



## **Bay Area Pinseekers Golf Club – LOCAL RULES IN EFFECT**

Bay Area Pinseekers Golf Club tournament play is governed by the USGA Rules of Golf and the current 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 included on the back of the scorecard**. Complete text of Rules may be found in the current USGA Rules of Golf. Unless otherwise specified, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is two strokes in stroke play and loss of hole in match play.

**DRESS CODE: PLAYERS and CADDIES** must be properly attired both on the golf course and on the premises of the club. Blue jeans, designer jeans, T-shirts and tank tops are prohibited. Golf shirts must be worn and shorts must be no shorter than mid-thigh (no jean shorts). This dress code will be used at all tournaments in conjunction with any additional dress code restrictions of the particular golf course involved, that prohibit cargo pants. A player or caddie violating this dress code will not be permitted to start the competition. A violation of this dress code by either a player or a caddie during the stipulated round must be rectified without undue delay or the player will not be allowed to continue to play or the caddie will not be allowed to perform the acts of a caddie.

**SERIOUS BREACH OF ETIQUETTE:** The use of abusive language, throwing of clubs or other disruptive behavior, contrary to the good conduct of the tournament, will not be tolerated. Further disciplinary action may be imposed, including suspension from future events. **PENALTY: DISQUALIFICATION**

**FOR ALL COMPETITIONS:** The Bay Area Pinseekers reserves the right to adjust a player's handicap or decline his entry based upon previous performances in tournament events.

### **GROUND UNDER REPAIR:**

1. Area defined by white lines and/or stakes are deemed ground under repair. French drains are deemed to be ground under repair. Rule 16.1 **Added:** Other course damage or repair is not GUR unless marked or otherwise covered by specific rules for abnormal conditions. NOTE An abnormal conditions is ONLY "An animal hole, ground under repair, an immovable obstruction, or temporary water." It

is NOT simply a muddy spot, irregular turf, etc. But continue reading for other situations for free relief.

2. **New.** Areas in bunkers where sand has been removed by the movement of water resulting in deep furrows through the sand are ground under repair.
3. **New.** Cracks in the ground in parts of the *general area* cut to fairway height or less are *ground under repair*. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. But interference does NOT exist if it only interferes with the player's stance MLR F-8
4. **New.** In the *general area, aka fairway (not penalty area)*, areas of damage caused by pigs, racoons, or skunks are treated as *ground under repair* when the soil is significantly overturned/damaged.. But interference does not exist if the damage only interferes with the player's stance. MLR F-10

**Revised: PROVISIONAL BALL FOR BALL IN PENALTY AREA.** MLR B-3 If a player does not know whether his or her ball is in the *penalty area*, the player may play a *provisional ball* under Rule 18.3, which is modified in this way: In playing the *provisional ball*, the player may use the *stroke-and-distance* relief option (see Rule 17.1d(1), the back-on-the-line relief option (see Rule 17.1d(2)) or, if it is a red *penalty area*, the lateral relief option (see Rule 17.1d(3)). If a dropping zone (see Model Local Rule E-1) is available for this *penalty area*, the player may also use that relief option. IMPORTANT RESTRICTION: Once the player has played a *provisional ball* under this Rule, he or she may not use any further options under Rule 17.1 in relation to the original ball.

In deciding when that *provisional ball* becomes the player's ball *in play* or if it must or may be abandoned, Rule 18.3c(2) and 18.3c(3) apply except that: **When Original Ball Is Found in Penalty Area Within Three-Minute Search Time.** The player may choose either to:

- Continue to play the original ball as it lies in the *penalty area*, in which case the *provisional ball* must not be played., or
- Continue to play the *provisional ball* in which case the original ball must not be played.
- **When Original Ball Is Not Found Within Three-Minute Search Time or Is Known or Virtually Certain to Be in Penalty Area.**  
The *provisional ball* becomes the player's ball *in play*. REMEMBER THE RESTRICTION ABOVE!
- **Basically, if you play a provisional ball, you cannot take the 2 club length relief from the penalty area.** You either play it as it lies or play the *provisional ball*.

**SODDED AREAS:** Through the green, seams of cut turf (not the turf itself) are deemed to be ground under repair. However, interference by a seam with the player's stance is deemed not to be, of itself, interference. If the ball lies in or touches the seam or the seam interferes with the area of intended swing, relief is available. All seams within the cut turf area are considered the same seam. MLR F-7

**AERATION HOLES:** Through the green, a ball, which comes to rest in or on an aeration hole, may be marked, lifted without penalty, cleaned and dropped as near as possible to the spot where it lay, but not nearer to the hole. **On the putting green, a**

ball, which comes to rest in or on an aeration hole, may be placed without penalty at the nearest spot to where it originally lay not nearer to the hole. MLR E-4

**PERMANENT ELEVATED POWER LINES AND CABLES:** If a ball strikes a permanent elevated power line or cable on the course, the stroke must be cancelled and replayed, without penalty. If the ball is not immediately recoverable, another ball may be substituted. MLR E-11

**STAKED TREES:** Players are allowed a free drop, if a **staked** tree (immovable obstruction) is in the line of swing (i.e., if the player's swing would be likely to damage or kill the tree). Damage by the ball in flight is not an acceptable reason for this rule to be in effect. Drop shall be taken no closer to the hole and such that the player's swing will no longer impact the tree. MLR E-10

**LOST OR OUT OF BOUNDS BALLS OPTION:** If your ball is out of bounds or lost after a 3 minute search, find an adjacent point on the edge of the fairway plus two club lengths (not nearer the hole) from where you believe your ball crossed the out of bounds perimeter or was lost. Then drop your ball somewhere between the fairway drop area and where the ball went OB or Lost. The penalty for use of this option is two strokes.

Even when this Local Rule is in force, you may still choose to hit a provisional ball. But, if you do, the option is no longer available for the original ball and you must either find and play the original or play the provisional.

If a ball is believed to be out of bounds or lost short of the fairway, the drop area may be a grass path or other teeing ground for the hole being played cut to fairway height or less. MLR E-5

**A ball which comes to rest in a penalty area or is unplayable may not have this option applied to it.**

**DROP AREAS:** Players are allowed to utilize predetermined drop areas as long as they are clearly marked or shown on the back of the scorecard.

**IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS (e.g. sprinkler, drain, etc.) CLOSE TO THE PUTTING GREEN AND ON THE LINE OF PLAY:**

- **Ball in closely mown area:** The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b ( 1 club length from nearest point of relief no closer to the hole and not ending on the green) if an immovable obstruction is:
- On the line of play, and is:
  - Within two club-lengths of the putting green, and
  - Within two club-lengths of the ball.

Exception – No Relief If Line of Play Clearly Unreasonable. There is no relief under this Local Rule if the player chooses a line of play that is clearly unreasonable or the ball is not in the closely mown area.

**WINTER RULES.** ONLY AT THE EXPRESS DECLARATION OF THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR BEFORE THE TOURNAMENT, OR AGREEMENT BY THE PLAYERS IN MATCH/MEMORIAL CUP PLAY.

If a player's ball lies on a closely-mown area through the green (aka FAIRWAY), the player may mark, lift and clean his ball without penalty. Before lifting, he should mark the position of the ball. The player must then place the ball on a spot within six inches of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, that is not in a hazard or on a putting green. MLR F-7