

Trusting Tree Players Club
Local Rules
(Revised April 29, 2021)

The most current **USGA Rules of Golf**, and the following **Local Rules**, subject to amendment by the Trusting Tree Players Club (TTPC) Committee, governs tournament play in all TTPC Golf Tournaments.

The TTPC Committee makes the following Local Rules as provided in the Rules of Golf, and consistent with the policy established in the Rules of Golf.

Unless otherwise specified, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or a Condition of Competition is two strokes in stroke play and loss of hole in match play.

Out-of-Bounds:

- 1) The inside points at ground level of white boundary stakes or white paint lines on the ground on holes 4 (left of hole near power poles adjacent to hwy 34), 5 (left side), and 14 (east of green).
- 2) The inside points of the Property boundary fence on holes 10 (right side), 11 (right side), 12 (right side), 13 (right side), and 15 (left side),
- 3) Paved areas behind 9 green around pro shop and behind 18 green

No Play Zones:

- 1) In NO case shall a player play a ball from the driving range due to safety considerations. The Driving Range is defined by the inside point of the pole closest to the clubhouse and paved parking area, and on the south end by the pole closest to the Hwy 34, and by the inside points of the poles to the left of #3 fairway. It is a No Play Zone to be treated as a red penalty area. Penalty relief must be taken outside of this area under Rule 17.1e. The posts themselves are in the general area and are defined as an Abnormal Course Condition. If the player's ball is in the general area, free relief may be taken from the posts under Rule 16.1.
- 2) In NO case shall a player play a ball from the open pit right of #4 green. The area defined by the high grasses around the pit or a white or red line, is a No Play Zone that is to be treated as red penalty area. Penalty relief must be taken outside of this area under Rule 17.1e.

Aeration Holes:

During periods of course aeration, if a player's ball lies in or touches an aeration hole:

- 1) Ball in General Area – the player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. If the ball comes to rest in another aeration hole the player may take relief again under this Local Rule.
- 2) Ball on Putting Green – the player may take relief under Rule 16.1d.

But, interference does not exist if the aeration hole only interferes with the player's stance or, on the putting green, on the player's line of play.

Immovable Obstructions Close to the Putting Green:

Criteria that must apply:

- The ball must lie in the general area (not in a bunker or penalty area); and
- The immovable obstruction (sprinkler head, drain, etc.) must be on or within two club-lengths of the putting green; and
- The immovable obstruction must be within two club-lengths of the ball; and
- The immovable obstruction must intervene on the line of play between the ball and the hole.

If and only if, all of the criteria above apply for intervention on the line of play, then the player may lift and drop the ball at the nearest point of relief that is not nearer the hole, avoids intervention and is in the general area.

Please note that the ball is not dropped within one club-length of that point of relief; rather at the nearest point of relief. The one club-length is used for standard relief, not intervention relief.

Penalty Areas:

- 1) Ditches on holes #10 and right of #11 and left of 18 in the ditch below the trees shall be played as red penalty areas. The boundary of the penalty area is determined by red paint lines on the ground or the water level when red lines are not present. Tall grass left uncut in the ditch is an indication of the penalty areas in the absence of red stakes or lines.
- 2) The pond to the right of holes #7 and #17, the pond to the left of holes #11 and #17, and the fish pond behind the 15th green are to be played as red penalty areas.
- 3) The river sides of holes #6, #8, #14, and #16 are to be played as red penalty areas.

Dropping Zones:

If a ball is in or it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found is in a penalty area, the player may proceed under Rule 17, or, as an additional option, on hole #10 use the Dropping Zone provided. The Dropping zone is the teeing ground furthest north and east of the ditch. Drop a ball, under penalty of one stroke, in the Dropping Zone.

Preferred Lies (Also known as Winter Rules)

When adverse conditions are present throughout the course the use of the following local rule will be announced:

When a player's ball lies in a part of the general area, the player may take free relief once by placing the original ball or another ball in and playing it from this relief area:

- reference point: spot of original ball.
- within 6 inches from reference point,
- and must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and be in the general area.

Scorecards and Computer Posting:

Properly signed and attested score cards shall be turned in to the committee at the scoring table immediately following the stipulated round in the tournament. All tournament rounds will be posted to the handicap system by the handicap committee. For the Match Play Tournament only, scores cards will be signed by both players and turned in to the pro shop immediately following the match round. Once the card is turned over to the committee it is deemed officially submitted. ALL ROUNDS in TTPC Tournaments are Competition (C) rounds.

Alternative to Stroke and Distance for a Ball That is Lost or Out of Bounds:

Purpose of Local Rule: Significant issues with pace of play can result from players needing to take stroke-and-distance relief for a ball that is out of bounds or cannot be found when a provisional ball has not been played. The purpose of this Local Rule is to allow a Committee to provide an extra relief option that means that a player may play on without returning to the location of the previous stroke. This option allows the player to drop 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 that is not nearer the hole. The player gets two penalty strokes when using this relief option, so that the relief is comparable to what could have been achieved if the player had taken stroke-and-distance relief.

This Local Rule is not intended for TTPC Tournaments.

“When a player's ball cannot be 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 a substituted ball in this relief area (see Rule 14.3):

Two Estimated Reference Points:

a. Ball Reference Point: The point where the original ball:

- Is estimated to have come to rest on the course, or
- Last crossed the edge of the course boundary to go out of bounds.

b. Fairway Reference Point: The point of fairway of the *hole* being played that is nearest to the ball reference point, **but** is not nearer the *hole* than the ball reference point.

For purposes of this Local Rule, “fairway” means any area of grass in the *general area* that is cut to fairway height or less.

Size of Relief Area Based on Reference Points: Anywhere between:

- A line from the hole through the ball reference point (or within two club-lengths to the outside of that line), and
- A line from the hole through the fairway reference point (or within two clublengths to the outside of that line).

But with these limits:

Limits on Location of Relief Area:

- Must be in the general area, and
- Must not be nearer the hole than the ball reference point.

But, the player may not use this option when:

- The ball is known or virtually certain to have come to rest in a penalty area, or
- The player has played another ball provisionally under penalty of stroke and distance (see Rule 18.3).”

Playing Tees for TTPC Competitions:

Default tee assignments will be determined by the player’s index on the cut-off date for entries in competition. The index ranges and tee assignments will be used to establish the shortest tees available to the player. Player may choose to play from tees that are "longer" provided the Competition Committee is informed at the time the player registers for the Tournament.

Men's Index

+10 to 0	White
0.1 to 10	White-Grey
10.1 to 20	Grey
20.1 to 30	Grey-Orange
30.1 and above	Orange

Women's Index

+10 to 0	Grey
0.1 to 15	Grey-Orange
15.1 and above	Orange

GUIDANCE IN APPLYING GOLF'S RULES AND POSTING SCORES FOR HANDICAP PURPOSES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Bunker and Bunker Rakes

When all bunker rakes have been removed from the course, and the player's ball lies in a foot print or other disturbed area in a bunker, the player may take free relief, and lift his or her ball, smooth the sand to ground level (flat, not teed) and replace the ball back on its original spot. If the ball is in its own pitch mark, the player may not use this rule.

Players are encouraged to try their best to smooth the disturbed area with a foot or a club after playing their ball from a bunker.

Flagsticks

Players are encouraged not to touch the flag stick during the pandemic. If a player strongly feels the need to remove a flag stick they should be prepared with liquid sanitizer or disinfecting wipes to minimize the risk of exposure to themselves and other players.