

POSTING SCORES DURING THE CORONA VIRUS PRECAUTIONS

Dear River Ridge Men's Golf Club Members,

The Board and I hope that all of you and your families have been able to remain safe and healthy during these challenging health times. I know many of you are anxious to get back to the links and start working on your game. As our local golf courses begin to open and allow play, most of them will have various restrictions and conditions in place to ensure social distancing and the potential spread of the virus. Regardless of where you play and what conditions you may find, your Handicap committee has adopted some temporary guidelines for you to follow that will enable you to enjoy your play and post a score. These guidelines are based on guidance from both the SCGA and the USGA and shall be followed until such time that all health precautions have been lifted and we can resume our normal activities.

1) PLAY IN BUNKERS: In most cases, the rakes have been removed from bunkers and you may find your ball in a less than desirable condition. If your lie is in a footprint or gouge made by someone else's club, you may do the following:

PLAY IT AS IT LIES or,

RULE 16.1.c. Relief for Your Ball in Bunker

If your ball is in a *bunker* and there is interference by an *abnormal course condition* on the *course*, you may take either:

- Free Relief: Under Rule 16.1b, **except** that:
 - The *nearest point of complete relief* and the *relief area* must be in the *bunker*.
 - If there is no such *nearest point of complete relief* in the *bunker*, you may still take this relief, by using the *point of maximum available relief* in the *bunker* as the reference point.
- Penalty Relief by Playing from Outside Bunker (Back-On-the-Line Relief): For **one penalty stroke**

Upon completing your shot PLEASE make an effort to leave the bunker in a "better than you found it condition" by smooth the area with your foot and club.

2) PLAY ON THE GREEN: Once you have reached the green, you may find the hole location and flagstick in various conditions. If the cup is protected in any manner so as to prevent contact with the cup or flagstick, you may: a) putt the ball and attempt to make contact with the obstruction (as if holed) and count it holed out; b) putt out until you make said contact.

3) PLAY THROUGH THE GREEN: All play through the green shall be as provided by the USGA Rules of Golf, which shall include hazards (other than Bunkers) and Out of Bounds areas.

4) **ALL SCORES MUST BE POSTED** (with the exception of a round played by yourself) using the USGA adjusted equitable stroke method (net double bogey is a maximum hole score). Follow the USGA guidelines for posting when playing a round that has not been completed.

These guidelines shall be used by all Members when playing a casual round with friends or a sanctioned River Ridge Men's Golf Club tournament event (home or away).

When playing all other tournament events, please adhere to the rules provided by those particular tournament committees!!

Stay safe and use your best judgment when resuming your golf endeavors!

Dave Brooks
River Ridge Men's Golf Club
Handicap/Membership Chairman