

Huntington Harbour Golf Club Tournament Rules

These rules are to **keep everyone moving forward** to speed up play and make the game more enjoyable for all.

Rule #1 - Play ready golf: Ready golf all the time, including on the greens. Stay up with the group ahead of you and finish within 4.5 hours.

Rule #2 - OB or Lost Ball: WE DON'T GO BACK!! If you did not hit a provisional ball and you discover your ball is either lost or out of bounds, do not go back to hit another ball, rather estimate the spot where your ball is lost or crossed out of bounds and then find the nearest fairway edge that is not nearer the hole. With a penalty of two strokes, drop a ball in the fairway within two club-lengths of that fairway edge point, or anywhere between there and the estimated spot where your ball is lost or went out of bounds.

Rule #3 - Weedy, Rocky or Brushy Area: If your ball ends up outside the fairway and rough in a weedy, rocky or brushy area not marked as OB or lateral hazard **DO NOT GO BACK and hit another ball**. You have three options:

1. Play it where it lies, no penalty.
2. Play it as a lateral hazard even if it is not marked as one. In this case, with a penalty of one stroke, drop a ball within two club-lengths of where the ball crossed into the area, no closer to the pin.
3. Play it as a lost ball. Estimate the spot where your ball is lost then find the nearest fairway edge that is no closer to the pin. With a penalty of two strokes, drop a ball in the fairway within two club-lengths of that fairway edge point or anywhere between there and the estimated spot where your ball is lost.

Rule #4 – Pick Up When You Reach 4 Over Par: When a player reaches 4 over par they are to pick up and discontinue playing that hole. Record a score of 4 over par.

Rule #5 – Gimme Putts for Bogey or Worse Within 18” From Edge of Hole: Bogey or worse putts only (each player will be given an 18” piece of string or have their putter marked 18” with tape at check-in).

Rule #6 – Unmaintained Bunker: If your ball lands in an unmaintained spot in a bunker (in a footprint or a gouge) you may rake the sand and place the ball in the same spot. No penalty.

Rule #7 - Sprinkler Head Near the Green: If a ball is within 10 feet of a green and your shot is obstructed by, or is in a sprinkler head, you may drop no closer to the hole and within 1 club length for a clearer path to the hole. No Penalty

Rule #8 - Roots: Any player whose ball comes to rest on or near roots that interfere with contact or follow-through is entitled to free relief. The ball should first be marked and then may be placed at the nearest point of relief, no closer to the hole, and within one club length. The ball can be cleaned on lifting. Your opponent must agree prior to taking relief. There is no relief for stance.

Rule #9 - Local Course Rules: Some courses may have unique ‘local’ rules listed on their score card. Be sure to check and apply. Examples include certain areas considered hazards or out of bounds, relief from environmentally sensitive areas, etc.