

Bunkers

Source: Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

Sand bunkers are enough of a hazard without the bad lies caused by an unraked surface, so here's some quick tips for making sure that the next golfer who faces your predicament isn't additionally cursed by an ungroomed bunker.

- Rakes are situated around the bunkers. Please locate a rake before hitting your shot.
- Try to enter and exit the bunker from the point that's closest to your ball, but most level to the adjacent playing surface. Don't try to climb out by going up a steep bunker face (you can damage the lip of the bunker and displace too much sand).
- Always rake the bunker immediately after your sand shot.
- Be careful not to pull excess sand to (or over) the lip of the bunker. The best practice is to alternate between pulling sand toward you and pushing it back with the tines of the rake, thus making a relatively even surface without displacing too much sand.
- Proper placement of bunker rakes is "in and down." The rake should be placed inside the bunker, lying flat on the ground, and pointed in the middle of the bunker.

Bunker Conditioning:

Due to the amount of rain we've had this year, the bunkers have not been in their best condition. Here is the process to properly condition a bunker after it's rained:

- After it's rained, it takes roughly 3-4 days of dry weather to properly condition a bunker
- The rain water has to be pumped out of the bunker
- Sand has to be shoveled back on the faces of the bunker (the rain washes this away)
- The bunker has to be dried out for another day before it's machine raked



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