

BASIC RULES OF PLAY FOR THE PORT HOPE LADIES LEAGUE

Note:

Some of the “Rules of Golf” have been modified for our league.

All members are expected to follow these PHLL rules during league play.

When we play on Tuesday, everyone is playing against all members who play that day not just your foursome. A foursome cannot decide which “rules” to follow and which to bend. You are expected to keep an **accurate count** of all strokes taken on each hole, and relay that information to the person(s) keeping score for your group. Scores count for prizes, so we rely on an **accurate score and fair play** amongst our members.

- The maximum score on any hole is double par. When you have reached Double Par, you have completed the hole, and should pick up your ball. If your ball is putted into the cup in the Double Par Stroke, that score is circled on the scorecard. Otherwise, the Double Par is not circled.
- **No Gimmies** are permitted in the PHLL, every ball must be putted into the cup, no matter how close it is to the hole. This avoids discrepancies (what is a suitable Gimmie length) that might occur when individual foursomes make that determination.
- You must hit a ball from where it lies on the FAIRWAY or in the ROUGH.

If, for example, it lands in “bad spot” in the fairway or in the rough, you cannot simply move it to make it easier to hit.

You can move any loose obstructions, such as a stick or a rock, close to the ball but you cannot move the ball.

- **Hazards** including trees, areas with fescue (tall grasses) and water ponds are part of the course and are there to make the course more interesting to play. These are often marked with RED stakes.

If your ball goes into a hazard, you can choose to move the ball taking a **1 stroke penalty**, and this is generally advised rather than attempting to hit out of the hazard.

- Rule when moving a ball:
If a ball is moved for any reason (except as noted below under # 6) there is a **1 stroke penalty** and the ball is placed where you can get a clear swing, not more than a few feet from the edge of the obstruction or where it entered the hazard, and not nearer the hole.

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- When you hit a ball out of bounds, such as beyond a fence or area marked by white stakes, your ball is deemed unplayable. You take a **1 stroke penalty** and move the ball as under #5 above.

Exceptions:

A ball can be moved without penalty and placed as in #5 in the following situations:

- Ground under repair generally roped off or blocked in some manner.
- Random standing water on the fairway, rough or on the green.
- Unplayable lie due to a man-made unmovable obstruction: sprinkler head, yardage marker, etc.
- Cart paths

- Before you hit, you are permitted to move and replace any man-made obstruction such as the posts in front of some greens that are in your way.

- **Sand Traps** are not considered man-made hazards. They are part of a golf course that you need to learn to manage. Up until a short time ago, any ball landing in a sand trap must be played from where is landed in the sand trap.

These rules have changed recently. Under the rules for the PHLL, if your ball is unplayable (such as it is right under the lip of the bunker, in a deep footprint, etc.) you can relocate the ball to a better position in the bunker, but not nearer the hole, **with no penalty**.

You can also remove the ball completely from the bunker, BUT you incur **2 stroke penalty**. If you decide to remove your ball from the bunker, you must place it in line with where it entered the bunker but not nearer the hole.

- **Tee Shots:** Rules for PHLL are as follows:

If after you swing, the ball remains on the tee box, you can tee up again without penalty.

If the ball goes out of bounds, into a hazard or only goes a few yards, the player has three options:

- Taking a **Mulligan**: ONE Mulligan off any tee, once, and only once per game.
 - Taking “3 off the TEE” meaning teeing up again, taking a 1 stroke penalty.
 - Going to where the ball landed and play it from there, under # 3.
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- **Prizes**
Only the **first stroke** taken by a player is eligible for an individual prize:

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If a player has a poor shot and takes 3 off the tee or takes a Mulligan, that second shot does not count for any individual prize. e.g., Closest-to-the-Hole or Longest Drive.

If a player on a 3-person Scramble team takes a shot in rotation for a missing 4th player, that person is not eligible to win an individual prize when hitting for the 4th person.