## CARE OF THE COURSE Repairing Divots and Smoothing Bunkers

## **Repair All Divot Holes**

Most clubs require players to carry a sand bucket and use sand to fill any divot holes taken during play (including tee shots) as below. Alternatively clubs may prefer the turf be replaced, or the divot chopped in. If you're not sure what the correct procedure is, ask before you commence your round.



1. Fill divot with sand.

- 2. Level sand with foot or club.
- 3. A careless repair can provide an unfair lie for other players.



4. An unlevelled divot may damage course equipment, result in poor lies, and will take the divot longer to repair.

5. Some clubs may prefer the displaced turf to be placed back in the divot hole.

6. Other clubs may prefer players to "chop-in" their divot. Use the golf club to chop turf from the edge of the divot into the divot hole.

Replacing or repairing divots is designed to get the turf growing again as quickly as possible. Failure to replace or repair a divot can add weeks to the time it takes turf to heal itself.

## **Smooth the Area After Playing From a Bunker**



1. Enter the bunker from the lowest point.

2. After playing, smooth the area and any footprints using a rake if available.

3. If a rake is not available, glide a shoe in a halfcircular motion until the area is smooth.





4. When leaving a bunker, do not pile sand.

5. After use, return the rake in accordance with club policy (either in the bunker or outside the bunker) in the direction of play.

Do not place the rake against the inside edge of the bunker as this may cause difficult lies to other players and potentially awkward rules situations.

## **Compiled in consultation with**





Pictured are Stacey Keating – 2010 Australian Amateur Champion, and Matt Griffin – Scholarship Holder in the Rookie Program Version 2011



