

Message from the President - January 2019

Hi Ladies-

Happy 2019! Lots of new things for the new year, including snow on the golf course.

By now you're probably aware that there's been a big re-vamp of the Rules of Golf that went into effect January 1. Mike and Ken are holding a rules seminar on Thursday, January 10 at 2:30 in the ballroom--a great chance to hear about the new rules and ask questions. Here's a link to the rules video we sent out a couple months ago -- it's a great overview of 20 primary changes. Please check the "Local Rules & Info" tab on the website for a link to the USGA's summary of the main changes in the rules. Plus, we have printed USGA rule books for anyone who hasn't yet received one--just ask.

For most of us in our normal day-to-day play, the main rule changes are probably these:

In "Penalty Areas", (formerly called hazards), you can ground your club when you address the ball. You can also move loose impediments (e.g., stones and sticks) -- but you cannot pry a rock out of the ground or pull out a weed that's in your way.

Any time you need to drop your ball, you must do it from knee height (previously it was from shoulder height).

On the putting green, you may leave the flagstick in the hole while you're putting.

Searching for a lost ball is limited to 3 minutes (previously 5 minutes) and players are encouraged to play their shot promptly when it is their turn -- within 40 seconds, and usually quicker.

Another area of the rules that got beefed up is the standards of player conduct--namely acting with integrity, showing consideration to others and taking good care of the course. This is a good reminder that sometimes it takes a village, whether it's understanding a new rule, losing track of how many shots you took or searching for a lost ball, let's help each other out and play in the spirit of the game.

If you haven't looked at the website lately, check it out. Terri Fraser's made a ton of improvements. My favorite is the "Photos" tab under the "Home" menu option. Here she's put lots of photos from our events--photos I didn't even know existed. If you take any photos in the future, send them to Terri as she may be able to use them on the website. Also, if you have any good pictures of the golf course, send them on to Terri as we're looking for photos to use in the banners and on the website. The website is always a work-in-progress, so if you have any suggestions, pass them along to Terri. Contact [terrifraser@yahoo.com](mailto:terrifraser@yahoo.com).

Thanks to Colleen Carey for organizing our entry into the Kachina Cup. There are about five events each winter season, held at different golf courses around Tucson. Ladies from a number of different clubs get together for a fun day of golf, lunch and prizes. Anyone with a handicap of 36 or less can play, and we're not restricted in how many people from SBR can participate each month. The format is two low net balls from the foursome which is made up of ABCD players from different clubs.

The Ranch is hosting two women's tournaments this Spring. First is the Southern District Winter Scotch partner tournament on February 25. This is a 2-person Chapman (alternate shot) format. We're all members of the Southern District, so find a partner and sign up for this event. The second event is the City Women's Golf Association tournament on March 11. We'll probably be looking for volunteers to be spotters on some of the arroyo holes for these events, so if you're not playing and are interested in spotting, let me know.

I also need 3 volunteers to do the annual audit of our books. If you're willing to do this, please contact me. It should take 2-3 hours of your time.

Coming up on January 16th and 17th the Pro Shop will have a special "Cobra Ladies Only Golf Club Tech Evening" on Wednesday the 16th from 3-5pm in the La Vista room. Complimentary snacks and tea will be served along with a special presentation on the latest golf club technology from Cobra Golf. The following afternoon from 12- 3pm we will have a "Ladies Only Cobra Demo Day" with Mike, Ken, and our Cobra representative there to help our golfers find ways to play more enjoyable golf.s

Happy Golfing!

Jean