**KSMGC LOCAL RULES\***

Knollwood G.C. has some unique and difficult features and situations that are encountered when playing the course. In order to render a fair and impartial challenge to its members, KSMGC has developed the following LOCAL RULES that allow members to both comply with the U.S.G.A. Rules of Golf (as adopted 01-01-2023) and receive some consideration for the course's difficult characteristics. These Local Rules were compiled according to the guidelines presented in the Committee Procedures, Model Local Rules (Section IV) of the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf.

\*Local Rules are applicable only for play at KNOLLWOOD G.C. unless otherwise authorized.

**B-4.2.** All concrete drainage ditches, including the large drainage ditch along the right side of Hole #4, are to be treated, as part of the general area, as Immovable Obstructions and not as a penalty area. A player may take FREE relief under Rule 16.1(a). Drop must be taken within one club-length of the ball's point-of-entry into the drain, and not it's point-of-rest.

**E-1. DROPPING ZONE**. There is one (1) designated drop zone, delineated by markings, or physical description. Hole #1: In that area along the fence that is adjacent to the course maintenance buildings where the slope is so severe and restricted that a drop is not feasible, the ball may be lifted and dropped, under an unplayable lie penalty, in the flat area to the RIGHT of the cart path near the top of the slope. The dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3.

**E-2., E-3. CLEANING BALL**. When extreme wet, abnormal conditions exist throughout parts of the course resulting in mud or debris to become stuck to the ball, the COMMITTEE can choose to allow players to lift, clean and place the ball that was originally located WITHIN THE FAIRWAY. During the winter months (Dec. thru March) Preferred Lies (Lift, Clean, and Place) may be utilized for balls within the fairway and placed within one club length.

**E-4. AERATION HOLES**. In the general area, a ball that comes to rest in or touches an aeration hole is considered to be within ground-under-repair and may be lifted, cleaned and dropped without penalty as near as possible to the spot where it lay, but not nearer the hole (Rule 16.1(b)). On the putting green, ball may be placed at nearest point-of-relief (Rule 16.1(d).

**E-5.  ALTERNATIVE TO STROKE AND DISTANCE**. When a provisional ball HAS NOT BEEN PLAYED, a player may take stroke and distance relief for a ball that is out-of-bounds or cannot be found. This option allows the player to drop within a large area between the point where the ball went out of bounds or was lost and the closest edge of the fairway (plus two club lengths), not nearer the hole. The player incurs two (2) penalty strokes when using this relief option.

**F-1. ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS** include all areas marked as ground-under-repair, french drains or abnormal conditions within bunkers that were caused by weather (furrows), animals (tracks or dig marks) or lack of maintenance (player footprints, uneven or unlevel rake marks). Ball may be lifted, cleaned and FREE relief taken for a ball in the general area or within a bunker: lifted, area raked, and ball replaced at its original lie position (Rule 16.1).

**F-2. EMBEDDED BALL** Anywhere in the general area, an embedded ball may be given FREE relief by lifting, cleaning and dropping the ball (Rule 16.3).

**F-4. EXTENSIVE DAMAGE** due to heavy rain/traffic. When deep ruts or other unusual damage has resulted from heavy rain or traffic, the COMMITTEE has the authority to declare such unusual damage (more than 1/3 golf ball size deep) in many general areas (e.g., right and left side dirt areas of hole #3, left side dirt area near the green of hole # 11, and right side of fairway bunker of hole #15) as ground-under-repair and FREE relief may be taken near a similar condition within one club length (Rule 16.1b).

**F-5. RELIEF FROM INTERFERENCE FROM A SPECIFIC IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTION**. When an immovable obstruction, such as a sprinkler or control box that causes interference with stance or swing, FREE relief may be taken. FREE relief may also be taken if the obstruction is on the line-of-play and is within two-club lengths of the putting green edge and within two-club lengths of the ball (Rule 16.1(b). Relief from protective fences may be taken, but only stance and swing - not line-of-flight. NOTE:  Free relief is not allowed from golf course boundary fences.

**F-9.2. TREE ROOTS**. If a player's ball, lying in the fairway or in the rough within two club lengths of the fairway, and there is interference (not stance interference) from exposed tree roots, the tree roots are treated as ground-under-repair and FREE relief may be taken near a similar condition (i.e., rough to rough or fairway to fairway) within one club length (Rule 16.1(b).

**F-17. ALL ROADS**, even if not artificially surfaced, and paths are treated as immovable obstructions from which FREE relief is allowed (Rule 16.1). Balls that enter concrete cart paths should be dropped at point-of-entry, not at final point-of-rest. On Hole # 9 and Hole #13, balls that enter the cart path and roll back downhill toward the tee/fairway may be dropped at its point-of-entry onto the cart path, with FREE relief.

**K-1. PACE OF PLAY**. KSMGC has a pace-of-play policy which allows a group a maximum of twenty (20) minutes from the time the previous group turned in its scorecards to the time the following group turns in its scorecards to the Tournament Chairman. A TWO-STROKE penalty will be applied to each member of the late group and is added onto their score for the 18th hole. Players should let the group behind pass or split into two twosomes and continue play when falling behind.

**RULE 3.3(b**) of the Rules of Golf requires that both the player (attests) and the scorer/marker (verifies) and validates the player’s individual hole scores played by signing their submitted scorecard. Inaccurate, illegible, or unsigned scorecards will result in DISQUALIFICATION.

**ENVIRONMENTAL LANDSCAPING** Where water sprinklers and/or plants may be damaged from a player's stance or swing, a ball may be lifted and dropped within one club-length of relief but must remain in the same area (rough) of the course.

**RULES REMINDER-ETIQUETTE**

All players should conduct themselves in a disciplined manner, demonstrating common courtesy and sportsmanship at all times. This is in the spirit of the game of golf. Players should always play safe and should not stand close to other players while they are hitting and should remain STILL and QUIET. Players should not stand close to or directly behind the ball or the hole, and not stand on another player’s line-of-shot or putt. All players are responsible for maintaining a GOOD PACE and KEEPING UP with the group ahead. Always follow these guidelines:

(1)  Always play your ball as it lies,

(2)  Be ready to play and putt,

(3)  Hit a provisional ball if warranted,

(4)  Always show consideration for other players,

(5)  Keep up with the group ahead.

Updated and revised 09-03-2024.
Peter Hong, Rules Chairman

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