LOCAL RULES FOR SADDLEBROOKE RANCH GOLF COURSE – Revised 3/27/2026

1. **OUT OF BOUNDS:** Homeowner property lines, walls, fences, streets and parking lots define out-of-bounds when white stakes are not present.

2. **CONDITIONS ELIGIBLE FOR RELIEF:** The purpose of this local rule is to address commonly encountered situations on the course that have the same relief procedure.

   For all of the following conditions, a player is entitled to or required to take relief without penalty. The ball may be cleaned before it is dropped within one club length of the nearest point of complete relief that is no nearer the hole.

   i. Ball in areas outlined by painted white lines (GUR) or within landscape areas (relief required), or French drains (relief optional). Relief is afforded for stance, swing and lie. **Section 8 indicates all landscape areas.**
   ii. Ball in seams of newly placed turf, aeration holes or slices, even when not marked by painted white lines. Relief is limited to lie of ball only, not stance or swing.
   iii. Ball within 2 club lengths of a greenside sprinkler head within the line of play. Relief is limited to lie of ball only. No relief available if player chooses a line of play that is clearly unreasonable.
   iv. Abnormal ground conditions caused by insects, animal dung, animal tracks or other obvious damage done by animals that interferes with line of play, stance or swing. There is no relief allowed by changing the ball position on a green. The green damage may be repaired before continuing play.

3. **PROVISIONAL BALL FOR BALL IN A PENALTY AREA:** The purpose of this local rule is to speed the pace of play by encouraging players to provisionally exercise their penalty shot for balls hit into a red staked penalty area.

   Many red staked penalty areas identify arroyos that present not only challenging terrain, but also plants and animals we would do best to avoid. This local rule allows players to provisionally play a shot before searching for their ball in the penalty area. Upon hitting the provisional ball, the player may elect to continue playing the provisional or search for the original ball. If the original ball is found, they may decide to continue play with the original ball, or for a penalty of one stroke abandon the original ball and play the provisional ball.

   Once this option is chosen it cannot be changed in favor of any other option given to them in rule 17. Any attempt to play a ball from the penalty area voids the provisionally played stroke.

4. **ALTERNATIVE TO STROKE & DISTANCE FOR LOST OR OUT OF BOUNDS BALL:** The purpose of this local rule is to speed the pace of play by offering an alternative option stroke and distance relief.

   Under the Rule 18, if a ball is lost outside a penalty area or out of bounds, and the player has not hit a provisional ball, the player must play a ball under penalty of stroke and distance from the location of the previous stroke.

   To speed pace of play, this local rule allows a player to drop a new ball in the relief area in lieu of returning to where the previous stroke was made, with a two-stroke penalty. For example, if the player's tee shot is hit OB, the player may drop a second ball in the relief area as described below. The player in now laying three and hitting their fourth shot.

   Once a ball is put in play under this local rule, the original ball is no longer in play. If a provisional ball was played, and neither the original nor provisional ball can be found after a 3-minute search, this local rule may be implemented for the provisional. In this scenario the player is laying five and hitting shot number six.

   The relief area for this local rule is determined by:

   A. **The Ball Reference Point**—which is the spot where the ball went out of bounds or was determined to be lost. Note that the reference point is where the ball went out of bounds and not where it came to rest.

   B. **The Fairway Reference Point -** a point at the edge of the fairway which is equidistant to the hole from the point where the ball went out-of-bounds or was lost. An additional two club lengths from the fairway reference point (no closer to the hole) determines the margin of the relief area.

   The ball put into play must not be nearer the hole than the reference point. The ball must be dropped anywhere in the relief area that is in the general area. The general area **excludes** 1) the teeing area the player used to start the hole, 2) all penalty areas, 3) all bunkers, and 4) the putting green of the hole being played. The configurations of some holes do not provide any grass cut to fairway height for determining the fairway reference point. In such cases the fairway reference point is in higher grass and still equidistant from the hole as the ball reference point.

5. **DRAINAGE ROCK**: There are areas on the course designed for drainage using large rocks, such as those on holes #7, #15, and #17, and along the cart path near the bridge on #13. A ball lying within these areas that is in bounds is entitled to free relief of stance and swing at the nearest point of relief no closer to the hole.

6. **SOGGY AREAS NEAR DRAINS, LOW LYING AREAS, OR SPRINKLER HEADS**: The purpose of this local rule is to offer free relief from specific soggy course conditions.

   To qualify for relief, the ball must lie within 10 paces of a drain or a blue stake, or within two club lengths of a sprinkler head, and the soil must displace when taking a stance.

   The player is entitled to free relief at the nearest spot wherein relief is afforded for stance, swing and lie. The ball must be dropped within one club length no closer to the hole.

7. **ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS CAUSED BY VEHICULAR TRAFFIC**: The purpose of this Local Rule is to offer free relief from ruts caused by vehicular traffic which physically interfere with the area of intended stance or swing.

   To qualify for relief the ball must be in the rut and have at least 1/2 the ball's diameter below the surrounding ground.

   The player is entitled to free relief at the nearest spot wherein relief is afforded for stance, swing and lie. The ball must be dropped within one club length no closer to the hole.

8. **DEFINITION OF LANDSCAPE AREAS:** Landscape areas are areas of the course that are constructed ***and regularly*** maintained for course beautification purposes. They include larger plants and maintained gravel. They are typically bordered by a cart path and maintained turf areas. On hole #10 landscape areas left of the cart path are bordered by the cart path, turf, and curb.

   Not all areas on the course with gravel are considered "Landscape Areas" and entitled to free relief. For example, if a player hits their tee shot into a cactus in front of the tee box on any hole, those are not "Landscape Areas", even though the cactus may have some gravel around it. In those situations, the player may take an unplayable lie or re-tee (stroke and distance).

   The following holes have "Landscape Areas" where the player must take relief:

   Hole 1: Right side of the fairway / left of the cart path approaching the green
   Right of the cart path across from the landscape area noted above
   Right of the cart path at the right side of the green.

   Hole 3: Right side of the fairway / left of the cart path approaching the green

   Hole 5: Behind the plum / gold tee box
   Right of the cart path approaching the green

   Hole 7: Left of the green / right of the cart path

   Hole 10: Hole 10 has a number of clear "Landscape Areas" left of the cart path

   One additional landscape area right of the cart path approaching the green and one right of the cart path before the first arroyo.

   Hole 11: Behind and left of the rust tee box. This landscape area is unlikely to come

   into play

   Hole 12: Right side of the fairway / left of the cart path approaching the green

   Hole 13: Right side of the fairway / left of the cart path approaching the green

   Hole 14: Right side of the cart path and left of the green

   Hole 15: Left side of the fairway / right of the cart path

   Hole 16: Right side of the fairway / left of the cart path approaching the green
   Adjacent to the rust tee box

   Hole 17: Right side of the cart path approaching the green

   Hole 18: Left side of the fairway / right of the cart path approaching the green

9. **LADY NINER ONLY BALL DROP:** Holes 11 and 13. Indicated by pink stake. Player must first attempt to cross the wash **after** drive from the tee. Drop ball within 2 club lengths of stake, no closer to the hole. One stroke penalty.