

REDHAWK GOLF COURSE LOCAL RULES (3-26-21)

The Redhawk Golfers Club plays under the USGA's Rules of Golf. It has adopted several Local Rules for all play, and when conditions warrant may adopt other Local Rules on a temporary basis.

Out of Bounds

All perimeter fences define out of bounds, with the following additional conditions:

Hole #1: Short wall adjacent to cart path defines OB along entire right side.

Hole #2: Maintenance facility behind green is OB, defined by fence line.

Hole #7: Nearest edge of drainage culvert to right on first half of hole defines OB.

Holes #9, 18: Driving range is OB.

A ball is out of bounds (OB) if it comes to rest beyond any boundary wall or comes to rest on or beyond a public road even if it comes to rest on another part of the course that is in bounds for other holes. This applies to streets behind or next to holes #1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15 & 17. Rule 18.

Penalty Areas

USGA Rules of Golf apply with the following local rules:

Penalty Areas may be defined by stakes and/or painted lines, but where stakes or lines do not exist the Penalty Area is defined by 'change of condition'. Typical for water hazards (defined by water line) & rough where not staked. Rule 17.

Holes #1, 2, 3, 17 & 18: Penalty Area along side of hole may not be marked along entire length. If no stakes are present, edge of creek defines Penalty Area.

Holes #8 & 12: A drop zone is provided as an added alternative when the ball is lost in the Penalty Area.

Hole #13: Penalty Area defined by wood pilings.

Hole #14: Penalty Area to left of cart path along entire hole. The area between red stakes or edge of Penalty Area and perimeter wall is within the Penalty Area.

When a ball crosses the edge of a Penalty Area and it is virtually certain the ball came to rest in the Penalty Area, as an extra option, adding one penalty stroke, the player may drop the original ball or another ball equidistant on the opposite side of the Penalty Area within two club lengths, no closer to the hole. (e.g.: Holes # 1, 2, 3 & 18). Rule 17.

Hillside Penalty Areas

Holes #2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18

Most holes have hillsides along one or both edges of the hole.

Hillsides (or portions of hillsides) with dense vegetation are considered Penalty Areas whether marked or not. Rule 17.

If found, the ball may be played as it lies, or under the penalty of one stroke, drop within two club lengths of where ball crossed into Penalty Area, no closer to the hole.

Waste Areas

Holes #4, 5, 6, 11, 12 & 13 (between fairway and water hazard)

Waste areas are played as part of the General Area. Waste areas are unmaintained areas of the course, and player's are allowed to ground their club. Players may take practice swings in the waste area. However, the action of grounding a club and taking practice swings must not improve conditions affecting the stroke to be played. Rule 8.1.

When playing out of the waste areas, players will use the rules for abnormal course conditions. If a player's ball lands in a foot print, a hole, a tire track or any other imperfection etc. you may lift and place the ball at the closest relief point trying to maintain within one club length from the original lie and no closer to the hole. There will be no penalty stroke incurred.

Flower Beds

Flower beds typically adjacent to or near tee boxes, e.g.: Holes #1, 4, 5, 8, 12 & 17 (behind green)

A flower bed may be located within waste area, typically defined by raised ground. "Flower" may also refer to any species of natural vegetation within the same area (e.g.: cactus on Hole #5).

Flower beds around tees, greens and in waste areas are to be played as Ground Under Repair from which play is prohibited. Relief MUST be taken. Free Relief: Drop outside the flower bed area, within one club length, no closer to the hole, under Rule 25-1.

Exception: Plants and vegetation within the waste area between #6 tee box and #6 fairway are not part of a flower bed. There is NO free relief.

Swale on Hole #18

The grass swale along the right side of #18 fairway is part of the General Area.

If water is present it should be treated as casual water. Free relief within one club length, no closer to the hole, under Rule 25-1

Wood Pilings

All wood pilings outlining Penalty Areas (including bunkers) are deemed integral parts of the course. The ball must be played as it lies or deemed unplayable.

When railroad ties, wood pilings, horizontal boards or the like adjoin cart paths outside of Penalty Areas they are deemed to be an immovable obstruction. Free relief from stance or swing interference is the nearest point of relief; drop within one club length, no closer to the hole. Rule 24-2b.

Hole #14: Wood pilings behind green – defines Penalty Area. Ball may be played as it lies, or under penalty of one stroke, dropped outside the Penalty Area behind the green no closer to the hole.

Hole #18: Wood pilings near the bridge are in the Penalty Area – no free relief.

Boulders Adjacent to Lakes, Streams

Holes #1, 3, 8, 10, 13, 17 & 18

All boulders and large rocks adjacent to lakes and streams are defined as being located within the Penalty Area.

Boulders and Large Rocks Not Located in Penalty Areas

Boulders, large rocks adjacent to cart paths are immovable obstructions. Free relief to the nearest point of relief where the immovable obstruction or abnormal course condition no longer interferes with your ball or your area of intended stance or swing. Rule 24-2b.

Exposed Tree Roots, Fallen Trees and Tree Stumps

Tree Roots: Where a tree root interferes with the lie of the player's ball or the area of the player's intended swing, relief without penalty may be taken under Rule 16-1b. The ball may be lifted and dropped within one club-length of, and not nearer to the hole than, the nearest point of relief.

Fallen Trees and Tree Stumps: If a fallen tree or tree stump in the General Area interferes with your intended stance or area of intended swing, free relief to the nearest spot where the fallen tree or tree stump no longer interferes. Line of sight relief is not given.

Walkway Steps

Walkway steps are immovable obstructions. If a player's ball touches or is in the following abnormal course conditions, or the condition physically interferes with the player's area of intended stance or area of intended swing, free relief to the nearest spot where the immovable obstruction or abnormal course condition no longer interferes with your ball or your area of intended stance or swing. Rule 16.1b

Hole #1: Concrete steps leading from cart path to green.

Hole #4: Carpeted steps leading from cart path to green

Hole #8: Concrete strips on green side of bridge leading to green

Abnormal Course Conditions

Hole #2: Drainage channels that are made of artificial materials and run next to cart paths are treated as immovable obstructions in the general area and are part of the cart path. A player may take free relief under Rule 16.1b, no closer to the hole.

Drainage channels and drainage areas not adjacent to cart paths (e.g.: behind #6 green) are treated as immovable obstructions in the general area. A player may take free relief under Rule 16.1b.

Ground Under Repair: In the General Area all temporary piles of tree or bush clippings, grass clippings, piles of dirt accumulated from green and fairway punching, maintenance work areas, whether marked or not, are defined as "material piled for later removal" and therefore Ground Under Repair. Relief MUST be taken, no closer to the hole. Rule 16.1.

Hole #6: If a player's ball lies on the #6 green and the hole in the center of green is in the line of play, free relief may be taken at the nearest point of relief, no closer to the hole. Rule 16.1.

Bare Ground: Patches of bare ground are integral parts of the course. Unless marked, free relief is not provided for bare ground, whether in fairway, rough, or on green. Rule 16

Aeration Holes or Lines

Ball in General Area: If a player's ball lies in or touches an aeration hole or line the player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. If the ball comes to rest in another aeration hole or line, the player may take relief again under this rule.

Ball on Putting Green: The player may take relief under Rule 16.1d. Interference does not exist if the aeration hole or line only interferes with the player's stance or, on the Putting Green on the player's line of play. Rule 16.1d

Seams of Cut Turf

If a player's ball lies in or touches a seam of cut turf or a seam interferes with the player's area of intended swing, the player may take relief under Rule 16.1b (ball is in general area) or Rule 16.1d (ball is on putting green). Relief is not available if there is interference for stance only. All seams within the area of cut turf are treated as the same seam for purposes of dropping under Rule 14.3c(2). (Also Rule 25-1b)

ADDITIONAL – NORMAL RULES OF GOLF

Lift, Clean, and Place

When the Committee determines that conditions will cause mud to adhere to the ball such that it interferes with the proper playing of the game, the Committee may declare a lift, clean and place rule is needed for a competition. This Local Rule allows a player, without penalty, to lift and clean the ball anywhere on the course except in hazards (meaning both bunkers and water hazards).

If the ball lies in a fairway or closely mown area, it may be lifted, cleaned, and replaced within one foot (or one club length if specified) of the original spot, not nearer to the hole. Before lifting, the ball must be marked by the player.

The ball must remain in similar conditions. The player may not move the ball from the rough into the fairway, or from fringe or rough onto the putting green. Rule 14.1.

Ball Out of Bounds – Alternative to Stroke and Distance

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 a large area between the point where the ball is estimated to have come to rest or gone out of bounds and the edge of the fairway of the hole being played that is not nearer the hole. (Rule 14.3; Model Local Rule E-5)

Bridges (For example Holes #1, 2, 8, 9 & 18)

Bridges are immovable obstructions. Free relief is allowed except when a ball is located in a Penalty Area. If a bridge interferes with stance, lie or swing, outside of the Penalty Area, drop within one club length, no closer to the hole. No relief for line of sight. Rule 24.2b.

If a ball rests on a bridge within a Penalty Area, it must be played as it lies. Edges of a Penalty Area go vertically up and down. A ball on a bridge over a penalty area is in the Penalty area. Either play the ball as it lies or take Penalty Area relief for one penalty stroke at nearest point of relief. Rule 17.

Casual Water in Grass Bunkers, Depression Areas (For example: Holes # 2, 5, 9, 11, 13, 14 & 15)

One or more grass bunkers may have collected casual water. Free drop within two club lengths no closer to hole. The flooded grass bunker on; for example left of 15th fairway, is ground under repair in the general area. It is not treated as a bunker during the round.

If the player's ball lies in or touches this ground under repair or the ground under repair interferes with the player's stance or area of intended swing, the player may take free relief under Rule 16.1b. All other bunkers on the course whether they contain temporary water or not, are still bunkers for all purposes under the Rules.

Sand Bunker Penalty Areas

While Covid restrictions are enforced: Balls in sand Penalty Areas (bunkers) may be placed within one club length, no closer to the hole. Mark ball, then determine placement within one club length no closer to the hole. Players are encouraged to smooth the disturbed area with a foot or club after their shot.

After Covid restrictions are lifted: When a ball is in a Penalty Area (bunker) and is found to be located in water, mud, ruts caused by water conditions or on fabric underlayment, it is considered an abnormal course condition and is allowed free relief within the Penalty Area (bunker). You may find the closest point of relief no closer to the hole.

Sprinkler Heads

If a sprinkler head and ball are in a closely mown area around the green, the player may take line of play relief from the immovable obstruction if the sprinkler head is within two club lengths of the green and the ball is within two club lengths of the sprinkler head. Determine the nearest point of relief and drop in the General Area within one club length. The ball must not be dropped on the putting green or roll onto the putting green. Rules of Golf, Appendix I, Part B.