

SSSGC 2023 – LOCAL RULES FOR SUNNYVALE GOLF COURSE

Revision History: 9/1/2023 Update to include 2023 USGA revisions and new Rule #'s
6/7/2023 Penalty Area and immovable obstructions
3/6/2023 Water Hazards changed to Penalty Areas, added color of stakes; more
2/7/2017 Out-of-Bounds between #1 & 2 and between #16 & 17 removed
2/7/2017 Added Lost Ball Concession paragraph
1/1/2013 Add 10-stroke maximum on any hole paragraph

SSSGC Local Rules not covered in the USGA Rules of Golf

PREFERRED LIES: A SSSGC Tournament Director may determine an event will be played utilizing *preferred lies or lift, clean, and place in the General Area or in Your Own Fairway*. The relief area shall be 6” from the ball at rest not nearer the hole.

10-STROKE MAXIMUM ON ANY HOLE: A SSSGC golfer in any SSSGC tournament must pick up his ball after 9 strokes and record a 10 on his card.

LOST BALL / OUT OF BOUNDS CONCESSION: If a player cannot find his ball or it is found to be out of bounds and he did not hit a provisional ball, he must take a drop between close to where the ball was last seen and two club lengths into the fairway near that spot and take a 2-stroke penalty, instead of going back to the spot where he hit the ball and taking stroke and distance penalty.

AIRCRAFT NAVIGATION LIGHTS ENCLOSURES ON HOLES 10 & 11: SSSGC local rule allows the player line of sight to the hole relief, no penalty.

USGA Rules and where they apply at Sunnyvale Golf Course.

Rule 2 - The Course: The General Area: The entire course **except** for tees, penalty areas, all bunkers, and the putting green of the hole the player is playing.

Rule 8 – Course Played as It Is Found: PLAY THE BALL DOWN: Play the ball as it lies, no moving or “bumping the ball” except as allowed by the rules.

Rule 11 - Ball in Motion... RUB OF THE GREEN: If a ball in motion accidentally hits any person (including the player) or outside influence, caddies or equipment there is no penalty. Play the ball as it lies, no penalty. **Exception:** If ball in motion hits another ball at rest on the green and both balls were on the green before the stroke the player hitting the putt is assessed a 2 Stroke penalty.

Rule 15 - Relief from Loose Impediments and Movable Obstructions: Anything natural, not growing, e.g., rocks, twigs, leaves.

**Rule 16 – Relief from Abnormal Course Conditions (including Immovable Obstructions)
Dangerous Animal Conditions, Embedded Ball**

IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS: All fences (excluding perimeter fences), refreshment stand, restrooms, fountains, artificially surfaced cart paths and roads, electrical panels, aircraft navigation lights enclosure, all irrigation components-including pump houses, all maintenance and utility enclosures, posts, poles and French drains (small areas mostly around the greens and consisting of a series of small rocks or pebbles).

How to Play Obstructions

*Free Relief - One club length from the nearest point of complete relief, not nearer the hole. Please note you are not entitled to line of sight to the hole relief, just stance and swing. **Exception:** The aircraft navigation lights enclosures on holes 10 and 11. SSSGC local rule allows the player line of sight to the hole relief, no penalty.*

STAKED TREES & BUSHES. You must take complete relief from the stake not nearer the hole.

EMBEDDED BALL – Lift, clean, and place one club length not nearer the hole, except in a penalty area.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR – Area marked or unmarked determined to be ground under repair. Nearest point of complete relief one club length not nearer the hole.

EARTH CRACKS – Crack (larger than head of a tee). Nearest point of complete relief one club length not nearer the hole.

YARDAGE MARKERS – Nearest point of complete relief one club length not nearer the hole.

BURROWING ANIMAL HOLES OR MOUNDS – Nearest point of complete relief one club length not nearer the hole.

Rule 17 - PENALTY AREAS: Marked by YELLOW and RED stakes.

Hole #1 – Right of fairway RED and Yellow penalty area

Hole #2 – Right of fairway RED and/or YELLOW penalty areas.

Hole #3 – Left of tee RED penalty area

Hole #6 – Left of fairway RED penalty area

Hole #7 – Front of pond YELLOW penalty area. Left of red tee box RED penalty area. Back of pond YELLOW penalty area

- Hole #8 – Left of tee and fairway RED penalty area. Right of fairway RED penalty area. Front of pond YELLOW penalty area. Back of pond YELLOW penalty area. Pond to right of green RED penalty area.
- Hole #14 – Right of fairway RED penalty area
- Hole #15 – Front of tee YELLOW penalty area. Right of green & sand trap RED penalty area
- Hole #16 – Front of green YELLOW penalty area
- Hole #17 – Right of tee RED penalty area
- Hole #18 – Left of fairway Red and/or YELLOW penalty areas.

How to Play YELLOW Penalty Area

Option 1 – Play the ball where it lies

Option 2 – Move ball back to original spot and replay shot with 1 stroke penalty

Option 3 – Draw a line from point of entry to the flagstick and drop anywhere on that line from point of entry not nearer the hole. 1 stroke penalty

How to Play RED Penalty Area

Option 1 – Play the ball where it lies

Option 2 – Move ball back to original spot and replay shot with 1 stroke penalty

Option 3 - Draw a line from point of entry to the flagstick and drop anywhere on that line from point of entry not nearer the hole. 1 stroke penalty

Option 4 – Drop within 2 club lengths of the point of entry, no nearer the hole 1 stroke penalty

Option 5 – Drop within 2 club lengths on the other side of the penalty entry, equidistant to the flagstick at the point of entry. 1 stroke penalty

Rule 18 – Stroke-and-Distance Relief; Ball Lost or Out of Bounds

All perimeter fences are out of bounds

Hole #1 – Left from maintenance yard to back of green.

Hole #2 – Left of the screens and over the fence. Screens are obstructions (Rule 16)

Hole #8 – WHITE stakes at tee area. Protective fence is an obstruction (Rule 16)

Hole #12 – Left of tee and fairway WHITE stakes tee area to double WHITE stakes at green area.

Hole #13 – Ball in tunnel is out of bounds.

Hole #14 – Left of fairway WHITE stakes tee to green area. Screen is an obstruction (rule 16)

Check out all of the Rules of Golf at www.usga.org/rules