

# HCC Men's League Rules

## General League Rules:

- **Dues:** League dues are \$50/player/league and \$10/sub.
- **Dates:** League Signup, March 31<sup>st</sup>; Calcutta, April 14<sup>th</sup>; First week of League, April 21<sup>st</sup>.
- **League Structure:** There will be 3 leagues – 12PM, 2PM and 4PM. Each league will consist of an even # of 2 Player teams to avoid 'Bye' weeks. Leagues will play for 23 weeks with handicap tournament played in week 23. 12PM league has priority on tee box from Noon-1:00 for league matches. 2PM has priority from 2:00 to 3:30 for league matches. 4PM has priority from 4:00 to 5:15 for league matches. Players must yield the tee box to respective league players first.
- **League Capacity & League Priority:** 2022 Season Leagues will be capped at 24 teams, however, once a league hits 22 teams, additional teams will not be added until at least one other league reaches 22 teams as well. 2PM will stay at 24 teams until participation falls below 22 team threshold. Current league players will have priority in their respective league the following year. A signup sheet will be in the pro shop for players to join a waiting list to switch leagues. If there is an opening in a league then the waiting list priority will be as follows: Current league members and league subs have first priority; Current HCC Members not playing in any league or on the sub list second; new members third. Men's League Director & Committee will fill open slots according to each league's respective waiting list.
- **Matches:** Team match play scoring using Individual handicaps established by league (same as in 2016.) Blue tees will be used. Players may not use gold tees unless they are 70 or older and have established a handicap for the gold tees. 10 points/9-hole round. (Each individual hole + total.)
- **Make-Up Matches:** All matches must be made up within 3 weeks from original match date. Both teams must make a reasonable effort to play the match. Un-played matches resulting in a 5-5 split will not be allowed! The make-up deadline may be extended at the discretion of the League Director & Committee if adverse weather or other events do not allow matches to be played. When making up a match, players will use their handicap on the day the match is played, regardless of what is shown on the card. Matches determined by the committee to be taking an unreasonable length of time to be made up will result in a 1pt. penalty split of 4-4 for teams involved.
- **Handicaps:** League players will be assigned 1 handicap based on scores from all league rounds played. New players must submit scores from 3 practice rounds to establish a handicap. Players who have not played the required 3 rounds to establish a handicap will play as a scratch golfer until a handicap is established. If a player from one league substitutes in another league, that score will be recorded as a non-event score for handicap purposes. Current Handicap is calculated using GHIN rules of the lowest 8 HCC League rounds out of your last 20 played using course slope and rating in the calculation. Equitable scoring rules will apply (0-4 handicaps will not receive higher than a double bogey on any hole, 5-9 handicaps can't receive higher than a 7, 10-14 can't receive higher than an 8 and 15-18 can't receive higher than a 9.) Maximum handicap for league is 18.
- **League Oversight:** The Men's League Director will be responsible for running league. Duties include but are not limited to: Signing up teams, collection of dues, collection of Calcutta money, entering scores, establishing handicaps, directing the handicap tournament, paying out prize money and answering questions on a daily basis. A Men's League Committee will be established and consist of 9 members + Men's league director. League Director does not get a vote. League Champions from previous year will fill 6 spots with 3 additional committee members chosen at large. 2022 at large committee members are Aaron Lenning thru 2023, Brett Legvold thru 2024 and John Morrison thru 2025. 2021 Champion committee members are Mike Adams, John Sleiter, Lance DeWinter, Ross Sleiter, Matt Dominick & Keel Zinnel. Men's league committee will be responsible for resolving disputes regarding matches, rules, handicaps and league priority.

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## Rules of Play:

USGA Rules of Golf will apply to all rounds with the following HCC Men's League & Course exceptions:

- **All holes must be played out. No 'Gimme' putts:**

All players must play their ball from the tee until it is holed. 'Gimme' putts will not be allowed. If you pick up your ball on the green for a 'Gimme' putt, your team will be penalized 1 point. If you allow your opponent to take a 'Gimme' putt without question, your team will be penalized 1 point.

This is a new rule in 2022 for HCC Men's league and in the spirit of fairness, reasonable common sense should apply. If someone in your 4-some forgets this rule and picks up their ball, you may remind your partner or opponent that there are no 'Gimme' putts and allow them to replace their ball and putt out. If they refuse to do so after a reminder, their team will be penalized 1 point.

*It is up to all league members to police themselves and play within the rules. This is a fun league. I would hope we can all play by the rules without any problems.*

- **'Roll them Anywhere'** rules will apply. This is defined as follows: Players may roll their ball up to 6 inches to improve their lie with the following exception:
  1. Balls in marked hazards, sand bunkers and on the fringe or apron of the green must be played down.
  2. Balls on the green.
  3. If moving the ball to improve your lie also improves your **LINE, STANCE or SWING** the ball must be played down. Example – if your ball comes to rest at the base of a tree and rolling it improves your shot or under a tree where branches affect a player's swing.

***Penalty incurred for breaking this rule is a 1 stroke penalty.***

- **Ball Out of Bounds & Lost Ball:** OB is marked by white stakes on holes #1, #2 and #5, Gravel along highway on #3 & #7 and into parking area behind #1 tee, by green and over road behind green on #9.
  1. If your ball is lost or out of bounds you must play another ball from the spot where the last shot was played, under penalty of one stroke, i.e., stroke and distance.
  2. You are allowed 5 minutes to search for a ball. If it is not found within 5 minutes, it is lost.
- **Immovable Obstruction & Abnormal Ground Condition:**
  1. An immovable obstruction is an artificial object on the course that cannot be moved (e.g., a building) or cannot readily be moved (e.g., a firmly embedded direction post). Objects defining out of bounds are not treated as obstructions.
  2. Abnormal ground condition is casual water, ground under repair or a hole, cast or runway made by a burrowing animal, a reptile or a bird.

This rule will apply to cart paths, Telephone poles, landscaping around tee boxes and the gazebo on #4. Relief without penalty is available from immovable obstructions and abnormal ground conditions when the condition physically interferes with the lie of the ball, your stance or your swing. You may lift the ball and drop it from knee height within **one club-length** of the nearest point of relief, but not nearer the hole than the nearest point of relief.

- **Ball Unplayable:** If your ball is in a water hazard and you do not wish to play it as it lies, you must proceed under the water hazard Rule – the unplayable ball Rule does not apply. Elsewhere on the course, if you believe your ball is unplayable, you may, under penalty of one stroke:
  1. play a ball from where your last shot was played, or

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2. drop a ball any distance behind the point where the ball lay keeping a straight line between the hole, the point where the ball lay and the spot on which the ball is dropped, or
  3. drop a ball within two club-lengths of where the ball lies not nearer the hole. If your ball is in a bunker you may proceed as above, except that if you are dropping back on a line or within two club-lengths, you must drop a ball in the bunker.
- **Lateral Water Hazard:** The riverbank on #1 past the OB stakes east of cart sheds is marked with Red stakes and is considered a lateral water hazard. If your ball is in a lateral water hazard you may:
    1. Play a ball from where your last shot was played, or
    2. Play the ball as it lies from the lateral water hazard without penalty, or
    3. **Under penalty of one stroke**, you may drop a ball within two club-lengths of, and not nearer the hole than, the point where the ball last crossed the margin of the hazard.

***Dropping ball back in Line of Flight does not apply in this instance. Line of Flight is defined as line of flight between point of entry to hazard and the hole. It is impossible to follow Line of Flight in this circumstance because it puts the area of relief in the river or in Sheldon Park!***

- **Telephone poles and wires on holes #1, #3, #6 and #7:** If a player's ball hits the pole or wires on #1, #3, #6 or #7 ***on the fly*** they may choose to play the shot hit or replay the shot without penalty. If a replay is chosen the player must use the replayed shot.