



Westchester Women's Golf Association

May 28, 2024 – WWGA General Membership Meeting

Westchester Community Room

Meeting called to order at 12:12 pm. 25 members in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

- Sheri Wiggett moved that minutes of General Meeting held on April 16, 2024 be approved
- Jane Wortman seconded
- Motion approved

Treasurer's report - Sheri Wiggett

April Beginning Balance \$ 12,876.

April Ending Balance \$ 15,389

Play Away not finalized yet, expenses yet to be paid. Expenses in April included Spring fling payouts and website maintenance.

Vice-President / Handicap report - Toni Mannix

Toni reminded everyone of the need to verify correct course handicap on playday, and record it accurately on the official scorecard. She also pointed out the difference between "Index" and Course Handicap. Each group is to have TWO (2) verified scorecards signed at the end of play. **Best practice is that every player will maintain a group scorecard**, and all players in the group will verify and agree on ALL totals prior to signing and submitting scorecards. Remember to post immediately following your round. Be sure to turn the photo of the scorecard prior to attaching it to an email.

Major Tournament report – Dallas Poffenroth

Next tournament is the WWGA Championship September 3, 10 & 17.

Weekly Games report – Jane Wortman

Jane requested that you insure your scorecard submissions are legible. To aid in this, take the photo as close-up as is possible so details are not lost when enlarging.

Membership report – Rutie Cote

A study guide, rules summary will be provided to all qualifiers. We all need to assist qualifiers in learning the rules of golf as well as the local rules at WGC. Katie Gleason is in the process of qualifying and Joni Shimabukuru (from Alondra) will start the process.

Play Away-2024 - Sheri Wiggett

The Play Away was a success! The 32 attendees had a great time. Results attached.

Rules report – Nancy Mandoky

Nancy lead a discussion on various rules. She covered abnormal course conditions, casual water, penalty areas, dropping a ball, relief from cart path, bunker play (loose impediments & casual water IN bunker), etc. (details attached)



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Social report – Cheryl Sandy

The Fall luncheon on 9/17 will be at Lido at Manhattan Beach

The Winter (holiday) luncheon on 12/9 will be at the Cheesecake Factory, Redondo Beach

LACWGA report - Debby Christian

No Report

WPLGA report - Janet O'Donnell

No Report

Team Play – Cheryl Sandy

No Report

Special Achievements report – Laura Cushing/Nancy Mandoky

No Report

Starter report - Diane Liebensson (absent)

Carol announced that the practice of signing up foursomes on “1st Tuesday” will be terminated.

Accommodating requests while trying to schedule around meetings as well as assigning qualifiers has made the process onerous. The current practice of signing up with one partner will remain in place for all weekly signups (except tournaments).

Goodwill

Sue Robelotto had hip surgery and we received a report that it all went very well.

Blue Book/Roster – Nancy Mandoky

No report

Old Business

Helen's Room – Naomi Jones

Naomi gave an update on Helen's Room. She provided details on the types of services provided as well as how appreciative the recipients of services are. Naomi thanked the club for their continued support.

New Business

Gondo Classic

Barb Hornak announced the upcoming Gondo Classic golf tournament, scramble format, on June 17 at Sunset Hills Golf Club. She will distribute the link for the auction so everyone can support this worthy cause.

Next Meeting Dates

Board Meeting – Tuesday, August 6, 11:30 at Hacienda del Rey

General Membership Meeting – Tuesday, August 27 (hopefully at the Westchester Community Room)

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50/50 Pot – Pat Martzen

Cheryl Sandy won \$21.50

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned 1:23 pm

Respectfully Submitted: Deborah Christian
Deborah Christian, Secretary

Attachments:

Play Away Winners

Rules discussion Summary

WWGA 2024 Play Away Winners

Tuesday - Individual stroke play

Low Gross Over-the-Field		Lynn Brewer		96	\$50
Low Net Over-the-Field		Eunice Chang		72	\$50
	Gross			Net	
Flight 1	1st	Geisler	\$40	1st	Liebenson \$40
	2nd	Bucklin	\$30	2nd	Chun \$30
	3rd	Earle	\$20	3rd	Theval \$20
Flight 2	1st	Wortman	\$40	1st	Rogasch \$40
	2nd	Zahyna	\$30	2nd	Poffenroth \$30
	3rd	Sandy	\$20	3rd	Ewart \$20
Flight 3	1st	Fabela	\$40	1st	Simons \$40
	2nd	O'Donnell	\$30	2nd	Christian \$30
	3rd	Martzen	\$20	3rd	Elenitsky \$10
				3rd	Sindberg \$10
Closest to pin	Hole 6	Fabela	\$10		
	Hole 13	Theval	\$10		

Wednesday-Team-2 best balls (net)

1st - 126	Robelotto	\$40
	Wortman	\$40
	Sandy	\$40
	(blind draw) Simons	\$40
2nd - 131	Chun	\$30
	Chorley	\$30
	Simons	\$30
	Chang	\$30
3rd -132	Brewer	\$20
	Ewart	\$20
	Keady	\$20
	Elinitsky	\$20
Closest to pin	Hole 3	Brewer \$10
	Hole 6	Geisler \$10
	Hole 11	Theval \$10



A Note from Nancy:

Rules discussions at General Meetings are done at the 10,000' level and intended only as the appetizer in a seven-course dinner. To fully understand the 2023 Rules of Golf and, in particular, the rules discussed at the meeting on 5/28, please refer to <https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/rules-hub.html>. There are myriad educational resources and videos on this page to let you play your game with the maximum enjoyment. In addition, the on-line version of the Rules contains complete diagrams for dropping the ball and taking relief. The Rules are your other friend on the course.

Abnormal Course Conditions (Including Immovable Obstructions)

Certain conditions are not treated as part of the challenge of playing the course, so free relief is provided as an option. This includes interference from temporary water, ground under repair, animal holes, and immovable obstructions (such as carts paths and sprinkler heads). All of these things are collectively known as abnormal course conditions. You get free relief when the condition interferes with your lie, stance, or area of intended swing. When an abnormal course condition only interferes with your line of play, free relief is not provided.

To take free relief, you first have to find the nearest point of complete relief, which is the spot on the course nearest to where your ball lies, but not nearer the hole, where you could play your next stroke with no interference from the condition you're taking relief from. Then drop a ball within one club-length of that point not nearer the hole.

Some little nuggets: Free Relief=*Within* one club length. Relief with penalty=*Within* 2 club lengths. Whenever a rule requires the lifting of a ball, the player may clean it as well.

Ground Under Repair

Any part of the course the Committee defines to be ground under repair (whether by marking it or otherwise). Any defined ground under repair includes both:

- All ground inside the edge of the defined area, and
- Any grass, bush, tree or other growing or attached natural object rooted in the defined area, including any part of those objects that extends up above the ground outside the edge of the defined area (but not when such object is attached to or below the ground outside the edge of the defined area, such as a tree root that is part of a tree rooted inside the edge.)

The edge of ground under repair should be defined by stakes, lines or physical features:

- Stakes: When defined by stakes, the edge of the ground under repair is defined by the line between the outside points of the stakes at ground level, and the stakes are inside the ground under repair.
- Lines: When defined by a painted line on the ground, the edge of the ground under repair is the outside edge of the line, and the line itself is in the ground under repair.
- Physical Features: When defined by physical features (such as a flower bed or a turf nursery), the Committee should say how the edge of the ground under repair is defined.

When the edge of ground under repair is defined by lines or physical features, stakes may be used to show where the ground under repair is located.

When stakes are used to define or show the edge of ground under repair, they are obstructions.

Interference from Boundary Objects

Q. I have interference from an out of bounds fence, stake or wall – what are my options?

A. You do not get free relief from objects that define or mark the course boundary. You may not move objects marking course boundaries or take free relief from them like you would from other artificial objects, like a cart path, a building, or a stake marking a penalty area. Your options are to play your ball as it lies, proceed under penalty of stroke and distance by playing again from the spot of your last stroke (see Rule 18.1), or decide your ball is unplayable (see Rule 19.1).

Bunkers

Bunkers are one of the five defined areas of the course. Your ball lies in a bunker when any part of it touches the sand. So that the challenge of playing from the sand is preserved, there are a few things you are not permitted to do when your ball is in a bunker. These include testing the condition of the bunker, touching the sand right around your ball, and making a practice swing that touches the sand.

However, you can remove natural and artificial objects (loose impediments and movable obstructions) from the bunker since those are not considered part of the challenge of playing a ball from sand. In preparing to play from a bunker, you can set your clubs down in the bunker and rake the bunker to care for the course before playing, so long as you aren't testing the bunker or improving the conditions for your next stroke.

You get free relief in a bunker when you have interference from an abnormal course condition (such as a drain or steps, temporary water, and ground under repair).

If you want to take relief for an unplayable lie, you have the three standard one penalty stroke relief options of stroke and distance, back-on-the-line between the ball and the hole, or lateral relief within two club-lengths, except that you must drop your ball in the bunker for options two and three. Plus, you have an additional fourth option, this time for two penalty strokes, that allows you to get out of the bunker by going back-on-the line between the ball and the hole as far back as you'd like.

Bunker Filled with Water

Q. The bunker is filled with water – what are my options?

A. When the bunker is filled with temporary water, you may play your ball as it lies or take free relief in the bunker. When taking free relief, you must find the nearest point of complete relief in the bunker and drop within the one club-length relief area (see Rule 16.1c(1)). If complete relief is not available, you may take free maximum available relief in the bunker and drop within the one club-length relief area from the point of maximum available relief (see Rule 16.1c(1)). Additionally, for one penalty stroke you may drop a ball outside the bunker by going back-on-the-line as far as you'd like keeping the point where your ball lies in the temporary water between you and the hole (see Rule 16.1c(2)).

Point of Maximum Available Relief

The reference point for taking free relief from an abnormal course condition in a bunker (Rule 16.1c) or on the putting green (Rule 16.1d) when there is no nearest point of complete relief.

It is the estimated point where the ball would lie that is:

- Nearest to the ball's original spot, but not nearer the hole than that spot,
- In the required area of the course, and

- Where that abnormal course condition least interferes with the stroke the player would have made from the original spot if the condition was not there.

Estimating this reference point requires the player to identify the choice of club, stance, swing and line of play the player would have used for that stroke.

The player does not need to simulate that stroke by taking an actual stance and swinging with the chosen club (but it is recommended that the player normally do this to help in making an accurate estimate).

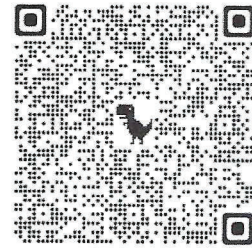
The point of maximum available relief is found by comparing the relative amount of interference with the lie of the ball and the player's area of intended stance and swing and, on the putting green only, the line of play. For example, when taking relief from temporary water:

- The point of maximum available relief may be where the ball will be in shallower water than where the player will stand (affecting the stance more than the lie and swing), or where the ball is in deeper water than where the player will stand (affecting the lie and swing more than the stance).
- On the putting green, the point of maximum available relief may be based on the line of play where the ball will need to go through the shallowest or shortest stretch of temporary water.

Local Rule: Modified Stroke and Distance

In general, this rule does not apply during WWGA Major Tournaments and carries with it a two-stroke penalty. However, when this rule is invoked, two major conditions must be present:

1. The ball must have reached a point adjacent to the fairway of the hole being played so that when bringing a ball into play in the fairway it will be no closer to the pin than where the original ball was estimated to be found had a search of the area been performed.
2. Stroke and distance relief, has not been taken; i.e., a provisional ball has not been played.



GOLF'S NEW RULES: STROKE AND DISTANCE

A new Local Rule provides an alternative to stroke-and-distance relief for a ball that is lost outside a penalty area or out of bounds, effective January 1, 2019.

BALL OUT OF BOUNDS		LOST BALL			
<p>If the Local Rule is in effect, you can still take stroke-and-distance relief, but you now have the following additional option that comes with a penalty of two strokes:</p>		<p>A DETERMINE SPOT where your ball went out of bounds (left diagram) or is likely to be lost (right diagram).</p>	<p>B FIND NEAREST FAIRWAY EDGE no closer to the hole.</p>	<p>C DROP YOUR BALL IN SHADED AREA as defined on one side by a line from the hole through point A and on the other side by a line from the hole through point B, and not nearer the hole. The relief area is extended on both sides by two club-lengths.</p>	<p>This Local Rule is not intended for higher levels of play, such as professional or elite amateur level competitions.</p>

Partner/"Team" Events

Events such as partners' best/better ball, etc., require that players play according to the Rules of Golf. All Rules apply and include giving and receiving advice. Scramble format events are an exception since play is not according to the Rules of Golf and scores will not be posted.

Advice is any verbal comment or action that is intended to influence a player in choosing a club, making a stroke or deciding how to play during a hole or round. Advice does not include information available to the general public.

Rule 24.4c No Advice Between Team Members other Than Partners

Except when playing together as partners on a side [i.e., Match Play]:

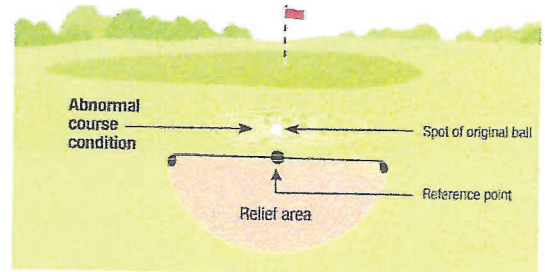
- A player must not ask for advice from or give advice to a member of his or her team playing on the course.
- This applies whether the team member is playing in the same group as the player or in another group on the course.

Penalty for Breach of Rule 24.4: General Penalty (Two Strokes—each occurrence)

Hole 2, Pond Overflow

Rainy season thankfully brings with it lots of water and with it the pond overflowing its banks on hole 2. If your ball rolls into the water outside the established bank of the pond, you may take free relief of one club length from the casual water. Casual water is considered an abnormal course condition.

Free relief is also granted if the casual water is affecting your stance. Your ball may be in a perfectly dry spot, but if you take your stance and water begins seeping out of the fairway, you are technically standing in casual water and allowed to take relief at the nearest point of complete relief. Note that water must be visible once you fairly take your stance in order to be considered casual water.



Free relief is allowed when the ball is in the general area and there is interference by an abnormal course condition. The nearest point of complete relief should be identified and a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area. The relief area is one club-length from the reference point, is not nearer to the hole than the reference point and must be in the general area. When taking relief, the player must take complete relief from all interference by the abnormal course condition.

Hole 13, Dropping Ball

Millie's tee shot on hole 13 lands between the protective fence and the cart path such that player is unable to make her next shot to the green without hitting the fence in her backswing. Since the fence is an Immovable Obstruction, she is entitled to free relief of one club length. After taking her stance where the fence no longer hinders her backswing, she measures the one club length which makes her drop the ball on the cart path. When the ball comes to rest on the cart path after being dropped, Millie must now take relief from the cart path which is also an immovable obstruction. She then determines the nearest point of relief that is no closer to the hole and measures the one club length, and drops the ball again.

Moral of the story: You may take relief from only one condition at a time, never collectively. While it is certainly more expedient to proceed immediately to the course side of the cart path in this instance, a

player may incur a general penalty from playing from the wrong place since she did not take relief in the correct sequence.

Nugget: How to correctly drop a ball when taking relief: Take your stance such that the condition from which you are taking relief doesn't interfere with your stance or area of intended swing. *Taking your stance involves placing your feet as you would for a normal golf swing in the direction of play, then placing the clubhead of the racket you will use to take the shot as you normally would in preparation for the swing.* This is considered your nearest point of relief – no closer to the pin – of course. Now that you've found your nearest point of relief, take the longest club from your bag (FYI: putter is off limits, always) and measure one club's length from where the clubhead was grounded in taking your stance. I repeat, measure no closer to the pin. Drop your ball anywhere within that club length. Nice work!

See something? Say something!

As a player, it is your responsibility to protect the field and ensure all play is in the spirit of the game, whether or not the individual in question is in your flight or not, or whether or not the individual in question is your friend, cart partner, teammate, etc. Do not hesitate to inform each other when a player is not proceeding according to the Rules of Golf. Conversely, there are times when players are unaware of their options according to the Rules and, in the spirit of the game, you should act with integrity and let them know their options under a rule. It is also incumbent upon you to apply to yourself and others all penalties and be honest in all aspects of play.