## PWGA LOCAL RULES - UPDATED November 2025



Play is governed by the USGA rules of golf. Additionally, please use the following PWGA local rules.

## **LOCAL PWGA RULES:**

**RELIEF FROM A SPRINKLER HEAD NEAR THE GREEN:** For relief from a sprinkler head that interferes with line of play, the sprinkler head must be within 2 club lengths of the green and your ball must be within 2 club lengths of the sprinkler head. Free drop, nearest point of relief, 1 club length.

**RELIEF FROM CART PATHS:** All areas considered a cart path are defined <u>only</u> as **pavement OR gravel (not dirt).** FREE RELIEF - Obstructions *Rule 6.* Nearest point of relief plus one club length. Get "drop" approval from your playing partners.

**NO FREE RELIEF FROM DIRT PATHS AND TIRE TRACKS:** No free relief from DIRT paths. And no free relief from tire tracks on dirt paths or ANYWHERE on the course unless marked as GUR with white lines.

<u>OUT OF BOUNDS BALL</u>: You may drop a ball where the original ball crossed the Out of Bounds line – nearest point of relief plus 2 club lengths – <u>2 stroke penalty</u>. You no longer need to re-hit from the previous spot. Hole #18, especially, needs this new rule because of the new OB areas left of the fairway (due to the new building).

**RELIEF FROM SOD SEAMS:** You may take FREE RELIEF if your ball comes to rest specifically in the seam of a newly sodded area. Drop 1 Club Length from nearest point of relief, but must remain in sodded area.

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES: Allowed in all events, but not if they measure wind and/or elevation. Rule 4

**CADDIES:** Caddies are not allowed for any of our 4 major Tournaments.

## **USGA RULES TO KEEP IN MIND:**

Hole #11 - The water in front of the green is a Yellow Penalty area (not Red)

You may not take a drop where your ball enters the water on the side near the green. You MAY use the drop area (even if the drop area is across the water near the green), OR proceed under the yellow penalty area relief. *Rule 17* 

**Hole #12** - The fenced area on the left of the fairway is an immovable obstruction. Free relief for swing and stance only, not line of sight. *Rule 16* 

## NO RELIEF FROM DIVOTS IN THE FAIRWAYS

**LOST OR OB BALL:** You MUST re-tee from the tee box or from the spot of your previous stroke if not the tee box (1 stroke penalty). To speed up play, <u>PLEASE HIT A PROVISIONAL before you go look for your ball.</u> You can only look for your ball for 3 minutes. If you find your 1<sup>st</sup> ball, you cannot play your provisional ball. If you do not find your 1<sup>st</sup> ball, then you must play your provisional ball. If you happen to find your 1<sup>st</sup> ball <u>after</u> you hit your provisional ball – too late – the provisional is in play. Provisional balls speed up play. *Rule 18* 

**UNPLAYABLE LIE:** You always have 3 relief options, all for 1 penalty stroke. Your 1<sup>st</sup> option is to go back to the spot of your previous stroke and play again (stroke and distance relief). Your 2<sup>nd</sup> options is to go back as far as you'd like and drop on the line from the hole through the spot where your ball lies (back-on-the-line relief). Your 3<sup>rd</sup> option is to drop anywhere within 2 club lengths of where your ball lies, no closer to the hole (lateral relief). *Rule 19* 

**OUT OF BOUNDS:** Perimeter fencing surrounding the golf course. Out of bounds is defined by the inside points off fences and posts. *Rule 18* 

**PENALTY AREAS:** Are identified by red or yellow stakes and/or lines. Use the line if available, otherwise use the stakes for relief reference. *Rule 17* 

**IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS:** All control boxes and weather stations are obstructions. Swing and stance relief, plus one club length only, NOT line of sight. *Rule 16* 

GROUND UNDER REPAIR: Must be defined by white lines or specific sign. Rule 16

LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS: Loose impediments may be removed from bunkers and all penalty areas. Rule 15

**BALL ACCIDENTALLY MOVED ON THE PUTTING GREEN:** No penalty ON THE GREEN if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, partner, opponent or any of their caddies or equipment. The moved ball or marker must be replaced. *Rule 15* 

**BALL ACCIDENTALLY MOVED DURING SEARCH**: There is no penalty if you or anyone else moves your ball during a search. Simply replace it. *Rule 7.4* 

**DOUBT AS TO PROCEDURE:** In stroke play, a player may play a second ball under *Rule 20.1c(3)* – confirm with pro shop after play which score counts.