



HOPEDALE COUNTRY CLUB LOCAL GOLF RULES

REVISED February 2018

GENERAL RULES GOVERNING PLAY AT HOPEDALE COUNTRY CLUB

The Rules of the United States Golf Association govern play along with Local Hopedale Country Club Local Rules in Accordance with Appendix I of the USGA Rules. The complete set of USGA Rules can be found on the Hopedale Country Club Website.

Pace of Play

Pace of Play is critical to a nine-hole course and will be closely monitored and enforced by the Pro Shop Staff and course rangers.

Players must maintain an average Pace of Play of 14 minutes per hole, or:

- 2 hours 6 minutes for nine holes
- 4 hours 12 minutes for eighteen holes.

If a player or group does not maintain this pace, the following may occur:

- A. Player or Group loses their slot for starting the back nine.
- B. Player or Group allows group behind them to play through.
- C. Player or Group is asked to pick up balls and move to the next hole.

Some methods to maintain pace include:

- A. Keeping up with the group ahead of you.
- B. Limiting the search for lost balls to 3 minutes.
- C. Picking up your ball when double par is reached.

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

MATCH PLAY ----- loss of hole

STROKE PLAY ---- two strokes

OBSTRUCTIONS

The concrete/stone wall supporting the teeing ground on 7st and 16th holes is an Immovable obstruction

The protective fence on 3rd & 12th holes is an immovable obstruction. The ball drop area that is nearest to the point where the player's ball may be used.

All utility poles, overhead wires and guy wires are immovable obstructions. As such, no line of sight or path of flight is granted. As per Rule 24-2, no relief is granted unless the obstruction interferes with the lie of the ball, stance or intended swing, and only if the ball is not in a water hazard.

If a ball strikes wires on the 1st, 5th, 10th or 14th holes, the player must disregard that stroke, abandon the ball and play another ball as near as possible to the spot from which the original ball was played. There is no penalty for striking the overhead wires.

The pump house on the 1st and 10th holes and all bridges are immovable obstructions. As such, no line of sight or path of flight relief is granted. As per Rule 24-2, no relief is granted unless the obstruction interferes with the lie of the ball, stance or intended swing, and only if the ball is not in a water hazard.

Cart paths and roads are immovable obstructions if they are artificially surfaced. White lined areas tying into artificially surfaced roads and paths have the same status as the roads and paths. They are considered obstructions.

The entire cart path to the left of the 5th and 14th fairways is deemed to be an artificially paved road and thus is an immovable obstruction.

Visible French drains and visible components of buried drainage systems are immovable obstructions. However, turf that has been raised as a result of underground components is not by itself an obstruction.

OUT OF BOUNDS

Beyond stone walls on the 3rd, 12th, 4th, 13th, 5th & 14th holes.

White stakes on the 9th, 18th, 3rd, 12th, 5th, 14th, 6th and 15th holes

(Inside points, at ground level)

WATER AND LATERAL WATER HAZARDS

Water hazards are defined by yellow stakes or yellow lines Rule 26-1

Lateral water hazards are defined by red stakes or red lines. Rule 26-1

When both stakes and lines are used to define water and lateral water hazards, stakes identify hazards and lines define margins.

When water hazards and lateral water hazards are bounded by out-of bounds, the hazard margin extends to and coincides with the out-of bounds line.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR

Ground under repair is defined by white lines. The Greens crew may declare certain construction or renovation as mandatory ground under repair – Nearest point of relief **MUST** be taken.

Flower gardens are mandatory ground under repair areas and nearest point of relief **MUST** be taken.

EMBEDDED BALL THROUGH THE GREEN

Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I shall be in effect.

INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE GOLF COURSE

Stone wall in the woods on the left side of 7st and 16th holes and left side of 8nd and 17th holes.

Cement walls supporting the teeing ground of the 4th and 13th holes. No relief is granted.

STONES IN BUNKERS

Stones in bunkers are declared to be “movable obstructions” (Rule 24-1)

DROP AREAS

On the 7st, 16th, 9th and 18th, balls played into the water hazard may be played from the ball drop area as defines by a white circular line.

On the 3rd and 12th holes if a ball drop areas is utilized to gain swing or stance relief from the protective fence, the *nearest* ball drop area must be used.

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

The Tournament Committee is authorized to set the penalty at two (2) penalty strokes for a player arriving up to five (5) minutes after his/her assigned starting time at the assigned tee box. This can be set at the Committee’s discretion on a tournament-by-tournament basis. If this alternative penalty is set, it must be posted in writing before the tournament.

BALL RESTING ON APRON OF ANOTHER GREEN

If a player’s ball should come to rest on the apron of a different green than which he/she is playing, the player shall lift his/her ball and the nearest point of relief must be taken.