

PERSONAL INJURY LAWSUITS...IS YOUR GOLF COURSE PREPARED?

Are you, your golf course and/or driving range prepared to defend a personal injury lawsuit? Do you have adequate warning signs and safety barriers or dividers separating the hitting areas on your range? Do you have adequate golf course rules and warning signs posted where they can be seen easily? Sounds unnecessary, I'm sure and you'll think, "we don't need them at our course." Don't be so sure and don't be complacent about warning the golfing public of the rules at your golf course. Rules that we feel to be self evident and common sense are sometimes the ones that need to be most obvious.

All golf courses and driving ranges have certain rules that apply to their specific location and clientele, and, hopefully, a professional staff of maintenance and proshop personnel to establish, oversee, and enforce these rules. With more and more people using golf facilities, I feel it's important to warn and make facilities aware of the possibility of an injury accident happening. From my personal experience, I can give some suggestions and ideas that could help prevent you from going through all the inconveniences caused by being a defendant in a personal injury lawsuit, and, possibly, make you aware of possible dangers at your facility.

While the majority of golfers are familiar with golf course rules and etiquette, they sometimes need subtle reminders of the Do's and Don'ts. However, novice and first-time golfers are a different story. Persons who have never used a facility before need to be warned and directed by signs coupled with verbal instructions.