

Niners

By CATHY LOFFINK

Where should a rake be placed when you're golfing?



LOFFINK

Recently, the Charbonneau Golf Club purchased additional bunker rakes in hopes of adding enough rakes at each bunker. Does this mean that if you hit in the bunker, you will have a rake at arm's length? Probably not. So then, what do we do with these rakes? Let's see, the goal of a rake is to smooth the sand where your ball landed and the footsteps you take to get to the ball. This is to ensure that the next player landing in it will have a decent lie in smooth sand. To do this, however, will mean first and foremost remembering to use the rake. You may have to walk around the bunker to retrieve it. Why way over there? Typically, players leave a rake on the side where they last used it. So, two rakes could also become very near each other. This is not the rake's fault nor the maintenance crew, but the nature of play.

This brings to mind the question of where the rakes should be placed. Is there a rule? More to the point is the etiquette of placement. Near the perimeter of the bunker, not fully in

it, is appropriate. Should the rake tines be in the bunker and the handle more on the outside? The real key is to make sure the tines are down. No one wants to be injured by a rake, picture Curly of The Three Stooges, stepping on the open end of the rake and having the handle bounce up and hit him in the face. Didn't see that show? I guess I am dating myself. Can the rake be fully outside of the bunker along the edge or partly in and out? Laying at an angle? There are so many things to think about. Maybe it could be that you just want to think about other players who come after you and place it in a manner that is reasonable and courteous. Getting your ball out of the sand should be the challenge, not worrying about the rake placement.

Once again, the Niners will be performing in the annual Niner Community Musical Program. This is a fun event if you have not experienced it. The performances will be Thursday, Sept. 18th at 2 p.m. and Friday and Saturday Sept. 19 and 20 at 6 p.m. Doors will open earlier. The cost is \$5 for Niners and \$10 for others. Contact JoAnna Sawyer at 503-694-5555 for tickets. They go fast so pick them up soon.

Aug. 12 is the next Niner Scramble. Be sure to sign up now either in the notebook in the Proshop or online at ladiesninergolf.com.

The weather was truly cooperative for the Niner Guest Day event. We had a full field and it was truly a fun day. It is always a great time to meet new friends.



The Guest Day team of Niner Brenda Gardner, guest Jackie Peters, Niner Julie Beaton and guest Sue Schneider.