

## CARSON VALLEY MEN'S CLUB COURSE RULES

The Board of Directors acting as the Tournament Committee has enacted Local Course Rules for the 2023 golf season Men's Club Tournaments. The Local Course Rules remain in effect until rescinded or changed by the Tournament Committee.

1. All bare ground/dirt in the General Area (fairway & rough) of the golf course is now designated Waste Area; play the ball as it lies. Previously, bare/dirt was ruled as ground under repair allowing free relief to the nearest grass, but **this revision rescinds free relief on bare ground**. Examples of Waste Areas on the course include: Hole #2 between the fairway and boundary fence on the right side; Hole #12 between the fairway and boundary fence on the left side; Hole #16 between the fairway and the Penalty Area on the right side. There are additional areas of bare ground on fairways and in rough which are small and not well defined. You are allowed to remove loose impediments and movable obstructions in Waste Areas so long as the ball does not move. You can always take a penalty drop if your ball is unplayable.
2. The USGA approved local rule for Out of Bounds and Lost Ball remains in effect. If you suspect your ball is lost in the General Area or is out of bounds you may choose to play stroke and distance, but under the local rule you have the option of advancing the ball to the expected point of loss or where the ball crossed out of bounds. From that point you are allowed to move the ball to the nearest point on the fairway but no closer to the hole. The general penalty of two strokes is added to your score on that hole. This rule does not apply to a ball lost in a Penalty Area (see Rule #17 for Penalty Area procedures).
3. Relief without penalty. **PRIOR TO TAKING RELIEF CONSULT WITH AT LEAST ONE PLAYING PARTNER!**
  - a. **Abnormal Course Conditions**. Per USGA Rule #16 relief without penalty is allowed in the General Area and Greens for temporary water and ground under repair. Imbedded ball or a ball down an animal hole also qualifies for free relief. Consult Rule #16 for the correct method for taking relief. On Greens, relief is allowed if the abnormal condition exists between the ball and the hole. The ball must be located in or be impacted by the abnormal condition in the General Area. Ground under repair is not required to be marked and most of it is not marked on the course, so make an accurate assessment and consult your playing partners before taking relief.
  - b. **Free relief in Sand Bunkers for Abnormal Conditions** (matting, footprints, unraked blemishes, temporary water, etc.) However, a ball lying on sand in its own pitch mark in the bunker does not qualify for free relief. In this case, per Rule #16 you have the option to drop outside the bunker with a penalty stroke.
  - c. **Free relief is allowed for man-made obstructions** including sprinkler heads, control boxes, and range markers. BOUNDARY FENCES DO NOT QUALIFY for free relief on any hole on the course. Previously, the large logs placed on the ground adjacent to some of the greens (ie. holes #3, #9, #14, #15) qualified for free relief, but this revision rescinds that rule. If a ball comes to rest close to one of these logs, the ball must be played as it lies or the player can opt for a penalty drop for unplayable lie. On hole #3, the area between the logs and the street is out of bounds. On hole #14, the area between the logs and the levy is Penalty Area for Men's Club Tournaments.
  - d. **Relief from Cart Paths**. The course does not have clearly defined Cart Paths, and in some cases the paths transit through Waste Areas or are close to Boundary Fences. Before taking relief, confirm with your playing partners that your ball actually lies on the path and on which side of the path you can take

relief. Be aware that your only available point of relief may be in a Waste Area or against a Boundary Fence. In this case you may opt to play the ball as it lies on the Cart Path.

e. **Staked Trees.** There are a few recently planted trees with stakes remaining on the course. By local rule you are allowed free relief if the stake interferes with the lie of the ball, your stance or intended swing path. Relief is not allowed if the tree limbs, trunk or root interferes with the ball, stance or swing.

f. **Power lines.** A local rule is in effect if your ball hits a power line. Without penalty you may replay the previous shot from the same position on the course or play the original shot as it now lies.

**IF A DISPUTE ARISES BETWEEN PLAYERS OVER A DECISION TO TAKE FREE RELIEF**, the player should play two balls on that hole and annotate the nature of the dispute on the back of the scorecard. The Men's Club Board will assess the dispute and make a determination as to how the hole will be scored.

4. **Pace of Play/Slow Play.** Each playing group is expected to complete an eighteen-hole round in less than four hours and 30 minutes for a total of 270 minutes. The play of each hole should not exceed 15 minutes. Since we do not have Marshals to monitor pace of play, it is up to the individual group to police themselves. If a group is persistently slow, the group behind can place the slow group on the clock. The slow group should then allow the group behind to play through. If not and if pace of play does not subsequently improve to meet the 15 minute per hole standard, the group behind can make a note on the scorecard, and the Tournament Committee may assess penalty strokes to the slow group.