

## 11) RULES CHAIR

The rules chair is responsible for establishment and interpretation of tournament rules and rules for special events. This may include both the USGA Rules of Golf and any local rules which may apply to the Lakes West WGA. Rules interpretation is done in consultation with the tournament chair and the Lakes West WGA president.

The rules chair may be called on for rulings in daily play as well as tournaments. In cases of indecision, the golf division of the Recreation Centers of Sun City is the final court of appeal.

The following are local rules which apply to Lakes West WGA:

1. CHALKED AREAS AND CASUAL WATER. A player may lift and drop the ball without penalty, as near as possible to the spot where it lies but no closer to the hole, on ground which avoids this condition.
2. IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS. Includes cart paths, ground under repair, staked trees, and sprinkler control boxes. Lift and drop the ball within one club length from the nearest point of relief no nearer the hole without penalty. There is no relief in a hazard. The player may take relief with a one stroke penalty.
3. PENALTY AREAS. Play all canals and lakes parallel to the fairways as lateral penalty areas. Canals bisecting fairways on holes 3, 9 and 18 are penalty areas under Rule 17 of the USGA Rules of Golf.
  - a. A ball that comes to rest *in or on* the concrete water canals or bridges is considered to be in the *penalty area*. **HOWEVER**, if the ball is in the *general playing area of the course*, and the **canal or bridge interferes with the players normal swing or stance, FREE relief is given**. Relief **shall not be** given for line of sight interference.
  - b. The lake on hole 2 should be played as a direct penalty area. The player has the option to use the drop area or the original tee if the first ball is in the water. Players who fail to get across the lake may take an adjusted score for handicap purposes but will be eliminated from play of the day competition unless the score on hole 2 is not relevant to the event.
4. BEAUTIFICATION AREAS. Five holes (3, 7, 11, 16) have stone/gravel borders along the out of bounds, Hole 1 along right side of green side cart path and behind Hole 2. Balls resting in the stones should be removed and dropped no closer to the hole, without penalty. Player should take nearest point of relief and one club length, no nearer the hole. Desert landscapes are on left side of 18 fairway – play ball as it lies.
5. OUT OF BOUNDS. Out of bounds is defined by inside margins of white stakes. In the absence of stakes, out of bounds is defined by the inside curb of sidewalks and property lines. The penalty for out of bounds is one stroke plus distance. NOTE: Any item on property lines such as fences, shrubs, or stones are not obstructions if they interfere with

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- 5 Continued: stance or swing, and you are not entitled to relief. You may declare the ball unplayable and drop the ball within two club lengths no nearer the hole, with a one stroke penalty. A ball which crosses a public road is defined as out of bounds no matter where it comes to rest.
  - OPTIONAL: Local out of bounds or lost ball rule is in effect – 2 stroke penalty.
- 6 BALL PLAYED AS IT LIES. The ball shall be played as it lies at all times except as otherwise provided in the Rules of Golf or when posted by a committee consisting of the Chair, the Rules Chair and the Play of the Day Chair.
- 7 STONES. Stones may be removed from bunkers without penalty.
- 8 RANGE BALLS. Possession of range balls other than in the designated area for practice is not permitted.
- 9 AERATED HOLES. A ball can be moved within 6” out of aerated holes on the entire course.
- 10 MEASURING DEVICES (GPS), for distance only, may be used during Tuesday play, tournaments and Team play.

(Reviewed 04/06/26)