



Were a couple to be advised on their relationship, the counselor might defer to golf terms to make the point. Here are some common **Golf Terms: Counseling Equivalents**.

Birdie: *Getting the birthday **and** the gift right*

Bogey: *You said "fine" but your tone said "We'll discuss this in 3-5 business days"*

Bump and Run: *Low, rolling shot at the truth; soft landing technique*

Bunker/Sand Trap: *Technically playable, spiritually exhausting*

Conceding a Putt: *Close enough; no need to die on this hill*

Dog Leg: *The discussion doesn't go straight; requires adjustment*

Double Bogey: *Nothing's working, conversation, swing, or dinner plans*

Draw: *Intentional gentle curve toward the truth*

Eagle: *You both admitted you were wrong **and** hugged it out before bed*

Fade: *Strategic avoidance that feels mature but isn't*

Fat Shot: *You hit dirt before the issue developed, and stayed there*

Flop Shot: *High drama, soft landing, necessity unclear*

Fried Egg: *Logic obscured; difficult position requiring careful extraction*

Gimme: *A short point we'll all pretend was resolved*

Going for the Green: *Risky shot that could pay off big or backfire*

Green in Regulation: *Making a point in the expected number of attempts*

Continued



Handicap: *To level the playing field despite different expectation levels*

Hitting the Wrong Ball: *Two-stroke penalty for addressing the wrong issue*

Hole in One: *Rare, magical occurrence when the negotiations align*

Hook: *Apologizing so hard you're now the victim somehow*

Improving Your Lie: *The excuse gets better every time you tell it*

Lay Up: *Choosing reconciliation over being technically correct*

Mark Your Ball: *'Pin that thought; I need to finish being right about this first'*

Mulligan: *Doesn't count, except emotionally*

Out of Bounds: *Beyond acceptable limits; stroke and distance penalty*

Par: *An expected score; you're both moderately annoyed but still functional*

Play Out of Turn: *When it's not your turn to speak*

Playing Through: *Giving in to a better point; knowing when to step aside*

Punch Shot: *Low, fast, no fluff*

Shank: *Point goes wildly off-target; complete miscommunication*

Slice: *To curve away from target; not facing the issue directly*

Slow Play: *Taking too long; holding up the discussion*

Snowman: *Score of 8; it started with the thermostat and now you're sleeping in separate zip codes*

The 19th Hole: *Drinks, friends, and selective recollection*

The Rough: *Difficult negotiation; harder to make progress*

The Yips: *Sudden inability to discuss simple issues*

Thin Shot: *Barely making contact; avoiding the real issue*

Topped Shot: *Hitting only the top of the problem; not getting to the real issue, again*

Water Hazard: *Getting in too deep; emotional overflow with penalty strokes, and possibly ice cream*

- STORY, ART: EDITOR

