

Maplewood Women's Golf Association Local Rules

All competitions shall be conducted under the USGA Rules of Golf and Local Rules as noted below.

When Preferred Lies are in effect see MWGA Preferred Lies.

When Bunker Rule is in effect see MWGA Bunker Rule.

Out of Bounds (OB) is defined by cart path, parking lot curb, white stakes, and boundary fences. No free relief from interference by OB fence.

All penalty areas, including naturalized areas, are defined as Red Penalty Areas (Rule 17.1b). The naturalized areas are all grass areas that are taller than intended rough cut. The edge of a naturalized area is defined by the mowing line. Model Local Rule B-2.1 is in effect, providing an extra relief option for a ball in the penalty area. The player may drop a ball on the opposite side of the penalty area, using this reference point: the estimated point on the opposite edge of the penalty area that is the same distance from the hole as the estimated point where the original ball last crossed the edge of the penalty area.

Defined planting areas, protective fences, and protective hedges are Abnormal Course Conditions (Rule 16). Free relief for interference with stance, swing, and line of sight is permitted.

Areas in bunkers where sand has been removed by the movement of water resulting in deep furrows through the sand are ground under repair.

Areas of seed, marked as ground under repair are No Play Zones.

#1 OB begins with the white stripe located on the curb right of the practice putting green and runs the entire left side of the hole until the white OB stake is reached on #2 tee. A ball is OB when it is beyond the left edge of the cart path or beyond the left edge of the lower cart path on the upper portion of the hole (Rule 18.2).

#1 & #9 The split rail fence is an immovable obstruction. Free relief may be taken if the split rail fence interferes with the player's stance or swing (Rule 16.1). If a drop zone is provided it may be used as an additional relief option.

#2 & #6 If a ball comes to rest within the margin of the penalty area, proceed under Rule 17.1b. If a drop zone is provided it may be used as an additional relief option.

#3 OB starts on the right side of the green at the stake and is then defined by the outside margin of the cart path ending at the bridge. A ball is OB when it is beyond the outside margin of the cart path.

#4 The edge of the penalty area to the left of the cart path is defined by the course-side edge of the red stakes at ground level when the mow line for the naturalized area is not distinguishable.

#7 & #10 For a ball that remains in bounds and comes to rest on or left of the cart path between the orange-marked poles (one near teeing area and one near putting green), free relief may be taken on the right side of the cart path. OB on both holes is defined by the cyclone/chain link fence.

#9 Stripes on curb on #1 & #9 in a straight line define OB behind #1 tee & #9 green. The outside margin of the curb defines OB until the stake right of #3 green is reached.

#10 & #13 There is a rectangle area surrounding the 11th tee, defined by 6-inch diameter blue dots embedded in the ground on the 10th and 13th green-sides. If a ball is at rest within this rectangle, the player may take free relief within one club-length of where the ball crossed the edge of the rectangle, not nearer the hole. (Rule 16.1)

#18 OB is defined by stakes up to the fence then the ground wire of the fence defines OB. The player does not receive free relief from fence, posts or the concrete bases holding the posts.

Maplewood Women's Golf Association Preferred Lies

When conditions warrant using Preferred Lies through the General Area, the following Local Rule will be used. See MWGA bulletin board for when Preferred Lies are in effect.

A ball lying on a closely mown area in the general area may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Having lifted the ball, the player must place it on a spot within one club-length of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, in the general area.

A ball lying outside the closely mown area in the general area may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Having lifted the ball, the player must place it on a spot within six inches of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, in the general area.

A player may place the ball only once. It is in play when it has been placed (Rule 14.2b(2)). If the ball fails to come to rest on the spot on which it was placed, it must be replaced (Rule 14.2e). If the ball when placed comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed and it subsequently moves due to natural forces, there is no penalty and the ball must be played as it lies, unless it moves to a different area of the course. (Rule 9.3)

If the player moves the ball in any other manner, such as rolling it with a club, the player incurs a penalty of one stroke.

The General Area covers the entire area of the course except for the following:

1. The teeing area the player must use in starting the hole (Rule 6.2),
2. All penalty areas (Rule 17),
3. All bunkers (Rule 12),
4. The putting green of the hole being played (Rule 13).

"Closely mown area" means any general area including paths through the rough, cut to fairway height or less.

Exception: A player may not take relief under this rule if it is clearly unreasonable to make a stroke at the ball in its original position for some other reason. Player would then proceed under Unplayable Ball Rule (Rule 19).

Maplewood Women's Golf Association Bunker Rule

When conditions warrant using a Bunker Rule, the following Local Rule will be used. See MWGA bulletin board for when Bunker Rule is in effect.

When a ball comes to rest in a bunker, the player may mark, lift, and clean the ball. The bunker may be raked. The player must place the ball as close as possible to its original position, not nearer to the hole.