

LTLC League Rules of Play

Sage tee boxes will be used for all league play. League events are governed by USGA Rules of Golf and these locally adopted rules. The maximum handicap index used for 18 holes will be 36 for weekly play and 40.4 for State Medallion play. Scorecards should be dated, signed and attested. Failure to do so may result in disqualification from any event.

- Local Desert Rule is observed.

For all the USGA Rules of Golf, please go to:

<http://www.usga.org/rules/rules-and-decisions.html#!rule-01>

Distance Measuring Devices

While certain types are not permissible by the USGA, the LTLC allows usage of all varieties.

Local Desert Rule

When a ball enters into the Desert, found ball or lost ball, Players may, under penalty of ONE STROKE, drop a ball within two club-lengths of the point where the ball last crossed the turf line or greenbelt, *dropping it no closer to the hole*. If the ball does not cross ANY greenbelt before entering into the desert you must bring the ball back to its original position, under penalty of ONE STROKE, and hit again (aka: USGA Rule 18 - a provisional or ball in play), or play it as it lies using USGA Rule 19, pertaining to Unplayable Ball. In other words, the ball MUST pass over the greenbelt in order to use the Local Desert Rule.

If your ball cannot be dropped so that it is “no closer to the hole” then the ball must be played as it lies, using the USGA Rule 19 – Unplayable Ball. All players have the option to use either USGA Rule 18, Rule 19 or Local Desert Rule.

Local Bunker Rule – Lift, Rake, Replace

Due to excessive footprints in the Bunkers, if you land in a footprint in any Bunker, you may lift your ball, rake the spot your ball was lying and replace your ball to the approximate position without penalty.

Desert and Washes

Desert and washes are not considered penalty areas. All Rules that apply to the General Area of the course apply to the desert and wash areas.

Cart Paths and River Rock Paths

Are played as obstructions and free relief is permitted (Rule 16 - Relief from Abnormal Course Conditions (Including Immovable Obstructions), Dangerous Animal Condition, Embedded Ball.

Relief from Sprinkler Heads on Line of Putt Near the Green

Relief from interference by an immovable obstruction may be taken under Rule 16-1. If a ball lies through 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 within one club-length of the nearest point of complete relief, no nearer the hole.

Drop Zone on Hole 7

If your ball flies the green and goes into the water or lands on the green and rolls into the water, you may choose to use the marked drop zone area in the grassy bowl behind the green. A one-stroke penalty is incurred. Balls that end up in the water before reaching the green will be treated as a red-staked, lateral penalty area (see Rule 17 – Penalty Areas).

Scoring Cap – MAX + 2

To speed up play, this Local Rule is in force for weekly games only (unless otherwise specified on the game instructions). It does not apply to State Medallion qualifying rounds, Club Championship or Match Play,.

Max + 2 is a formula to record your “game score” at a cap of your USGA maximum recordable score **PLUS 2 more strokes**.

Example: My Handicap Index at Legend Trail is 18. On hole #7 (par 5), I get 1 “pop” on this hole. So my USGA maximum recordable score is an 8. The Max + 2 local rule would add 2 more strokes and give me a GAME SCORE of 10. The USGA GHIN recordable score would remain at 8.

Please refer to the Member Handbook on the LTLC website for more details on the Max +2 Cap.

Gimme Putt Allowance Local Rule

On all weekly games (unless otherwise specified in the game instructions) a Gimmie Putt Allowance of 12” will be in force. It does not apply to State Medallion qualifying rounds, Club Championship or Match Play

The 12” is measured from the edge of the cup, closest to the ball, to the closest side of the golf ball. It is **APPROXIMATE!**

The 12” Gimmie must be granted and/or approved by one of your playing partners. If a team game is being played, the opposing team member must grant and/or approve of the 12” Gimmie.

Once the 12” Gimmie is granted, if the player chooses to putt their ball and misses, the Gimmie is no longer in force and the extra stroke is counted. Therefore, it is **IMPORTANT**, to pick up your ball as soon as the Gimmie is granted.

Ground Under Repair

Identified by a solid, white, painted line.

Drop Zone on Hole 13

Players must tee off from the Sage tee box. If a player’s ball comes to rest anywhere in the Desert, the player may choose to use the Drop Zone. A one stroke penalty is incurred if the Drop Zone is used. This includes the cart path to the left of the fairway. All players have the option to use either USGA Rule 19 Unplayable Ball, USGA Rule 18 Lost Ball or the Local Desert Rule.

Tie Breaking Procedures:

- **Weekly Events** – Scorecards will be matched and the winner determined by the best score on the holes starting with the number one handicapped hole.
- **State Medallion Qualifying Rounds and Club Championship** Low Gross: Best back 9 on player’s last day of play; if still tied, last 6 holes; if still tied, last 3 holes; if still tied, the 18th hole. Low Net: Best back 9 on player’s last day of play minus 1/2 handicap; if still tied, last 6 holes minus 1/3 of handicap; if still tied, last 3 holes minus 1/6 of handicap. Fractions should not be disregarded. Stroke fractions of ½ stroke or more should count as a full stroke and any lesser fraction will be disregarded.

Ball Unplayable

If your ball is unplayable on the greenbelt/fairway, you must proceed under Rule 19 - Unplayable Ball. If your ball is Unplayable in a desert area and passed over the greenbelt, proceed under the Local Desert Rule as explained above. You have the option to use either Rule 19 or Local Desert Rule.

Ball Out of Bounds, Provisional Ball

All yards are private property, have permanent boundary fences and are considered out of bounds. If you hit a shot out of bounds, you must proceed under Rule 18 - Stroke- and-Distance Relief; Ball Lost or Out of Bounds; Provisional Ball. The Local Desert Rule cannot be used for balls that have come to rest in an Out of Bounds area.