

# EAGLEWOOD GOLF RULES AND POLICIES

## SECTION I—GOLF RULES

### **THE USGA RULES OF PLAY** **GOVERN PLAY** **EXCEPT FOR THE** **FOLLOWING** **LOCAL RULES**

**Any questions or disputes regarding play or rules will be referred to the Golf Professional**

The United States Golf Association (USGA) Far Hills, New Jersey and the Royal and Ancient (R&A) St. Andrews, Scotland are the rules making body for the game of golf throughout the world. Every four years, they meet to consider changes to the rules of golf which can be brought about for various reasons and decisions. In this way, all golfers are playing by the same set of rules on any given day and playing the same game. This is one of the things along with the USGA Handicapping System that makes the game so great. The golf professional is the USGA's on site representative; he is an authority on the rules and thus capable of answering any questions or settling any disputes regarding the rules.

Following are some of the more common rules situations that will occur on Eaglewood.

**1.1 Nearest Point of Relief Definition:** The nearest point of relief is defined as the point on the course nearest to where the ball lies that is not nearer the hole.

**1.2 The General Area:** The area of the course that covers all of the course except for the other four defined areas: (1) the teeing area you must play from in starting the hole you are playing, (2) all penalty areas, (3) all bunkers, and (4) the putting green of the hole you are playing.

**1.3 Penalty Areas:** All penalty areas at Eaglewood are defined by Red stakes or Red lines. When the penalty area is defined by stakes and lines the stakes define the penalty area and the lines define the penalty area's margin. When a red line defines the margin of the penalty area, the Line itself is in the penalty area. When defined by stakes only, the stakes are in the penalty area the margin of the penalty area is defined by the nearest outside edge of the stakes at ground level. A ball is in the penalty area when it lies in or any part of it touches the penalty area. Stakes used to remove the penalty area or margin of the penalty area are obstructions.

**1:4 Relief:** If the ball enters the penalty area directly in front of the player, the player can:

- a. Play another ball from the original position.
- b. Proceed to the drop area, defined by yellow disks.
- c. Proceed under the Local Carry Forward Rule: All players may use the carry rule if the ball enters a penalty area or a no play zone marked by a red stake with a white top for a two-stroke penalty. At the completion of the hole, simply add two shots to the

number of times you swing at the ball. Yellow disk drop area located on holes # 1,2,3,4,6,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,18.

**1.5 Lateral Relief:** Drop a ball outside the penalty area within two club-lengths of and not nearer the hole than the point where the original ball last crossed the margin of the penalty area for a one stroke penalty.

**1.6 Local Rule, Red Stakes with White Tops:** Red stakes with white tops define no hit zones. For these areas when no relief is available that is not closer to the hole, drop disks exist. On hole #3 a drop disk is located at the back right of the green, on hole #8 at the back left of the green, on hole #12 at the left front of the green, on hole #15 at the rear right of the green and on hole #18 on the right back of the green.

**1.7 Relief:** Play is prohibited from these protected areas, even if the ball can be easily seen and found. Proceed under the Penalty Area rule. Entering these protected areas is prohibited. Players choosing to enter these protected areas do so at their own risk.

**1.8 Obstructions:** An obstruction is anything artificial, including the artificial surfaces and sides of roads and paths (i.e. golf cart paths) except objects defining "out of bounds" such as walls, fences, stakes and railings.

When the ball lies in or on the obstruction or the obstruction interferes with the player's stance or the area of the player's intended swing, the ball may be dropped without penalty within one club length of and not nearer the hole than the nearest point of relief.

**1.9 Local Rule Obstructions, Sprinkler Heads:** If a ball lies near the green and an immovable obstruction on or within two club-lengths of the putting green, and within two club-lengths of the ball intervenes on the line of play between the ball and the hole, the player may take relief as follows:

The ball must be lifted and dropped at the nearest point to where the ball lies that:

- a. Is not nearer the hole.
- b. Avoids intervention.
- c. Is not in a bunker or on a putting green.

**1.10 Local Rule Roads:** Any golf ball on or over any Eaglewood designated road is considered out of bounds. Proceed under the out of bounds rule.

**1.11 Out of Bounds:** Out of bounds means beyond the boundaries of the course or any part of the course so marked by the Greens Committee. When out of bounds is defined by stakes or a fence, the out of bounds line is determined by the nearest inside points at ground level of the stakes or the fence posts. When both stakes and lines are used to indicate out of bounds, the stakes identify out of bounds and the lines identify out of bounds. When out of bounds is defined by a line on the ground, the line itself is out of bounds. A ball is out of bounds when all of it lies out of bounds. A player may stand out of bounds to play a ball lying within bounds.

**1.12 Lost Ball:** A ball is "lost" if:

- a. It is not found within 3 minutes.
- b. The player has made a stroke at a provisional ball from a place where the original ball is likely to be or from a point nearer the hole than that place.
- c. The player has put another ball into play with a penalty of one stroke and distance.

**1.13 Proceeding under Stroke and Distance:** If a ball is lost or out of bounds, the player must proceed by playing a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was last played with a penalty of one stroke. The player has the additional option of using the Carry Forward Rule. In this case the player proceeds to the point where the ball went out of bounds. The player takes two club lengths and makes a drop no closer to the hole for a penalty of two strokes.

**1.14 Unplayable Ball:** The player may deem his ball unplayable anywhere on the course, except when the ball is in a Penalty Area. The player is the sole judge as to whether the ball is unplayable.

Under penalty of one stroke the player may:

- a. Proceed under stroke and distance provision.
- b. Drop a ball behind the point where the ball lies, keeping that point directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind that point the ball may be dropped.
- c. Drop a ball within two club-lengths of where the ball lies but not nearer the hole.

**1.15 Local Rule Embedded Ball Rule, In the General Area:** A ball is embedded when it is in its own pitch-mark and part of the ball is below the level of the ground. A ball does not necessarily have to touch the soil to be embedded. The ball may be lifted, cleaned and dropped with no penalty.

**1.16 Casual Water:** Casual water means any temporary accumulation of water on the course that is not a water hazard or is visible before or after the player's stance is taken.

**1.17 Relief:** Without penalty, the ball may be lifted and dropped within one club-length not nearer the hole than the nearest point of relief.

**1.18 Local Rule Abnormal Ground Condition:** If a ball lies in an abnormal ground condition on holes 13, 14, 15, and 16, even though no water is visible before or after the player's stance is taken, OR if it is certain that the ball is lost in an abnormal ground condition, the casual water relief provision may be taken, with no penalty.

**1.19 Local Rule Lift Clean and Place:** A ball may be lifted, cleaned and placed as closely as possible to its original position when it lies in any part of the general area.

**1.20 Local Rule Green Under Repair or Damaged:** Anytime green repairs or damage caused by mechanical edging, damage from fellow golfers, or animals, interferes with the lie of the ball or the line of putt, the ball may be moved to the nearest point of relief no closer to the hole, while maintaining essentially the same line and angle conditions to the hole. One can gain relief from conditions impeding lie or line of play, but may not "improve" one's position.

**1.21 Provisional Ball:** If a ball may be lost outside a penalty area or may be out of bounds, to save time, the player may play another ball provisionally. In accordance with the rules the player must:

- a. Announce the intention to play a provisional ball.
- b. Play the provisional ball before the fellow competitor or partner goes forward to search for the original ball.

If a player fails to meet the above requirements before playing a provisional ball, that ball is deemed not to be a provisional ball and becomes the ball in play under penalty of stroke and distance. The original ball is lost.

**1.22 Local Rule Entering Bunkers:** For safety, a club may be used for assistance in footing to get to a ball in a hazard, but a club may not be grounded at address of the ball. A club may continue to be used as an aid in exiting a bunker.