



## FOX HOLLOW MEN'S CLUB COMMON RULES OF PLAY AND LOCAL RULES

All Fox Hollow Men's Club events are played under the rules of golf defined by the United States Golf Association except as defined by the Local Rules shown below.

The following defines how to handle some of the most common rules situations we will encounter:

### COLORED STAKES & LINES:

A *regular* water hazard

- Defined by yellow stakes or lines
- Any body of water that sits between you and the hole
- Includes the water AND the turf on the edges

A *lateral* water hazard

- Defined by red stakes or lines
- Any body of water that sits to one side of the hole.
- Includes the water AND the turf on the edges

The boundaries of both hazards extend upward and downward and any lines or stakes outlining the hazard are part of the hazard. If your ball is resting on the line defining the hazard....you're in the hazard. DON'T GROUND YOUR CLUB. If you do, you will be assessed a one (1) stroke penalty for each occurrence.

You have three choices for regular water hazards (yellow stakes):

1. If the ball is playable, play it with no penalty, but do not ground your club before doing so.
2. If it's not playable, find the spot where your ball last crossed the hazard margin. Keep that spot between you and the hole. You can drop your ball anywhere on that imaginary line, as far back as you like. You must drop behind the water even if your ball landed on the other side and rolled back into the water. You are assessed one (1) penalty stroke.
3. The final option is to go back to the spot where you played the shot into the hazard and hit another ball. A one (1) stroke penalty is assessed + distance. So if it was your tee shot, you would now be hitting 3 from the tee.

If the hazard is a lateral hazard (red stakes), you have the same option as the regular hazard above, plus two more.

1. Find the spot where the ball crossed the hazard margin. Drop your ball within two club lengths, no nearer the hole. One (1) penalty stroke is assessed.
2. Find a spot on the opposite side of the hazard that is the same distance from the hole as the spot where your ball crossed the hazard margin. Drop a ball within two club lengths of that spot, no nearer the hole. A one (1) stroke penalty is assessed.

Rules covering water hazards can be found in the USGA Rules of Golf, Rule 26.

### **White Stakes and White Lines**

White stakes are used to indicate out-of-bounds. Out-of-bounds is a stroke-and-distance penalty - a golfer must assess himself a one (1) stroke penalty, return to the spot of the previous shot and hit it again.

This can be time consuming. So if you believe your ball may be OB, it's a good idea to hit a provisional ball. This will help keep up the speed of play.

Rules governing out-of-bounds and provisional balls are covered in USGA Rules of Golf, Rule 27.

### **FREE DROPS:**

A number of situations you encounter on the golf course provide for a free drop – ball lies in ground under repair (white lines painted), stance or ball lies on a cart path (paved or gravel), stance or ball lies in casual water (water is visible when stepping near your ball). Find the NEAREST point of relief – you cannot pick any spot, it must be the NEAREST to where your original ball lies – then drop within one club length of that spot.

### **LOCAL RULES OF THE COURSE:**

- HOLE #2: The metal barrier behind #2 is considered an integral part of the course and there is NO free relief. It may seem unfair, but it's just like being up against a tree. Plus the barrier probably just saved your golf ball from a watery grave, so you should be thankful it was there.
- HOLE #4: The metal barrier on this hole is also an integral part of the course (see #2 above) and there is NO free drop.
- HOLE #5: At times in the past, the tree area to the left of the fairway near the green has been played as a lateral water hazard. THAT IS NO LONGER THE CASE. If your ball enters that area and it cannot be found, you must proceed under the rules for lost ball. Return to the spot of the previous shot and replay counting all strokes played plus one stroke penalty.
- HOLE #18: Out of bounds on hole 18 starts at the highway asphalt of Cty. Rd. 36, and behind the green at the curb of Palmgren Avenue – even if there are no stakes. That means the lower parking lot is in bounds and also the ramp leading down to the tunnel under Cty Rd. 36 is in bounds.
- HOLE #18: If a ball strikes the power lines on #18, it MUST be replayed without penalty. If a ball strikes the power poles and caroms out of bounds (driving range), it must be replayed and you're penalized the usual stroke and distance for out of bounds.
- What to do if no one knows: When a rules question comes up and a golfer isn't sure which of two options to follow, play two balls. At the end of the round – BEFORE signing the scorecard - ask the golf professional which action was the valid one and complete the score card appropriately.
- The following local rules override USGA rules
  - Stones in bunkers are moveable obstructions. See USGA rule 24-1.
  - A ball hit into the water on hole #3 (front) may be played from the designated drop area on the island. The drop area will be a white circle. There are NO OTHER drop areas on any hole on any of the 3 nines. Drop areas you see anywhere else are for other leagues.
  - If there is some question as to whether a ball hit into or near a water hazard is playable or not, the player may play a provisional ball. This is not allowed by USGA rules but we have created this local rule to speed up play.

### **SCORE CARDS:**

- All score cards MUST contain each player's full name and local number. It is each player's responsibility to insure the score keeper has fill out the card properly. Players who cannot be identified will, obviously, be disqualified.