

Local Rules and Conditions Of Competition For All 2017 LHMGC Sponsored Championships/Events

Lincoln Hills Men's Golf Club tournament play is governed by the latest addition of the USGA Rules of Golf and the 2016-2017 USGA Decisions on the Rules of Golf and, where applicable, the following Local Rules and Conditions, along with additional Local Rules as may be supplied or announced prior to each Championship/Event. It is the player's responsibility to know the rules and conditions—Rule 6-1. Complete text of the Rules and Appendix I may be found in the current edition of the Rules of Golf.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is:

Match Play—Loss of Hole

Stroke Play—Two Strokes

LOCAL RULES

SCORECARD

The Lincoln Hills Golf Club scorecard is unofficial and has no status in LHMGC sponsored Championships/Events.

PREFERRED LIES

When the Committee believes "Preferred Lies" would promote fair play or help protect the course, it will be announced prior to the Championship/Event. In such instances, a ball lying through the green **(the whole area of the course except the teeing ground and putting green of the hole being played and all hazards)** may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, the player must place it on a spot within **one club-length** of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, that is not in a hazard and not on a putting green and must remain in the same cut of grass—fairway to fairway and rough to rough.

The player may place the ball only once—once it is placed it is in play Rule 20-4. If the player fails to mark the position of the ball before lifting it or moves the ball in any other manner, such as rolling it with a club, the player incurs a **one stroke penalty**.

AERATION HOLES

Through the green—a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be lifted without penalty, cleaned and dropped as near as possible to the spot where it lay but not nearer the hole. A ball when dropped must first strike a part of the course through the green.

On the putting green—a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be placed at the nearest spot not nearer the hole that avoids the situation.

SEAMS OF CUT TURF (SOD SEAMS)

Through the green—seams of cut turf (not the turf itself) are deemed to be ground under repair for interference of BALL ONLY. If the ball lies in or touches the seam or the seam interferes with the area of attended swing, relief is available under Rule 25-1 **No penalty**. All seams within the cut turf are considered the same seam.

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES

For all play in LHMGC events a player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If during a stipulated round a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his/her play (e.g., elevation changes, wind speed, etc.) the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.

Match play - loss of hole Stroke play - two strokes
Subsequent offense - Disqualification

ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS (ESA)

Hills Course: Holes 2, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16 and 17

Orchard Course: Holes 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 13

Both Hills and Orchard courses Native Wetlands, Identified by split-rail fences, yellow or red stakes with green tops or lines have been declared by a Government Agency is an area entry into and/or play from which is prohibited for environmental reasons.

If it is known or virtually certain that the ball, that has not been found, is in an ESA, the player must, under **penalty of one stroke**, proceed in accordance with Rule 26-1. Relief for Ball in Water Hazard or Lateral Water Hazard

NOTE: If after relief is taken and the split-rail fence still interferes with the players stance or swing, the player now can take further relief from under the Immoveable Obstruction Rule 24—**no additional penalty**.

OUT OF BOUNDS

Out of bounds on both courses is defined by: White stakes, course side edges of rock or brick course perimeter knee-walls adjoining the residences. If both are present the stakes identify the OB and the knee wall/rock wall define the OB. Relief is not granted for swing/stance. **Stroke and distance penalty**

NOTE: A ball that crosses a public road defined as out of bounds and comes to rest beyond that road is out of bounds, even though it may lie on another part of the course. Decision 27/20

The driving range between Hills # 1 and # 18 is OB defined by white stakes.

IMMOVEABLE OBSTRUCTIONS

All drains located throughout both courses are deemed to be immovable obstructions. Any rock or cement that surround some drains is deemed to be part of the obstruction. Nearest point and one club length **no penalty**.

All interior rock or brick retaining walls are **not immovable obstructions** and deemed to be an integral part of the course—**no relief**.

Local Rule 24-2 Immoveable Obstructions on or Close to Putting Green (e.g., sprinkler heads) is in effect.

If a ball lies through the green and an immovable obstruction on or within two club-lengths of the putting green and within two club-lengths of the ball intervenes on the line of play between the ball and the hole, the player may take relief **no penalty** as follows: The ball must be lifted and dropped at the nearest point to where the ball lay that is not nearer the hole, avoids intervention and is not in a hazard or on the putting green.

If the player's ball lies on the putting green and an immovable obstruction within two club-lengths of the putting green intervention on his line of putt, the player may take relief **no penalty** as follows: The ball must be lifted and placed at the nearest point to where the ball lay that is not nearer the hole, avoids intervention and is not in a hazard. The ball may be cleaned when lifted.

Exception: A player may not take relief under this Rule if (a) interference by anything other than an immovable obstruction makes the stroke clearly impracticable or (b) interference by an immovable obstruction would occur only through use of a clearly unreasonable stroke or an unnecessarily abnormal stance, swing or direction of play.

RULES 18-2, 18-3 AND 20-1 ARE MODIFIED AS FOLLOWS

When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is **no penalty** if the ball or ball-marker is **accidentally** moved by the player, his partner, his opponent or any of their caddies or equipment. The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1. This local rule applies only when the player's ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is **accidental**.

NOTE: If it is determined that a player's ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new location. A ball-marker moved in such circumstances is replaced.

DROP ZONES

Hills Course

Hole #2 – There is a drop zone located across the water hazard (yellow) as an additional option with a **one stroke penalty**.

Orchard Course

Hole#3 – There is a drop zone located across the water hazard as an additional option with a **one stroke penalty**.

Hole #6 – There is a drop zone located on the fairway side of the hazard as an additional option for the water hazard (yellow) and not the lateral hazard (red) with a **one stroke penalty**.

Hole#7 – The drop zone is the forward teeing ground as an additional option for the water hazard (yellow) with a **one stroke penalty**. BALL MUST BE DROPED AND NOT TEED

NOTE: ALL OTHER DROP ZONES ON EITHER COURSE ARE OUT OF PLAY AND IF USED AND NOT RECTIFIED BEFORE TEEING OFF ON THE NEXT HOLE WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION.

NOTE: For NCGA qualifiers and Team Play the drop zones on #2 Hills and #3 Orchard are out of play and cannot be use as an additional option. If the drop zone is used and the player does not rectify his play before teeing off on the next hole the player will be disqualified for gaining a significant advantage.

STAKE TREES

Stake trees identifying young trees to be protected including any guy wire that may be attached to such stake, interferes with a player's stance or the area of the his/her intended swing, relief must be taken in accordance with the procedure set forth in Rule 24-2b (Immovable Obstructions) nearest point one club length **no penalty**.

NOTE: Relief is not granted from the protective wire fencing around the trunk of a non staked tree nor for a ball coming to rest in a tree well of a non-staked tree.

STONES IN BUNKERS

Stones in bunkers are deemed to be moveable obstructions. Rule 24-1 **no penalty**.

FLOWER BEDS, SHRUBS AND BUSHES

A ball lying in a defined cutout area on the course where flowers, shrubs and bushes are growing with or without wood chips are not subject to relief. However, if present, the wood chips are defined as loose impediments Rule 23.

DIRECTIONAL CART SIGNS

Signs, used to provide direction for golf carts including short white stakes with green tops, are deemed to be Moveable Obstructions Rule 24-1.

EMBEDDED BALL

Through the green, a ball that is embedded may be lifted, cleaned and dropped, without penalty, as near as possible to the spot where it lay not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must first strike a part of the course through the green.

NOTE: A ball is “embedded” when it is in its own pitch-mark and part of the ball is below the level of the ground. A ball does not necessarily have to touch the soil to be embedded (e.g., grass, loose impediments and the like may intervene between the ball and the soil).

WATER HAZARD HOLE #2 HILLS COURSE

When playing from the fairway side of the water hazard, drop zone or forward tee and the ball enters the water hazard (yellow) the two additional options of a lateral water hazard are in effect. Therefore a ball may be dropped within two club lengths from the margin of the water hazard (yellow) where the ball last crossed the water hazard.

CONDITIONS OF THE COMPETITION

DECIDING TIES

When it is desired to have a sole winner in any competition, the Committee shall announce in advance whether there shall be 1) a playoff or 2) a matching of scorecards, either of which shall be done in accordance with the recommendations contained in Appendix I Part B Conditions of the Competition section 10 of the Rules of Golf.

LHMGC MEMBERS OVER 80

For all events (excluding NCGA Qualifiers, NCGA Team Match Play, LHMGC Championships, Tournament of Champions and President’s Cup) a player whose age is 80 or older on the day of the competition may, at his discretion, tee off from the platform tee on Hole #3—Orchard or from the forward tee on Hole #2—Hills, located on the other side of the lake, without any penalty or adjustment to the course handicap.

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