

ROLLING HILLS GOLF CLUB

Volume 4, Issue 7

July 2019

Vice President's Message

The summer heat is upon us with full force. As Ed mentioned in the June Newsletter, stay hydrated and learn to recognize the symptoms of heat exhaustion before it is too late. Consider not using a push cart during the heat of the day and perhaps limit your play to only 18 holes on a given day. Let common sense prevail.

The first half of our busy tournament season is over and Jeff Meisner will be taking a well-earned break over summer. Things kick-in hot and heavy again in September, starting with the ever popular Ryder Cup at the end of the September. Registration for the Ryder Cup is already open in the Tournament Management application. After close losses over the last three consecutive years, I expect a strong statement from ROW this year. The USA of course will gladly take on that challenge!

Details have been previously announced on the RHGC Handicap Committee's scoring review project. A group of hard working Board members and some volunteers will be reviewing scores turned in for acceptable round status and proper application of Equitable Stroke Control (ESC) in our scoring. I would like to thank the committee in their efforts to ensure that we have a fair playing field in the management of our handicaps. Your cooperation in turning in your scorecards either in the drop boxes provided or electronically is appreciated.

Stay cool and have fun on our ever improving course.

-Les-

From the Pro

The next "Golf in a Week" class starts on July 21st. Classes are an hour each day beginning at 7:00 pm and run for 5 consecutive days. Courses aimed at beginner and intermediate golfers. It covers all aspects of the game: Safety, Rules, Etiquette, Swing Method, and an on course Texas scramble. All equipment and range balls are supplied. The cost is 600 SAR. Please sign up in the Pro Shop.

Stuart offers a ladies' only class each Thursday morning from 9:00 -10:00. All equipment is supplied and there is free coffee on arrival. It is ideal for either the beginner or intermediate golfer as it covers all the skills to get one out on the course! The cost is 90 SAR per person per class.

There will be three Junior Tour Schools offered in July: commencing on July 7th, July 14th, and July 21st. Each school will run for 5 consecutive days from 8:00am—9:00am. The clinic will cover the fundamentals and basics (putting, irons, chipping, and woods) of the game and swing. Only children aged 8 – 16 are permitted to take part in a Junior Clinic. The cost is 400 SAR and needs to be paid prior to the class commencing.

Individual Lessons can be taken any day at times convenient — for more information on lesson prices, or to register, you June contact Stuart at:

June 6th — Ladies' Classes Continues

June 23rd — Golf in a Week

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Upcoming Tournament Information

Bi-Monthly Medal

The Bi-Monthly Medal is an Open Play event for Friday **July 19th** or Saturday **July 20th**. Golfers can book their own tee times and foursomes.

Eid Eclectic

This year's Eid al Adha Eclectic will occur during Friday, **August 9th** through to Wednesday, **August 14th**. Golfers can play a maximum of 5 rounds. Golfers must declare to their playing partners before they begin the round that it will be a tournament round that will count towards the Eclectic Score. Golfers should have their playing partner initial the round once the round is completed. The round must be recorded on the tournament scorecard. Each day will be represented on the card. You must record the score for that day in the appropriate location. For a round to count towards your eclectic score, you must complete at least 14 of 18 holes of the round.

Bi-Monthly Stableford

The Bi-Monthly Stableford is an Open Play event for Friday **August 23rd** or Saturday **August 24th**. Golfers can book their own tee times and foursomes.

The [2019 Tournament Calendar](#) is available on the RHGC's website.

July 19 & 20th — Bi-Monthly Medal
 August 9th-14th — Eid Al-Adha Eclectic
 August 24th — Bi-Monthly Stableford



Ask Carl

Q: Why is it necessary for someone to review my scores?

A: A club in good standing with the Texas Golf Association (of which RHGC is a member) has a responsibility to its membership to review scoring, score entries and to ensure that Equitable Stroke Control is being applied consistently. More information can be found on Page 3 – Handicap Corner.

Q: I was playing last week and I hooked my ball on hole #3 and it looked like it might have went out of bounds. My playing partner said I could go look for my ball and if didn't find it I could just drop it up on the fairway. That can't be right can it?

A: Sort of. There is a new local rule for just this situation. To find out the exact details please see the local rules section of this newsletter.

If you would like Carl to answer a question, please email a Board member and they will make sure Carl gets it. Which is nice.

Handicap Corner

There is a Handicap Bulletin Board in the Club House, please stop by and enjoy some interesting reading .

Please contact the [Handicap Director](mailto:rhgchandicaps@gmail.com) (rhgchandicaps@gmail.com or handicaps@arabiangolf.net) if you have any questions.

Score Card Review

From June 23 until Dec. 1, the Handicap Committee will be conducting an audit of scores submitted (or not submitted) for all non-competition rounds at RHGC. We will be checking for ESC compliance as well as doing a review of missing scores. This only applies if you have a USGA Handicap maintained by RHGC. A member of the Scorecard Review Team will audit submitted scorecards against scores entered and where needed will contact members for follow-up on scores entered incorrectly or missing scores

To support this effort we are asking you to please:

- When you book your tee time in Foretees select:
REG - "Acceptable Round" for Handicap Posting
SCR - scramble (example, Mon/Wed night groups) - do not post a score or turn in a scorecard
OTH - round not acceptable for Handicap Posting - do not post a score or turn in a scorecard
- Before you play, check in with the Starter, pick up a Scorecard and the ESC Leaflet (if you need it).
- After you play, complete your Scorecard by:

Clearly printing your Name, Date, GHIN#, Total Score, and ESC Score on your score card.

(You can find your GHIN# on the RHGC Handicap Report, <http://www.arabiangolf.net/node/39>)

example

Rolling Hills Golf Club													Enter this Score?										
Golf Course Blvd, Saudi Aramco, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia 34472													ESC										
Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total	Net	ESC
Blue 72.5/137	348	577	436	213	383	519	346	152	397	3371	431	188	532	338	192	378	382	533	342	3316	6687		
White 70.2/133	329	543	413	198	353	481	308	137	361	3123	373	174	512	306	179	367	352	478	327	3068	6191		
Men's Index	8	6	2	14	12	10	16	18	4		5	17	1	11	13	9	7	3	15		HC 12		
My Name	5	5	6	4	5	5	4	3	6	43	8	4	6	4	5	5	4	8	5	49	92	80	90
#212478 ← GHAN #											7	ESC											

Note:

- Almost all scores are acceptable because of the basic premise of the USGA Handicap System which states that **every player will try to make the best score at each hole in every round, regardless of where the round is played, and that the player will post every acceptable round for peer review.**
 - Any round in which at least 13 holes are played should be posted as an 18-hole round for handicap purposes. Rounds of at least 7, but less than 13 holes played, should be posted as a 9-hole round. Un-played holes are entered as par plus any handicap strokes (i.e. net par).
 - Unfinished Holes and Conceded Strokes - A player who starts, but does not complete a hole or is conceded a stroke must record for handicap purposes the most likely score. The most likely score may not exceed the player's Equitable Stroke Control limit.
- Post your score IF ACCEPTABLE** (Acceptable Scores defined, <http://www.arabiangolf.net/node/467>)
 - Drop your score card in one of the boxes provided (in the Clubhouse or by the Starter), or (preferably) scan/ photo your card and email it to rhgcscorecards@gmail.com .**

Rules

Please contact the Rules Committee (rhgcrules@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Local Rules

Local Rules have been updated to reflect USGA rules changes introduced in 2019.

(<http://www.arabiangolf.net/localrules>)

Rolling Hills Golf Club, Local Rules

1. Out of Bounds (Rule 18)

A ball is out of bounds only when all of it comes to rest:

1. Beyond the course side edge of any boundary wall, fence, road or hedge trunk.
2. Beyond the course side edge of the white posts marking the practice facility on holes #9 and #18
3. Within the fenced oil yards along the right side of hole #1

2. Bridges and Paved Paths in Penalty Areas (Rule 17)

Penalty Areas are defined by yellow stakes or red stakes. Bridges over and paved paths through penalty area are considered immovable obstructions, but because the immovable obstruction is in a penalty area, no relief is given. The ball can be played from the bridge. If your ball lies on a bridge across a penalty area you also have the option to play under rule 17.

3. Dropping Zones

If a ball is in or it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found is in a penalty area at hole #2 or #15, the player may:

1. Proceed under Rule 17; or
2. Drop a ball, under penalty of one stroke, in the designated Dropping Zone.

4. Immoveable Obstructions (Rule 16)

1. Cart paths that are paved or bricked running through the course. Note: All other paths, maintenance paths or tracks and patches of bare ground are integral parts of the course.
2. All floodlights through the course. Note: Relief is not available for line of sight. If a ball strikes a lamp or a floodlight, it is a rub of the green. Rule 11 applies.
3. Protection of young trees identified by stakes, if such a tree interferes with a player's stance or area of his intended swing.
4. Brick distance markers on teeing grounds and in the center of the fairway at 150 and 200 yards.
5. All identification stakes & signs, except white stakes or boundary walls defining out of bounds.
6. Metal/wooden posts and chains/ropes restricting entry or guiding traffic that cannot be easily removed by hand.
7. All structures and equipment relating to watering or electrical distribution system (including black irrigation hoses).

5. Integral Parts of the Course

All desert, rough & rocky wasteland, and unpaved maintenance paths or tracks within the course, the ball must be played as it lies or invoke Rule 19.

6. Environmentally Sensitive Area (Rule 16)

Cemeteries on holes #9 and #18 are to be treated as an environmentally sensitive area. They are marked with green and white stakes. Players are to treat this marked area as Ground Under Repair. Players are entitled to a free lift and drop one club-length from the nearest point of relief from where the ball crossed the margin of the ESA.

Rules Continued

7. Alternative to Stroke and Distance for Lost Ball or Ball Out of Bounds (E-5)

This rule applies to general/casual play rounds only. It does not apply to any form of Competition Play.

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



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.

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.

Rules Continued

8. Pace of Play and “Maximum Score” Stroke Play (Rule 21.2)

To encourage an acceptable Pace of Play, all golfer are expected to play the “Maximum Score” form of Stroke Play and “pick up” when they reach the maximum. The maximum allowable stokes taken on any hole shall be Two Times Par (6,8,10 strokes for par 3,4,5 respectively). The score recorded for Handicap Purposes shall be the “most likely score” or ESC Score, whichever is less. Rules for Competition play may vary and will be specified in the Conditions of Play for each Competition. No penalty but possible suspension of RHGC member privileges may be imposed for violations.

9. Ground Under Repair (Rule 16)

Areas of Ground under Repair, GUR, are identified by an encircling white line and identified as GUR. Additionally, green mats utilized to protect the ground in high traffic areas are to be treated as GUR.

10. Distance Markers

All distance markers are measured to the center of the green.

11. Pin Positions

Color coded flags are used to identify the location of the hole on the green:

Red – front

Yellow – middle

Blue – back

12. Golf Carts

Carts are not permitted on tees or greens and should not be driven between greens and greenside bunkers. No penalty but possible suspension of RHGC member privileges may be imposed for violations.

Penalty for Breach of Local Rules (unless otherwise indicated):

Stroke play – “General Penalty” - Two Strokes

Match play – “General Penalty” - Loss of Hole

Clubhouse

In case you haven't seen the notice, we are now offering two new menu items at the clubhouse on weeknights. On “Smokey Sundays”, Safwa will be serving smoked beef brisket plates or ½ chicken plates. Both come with potato salad and coleslaw. On Tuesdays, we have rotisserie chicken plates with either a half or whole chicken served with fried potatoes and garlic sauce. We are also adding a smoked brisket sandwich to the menu on weekends.

We are in the process of reviewing the menu for other possible additions in the near future, so stay tuned!

INTRODUCING....

Rotisserie Chicken Tuesdays!

Whole chicken.....50 riyals

Half chicken..... 30 riyals

Your order comes with french fries, pickles, and garlic.

You must pre-order.

Send Safwa a message by Monday to place your order.

Safwa: +966 50 597 2659

Orders will be ready for pick up at the RHGC Clubhouse
on Tuesdays beginning at 3:30 and 5:30.

Specify your time preference and Safwa will confirm based on availability.





The Golf Ball

**Friday, December 6
Crowne Plaza, Bahrain**

7:00pm

Semi-Formal Attire

Members - SR450 | Guests - SR500

Dinner, Door Prizes, & DJ
(House drinks until 11pm)

Ticket Sales begin September 30th at the RHGC ProShop
Crowne Plaza special rates

Standard Room - 52++, Deluxe Room - 57++

www.cp-bahrain.com | reservations.cpbahrain@ihg.com | +973 1753 1122