

Men's Club Local Rules

Updated August 2018

Rule 25-1 is modified as follows (Tree Root Relief): The following local rule is in effect **through the green on all 18 holes.**

When a player's ball comes to rest on an exposed tree root, or the exposed tree root will interfere with intended swing path (farther than one scorecard length away from the trunk of the tree) the player is entitled to free relief from the tree root.

Free relief in this case shall be defined as the nearest point of relief from the root, keeping the point where the root is interfering with the ball, in line with the pin back only as far to provide relief from the root (a scorecard length maximum). The ball shall be placed, but not cleaned, at the nearest point of relief.

This local rule can only be applied when **all** members of the group agree that relief is warranted.

Note: This local rule is in place only to avoid damage to the tree, the player or the player's equipment, not as a way to "Get out of a jam."

Rule 25-2. Embedded Ball. The embedded ball rule shall apply to all areas of the course through the green (except in a hazard).

Rule 7-1.b. Practice before rounds. This rule shall not be in effect for 9 hole Tuesday Men's club events. This rule **is** in effect for all Majors.

Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1 are modified as follows:

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 Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1.

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.

Hole 3 - Adding Provisional Ball Option and Add Drop Zone:

Two local rules have been adopted for hole 3.

1. Provisional ball for ball in hazard:

“If there is doubt whether a ball is in or is lost in the water hazard between the bridge closest to the 4th green and the behind the 4th green (wooded area to right on tee) the player may play another ball provisionally under any of the applicable options in Rule 26-1.

If the original ball is found outside the water hazard, the player must continue to play with it.

If the original ball is found in the water hazard, the player may either play the original ball as it lies or continue with the ball played provisionally under 26-1.

If the original ball is not found or identified within the five-minute search period, the player must continue with the ball played provisionally.”

2. Drop Zone for ball in creek:

“If there is doubt whether a ball is in or is lost in the water hazard between the 3^d hole and the 4th hole, and you are virtually certain that the ball has traveled past the bridge closest to the 4th green, and the ball is not found within the five-minute search period, the player must drop a ball in the designated drop zone under the penalty of one stroke.”

Hole 15 - Clarifying Hazard and Eliminating OB on left side of hole: The lateral water hazard on the left side of the 15th hole (along river extending South along the creek) shall extend for the entire length of the 15th hole (and past the 16th tee up to but not past the courses corner boundary.) Playing out of private property is not permitted; please proceed under Rule 26 Water Hazards if your ball ends up in a back yard (no longer out of bounds.)

Hole 16 - Adding Drop Zone: If a ball is in or it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found is in the water hazard to the right of the 16th green , the player may:

(i) proceed under Rule 26-1; or

(ii) as an additional option, drop a ball, under penalty of one stroke, in the dropping zone.

Rule Clarifications

Hole 10 - Ball Crossing Road and ending up on Hole 11: Any ball that crosses the road behind the 10th green and ends up on golf course property of the 11th hole is in bounds and should be played as it lies. Any ball that comes to rest on the road or in private property South of the road is out of bounds and should be played under rule 27-1.

Hole 14 - Defining out of bounds: Out of bounds on left side of the hole shall extend from the white post near the bunker due East to the river. Any ball lying in the unmaintained area (woods) North of this line shall be out of bounds.

Touching Grass in a Hazard: Is ok to touch attached grass with your club when playing from a hazard. Yes.

From the MGA: "If the piece of grass was attached, the Note under Rule 13-4 gives us the answer. It states, "At any time, including at address or in the backward movement for the stroke, the player may touch, with a club or otherwise...any grass, bush, tree or other growing thing." In other words, no penalty.

But, if the piece of grass was not attached, in other words a "loose impediment," Rule 13-4c gives us the answer. It states, "Except as provided in the Rules, before making a stroke at a ball that is in a hazard, ... the player must not (c) Touch or move a loose impediment lying in or touching the hazard." (In match play, the penalty is loss of hole.)