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Unit 1 Writing Assignment

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Greetings everyone!!

For three years, I've currently been playing golf with WIAGA Golf club, also known as the West Indian American Golf Association. This goes for those who don't know anything about golf or plan on playing it in the future. I find this golf club that I've joined to have a broadly agreed set of common goals. All members in the club share a similar goal, which is to shoot the lowest scores we possibly can every time we play. The way everyone including myself communicates about our goals is that we share parts of our game that we struggle on so that we can receive positive feedback on what we should work on in order to improve our game. For example, if my swing is not good, it will be hard for me to fix it by myself. Instead, I have others that I play with who will help me fix it so that I can play better golf. There is definitely a clear type of communication with all the members in the club. However, the purpose of us having these goals is so that we can become better golfers. We do not want to see others in the club struggle in the game, only succeed.

I've encountered many problems when playing with the WIAGA Golf club. What I've encountered is that there is a certain group of members from the club that don't have or share goals in order of becoming a better player/golfer. What they want to try and do is "cheat" when playing the game so that they can win because it is pretty hard to win a game since there is a lot of competition with other players. You guys must be wondering, "How can people cheat in golf?" Well, a couple of basic ways you can cheat is lying about your scores saying that you made for example a 6 on a hole when you actually made a 7. In golf, the lower score you make in a hole the better so the player is basically trying to save a point. Another way is pretending you have found your golf ball but actually lost it, which then you drop a ball without people seeing or

knowing. Players tend to do this because if you lose your ball, you add 2 points to your score which is BAD. So if they lie and say that they found their ball which they didn't then you can see that it's cheating. Now most of us in the club know who those members are but whenever we get paired playing with any of them, we need to be very careful and pay attention to what they are doing as to every shot they are playing.

Another problem is that there are golfers that are too slow, which makes the golf games less fun and more boring. Slow play in golf is actually the worst thing you can encounter when playing a game of golf. This creates a problem for WIAGA because then there will be less communication with others, brings down the confidence of players, more arguing, and it will make others forget about their goals and lose immediate interest in the game. For example, if we are playing and someone in front of us that we know is playing slow, we let both the president and secretary know so that they can take care of that when our next game comes. Even now when playing golf in general besides playing in the club, when I see slow players playing in front of me, I tend to lose focus and forget what I want to accomplish in that game I am playing in.

For cheating there is only one simple solution that we use when playing golf that WIAGA uses often. This is common sense to all golfers, which is to tell the president or secretary of the club. For example, I have a friend named Derek, who has encountered this problem of cheating with another golfer and what he did was that he contacted the president of the club and got the player that was cheating disqualified. This happened because that person cheats almost every game that we play. Now if it wasn't that bad, then that player would end up with a warning. Although, my solution for cheating would be to confront that person who cheated on the hole, because then that player would know that he/she has been caught.

Slow playing is one of the worst problems you can encounter when playing in the club. Slow playing means when players play slower than the normal rate in which you are supposed to be playing in the game of golf, which basically means you are playing really slow. Solutions that I and my members have tried from my research for slow playing in golf are playing "ready golf". It stated, "That golfer the one who is away is supposed to play first, followed by the next farthest away and so on." The player that shoots the best (lowest) score on the last existing hole should be the first to play the next hole. Then following the quote, whoever's golf ball is farther away from the hole or let's say shorter in distance, that player must play first, then continuing to the

rest of the players in the group. Now, if that player is slow and basically takes his/her time, we try to let ANYONE, doesn't matter who plays first so that we can get the game moving on at a faster rate. <https://www.liveabout.com/tips-for-fighting-slow-play-1563908> Although, my solution for this is going to the group that is in front of my group and letting them know that they need to pick up the pace. This then will let them know that they're playing way too slow and should start to speed it up!

Another solution for slow playing is aiming to play in 20 seconds. Based on my research, it says, "Take approximately 20 seconds to hit each and every shot". Taking more than 20 seconds shows that you are playing slower than what you are supposed to be. This however is what my club is trying to do in order to eliminate slow play and over the years, we have seen players make an improvement, which I recommend to any golfers out there.

<https://www.usga.org/pace-of-play-resource-center/tips-and-suggestions-for-improving-pace-of-play.html> Although, my solution for playing your shots in 20 seconds is to free your mind and just hit the golf ball. I feel like this will help players a lot because most of them over think on what they should do like for example, should I swing it easy or hard? Having too many thoughts in your head on how to swing the golf club will mess you up and make you take more time that you don't need.

Last solution for slow playing is to never hit practice shots on the course and limit the time for searching lost balls. For those who don't know, hitting practice shots means that you are playing with more than 1 golf ball. Searching lost balls is very common in golf, where the player hits their ball somewhere either in a bush or around an area where they think they will not find it. From my research, it stated, "Never hit practice shots on the course such as replaying shots that are totally unnecessary. Limit the time spent looking for lost balls or have other members in the group hit while you are looking for it." This is an important solution because believe it or not, this is what gets golfers annoyed and less focused on their goals. Most of the time, players tend to help others find their golf ball if they have trouble finding it because they know that it can get aggravating. For ex: when I encounter problems like this, I try my best to keep focus and try to communicate with the other players that I'm playing with to make sure that they are also doing what I'm doing. <https://golftips.golfweek.com/slow-play-golf-2037.html> Although, my solution for practice shots would be to contact the president and secretary to let them know that a player

in my group is hitting practice shots, which is NOT ALLOWED when playing games in the club. Another solution that I would have done for limiting time on lost balls is to take the penalty after losing your ball and move on. A lot of golfers like to spend lots of time searching for their lost ball but you're going to have to face the fact that golf is hard and that everything won't go your way that you've planned. This always happens to me and I always have to tell myself that I need to move on.

Playing in WIAGA helped me gain a lot of experience when playing the game of golf. Even though they had a lot of problems, we slowly resolved the problems with these solutions one by one. Doing this helped everyone achieve their goals, by communicating and having more fun when playing with others, and dealing with things that you will soon manage together as a group.