

ROLLING HILLS GOLF CLUB

Volume 5, Issue 9

September 2020

President's Message

As many of you have read my State of the Union you can see that the board, gardening, community services and recreation are working very hard to keep the club up and running. We are so fortunate to have a club like Rolling Hills and we really need to respect and treat the club as it deserves.

As August ends and September begins we are looking at the beginnings of tournament play. Please ensure that you read through all of the tournament director instructions as this is very special year and we have to continue to socially distance to keep everyone safe.

Stuart has a new contract and visa. We are working to get him back and he is very excited to be coming back. Once he is here, we will work to create a Covid Plan for individual and group lessons.

Hit 'em straight!

Ed



Ask Carl

Q: Why is golf 18 holes

A: The first ever 18 hole golf course was played at St Andrews in 1857, which involved turning four short holes into two and all greens featuring two holes, one to use on the way out and one to use on the way back.

Q: What do pro golfers write in their notebooks

A: Things like yardages to the front, middle, and back of the greens. Ideas like what clubs to use off the tee and reminders so they can (hopefully) play the specific hole they're making notes on better next time.

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.

Inside this issue:

Ask Carl

1

Membership

2

Rules

3



Membership

RHGC will be holding its 2021 Membership Drive during the 4th quarter of the year (October, November and December). More information of the dates will follow shortly.

The cart shed waiting list has been updated and can be viewed on [RHGC Website](#).

If you have any questions with regard to the waitlist or you do not see your name, please contact the Membership Directors RHGCMemberships@gmail.com.

Below are some frequently asked questions with regard to golf carts / cart sheds:

Q: I have just purchased a golf cart from a member who is leaving the Company. Do I need to get the golf cart inspected again?

A: No, there is no need to have the golf cart inspected, but the cart will need to be registered in your name using the below link:

https://rhgc-rollinghillsgolfclubregistration.golfgenius.com/register?league_id=5728509500000862028

Please select **New registration**

You will notice that the GHIN, RHGC membership ID and Shed Number are not mandatory. You should be able to complete the rest of the required information such as Name, Address, email and all pertinent information regarding your golf cart (i.e. color, model year, make and VIN). Please acknowledge disclaimer and click on **Register**.

Q: I have just purchased a golf cart that is currently parked in a cart shed. Am I eligible for that cart shed?

A: No. The member who you purchased the golf cart from **MUST** surrender their cart shed immediately by visiting the pro-shop and returning the cart shed key.

Q: Are golf cart inspection sticker transferable?

A: No. A golf cart sticker is **NOT** transferable.

However at this current time, we will not be handing out replacement cart stickers. This will be done at the next Membership Drive.

Q: I have just taken ownership of a cart shed, does the sticker need replacing on my golf cart ?

A: Yes. You will need to change your sticker to indicate that you occupy a cart shed. However, at this current time, we will not be handing out replacement stickers. This will be done at the next Membership Drive.

Q: How will I know when I am eligible for a cart shed ?

A: When you are eligible for a cart shed, you will be contacted by the Membership Directors asking whether you would like to accept the given cart shed. If you accept, further instructions will be sent to you.

Q: I have a problem with my cart shed, who do I contact?

A: Please contact the Membership Directors at RHGCMemberships@gmail.com

Rules

As a reminder, RHGC Local Rules are posted at <https://www.arabiangolf.net/index.php/localrules>. These were also communicated to the membership in the RHGC July 2019 Newsletter. Lastly, the temporary rules in place due to Covid are also listed below.

The Rules Committee is the process of reviewing and updating these. If you have any questions or suggestions, please email Rules Committee at rhgcrules@gmail.com.

1: Out of Bounds (Rule 18)

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

- Beyond the course side edge of any boundary wall, fence, road or hedge trunk.
- Beyond the course side edge of the white posts marking the practice facility on holes #9 and #18
- 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 areas 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

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

4: Immoveable Obstructions (Rule 16)

- 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.
- 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.
- Protection of young trees identified by stakes, if such a tree interferes with a player's stance or area of his intended swing.
- Brick distance markers on teeing grounds and in the center of the fairway at 150 and 200 yards.
- All identification stakes & signs, except white stakes or boundary walls defining out of bounds
- Metal/wooden posts and chains/ropes restricting entry or guiding traffic that cannot be easily removed by hand.
- All structures and equipment relating to watering or electrical distribution system (including black irrigation hoses).

Rules con't

5: Integral Parts of the Course

All desert, rough and 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 .

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.

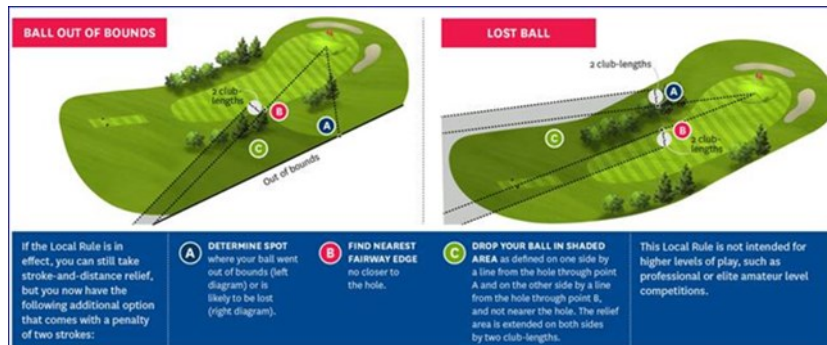
For purposes of this Local Rule, "fairway" means any area of grass in the *general area* that is cut to fairway height or less.

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 (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).

Rules con't



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.

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 strokes 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

Rules con't

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

Temporary Local Rules during course set-up due to Covid

As communicated in RHGC communication to all members when the course re-opened May 31, 2020, RHGC adopted the guidelines published in the ***Saudi Golf Federation Circular – “Relaxing Covid-19 Restrictions” for golf courses across KSA - Phase 1.*** These are in place temporarily until Covid restrictions are lifted or updated.

Following are excerpts and the local rules RHGC has adopted as acceptable on a temporary basis.

1: Bunkers

With no rakes allowed on the course, if you play out of a sand bunker, golfers should make their very best effort to smooth the sand using their club and/or feet. During casual golf preferred lies is in effect in bunkers and a player may place a ball in the bunker within one club-length of the original spot no nearer the hole.

2: Flagstick

- Do not touch the flag or flagstick. Putt with flagstick in and remove your own ball from the hole.

3: Hole and Holed

- “Gimmies”: To minimize the need to lift the ball from the hole, during casual golf a ball can be considered holed with the next stroke if it is within 12 inches of the hole (which is just over the length of a standard putter grip). This does not prevent a player in match play conceding a stroke that is outside this length.
- Foam Hole Insert: During casual golf, when a ball bounces out from the hole due to foam (or other material) insert please use your best judgement along with your fellow playing partners to determine if the ball would have holed out more than 50% of the time if there was no insert.

Note, during RHGC Tournaments, these local rules may be overruled by the Tournament Committee and if so this will be stated in the Conditions of Play for the Competition.