

## LWMGC LOCAL RULES

USGA rules shall govern all play except as modified below. These rules shall apply to all Club sponsored tournament play.

**OUT OF BOUNDS** - Boundary fences / walls, white stakes and inside edge (course side) of white painted lines. Chain link fence on Course 2 Hole 2 is a boundary fence. Block wall on the left near the green on Course 2 Hole 4 is also a boundary fence.

**Note:** - The entire ball must be on or beyond the white painted line (or beyond the inside points of stakes at ground level) to be considered out of bounds; should any part of the ball be in bounds, the ball is in play.

**PROTECTIVE FENCES** - Take swing and stance relief from protective fences, plus line of sight. May go to drop area if provided. No Penalty.

**Note:** - A ball coming to rest near screens on the 1st fairway, 4th teeing area or in back of the 6th teeing area, Course 1, may be dropped in specified ball drop areas without penalty, or line of sight relief no nearer to the hole.

**GROUND UNDER REPAIR** - Defined by white lines. Flower Beds are to be played as ground under repair from which play is prohibited (unless marked by OB stakes). "If a player's ball lies in the area, or if it interferes with the player's stance or the area of his intended swing, the player must take relief under Rule 25-1."

**Note 1:** - Ground Under Repair rule specifies that the ball doesn't have to be found in order to take free relief if players know it went into the flower bed!!

Ground under repair includes material piled for removal and a hole made by a green keeper, even if not so marked. Grass cuttings and other material left on the course that have been abandoned and are not intended to be removed are not ground under repair unless so marked.

**Note 2:** - If it cannot be determined whether a pile of debris is ground under repair, in Stroke Play events the correct procedure would be to use Rule 3-3 and play two balls on that hole (one with relief and one without). The players should then find an official, such as the course's head golf professional, to make the determination after the round. In Match Play events a determination must be made on-the-spot. You can never play a second ball in this situation in Match Play.

**SOD SEAMS** - Through the green, seams of cut turf (not the turf itself) are deemed to be ground under repair. However, interference by a seam with the player's stance is deemed not to be, of itself, interference under rule 25-1.

**STAKED TREES** - If a staked tree interferes with a player's stance or area of his intended swing, the ball must be lifted without penalty and dropped in accordance with the procedure prescribed in rule 24-2b (i).

## **OBSTRUCTIONS:**

- **IMMOVABLE** – Cart paths, buildings, drainage grills, drainage ditches, valve covers, sprinkler heads, rabbit fences, control boxes and colored yardage tiles. A drop within one club length from the nearest point of relief is allowed.
- **MOVABLE** – Yardage markers are treated as movable obstructions. They may be removed if there is interference with stance, swing or line of play. Note: Remove the yardage marker, not the ball. Ref. Rule 24-1a.
- **TEMPORARY** – If trucks, tractors or other equipment temporarily parked on the course interfere with player's stance, swing, or line of play, the player may drop at the nearest point of relief not nearer the hole. If your ball lay under or through a fence and not OB, you may bring the ball back to the fairway side of the fence, no nearer hole, swing and stance relief with no penalty.

**SPRINKLER HEAD RELIEF AROUND GREENS** - If a sprinkler head interferes with the player's line of play, but only if the sprinkler head is within two club-lengths from the green and the player's ball is within two club-lengths from the sprinkler head, the player may lift, clean and drop his ball, at the nearest point of relief, no nearer the hole, without penalty.

**TREE WELLS** - Balls coming to rest within a tree well are specifically **NOT** entitled to relief. Bark chips and other materials within these areas may be treated as LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS.

**YARDAGE BUSHES** - Yardage bushes (located 125 and 75 yards from greens) are NOT considered to be "obstructions" (Ref. Definitions and Rule 24-2) and the player is NOT entitled to relief.

**EMBEDDED BALL** - Anywhere through the green (not in a hazard or on a putting green), a ball that is embedded in its own pitch mark in the ground may be lifted, cleaned and dropped at the nearest point of relief, no nearer the hole, without penalty.

**EDGING GROOVES** - If a player's ball comes to rest on the grooving edge of the green, the ball may be lifted and placed at the nearest point of relief, no nearer the hole.

**DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES** - A player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only (USGA Decision 14-3/0.5).

**AERATION OF COURSE** - Through the green, a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be lifted, without penalty, cleaned and dropped, as near as possible to the spot where it lay but not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must first strike a part of the course through the green. On the putting green, a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be placed at the nearest spot not nearer the hole that avoids the situation.

**PREFERRED LIES - Through the green**

Only on holes where carts are restricted to the cart paths due to wet and muddy conditions, a ball may be lifted, cleaned and placed within one club length of the original lie, not nearer the hole.

**THROUGH THE GREEN** - "Through the green" is the whole area of the course except:

- The teeing ground and putting green of the hole being played; and all hazards on the course.

**USGA RULE 24-2 b (i)** - The player shall lift the ball and drop it within one club-length of and not nearer the hole than the nearest point of relief on a part of the course that avoids interference (as defined) by the immovable obstruction and is not in a hazard or on a putting green.

**ACCIDENTAL MOVEMENT OF A BALL ON A PUTTING GREEN** - 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."