



Cambs & Hunts Ladies' County Golf Association

CADDIES: RULES AND GUIDANCE NOTES

The Rules of Golf define a caddie as someone *“who assists the player in accordance with the rules, which may include carrying or handling the player’s clubs during play”* (R&A 2016 p.32).

- If someone carries or transports a player’s clubs, whether on a pull or motorised cart they are by definition the player’s caddie
- A player may have different caddies during a round, but can have only 1 (one) caddie at a time
- 2 (two) players may use the same caddie
- A caddie may be replaced at any time by the player
- No other person may offer advice or help to a player other than their caddie or referee or the designated person in team events

Note: There are no restrictions on the use of caddies, except that caddies are not permitted in junior events. It is not permitted to use a professional or assistant professional as a caddie:

GENERAL GUIDANCE (note –this list is not exhaustive)

A caddie MAY:

1. give information to the player at any time as requested by the player, including yardages, club selection, how to play a shot, rules etc.
2. keep the players ball in sight and spot where it lands
3. search for a player’s ball (but the caddie should out of courtesy, ask the player before beginning the search)
4. replace the player’s divots on the fairway or fill in divots as recommended by the host venue
5. repair pitch marks on the green but only at the player’s request and direction
6. attend the flagstick (note Rule 17)
7. rake bunkers
8. remove loose impediments
9. mark the position of a ball without lifting it
10. clean the player’s ball and clubs
11. mop up casual water or remove dew or frost on the teeing ground only

A caddie MAY NOT:

1. deem a player’s ball to be unplayable
2. make a concession in match play
3. position themselves behind the player when the player makes a stroke
4. when playing a stroke, purposely stand close to the player to shade the player or their ball from the sun OR protect the player from wind or other elements by using an umbrella etc.
5. substitute a player’s ball with another ball without the player’s knowledge or consent
6. touch or lift a player’s ball in play
7. use a mobile phone while caddying unless in an emergency
8. use a club to pick balls out of a hole