



TOMGC Rules and Greens

May 2018

The rules of golf apply to everyone who plays the game of golf, equally. A rule of golf may not be ignored; however, a rule of golf may be appended by the golf committee in the form of “Local Rules”. It is important to know your local rules as they can, and will, affect the way you play the game at Twin Oaks. For example, there are times when the different drainage ditches on the course, like on number five, may be marked as lateral hazards, which would change the way you are allowed to play from these ditches unless you are playing under jurisdiction of our local rules. Our local rules can be found on the website by clicking on the following link:

<http://tomgc.org/?q=content/local-rules>

And now, a note from your scoring committee, again! Gentlemen, please remember that once you have signed your scorecard and submitted it to the scoring committee, it can not be changed. You and your playing partners are subject to whatever that scorecard contains, whether correct or not. We, the scoring committee, do not want to disqualify anyone because a scorecard is incomplete and/or incorrect, but we may have no choice. As such:

- Please make sure that the scorecard submitted is neat and legible.
- Make sure to include first and last names or at least a last name and first initial.
- If you happen to be playing from a different tee, it must be clearly indicated on the card.
- Be sure that you have checked the scorecard being submitted for accuracy.
- Be sure that your scorecard includes the scorer’s signature as well as that of the person or persons attesting to the scores being submitted. The date of play may also be helpful.

It has happened to me more than once, in fact, it happened on two different occasions with the same player, on two different golf courses! Remember, it is your responsibility to make sure that the ball you are about to play is your ball. Don’t take somebody’s word for it, and don’t assume that because the ball is in the area where you hit your ball, that it has to be yours. I usually play a ball that has a red alignment line marked on it. I have learned recently, that I may not be the only guy in the world who does this! On two occasions, I assumed that I had identified my ball because it had a red line on it, and much to my chagrin, I proceeded to play the wrong ball. On both occasions, it happened to be a ball that belonged to Bill Jackson! It is important to mark your ball so that it is easy for you to identify. This helps to identify your ball on the course, and when playing a ball provisionally. Remember, if you happen on to a ball that you think might be yours, but the identifying marks are not readily visible, you are allowed to move that ball to identify it, being sure not to adjust the lie of the ball in any way. And, just because someone in your foursome says, “that must be you”, don’t assume they are correct. You are still the one who receives the penalty of two strokes for playing the wrong ball! Rule 15 provides clarification on this rule and penalties associated with playing a wrong ball in both stroke and match play situations. Know the rules!

Good day, and good golf!