



## ***TRADITION LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION RULES and ETIQUETTE***

*Revised July 2023*

Each player should familiarize herself with the USGA Rules of Golf. USGA rules apply except where Local Rules are in effect or take precedence.

### **RULINGS:**

All questions concerning rules will be decided by the Club Pro whose decision is final. If there are questions as to a rule's interpretation, play two (2) balls and ask for a ruling following play. You must announce your intention to play two balls to your playing partners.

### **1. LOCAL RULES**

#### **MULCH RULES**

Regular play - If a player's ball is in the mulch area, she may mark the ball, pick up the ball, brush away the mulch from the area with her hand and replace the ball with no penalty.

At those times when the course is in the midst of spreading new mulch, there may be "mountains of mulch" on the course which are considered "ground under repair" and from which you can take relief without penalty. Before taking relief, please advise your playing partners of the situation. Drop one club length from the nearest point of relief, no closer to the hole.

#### **USE OF DROP AREAS**

There are four (4) holes (holes #7, #9, #14 and #15) where the Tradition Golf Committee has designated Drop Areas.

**OPTION 1** - If a ball goes into the water/hazard on any of these holes, a player has the option of proceeding directly to the designated drop area incurring only a one (1) stroke penalty.

**OPTION 2** - You can, of course, follow USGA rules and hit the ball until it clears the water/hazard.

If you choose OPTION 1, you may place the ball in the designated drop area.

If you choose OPTION 2, you may advance the ball in the line of flight.

**The ball must be dropped, not placed.**

### **ROLLING THE BALL**

The ball may be rolled up to six (6) inches (no closer to the hole) in your own fairway, using your club, not your hand.

### **WASTE AREAS**

Waste Areas are designated by dark green posts. You may ground your club in the waste (sand) areas. If your ball comes to rest in a footprint, a hole(s) as a result of animals burrowing or digging, tire tracks or other unnatural rough areas in the waste area, you must advise your playing partners of the problem. You may pick up the ball, smooth the area and then replace your ball as closely as possible in its original spot without incurring a penalty.

#### **NOTE:**

This rule applies to Waste Areas only. A ball in a bunker must be played as it lies.

### **BLUE TEE PLAY**

Blue Tee play is voluntary and is allowed for any TLGA member. The maximum Blue Tee handicap allowed at present for Tradition is 40 at the present time.

### **DETERMINING MOST LIKELY SCORE**

For handicap purposes, a player that starts but does not complete a hole can record their most likely score for that hole. For example, a player chooses to pick up because she is out of a hole (assuming the game being played allows for this). **MOST LIKELY score** consists of the number of strokes already taken **plus** the number of strokes it would take the player to hole out. For TLGA, the options the player has for determining her "most likely score" for a hole are as follows.

#### **OPTION 1.**

Player is NOT ON THE GREEN: Post your maximum.

## **OPTION 2.**

Player is ON THE GREEN. If within the length of a standard putter, add one (1) stroke to the number of strokes already taken. Otherwise, add two (2) strokes to the number of strokes already taken or putt out.

The most likely score should have an "X" preceding the number. For example: X-8

## **LIFT, CLEAN AND PLACE**

Lift, clean and place is allowed only when the course has declared that play is CART PATH ONLY.

## **11 REMINDERS**

### **OUT OF BOUNDS/HAZARD STAKES**

Out of bounds is defined by white stakes; lateral hazards by red stakes and water hazards by yellow stakes.

### **CONSERVATION AREAS**

Conservation Areas are designated by yellow stakes with green tops.

#### **YOU MAY NOT PLAY THE BALL INSIDE THESE HAZARDS.**

A ball on the line (between the stakes) is considered in the conservation area.

#### **YOU MAY NOT ENTER THE CONSERVATION AREAS TO RETRIEVE YOUR BALL.**

You may, however, use a ball retriever, golf club or your hand to retrieve your ball without entering the area.

### **FREE DROPS**

For Free Drops, the procedure is to drop one (1) club length from the nearest point of relief no closer to the hole. The nearest point of relief must not be in a hazard or on a putting green. A free drop is allowed from such things as:

1. Cart paths, sprinkler systems, stakes, buildings, machinery, benches, casual water.
2. All maintained flowerbeds and staked seedlings.
3. The grassy area surrounding the drain in the waste area on the 3rd hole.

4. The fence surrounding the conservation area on the 9th hole if your ball is NOT in the conservation area and the fence interferes with your intended swing.

### **"GIMMIEES"**

"Gimmies" may be offered to a competing player (who is not on your team if it is a team event). The conceded ball must be "within the grip". The ball must be within the distance between the shaft and the putter head. The putter head is placed in the cup prior to being measured.

Once conceded, it cannot be withdrawn. If a player chooses not to accept the concession, she may refuse it.

### **PLAYING EQUIPMENT**

You are allowed to carry only 14 clubs in your bag.

### **WEEKLY PLAY SIGN UP**

All members must sign up for weekly play each week. You may not have another member sign you up unless you are out of town. We have increased the number of members who are not Tradition residents and will allow other members to sign them up if they are unable to. The signup sheet is posted on the members' board for the current Thursday league day until noon on the following Monday.

As of noon on Monday, any unused tee times are returned to the golf club. Members who call after noon on Monday may play only if space is available or if there is a cancellation.

**IF YOU SIGN UP TO PLAY, MAKE SURE YOU SHOW UP TO PLAY.**

### **EQUITABLE STROKE CONTROL**

#### **AVERAGING YOUR SCORE FOR POSTING**

You may average your score for posting if you have played 14 consecutive holes or more. To average your score, you may take the par score for the hole and add the strokes you are allowed for that hole. Do this for each hole you did not complete.

For Example: You have three holes to play, and they are a par 4, a par 5, and another par 4. If you receive 2 strokes for the first par 4 you would record

a 6 for that hole. If you receive 1 stroke on the par 5 you would record a 6 for that hole. If you do not receive any strokes on the last par 4 you would record a 4 for that hole. You may then add your score and post it. The posted score should have an "X" preceding the number. Example: X-6 or X/6. Reasons for not completing a round could be rainstorm, darkness, sickness and hurricanes.

**REMEMBER: This rule does not apply if you have not completed 14 consecutive holes.**

**WE HAVE A HANDICAP CHAIR WHO POSTS ALL THURSDAY SCORES UNLESS YOU ARE ADVISED TO POST YOUR OWN SCORE.**

### **111 - ETIQUETTS TIPS BE ON TIME - PLAY READY GOLF**

#### **On the putting green:**

1. Do not stand or walk behind a player as that player is putting.
2. Never put the flagstick or your clubs directly behind the hole or behind the player who is putting.
3. Be aware of each player's putting line and try not to step on that line.
4. Do not step too close to the hole when retrieving your ball from the hole.
5. Remain on or close to the putting green until all players in your group have holed out.