



Local Rules and Information Sheet

NATURAL AREAS: There will be **no relief** from any natural areas, play ball as it lies, or if ball is not found, proceed under lost ball rule.

BUILDINGS/STRUCTURES: Line of flight relief is available within 30 feet of the building (pump houses or rain shelters) only. If you are more than 30 feet away, no line of flight relief is available. Take the nearest point of relief - one club length no closer to the hole and not into a *hazard* – with no penalty.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR: Areas are defined by white lines. All worn/bare ground type areas adjacent to/connected to cart paths are considered *ground under repair*. Take nearest point of relief, one club length no closer to the hole, no penalty. Any freshly seeded areas where trees have been removed, are also considered *ground under repair*.

FLOWER BEDS: All flower beds and shrubbery beds are *ground under repair* from which play is prohibited. If a player's ball lies in this area, or if it interferes with the player's stance or area of intended swing, the player must take relief under rule 25-1.

STONES IN BUNKERS: Stones in *bunkers* are considered *movable obstructions* and may be removed.

ANT HILLS: Proceed as *ground under repair*. Take nearest point of relief, one club length no closer to the hole, with no penalty. Note that ant hills are also considered a *loose impediment*.

TREE STUMPS: Proceed as *ground under repair*. Take nearest point of relief, one club length no closer to the hole, with no penalty.

EMBEDDED BALL: It is permissible to take relief, without penalty, for a ball embedded in its own pitch mark *in the general area* (this includes the rough).

Reminders:

- Because rakes are now provided, it is no longer allowable to take free relief from irregular sand (i.e. footprints) in a bunker.
- Pebble Creek Men's club, *does NOT* use the designated drop areas.
- It is expected that all participants in the Pebble Creek Men's Club do follow the rules of golf (putt out all balls, do not improve your lie, etc.)

TOP TEN COOL NEW (and OLD) RULES OF GOLF

1 Green Stuff

You can now have the flagstick in or out when you are putting – your choice. And you can now repair all types of damage on a putting green (divot marks, spike marks, animal damage). You can also remove loose impediments like sand and goose droppings.

2 Knee High Drop

Drop your ball from knee height when taking relief – it must hit the ground before anything else and stay in the same condition you are dropping into. You get two tries then you place it. Think: Drop, Drop, Place.

3 Play Ready Golf

Don't have to worry about whose turn it is to hit during stroke play. Now it is just fine to hit when you get to your ball as long as you can do so safely. (Note it still matters in Match Play though).

4 Go Ahead and Pick Up Sticks

You can now remove stuff like rocks and twigs (known as loose impediments) from Penalty Areas and Bunkers and you can take a practice swing and touch the ground in Penalty Areas. You cannot touch the sand or take practice swings in a Bunker. Note that you can't move your ball when picking up stuff. If you do, move the ball back to where it was and take a one stroke penalty. At Pebble Creek, ant hills are deemed to be loose impediments.

5 OK to Check Your Ball

You can lift your ball to identify it or check for damage without getting permission – but be sure to mark it before you pick it up and not clean it unless you are on the putting green.

6 Oh No – The Ball Hit Me (That's OK)

If your ball accidentally hits you, someone else, a ball or equipment during a shot – it's OK and there is no penalty and you play it where it ends up.

• **Note:** However, there is a 2-stroke penalty on the green if you hit another ball when putting – if both balls were on the green when you started.

7 Your Ball Moves

If a natural force like wind or water moves your ball - that's OK. There is no penalty and you play the ball from its new spot.

• **Note:** However, if you are on the putting green and have already picked up your ball and replaced it – THEN if the wind moves your ball there is no penalty BUT you move it back to where it was.

If YOU accidentally move your ball on the putting green (no matter how it happens), there is no penalty and you must move the ball back to where it was.

8 The Dreaded Double Hit

A double hit (where your club hits the ball twice during one swing of the club) is still not a very good shot – but at least now there is no penalty, and it counts as only one stroke!

9 White Stakes and Yellow Stakes and Red Stakes - Oh My!

(Water) Hazards are now called Penalty Areas and are marked by red and yellow stakes – you get one more relief option when it is marked with red stakes. White Stakes are out of bound markers, and your only option is to hit again from your last spot with a 1-stroke penalty and loss of distance.

10 I Need Some Relief

You can always hit your ball where it lies in a penalty area. But now, taking a drop from a Penalty Area or when you have Declared Your Ball Unplayable is now as easy as **A – B – C:**

A – All the Way Back Relief

B – Back-on-The-Line Relief

C – Two Club Lengths Relief
(red stake penalty areas only)

For yellow stakes (like hole #10), use option A or B (*C does not apply*). Find where you crossed into the penalty area, see where the flag is, then walk back as far as you want in a way that keeps the spot you crossed into the penalty areas and the flag on a line. Pick a spot, and then drop your ball.