

LOCAL RULES FOR SADDLEBROOKE RANCH GOLF COURSE – Revised 9/21/2022

1. **OUT OF BOUNDS:** Homeowner property lines, walls, fences, streets and parking lots shall define out-of-bounds when white stakes are not present.
2. **CONDITIONS ELIGIBLE FOR RELIEF.** The purpose of this Local Rule is to group together a diverse number of situations that a golfer will commonly face that have the same Relief procedure.

In all of the following conditions, a player is entitled to or required to take Relief without Penalty. The Ball may be cleaned before it is dropped within a club length of the nearest point of complete Relief that is not nearer the Hole.

- i. Ball in areas outlined by white lines or within Landscaped areas (relief required), or French drains (relief optional). Relief is afforded for stance, swing and lie.
 - ii. Ball in seams of newly placed turf, aeration holes or slices, even when not marked by white lines. Relief is limited to lie of ball only.
 - iii. Ball in any bare area of dirt, completely devoid of plant material, in the General Area between the cart path and sprinkler line on the opposite side of the turf. Relief is limited to lie of ball only.
 - iv. Ball within 2 club lengths of a Greenside sprinkler head within the line of play. Relief is limited to lie of ball only. No Relief available if player chooses a line of play that is clearly unreasonable.
 - v. Abnormal ground conditions caused by insects, animal dung, tracks or other obvious damage done by animals that interferes with line of play, stance or swing. There is no relief allowed by changing the ball position on a Green. The damage may be repaired before continuing play.
3. **PROVISIONAL BALL FOR BALL IN A PENALTY AREA.** The purpose of this rule is to speed the pace of play by encouraging players to provisionally exercise their penalty shot for balls hit into a Red Staked Penalty Area.

Many Red Staked Penalty Areas identify arroyos that present not only challenging terrain, but also plants and animals we would do best to avoid. This Local Rule allows players to provisionally play the shot they would take if they cannot find their ball or choose not to play. Once this option is chosen it cannot be changed in favor of any other option given to them in Rule 17. Any attempt to play a ball from the Penalty Area voids the provisionally played stroke.

4. **ALTERNATIVE TO STROKE & DISTANCE FOR LOST OR OUT OF BOUNDS BALL.** Under the Rule of Golf R18, if a ball is **Lost outside a Penalty Area** or **Out of Bounds (OB)** and the player has not hit a Provisional Ball, the player must play a Ball under penalty of Stroke and Distance.

The purpose of this Local Rule is to offer an alternative option to playing again from where the previous stroke was made, which would result in a slower pace of play.

Once a ball is put in play under this Local Rule, the original ball is no longer in play and must not be played. If a Provisional Ball was played, and neither the original nor

Provisional Ball can be found after a 3 minute search, this local rule may be implemented for the Provisional Ball which is also Lost or OB.

For a penalty of **two strokes**, a ball must be dropped in the relief area whose boundaries are determined by:

- A. The **Ball Reference Point**—which is the spot where the Ball went Out of Bounds or was determined to be Lost, and
- B. The **Fairway Reference Point**—which is a point on Grass cut to fairway height and which is equidistant from the hole. An additional two club lengths from the Fairway Reference Point determines the margin of the relief area.

The Ball put into play must not be nearer the hole than the Ball Reference point. The Ball must be dropped anywhere in the relief area that is in the General Area. The General Area **excludes** 1) the teeing area the player used to start the hole, 2) all penalty areas, 3) all bunkers, and 4) the putting green of the hole being played.

The configurations of some holes do not provide any grass cut to Fairway height for determining the Fairway Reference Point. In such cases the Fairway Reference Point is in higher grass and still equidistant from the hole as the Ball Reference Point.

- 5. **DRAINAGE FROM ROADS:** There are areas on the course designed for drainage using large rocks, such as those on holes #7, #15, and #17. A ball lying within these areas and is in bounds is entitled to free relief of stance and swing at the nearest point of relief no closer to the hole.

- 6. **SOGGY AREAS NEAR DRAINS, LOW LYING AREAS, OR SPRINKLER HEADS:** The purpose of this Local Rule is to offer free relief in soggy course conditions.

To qualify for relief, the ball must lie within 10 paces of a drain or a blue stake, or within two club lengths of a sprinkler head, and the soil must displace when taking a stance.

The player is entitled to free relief at the nearest spot wherein relief is afforded for stance, swing and lie. The ball must be dropped within one club length no closer to the hole.

- 7. **ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS CAUSED BY VEHICULAR TRAFFIC:** The purpose of this Local Rule is to offer free relief from ruts caused by vehicular traffic which physically interfere with the area of intended stance or swing.

To qualify for relief the ball must be in the rut and at least 1/2 the ball diameter is below the surrounding ground.

The player is entitled to free relief at the nearest spot wherein relief is afforded for stance, swing and lie. The ball must be dropped within one club length no closer to the hole.