



# 2020 Local Rules

## Temporary Covid-19 Local Rules

### **Bunkers:**

We have removed all rakes from the course to help stop the spread of coronavirus. A player may take free relief if a player's ball comes to rest in an unmaintained area in the bunker, but are required to take this relief elsewhere within the bunker. The ball shall be picked up and dropped from knee height no closer to the hole.

### **Flagsticks:**

Under Rule 1.2 Standards of Player Conduct, a player is prohibited from removing the flagstick.

## Local Rules

### **Alternative to Stroke and Distance for Out of Bounds or Lost Ball:**

Defined by the nearest inside points of white stakes or fence posts at ground level. When out of bounds is defined by a white line on the ground, the line itself is out of bounds.

When a player's ball has not been found or is *unknown or virtually certain* to be *out of bounds*, for **two penalty strokes**, the player may take relief by *dropping* the original ball or another ball in the relief area as defined in rule 14.3.

### Two Estimated Reference Points:

- a. Ball Reference Point:** The point where the original ball is estimated to have:
  - a. Come to rest on the *course*, or
  - b. Last crossed the edge of the *course* boundary to go *out of bounds*
- b. Fairway Reference Point:** The point of fairway of the *hole* being played that is nearest to the ball reference point, **but** is not nearer the *hole* than the ball reference point.

For purposes of this Local Rule, "fairway" means any area of grass in the *general area* that is cut to fairway height or less. If a ball is estimated to be lost on the course or last crossed the edge of the course boundary short of the fairway, the fairway reference point may be a grass path or a teeing ground for the hole being played cut to fairway height or less.

Size of Relief Area Based on Reference Points: Anywhere between:



# 2020 Local Rules

- A line from the *hole* through the ball reference point (and within two *club-lengths* to the outside of that line), and
- A line from the *hole* through the fairway reference point (and within two *club-lengths* to the fairway side of that line).

## GOLF'S NEW RULES: STROKE AND DISTANCE

A new Local Rule provides an alternative to stroke-and-distance relief for a ball that is lost outside a penalty area or out of bounds, effective January 1, 2019.

### BALL OUT OF BOUNDS



### LOST BALL



If the Local Rule is in effect, you can still take stroke-and-distance relief, but you now have the following additional option that comes with a penalty of two strokes:

**A** DETERMINE SPOT where your ball went out of bounds (left diagram) or is likely to be lost (right diagram).

**B** FIND NEAREST FAIRWAY EDGE no closer to the hole.

**C** DROP YOUR BALL IN SHADED AREA as defined on one side by a line from the hole through point A and on the other side by a line from the hole through point B, and not nearer the hole. The relief area is extended on both sides by two club-lengths.

This Local Rule is not intended for higher levels of play, such as professional or elite amateur level competitions.



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## Pea Gravel on Golf Course:

The pea gravel areas between fairways where the grass has not grown in, are being played as Ground Under Repair (GUR), also called Abnormal Ground Conditions according to Rule 16.1.

- Interference by the Abnormal Ground Condition (pea gravel) with the player's stance is deemed not to be, of itself, interference under this local rule.
- The nearest point of relief will be deemed to be any surface through the green, no closer to the hole, where the ball can rest without touching the Abnormal Ground Condition (pea gravel).

The intention is that the player may lift, clean and place the golf ball on a grass or dirt area close to where the ball originally came to rest, **without** taking it back to their respective fairway.



# 2020 Local Rules

## **Ant Hills:**

Ant hills will be deemed to be an “Abnormal Ground Condition” as defined by Rule 16.1

## **Accidental Movement of a Ball on a Putting Green (Rule 13.1d):**

When a player’s ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment.

The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced as provided in Rule 14.2.

This Local Rule applies only when the player’s ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental.

*Note: If it is determined that a player’s ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new location. A ball-marker moved in such circumstances is replaced.*

## **Stones in Bunkers:**

Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions (Rule 15.1 applies).

## **Summer Rules:**

Summer Rules are in effect June 1, 2020. Ball to be played as it lies tee to green with the exception of relief for pea gravel.

## **Distance-Measuring Devices:**

For all play at P.G.G.C.C., a player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g. elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 4.3a.

## **Embedded Ball through the Green:**

Relief for an embedded ball is given through the green. Permits lifting, cleaning and dropping, no nearer the hole. (Not in a hazard)



# 2020 Local Rules

## **Immovable Obstructions:**

(Rule 24-2) Free relief from all logs, outhouses, pump house, sprinkler control boxes and sprinkler heads - Relief is granted only when there is interference with stance or swing. A player shall drop at the nearest point of relief within one club-length. (Not in a hazard or on a putting green and no nearer the hole)

## **Obstructions:**

(Rule 24-1) Free relief from all flowerbeds - A player shall drop at the nearest point of relief within one club-length. (No nearer the hole)

## **Roads and Pathways:**

All artificially surfaced roads and pathways are considered dangerous and relief without penalty may be taken - A player shall drop within one club-length of the nearest point of relief. (Not in a hazard or on a putting green and no nearer the hole)

## **Temporary Immovable Obstruction:**

When playing # 7, if a player's swing, stance or line of sight are interfered with by the fence alongside # 7 green, a player may elect to drop his/her ball in the drop area provided behind # 7 green.

## **Ground Under Repair:**

Areas enclosed by white lines are ground under repair. The white lines are in the GUR. French Drains (if gravel can be seen or felt by probing), trenches filled with rock, stones or the like are ground under repair whether or not marked.

## **Driving Range and Clubhouse:**

Out of bounds.

## **Penalty Areas:**

Defined by yellow lines and/or stakes. (Water in front of # 14, and # 16)



# 2020 Local Rules

## **Lateral Water Hazards**

Defined by red lines and/or stakes. (Water on the front right of # 3, left and right side on # 4, # 16 and # 17, back of green on # 14)

## **Doubt as to Procedure:**

In stroke play only, when during play of a hole a competitor is doubtful of his rights or procedure, he may, without penalty play a second ball. You **MUST**:

- \* Declare that you are playing a second ball
- \* Indicate to your marker in advance which ball you wish to count
- \* Report to the committee immediately upon completion of your round and request a ruling

Golf Activities Committee