

CARSON VALLEY MEN'S CLUB COURSE RULES

REVISION #2

The Board of Directors acting as the Tournament Committee has enacted Local Course Rules for the 2021 golf season Men's Club Tournaments. The Local Course Rules clarify USGA golf rules for tournaments and remain in effect until rescinded or changed by the Tournament Committee.

1. Men's Club Tournaments are played in accordance with the USGA Rules of Golf. The two primary rules are "play the course as you find it and play the ball as it lies." The ball is played down unless the Tournament Committee determines that Lift, Clean and Place applies. No hole can be scored until the ball is holed out. A player who violates a golf rule will be subject to action by the Tournament Committee to include added penalty strokes and/or disqualification from the tournament round.
2. All bare ground/dirt in the General Area (fairway & rough) of the golf course is designated Waste Area; play the ball as it lies. 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.
3. 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 USGA Rule #17 for Penalty Area procedures).
4. 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 USGA Rule #14.3 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.) is allowed per Rule #16. However, a ball lying on sand in its own pitch mark in the bunker does not qualify for free relief and must be played down. If the ball is unplayable in the bunker and doesn't meet the criteria for Abnormal Conditions cited above, per Rule #19.3 you have the option to drop in the bunker for one penalty stroke, or on a line behind the bunker for two penalty strokes.

c. Per Rule #16, 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. The large logs placed on the ground adjacent to some of the greens (Holes #3, #9, #14, #15) do not qualify for free relief. 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 levee 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 staked trees on the course. By local rule you are allowed free relief if a 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 shall replay the previous shot from the same position on the course.

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 Tournament Committee will assess the dispute and make a determination as to how the hole will be scored.

5. 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; 15 minutes per hole. Since Marshals are not available to monitor pace of play, it is up to each group to comply with time per hole. 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, the group behind can make a note on the scorecard of a violation of pace of play. The Tournament Committee will investigate pace of play violations and may assess penalty strokes to the slow players.

6. COVID 19 Rules (Conditional on Government Policy). Social Distancing when required. Masks shall be worn in the Clubhouse and surrounding area. One foursome at a time on the first tee box; wait across the street until the group ahead has fully cleared the first tee. No pulling flagsticks; putter heads can be used to center up flagsticks. No raking bunkers. No touching other player's golf equipment.