

Men's Club Local Rules

Updated April 2020

1. Practice on the course.

Rule 5.2b is modified in this way:

Practice is allowed on the course prior to any Tuesday RRHMC event and after your round is complete during multi round tournaments.

Practice is prohibited on the course before a round on the day of a Major.

2. Tree Root Relief:

The following local rule is in effect ***in the general area on all 18 holes.***

If the players ball comes to rest in a portion of the general area and there is interference from exposed tree roots that are in the general area, the tree roots are to be treated as ground under repair. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b.

Interference does not exist if the tree roots only interfere with the players stance.

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."

3. Tree Stump Relief:

The tree stumps ***in the general area on all 18 holes*** are to be treated as ground under repair. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b.

4. Hole 15 – Clarifying Penalty Area and Eliminating OB on left side of hole:

The penalty area 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.) Private property is a no play zone and relief must be taken; proceed under Rule 17 - Penalty Areas if your ball ends up in a back yard (no longer out of bounds.)

5. Hole 16 - Adding Drop Zone for Ball in Penalty Area:

If a ball is in the *penalty area* (water) to the right of the 16th Green, including when it is *known or virtually certain* that a ball that has not been found came to rest in the *penalty area*, the player has these relief options, each for **one penalty stroke**:

- Take relief under Rule 17.1, or
- As an extra option, *drop* the original ball or another ball in the dropping zone (White painted circle) located in the rough just short of the closely mown area in front of the 16th Green. The dropping zone is a *relief area* under Rule 14.3

6. Alternative to Stroke and Distance for Lost Ball or Ball out of Bounds

When a player's ball **has not been found** or is **known or virtually certain to be out of bounds**, the player may proceed as follows rather than proceeding under *stroke and distance*.

For **two penalty strokes**, the player may take relief by *dropping* the original ball or another ball in this *relief area* (see Rule 14.3):

Two Estimated Reference Points:

a. **Ball Reference Point:** The point where the original ball is estimated to have:

- Come to rest on the *course*, or
- 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:

- 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).

But with these limits:

Limits on Location of Relief Area:

- Must be in the *general area*, and
- Must not be nearer the *hole* than the ball reference point.

Once the player puts a ball *in play* under this Local Rule:

- The original ball that was *lost* or *out of bounds* is no longer *in play* and must not be played.
- This is true even if the ball is found on the *course* before the end of the three-minute search time (see Rule 6.3b).

But the player may not use this option to take relief for the original ball when:

- That ball is *known or virtually certain* to have come to rest in a *penalty area*, or
- The player has played another ball provisionally under penalty of *stroke and distance* (see Rule 18.3).

A player may use this option to take relief for a provisional ball that has not been found or is known or virtually certain to be out of bounds.

Click below to see helpful diagrams from the USGA:

[Diagram 1: Ball Not Found](#)

[Diagram 2: Ball out of Bounds](#)

[Diagram 3: Ball Not Found or OB Close to Green](#)

Click below to see diagrams specific to Rum River Hills:

[Hole #3 Clarifications](#)

[Front 9 OB at Fairway Clarifications](#)

[Back 9 OB at Fairway Clarifications](#)

[Hole #18 Clarifications](#)

[Ball OB Near Green Clarifications](#)

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 18.