- Playing and Scoring Resources
- Preparing to Play Resources
- Rules & Etiquette Resources
- 43 Orientation Resources











### Playing and Scoring

#### Respect, whatever the outcome

The Learning the Game focus this week is to teach the children to respect each other at the end of the round, no matter the outcome of the game.

You should make sure you emphasize to the group that showing respect is a really important way to finish the round.

Highlight that how you react to a poor performance is just as important or even more important than how you react to a good round.





- What do you do at the end of a round?
- Why is this important?



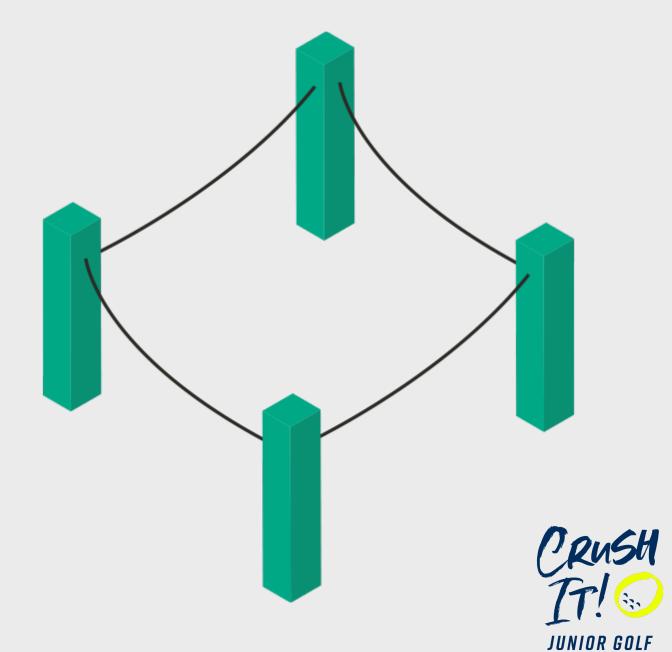
### Playing and Scoring

### Ground Under Repair

The Learning the Game focus this week is to make sure children understand about the rules for Ground Under Repair.

You should demonstrate what they need to do and how to take a drop in the appropriate place.

Use the lesson to highlight what the children might need and when they might need it throughout a round of golf.





- What do you do if your ball lands in Ground Under Repair?
- Where do your drop your ball?
- How do you drop your ball?

# Playing and Scoring Ryder Cup Playing Formats

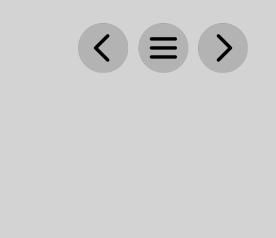
The Learning the Game focus this week is learning about the Ryder Cup.

You should highlight the different formats, how they are played and encourage the children to experiment with playing different formats when they're playing on the course.

Encourage the children to watch the Ryder Cup so they can understand the formats and be inspired to play.







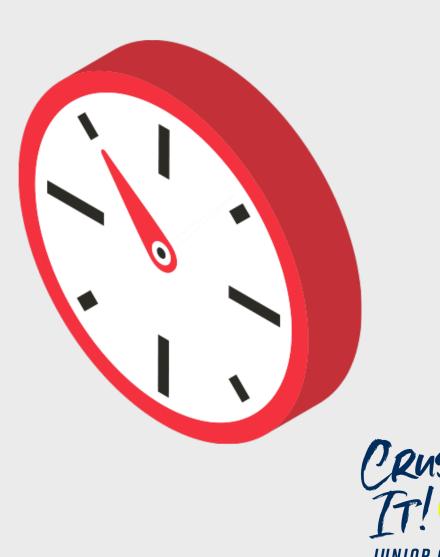
- What formats do they play in the Ryder Cup?
- What is the difference between Fourball Betterball and Foursomes?
- Who competes for the Ryder Cup?

#### Pace of Play

The Learning the Game focus this week is to learn the pace you should be playing

You should highlight to the children how important it is to maintain the pace of play.

Make sure children understand the timings that are expected to complete a hole, or 9 holes at your golf course.







- Why is it important to know how long it should take you to play a round of golf?
- What can you do to make sure you are keeping up with the pace of play?

### Playing and Scoring

#### Pre-Shot Routine

The Learning the Game focus this week is about learning a pre-shot routine.

You should highlight to the children how having a pre-shot routine can help them to perform better, and introduce some key aspects of a pre-shot routine. For example, visualising the shot, rehearsing the shot and committing to the shot.

Encourage the children to use the lesson to practice their pre-shot routines whilst playing the games and challenges.











- What do we need to include in a preshot routine?
- Why is a pre-shot routine important?
- How long should a pre-shot routine take?

### Playing and Scoring

#### Texas Scramble Format

The Learning the Game focus this week is learning about the Texas Scramble format.

You should introduce your juniors to how to score using this format and highlight that this is how PGA Junior League, and some of our Social Play events are played.

Let the juniors try to score using a Scramble format in some of the games in the class plan.











- What is Texas Scramble?
- How do we score using the Texas Scramble format?
- Has anyone played using Texas Scramble before?





### Playing and Scoring Reacting to Shots on the Course

The Learning the Game focus this week is to learn how to react to poor shots and good shots on the course.

You should highlight to the children how important it is for their own game and for that of their playing partners that they react in a way that doesn't effect their next shot.

Make sure children understand it's ok to be disappointed with a shot or a result but that learning how to cope and deal with that disappointment is an important part of learning to be a great golfer.





- How do you feel when you hit a bad shot?
- What is your reaction?
- Have you seen any examples of a player's reaction to a bad shot where it has then gone on to effect their next shot?
- How would you feel if your playing partner reacted really badly to a poor golf shot?



### Playing and Scoring

#### How many practice swings are appropriate?

The Learning the Game focus this week is about taking practice swings, why it is important but to also understand how many are appropriate when playing.

You should make sure the children understand they can take as many practice swings as they want, however there is an expectation that they will take their shot without holding up play.

Outline that in the professional game there are penalties for taking too long to take a shot.











- How many practice swings are appropriate?
- What is the purpose of a practice swing?



### Playing and Scoring Staying safe on the golf course

The Learning the Game focus this week is about understanding the dangers on the golf course and what we need to know to stay safe.

You should highlight to your juniors best practice of knowing where to stand when someone is playing their shot, being aware of other players on the course, and introduce the concept of shouting "Fore!" and what to do when you hear this shout.

Use the lesson to practice playing safely and give your juniors responsibility to make sure this happens.



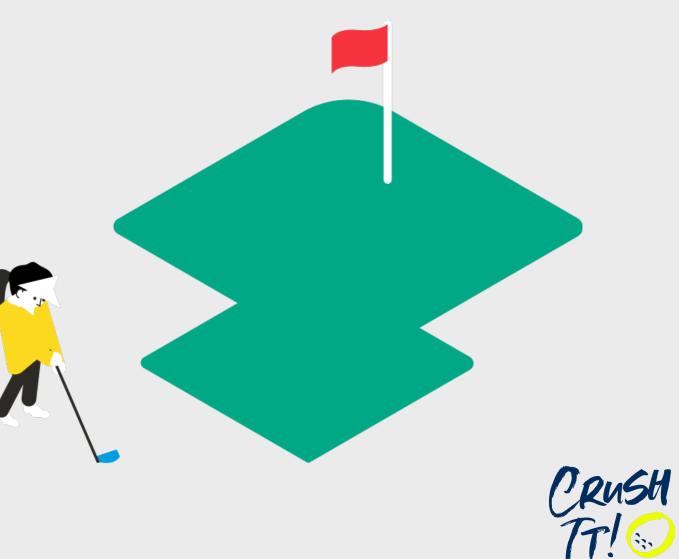
- What dangers are there on the golf course that we need to be aware of?
- Where should we stand when someone else is playing a shot?
- Who do we need to be aware of on the golf course?
- Do we need to make sure we are aware of these things on the practice area too?

# Playing and Scoring When to Play a Chip Shot

The Learning the Game focus this week is to understand the different areas around the green and to when to play a chip shot.

You should highlight to your juniors that by practicing the different shots and using different clubs they will build the skills needed to score effectively when out on the golf course.

For more advanced groups take them through some of the more difficult shots and how to approach them.











- What shot would you want to play in this situation?
- Are there any other options for this shot?
- What club do you think would be the best choice for this shot?
- Have you practiced this shot before?
- Have you ever found yourself in this situation on the golf course?

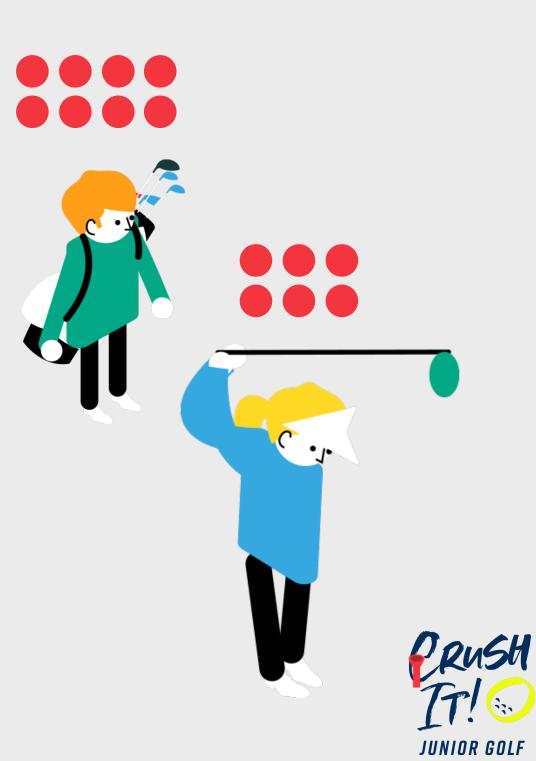
### Playing and Scoring

#### Matchplay Format

The Learning the Game focus this week is learning about the Matchplay format.

You should introduce your juniors to how to score using this format and highlight the Ryder Cup as the most famous competition using this format.

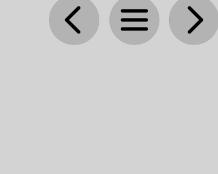
Let the juniors try to score using a Matchplay format in some of the games in the class plan.











- What is Matchplay?
- How do we score using the Matchplay format?
- Has anyone played using Matchplay before?
- Can anyone tell us a famous golf competition that uses Matchplay as it's format





# Playing and Scoring Shouting Fore!

The Learning the Game focus this week is to make sure that children understand the importance of shouting "Fore"!

You should make sure that children know what to do when they hear the shout of "Fore"

Highlight that it is important to shout "Fore" when you can't see where your ball is finishing and you're not sure if there are other people in that direction.





- Who knows what to do when we hear the shout of "Fore"?
- Why is it important to shout "Fore" if your ball is travelling towards another person?









### Simple Stretches

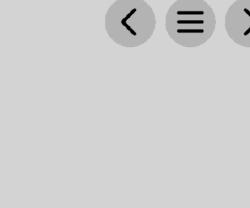
The Learning the Game focus this week is to learn some simple stretches that will help them to warm up and be ready to play.

You should highlight which muscles are being used when demonstrating the stretches and why it helps with golf performance.









- What stretches can we do to be fully prepare to play golf?
- What muscles are being used in these stretches?
- Why is it important to stretch before playing?



#### What's in the Bag?

The Learning the Game focus this week is to make sure your are prepared to play by keeping by knowing what you need in your golf bag.

You should highlight to your juniors that it is their responsibility to know what they need and to make sure they have it ready each time they play.

Use the lesson to highlight what the children might need and when they might need it throughout a round of golf.











#### **Questions to Ask**

- What do you need in our golf bag to make sure you are prepared to play golf?
- Who is responsible to make sure those items are in your golf bag?
- Will you always need the same things each time you play?
- How many clubs and balls do you think you need for a round of golf?

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### What Time do you Arrive?

The Learning the Game focus this week is about preparing to play, knowing when to arrive at the club, and when to be on the tee ready to play.

You should highlight to the children that you should arrive at the tee at least 5 minutes before it is your tee time.

Make sure you highlight the importance of getting to the golf club in plenty of time to warm up and prepare before having to arrive at the tee.











- When do you arrive at the tee?
- How long before your tee time should you arrive at the golf club?
- What do you need to do in the time between arriving at the golf club and teeing off?

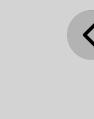
### Keeping your Clubs Clean

The Learning the Game focus this week is to make sure your are prepared to play by keeping your golf equipment in great condition.

You should highlight to your juniors that it is their responsibility to keep their golf equipment clean and in good condition.

Use the lesson to highlight how important it is to clean your clubs after a shot in the sand.











#### **Questions to Ask**

- Who is responsible for keeping your clubs clean?
- What effect does having mud on your club face or golf ball on your shot?
- How often should you clean your golf clubs?
- How do you clean your golf clubs?

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### Putting Warm-Up

The Learning the Game focus this week is about preparing to play, and how to best use your time before the round on the putting green.

You should highlight to the children best practice of learning the pace of the green and getting confident hitting different lengths of putt.

Introduce your own putting routine or practice drills to help the children develop theirs.



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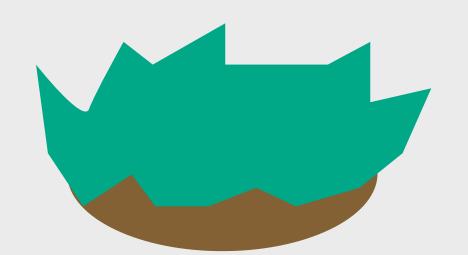
- Why do we need to practice before we head out onto the course?
- What putting games or drills would be good to do in order to prepare?

### Why should we warm-up?

The Learning the Game focus this week is about warming up before a round and why it is important.

You should highlight to your juniors that by going through a warm-up they will be more prepared to play which will help improve their performance.

For more advanced groups take the time to discuss a warm-up routine and include both mental and physical preparations.













- Why do we need to warm up?
- What muscles are important for golf?
- Do you know any stretches or movements we can do to warm up?
- What do we need to think about before playing golf?
- If you could step onto the first tee and be totally prepared, what would you have done, and what would that feel like?

### **Preparing to Play** Driving Range Warm Up

The Learning the Game focus this week is to teach the children a structured driving range warm up.

You should advise children on what they need to do in preparation to play, providing them with stretches and a driving range routine will help them to do this.

Demonstrate an effective driving range warm up routine that they can use to be ready to play.











- What do you need to practice before going out to play?
- Are there any stretches you think are important to do before we start playing golf?
- How many shots do you need to hit before you're ready to play?

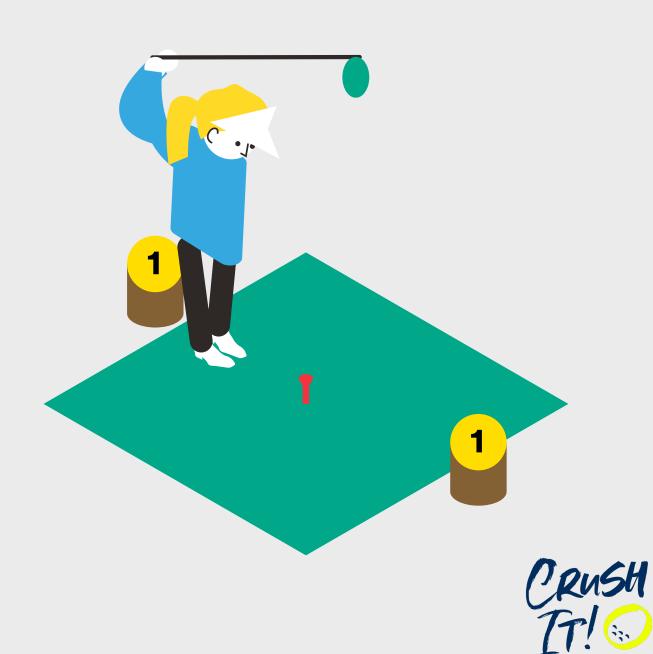


#### Pre-round routine

The Learning the Game focus this week is to create a preround routine.

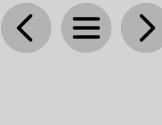
You should highlight the importance of a pre-round routine and how it can influence performance.

Be sure to highlight some key parts of your pre-round routine to help the children create their own.









- What are the key things to do before you start a round of golf?
- What do the top players include in their pre-round routine?
- Who has a pre-round routine already?

Learning the Game











#### What is a penalty area?

The Learning the Game focus this week is about learning the rules if your ball ends up in a penalty area.

You should make sure the children understand what a penalty area is, how to recognise it, and how to take appropriate relief.

Demonstrate how to take a drop properly and make sure the children understand how to drop the ball in the appropriate place.









- How do we recognise a penalty area?
- What are the rules for when your ball lands in a penalty area?
- How do you take a drop from a penalty area?



#### Who plays first? Chipping vs Putting

The Learning the Game focus this week is learning about who plays first when someone is on the green and the other player is off the green.

You should highlight to the children that in competition the player that is furthest away plays first, which can be confusing when that player is on the green.

Be sure that children understand it is important to keep pace of play and that this rule should only be closely adhered to in a matchplay situation.











- Who play first in this situation?
- Which format would it be important to stick to this rule?

#### Out of Bounds

The Learning the Game focus this week is to teach the children about Out of Bounds, how to determine a ball is Out of Bounds, and the associated rules.

You should make sure that children know the rules and what to do should they hit their ball Out of Bounds.

Highlight why in our adapted rules we allow for dropping at the point where the ball went Out of Bounds in order to promote speed of play.







- Who knows what to do when you hit the ball Out of Bounds?
- How do we know that the ball has gone Out of Bounds?
- Why do we have adapted rules in our playing events?

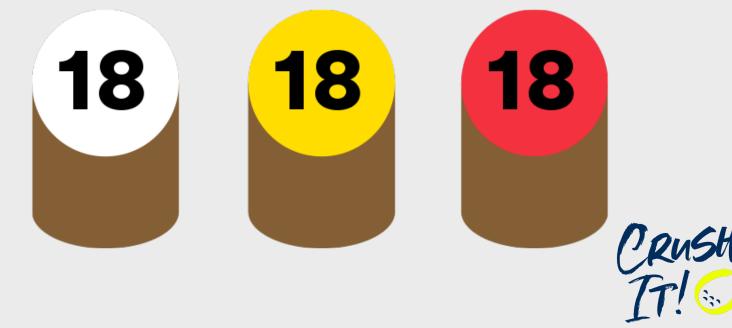


#### What are the rules on the tee?

The Learning the Game focus this week is about learning the different rules on the tee box.

You should make sure the children understand where they are allowed to play from, what the different markers mean, and the information that is provided on the tee signage

Let the children know about the tradition of having "the honour", and highlight how this practice has changed to "ready golf" over the past few years.











- Where are you allowed to tee off from?
- Why do we have different tee markers?
- What do the numbers mean on the tee signage?
- How do we decide who goes first on this hole?

#### Where to leave your bag near the green

The Learning the Game focus this week is learning about where to put your golf bag when you are near the green.

You should highlight to the children that they should leave their bag between the hole and the next tee, so they can minimise the time it takes to move off the green once they've finished a hole, allowing the group behind to play.

Be sure to ask for understanding of why this is important, so they are able to comprehend the reason for doing this.









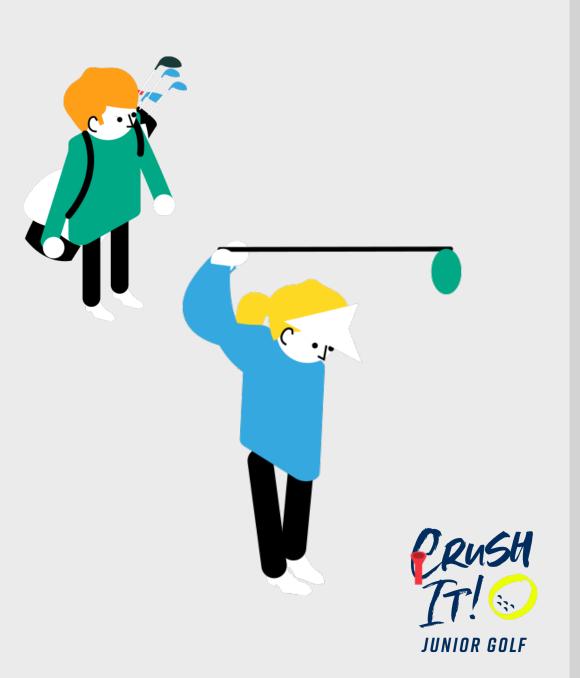


- Where should you leave your golf bag when you're about to putt out?
- Why is it important to leave your golf bag in a place that is easy and quick to leave the green?

#### Who plays first?

The Learning the Game focus this week is to learn who plays first when on the course, and that the children should be ready to play when it is their turn.

You should highlight how important it is to know whose turn it is play, and what you can do to make sure you are ready. For example, choosing your club and taking practice swings whilst others are playing their shots.









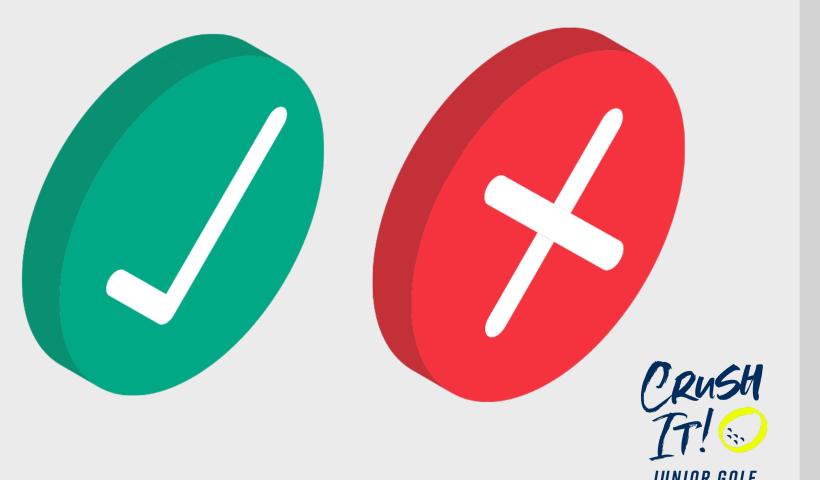
- Who plays first when you are playing a hole?
- Where should you stand when someone else is playing their shot?
- What can you do to be prepared for when it is your turn to play?

#### Practicing safely

The Learning the Game focus this week is about understanding where to practice safely, in particular with short game shots.

You should highlight to your juniors best practice of knowing where to stand when practicing around the green. Not to aim directly across the green where someone else is in line just incase of a poor shot.

Use the lesson to practice playing safely, give the children responsibility to choose where to start from in order to play safely.











- What do we need to be aware of when playing shots around the green?
- Who can demonstrate a good place to stand when someone else is practicing across the green?
- Are there any rules about practicing on the golf course?

#### Etiquette on the Green

The Learning the Game focus this week is etiquette on the green, in particular how easy it is to damage the green if we are not careful.

You should introduce your juniors to the importance of looking after the green, the quality of the grass and the costs involved in maintaining the course.

Highlight that it is up to each of us to be responsible and to make sure we don't run on the green and damage it.









- What is special about the grass on the green?
- How much do you think it costs to build a green?
- What can we do to make sure we don't damage the grass on the green?



#### Line of the putt

The Learning the Game focus this week is about understanding the line of the putt, and the etiquette of not treading on someone's line.

You should highlight to your juniors best practice of understanding a player's line of putt and to make sure you respect it by stepping over or walking around it.

Make sure players understand this isn't a rule of golf but an important part of learning how to behave on the course.



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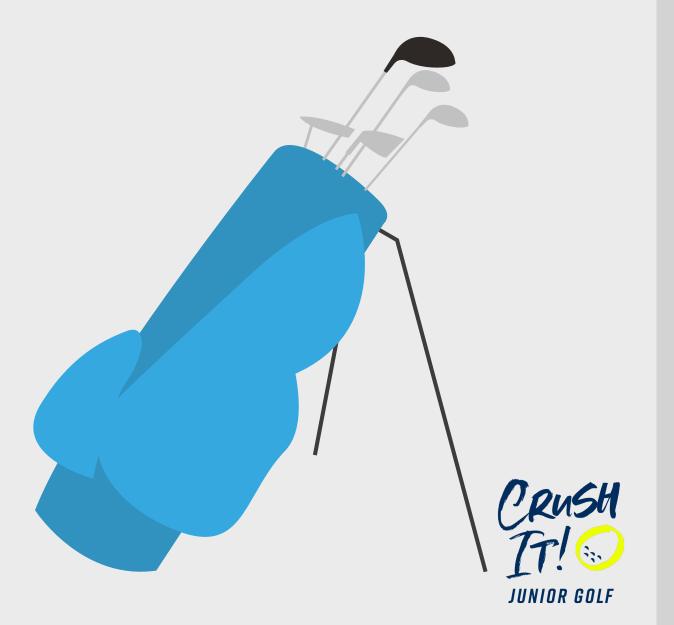
- Why do we not step on someone's line?
- Is there a penalty if you tread on someone's line?

### How many clubs are you allowed in your bag?

The Learning the Game focus this week is about the different clubs in your bag and how many you are allowed to use.

You should make sure your juniors understand they don't need to have 14 clubs to play golf well, but that is the maximum number any player is allowed.

Find out how much your juniors know about the different types of clubs and what they are used for.











- How many clubs are you allowed to play with?
- What is the lowest number of clubs that you could use to play golf?
- Can you hit different shots with just one club?
- What are the different clubs designed to do?

#### Play the ball as it lies

The Learning the Game focus this week is about playing the ball as it lies

You should highlight to your juniors the importance of practicing from difficult lies, not improving your lie to make life easier

Make sure you cover the ruling of what happens if you do improve your lie on the golf course













#### **Questions to Ask**

- Why should we practice from difficult lies?
- What is a good attitude to have if you find yourself in a difficult lie?
- What is the ruling if you are found to be improving your lie on the golf course?
- If you're not sure about a ruling or if you're allowed to take relief on the course?

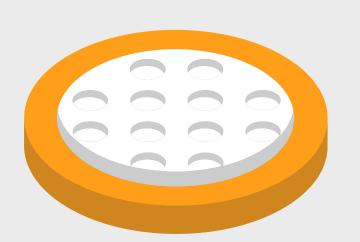
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#### Ball Marker

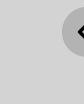
The Learning the Game focus this week is about using a ball marker.

You should highlight to your juniors best practice of using a ball marker after you've hit your putt so that their ball is out of the way of others putting and so they can align the markings on their ball on the next putt if they want.

Make sure you show you mention what happens to a player if their ball does strike another player's ball on the putting green.













- Why do we mark our ball with a ball maker?
- Where are we allowed to putt a ball marker down?
- What is the ruling if your ball strikes another ball on the putting green?
- What can you use to mark your ball?

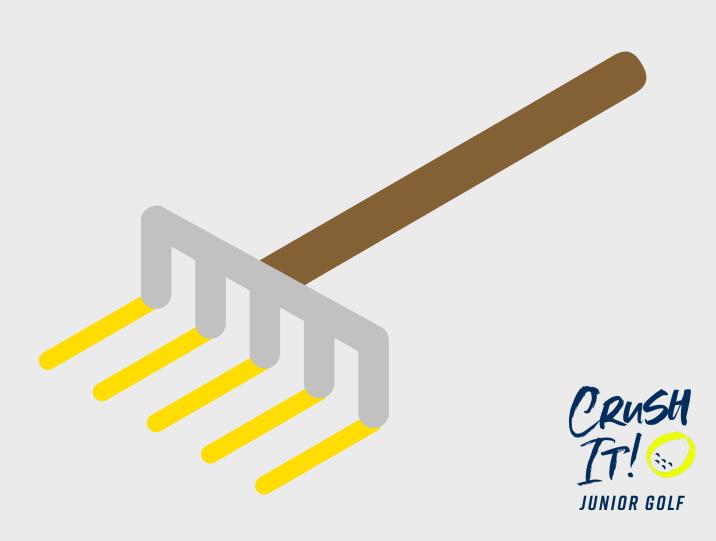
# Rules and Etiquette Introduce Rules in a Bunker

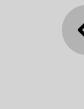
The Learning the Game focus this week is about the rules we need to know when playing from a Bunker.

You should highlight to your juniors that it is ok to move loose impediments, however you must not take a practice swing or touch the sand in front of or behind your ball.

Make sure you show your junior golfers how to rake the bunker properly to ensure it is in good condition for the next player.

Take the time to ask your juniors to think about how else they could look after the golf course.











- What are the rules about touching the sand in a bunker?
- If you see someone has left a bunker and not raked it what should you do?
- Should you try to play the bunker shot the same as a normal shot?
- If not, what is different about it?
- What should you do after you've played your ball out of the bunker?
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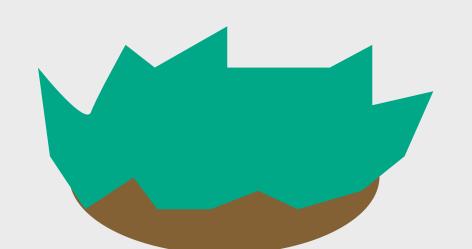
#### Divots

The Learning the Game focus this week is about taking and repairing your divots.

You should highlight to your juniors that it is ok to take a divot, indeed when using your irons you should brush the ground and quite often will take a divot.

Make sure you show your junior golfers how to repair their divots and praise those that do repair their divots throughout the lesson.

Take the time to ask your juniors to think about how else they could look after the golf course.













- Is taking a divot a bad thing?
- Where do you take a divot?
- What does the direction of the divot tell you about your swing?
- What should you do after you've taken a divot?
- Where else do we sometime damage the course and need to make repairs?







#### The Pitchfork

The Learning the Game focus this week is to learn how to use a pitchfork.

You should make sure children know how to repair their pitchmarks and that it is every golfer's responsibility to look after the golf course.

For more advanced groups, highlight that they should be leading by example and making sure the younger children are also repairing their pitchmarks.



- Who is responsible for repairing pitchmarks on the green?
- How does a pitchmark happen?
- Should you only repair your own pitchmark?

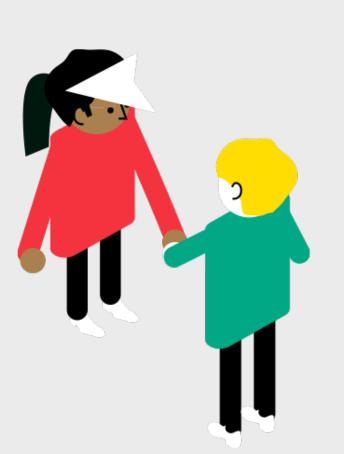


### Introducing Yourself

The Learning the Game focus this week is to learn how to introduce yourself confidently and respectfully to your playing partners and members at the club.

You should highlight to the children how important it is to introduce yourself well, with confidence and respect.

Make sure children understand that first impressions are really important, and by making a good first impression you will start to build a great friendship with that person.











- What is the best way to introduce yourself to someone new?
- Where should you be looking when you introduce yourself to your playing partner?
- Do you think it's better to be confident or timid when introducing yourself for the first time?

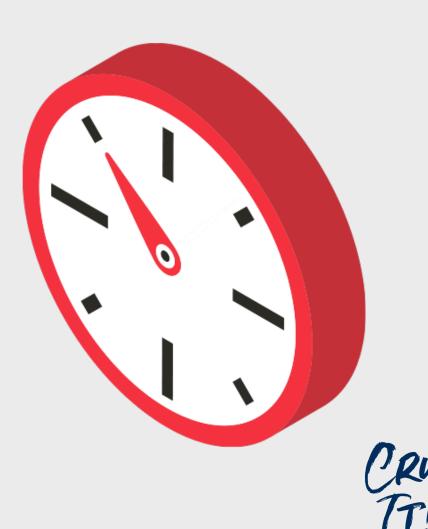


### Ready Golf

The Learning the Game focus this week is learning to play "Ready Golf"

You should highlight to the children that it is important to be ready to play when it is their turn, this helps to keep the pace of play with the rest of the field

Be sure that children understand it is important that they don't play slowly as this will frustrate other golfers.











- Why is it important to keep up the pace of play?
- Who's turn is it next?
- What do you need to be thinking about as you approach your shot?
- Do you need to get anything ready in preparation for your shot?
- When can you start doing practice swings for your shot?









### Optimal Roll

The Learning the Game focus this week is about understanding how to produce a putt that rolls well, as opposed to skidding and bouncing.

You should highlight a couple of ways that technique can help to promote a good roll.

Make sure you demonstrate the difference so that children understand and can notice when they are able to produce a putt that rolls well.













- When do you arrive at the tee?
- How long before your tee time should you arrive at the golf club?
- What do you need to do in the time between arriving at the golf club and teeing off?

### Lie Angle

The Learning the Game focus this week is to learn about the lie angle of the club and the effect it can have on the direction of the shot.

For the younger groups you should highlight how the direction the ball travels can be directly influenced by the lie angle of the club and indicate how this is exaggerated on a sloped lie, with the ball above your feet.









- What is the lie angle?
- What happens on a sloped lie with the ball above your feet?

#### Using different clubs, with different lofts

The Learning the Game focus this week is learning about different lofts and the influence on trajectory.

You should highlight to your juniors that they can practice with different clubs to try to hit the ball different heights and the effect on the ball once It lands

For more experienced players you can develop their knowledge further by asking if any of them understand the impact of loft on spin.













- Why would we use different clubs when chipping?
- What happens to the ball when it lands if we strike it well with a lofted club?
- Can we hit the ball different heights with the same club?
- What is the effect on spin when using a more lofted club?

Par 3, Par 4, Par 5

The Learning the Game focus this week is learning about Par 3s, 4s and 5s.

You should introduce to your juniors the difference between the pars and make sure they understand that they should reach a Par 3 in one shot, Par 4 in two shots and a Par 5 in three shots.

Use the Crush It Course Play guidance toward out how long their par 3s, 4s and 5s should be depending on their driving distance.







#### **Questions to Ask**

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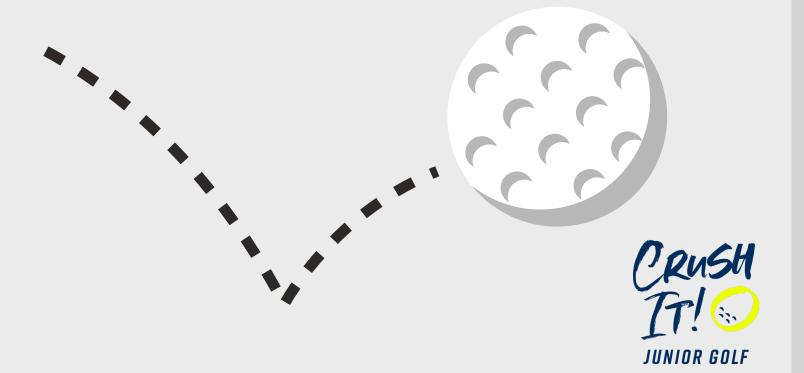
- How far do you hit your driver?
- How long should your Par 3, 4 and 5 be?

#### Sand Wedge, Loft and Bounce

The Learning the Game focus this week is about understanding the Sand Wedge, in particular the loft on the club and what the bounce of the club is.

You should highlight to your juniors, through questioning, how the bounce on a club works, why the loft is important and how you can use other clubs to hit bunker shots.

Use the lesson to demonstrate some shots using different clubs, and how you can change the loft on a club in order to change the flight of the ball.







- What is the loft on a club?
- What is the normal loft on a Sand Wedge?
- Are we able to play shots out of a bunker using a club other than a Sand Wedge?
- What is the bounce on a Sand Wedge?
- What does the bounce do? How does it help us to get the ball out of a bunker?

### Hitting with different parts of the Driver

The Learning the Game focus this week is about understanding the different parts of the driver and how the ball flight is affected when you strike it off the heel or toe.

You should introduce your juniors to the heel and toe of the club and, if appropriate, explain the expected ball flight when striking the ball from these parts of the club with a driver.

Highlight that it is great practice to deliberately try and strike the ball from the heel and toe in order to get better at finding the middle of the club.









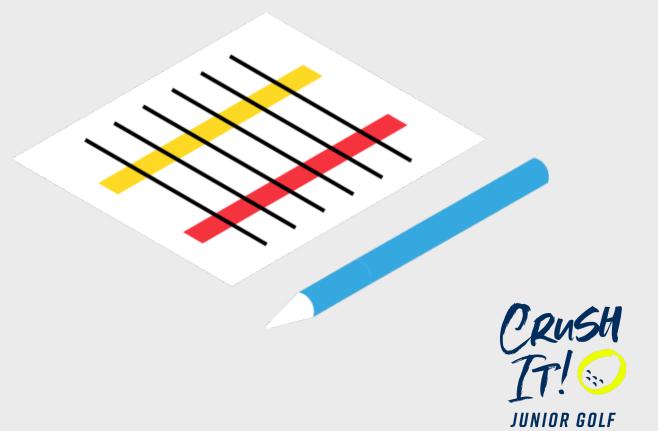
- What are the different parts of the club head called?
- What happens if you hit the ball off the toe with the driver?
- What happens if you hit the ball off the heel with the driver?

### Introducing the Scorecard

The Learning the Game focus this week is about the Scorecard.

You should introduce your juniors to how to score using a scorecard, include this in the scoring challenge, asking juniors to use a scorecard to record their scores.

For more experienced juniors, ask them to swap scorecards and mark each others as they would in a competition.











- What are the important bits to fill out on a scorecard?
- Why do players swap scorecards at the start and end of a round of golf?
- Has anyone played using a scorecard before?

#### The Driver

The Learning the Game focus this week is to introduce the Driver and how it differs from other clubs in the bag.

You should also introduce the children to the specific rules and etiquette when using a driver on the tee.

For more advanced groups highlight the specific design of the driver and how the design helps us to launch the ball at an improved angle and flight the ball for maximum carry and consistency.











- Who knows what a driver is designed to do?
- What is it about the driver that helps us to hit the ball high and far?
- How does the driver differ from other clubs in the bag?
- What rules do we need to be aware of on the tee box when using the driver or any other club in the bag?

#### The Putter

The Learning the Game focus this week is to educate the children about the different parts of the putter and how the design will help children to putt more effectively.

You should explain why the putter is designed as such and highlight the alignment aids that will help the children to aim.

For more advanced groups take the time to discuss the effect an off-center hit will have on the direction and roll of the golf ball.







- Do you know the different parts of a putter?
- Does a putter have loft?
- What helps you to aim the putter?
- Why is the shaft angle more upright on a putter?





#### The Clubhouse

The Learning the Game focus this week is to introduce the children to the Clubhouse and people that they might meet at the course.

You should make sure children know where to go and how to behave when at the golf course and the club, so that they will be able to enjoy themselves at the club, and not feel out of place or get told off for misbehaving.

For more advanced groups introduce them to some of the jobs that are available at the golf club, and the hard work that goes into preparing the course.











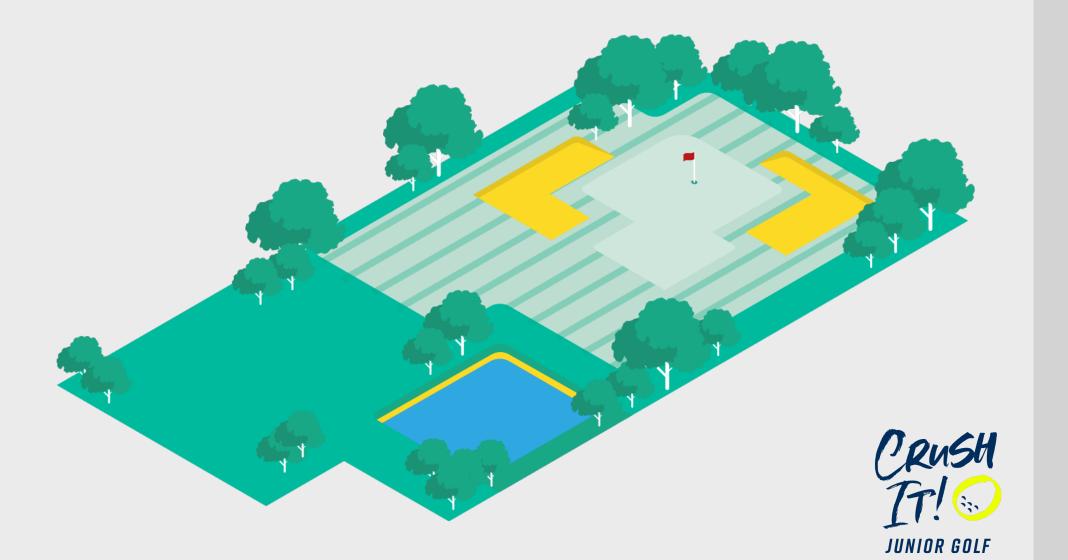
- Where do you go when you arrive at the club?
- Where should you go if you want to use the practice facilities?
- What happens if you get into trouble on the course?
- Do you know the people who are in charge at the golf course?

#### Areas of a Golf Hole

The Learning the Game focus this week is to understand the different areas of a golf hole.

You should check for understanding about what happens when the ball goes into different areas on a hole.

For more advanced groups pinpoint some of the rules that might apply in different areas on a golf hole.









- What are the different areas of a hole?
- Where do you start from on a hole?
- What happens if your ball goes into a penalty area?
- Do you know the rules if your ball goes out of bounds?

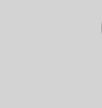
#### Irons - Different Parts of the Club

The Learning the Game focus this week is to educate the children with regards,

You should highlight to your juniors that by going through a warm-up they will be more prepared to play which will help improve their performance.

For more advanced groups take the time to discuss a warm-up routine and include both mental and physical preparations.











- Do you know the different parts of a an iron?
- How many irons are there?
- What do the numbers on the bottom of the club mean?

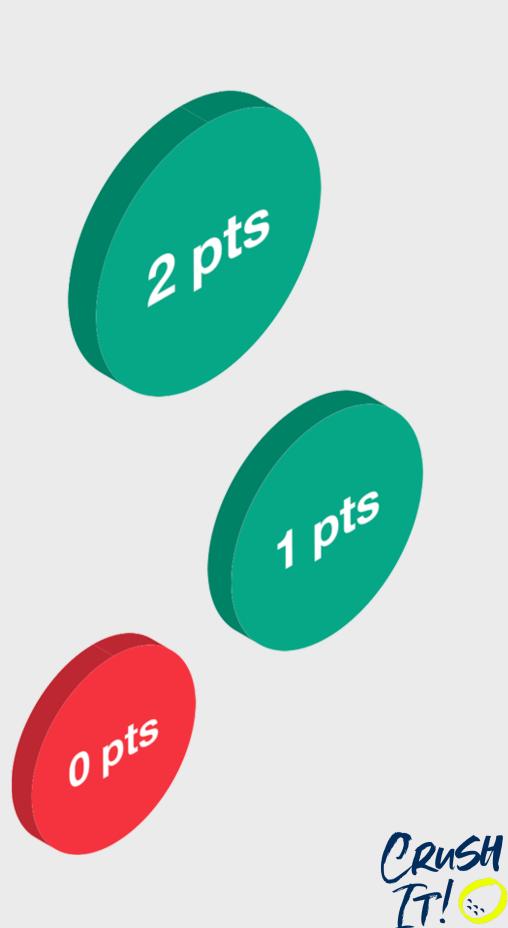


#### Stableford Points

The Learning the Game focus this week is to learn about the stableford scoring system.

You should explain to the children what the different points are given for, and where appropriate explain how handicaps effect this too.

Make sure children understand the scoring and encourage them to try this next time they play.











- How many points do you score for a par?
- How many points do you score for a birdie?
- How many points do you score for a bogey?
- Will you try playing stableford points?