

Competition for the Riverdale Men's Club Tournament Season Local Rules and Conditions of Play Updated: February, 2023

Rules referenced in this document: Rules of Golf – Effective January 2023

The Rules of the United States Golf Association govern play. This local rule sheet and any TOURNAMENT specific Notice to Competitors/Players are supplements to The Rules of Golf (Rules book). The Tournament Committee, whose decision is final, shall settle questions. Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition Is: Match Play-Loss of Hole, Stroke Play-Two Strokes penalty.

LOCAL RULES

The Men's Club local rules are designed to improve speed of play. All local rules supersede golf course rules.

Range Finders / GPS: The CLUB is authorizing the use of such devices during tournament play. However, if a player uses a device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect play (EG gradient, wind-speed, etc.) the player is in breach of Rule 4.3a. The penalty for the first breach of this Rule is two strokes in stroke play and loss of hole in match play and any subsequent breach will result in disqualification.

Time of Starting: If the player arrives at his starting point, ready to play, **within five** minutes after his starting time, the penalty for failure to start on time is loss of each hole until 10 holes in match play or two strokes at the first hole in stroke play. Otherwise, the penalty for breach of this rule in stroke play is disqualification. Disqualified players may continue to play for skin and proxy competitions.

Embedded Ball: If a player's ball is embedded through the green, it may be lifted, cleaned and dropped, without penalty, as near as possible to the spot where it lay but not nearer the hole.

Pace of Play: A player is subject to penalty if he unduly delays play or contributes to causing his group to become out of position. It is the player's responsibility to be in position and not unduly delay play, Rule 5.6. For self-policing purposes, players are out of position when: **upon arriving at the tee box the group in front have cleared the green KEEP UP!!** Pace of play is measured against the group in front of you.

Violations of the above guidelines will result in the enforcement of the following: **1st occurrence** warning: you have 2 holes to get back into position. **2nd occurrence:** 2 stroke penalty in stroke play and loss of hole in match play - you have 2 holes to get back into position. **3rd occurrence:** you will be directed to skip the necessary hole(s) to get yourself back in position with the group in front of you and you will incur a penalty of disqualification. Disqualified players may continue to play for skin and proxy competitions.

Penalties for slow play will be assessed to the offending player(s) in the group. If the tournament is a team event, the team will be assessed the penalty. Player's will discuss and determine the offender(s).

2 minutes to locate a lost ball!

Ball is lost or out of bounds: As an alternative to stroke-and-distance relief, Model Local Rule E-5 may be used. For instance, a player may drop a ball within two club-lengths, but not nearer the hole, of the nearest edge of the fairway at an equal distance from the hole to where the ball was believed to be lost or went out of bounds and add two penalty strokes. This Local Rule may not be used: 1) if a provisional ball is in play, or 2) for a ball in a penalty area, or 3) for an unplayable ball.

Dunes and KNOLLS Courses: Local Native relief rule applies to all flights: If player's ball is lost or unplayable in any un-mowed area, he may drop (incurring a one stroke penalty) using the lateral hazard rule, dropping at the point where the ball's flight last crossed the line into the un-mowed area. (Note: if the un-mowed area is near an Out of Bounds area, the ball may be Out of Bounds. If there is a question in a stroke play event, play two balls and ask for a ruling from the tournament committee. If there is a question in a match play event, the issue must be resolved before continuing play; if the issue can't be resolved between the 2 players, then consider the hole a tie or complete the hole and make a claim – Rule 20.1b). Playing a provisional ball is suggested if a ball is believed to have entered into a hazard and is not immediately located, if the original ball is located and playable the provisional ball will be abandoned.

Railroad ties: All railroad ties are considered an integral part of the course. **NO RELIEF!**

Knolls Course: Drop Area Hole #1: If a player's ball goes into the second lake and is unable to play the next shot., the player **MUST** proceed to the Blue 200-yard marker on the right side of #1 fairway, and drop in the general area of the marker (no closer to the hole) and take a one-stroke penalty.

Dunes Course: Drop Area Hole #4: If a player's ball enters the water, the player **MUST** proceed to the RED tee box and drop at the "Drop sign", taking a one stroke penalty. **Drop Area Hole #8:** If a player's ball goes into the water or native area, the player **MAY** proceed to the "Drop sign" between the water and the Hill on the right, taking a one stroke penalty.

Ground Under Repair (GUR): Defined by white lines: French drains are deemed to be GUR, whether or not marked; roped-off areas and cultivated flowerbeds (whether marked or not) are deemed to be GUR, and relief is mandatory; newly trenched and sodded areas are deemed to be GUR. (if not marked, relief is for the lie of the ball only when the ball lies in the trench or on a sod seam. All seams in the sodded area are the same seam).

Aeration Holes: Model Local Rule E-4 states: If a player's ball lies in or touches an aeration hole (Ball in General Area). The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. If the ball comes to rest in another aeration hole the player may take relief again under this Local Rule.

Staked Trees: Stakes and wires supporting trees are immovable obstructions and relief may be taken for swing or stance, but not ball flight. Relief is not from the tree. Rule 16.1.

Second-Ball: In stroke play. When a player is doubtful of his rights or procedure, he may, without penalty, play a second ball under Rule 20.1c(3). The player **must** report the facts of the situation to the Committee before returning the scorecard. Failure to do so: 2 strokes penalty.

In Match Play: if a doubt or dispute arises between the players, they may consider the hole a tie or they should continue play of the hole and notify the opponent that he is making a claim. The player **may not** complete the play of the hole with two balls. Facts of the claim should be presented to the Committee prior to the signing of the scorecard. (Refer to Rule 20.1b)

CONDITIONS: DISCONTINUANCE OF PLAY:

Committee Procedures / Section 4B (Suspending Play)

A player may discontinue play if he believes there is a danger from lightning. All other decisions on discontinuance of play will be made by a minimum of 3 officers.

If the golf course is closed, the tournament will be canceled or rescheduled. If the weather is questionable, a minimum of 3 officers will determine if the tournament will begin.

Once a tournament begins and if weather conditions worsen, the officers will suspend play, then decide if the tournament should be resumed or canceled. If the course is closed and all players have not completed 9 holes, the tournament will be canceled. If all players have completed 9 holes, the tournament will become a 9-hole tournament. If a tournament is shortened and not canceled, skins will be allotted to the maximum holes completed in each flight.

If play is suspended and/or canceled, Club officers and the Riverdale golf course staff will ensure all participants are notified in a timely manner.

Once all players have completed 9 holes, the club is charged the 18-hole greens fees.

Cart Path: Is defined as a prepared surface specifically for cart use, prepared with concrete, asphalt or gravel, and extensions thereof. A free drop is available from all cart paths, extensions thereof and from all maintenance roads.

Score Posting: For handicap purposes, the Handicap Chairman will post all applicable tournament scores to the GHIN Handicap system.

Ties: Committee Procedures / Section 5A(6) (How Ties Will Be Decided)

Ties for all places will be broken utilizing the USGA Recommended Tie Breaker Procedure.

1. **Gross Score:** Gross score the last 9 holes; last 6 holes; last 3 holes; 18th hole. Tied: then front 9-6-3-1.
2. **Net Score:** Net score over the last 9 holes; last 6 holes; last 3 holes; 18th hole. Tied: then front 9-6-3-1.
3. **2-Day Events:** If tied after second day tiebreaker the tie breaker will continue to the first 18 holes. 9-6-3-1.

Conduct: Unbecoming conduct by a player, reported to the Rules Committee before, during or after a round, may be cause for disqualification under Rule 1.2. Objectionable conduct includes club throwing, foul language, abuse of the golf course or course property, abuse of Men's Club Officers, alcohol/drug impaired behavior, or any conduct unbecoming a gentleman. Players may also be suspended from playing in future Men's Club run events.

The Tournament/Rules Committee: The Committee for Men's Club tournaments consists of the Men's Club Officers on site or participating in the tournament and the Riverdale Golf Course club professional on site.