

Member Handbook

April 2019



The Huron Valley Women's Golf Club mission is enabling women throughout Washtenaw County and the surrounding area to embrace the joy of a lifetime of golf through instructional and competitive USGA-handicapped leagues and social golf opportunities.

www.hvwgc.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION	P. 2
II.	LEAGUE SIGN UP	P. 3
III.	LEAGUE FORMAT	P. 4
IV.	SUBS	P. 8
V.	SCORING	P. 9
VI.	AWARDS	P. 12
VII	MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES	P. 14
VIII.	HVWGC LOCAL RULES	P. 15
IX.	RESPONDING TO INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR	P. 18
APPENDIX A HANDBOOK UPDATE HISTORY		P. 19

I. MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Women and girls aged 16 and over are eligible for membership.

Members who participate in Regular HVWGC leagues, either as a league member or substitute, must have an established USGA/GAM handicap index prior to the start of the league. GAM can establish a beginning handicap for you if you provide a minimum of five 18-hole scores or ten 9-hole scores (or a combination) from the past year, played on USGA/GAM rated courses. Limited exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Board.

Members who participate in Starter leagues may begin to establish handicaps.

DUES

Annual memberships are \$50 for members over the age 18 and include a Golf Association of Michigan (GAM) membership. If the League Member participates in Starter League-Learning League 1, the membership fee is \$25. Junior League memberships are \$25. For members choosing to golf in more than one league, there is a fee of \$10 for each additional league.

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

- **Club Member** - Women who are interested in supporting the Club, participating in club events and receiving Club communications.
- **League Member** - Women who are familiar with the USGA Rules of Golf, have a current USGA handicap, and participate on a HVWGC Regular league.
- **Starter League Member** - Women who want to learn to play golf, become familiar with USGA Rules of Golf, and participate on a HVWGC Starter league.
- **Substitute League Member** - Women who are familiar with the USGA Rules of Golf, have a current USGA handicap, and substitute on a HVWGC weekly leagues.
- **Junior League Member** – Girls aged 16 or 17 who participate in either a HVWGC Starter or Regular league, or as a substitute.
- **Lifetime Member** - Janice Caldwell, HVWGC Founder, named lifetime member on May 11, 2009 by Board.

Member on Leave - Women in good standing whose league status is placed in abeyance for no longer than one season for reasons approved by the Board of Directors. Members seeking such status must submit the request in writing to the Board of Directors.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTS

Leave of absence requests are considered on an individual basis, and the Board will notify the member of the decision. To apply, the member must submit a written request for a one-year exemption to the Board at the time of HVWGC registration. The member retains the right to return to her former league if she submits paperwork on time. The replacement golfer will be informed of her temporary status on the league.

II. LEAGUE SIGN UP

League sign up will begin September 1.

EARLY SIGN UP FOR SAME LEAGUE

In order to reserve your spot on your current league(s), you must return the *Member Sign Up Form* and membership fee by October 15. The *Member Sign Up Form* will be emailed to members and is also available on the Club website, www.hvwgc.org.

Participating on a particular league does not guarantee a return spot for that same league if a Leave of Absence has been granted to a prior member.

EARLY SIGN UP FOR SAME LEAGUE WAIT LIST

Those who wish to reserve their previous spot on a wait list for a league they were unable to join in the preceding year must indicate it when they return the *Member Sign Up Form* and membership fee by October 15.

EARLY SIGN UP FOR DIFFERENT LEAGUE

A second early sign up will run between October 16 and November 15, when a member may sign up for a league other than their current one or request a second league if space is available.

LATE LEAGUE AND NEW MEMBER SIGNUP

After **November 15**, all signups will be treated equally regardless of membership classification.

NOTE: Returning members may not bring in a new member as their league partner unless the partner is accepted on a league per HVWGC league placement procedures.

In any situation where there are more members who want to play on a league than there are vacancies, all vacancies will be filled on a first come basis. Blind draws will be used to fill any remaining spots when members have the same date of application receipt.

In order to avoid having a solo golfer, all attempts will be made to avoid having a league with 9, 13, 17, or 21 golfers.

FILLED LEAGUE

When a league is full, a waiting list will be started by date of application receipt and membership status.

DEADLINE FOR GREEN FEES FOR LEAGUES

Green fees must be paid to the Club Treasurer in one full payment by April 1st. Green fees for each league can be found on the HVWGC website, www.hvwgc.org. Members are expected to pay without reminders, and will not be allowed to begin league play if they are in a non-payment status. Players must notify the Club Treasurer if they are pass-holding-members on a league golf course.

OTHER HVWGC EVENTS

All HVWGC activities are open to members only, unless indicated otherwise. Other activities may include:

- HVWGC Open
- HVWGC Donna's Bring-a-Friend Outing
- HVWGC out-of-town trips

CLUB INFORMATION

Information about the Club and newsletters can also be found on the Club website, www.hvwgc.org.

III. LEAGUE FORMAT

TYPES OF LEAGUES

Starter Leagues

Weekly individual league play is provided for women needing golf instruction or who want to establish a USGA handicap.

Learning League Level 1--Provides beginning golfers with limited golfing instruction and on-course league-style play at a Club-sponsored course (par 3 or executive).

Learning League Level 2 --Provides Learning League Level 2 golfers with golfing instruction through clinics and on-course league-style play, including on-course instruction, at a Club-sponsored course. Will also provide an opportunity to begin to establish a USGA handicap index, practice playing consistently according to USGA Rules of Golf and etiquette, and improve golf skills in a league setting.

Intermediate League--Weekly league play for women at one of the available Club-sponsored courses that provides an opportunity to establish a USGA handicap index, practice playing consistently according to USGA Rules of Golf and etiquette and improve golf skills in a league setting.

Regular Leagues

Weekly league play is provided for women with an established USGA handicap index according to USGA Rules of Golf at one of the available Club-sponsored courses.

INDEXES AND HANDICAPS

A USGA handicap index is mandatory at the start of the season for all Regular Leagues and must be maintained throughout the season. All league members and subs (except Learning League Level 1) MUST post league play scores on the GAM website (www.gam.org) within 72 hours of league play.

If a golfer must play their league round alone, the solo golfer's round must not be posted per GAM/USGA policy. However, the golfer's score will be recognized and counted as if the golfer had posted on time.

NOTE: If a Regular League player does not post her score for league play within 72 hours, the player loses the individual points won that day as well as the team point.

Whenever playing golf, members are expected to play by USGA rules, when possible, so that all scores can be posted on GAM.

HVWGC will establish access to the GAM/USGA Handicap System™ for all members, except Learning League Level 1, unless requested by a Learning League Level 1 member. Each Club member with access to the GAM/USGA Handicap System™ will be provided with a GAM member Username and Password for the GAM website.

New or returning members without enough scores from the prior year must provide a minimum of five 18-hole scores or ten 9-hole scores (or combination) from GAM-rated courses to calculate a starting handicap index.

Prior to each week's league play, the league chair(s) will calculate the course handicap for each player. If the handicap revision date falls on the day of league play, the league chair has the option of using the handicap from the prior revision period for play that day.

The 9-hole handicap is calculated by dividing the 18-hole handicap index (USGA/GAM maximum of 40.4) by two and rounding the decimal up to the nearest tenth. It is then converted to a course handicap using the 9-hole slope rating from the *Course Handicap Table*, provided by USGA/GAM, for the tees being played.

The 18-hole handicap is calculated using the handicap index (USGA/GAM maximum of 40.4) and the *Course Handicap Table*, provided by USGA/GAM, for the tees being played.

The course handicap will determine the number of handicap strokes members will receive for that particular round of play and maximum Equitable Stroke Control (ESC) (i.e., pick up number).

A golfer who feels her course handicap is inaccurate must declare to the league chair that there is a problem on that day of play. The league chair, in consultation with the handicap chair, will resolve disputes. Points won or lost will be determined after the issue is resolved.

Learning League Level 1 members with a GAM membership are encouraged to post all 9 or 18-hole rounds played outside of league on USGA/GAM rated golf courses. Learning League Level 2 and Intermediate League members must post 9-hole scores from league play, as well as any other 9 or 18-hole rounds played outside of league on USGA/GAM rated golf courses. Members of starter leagues are required to have an established GAM handicap to move to a regular league

LEAGUE PLAY

League chairs will provide the playing schedule to all members prior to the beginning of the season and schedules will be posted on the HVWGC website.

There will be 16 weeks of play (except for 18-hole day leagues).

For Regular leagues, the first 14 weeks are regular play followed by one individual position day and one team position day. For leagues that play less than 16 weeks, the last two days of play are reserved for one individual position day and one team position day.

"BYE" TEAM AND PLAYER

When there are an odd number of teams or individuals on a league, "bye" team refers to the team needed to complete a foursome when pairing teams and "bye" player refers to the golfer to complete a team. Bye teams and players are used for scoring and scheduling.

MAKE UP ROUNDS

Make ups for individual rounds are not allowed.

POSITION DAYS

On team position day, foursomes are created based on team point standings. Players will be notified of tee assignments for position days. If there are an odd number of teams, the next to the last team in the rankings will be used as the bye team score.

On individual position day, foursomes (or twosomes and threesomes) are created based on individual point standings. Players will be notified of tee assignments for position days. For scoring purposes, a threesome at the bottom of the rankings will use the golfer just above them in rankings for the bye score. A twosome would use the scores of the two golfers just above them in the rankings.

SPECIAL LEAGUE EVENTS

Regular League special events may include low putts, closest to the pin, longest drive, team low net, and individual low net. When counting putts, count only strokes made when the ball is on the green. If the putt goes off the green, the return stroke does not count as a putt.

Starter League special events include longest drive and low putts.

Special league events are scheduled on the same week of play for all leagues. Awards are presented on event days or the following week. Subs are eligible for the Regular league events. Awards are presented on event days or the following week. If league events are cancelled, or if there is no winner, they will be rescheduled for the following week.

BAD WEATHER / OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES

All league members are expected to be at the golf course regardless of weather unless the course has been officially closed or the course has declared there will be no power carts allowed. The League Chair has the discretion of cancelling league play due to weather. If the golf course cancels play due to weather, all members must suspend play.

Once the round begins, dangerous weather conditions and subsequent suspension of play will be declared by the golf course OR by consensus of the league.

All teams must complete a minimum of three holes for a Regular 9-hole league day to count. For an 18-hole league, the teams must complete a minimum of 6 holes. Each player of the foursomes that are unable to complete 9/18 holes will have their individual gross score determined by combining their completed holes score with the score for unplayed holes, calculated as par plus any handicap strokes that the player is entitled to receive on that hole based on applicable 9-hole or 18-hole course handicap. The hole score, when recorded on the scorecard, should be preceded by an "x".

NOTE: A handicapped applied score should be posted on the GAM website if the player has completed at least 7 holes (7-12 holes are posted as a 9-hole score; 13 or more are posted as an 18-hole score.)

If play has not been cancelled and an individual/team chooses to quit, her/their round will not be counted, and all points, individual and the team point, will be forfeited to the opponent(s), who must complete the round (unless play is subsequently cancelled.)

If play is cancelled, league play will be extended an additional week, with the cancelled round made up at the end of regular league play. League play will only be extended two weeks in the event of cancellations. The league schedule will not be changed unless a cancellation occurs on a position night.

If the individual position day is cancelled, and if both cancellations have been used, the individual position day will be played the following week in lieu of the team position day. The team position day is not played and the team standings are final.

If the team position day is cancelled, and if both cancellations have been used, the team position day is not played and the team standings are final.

IV. SUBS

SUBS

Subs are needed whenever a member is absent so that team members have a chance to compete fairly. Subs can prevent opponents from winning individual points and may assist the team in taking the team point.

All subs must be HVWGC members with an established USGA handicap index available through GAM. If a golfer makes a commitment to sub, it is important that they show up to play or make timely notification that they will not be able to sub. Subs will receive a warning letter after their second "no show". If the problem continues, the golfer will lose their eligibility to sub.

Members must make every effort to find a sub if they are unable to play. The league chair should be notified in advance with the name of the sub so that the appropriate handicap can be applied prior to play.

SUB FEE PAYMENT

Subs on 9-hole Regular Leagues must pay a \$10 sub fee each time they play. The sub fee for 18-hole leagues is \$15. Payment should be made to the league chair by cash or check (payable to HVWGC). Fees are to be turned in with the scorecard on the day of play. To encourage golfers to sub (and mentor) on the Starter Leagues, there are no sub fees.

The league member requesting the sub is ultimately responsible for ensuring the sub fee is paid to the league chair.

Sub and cart fees are not waived for league players who are also pass-holding-members of the course at which they are subbing.

OBTAINING A SUB

The methods for finding a HVWGC golf sub are:

- Use the golf sub list in the HVWGC Membership Directory.
- Use the HVWGC Golf Sub email system found on the Club website
[\[https://www.hvwgc.org/golf-subs\]](https://www.hvwgc.org/golf-subs) for further information.

V. SCORING

NET SCORING

All scoring is based on net score, which is calculated by subtracting the player's course handicap from her actual gross score in a round. The course handicap is calculated prior to each round, using a player's handicap index for the current revision period (USGA/GAM maximum of 20.2 for 9-hole leagues/40.4 for 18-hole league) and the slope of the course for the women's tees for the set of holes being played.

The 9-hole handicap is calculated by dividing the handicap index by two and rounding the decimal up to the nearest tenth. It is then converted to a course handicap using the *Course Handicap Table*, provided by USGA/GAM, and the 9-hole slope rating for the tees being played.

The 18-hole handicap is calculated using the handicap index (USGA/GAM maximum of 40.4) and the *Course Handicap Table*, provided by USGA/GAM, for the tees being played.

SCORECARDS

Both team and individual scoring records will be kept and the league chair will display current standings each week. Chairs will provide two scorecards, one for each team. One scorecard must be signed by a member of each team and turned in on the day of play. The signature verifies that hole-by-hole and gross scores are correct. Teams failing to submit a correct and signed scorecard on the day of league play will lose all team points won that day. Any golfer whose score is incorrect will lose the individual points won that day.

"PICK UP" (ESC)

To speed play, players must pick up their ball when reaching their maximum stroke allowance per USGA equitable stroke control (ESC) and use their pick up number for that hole. Maximum strokes for each individual will be listed on scorecards and is based on the course handicap. For example, if 8 is recorded on the scorecard as your pick up, play to 8 strokes, pick up your ball and then mark 8 for that hole.

Until they have established a course handicap, Learning League Level 1, Learning League Level 2, and Intermediate League members must pick up at 10 strokes. Once a handicap is established, a golfer's maximum stroke allowance will be used as their pick up number.

ARRIVING LATE

All players are expected to be prompt at the 1st tee—at least 10 minutes before their designated tee time. Players who arrive after their group has left the tee box must join their group at the tee of the next hole to be played. The late-arriving player must mark the missed hole(s) with their maximum stroke allowance ("pick up" number).

CALCULATING TEAM & INDIVIDUAL POINTS

For Regular League play, each team is competing for a total of five possible points:

1 team point: awarded for lowest team total, calculated by adding partners' individual net scores.

4 individual points: based on individual net scores, 1 point is awarded each team member with a lower net score than her opponent(s). For example:

Partner A shoots a lower net score than both Opponents A & B to earn 2 individual points.

Partner B shoots a lower net score than both Opponents A & B to earn 2 individual points.

This team earns all 5 points, 1 team point or the lowest team score and 4 individual points.

In all cases, a tie in net score (team or individual) splits the point; each team or individual member is awarded $\frac{1}{2}$ point.

Individuals are also playing for their own standing in the league. In addition to team points, individual points, as described above, will also be tracked throughout the season to determine individual standings in each league. Each golfer may win up to two individual points per week by shooting a lower net score than both her opponents. Team members do not compete against each other for points.

SCORING WITH A BYE PLAYER

A blind draw will be used to select the score to pair with the single player. The blind draw score becomes the score of the Bye missing player. The league chair will do the blind draw. The Bye missing player is treated like a sub – she can only prevent an opponent from gaining points.

SCORING WITH A BYE TEAM

A blind draw will be used to select another team to compare scorecards. That blind draw score becomes the score of the Bye team. The league chair will do the blind draw. For example, Team #3 is playing against the Bye team, and the blind draw pulls up Team #6. In order for Team #3 to get points, they have to beat Team #6.

SCORING WITH A SUB

Only teams playing with both Regular team members have the potential to earn the maximum five possible points per round. Although subs cannot earn individual points for the missing member, playing with a sub can benefit a team:

- The sub's net score is used to calculate the team score with the potential to help win the team point;
- A sub prevents opponents from taking points whenever her net score is lower than an opponent's.

Both team members: Possible Points: 5 (See "Calculating Team & Individual Points" above.)

1 member, 1 sub: Possible Points: 3 (1 team point, 2 individual points won by member, 0 individual points from sub.)

2 subs: Possible Points: 0 (Subs playing without a member cannot take team or individual points, but can block opponents from taking team or individual points by shooting lower net scores than their opponents.)

SCORING WITH MISSING MEMBERS

There are penalties, up to and including forfeiture of all points to the opposing team, for missing team member(s) and/or failing to get a sub.

1 member, no sub: Penalties: Automatic forfeit of absent member's individual points to the opponents; 5 penalty strokes added to team score. (Team score is calculated by using the absent player's average net score from the last three weeks of play (plus 5 penalty strokes). If the absence occurs at the beginning of the season, the calculation of the team score is postponed until the absent player generates at least two league scores.)

No member, 1 sub: Penalties: Automatic forfeit of absent member's individual points to the opponents; 5 penalty strokes added to team score. (A sub playing without a member cannot take team or individual points, but can block opponents from taking team or individual points. Team score is calculated by adding the sub's net score with the absent player's average net score from the last three weeks of play (plus 5 penalty strokes). If the absence occurs at the beginning of the season, the calculation of the team score is postponed until the absent player generates at least two league scores.)

No member, no subs: Penalties: Automatic forfeiture of all points to the opponents.

INDIVIDUAL POSITION DAYS

Each player will compete against the other players in her foursome for one point each win and a possible total of three points. In the event of a tie, the players will earn $\frac{1}{2}$ the points they would receive for a win on that day. A sub prevents opponents from taking points whenever her net score is lower than an opponent's. No team points will be awarded.

TEAM POSITION DAYS

Points will be counted as follows: winning team five points and losing team 0 points. Team with missing player or using a sub can take no more than three points for a win. In the event of a tie, each team will earn $\frac{1}{2}$ the points they would receive for a win on that day. No individual points will be awarded.

VI. AWARDS

AWARDS FOR LEAGUE WINNERS

Team and individual awards are presented to each Regular league's 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winners. See chart below for awards: If ties exist after the last day of golf, scorecards will be matched using the USGA recommended procedure as per The Rules of Golf, Appendix I, Part C - "Conditions of the Competition", #10 - "How to Decide Ties", Stroke Play, as noted below.

- The low net score will be used in all cases, first matching the last 6 holes of play; if still tied then the last 3 holes of play will be matched; if still tied, then the last hole of play will be matched. If after matching the last hole of play the net scores are still tied, then a tie for first place will be recorded and both will be eligible to play in the Championship.
- The net score for each hole will be determined by using handicap stroke allocation. (Assign dots hole by hole based on handicap.)

Awards will be presented to the Learning League Level 1, Learning League Level 2 and Intermediate League's 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place most improved players. (See Format and Additional Information sheet for each starter league in Policies and Procedures for the process)

LEAGUE AWARDS TABLE

Regular Leagues					
# of Golfers	Awards		# of Golfers	Awards	
	Team	Individual		Team	Individual
0-5	1. \$10 x 2	1. \$10	11-15	1. \$40 x 2	1. \$40
	2. no award	2. no award		2. \$30 x 2	2. \$30
	3. no award	3. no award		3. \$25 x 2	3. \$25
6-10	1. \$25 x 2	1. \$25	16-24	1. \$50 x 2	1. \$50
	2. \$20 x 2	2. \$20		2. \$40 x 2	2. \$40
	3. \$15 x 2	3. \$15		3. \$30 x 2	3. \$30

Starter Leagues			
# of Golfers	Awards	# of Golfers	Awards
	Most Improved		Most Improved
0-5	1. \$15	11-15	1. \$40
	2. \$10		2. \$30
	3. \$5		3. \$25
6-10	1. \$25	16-24	1. \$50
	2. \$20		2. \$40
	3. \$15		3. \$30

LEAGUE CHAIR AWARDS

In honor of the work required, each league will receive \$50 for the League Chair. If there are co-chairs, they will receive \$25.00 each. If a league has less than 9 league members, the award will be reduced by 50%.

MOST IMPROVED PLAYERS CLUB-WIDE

All players, including subs, are eligible to win most improved player. The ten most improved player awards, Club-wide, are based on the change in handicap indexes from April 1 to Sept. 15, and are determined by generating the USGA/GAM Improvement Factor report. Therefore, some leagues may not have a most improved player. To qualify as a most improved player, the member must play the equivalent of a minimum of six 18-hole rounds.

HVWGC CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP (Also see Championship Guidelines in Policies and Procedures.)

First place individual and team winners of each Regular league will play for Club Champion at the end of the season at a neutral course (to be announced later in the season). To play in the championship a Regular league must have at least 8 golfers as of June 1. An individual can represent more than one league. If the first place individual or team cannot play, then the second (or subsequent, i.e., third, fourth, etc.) place individual or team will represent the league. League Championship green fees will be paid by the Club. No substitutions are permitted in the Club Championship.

Ties: In the event of tied net scores, scorecards will be matched using the USGA recommended procedure as per The Rules of Golf, Appendix I, Part C - "Conditions of the Competition", #10 - "How to Decide Ties", Stroke Play, as noted below.

The low net score will be used in all cases, first matching the last 6 holes of play; if still tied then the last 3 holes of play will be matched; if still tied, then the last hole of play will be matched. If after matching the last hole of play the net scores are still tied, then the competitors will be named co-champions.

Since we are playing 9 holes, the net score for each hole will be determined by using handicap stroke allocation. (Assign dots hole by hole based on handicap.)

If still tied, declare multiple champions for that year.

The Board of Directors will decide any situations not covered by League Format, Scoring and Awards.

VII. MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

MEMBER CONDUCT

HVWGC members are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that exhibits good sportsmanship, as well as our knowledge and appreciation of the rules, etiquette, and traditions of the game of golf. Our behavior and language should enhance the enjoyment of our playing partners and reflect favorably on our Club.

Please remember that good etiquette includes only emergency use of your cell phone and not playing music on the course.

No visitors allowed on the golf course during league play.

Club members are also expected to be familiar with and abide by Club By-Laws and Rules. Both documents can be found at our website: www.hvwgc.org.

PACE OF PLAY

You are expected to complete a 9-hole round of golf in 2 ¼ hours. If pace of play is not maintained, groups may be required to pick up their balls, record their individual ESC for that hole, and move to the next available hole. Some tips for speeding up play are:

- Play “ready golf”;
- Limit yourself to ONE practice swing;
- Select a club while others are hitting;
- Drop off cart partners with a selection of clubs and proceed to your ball in preparation for your turn;
- Take a selection of clubs to your ball when carts are not allowed off cart paths;
- Park walking and riding carts on the side of or behind the green to allow the group behind you to proceed with play as soon as you exit the green;
- Continuous putting is encouraged;
- Wait to record scores until the next tee.

LEAGUE MEMBERS WHO CANNOT FINISH THE SEASON

League members who cannot complete the season are responsible for notifying their league chair who will work with the Membership Chair to find a replacement. Members on waiting lists will be given first consideration. A member will not be refunded green fees by HVWGC for weeks she cannot play.

The replacement member will pay prorated green fees to the member who can't finish the season. The replacement member will be eligible for team and individual points. The member who did not complete the season retains the right to return to their former league if they submit their paperwork on time. The replacement golfer will be informed of their temporary status on the league.

Pending Board review, members who drop out of leagues without notice may lose their membership status for the year and may be classified as a new member the next year should they reapply for membership.

VIII. HVWGC LOCAL RULES

Members are expected to follow USGA rules, unless superseded by local golf course rules or HVWGC local rules. All HVWGC local rules apply to leagues, special events, and trips. ***They do not apply to the league Championship unless indicated in the Championship instructions to golfers playing in that event.***

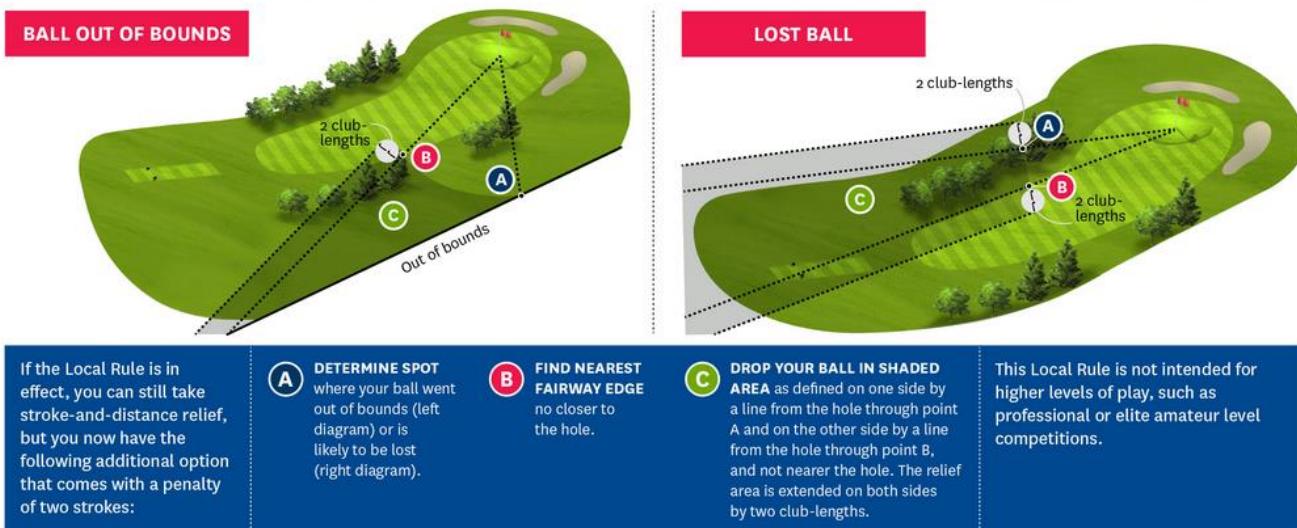
The USGA recommends that we use the wording from the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf when we adopt one of their Model Local Rules. Therefore, we have included the Rules of Golf reference number applicable to any local rule we have adopted, although we may have modified the rules to work within our Club. Local rules documented here override any model local rules in the USGA

ALTERNATIVE TO STROKE AND DISTANCE FOR LOST BALL OR BALL OUT OF BOUNDS

Adapted from Rules of Golf Model Local Rule E-5

GOLF'S NEW RULES: STROKE AND DISTANCE

A new Local Rule provides an alternative to stroke-and-distance relief for a ball that is lost outside a penalty area or out of bounds, effective January 1, 2019.



R&A **USGA**

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Purpose. When a provisional ball has not been played, significant issues with pace of play can result for a player needing to take stroke-and-distance relief for a ball that is out of bounds or cannot be found. The purpose of this Local Rule is to provide an extra relief option that allows a player to play on without returning to the location of the previous stroke.

This option allows the player to drop in a large area between the point where the ball is estimated to have come to rest or gone out of bounds and the edge of the fairway of the hole being played that is not nearer the hole.

The player gets two penalty strokes when using this relief option. This means that the relief is comparable to what could have been achieved if the player had taken stroke-and-distance relief.

This Local Rule cannot be used for an unplayable ball, or for a ball that is known or virtually certain to be in a penalty area.

If a provisional ball is played and neither the original ball nor the provisional ball can be found, then the Local Rule may be applied for the provisional ball that cannot be found.

HVWG Local Rule

"When a player's ball has not been found or is *known or virtually certain* to be *out of bounds*, the player may proceed as follows rather than proceeding under *stroke and distance*.

For **two penalty strokes**, the player may take relief by *dropping* the original ball or another ball in this *relief area* (see Rule 14.3):

Two Estimated Reference Points:

a. Ball Reference Point: The point where the original ball is estimated to have:

- Come to rest on the *course*, or
- Last crossed the edge of the *course boundary* to go *out of bounds*.

b. Fairway Reference Point: The point of fairway of the *hole* being played that is nearest to the ball reference point, **but** is not nearer the *hole* than the ball reference point.

For purposes of this Local Rule, "fairway" means any area of grass in the *general area* that is cut to fairway height or less.

If a ball is estimated to be lost on the course or last crossed the edge of the course boundary short of the fairway, the fairway reference point may be a grass path or a teeing ground for the hole being played cut to fairway height or less.

Size of Relief Area Based on Reference Points: Anywhere between:

- A line from the *hole* through the ball reference point (and within two *club-lengths* to the outside of that line), and
- A line from the *hole* through the fairway reference point (and within two *club-lengths* to the fairway side of that line).

But with these limits:

Limits on Location of Relief Area:

- Must be in the *general area*, and
- Must not be nearer the *hole* than the ball reference point.

Once the player puts a ball *in play* under this Local Rule:

- The original ball that was *lost* or *out of bounds* is no longer *in play* and must not be played.
- This is true even if the ball is found on the *course* before the end of the three-minute search time (see Rule 6.3b).

But, the player may not use this option to take relief for the original ball when:

- That ball is *known or virtually certain* to have come to rest in a *penalty area*, or
- The player has played another ball provisionally under penalty of *stroke and distance* (see Rule 18.3).

A player may use this option to take relief for a provisional ball that has not been found or is known or virtually certain to be out of bounds.

Penalty for Playing Ball from a Wrong Place in Breach of Local Rule: General Penalty Under Rule 14.7a.”

DROP ZONES AT HVWGC LEAGUE COURSES

Course	Hole	Drop Zone
Eagle Crest	13	Over the water, to right of cart path
	16	Left of green by the big tree
Huron Hills	5	To the right of the cart path just in front of the hazard
	6	To the right of the cart path just in front of the hazard
Leslie Park	10	All the water on this hole is a lateral water hazard
	12	If in pond in front of tee box, drop zone is between the cart path and the water, in line with the sand trap
	17	All the water on this hole is a lateral water hazard
Stonebridge	4	As marked on the course
	6	Before the hazard, in line with the forward tee box
Whitmore Lake Golf Links	13	Across the water, just to left of cart path
	15	Across the water, just to right of cart path

RULE RESOLUTION

Make every effort to resolve rule interpretations or issues during play with your partner and competitors. If you need further clarification, bring the issue to your league chair after the round, but prior to signing your scorecard.

RULES OR FORMAT QUESTIONS

Take all rules or format questions to your league chair. League chairs will have access to the League Advisor, Rules Chair and course professional for clarification.

IX. RESPONDING TO INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR

Club members are encouraged to discuss their concerns regarding sportsmanship, conduct, or rules violations by another member directly with that member in a spirit of resolving the issue when it occurs. However, if a Club member has ongoing concerns about the conduct of another member for rules violations and/or extreme inappropriate behavior, that member is encouraged to bring the issue to the attention of the league chair. League chairs will take appropriate action that may include “coaching” the individual toward more appropriate behavior and/or compliance with golf rules or etiquette, or seeking assistance from HVWGC Board members in dealing with the matter.

Club members may also contact Board Members directly about an ongoing concern related to inappropriate behavior or rules violations; in this case, members are encouraged to contact the League Advisor or Club President (see HVWGC website (www.hvwgc.org) for current information.) Such reports of extreme inappropriate behavior will be documented at the league and/or Board levels.

In the most extreme cases, Club by-laws enable the Board to remove members who fail to comply with member responsibilities or who are guilty of conduct injurious to the character or interest of the Club and its members.

Appendix A HANDBOOK UPDATE HISTORY

March 2019 Version Updates

- Updated MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS section to include change in the age requirement to 16 and over, added a new Junior League Member classification, and documented the dues of \$25 for a Junior League member.
- Updated cover page to include version date and updated mission statement.
- Updated SUB FEE PAYMENT to add a \$15 sub fee for 18-hole leagues.
- Documented special events for Starter Leagues.
- Updated HVWGCC LOCAL RULES section to remove some local rules and add a new local rule regarding Alternative to Stroke and Distance for Lost Ball or Ball Out of Bounds.